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Gift from Sky pays tribute to retiring executive Ed Reiter

Local financial services organization Sky Financial Group paid tribute to the leadership of retiring executive Ed Reiter Wednesday (Dec. 15) by announcing a major gift to the University.

As part of the \$750,000 gift, Sky Financial Group and Sky Bank announced a \$500,000 contribution to create the "Sky Bank - Edward and Linda Reiter Endowed Lectureship: Values and Ethics in the Workplace." The lectureship will be administered by BGeXperience: Values and Vision, a program to which the Reiters also have made a \$250,000 commitment.

In addition to creating the endowed lectureship, Sky has designated the remainder of its gift, \$250,000, for the support of other University projects in athletics and entrepreneurship.

"Sky is proud to be a longtime supporter of Bowling Green State University," stated Marty Adams, chairman, president and CEO of Sky Financial Group. "This is not only a great opportunity to support an innovative program like BGeXperience, but it gives Sky a chance to honor one of our greatest leaders, Ed Reiter. He and Linda have given so much to Sky and the community, this honor is something they truly deserve."

BGeXperience is a general education initiative that incorporates critical thinking about values in coursework, teaching students to think about their own values when making decisions in everyday life. This fall, about half of the University's first-year students took part in the program, which will be expanded to include all first-year students next year. Initiated by President Ribeau, it is thought to be the only program of its kind at a public university in the United States.

"Through their involvement in the community and the University, and in their day-to-day actions, Ed and Linda Reiter exemplify what it means to lead value-centered lives," noted Ribeau. "I am pleased that the Sky Financial Group has chosen to honor them in this manner and express support for Bowling Green's efforts to help students identify what matters to them and learn how to make decisions in keeping with those values."

Donald Nieman, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and director of BGeXperience, echoed Ribeau's sentiments.

"Sky's very generous gift is a wonderful tribute to Ed and Linda Reiter, who have been such good friends of BGSU," Nieman said. "It also enables us to take BGX in an important new direction by helping us encourage students to consider seriously the role of values in the workplace. The Sky Bank - Edward and Linda Reiter Endowed Lectureship creates a wonderful opportunity to enhance our efforts to educate students for lives as ethical leaders who will make a difference in their chosen professions."

Reiter served as senior chairman of Sky Financial Group from its creation in 1998 until his retirement in November. He previously was chair and chief executive of Mid Am Inc., the company's predecessor.

The recipient of many awards, he was named Bowling Green's Outstanding Citizen in 1990 and the following year, was presented the BGSU Alumni Community Award in recognition of his service and philanthropic endeavors. Reiter, current chair of the BGSU Foundation Inc., and his wife have been involved in more than 50 community organizations and activities.

Sky Financial Group is a \$15 billion financial services company with headquarters in Bowling Green.

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BGSU delivers solid economic benefit to state, study finds

In addition to providing a college education to about 20,000 students a year, BGSU is an economic engine that pumps more than \$700 million annually into the Ohio economy, a new study has found.

Michael Carroll of the University's Center for Regional Development (formerly the Center for Policy Analysis and Public Service), examined BGSU's economic impact on the state and presented his findings to the board of trustees Dec. 17.

According to his report, "Measuring Bowling Green State University's Impact on Ohio's Economy," BGSU generated more money in tax revenues than it received in state appropriations in 2002. University economic activity created nearly 9,000 jobs for Ohioans.

That year, BGSU received \$84.6 million in state appropriations, while the University's economic activity generated \$85.9 million in tax revenues. The total economic impact of BGSU on Ohio's economy was \$704 million. "Thus, for every dollar BGSU receives in state support it generates more than \$8 in economic activity," Carroll found.

The combination of state appropriations, tuition and grant revenues is the basis of the \$704 million impact on Ohio, Carroll states. If BGSU's impact were calculated nationwide, it would come to \$1.3 billion.

While the University's main business is education, the purely economic benefits to the state cannot be overlooked, said Carroll, who spent a year compiling the report.

Using the University's audited financial statements from 2002, Carroll, an economics faculty member in the College of Business Administration, looked at the economic impact of University spending for capital improvements and operations; the impact when the University purchases those goods and services from other Ohio businesses, and the economic impact from the wages earned by BGSU employees and students.

Much of the spending by employees and BGSU occurs within a five-mile radius of the University, directly raising the local economy, Carroll said. University-led towns have grown by a factor of eight over non-university towns, he told the board. They tend to be very stable and are a model of how towns would like to be.

Businesses impacted by the University range from farming to retail stores, health providers, all types of food services, construction industries, transportation concerns and many more.

