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### **Spiritual DNA? BGSU researchers seek sacred building block to family life**

Marriage has been known as “holy” matrimony and childbirth as a “blessed” event for as long as there have been weddings and newborn babies. But is there something more to those spiritual terms?

Dr. Annette Mahoney, psychology, calls religion’s role in marriage and parenting an aspect of family life that’s been overlooked by social scientists. Few researchers have studied it, let alone shown how spirituality impacts families over time.

Now, with \$1.2 million in funding from the John Templeton Foundation, Mahoney and colleagues Dr. Kenneth Pargament, psychology, and Dr. Alfred DeMaris, sociology, will embark on what is believed to be the first in-depth, long-term study of the part religion plays in couples’ transition to parenthood.

“This is state-of-the-art social science research,” according to Dr. Arthur Schwartz, vice president for research and programs in the human sciences at the Templeton Foundation, based in suburban Philadelphia.

The foundation “is very interested in areas of spirituality and religiosity that have yet to be examined or understood scientifically,” Schwartz says, adding that sanctification of pregnancy and parenthood fits that description. “We know so little about this area of human life that we wanted to fund something that was scientifically rigorous.”

The four-year project is designed to examine the impact of sanctification of marriage, pregnancy and becoming a parent, and will involve 160 couples in the Toledo area.

Sanctification is defined as perceiving aspects of life to have divine character and significance, or seeing life “through a sacred lens”—the title of the project led by Mahoney.

In addition to belief that an aspect of life has sacred qualities—that it’s holy or blessed, for instance—sanctification entails conviction that God, or a Higher Power, is manifested in it. An example would be the belief that a baby is a gift from God, says Mahoney.

Spiritual emotions such as gratitude, awe and humility are among the implications of sanctification, as are investment in and commitment to that particular aspect of life and access to other spiritually based resources that help people cope effectively with stress.

“If pregnancy’s a spiritually meaningful event both emotionally and mentally, we think it’s going to lead to better outcomes for the parent and the child,” according to Mahoney, a BGSU faculty member since 1994 and co-adviser, with Pargament, of its Spirituality and Psychology Research Team (SPiRiT).

The researchers also speculate that the more the transition to parenthood is “viewed in a sacred light, the more people will turn to their relationship with God and other believers to cope with their struggles,” Mahoney says. Those adjustments, including parental reprioritization of activities and sacrifice of personal desires, make the transition among the most stressful ones in family life, she adds.

In addition to utilizing interviews and questionnaires, researchers will observe marital and parent-child interactions. They then hope to determine if greater sanctification of marriage, pregnancy and parenthood by first-time parents promotes better prenatal care, marital adjustment, parenting and child outcomes during the baby’s first year.

“The more people view the emergence of family through a sacred lens, the more they’ll invest in the family,” hypothesizes Mahoney, who holds a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from

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the University of Houston.

A pilot study will be done this summer, with data collection for the full project starting this fall. The statistician for the study is DeMaris, a social statistician and a family social psychologist interested in marital quality and stability.

A Web site will be dedicated to the project, which is part of a broader commitment to spirituality and family life research—an area in which BGSU has been a leader. Pargament and Mahoney have helped lead studies that have appeared in scientific journals and been referenced in the media. SPIriT, meanwhile, has attracted the attention of a growing number of graduate students applying for BGSU's clinical psychology program, especially since the American Psychological Association's Monitor on Psychology featured the research group in a December 2003 story.

"There's just a lot of interest in the 'real world' in this research," says Mahoney.

The foundation's hope, Schwartz adds, is that regardless of their findings, Mahoney and Pargament, already "so well established in their field," will be regarded in future years as having "blazed a new trail" in research of sanctification of parenthood.

\$1.2 million grant from the John Templeton Foundation, to fund the first in-depth, long-term study of the part religion plays in couples' transition to parenthood.

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### **Gajjala explores role of Internet in lives of South Asian women**

Historically, people have assumed—perhaps naively—that major new technologies would revolutionize the world. That assumption has been made again in the case of the Internet, says Dr. Radhika Gajjala, interpersonal communication. But, as in the past, it has not turned out to be exactly true, especially for people in the Southern Hemisphere.

