

Newsletter

• **INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION** •

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2006

UNMASKED!

Senior's identity revealed at game

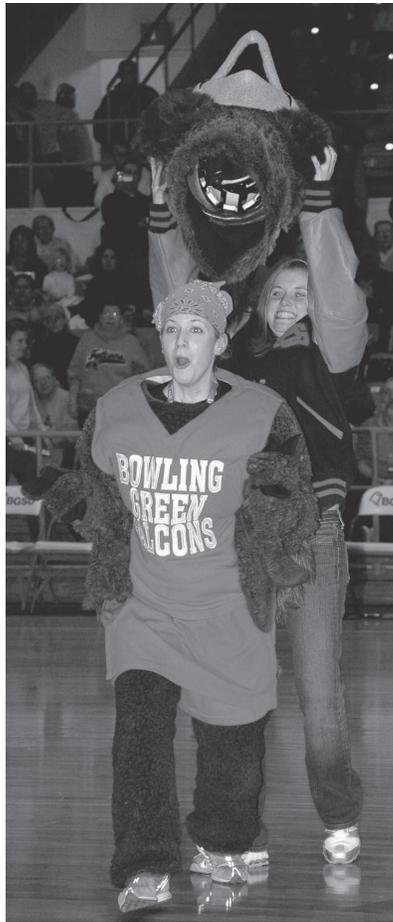
Frieda Falcon, IPC senior Sara Moore, is unmasked at a men's basketball game by friend Allison Sproule, a 2005 journalism graduate.

After being exposed to the idea of becoming Frieda through her sorority, Alpha Phi, Moore auditioned for the year-long job.

"I knew it was something I could see myself doing," she said.

The experience has also helped her within her major. "It helped me to be less nervous when I get up to make speeches. I am more outgoing and a little more sure of myself," she said.

by Kate Schantz, '07



by Sean Pierson, The BG News

Faculty changes in place for fall

The start of fall semester will see the departure of one professor and the addition of two new faces.

John Warren, assistant professor in interpersonal communication and graduate coordinator for the School of Communication Studies, leaves BGSU after five years of teaching.

He has accepted a position as associate professor of Communication Pedagogy at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.

"I leave a bit saddened, but excited about new possibilities," Warren said. "I do want to thank publicly the fine members of the department of interpersonal communication."

Radhika Gajjala, associate professor, replaces Warren as the graduate coordinator.

Besides the departure of Warren, the department welcomes Michael Butterworth and Stephen Croucher.

Butterworth is completing his doctorate in communication and culture at Indiana University. He has 10 years of teaching experience from Indiana University, Northern Illinois University and the College of Lake County in Indiana.

He will teach Communication and Criticism, and Communication and Sports in the fall.

Croucher finished his doctorate at the University of Oklahoma. He has taught several years at the University of Oklahoma and Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Croucher will teach Intercultural Communication, and Communication, Race and Power.

by Lindsay Baker, '07

INSIDE

Alumni Profiles:
Shelley Lytle

Professor Makay Retires

Scholar Breaks Stereotypes

Grant continues into second year

Faculty and students from BGSU and the Institut de Press et des Sciences de l'Information of Tunisia have exchanged trips to each other's schools this year as part of a two-year program funded by a \$100,000 grant. The grant comes from the Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative in cooperation with Higher Education for Development, and the United States Agency for International Development and is intended to develop an international partnership to gain new perspectives about press systems.

"This does a lot for both institutions academically, but most of all it is about the human contacts that are made. Those are what make this project worth doing," Catherine Cassara, associate professor in journalism said.

Cassara is working with Laura Lengel, associate professor in interpersonal communication on the program.

In addition to workshops presented in Tunisia in March of 2005 and

continued on page 2

continued from page 1

Grant

November of 2005, and at BGSU in July of 2005 and March of 2006, BGSU faculty have organized a collection of books from faculty, staff and students across campus.

More than 200 English-language books have been shipped to Tunisia and have significantly improved the institute's library holdings in English.

"The topics of the books will be helpful for the students of both specialties—journalism and communication—and many of them will be referred to as main sources in preparing fourth-year students' theses," IPSI professor Hamida El Bour said. "It is also interesting because it is improving our library books in English, as the main books we have are in Arabic and French. The books will be very helpful for the teachers, too, in their curriculum and research in the fields of journalism and communication."

