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Trustees OK furlough policy, building and finance plans

Meeting in open session, the BGSU Board of Trustees took action on four items at its annual retreat Aug. 13.

The trustees approved a policy on employee furloughs as a cost-saving measure. Under the provisions of the Ohio biennial budget, or House Bill 1, boards of trustees of higher education institutions may adopt a policy "providing for mandatory furloughs of employees, including faculty, to achieve spending reductions necessitated by institutional budget deficits."

Following the board's action, a furlough program was announced and will begin this fall, as outlined in a letter to the University from President Carol Cartwright. The mandatory, unpaid furloughs during this fiscal year will apply to all full-time, 12-month staff, faculty administrators and library faculty who will earn \$50,000 or more in base salary as of Aug. 24. The policy is expected to affect about 500 employees.

The board also approved the University's new, long-term Residence Hall and Dining Services Master Plan, which will significantly update main-campus facilities. The plan was presented at the June 26 trustees meeting.

(See www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/monitor/06-29-09/page67618.html.)

Also getting board authorization was the issuance of general receipts bonds and the refinancing of outstanding obligations, for a total of about \$80 million. From time to time, the University has issued long-term debt obligations to fund a variety of important capital projects.

Series 2010 bonds will be issued to fund the soon-to-be-built Stroh Center, residence hall renovations and demolitions, energy efficiency improvements called for under House Bill 251 and the next phase of roof replacements, in addition to paying off an amount owed through short-term borrowing.

In addition, the trustees ratified the appointment of Dr. Kenneth W. Borland as senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. Borland began his duties Aug. 15.

The next regular meeting of the trustees will be Oct. 2.

Digital arts alumni awarded for video-game character creations

Two recent graduates of the digital arts program were among five award winners in the 3D Games division of GameJam!, a new international video-game competition.

James Maloney, who received a bachelor of fine arts degree in May, won the Funniest Award for his "Henry the Frog" character, which uniquely bounced twice before jumping. Greg Wark, who earned his BFA degree in May 2008, took the Crowd Favorite Award for his "Creepy Crawler," which was able to compress its body to crawl under low passages as well as walk upright. Both Maloney, of Euclid, and Wark, from Havertown, Pa., were awarded a copy of Softimage animation software and two character-modeling books.

The winners were announced during SIGGRAPH 2009, the 36th International Conference and Exhibition on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques. The conference was held Aug. 3-7 in New Orleans.

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Maloney, Wark and Brian Nixon, another May 2008 graduate of the digital arts program, were among 27 participants from around the world selected to compete in the first GameJam! In the competition, teams created a 3D game using the Panda3D game engine and a 2D game using Flash during a 24-hour period. Participants included industry professionals and students who were chosen on the basis of animations, models and computer programs they submitted last spring.

“James, Greg and Brian had a goal—they wanted to be involved in an international SIGGRAPH animation competition,” noted Bonnie Mitchell, digital arts.

“They actively collaborated for the past few years outside of class, teaching each other animation techniques, critiquing each other’s work and sharing in their common goal of becoming skilled computer animators,” she added, calling the trio “great examples of the positive results that can result from persistence, passion and collaboration.”

“Games and game development have been a driving force in pushing the state of the art in real-time computer graphics technology, and our participants were able to create quality games in the short time allotted,” said Tina Ziemek, GameJam! 2009 chair from the University of Utah. “All of them did extremely well, and we expect this will be the first of many more gaming competitions to come.”

For the complete list of GameJam! winners, see: http://www.siggraph.org/s2009/contests_competitions/game_jam/index.php

BGSU to host comic, actress, ‘CBS Sunday Morning’ contributor Nancy Giles

The College of Musical Arts will host “An Evening with Nancy Giles,” a comedian, actress and contributor to “CBS Sunday Morning,” at 8 p.m. Aug. 27 in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Open to the public, the free, BGSU Welcome Week event is part of the Hansen Musical Arts Series, created by Dorothy E. and DuWayne Hansen. Alumni and friends of the College of Musical Arts and BGSU, they are supporting Giles’ appearance and residency, which will also include visits with students in music, theatre and the campus Arts Village.

On the Peabody Award-winning “CBS Sunday Morning,” Giles voices her opinions on a number of topics, from politics and race to plus-sized women and even Janet Jackson’s infamous “wardrobe malfunction.”

As an actress, she has appeared in a variety of movies—Clint Eastwood’s “True Crime” and Penny Marshall’s “Big” among them—along with TV shows such as “Law and Order,” “Spin City” and the Emmy Award-winning drama “China Beach.” She has also appeared in theater roles in New York and Chicago and, as a comedian, was a member of the Second City cast and performs on the stand-up circuit. Giles is currently working on a book based on her stand-up material, essays and her life experiences.

Her BGSU appearance is the seventh in the Hansen series, which began with a visit by Sesame Street’s Bob McGrath in 2003. Subsequent guests have included Broadway performer Craig Schulman in 2004, trumpeter Terrance Blanchard in 2007 and conductor Benjamin Zander last year.