In her new book, *Cyber Selves: Feminist Ethnographies of South Asian Women*, published in November 2004 by Altamira Press, while admitting its contribution to globalization, Gajjala admits electronic communication's contribution to globalization, but argues that, like most technologies, it has primarily impacted the same class of people who already have access to other amenities.

The term "cyberfeminism" refers to "women using Internet technology for something other than shopping via the Internet or browsing the World Wide Web," she writes. This form of feminism exists in "cyberspace," a space that can be thought of as an opportunity for social interaction. Cyberfeminists believe that women should take control of the opportunities offered by the Internet to empower themselves.

But Gajjala cautions that the notion of technology as savior smacks of the missionary-like belief that science can alleviate suffering, while operating under an almost colonial assumption that the West knows what is best for the rest of the world. This belief has plagued attempts at development in the Third World, where efforts to infuse Northern forms of knowledge and progress without an understanding of the culture have fallen short. And the very use of the electronic medium to describe conditions in Third World countries tends to serve as a validation of this assumption, she says.

In *Cyber Selves*, Gajjala is "trying to make sense of what is happening, but not to say whether it is good or bad," she said. "There needs to be a careful examination." The book springs from her own involvement in early and ongoing online communities connecting South Asian women's communities, including SAWnet.

It is important to see the Internet in its context, she adds. Because the online space is different from physical spaces, users must decide which parts of themselves they will represent in online communications, and yet that decision cannot be separated from one's own cultural context. "It cannot enable any more freedom or power than they have already

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negotiated in their own lives," Gajjala says.

Many of the South Asian women who are proficient at communicating via the Web are living elsewhere, and thus almost by definition are part of the privileged class. The Internet does offer an access point for these dispersed people to connect with their fellow Asians, Gajjala concedes, and helps to link the community.

"Cyberspace is part of society. Its uniqueness is in what happens in that space and the fact that people can connect from all over the world—at least the English-speaking world and the world of those who are trained to connect and to articulate themselves in the lexicon of the North," Gajjala points out.

"There are areas that we perceive as geographically Third World, but there's a layer of privileged people within that who are already part of the 'First World,'" she says. "To address only them would be to neglect more than three-quarters of the world's population."

There is a corresponding sense that "it's almost your responsibility, if you're in a place of privilege, to become a liaison and use your access to speak for those at the bottom level," she said. "But that raises questions of what is at stake in doing or not doing that."

One of the difficulties is the illusion that "there is this original, primitive, Third World woman," she says, and that through the Internet, that woman can somehow be empowered. That is an assumption taken totally out of context, she contends.

But one thing that might be helpful, she says, is dialogue between women in the North and the South as a form of creative exchange and interaction. The book includes portions of a dialogue between Gajjala and Annapurna Mamidipudi, a fieldworker in a nongovernmental organization in south India working with traditional handloom weavers.

Mamidipudi's viewpoint is rooted in the specifics of her location and the needs of the men and women with whom she works daily. In her case, it is the reviving of "old" technological processes such as vegetable dyeing and handloom weaving that has helped the weavers, through research into production and marketing techniques that increase their business. If the Internet has at all played a role in helping the weavers, that help has come through research and use in careful and specific contextual ways defined by their needs.

It is this kind of engagement, Gajjala contends, that is very important in terms of governmental policymaking decisions, because it is based in contextual needs and provides usable information. Information, after all, does not come out of "nowhere"—even on the Internet—and it is important to be aware of that when talking about empowerment via the "information society," she says.

"Without careful scrutiny, the people these policies are designed to help become mere 'cardboard cutouts,' and the solutions are impoverished."

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### **Egelman honored by peers**

Dr. Glenn Egelman, director of the Student Health Service, has recently received two professional recognitions, from the American College of Physicians (ACP) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.