Through the MEPI program, both schools gained new perspectives about communication as well as to a different culture. "The level of enthusiasm was stunning. It was



photo courtesy of Catherine Cassara
Catherine Cassara (far right) looks over the books donated to IPSI by the BGSU community with Patricia Kabra (second from right), counselor for press and cultural affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Tunis, and IPSI Director Dr. Mohamed Hamdane (fourth from right).

amazing to see the development of relationships," Lengel said.

While in Tunis, Cassara and Lengel gave a presentation about the IPSI/BGSU partnership at a session

held during the November 2005 United Nations Summit on the Information Society. The summit brought together heads of state, diplomats, representatives of non-governmental organizations, industry leaders and scholars from around the world.

The workshops at IPSI and BGSU covered everything from investigative reporting, the digital divide, women and media in an international context, and student newspapers.

BGSU students, faculty and staff traveled to Tunisia and Tunisian students traveled to Northwest Ohio.

"There is so much gain from this program; personally and professionally. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity as a teacher and the same is true for the students who participate," Lengel said.

"It gets crazy sometimes. This is in addition to everything else we are doing; but this is just something we do and something that we want to do," Cassara said. "It was really fun and exciting to take the students. It means a lot to them and they learn a lot. That is one of many things that make this worth doing."

by Shannon Kubicek, '07

ALUMNI

Newsletter

• **INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATION** •

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2006

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>Oliver Boyd-Barnett PUBLISHER</p> <p>Kelly Taylor EDITOR</p> <p>Chelci Howard '07 Stacy Timm '06 Ashley Whitman '07 Dan Wyar '07 NEWSLETTER STAFF</p> | <p>The Alumni Newsletter is an annual publication of the Department of Interpersonal Communication and is mailed free to all graduates of the program. Its purpose is to keep everyone informed about happenings, achievements and other news of department faculty, students and alumni. If you have news, questions or comments, write us at the address below.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">School of Communication Studies Department of Interpersonal Communication Bowling Green State University 302 West Hall Bowling Green, Ohio 43403 419.372.8349 419.372.0202 FAX www.bgsu.edu/departments/ipc/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">school of communication studies</p> |
|--|--|

Lytle follows family tradition of success

Shelley Lytle was destined to be a successful woman. Her mother was a Penn State graduate, and all of her aunts were college educated.

“My family has always pushed me to get a good education before starting a family so I can provide for myself first,” she said. “I have always looked up to the educated people in my family, who range from professors

to judges to CEOs, as a positive influence and resource for guidance.”

Following their influence, Lytle earned a bachelor’s degree in interpersonal communication with a career focus in social services in 1993 and a

master’s degree in interpersonal communication a year later.

“Shelley was always considerably motivated, anxious to learn. She asked good questions when they were appropriate,” John Makay, a professor who mentored Lytle, said. “She was always well liked by both her peers and professors. She set challenging goals and reflected a positive attitude.”

While at BGSU, she was also

active as a member of the Young Executives Club, as well as several different social and multicultural clubs that shaped the identity she describes as “a proud African-American woman.”

That approach has earned Lytle the position of Communications Assistant at the Toledo Lucas-County Port Authority. The Port Authority in Toledo handles two airports, a train station and a shipyard.

Working for one of the most powerful economic forces in Northwest Ohio has its own unique set of pressures. Each decision made at the Port Authority faces constant criticism by the citizens of the area.

Lytle’s responsibilities include coordinating and planning all special events such as ribbon cuttings, groundbreaking and dedications as well as maintaining the Port Authority’s Web site.

She also has a hand in the close relationship between the Port Authority, the Chamber of Commerce and the Regional Growth Partnership.

She describes each day at the Port Authority as an adventure.

Some people would describe Lytle’s journey to this position as an

adventure in itself. She said she never felt discriminated against for being a black woman, but rather she said she was treated differently because she possessed an advanced degree.

She struggled to get someone to hire her because she had no professional experience. Companies wanted her to have both the experience and the degree, she said.

“Now that I am employed at the Port Authority I feel like I’m finally being recognized for my skills and being compensated as well,” Lytle said. “That always makes you feel good.”

