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**Trading places: BGSU music professor swapping jobs, homes with Swede**

In mid-2004, approaching his 15th year on the music faculty at BGSU, Dr. Mark Munson was ready for a change.

A year later, he and his family are preparing for an extended trip that fills the bill.

Munson; his wife, Paula; their son, Alex, 5, and daughter, Sarah, 3, are leaving Bowling Green July 26 to spend 10 months in Sweden. The move is part of an exchange with Lena Ekman Frisk, a Swedish university professor whose husband and three sons are coming with her to Bowling Green.

"We're swapping jobs. What she does there is what I'll do, and vice versa," explained Munson, music education. That extends to living in each other's homes, with the Munsons taking up residence in Höör, in southern Sweden.

About half the size of Bowling Green, Höör is centrally located between Malmö, where Munson will teach choral methods at Lund University's Malmö Academy of Music, and Kristianstad, where he will instruct about 100 students ages 11-16 as well as conduct a 40-member community chorus.

Ekman Frisk, meanwhile, will assume Munson's BGSU duties, which, in addition to teaching, will include directing the Women's Chorus and supervising student teachers.

An email exchange set the stage for the faculty exchange, which Dean Richard Kennell believes to be the first of its kind in the College of Musical Arts.

Looking for possibilities in European countries where he could teach in English, Munson enlisted the aid of Dr. Per Broman, music theory, who is Swedish. Broman helped his colleague find the Lund University Web site, where he first saw Ekman Frisk's name. When Munson emailed 60-70 choral conductors in England and Sweden, the only response, last July, was from her.

"I sent the email that described my position and what I would like to do," he recalled. Replying that her job is different—in part because higher-education faculty in music education or performance must also teach younger students in Sweden—she wondered if he would still be interested. He was, he told her, pointing out that he had taught in public schools for eight years—most in his native Pennsylvania and one in Ottawa Hills—and that he had started the Bowling Green Children's Chorus, which he directed for four years.

But the clincher, Munson said, was Ekman Frisk's response to his question about how her husband, Per, and sons Olle, Albin and Edvin felt about the switch. "Per said, 'We have to do this,'" she wrote.

Munson spent a week with the family at the end of May. Among the places he visited was the Kristianstad school, which is one of only 30 in Sweden that offer music classes. It's similar, he said, to an American "magnet school"—children must audition at age 9 or 10 and, if they show musical promise, they can enroll.

"The biggest surprise to me," said Munson after his "whirlwind" visit, "is how fluent everybody is in English. They're not hard to understand." The Swedish way of life isn't that foreign, either, despite noticeable differences in such areas as architecture and, due to the popularity of train travel, transportation. "It's more the same than it is different," he said.

Like their exchange partners, Munson and his wife, who have been taking Swedish language

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lessons, are looking forward to the move.

Mark, who holds a doctoral degree in choral conducting from the University of Cincinnati, said Sweden has been on the cutting edge of choral music since World War II. The Scandinavian nation was neutral during the war, and some of the funds not spent on that front went instead to the arts, he noted. With the establishment of the government-sponsored Swedish Radio Choir, composers were virtually assured that anything they wrote would be sung, he added, citing a “wealth of choral literature from Sweden the last several decades.”

Thanks to the exchange, Kennell said, both Munson and BGSU music students will have direct access to that rich choral tradition. “It’s a win-win situation,” the dean added.

“It’s great being over there,” said Munson about Europe, which he has toured twice with both the BGSU Collegiate Chorale and the Ohio Ambassador Chorus, a high school ensemble. His first European excursion, however, was a trip to Northern Ireland when his future wife, then a first-grade teacher in Oak Harbor, was part of a yearlong educational exchange sponsored by the Fulbright Program.

“Since I did that, I’ve always wanted to go back to Europe,” said Paula Munson, who earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees in education from BGSU.

Only “one minor complication” remains, Mark Munson said—he assumes the presidency of the Ohio Choral Directors Association this month. But his main duty is planning the annual OCDA conference for June 2006, and he figures that can be done yet this summer. “I can do it via Internet,” he said.

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### **BGSU students’ video promotion to be shown in L.A., internationally**

It’s only fitting that a video showcase of the world’s most exciting examples of emerging technology should be of equally high quality. Thus, it was a coup for BGSU students to be chosen to produce the piece for this year’s Special Interest Group on Graphics and Interactive Technologies (SIGGRAPH) conference, to be held in Los Angeles later this summer.

