

> Top Stories

In Brief

Calendar

Job Postings

Obituaries

BGSU biology major wins prestigious Goldwater Scholarship

Eavesdropping isn't the most admirable trait in the human realm, but in a crayfish's watery world, it may just help the offender survive.

That's what Jennifer Chaffin is trying to find out in her research as a biology major at BGSU. And next year, as a senior, she'll do it with the help of a recently awarded Goldwater Scholarship, an academic-based honor that pays up to \$7,500 per year for tuition and fees, books, and room and board.

Chaffin, who has a 4.0 grade point average, is one of 278 Goldwater Scholarship recipients for the 2009-10 academic year. Those sophomores and juniors are among 1,097 science, engineering and mathematics students who were nominated by faculty at their institutions nationwide.

"This scholarship is given to those undergraduates who show significant promise as a future scientist and is considered the premier scholarship for those students in the sciences," said Dr. Paul Moore, biological sciences, who nominated Chaffin for the award and has overseen her research.

With a specialization in ecology and conservation biology, Chaffin described that research as working "with agonistic (aggressive and defensive) interactions" between crayfish, which are naturally aggressive.

The crustaceans release chemicals as they fight as a form of posturing to others, the Cincinnati resident explained. In her work with Moore, two crayfish fight in a tank where a third is unable to see them but may be able to sense what's happening through its ability to smell the released chemicals in the water—eavesdropping, in this usage.

Because crayfish are nocturnal, and not necessarily able to see because of the darkness, the research is aimed at learning if they can "eavesdrop" even if they can't see and can glean information that could enhance their survival, she said. The effect is tested by pairing the third crustacean with yet another crayfish and trying to determine if its earlier eavesdropping makes that crayfish more likely to win or lose the subsequent fight, or to escalate it more quickly, added Chaffin.

"Jennifer's research is essential in understanding how animals acquire information," Moore said. "Humans are so visually oriented that we tend to ignore how important chemical signals are in other animals' lives. Jennifer's work clearly shows that the aquatic world is a lot more complex than we thought it was, and that crayfish are capable of performing some fairly advanced behaviors."

Before beginning her senior year at BGSU, Chaffin will serve a summer internship at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge near Wells, Maine, just south of Kennebunkport at the state's southern tip. There, she will remove invasive species—mostly plant species in this case—in a coastal salt marsh and restore habitat for the New England cottontail rabbit, which is approaching endangered status due to its declining numbers. The rabbit needs a thicket habitat, which has been degraded by development, said Chaffin, who will plant native species in an effort to help restore the ecosystem.

The daughter of Ernie and Suzanne Chaffin of Cincinnati, the 2005 Anderson High School graduate plans to spend more time in both the classroom and the field after earning her undergraduate degree next year.

"In the long run, I would like to go to grad school and then work with sustainable management of natural ecosystems and do some teaching" at the college level, she said.

> Top Stories

In Brief

Calendar

Job Postings

Obituaries

Poet Larissa Szporluk named Guggenheim Fellow

To the roll of Guggenheim Fellows that includes poets and writers such as W.H. Auden, Derek Walcott and Eudora Welty, add the name of Larissa Szporluk, creative writing.

Appointed for poetry, Szporluk is among the 180 Fellows chosen this year from almost 3,000 applicants in the 85th annual competition for the U.S. and Canada, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation recently announced. The Fellows include artists, scientists and scholars.

Szporluk plans to use the award to complete her fifth book of poetry, tentatively titled *Rogue's March*. "The term refers to the derisive tune that is played when a soldier is dismissed from military service," she explained. "I was very attracted to the idea of a form of negative music being created for someone's banishment.

"I have also long been attracted to the histories of writers in exile—Dante, Machiavelli, Pushkin, to name a few. So I combined those interests and developed characters who have been forced to leave society and must reinvent themselves in solitude. The 'march' is the trail of shame and confusion they leave in their wake, self-imposed as well as socially. The poems are primarily dramatic monologues about identity and nonhuman forms of attachment."

Szporluk has been teaching full time at BGSU since 2000. On faculty improvement leave this semester and next, she was previously director of the Creative Writing Program and coordinator of graduate studies. In 2005, she was a visiting professor at Cornell University.

