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Elements of new undergraduate experience begin to take shape

BGSU has begun a journey that has the potential to redefine its identity as an educational institution. Several elements have already emerged that will be central to its success, along with some critical questions.

A team of representatives from across the University has been working for a number of months on Connecting the Undergraduate Experience (CUE), aimed at creating “distinctive, coherent, undergraduate learning experiences that link curricular and co-curricular programs,” which is the first strategy in the Strategic Plan.

“Over the next three to five years, BGSU can begin to distance itself from others depending on what it does with undergraduate education,” Richard Hersh, senior consultant with Keeling and Associates, told the CUE Committee at its second retreat Sept. 25 and 26. President Carol Cartwright and Provost Kenneth Borland acted as team members in the discussions. All the University deans participated as well, and also shared their reactions to the presentations of findings thus far.

Students speak

The lack of coherence in the undergraduate experience was pointed up by the results of focus groups conducted by Keeling. Student responses revealed that they do not understand the importance of the “well-rounded education” and the requirement that they take a variety of courses outside their major, nor do they see the interconnections between topics, Keeling reported.

The CUE Committee focus

Focused on its charge and the undergraduate students’ concerns, the CUE Committee has developed a conceptual learning model for BGSU. Based on their research readings and the initial discussions, four committee subgroups tackled what had been identified as four essential questions about an undergraduate experience that would produce graduates who possess higher-order thinking and who will be change agents as citizens.

“This is very achievable in the four years they spend at the University,” Borland said.

The groups presented their first findings related to these questions under the umbrella:

At BGSU, what would learning look like—

1. If we created the possibility of an integrated learning experience for all undergraduate students, one that helps students pursue intentionally connected opportunities?
2. If it were based on achievement of essential learning outcomes, measured directly through formative and summative assessment?
3. If we adhered to the best learning and teaching practices?
4. If we incorporated high-impact practices into our undergraduate experiences, including curricular and co-curricular activities?

The eventual curriculum redesign will have broad implications, even influencing the campus master plan as the University builds new, dynamic classroom spaces that could be quite different from traditional settings, the committee heard.

Advising is key

While initially it was said that the effort must be faculty-driven, it quickly became apparent

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to the team that equally important to success will be strong advising—academic, career, co-curricular and more—reported Committee Chair Catherine Cardwell, interim vice provost for academic programs. Advising must be educational, developmental and formative, and advisors themselves will need to understand the interconnectedness of disciplines and their connections to life.

Read Monitor in coming weeks for more on the groups' responses to the four questions.

All documents, minutes and plans related to CUE can be found at <http://www.bgsu.edu/cue/index.html>

Read a related story at www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/monitor/07-13-09/page68002.html.

New video viewing center named in honor of Ralph Wolfe

A new campus resource for the study of film and video will bear the name of its benefactor. The Board of Trustees on Oct. 2 honored Dr. Ralph Haven Wolfe, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and Gish Professor of Film Studies, by naming a viewing center in his honor.

Located in Hanna Hall, the Dr. Ralph H. Wolfe Viewing Center will house a collection of film and digital videos. "It's going to be a wonderful resource for the campus," predicted Dr. Brett Holden, theatre and film. "I can put things on reserve for my students to look at over the week. It will be an invaluable tool for the classroom."

Faculty and students from any discipline will be able to use the viewing center free of charge. It features individual carrels, each with a DVD and VHS player.

The center, which will open next spring, is across the hall from the Gish Film Theater and Gallery, "so it's a good association," Holden observed.

Over his 50-year affiliation with BGSU, Wolfe has championed film studies and was instrumental in the establishment of the Gish Theater in commemoration of the careers of Ohio actresses Dorothy and Lillian Gish. Since his retirement in 1998, he has continued to serve as curator.

Holden has long been involved both with the Gish Theater and with helping to make the viewing center a reality. The center's collection is being built through donations of films and videos from current and retired faculty, and is becoming quite substantial. Kellie Tilton of Jerome Library is helping to catalog it.

Tuition to rise

For the first time in two and a half years, BGSU will raise undergraduate tuition. The trustees approved a 3.5 percent increase effective spring semester 2010.