The annual event draws visitors from more than 30 countries. People from industry, the arts, research labs, universities and other organizations, as well as the general public, come to the five-day conference to get a look at what’s new in the field. About 45,000 attendees are expected this year, said Bonnie Mitchell, chair of digital arts. Mitchell has been involved with SIGGRAPH since 1990.

Because of Bowling Green’s long association with the conference and its reputation for producing quality work, Donna Cox of the National Center for Applications of Supercomputing and chair of this year’s Emerging Technologies (ETech) portion of the conference, welcomed the opportunity to work with Mitchell’s students to produce the ETech promotional video.

Five BGSU students—two from the School of Art, two from the College of Musical Arts plus a narrator from the Department of Theatre and Film—took on the task of producing the video showcase for Emerging Technologies, which features innovations in robotics, virtual reality, human-computer interfaces, creative projection systems and more.

Junior Joshua Fry and senior Patrick McPeck, both digital arts majors, created the animation, and graduate student Seann Flynn and senior Sean Hagerty, music majors, handled the sound. Megan Grandstaff, a theatre major, provided the voice-over. “It was a great team and they did great work,” said Mitchell, the project manager and art director.

Their video piece is being distributed internationally as a promotion for the conference and is included in the SIGGRAPH Video Review, which is sold year-round and collected by libraries

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and individuals. "It's probably the most comprehensive historical collection of video graphics available," Mitchell said.

The finished piece was so good that it was also selected for inclusion in the conference's Electronic Theater, attended by about 30,000 people at \$60 per ticket. The Electronic Theater features the year's best animation from around the world, in such areas as art, scientific visualization and Hollywood special effects. "It's the cream of the crop, and for our students' piece to be chosen is very impressive," said Mitchell.

For the students, it was an opportunity to participate in a real-world project, she added. "Learning how to juggle schedules and work with other people provided valuable experience," she said, as did the chance to have feedback from professional 3-D editors and sound engineers as the project progressed.

"We are really breaking down the boundaries by having students from three different departments working together on a single project," Mitchell said. "It couldn't have been done without the synergy that happens between these students."

**Creating a digital world**

To produce the Emerging Technologies showcase, McPeck and Fry, who were in Mitchell's Collaborative Multimedia class, chose to integrate clips from the exhibits into a 3-D animation. The main "character," a digitally created robot, was modeled by McPeck, who then worked with Fry to animate it. Fry compared the process of animating the figure, and "rigging," it, to creating a puppet in which you have to supply the "bones" with which to make it move.

"We didn't sleep for almost a month," McPeck, from Dayton, said. In addition to carrying 18 credit hours plus an internship in his final semester, he worked with Fry all night many nights on the SIGGRAPH promotion.

"We worked well together," McPeck noted, adding that each had different strengths, Fry in 2-D animation and compositing and he in modeling, or building 3-D objects, and animation. The two had to pull together material from hours of movies and videos and combine it, he said.

Fry also focused on the editing process, supplying the special effects and bringing together all the 3-D layers, or "compositing" the piece, so that the colors, positions and other elements were cohesive and in the proper position.

Despite the hardship of the long hours and pressure to succeed, McPeck said, "It's the greatest thing. You learn so much. We learned many new tips and styles from the feedback we got from other people in the industry."

Fry, from Cuyahoga Falls, agreed. "It was an amazing experience and a good thing to have gone through." He plans to attend the conference and, as president of the BGSU SIGGRAPH chapter, will meet with other chapter leaders. He said "having my name out there at SIGGRAPH will be great. All the people in the industry I'd ever want to work with will be there."

His involvement will continue next year as SIGGRAPH student chapter president and president of the Computer Art Club.

**Matching sound to visuals**

When their work on the video was nearly done, McPeck and Fry gave it to Flynn, from North Olmsted, and Hagerty, from Kettering, to develop the audio. The two had collaborated before and enjoyed working together. Flynn, a jazz and ethnomusicology major with a minor in recording technology, was the sound engineer and Hagerty, a composition major and violinist, composed the background music.

"Seann (Flynn) is really good at understanding the aesthetics to create effective sound effects," Mitchell said. "He understands that there is an emotional impact to sound."

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Flynn said he was guided by the robot image in his choice of sound—“Are you looking for a gentle or a harsh sound? A lot of highs and lows? Is the movement herky-jerky or smooth? Once you’ve decided, you look at the stock sounds you have to work with and then you can customize them a bit.” He added some sound from other movies he had done and recorded other sounds, manipulating them to unify the overall effect.

“People don’t understand the amount of work that goes into sound,” he said, adding that “if the sound is doing its job well, you often don’t even notice it.”