Established in 1996, the Dorothy E. and DuWayne Hansen Musical Arts Series Fund brings representatives of the musical and creative arts to Bowling Green to share their talent and knowledge with students and community residents. DuWayne Hansen is also a former chair of the music education department in the College of Musical Arts.

For more information about “An Evening with Nancy Giles,” contact the Moore box office at 2-8171.

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University offers help to faculty affected by tax law change

Nine-month, full-time faculty with salaries of \$90,750 and above who have chosen to be paid over 12 months for the 2009-10 academic year will be affected by changes to the federal tax law. But the University will help employees minimize the impact on their finances.

Federal tax law changes that were enacted in 2004 and became applicable to schools (including colleges and universities) beginning Jan. 1, 2008, have made it necessary for educational institutions to review the tax law and its implications for faculty. Under regulations issued in 2007, educational institutions at all levels that provide a choice of pay schedules are required to adhere to Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 409A to avoid potential, serious tax consequences for the institution and its employees.

This 409A regulation applies to compensation that employees earn in one year but are not paid until the following year. The earnings received in the subsequent year are considered by the IRS to be nonqualified deferred compensation. Section 409A considers this taxable income that the individual will be taxed on in the current calendar year. If the IRS audits an individual employee who is impacted by this provision and determines that individual is not in compliance with Section 409A, the deferred compensation for that employee may be subject to an additional 20 percent penalty, in addition to the income tax.

After much study and consultation with other universities, BGSU is taking the following approach: Faculty making more than \$90,750 for academic year 2009-10 will be over the maximum deferral amount allowed by 409A. Therefore, these faculty members will not be eligible to select the 12-payment option. They will be paid over nine months, starting in September. Any faculty whose compensation is at \$90,750 or above will be moved to the nine-month pay option.

In order to help those impacted by this change, representatives in Payroll are available to assist in establishing a secondary, direct-deposit bank account in order to set aside salary to cover summer months.

This year, the maximum deferred compensation threshold as found in IRC 403(g) is \$16,500. Therefore, faculty members whose compensation falls at or below \$90,750 for academic year 2009-10 will not earn a deferral amount of more than the \$16,500 and will not be affected by this IRS code. It is important to note, however, that the deferred compensation threshold can change from year to year. Summer salaries are not impacted by this code because summer compensation is paid in the same calendar year it is earned.

Affected faculty who have questions about this change are encouraged to contact Larry Smith in the Payroll Office at 2-2201 or lcsmith@bgsu.edu, or Sharon Swartz in the Controller's Office at 2-9843 or sswartz@bgsu.edu. Faculty who are directly impacted can expect to be contacted by a University representative to assist with his or her individual case.

Several informational sessions are scheduled during the week of Aug. 31. Details will be posted on listprocs and in Campus Update.

Colom promoted to vice president

Albert Colom, vice provost for enrollment management, has been promoted to vice president for enrollment management. He will report to the senior vice president for academic affairs and provost.

Colom will be responsible for all new- and continuing-student enrollment strategies, including recruitment and marketing, admissions and retention, financial aid, registration and records, scholarships and tuition discounting, advising and academic success, along with initiatives for the University's regional campus, adult degree completion, academic technology and

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distance learning programs. In addition to admissions, financial aid and the registrar, Colom will oversee Northwest Ohio Educational Technology (NWOET) and the BGSU Career Center.

"This is a natural extension of Albert's current role," said Dr. Kenneth Borland, senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. "We're confident in his abilities to take our enrollment efforts to the next level."

University Choral Society seeks members

Open auditions are being held for the 2009-10 season of the University Choral Society, the College of Musical Arts has announced.

The ensemble will join soloists and the Toledo Symphony Orchestra on the college's Festival Series in a performance of Handel's "Messiah" on Dec. 2. The concert will be in Kobacker Hall at the Moore Musical Arts Center. Performances of the work are also scheduled with the orchestra Dec. 5 and 6 as part of its regular-season offering of the work at the Toledo Museum of Art Peristyle.

The group will perform Mozart's "Mass in C Minor" with the Lima Symphony Orchestra on April 17.

The University Choral Society provides opportunities for community and University singers to come together to sing great choral music with orchestra. The ensemble performs frequently with the Bowling Green Philharmonia and the Toledo Symphony.

Mark Munson, director of choral activities, is director of the chorus. During his 20-year tenure at BGSU, he has led the Collegiate Chorale, A Cappella Choir and University Women's Chorus. He is also the director of the Lima Symphony Orchestra Chorus and is founder and director of the local vocal ensemble Opus 181. During the 2005-06 school year, Munson lived in Sweden, where he conducted and taught choral music. He is a past president of the Ohio Choral Directors Association.

The chorus rehearses on Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Moore center. For more information, and/or to schedule an audition, call the college at 2-2186.