Lytle said BGSU students prepare and present themselves for success. “We have an air about us that exudes confidence that I don’t see with a lot of other college students that have gone elsewhere in Northwest Ohio,” she said.

Lytle said this attitude, along with some good business sense and contacts can lead to a successful career.

“The term networking for me is the idea of being empowered by my own success at creating and maintaining personal social networks to get ahead,” she said.

Lytle’s success is now inspiration for the next generation.

by Andy Hudak, '06

Alumnus works for Academy of Motion Pictures

During Oscar season one alumni had his hands full. Randy Haberkamp is the director of special projects for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science.

“In short, I get to do a lot of different stuff, and I love the variety of it,” he said.

Haberkamp, who graduated in 1979, has been with the Academy for five years. He was at CBS for 14 years before that.

During Oscar season, Haberkamp oversaw the production of the Academy Awards commemorative show and worked with the production of the television promotions starring Oscar host, John Stewart.

Haberkamp is also production coordinator for the nominees’ luncheon where they are presented with their nomination certificates.

One big challenge Haberkamp said is the constant battle between politics of business and art.

“Business rarely understands the creative process and

protecting that while balancing the realities of who is paying the bills is very exhausting,” Haberkamp said.

Though it is a battle, Haberkamp said the overall benefits of this type of job outweigh the politics.

“Being creative or even being a good mentor for creative people is fun and rewarding,” he said.

As part of his project work, Haberkamp produces film retrospects, filmmaking seminars and high school media literacy programs.

“I love being able to spotlight areas of filmmaking that don’t get as much attention such as editing, writing and production design,” Haberkamp said.

“It’s certainly glamorous to interview Mel Gibson or Ron Howard, but it’s really just as big a kick to discuss editing ‘Easy Rider’ with Donn Cambern, designing ‘L.A. Confidential’ with Jeannine Oppewall or making a documentary like ‘Hearts and Minds’ with Peter Davis.”

by Mary Carmichael, '07

“Shelley was always considerably motivated, anxious to learn. She asked good questions when they were appropriate.”

—John Makay
professor and mentor

”

Handloom weaving in India goes global

Handloom weaving in India was once renowned the world over, for producing the most beautiful garments made of silk, cotton, wool, muslin and much more.

Today in rural India, handloom weaving is the second largest means of livelihood, next to agriculture.

Radhika Gajjala, an associate professor, has been working with members of a Nonprofit organization called "Dastkar Andhra," engaging in scholarly dialogue about new and old technologies in the context of globalization.

Some of this work has been

published as journal articles and book chapters and is also included in her book "Cyberselves: Feminist Ethnographies of South Asian Women" (Altamira Press, 2004).

Gajjala traveled to India to continue this research.

This research offered Gajjala an opportunity to start studying the connection between handloom weavers in India and how they can be linked to global markets through e-commerce.

Some established stores known for selling handloom, such as FabIndia, have already connected

to global markets via e-commerce, and Gajjala wanted to investigate the process to see how viable such a connection would be.

"My goal was to explore the relationship between culture and community and how it is linked to the economic sphere," Gajjala said.

Gajjala connected with a Non-Governmental Organization, or NGO, in India to begin her study.

Gajjala has been studying virtual communication for many years. Now the task to connect virtual communication to e-commerce has begun. **continued on page 5**

Makay retires after 43 years of teaching

After 43 years of teaching, publishing over 20 books and acting as an adviser for over 100 undergraduate, doctoral and masters students, professor John Makay retired at the end of the semester.

However, Makay, 67, doesn't plan on spending his days playing shuffleboard or bingo.

Makay will return in the fall to teach part-time, but said he will devote most of his time to his grandchildren, staying active and healthy and hopefully one day traveling.

Makay served as the chair of the department from 1991 to 1997 and again from 2001 to 2003.

"His interest and concern encourages students to establish strong relationships with him," department chair Julie Burke said. "I am always amazed at how many students stay in touch with professor Makay after graduation to keep him informed about their professional and personal lives."

Linda Fritz Glomski, who worked as Makay's assistant when he was director of the school in the late '90s, echoed Burke's sentiments. "He is very friendly and has a caring nature for his students," she said.