Since the publication of her chapbook *Prowler's Universe* in Graywolf Press's Take Three Series (1996), she has gone on to publish four books of poetry: *Dark Sky Question*, winner of the Barnard Poetry Prize (Beacon Press, 1998); *Isolato*, winner of the Iowa Poetry Prize (University of Iowa Press, 2000); *The Wind, Master Cherry, The Wind* (Alice James Books, 2003), and *Embryos and Idiots* (Tupelo Press, 2007). Her work is included in *Best American Poetry 2001*, *New American Voices*, *20th-Century American Poetry*, *Contemporary Poetry in the U.S.* and numerous other anthologies.

In 2003, Szporluk received a National Endowment for the Arts grant as well as an Ohio Arts Council grant, and was invited to participate in the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C.

In 2005-06, she participated as one of three poets in the Georgia Literary Circuit tour, giving poetry readings at numerous colleges and universities throughout the state of Georgia. She was also an invited reader at the 2006 Belgrade International Book Fair, where she gave a talk on the imagination in contemporary American poetry and read her work.

Since its establishment in 1925, the Guggenheim Foundation has granted more than \$273 million in fellowships to about 16,700 people, among them scores of Nobel, Pulitzer and other prizewinners. The complete list of Fellows may be viewed at www.gf.org.

Bridging the Atlantic earns Sorosiak German award

The 2008 presidential election was a momentous time for the United States, and Ohio was in the thick of events. To observe the process firsthand, a group of German officials, businesspeople and students came to Bowling Green, aided by Tom Sorosiak, education. For Sorosiak, a former social studies teacher in Toledo Public Schools, helping organize the visit was only the latest in a long history of fostering cross-cultural relations.

For his efforts in facilitating the group's stay, and in recognition of his many years of work with Atlantik-Brücke (Atlantic Bridge), a German-American exchange program that annually takes U.S. teachers to Germany, Sorosiak was given the Cross of the Order of Merit by the Federal Republic of Germany. German Ambassador Klaus Scharioth presented the award, which was

- > **Top Stories**
- > **In Brief**
- Calendar
- Job Postings
- Obituaries

bestowed on Sorosiak by President Horst Köhler.

In presenting the award to Sorosiak, Ambassador Scharioth described him as a “tireless partner” in the effort to build bridges between Germany and the United States and a “true and committed friend of Germany.”

The ceremony was held at the German embassy in Washington, D.C. “It was an amazing evening, and the medal presented to me is absolutely beautiful. I will treasure it forever,” said Sorosiak. “I was thrilled to hear Ambassador Scharioth recognize BGSU in his statements to me. I really believe it is a terrific reflection on the progressive attitude of BGSU.”

News of the award was included in the German Embassy newsletter, which cited Sorosiak for “his commitment to improving and intensifying transatlantic relations. Mr. Sorosiak is co-program director of an exchange program for American social studies teachers sponsored by the Atlantik-Brücke, an organization dedicated to fostering greater German-American understanding. Mr. Sorosiak’s extraordinary commitment to that project, which was originally limited to Ohio, has helped expand it to a total of thirteen U.S. states. Mr. Sorosiak intensively prepares the study trip participants for their stay in Germany and offers the opportunity for returning teachers to attend a seminar on modern-day Germany, taught at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Approximately 2,000 teachers have been able to participate in Mr. Sorosiak’s seminars on modern-day Germany and thus pass on their knowledge to an estimated 500,000 students.”

During the Atlantik-Brücke group’s visit, a university partnership was established between BGSU and the University of Hildesheim. The agreement was signed by BGSU President Carol Cartwright and Hildesheim President Wolfgang-Uwe Friedrich. (See www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/monitor/11-10-08/page57972.html.)

IN BRIEF

Free hearing, speech screenings offered

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. To celebrate, the BGSU Speech and Hearing Clinic is offering free hearing screenings, hearing aid cleanings and speech/language screenings on May 18 and 27.

The screenings are open to the University community and the public, for adults and children of all ages. To schedule an appointment, call 2-2515.

The clinic is in 200 Health Center.

Learn about upcoming go-live at town hall meeting

The Thursday (May 14) BG@100 town hall meeting will focus on the changes that will result from the planned Campus Solutions go-live the weekend of May 15. Included will be the conversion of grades, Financial Aid SAP and Student Records HEI Reporting. This will be the ninth of 11 planned go-lives.

The meeting will be held from 11 a.m. to noon in 113 Olscamp Hall and will be teleconferenced to 1003 Cedar Point Center at BGSU Firelands.

Additional details about the BG@100 project are available at the project Web site, www.bgsu.edu/bgat100. Information regarding the May go-live is available at: www.bgsu.edu/offices/cio/page66295.html.