He been named a Fellow of the ACP, an honor achieved by those recognized by their peers for personal integrity, superior competence in internal medicine, professional accomplishment and demonstrated scholarship. All candidates for Fellowship are proposed from their local jurisdictions. The sponsoring letters from current Masters and Fellows outline the candidate's accomplishments in areas such as teaching, hospital committee activities, community service, and Continuing Medical Education courses both taken and given.

The ACP Governor's endorsement must document carefully and specifically that the

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candidate has shown professional achievement and deserves the honor of Fellowship. The national Credentials Subcommittee reviews candidates' credentials and submits recommendations to the Board of Regents, which makes the final decision. Fellows must be inducted in person at a convocation ceremony held during one of the three annual sessions following their election.

Egelman has also been awarded a "scholarship" to become an "Alcohol Clinical Educator" by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, a division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in collaboration with the ACP.

He will be trained to teach physicians and medical professionals how to address alcohol problems in primary care settings, with attention to cross-cultural efficacy. After completing the course, it is expected that he will lead educational sessions for his colleagues on helping patients with alcohol problems, on campus at the Student Health Service, in northwest Ohio and, on the national level, for the American College Health Association.

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### **Former BGSU coach Nehlen joining College Football Hall of Fame**

Former BGSU head coach, and quarterback, Don Nehlen is one of two Division I-A coaches entering the College Football Hall of Fame.

Nehlen is the second person with BGSU ties to be inducted into the hall of fame. His college coach, Doyt Perry, was enshrined in 1988.

The other coach entering the hall of fame is Auburn's Pat Dye. They will be inducted Dec. 6 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City.

Nehlen, a Canton native, was the head coach at his alma mater from 1968-76 and earned the title "Master of the Upset" for beating teams like Syracuse, Purdue and BYU. In those nine seasons, BGSU posted a 53-35-4 record. He also served as defensive coordinator for the Falcons from 1965-68.

He was also a three-year letterman at Bowling Green, playing quarterback from 1955-57 and helping the Falcons to a 21-2-4 record and a Mid-American Conference championship in 1956.

After leaving BGSU, Nehlen went to West Virginia University, where he led the Mountaineers to 13 bowl games and two bids for national titles, playing Notre Dame in the 1989 Fiesta Bowl and Florida in the 1994 Sugar Bowl. He retired after 21 seasons at WVU with 149 wins, the most in school history. His 202 career victories place him 17th in NCAA history.

Nehlen, the national coach of the year in 1988 and 1993, coached 15 first-team All-Americans, 82 all-conference players and 51 players who went on to play professional football. His resume included coaching stints in the Blue-Gray, East-West Shrine and Hula Bowl all-star games, and he served as president of the 10,000-member American Football Coaches Association in 1997.

He is a member of the BGSU, Mid-American Conference, WVU and Gator Bowl halls

Only 166 coaches and 781 players have been inducted in the College Football Hall of Fame from among more than 4.4 million who have played or coached the game during the past 137 years.

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**BGSU announces 2005-06 Festival Series schedule**

With five of six artists and ensembles making their local debuts, the 26th season of the BGSU Festival Series will offer both fresh and traditional talent to northwest Ohio audiences.

The series opens on Sept. 23 with a performance by the River City Brass Band. Since 1981, the band has offered a concert experience with a combination of stunning virtuosity, masterful programming and lighthearted fun. Built upon the longstanding tradition of brass bands popularized in Great Britain and the United States, the 28-member ensemble performs a wide repertoire of American tunes, from Big Band swing and jazz to music from Broadway and Hollywood, and toe-tapping traditional marches.

Cantus will perform on Oct. 20, with one of the freshest and most engaging sounds in choral music today. From art songs to folk songs, from Smokey Robinson to Richard Strauss, the group's brilliant sound, innovative programming and heartfelt singing have garnered the highest praise from critics and audiences alike. The all-male vocal ensemble will present the Louise F. Rees Memorial Concert in the series and conduct a two-day community mini-residency while in Bowling Green.