Makay received his bachelor's degree in humanities with a specialization in speech and theatre

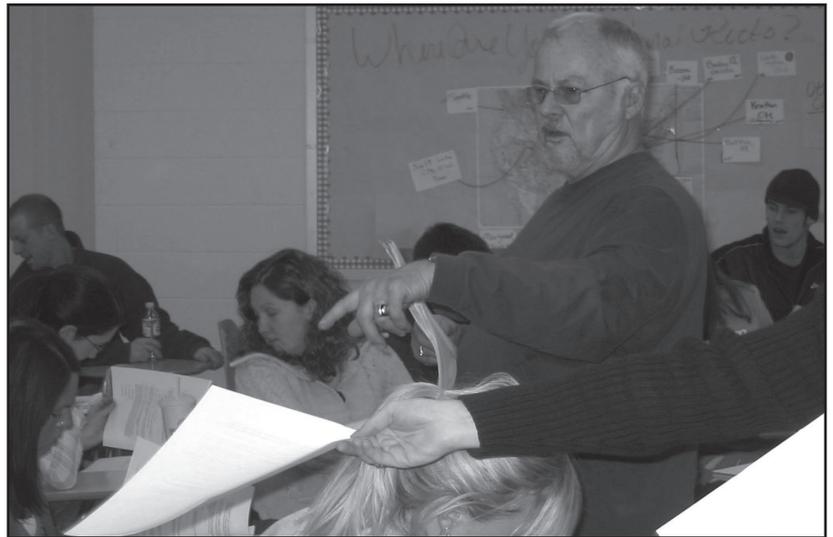


photo by Colleen Mahoney, '07

Professor John Makay addresses a student's question in his Political Campaign Communication class. Makay, who served as chair of the department, director of the school, teacher and adviser during his years at BGSU, retired at the end of spring semester.

from Adrian College and from there enlisted in the US Army Security Agency, where he served for three years, training in electronic communications in Missouri, Massachusetts, Turkey, Texas, Florida and North Carolina.

After he left the US Army Security Agency, Makay earned his master's degree from Kent State in 1964 and his doctorate from Purdue in 1969.

Throughout his career, Makay has served as a communication educator at Purdue University, The University of Maryland, The Ohio State Uni-

versity, The State University of New York at Geneseo, and BGSU.

In 1997 Adrian College presented him with their Distinguished Alumni Award.

"Dr. Makay is known in the realm of communication education. His presence and interactions at national conventions brings great attention to BGSU and the School of Communication Studies," Glomski said.

At the end of April, the school faculty and staff said goodbye with a retirement lunch and party.

by Dan Wyar '07

Honors & Awards

Department of Interpersonal Communication

Spring Award Winners

Scholarships

SCS Fund for Excellence

- Melissa Coyle
- Erin Small

Rising Stars

- Lauren Hogan
- Dana Jackson
- Casey Tschanen

Tucker

- Lauren Martin

Awards

Outstanding Seniors

- Megan Bernard
- Jenna Gable

Faculty Award

- Amanda Musselman

IPC Scholars:

Cumulative GPA of 3.75 or better

Sophomore

- Stephanie Gorse
- Susan Poope
- Morgan Schumacher
- Daniel Stypa

Junior

- Heather Kovacs
- Lauren Martin

Senior

- Jamie Baumgartner
- Megan Bernard
- Sandra Borgione
- Melissa Coyle
- Jenna Gable
- Tara Mullins
- Amanda Musselman
- Lyndsey Scholl
- Bethany Speiser
- Melissa Wilcox

New policy helps students succeed in B.A.C. program

The culmination of nearly a year and a half process has made a change to the Interpersonal Communication Bachelor of Art in Communication program.

This new policy requires all students to earn a C or better in all career focus, major, and communication core courses.

“This change will be a huge benefit to a number of students and a small disadvantage to a few,” Julie Burke, department chair said.

Though a few students will have to retake courses if they don’t receive a C or better, it will be much more advantageous than detrimental, Burke said.

The old policy required all IPC majors to earn a 2.75 g.p.a. in the communication group, which consisted of ENG 112, IPC 102, IPC 201 and THFM 202. If students earned a C or better in all these courses, but did not earn a 2.75 g.p.a., they were forced to switch to the Bachelor of Art program.