IN BRIEF

ITS labs receive hardware, software upgrades

In preparation for the fall semester, Information Technology Services (ITS) will be completing hardware and software upgrades.

The following software applications are anticipated to be available in most ITS- maintained computer labs prior to the start of classes: Adobe Acrobat Pro 9, Adobe Creative Suite 4, iLife 2009 (Mac only) and SPSS 17 (PC Open Labs).

The following labs are scheduled to receive upgraded hardware before the semester begins: 213 Education Building, 222 Education Building, 025 Hayes Hall, 125 Jerome Library, 131 Life Sciences Building, 240 Mathematical Sciences Building, 207 Olscamp Hall, 103 Psychology Building, 237 Technology Building, 209 University Hall, 303 University Hall, 201 West Hall and 209 West Hall.

The following Mac labs will require domain authentication (with BGSU username and

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passwords): 107 Hayes Hall, 125 Jerome Library, 240 Mathematical Sciences Building and 247 Technology Building.

A list of software being added as part of the 2008-09 Academic Software Advisory Committee acquisitions is available at: www.bgsu.edu/offices/cio/software_request/page34583.html.

This listing of software and hardware is subject to change. Direct any questions regarding the upgrades to the Technology Support Center at 2-0999 or tsc@bgsu.edu.

CALENDAR

Monday, Aug. 17

Dissertation Defense, "A Perfectionist Defense of Free Speech," by Jonathan Miles, philosophy, 1-3 p.m., 317 Shatzel Hall.

Tuesday, Aug. 18

Information Session, regarding the new Leave Bank Program, through which eligible University employees can donate hours to help a seriously ill/injured colleague who has no accrued leave, 9-10 a.m., 115 Education Building. For more information, visit www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/page68395.html.

Personal Protective Equipment Training Session, 9-10:30 a.m., 2 College Park Building. To register, call 2-2171 or visit www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Wednesday, Aug. 19

Personal Protective Equipment Training Session, 7-8:30 a.m., 1004 Cedar Point Center, BGSU Firelands. To register, call 2-2171 or visit www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Classified Staff Council, 10 a.m.-noon, 308 Bowen-Thompson Student Union.

Wii Fit Wednesdays, last session of the summer, noon-1 p.m., Student Recreation Center Lounge. Center membership or pre-registration is not required for this free event, which qualifies for the Employee Wellness Incentive Program.

Thursday, Aug. 20

Information Session, on the new Leave Bank Program, see above, 9-10 a.m., 115 Education Building.

Friday, Aug. 21

Dissertation Defense, "Multiple Comparisons under Unequal Variances and Its

Application to Dose Response Studies," by Hong Li, math and statistics, 2:30 p.m., 459 Mathematical Sciences Building.

Saturday, Aug. 22

Men's Soccer vs. Ohio Wesleyan (exhibition), 3 p.m., Cochrane Field.

University Welcome, 9:30-10 p.m., Doyt Perry Stadium. The rain site will be Anderson Arena.

Late Nite @ The Rec, 10 p.m.-1 a.m., Student Recreation Center.

Sunday, Aug. 23

First-Year Welcome Picnic, 6-7:30 p.m., University Hall lawn (rain site: dining halls). To sign up as a picnic volunteer, visit <https://reslife.bgsu.edu/forms/volunteer-convocation.php>.

Partners in Excellence Meeting, 8 p.m., 308 Union. Hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Monday, Aug. 24

Fall Semester Begins.

Continuing Events Beginning Aug. 17

Art Exhibit, paintings by John Nativio, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Beginning Aug. 19

Art Exhibit, "Loss and Desire," Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sundays.

Through Aug. 21

WellAware's Walking to Wellness Program, free use of the indoor track on weekdays during the summer, noon-1:30 p.m., Perry Field House. This event quali-

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fies for the Employee Wellness Incentive Program.

Aug. 22-23

Move-In Weekend. Contact the Office of Campus Activities at 2-2343 to volunteer for a three-hour shift as a department or individual.

Beginning Aug. 24

Wellness Week, featuring free personal training sessions and group exercise classes, Student Recreation Center. Stop by the Wellness Connection in the recreation center for more information.

Beginning Aug. 24

Intermediate/Advanced Adult Karate Classes, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays through Dec. 7. No class will

be held Sept. 7, Oct. 12, Nov. 11 or Nov. 25. The fee is \$100 for full time and \$50 for half time (one day per week); the cost of uniforms is not included in the class fee. For more information or to register, call 2-8181 or visit <http://pace.bgsu.edu>.

Beginning Aug. 24

Free Use of the Climbing Wall, 5:30-9:45 p.m. nightly, Student Recreation Center Climbing Wall. Registration and waiver required; wall membership and belay certification not required.

Aug. 24-26

BGSU Firelands Sweets and Treats Welcome, 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. daily, The Pit, Firelands.

JOB POSTINGS

FACULTY

There were no jobs posted this week.

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.html

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 this week.