The action came after the state lifted the freeze on tuition and general fees in July. The University decided not to raise tuition for fall semester but, faced with lower enrollment, the continuing decline in State Share of Instruction (SSI) and an announced change in the state's schedule for disbursing SSI payments, it needed to generate necessary revenue through tuition.

SSI for 2010 for both main campus and BGSU Firelands should be close to what was included in the budget approved by the board in June, reported CFO Sheri Stoll. However, she cautioned, while no final figures have been announced by the Ohio Board of Regents, initial estimates for 2011 seem to suggest that the Bowling Green campus can expect to receive from \$5 million to \$10 million less than the amount budgeted for fiscal year 2010; Firelands can expect to receive \$300,000-\$400,000 less.

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BGSU report highlights smoking, obesity issues in young Ohioans

Smoking has become much less prevalent among Ohioans over 30 in the last 25 years, but the trend hasn't extended to younger adults, according to BGSU's Center for Family and Demographic Research (CFDR).

In its new Ohio Population News: Health and Well-Being of Young Adults, the center also reports that obese Ohioans ages 18-29 are significantly more likely to have high blood pressure and diabetes than their peers who aren't obese.

In 1984, the percentage of smokers was the same—30 percent—among Ohioans under 30 and those over 30, the study notes. By 2008, that figure had dropped to 19 percent among the older group but was still 28 percent among those in the 18-29 age range.

While some smokers who moved into the over-30 group no doubt quit during the intervening years, "what's sad is you would like to see a greater decrease" among the younger adults, said Heidi Lyons, applied demographer at the CFDR.

She compiled the Ohio Population News report using census data, the 2008 Ohio Family and Health Survey and the Centers for Disease Control's 2008 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System.

The obesity-related numbers indicate that while 10 percent of all Ohioans ages 18-29 have high blood pressure, it afflicts 21 percent of obese young adults compared to 8 percent of those who aren't obese. Further, 5 percent of obese Ohioans under 30 have diabetes, versus 2 percent of their peers who aren't obese.

Some people may think those conditions won't be a concern until later in life, but the data suggest "you have the possibility of early-onset high blood pressure and diabetes before you're 29 if you're obese," Lyons said.

Health behaviors as young adults, she added, "often set people on poor health trajectories that lead to further health issues as older adults."

Statistically significant data reported by the center also include differences in who's uninsured in Ohio. While one-quarter of the state's residents in the 18-29 range don't have health insurance, according to the report, that number drops to 12 percent of residents ages 30-49, 11 percent of those ages 50-64 and only 1 percent of those 65 and older.

Catalano helps young artists enhance Toledo's Art Zone

Passers-by in downtown Toledo next spring may find themselves pausing to enjoy masterworks by artists from Van Gogh to Vasarely—not on canvasses but benches. A team of "Young Artists at Work," under the guidance of Dr. Dominic Catalano, art, spent six weeks this summer recreating the works of art, from building the benches to painting the designs on them.

"I loved this program," said Catalano. "The students were the crème de la crème. They were an inspired, engaged group."

Administered by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo (ACGT) and with support from donors and a National Endowment for the Arts grant for the "Live, Work, Create Toledo" initiative, Young Artists at Work pays students from around the region minimum wage for seven hours a day to work on large-scale projects that beautify the city.

The 19 students on "Team Matisse" identified 20 works from the Toledo Museum of Art as potential pieces for the project. "We weighed the pros and cons—would the images hold up

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on the benches? Would they be 'readable'?" Catalano recounted. Working with him was assistant instructor Ross Roadruck.

Eventually, 10 paintings made the cut. They include a Greek vase mosaic and works by Matisse, Lesueur, Hofmann, Miró, Mondrian, Monet, Stella, Vasarely and Van Gogh. Steve Nowak, the museum's director of education, provided high-resolution images of the artworks that the student artists first gridded onto paper and then the benches.

The Van Gogh group became particularly engaged with their painting and completed it in only six hours, Catalano said in amazement. "It was four kids working all at the same time. I felt like they were channeling Van Gogh."