University policy prohibits students who earn a C or better from retaking courses. On the other hand, if a student earned a D or F in one of these courses they were permitted to re-take the course thus receiving a second chance to earn the required 2.75 g.p.a.

According to Burke, “This change from BAC to BA usually delayed graduation as much as a year or more.” The new policy will eliminate this problem she said.

Discussion about the requirement change began in February 2005. The policy went through the IPC department and the dean of the college of Arts and Sciences.

Students who are already in the program will not be affected by this new policy.

This new policy will take effect in fall of 2006.

by Stephanie Harman, '07

continued from page 4

Handloom weaving

Essentially Gajjala is trying to understand the implications and possibilities of connecting the handloom weavers to the outside world through the Internet.

“What might it mean to connect the old technology of handloom weaving with the new technology of Web sites, e-mail and blogs?”

In order to examine this issue, she is trying to set up a Web site that showcases the handloom weavers’ products and fabrics and to work with the NGO on developing processes for marketing and delivering the products.

A summer workshop is being offered by Gajjala to any student wanting to understand the process of building such a Web site.

The course is called Becoming Interculturally Mobile: Interpersonal, Social And Technical Skills For Offshore/Virtual Work.

“In this workshop, students are connected to real world international clients and will be required to develop a marketing plan using multiple mobile technologies (primarily the World-Wide Web and cell phone) for the international client,” she said.

Activities include developing a marketing plan, building a Web site and recommending future directions based on available mobile technologies.

The emphasis of this workshop is on examining the interpersonal and intercultural communication skills necessary for completion of the tasks.

by Ashley Cipiti, '08

Fulbright resident stresses international awareness

To help the University become a more prominent part of the global village, the 2005-2006 Fulbright Scholar-In-Residence, Fatma Azzouz, brings a message of tolerance and awareness through education.

Azzouz originates from Tunisia but has spent time in over 40 countries during her 30-year international media career. She has worked for the British Broadcasting Corporation, Voice of America and Radio Television Tunisienne.

Azzouz worked with Catherine Cassara, journalism associate professor, and Laura Lengel, interpersonal communication associate professor. They serve as directors on the American side of the Middle East Partnership Initiative.

"Through the MEPI program, we have gone to [Azzouz's] institution to do work and her colleagues have come here to do short workshops," Lengel said. "Once I was in BG, I wanted to reconnect with that part of the world so we got the idea to co-author the Fulbright application to

bring [Azzouz] here for one year and she made it."

According to Cassara, Azzouz is a good addition to BGSU because she makes people question stereotypes.

"People around here don't know about Tunisia and [Azzouz] is great at getting people to think about what they hadn't thought about," Cassara said. "She challenges their stereotypes about what a woman from the Middle East/North Africa region might be like."

According to Lengel, Azzouz offers expertise both as a scholar and a media practitioner and her workshops are invaluable to students.

"Azzouz has a level of experience as well as a level of connectedness with the world that I think really benefits our students and our colleagues," Lengel said. "It's yet another way that our school, our department and our University is being put on the map."

One of the biggest aspects of Azzouz's job at BGSU is teaching about woman and Islam from an

international perspective.

Azzouz taught classes on Women in the Arab World and International Communication and gave related presentations across the country.

"All those presentations give me opportunity to travel around and see other places like Nevada, California and West Virginia," Azzouz said.

Besides traveling to different places, Azzouz has had the opportunity to educate the public about stereotypes surrounding the Middle East by real life examples.

"They think these are veiled women, subordinated women, maltreated women. Sometimes they don't know that women are doing very well," Azzouz said.

Even though Azzouz has given a lot to the university, she has not missed her opportunity to take something away as well—a better understanding of the American educational system.

"I heard it before, but now I can feel it. It's the fact that the students here are more specialized, so when it comes to general culture they are very poor," she said.

Azzouz thinks that even though students focus intensely on their major, they still need more of a worldwide understanding.

"The other day, we were talking in class and the word 'UNESCO' came up. I asked the class and nobody knew about it," Azzouz said. "This is something that, especially in the School of Communication and journalism, you should know."

Azzouz said her time spent abroad has really helped her to think globally. She said one of the best messages she has is tolerances through international awareness.

