

# Connexus

Connexus ~ Latin ~ bound together by ties of friendship, kinship, etc.

Spring 2009

## Celebrating 50 Years of Teaching

**D**r. Daniel J. Tutolo, professor emeritus in EDHD, reached an impressive milestone this past summer, celebrating his 50th year in teaching.

A native of Ohio, Tutolo earned his B.S. in business administration in 1957 and then accepted a position with Goodyear, hoping to work his way up in the company. The economy intervened, however, as he and many other employees were let go.

Tutolo saw an advertisement by the local public school system seeking college graduates to participate in an intensive teaching course and earn a teaching certificate. Thus, Tutolo's teaching career began, and, by year's end, he was teaching fifth and sixth graders and pursuing his master's degree in elementary education. He knew he'd found his calling. "It's the students," he said. "I get energized watching them learn."



Dr. Daniel J. Tutolo

Roles as principal and doctoral student followed, and, in 1973, Tutolo joined EDHD as an assistant professor and remained full time until his retirement in 1994 as a full professor.

Now "retired" for more than a decade, Tutolo has continually been drawn back to teach at BGSU, including this past summer's "Content Area Literacy P-12" class, an EDHD graduate-level course.

"It's been great," he said. "The decision to go into teaching was one of the most important in my life, and I have never for a minute regretted it."

### From the Dean

**T**his past year has been one of both challenges and successes for our college. With the creation of the University System of Ohio, we are involved in the challenge of building a new structure for higher education. This structure will enable us to better face the economic challenges of the future.

This past year, EDHD spent a considerable amount of time and energy preparing for the review of educator preparation programs at BGSU by the Board of Examiners from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). In October, this performance-based, data-driven assessment of our programs resulted in a positive recommendation that BGSU pass all standards at the initial and advanced levels. This recommendation will be sent to the NCATE Unit Accreditation Board who will meet in April 2009 to render a final decision regarding BGSU's accreditation.

We are very encouraged by this preliminary success. Such an outstanding achievement could not have been possible without the combined efforts of the entire college. The Board of Examiners was extremely complimentary of our candidates, faculty, staff, school partners, unit administrators, programs and assessment system. I am proud to work in an environment with this quality of students, alumni, faculty and staff.

D. Rosalind Hammond

## College helps strengthen STEM education

With the goal of significantly strengthening the ability of Ohio and its citizens to compete in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), BGSU and EDHD are participating in several grant-funded programs including TEAMS, DREAMS, RIPE and SMEA to encourage more students to enter the fields of STEM education.

### NWO TEAMS

Thus far, more than 300 teachers have participated in the Northwest Ohio Teachers Enhancing Achievement in Mathematics and Science (NWO TEAMS) program, a science and special education professional development opportunity for grades 3-6 teachers. This three-year, \$1.9-million grant-funded program focuses on integration of differentiated instruction with grade-specific science topics.

NWO TEAMS is a cooperative effort between BGSU and the University of Toledo alongside Toledo Public, Lima and Fostoria schools as well as Delta Education and Carolina Biological. The grant is funded by the Ohio Department of Education's Ohio Mathematics and Science Partnership Program.

Participating teachers receive 168 hours of professional development, a stipend, science kits and optional graduate credit from BGSU. This year the program focused on differentiated instruction to ensure that all students, regardless of their abilities, improve their science content and literacy.

Dr. Emilio Duran (STL) is the principal investigator with Drs. Lena Ballone Duran (STL), Jodi Haney (STL), Rick Worch (STL) and Amy Scheurman (SIS) as the co-principal investigators. Dr. T. Berry Cobb (BGSU professor emeritus of physics and astronomy) and Deb Wickerham (EDHD alumna and 2007 Ohio Teacher of the Year) are the faculty/instructors.

For more information about NWO TEAMS, refer to [cosmos.bgsu.edu/affiliated\\_projects/nwoTeams/](http://cosmos.bgsu.edu/affiliated_projects/nwoTeams/).