The benches will be installed permanently on streets within the designated Art Zone of downtown Toledo, an area rich in artist studios and galleries. The designation focuses on art as a means to economic development.

"The project was very important to the arts commission as a way to create a visual linkage within the boundaries of the Art Zone," said Michelle Carlson, ACGT programs coordinator. "It also increases walkability and helps raise awareness of the zone as an inviting and safe place to be. The benches were very well received by our commission, our board and our sponsors."

In addition to the actual artwork, participants received quite a bit of job preparation. Over the course of the summer, they attended workshops in interviewing and resume and cover-letter writing. Other activities included field trips and research. "It was just ideal," Catalano said.

For many of the young artists, the fun and importance of the project will culminate with being able to actually sit on the benches they created.

IN BRIEF**Deadline approaches for student Fulbright applications**

Oct. 19 is the national deadline to apply for the 2010-11 Fulbright U.S. Student Program. BGSU students must submit their materials to Paul Hofmann, campus Fulbright Program advisor, both electronically and in hard copy by 5 p.m. Oct. 15.

Students may contact Hofmann at phofman@bgsu.edu, at 2-2248, or in 219 University Hall for more information.

Information is also available at www.us.fulbrightonline.org.

Title IX documentary shown on WBGU-PBS

"Title IX: Implications for Women in Sport and Education," a three-part series, is a collaboration between WBGU-PBS and the National Association for Girls and Women in Sport. It chronicles the history and impact of Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments, which mandated gender equity in federally assisted programs and activities.

The series was written and produced by Dr. Janet Parks, Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus of human movement, sport and leisure studies. It premiered Oct. 4 and will continue on Oct. 11 and 18.

Parks and Janna Blais, BGSU senior associate athletics director and senior woman administrator, will lead a discussion of the series at 3 p.m. Oct. 25 in the Pallister Conference Room

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of Jerome Library. A 20-minute segment, "Unintended Consequences of Title IX," will be shown prior to the discussion, hosted by the Friends of the Libraries.

The three-DVD set was originally designed to be a curriculum and research tool, to be used in a variety of courses to help students understand Title IX and women's sport experiences. Teachers can select chapters to view and discuss, and study questions are included at the end of each chapter.

"From a historical perspective, this documentary series provides viewers the exceptionally rare opportunity to see and hear directly from more than 30 experts in Title IX and women's sport," said Parks. "From an instructional perspective, it contains information that could transform viewers' understanding of Title IX and its impact on women's experiences in sport and education. I anticipate instructors will find it very useful."

CALENDAR

Monday, Oct. 5

Instructional Design Discussion, "Integrated Student Learning," 11 a.m. to noon, 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

CFDR Fall Workshop Series, "Introduction to SAS," noon-1 p.m., CFDR/NCFMR Conference Room, 7C Williams Hall. Sponsored by the Center for Family and Demographic Research.

BGSU Firelands Presentation, "Swine Flu Virus: A Lethal Infection or Media Hype?" with Dr. Christine Genovese, biology, 12:30-1:30 p.m., Cedar Point Center Auditorium. Scholarship of Teaching and Learning **Workshop**, "E-Books and Digital Content for Teaching," 2:30-5 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

ARTalk, "Exciting Additions to the Asian Collection at the Toledo Museum of Art," with Carolyn Putney, curator of Asian art, Toledo Museum of Art, 6 p.m., 1101 Fine Arts Center.

Reception, for the exhibit "Works from the Fine Arts Center Collection," 7:30 p.m., Fine Arts Center Galleries Foyer.

Guest Speaker, Trish Beaudet, HGTV "Design Star" finalist, 8 p.m., 115 Olscamp Hall.

Tuesday, Oct. 6

Electrical Safety Training, 7-10 a.m., 1004 Cedar Point Center, BGSU Firelands. Register at 2-2171 or www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Dissertation Defense, "Sensitizer Molecule: The Development of Novel Ru(II) Polypyridyl Complexes for Application in Dye Sensitized Solar Cells," by Yali Sun, photochemical sciences, 10 a.m., 132 Overman Hall.