Top Stories

> **In Brief**

> **Calendar**

Job Postings

Obituaries

Fifth annual Office of the CIO golf outing slated

The Office of the CIO extends an invitation to participate in its fifth annual golf outing, on July 24 at the Stone Ridge Golf Club.

Registration includes lunch, 18 holes of golf, complimentary range balls prior to the round, two drink tickets and appetizers following the competition. A 50/50 drawing and prizes will be awarded. Teams of four will compete in a best-ball scramble format.

Further details and registration information are available at: www.bgsu.edu/offices/cio/golf. The registration deadline is July 3.

Farewell reception planned for Jim Smith, Connie Ruhl-Smith

Please plan to offer best wishes to Dr. Jim Smith, vice president for regional growth and economic development, and Dr. Connie Ruhl-Smith, assistant vice provost for academic affairs, from 4-5:30 p.m. on June 4 in 201 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Dr. Jim Smith will assume the presidency of Northern State University in South Dakota on July 1.

CALENDAR

Monday, May 11

Dissertation Defense, "Those Who Just Said 'No!': Career-Life Decisions of Middle Management Women in Student Affairs Administration," by Kathy Collins, higher education administration, 10 a.m., 303 Education Building.

Tuesday, May 12

Radiation Safety Training Session, 9-11 a.m., 2 College Park Building. To register, call 2-2171 or visit www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Baseball vs. Oakland, 3 p.m., Steller Field.

Thursday, May 14

Baseball vs. Akron, 3 p.m., Steller Field.

Friday, May 15

Baseball vs. Akron, 1 p.m., Steller Field. **Second Annual Student Affairs Golf Outing**, nine-hole golf scramble at 3:30 p.m. followed by a steak dinner, Forrest Creason Golf Course. The event benefits scholarships in Career Services, Recreational Sports, Student Support Services and University Dining Services, and for graduate students in the division. For more information, contact Deanna Vatan Woodhouse at 2-2151 or deannav@bgsu.edu.

Saturday, May 16

Baseball vs. Akron, 1 p.m., Steller Field. **5th District Congressional Art Competition**, promoting arts awareness by recognizing high school artists, 9-11:30 a.m., Fine Arts Center galleries. Galleries open at 9 a.m., followed by awards presentation by U.S. Rep. Bob Latta at 10 a.m. and a reception at 10:30 a.m. Part of the national Congressional Art Competition hosted by the U.S. House of Representatives; work by the winner in each district will be displayed in the U.S. Capitol for one year.

Monday, May 18

First Six-Week Summer Session Begins.

Continuing Events Beginning May 11

Dance Classes, featuring basic ballroom dance steps including the waltz, tango, fox trot, rumba and others, 6-7 p.m. Mondays, May 11-June 22. No class May 25. The fee is \$75 per couple, \$40 per single. To register, call 2-8181 or visit <http://pace.bgsu.edu/registeronline>.

Through June 8

Art Exhibit, Graduate Arts Student Organization National Juried Show, Bowen-Thomp-

- Top Stories
- In Brief
- > **Calendar**
- > **Job Postings**
- > **Obituaries**

son Student Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

Beginning May 18

Wilderness First Responder Course, an 80-hour wilderness first-aid course that is the basic training for anyone interested in

serious outdoor activity. First-responder certification offered to the campus community for a discount rate of \$495. For more information, contact Jerome Gabriel at 2-2146 or email outdoorpro@bgsu.edu. Sponsored by the Outdoor Program and GeoJourney.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

American Culture Studies/Women's Studies. Pre-Post Doc Teaching Fellow. Call Don McQuarie, 2-8886. Deadline: May 15.

Intervention Services. Instructor (three positions). Call Trinka Messenheimer, 2-7358. Deadline: May 18.

History. Instructor. Call Scott Martin, 2-2030. Deadline: May 20.

English. Instructor. Call Kristine Blair, 2-7543. Deadline: May 29.

School of Teaching and Learning. Instructor. Call Cindy Hendricks, 2-7341. Deadline: May 29.

Labor Postings

<http://international.bgsu.edu/index.php?x=facinfohires>

Contact the Office of Human Resources at 419-372-8421 for information regarding classified and administrative positions. Position vacancy announcements may be viewed by visiting the HR Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/.

Employees wishing to apply for these positions must sign a "Request for Transfer" form and attach an updated resume or data sheet. This information must be turned in to Human Resources by the job deadline.

CLASSIFIED

On-campus classified:

www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/page11151.htm

Off-campus classified:

www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/cl_staff/page11145.html

ADMINISTRATIVE

www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/page11137.html

OBITUARY

There were no obituaries posted this week.