An interesting comparison in terms of state support of BGSU versus support of business, Carroll told the trustees, is that the \$84.6 million in state appropriations to BGSU, divided by the 9,000 jobs created by the University statewide, averages out to about \$9,000 per job. Conversely, the North Star Steel Co. received \$255,000 per job in tax abatements and subsidies from the state when it opened a plant in Delta.

"This is a compelling case for the economic value of education," said President Ribeau, even if one does not consider the enhanced earning power of four-year college graduates over their lifetimes, estimated at \$1 million over non-graduates.

For the full report, visit the provost's Web site at www.bgsu.edu/offices/provost/ and click on "Reports on Higher Education and the Economy."

Patrons of campus bookstore profit from sales

A University Bookstore plan to "give back" to the campus and community by creating a new scholarship and grant program was announced Dec. 17 at the board of trustees meeting.

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The bookstore's relocation to the Bowen-Thompson Student Union in the spring of 2002 has been a "real success story," according to Christopher Dalton, senior vice president for finance and administration.

Dalton added that "given this success, we believe that it would be appropriate for the bookstore to give back to its customers by providing modest support for scholarship and grant programs that will enrich the educational experience of our undergraduate and graduate students and enhance their opportunities for engagement with external communities both locally and beyond the confines of northwest Ohio."

Once the new program is in place, \$100,000 will be allocated annually for Bookstore Engagement Scholarships to be given to 25 undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need who are participating in community engagement activities. Another \$15,000 will go for travel awards to help graduate students subsidize their participation in academic conferences, meetings and performances, and \$30,000 will be allocated to support faculty and graduate students who are involved in partnering with outside organizations in community engagement projects. Bookstore staff will participate in the community projects as well.

The plan also calls for the bookstore to initiate a book scholarship program through which 50 undergraduate students will be loaned required textbooks for all of the classes they take during their first year at BGSU. By some national estimates, the average student spends around \$900 annually for textbooks and supplies.

Details related to applying for the grants and scholarships are still being worked out.

Dalton told trustees the bookstore's sales performance validates President Ribeau's decision to keep the operation under University management rather than lease the store to an outside operator.

"It is also a tribute to the fine job being done by the bookstore's leadership team, headed by Jeff Nelson, as well as all of the bookstore's full-time and part-time employees," he said.

In addition to offering textbooks and supplies at competitive prices, the bookstore sells electronics, sundry and seasonal items, convenience store fare and a wide assortment of BGSU merchandise, including apparel and gifts.

The bookstore's success since moving to the student union has been featured in several trade publications, including The College Store Journal. Most recently, Nelson, the bookstore director, contributed an article titled "One Bookstore's Journey, Bowling Green State University Bookstore's Journey to Success During a Time of Transition" to the October 2004 issue of the National Association of College Auxiliary Services magazine.

"This past year was the most successful yet, both financially and in terms of service, in the journey of this store," Nelson notes in the article. He added that "achievement of significant success is possible, especially with the support of a collaborative campus community and the expertise of a team of collegiate retail professionals."

In addition to the locations in the union and at BGSU Firelands, the bookstore operates a new retail outlet, BGSU on Main, in downtown Bowling Green.

Ribeau praised by board but declines raise
Trustees accept University house as gift

At its Dec. 17 meeting, the Board of Trustees accepted as a gift from the BGSU Foundation Inc. a house and the approximately five acres it occupies at 700 S. Wintergarden Road.

The foundation had purchased the home and adjacent property last spring to become a

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residence for University presidents and a site for University-related events and entertaining. The foundation board had originally planned to lease the property to BGSU, but, according to Board Chair Edward Ferkany, the logistics of the leasing process proved so complicated that a decision was made to instead simply make a gift of it.

The trustees voted May 7 to sell the residence formerly designated for the University president at 625 Hillcrest Drive, as the cost of renovating it sufficiently to meet the University's needs turned out to be prohibitive.

Following an executive session, the board also expressed its support for President Ribeau and agreed to maintain his current compensation level. Ferkany read a statement saying:

"In his 10th year as president of Bowling Green State University, Sidney Ribeau continues to be a strong leader and visionary. Under his leadership the University remains well positioned to face the challenges that confront higher education today and into the future.

"President Ribeau has expressed his desire to direct University resources toward accomplishing the rigorous agenda he has set forth.

"To that end, while President Ribeau's exceptional performance merits additional reward, the board has agreed to honor his wishes and focus on moving the University forward. We agree that this is the right decision for our University at this time."