Instructional Design Discussion, "Using Assessment Rubrics in Student-Centered Learning," 11 a.m. to noon, 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

EcoBreak Seminar Series, "Bat Bootcamp," with Jessica Sewald, biological sciences graduate assistant, 11:30 a.m., 332 Life Sciences Building.

Online Seminar, "Protecting Students Abroad," with Drs. Michael Sachs and Gary Rhodes, 1-2:30 p.m., 318 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. RSVP to asavier@bgsu.edu. Co-sponsored by the Center for International Programs and the Office of Student Affairs.

Instructional Design Workshop, "Using Audacity to Create Podcasts for Learning," 1:30-2:30 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

Men's Soccer vs. Valparaiso, 3 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Workshop, "E-Books and Digital Content for Teaching," 4-5:30 p.m., 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

Master Class, with NEXUS percussion group, featured performers in the Oct. 8 Festival Series concert, 7-9 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Free and open to the public.

Tuesdays at the Gish Film Series, "Cine-Posium: A Showcase of Student Work," hosted by Daniel Williams, theatre and film, featuring short films and other work by students in recent film production courses, 7:30 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall. With screenings, discussions and a question-and-answer period.

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Wednesday, Oct. 7

Fire Safety at BGSU Training, 10-11 a.m., 2 College Park Building. Register at 2-2171 or www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Community Partnership Forum, "Wood County Committee on Aging: An Overview," by Danielle Brogley, director of programs, Wood County Committee on Aging, 10-11 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

BGSU Firelands 'Believe In BG' Game Day, a Student Government scholarship fundraiser featuring game-day food, raffle prizes and games, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and 5-7 p.m., Vendeteria and Pit, Firelands. Tickets are \$3.

Brown Bag Lunch, "Remembering Victims of Domestic Violence: Surviving Families' Stories," a panel discussion with family members of domestic violence murder victims, noon-1 p.m., Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall. Held in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Biological Sciences Seminar Series, "Plant Chemical Defenses against Insects," with Dr. Ray Barbehenn, University of Michigan, 3:30-4:30 p.m., 112 Life Sciences Building. Meet the speaker at the 3 p.m. social prior to the talk.

Thursday, Oct. 8

Instructional Design Discussion, "Principles for Good Practice," 9-10 a.m., 201 University Hall. Register at www.bgsu.edu/ctl/page10718.html.

Fire Safety at BGSU Training, 10-11 a.m. and 1-2 p.m., 1004 Cedar Point Center, BGSU Firelands. Register at 2-2171 or www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page22440.html.

Festival Series Forum, 7:15 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center.

Festival Series, featuring percussion group NEXUS, 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, Moore Musical Arts Center. Tickets are \$20, \$28 and \$36 in advance and an additional \$3 each the day of the performance. For tickets, call the box office at 2-8171.

Friday, Oct. 9

Women's Soccer vs. Ohio, 4 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Sunday, Oct. 11

Women's Soccer vs. Akron, 1 p.m., Cochrane Field.

Sunday Matinees Series, "Hearts of the World" (U.S., 1918), in remembrance of the Oct. 14 birthday of Lillian Gish, and "The Runaway Horse" (France, 1908), with commentary by film historian Dr. Jan Wahl and piano accompaniment by Stuart Oderman, silent film pianist, Museum of Modern Art, 3 p.m., Gish Film Theater, Hanna Hall.

Monday, Oct. 12

Fall Break. Classes canceled; offices open.

**Continuing Events
Beginning Oct. 12**

Art Exhibit, by Michael Angelotti, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Beginning Oct. 12

Free Body Sculpt Classes, four-week session through Nov. 4 offered to employees, 5:15-6 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, Student Recreation Center Spinning Room. No membership required. To sign up, email Caitlin Spontelli at cspons@bgsu.edu.

Oct. 10-13

Fall Break. Classes canceled; offices open.

Oct. 10-14

Fall State Fire School. Contact Continuing and Extended Education at 2-8181 for more information.

Through Oct. 20

Art Exhibit, "Life at the Edge of the Forest," Union Art Gallery. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturdays and 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sundays.

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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

John Merriam, 76, a professor emeritus of political science, died Sept. 30 in Toledo. He taught at BGSU from 1967-93.