"I can define myself as an international citizen. I don't believe in borders, because I feel myself belonging to the whole world," Azzouz said.



photo by Amanda Furnas, '07

Fatma Azzouz encourages students to destroy stereotypes they might have about Middle Eastern women.

by Laura Simmons, '07

New course focuses on communication ethics

A new course in the IPC curriculum was added after Canchu Lin learned that a communication ethics course had not been offered at BGSU for many years.

Realizing the need for a course devoted solely to ethics, Lin got to work designing an interactive course that allows students to lead discussions, participate in ethical debates and analyze real-life cases concerning ethics in communication.

Lin said that after seeing the Enron scandal and the coverage of the West Virginia mining accident, he noticed a trend in the way ethics are handled and that there was something wrong.

Through Communication Ethics, Lin said he attempts to “awaken his students’ consciousness when communicating by specifically talking about ethics. We will enhance our awareness of ethics in communication not only in the classroom but in the workforce or other capacities.”

Sophomore Tasha Walker said she enjoys the class format. “I like the use of discussion boards and also that the class isn’t simply based on testing but involves class interaction.”

One of the major assignments in the course is a semester-long project in which the students are divided into groups and decide on an ethics-



photo by Stacy Timm, '07

Canchu Lin takes a seat amongst the students in a University Hall classroom during the new IPC ethics course as the class debates thoughtfully over issues surrounding fundraising.

based topic to research. This project is a chance for students to research a person, idea or event that took place involving communication ethics through a different perspective.

This spring was the first time this course was offered. Lin said he will be teaching the course this fall but under a new number and as a web-based course. He plans to add new supplemental reading material and look at new ways of organizing discussions.

“I like the fact that we work with the discussion board,” senior Jessica

Torda said. “This in a way forces you to read the chapter and really focus on what it is discussing.

Communication Ethics helps students learn to evaluate the communication of others and also assess whether their own communication is ethical. Lin said he wants to teach his students that effectiveness in communication is not entirely dependent on the success of how a message is sent and received, but whether the intent and interpretation of a message is ethical.

by Amy Meister, '07

IPCO members help out in the community

Since the beginning of the fall semester, IPCO members have participated in Adopt-A-Highway, helped clean the local Humane Society and held a bake sale for the Salvation Army. These projects involved about 40 members and resulted in the completion of 50 hours of community service.

“IPCO’s main goal in doing volunteer work is to help the community and to build a rapport with community members so they are aware of our presence and willingness to help out,” Leslie Bixler, vice president, said.

Each year, IPCO participates

in Adopt-A-Highway, which helps the make the environment cleaner. This year IPCO members wanted to get involved in other aspects of the community as well.

Kelly Bowman, treasurer, said members of IPCO wanted to volunteer at the Humane Society because they thought it would be fun to be around the animals. “We wanted to help the Wood County Humane Society out because they are such a small organization,” she said.

At Christmas time, the group participated in the Adopt-A-Family program. They raised \$135 from a bake sale and donated the money

to the Salvation Army. The results were that IPCO was able to make the holidays happier, Stephanie Wammes, president, said.

In March, the group helped with the annual Daffodil Days, a fund raiser for the American Cancer Society. “It felt good to be a part of something like this and to help those in need,” Wammes said.

A handful of members also participated in the campus-wide Dance Marathon held in March.

“Dance Marathon is just a huge part of BG and we wanted to be a part of it,” Bowman said.

by Sarah Hamen, '07

CONTRIBUTION

Department of Interpersonal Communication

Name: _____

Class year: _____

Address: _____

Daytime phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50

\$ _____

I would like my gift to:

- be used for annual awards or projects in the Department of Interpersonal Communication
- become a permanent part of School of Communication Studies' endowment for scholarships and projects

PAYMENT INFORMATION

Check enclosed

payable to BGSU Foundation, Inc.

Please charge my

VISA Mastercard Discover

Account # _____ Exp. _____

Signature _____

I will arrange for my company to match this gift.

Mail contributions to:

Dr. Oliver Boyd-Barrett
302 West Hall
BGSU
Bowling Green, OH 43403-0237

ALUMNI Newsletter

Department of Interpersonal Communication
Bowling Green State University
302 West Hall
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
419.372.8349

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit No. 1
Bowling Green, Ohio