Likewise, in writing the background music, Hagerty said, he had to decide “what quality the robotic arm had and find the musical equivalent. You have to have matching quality so you have overall cohesion.” He thought of the robot sounds as the solos, he said, letting the music drop back as the robot sound came up.

Working within the confines of the already-created animation with its set time structure and character format “was a very different creative process,” he said. Yet it offered nearly total freedom to create, he added. “Working in the digital world lets me combine whatever elements I choose.”

BGSU faculty have played many roles in SIGGRAPH, from serving on panels and subcommittees to chairing sections of the conference. Mitchell, who will chair the 2006 Art Gallery, has coordinated the production of promotional materials for the SIGGRAPH Art Gallery and ETech, is a member of the education committee and served on the executive board from 1992-95. Dr. Dena Eber, digital arts, chaired the Art Gallery at the 2001 conference, and Heather Elliott-Famularo, digital arts, was chair of the ETech venue last year. Numerous BGSU students and alumni have been involved as well, both as artists and in producing materials for the conference.

“It’s really put BGSU on the map,” Mitchell said. “Our name is all over SIGGRAPH.”

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### **Shields to study institutional management at Harvard institute**

Dr. Vickie Rutledge Shields, associate dean of curriculum, faculty and general education in the College of Arts and Sciences, has been chosen to attend professional development courses offered by the Harvard Institutes for Higher Education this summer.

Shields will participate in the Management Development Program (MDP), geared toward middle managers in the early years of their professional careers, from June 19-July 1. MDP is designed to provide new perspectives and practical insights for college and university administrators who must “manage from the middle.” It teaches participants how to lead in ways that support larger institutional objectives, incorporating broader strategic considerations into management decisions.

The program’s faculty come from Harvard and other higher education institutions and are expert in a range of areas from financial management to institutional transformation.

In her position as associate dean, Shields is involved in such projects as revamping curriculum for the University’s general education program and designing and implementing BGSU’s Small Class Initiative. She also works in the area of faculty development. An associate professor in telecommunications, she is the former director of the Women’s Studies Program.

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### **BGSU ‘family’ again offers generous support**

There are about four weeks left in this year’s Family Campaign, and the numbers are encouraging, according to Michelle Banks, development.

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As of May 27, 1,773 University employees and retirees had pledged or donated to the campaign, for a total of \$881,567. That is \$78,038 more than the total at this time last year.

Participation is up as well, figures show. So far, 54.54 percent of current and former employees have given, compared to 50.51 percent at the end of May 2004.

The University would like to reach \$1 million in support of scholarships and other campus areas. Donors may designate their gifts to go to any of the more than 400 accounts in the BGSU Foundation, or may choose to allocate them to support students. Any employee gift or pledge made before June 30 will count toward the campaign.

Not only do University "family" contributions play a major role in helping students attain an education, they also demonstrate faith in and commitment to the University on the part of those closest to it, Banks said. This in turn encourages outside donors who may be considering supporting BGSU.

To give to the campaign, contact your area representative or visit <http://giving.bgsu.edu/development/fundingopps/familycampaign.jsp>.

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## IN BRIEF

### Funding available for administrative staff

Grants of up to \$500 are available for administrative staff members who would like to attend a training activity or conference between now and Sept. 30 and need additional funding, the Administrative Staff Council's Professional Development Committee has announced.

The application form is available online at [www.bgsu.edu/organizations/asc/fundrequest-form](http://www.bgsu.edu/organizations/asc/fundrequest-form). The deadline for applications is June 17. Awards will be announced before the end of June. Preference will be given to applicants who have not received funding in the past year. The committee will announce another grant opportunity in early fall.

For more information, contact Sheila Irving at 2-9130 or [sirving@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:sirving@bgnet.bgsu.edu); or Chris Haar at 2-8941 or [chaar@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:chaar@bgnet.bgsu.edu).

### Office Depot supply order site is now 'live'

Online custom stationery forms are now available at the Office Depot business supplies site. All University offices should order their stationery and business cards through this site.

Those authorized to place orders for office supplies may go to the site and select "custom printing" from the menu. Then select "custom stationery online" from the next list. Templates for envelopes, letterhead and business cards will appear, and the appropriate fields can be filled in. Once placed, orders may not be cancelled, so check the proofs carefully before submitting.

ITS is developing customized, black-only Microsoft Word templates that can be used to produce letters with the official BGSU letterhead from users' computers.