On Jan. 13, Time for Three will make its first series appearance. The founding members, violinists Zachary De Pue (a native of Bowling Green) and Nicolas Kendall, and double bassist Ranaan Meyer, came together while enrolled at the Curtis Institute of Music. What started as a trio of exciting young string musicians who played together for fun in their spare time has evolved into a charismatic ensemble that draws on its reputation for having limitless enthusiasm and no musical boundaries.

Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo returns to campus on Feb. 2. Dancing the fine line between high art and high camp, "the trocks" have delighted audiences around the world. Parodying classical works from "Swan Lake" to "Giselle," the performers combine a loving knowledge of dance with a wicked comedic sensibility. The humorous sight of male bodies delicately balancing in toe shoes as swans, sylphs and water sprites delights, amuses and serves the company's original purpose: to bring the pleasure of dance to all.

On March 2, the series presents the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg, led by Ivor Bolton with solo pianist Stephen Hough, in the Lois M. Nitschke Memorial Concert. Founded in 1841 by the citizens of Salzburg and Mozart's widow, Constanze, the "Cathedral Music Association and Mozarteum" was renamed the Mozarteum Orchestra of Salzburg in 1908. Today, the 91-member ensemble averages 130 performances a year, including the Salzburg Festival and as the opera orchestra of the Salzburg Theater. Hough, known for illuminating the essence of the music he performs, will be featured in Mozart's "Piano Concerto No. 21 in C Major, K. 467."

The series concludes on April 7 with the Kenny Barron Quartet. Throughout his career, Kenny Barron has been the pianist of choice for some of jazz's greatest musicians. Recognized the world over as a master of performance and composition, his ability to mesmerize audiences with his elegant playing, sensitive melodies and infectious rhythms inspired the Los Angeles Times to name him "one of the top jazz pianists in the world."

All Festival Series performances begin at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall of the Moore Musical Arts Center.

Subscription prices for adults are \$70 for the main floor/balcony, \$100 for main floor and \$130 for mezzanine seats. Student subscriptions are \$50, \$75 and \$100. Subscriptions may be charged using MasterCard, Visa or Discover.

Tickets can be ordered by calling the Moore Musical Arts Center box office at 2-8171.

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### Vendors to give Campus One Card presentations

The Campus One Card Steering Committee invites the campus community to hear the presentations of vendors being considered for the implementation of a Campus One Card system.

The presentations will be held in 117 Olscamp Hall and will also be available to the Firelands campus. Presentations will be made by CBORD on Tuesday (May 24), Diebold on Wednesday (May 25) and Blackboard on Thursday (May 26).

The sessions will run from 10 a.m. to noon each day. Following a lunch break, a vendor question-and-answer session will be held from 1-3 p.m.

Questions or requests for additional information may be directed to committee co-chairs Jim Lach, [jlach@bgsu.edu](mailto:jlach@bgsu.edu), or Jeff Nelson, [nelsonj@bgsu.edu](mailto:nelsonj@bgsu.edu).

### BG@100 'View My Paycheck' demonstrations scheduled

University employees who receive a direct-deposit pay stub will begin to receive their paycheck information online through MyBGSU after the BG@100 "Go Live" on June 27.

The "View My Paycheck" self-service application will be demonstrated at 2 p.m. Monday and Tuesday (May 23 and 24) and at 9 a.m. Wednesday (May 25) in 101 Olscamp Hall. Additional sessions are scheduled in July.

All University employees are invited to attend; no registration is necessary. Requests for additional information may be directed to [BGat100@bgsu.edu](mailto:BGat100@bgsu.edu).

### 'What PeopleSoft Brings To Me' letter mailed

University faculty and staff can expect to receive at their home mailing address a letter titled "What PeopleSoft Brings to Me." Mailed today (May 23), the letter provides information about the move to PeopleSoft and its specific impact on faculty, administrative and classified staff.

Open forums to review the contents of the letter and answer questions will be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. June 7 and from 9:30-11:30 a.m. June 15 in 101 Olscamp Hall. No registration is required to attend the sessions, which are open to all University employees.