He added that the board supports President Ribeau's agenda for:

- increasing University collaboration with business and community leaders to fuel economic development throughout the state;
- promoting his internal "Organizing for Engagement" initiative to align faculty reward and recognition with the outreach goals of the University. The board formally endorsed the initiative.
- increasing external grants and contracts to support innovative and successful student learning programs, and
- making the case for supporting higher education and the role it plays in producing the world-class workforce needed by the state.

Speaking up for higher education

The board heard from Larry Weiss, associate vice president for University relations and governmental affairs, about the pressing need to communicate to legislators the importance of funding for higher education.

Weiss said trustees, parents and alumni have an important role to play in overcoming legislators' perception that "there is no constituency" advocating for higher education, as one member of the House of Representatives' Finance and Appropriations Committee told him. During the last budget cycle discussions, Weiss said, an Ohio senator told him, "No one ever failed to get re-elected because he or she cut funding for higher education."

"Ohio is an undereducated state," Weiss told the board. It needs 250,000 more citizens with bachelor's degrees just to meet the national average, and about 350,000 with any kind of college experience to meet that average. Unfortunately, he added, the figures mirror the relative decline in Ohio per capita incomes.

Sue Recknagel, assistant director of alumni affairs, demonstrated a new tool called "Advocate for BGSU" on the alumni Web site that offers a convenient means of identifying and contacting legislators, as well as "action alerts" about important pending legislation or issues.

President Ribeau commented, "Given the local nature of politics, we need to start communicating with all the groups in the region—from the smallest to the largest organizations—to have this kind of discussion. We've already targeted a group of business leaders, from the young newcomers to the more established, to get this message across."

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Warehouse spaces to be consolidated

In other action, the trustees voted to buy a warehouse property in the industrial park off Dunbridge Road using proceeds from the 2004 bond issue. The purchase will allow the consolidation of multiple warehouse spaces for which the University currently pays rent. It will also help replace some of the storage space lost when the Pike Street Warehouse was demolished to make room for the new parking lot 4A, according to Christopher Dalton, senior vice president for finance and administration.

Part of the plan entails moving the warehouse and receiving operation now in the Park Avenue Warehouse to the new property, freeing up Park Avenue for use by the College of Technology.

New graduate degree in statistics

At the Committee on Academic and Student Affairs meeting earlier in the day, the committee affirmed a recommendation to create a separate Ph.D. in statistics. Although there are both mathematics and statistics tracks in the mathematics Ph.D. program, all the doctoral degrees previously said "mathematics."

"Students in the statistics track find themselves at a disadvantage" in the job market with that designation, Provost John Folkins told the committee. In addition, having the statistics track will enable BGSU to attract top graduate students. No changes in costs or overall administrative duties will result from the change, he said.

Postdoctoral faculty associate receives national award

B.B.M. Sridhar, a postdoctoral faculty associate in the BGSU geology department, has won an Outstanding Agricultural Graduate Student Award for 2004 from the Association of Agricultural Scientists of Indian Origin.

Sridhar, who earned his Ph.D. in forest resources from Mississippi State University last August, received the award at the Soil Science Society of America annual meeting last month in Seattle, Wash.

Award criteria include academic achievements and research abilities demonstrated during the course of graduate study. Sridhar's research at Mississippi State applied recently developed remote sensing technologies to an analysis of plants grown in soils contaminated by heavy metals.

With that background, Sridhar was "perfectly suited" for the project on which he is working at BGSU, said Robert Vincent, geology. After advertising on the Web, Vincent hired him last summer with funds from a new U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to study effects of sewage sludge application on farmland.

Sridhar's research had included study of plant leaf changes under contaminated conditions, said Vincent. He would like to do a similar study with soybeans, he said, noting that sewage sludge contains heavy metals. Sridhar also has experience with a type of spectrometer that Vincent, a geophysicist and remote sensing scientist, plans to use in measuring effects of sludge applied to wheat stubble after winter wheat harvest.

With his doctorate in forest resources and a master's degree in soil science and agricultural chemistry, Sridhar complements Vincent's geology background for the sludge study, the professor added.

"It was an unbelievably good fit for what we needed on this project," said Vincent, who, with Sridhar, has taught a biological remote sensing class for the first time this semester. "It was a terrific match."

Sridhar's master's degree, and his bachelor's degree in agriculture, are from the Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad, India. Before graduating from Mississippi

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State earlier this year, he was named Outstanding Graduate Student in the College of Forest Resources and Outstanding Graduate Research Assistant.