### RIPE

In its second year as a federally funded Improving Teaching Quality Program, Research-based Inquiry Physics Experiences (RIPE) II has received \$136,679 for professional development with Pre-K-3 teachers. In order to assist early childhood educators in encouraging interest in science among their young students, Dr. Tracy Huziak-Clark, project director and assistant professor in EDHD's School of Teaching and Learning (STL), said that she and her collaborator, Dr. Stephen Van Hook, formerly of BGSU and now at Penn State University, have researched the youngest students' understanding of scientific concepts by teaching physical science lessons using hands-on learning, conceptual hooks, songs and physical movements.

Huziak-Clark said, "The response from the first RIPE program was so positive that we were thrilled to be able to support 40 additional teachers this year."

They were assisted by six teachers who returned from the first year program to share the impact of RIPE lessons on their students' learning and understanding.

The participants learned not only physical science content but different classroom approaches to teaching physics in an age-appropriate manner and how best to address state standards. The project also provided \$600 in hands-on science materials for the teachers to take back to their schools, opportunity for graduate credit and follow-up during the school year.

For more information about RIPE, refer to <http://cosmos.bgsu.edu/ripe>.

### DREAMS

Developing Regional Excellence for Achievement in Mathematics and Science Education (DREAMS), in its second year, was funded, with nearly \$483,000, by the Ohio Department of Education's Ohio Mathematics and Science Partnership Program grant. DREAMS provides scholarship money for teachers to pursue master's of arts in teaching degrees in physics, biology, interdisciplinary science (for grades 4-9) or math, or toward obtaining a specialist endorsement in science or math.

For more information about DREAMS, refer to [http://cosmos.bgsu.edu/affiliated\\_projects/dreams](http://cosmos.bgsu.edu/affiliated_projects/dreams).

### SMEA

An ambitious plan by EDHD and the College of Arts and Sciences to recruit and educate science and mathematics teachers has been chosen for state funding. The \$3 million Science and Math Education in Action (SMEA) grant will encourage and enable promising students to "Choose Ohio First" when selecting a college and, later, to find in-state teaching jobs. Students in the program receive scholarships, along with intensive academic assistance, career counseling and the opportunity to conduct research and gain related work experience as undergraduates.

For more information about SMEA, refer to [bgsu.edu/offices/mc/news/2008/news52368.html](http://bgsu.edu/offices/mc/news/2008/news52368.html).



Adia Major (center), a former Peace Corps volunteer now in EDHD's MACIE program, chats with Manuela Peña (left) of Rural Opportunities and Dr. Margaret Booth, MACIE coordinator.

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## MACIE and PEACE CORPS join forces

**W**hen Dr. Margaret Zoller Booth returned from the Peace Corps in 1985, she felt that her experience teaching in Kenya helped shape her decision about what to do after completing a teaching job in Cleveland. Funding through a graduate assistantship for returned Peace Corps volunteers enabled her to pursue her graduate degrees in education. In 1997, Booth joined the School of Leadership and Policy Studies (LPS).

Now, through Booth's efforts, EDHD's Master of Arts in Cross-cultural and International Education (MACIE) program was recently named a Peace Corps Fellows site. As such, the Peace Corps Fellows/USA office will work with the MACIE program to establish affiliations with foundations or other organizations to provide funding and to find grant support as well as to provide numerous other types of assistance. The financial assistance will be used to help returning Peace Corps volunteers obtain MACIE degrees.

The goals of the Peace Corps, noted Booth, are a perfect match for MACIE, whose goal is preparing educators to effectively teach an increasingly diverse group of students, and at the same time prepare those students to be successful in an increasingly internationalized world.

For more information about the Peace Corps and MACIE, refer to [www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov) and [www.bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/edfi/macie](http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/edfi/macie), respectively.

### Proposed institute to study physical activity, aging

As the population in the United States continues to age, Dr. Amy L. Morgan, associate professor in the School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies (HMSLS), has proposed the development of the Institute for the Study of Physical Activity and Aging (ISPA<sup>2</sup>). This new institutional structure will provide a site where teaching, scholarship and service in the areas of physical activity and aging can interact and thrive across the University and within the surrounding communities.

ISPA<sup>2</sup> will serve as a hub where multidisciplinary research and engagement projects can take place. It will serve as a training site for undergraduate and graduate students from HMSLS and gerontology and as an excellent location for students to complete practicum and internship experiences and to participate in ongoing research projects.

The institute will provide physiological, psychological, fitness and health benefits to the participants and recognition of faculty expertise, thereby creating opportunities to generate funding. It will provide service benefits between BGSU and the surrounding communities.