The first phase of the PeopleSoft implementation focuses on the areas of Human Resources, benefits, and payroll and will "go live" on June 27. Complete project information is available on the Web at: [www.bgsu.edu/BGat100](http://www.bgsu.edu/BGat100).

## CALENDAR

### Monday, May 23

Free Speech and Hearing Clinic, 9-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., offering speech and hearing screenings and hearing aid cleanings for adults and children on and off campus, 200 Student Health Center. Call

2-2515 for an appointment.

**Bingo**, noon, Falcon's Nest, Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Sponsored by Union Programming.

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### Tuesday, May 24

**Movie**, “Lemony Snicket’s A Series of Unfortunate Events,” 6 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by the Office of Campus Involvement.

### Wednesday, May 25

**Free Speech and Hearing Clinic**, 9-11:45 a.m. and 1-4 p.m., offering speech and hearing screenings and hearing aid cleanings for adults and children on and off campus, 200 Student Health Center. Call 2-2515 for an appointment.

**Dissertation Defense**, “A Public View of Private Writing: Personal Weblogs and Adolescent Girls,” by Lanette Cadle, English, 10:45 a.m., 206 East Hall.

**Dissertation Defense**, “Speaking of Sex: The Rhetorical Strategies of Three 19th-

Century Female Performers,” by Inez L. Schaechterle, English, 3 p.m., 206 East Hall.

### Monday, May 30

**Memorial Day observed**. Classes canceled, offices closed.

### Continuing Events

#### Through June 10

**Art Exhibition**, “Cream of the Crop,” award-winning student art from the spring exhibits, Union galleries. Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Monday-Friday.

#### Through July 22

**Art Exhibition**, Photographs by Rebecca Dickerson, Little Gallery, BGSU Firelands. Gallery hours are 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

## JOB POSTINGS

### FACULTY

**Mathematics and Statistics**. Instructor (two positions). Call the department, 2-7453. Deadline: June 15.

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](http://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

View job descriptions at: [www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU\\_only/](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/BGSU_only/)

**Cashier 1 (R-023)**—University Dining Services. Pay grade 3. Nine-month, part-time position.

**Cashier 1 (R-024)**—University Dining Services. Pay grade 3. Twelve-month, part-

time position.

**Food Service Worker (R-026)**—University Dining Services/Union/Catering. Pay grade 1. Nine-month, full-time position.

### ADMINISTRATIVE

View job descriptions at: [www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm\\_staff/](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/)

**Associate Director of Residence Life (V-034)**—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 16. Review of applications began May 16 and will continue until the position is filled.

**Associate Director of Residence Life for Business Affairs (V-034)**—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 16. Review of applications began May 13 and will continue until the position is filled.

**Associate Dean of Students (V-038)**—Office of Campus Involvement. Administrative grade 18. Review of applications will begin May 27 and continue until the position is filled.

**Director, Springboard Program (V-047)**—

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began May 16 and will continue until the position is filled.

**Associate Director of Residence Life for Business Affairs (V-034)**—Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 16. Review of applications began May 13 and will continue until the position is filled.

**Associate Dean of Students (V-038)**—Office of Campus Involvement. Administrative grade 18. Review of applications will begin May 27 and continue until the position is filled.

**Director, Springboard Program (V-047)**—Academic Services. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: June 3.

**Manager, Grants Accounting (R-045)**—Finance and Administration. Administrative grade 16. Deadline: June 3.

**Manager, University Dining Services (V-041)**—Division of Student Affairs. Administrative grade 12. Deadline: May 27.

**Psychologist (V-147)**—Counseling Center liaison to the College of Arts and Sciences. Administrative grade 14 (unlicensed) or 17 (licensed). Review of applications began Feb. 18 and will continue until the position is filled.

**Psychologist (V-147)**—Counseling Center liaison to the Office of Residence Life. Counseling Center Outreach Coordinator. Administrative grade 14 (unlicensed) or 17 (licensed). Review of applications began Feb. 18 and will continue until the position is filled.

**Residence Hall Director (V-013)**—Residence Life. Administrative grade 13. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled.

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## OBITUARY

There were no obituaries this week.