### Forums to explore 'What Does PeopleSoft Bring to Me?'

Open forums will be offered to review the contents of the "What Does PeopleSoft Bring to Me?" letters mailed to the homes of faculty, administrative and classified staff. The forums are scheduled from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Tuesday (June 7) and from 9:30-11:30 a.m. June 15 in 101 Olscamp Hall. Registration is not necessary to attend the sessions, which are open to all University employees. Questions regarding the forums may be directed to

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BGat100@bgsu.edu.

### BG@100 Open Forum set

A BG@100 open forum has been scheduled for 9:30 a.m. June 15 in 315 Bowen-Thompson Student Union. The forum will provide an opportunity to learn about the project and ask questions as the first phase of the project prepares to “go live” on June 27. Project information is available at [www.bgsu.edu/BGat100](http://www.bgsu.edu/BGat100), and any project-related questions may be directed to BGat100@bgsu.edu.

### Hourly employee time sheets convert to decimal system

Beginning June 19, hourly employees must record time on their time sheets in hours and decimals. Time sheets will no longer be accepted with time recorded in hours and minutes. A minutes-to-decimal conversion table is available at the Human Resources Web site ([www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/compensation](http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/compensation)) by selecting the Time Reporting Conversion Chart from the Other Resources column.

## CALENDAR

### Monday, June 6

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

### Tuesday, June 7

**Movie**, “Alfie,” 6 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by the Office of Campus Involvement.

### Wednesday, June 8

**Grilling on the Green**, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., outside the Falcon’s Nest, Union. Sponsored by University Dining Services.

### Thursday, June 9

**Dissertation Defense**, “Untangling the Web of Hate: Are Online ‘Hate Sites’ Deserving of First Amendment Protection?” by Brett Barnett, communication studies, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., 310 West Hall.

### Friday, June 10

**Dissertation Defense**, “The Transfer of Effectiveness of the Personal Computer-Based Aircraft Training Device: Leadership in Evaluating New Technology for Organizational Change,” by Jon McDermott, leadership studies, 1-3 p.m., 526 Education Building.

### Monday, June 13

**Eight-Week Summer Session Begins.**  
**Dissertation Defense**, “Toward a Leopoldian Theory of Moral Progress,” by Ben Dixon, philosophy, 2-4 p.m., 301 Shatzel Hall.

**Sundaes on Mondays**, noon-1 p.m. (or while supplies last), Falcon’s Nest, Union. Sponsored by Union Programming.

Tuesday, June 14

**Dissertation Defense**, “Design and Characterization of Ru(II) Complexes for Advanced Photonic Applications,” by Denis Kozlov, 10 a.m., photochemical sciences, 123 Overman Hall.

**Movie**, “Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban,” 6 p.m., Union Theater. Sponsored by the Office of Campus Involvement.

### Wednesday, June 15

**BG@100 Open Forum**, 9:30 a.m., 315 Union.

**Grilling on the Green**, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., outside the Falcon’s Nest, Union. Sponsored by University Dining Services.

### Monday, June 20

**Bingo**, noon, Falcon’s Nest, Union. Sponsored by Union Programming.

### 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. daily.

### Through July 22

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

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## JOB POSTINGS

### FACULTY

**Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies.** Instructor or Visiting Assistant Professor. Call Linda Hamman, 2-7234. Deadline: June 24.

**General Studies Writing.** Instructor (two positions). Call Donna Nelson-Beene, 2-7885. Deadline: June 30.

**Music.** Instructor. Call Marilyn Shrude, 2-8508. Deadline: June 30.

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/)

The deadline for employees to apply for the following positions is 1 p.m. Friday, June 10.

**Secretary 1 (R-028-Vf)**—College of Musical Arts-Band Office. Pay grade 6. Twelve-month, full-time position.

The following position is advertised on and off campus:

**Secretary 1 (R-027-Vf)**—Residence Life. Pay grade 6. Nine-month, part-time position.

### ADMINISTRATIVE

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

**Academic Adviser (R-053)**—Academic Enhancement. Administrative grade 14. Deadline: June 17.

**Admissions Counselor or Admissions Counselor Trainee (V-054)**—Office of Admissions. Administrative grade 12 (counselor) or 11 (trainee). Deadline: June 17.

**Marketing Coordinator (R-049)**—Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Administrative grade 12. Deadline: June 17.

**Sous-Chef - Residence Dining (V-050)**—University Dining Services. Administrative grade 12. Deadline: June 17.

**Assistant Director of Gift Planning (V-023)**—Office of Development/University Advancement (search extended). Review of applications will begin June 24 and continue until the position is filled.

**Data Warehouse Analyst (V-052)**—Office of the CIO. Administrative grade 15. Deadline: June 24.

**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 began May 27 and will continue until the position is filled.

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

**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.