Through regional and national presentations, publication and professional reputation, the institute will help to establish BGSU as a leader in the field of physical activity and aging.

### Thank You for Making a Difference!

This month current BGSU students will begin calling our alumni as part of the annual telefund drive, and we want you to fully recognize and understand what a tremendous impact your contributions have on the future.

We have accomplished much over the years with the help and generosity of our alumni and donors. Scholarships have been created, community outreach efforts have been initiated and expanded, teaching and research methods have been continually updated to ensure that we remain on the cutting edge, and international impacts have been made.

Difficult economic times, including continued shrinking state support and budget cuts, make your gift to the College even more critical at this time. Your contribution makes a huge difference no matter the amount. Each and every dollar helps us maintain and enhance the reputation we have earned for high-quality programs and top-notch graduates.

Thank you for your help!

### Faculty and Alumni News

Congratulations to **Dr. Barbara Henry** (EDHD's previous director of the Office of Student and Academic Services) for being selected as associate vice provost for advising and academic services at BGSU.

Congratulations to **Stacia Timmons Higgins '97** for being named winner of the 2008 Milken National Educator Award. For more information, refer to [www.bgcs.k12.oh.us/news/higgins.htm](http://www.bgcs.k12.oh.us/news/higgins.htm).

Congratulations to **Dr. M. Beth Johnson-Christoff '96**, principal at Toth Elementary School in Perrysburg (Ohio), for being named Distinguished Principal of the Year by the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators.

Best wishes to retirees **Dr. Gregg Brownell (STL)**, **Dr. David Groves (HMSLS)**, **Dr. Peterann Siehl (SIS)** and **Dr. Rich Wilson (Center for Evaluation)**.

## Focus on an Advocate:

### Katherine Nyberg

**K**atherine "Kathy" Nyberg of Birmingham, Mich., shares her passion for education as a founding member of the College of Education and Human Development Advocates Board. A graduate of Indiana University, where she earned bachelor's and master's degrees, Nyberg has had a distinguished career in teaching. She served as the language arts coordinator for Farmington (Michigan) Public Schools and was named an outstanding teacher of Oakland in 1993. She also served as a teacher-in-residence at the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Her connection to BGSU started because of her husband Bruce, who earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from BGSU in 1968 and was named to the BGSU Foundation Board of Directors in 2003.

He established a scholarship to honor his wife's outstanding teaching career. The scholarship is intended for a BGSU student from the Detroit area who is majoring in integrated language arts. The scholarship, which provides monetary support for a student, also offers the unique opportunity for mentorship by the long-time teacher. One of the scholarship recipients, who acknowledged Kathy's involvement, said, "She has been an incredible and supportive mentor to me, offering real-world, tried-and-true, practical teaching skills."



### Sports medicine conference held at BGSU

The Midwest Regional Chapter of the American College of Sport Medicine (MWACSM) hosted area sports medicine experts at BGSU this past October to discuss scientific advances, new techniques and directions in the fields of sports medicine and exercise science. The three-day event included lectures, poster presentations and programs for approximately 289 students and 61 professionals.

Dr. Craig Horswill, an exercise scientist and researcher with the Gatorade Sports Science Institute, was the keynote speaker for the 37th annual meeting of the MWACSM. Horswill's presentation focused on "Water and Sodium Balance During Exercise."

Dr. Amy Morgan, past-president of MWACSM and kinesiology faculty member in HMSLS organized the meeting.

For more information about MWACSM, refer to <http://www.mwacsm.org>.

### BGSU hosts sport, exercise psychology symposium

EDHD's School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies (HMSLS) will host the 18th Annual Midwest Sport and Exercise Psychology Symposium in February. The annual symposium, sponsored by the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP), encourages intellectual and personal growth through presentation experience and interaction with students and faculty. The symposium is a student-centered meeting that allows young professional students to network with each other and with leading professionals in the field of exercise and sport psychology.

This year's symposium will emphasize new perspectives in both sport and exercise psychology with keynote speakers Dr. Janet Buckworth from Ohio State University and Dr. Jennifer Waldron from the University of Northern Iowa.

For more information about AASP, refer to <http://appliedsportpsych.org>.