When snow flies, follow Severe Weather Policy

The first flurries have flown, reminding us that winter is upon us. Following is the University's policy regarding severe weather:

The severe weather policy says that any decision to close the University will be communicated by the Office of Marketing and Communications, which will notify Fact Line (2-2445), WBGU-FM (88.1), WFAL-AM (1610), WFOB, WCWA, WLQR, WLQR-FM, WRQN-FM and WFIN. In addition, WBGU-TV (Channel 27) and three Toledo television stations (channels 11, 13 and 24) will be notified.

Every effort will be made to notify these media by 6:30 a.m. on the day of closing. Marketing and Communications will also send a general email to all campus offices whenever a decision to close is made.

Whenever a severe weather emergency occurs, there is some confusion regarding radio/television announcements. Employees should confirm the announcement by listening to more than one radio/TV station, or by directing questions to a University answering service number (2-SNOW).

The University closes only in times of emergency. If weather or other conditions warrant limiting University activities, a decision will be made either to operate classes and offices or close them both. If closure is determined, only designated emergency employees are expected to report to work.

For the full policy, see Monitor online or visit the Human Resources site and click on the classified or administrative staff handbook, or visit www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/handbooks/.

IN BRIEF

President's Lecture Series to kick off in January

"Advocates for Change in the 21st Century: Issues of Body, Mind and Spirit," is the theme for the 2005 President's Lecture Series, which begins in January. The series will feature three speakers.

Addressing the topic of "body," the first speaker will be Steven Blair, president and CEO of the Cooper Institute in Dallas. He will discuss "Physical Inactivity: The Major Public Health Problem of the 21st Century." Blair's presentation begins at 4 p.m. Jan. 12 in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union Theater.

An international advocate for the promotion of physical health, Blair has focused his research on the associations between lifestyle and health, with an emphasis on exercise, physical fitness, body composition and chronic disease. He will emphasize the shift in thinking needed to alter trends in an increasing obese population.

Monitor on winter break

This is the last Monitor in 2004. Publication will resume Jan. 10.

The Monitor staff wishes the University community a happy, healthy winter break and good fortune in the New Year.

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Power Down over holidays

If you're planning to be away from your office over the holidays, be sure to turn off all lights, computers and office machines.

By conserving energy, we can help the University save money on utilities and preserve the environment.

From the WellAware Committee:

There is still time to participate in the WellAware program. Complete the health perceptions survey and earn three WellAware cards worth a 30 percent discount on your spring membership to the Student Recreation Center. Visit www.surveyconsole.com/console/TakeSurvey?id=70090.

Ready to redeem your WellAware cards for a discount/rebate on Rec Center membership for spring 2005? Bring your cards (we have a record of your completed survey) to the Office of Human Resources during regular business hours (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays) through December.

Consult the Web site for more information about WellAware programs: www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/wellaware/index.html.

MyBGSU extends hours for start of semester

MyBGSU is extending hours the weekend prior to the spring semester to provide additional access to faculty class rosters and student class schedules. Access will be available Jan. 8 from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Jan. 9 from 7:30 a.m. to 11:59 p.m., and Jan. 10 from midnight to 9 p.m.

MyBGSU may be unavailable for up to 30 minutes beginning at about 5:30 p.m. Jan 9 and 6 a.m. Jan 10 in order to complete necessary system functions.

Applications for "Parking," "Change of Home Address," "My Financial Aid Status" and "Hire a Student Employee" will not be available beyond their normal schedule.

TSC to offer weekend service hours

The Technology Support Center in 129 Hayes Hall will be open from noon to 6 p.m. on Jan. 8 and 9.

BG@100 training-update meetings to begin

Formal monthly meetings will begin to discuss and plan the necessary training requirements for the HCM Phase 1 implementation. The primary participants at these meetings will be the director of the business office, the assistant vice president for Human Resources, BG@100 functional team members, BG@100 trainers, the project manager and the project director.

The first order of business is to identify the various audiences and their training needs. Following is a list of the training audiences identified to date, as well as their need:

- Human Resources staff (all HR functions)
- Payroll staff (all payroll functions)
- Student Employment staff (all functions related to hiring undergraduate students)
- Graduate College staff (all functions related to hiring graduate students)
- Hiring managers for undergraduate students (new eHire application)
- Office of Equity and Diversity (applicant tracking demographics)
- All colleges (applicant tracking demographics)

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- ITS lab monitors (assistance to individuals using self-service applications)
- ITS Help Desk staff (provide support for HCM questions)
- ITS TSS staff (support for HCM questions)
- ITS production support staff (support for HCM application)
- All employees (instructions on self-service applications)
- All supervisors (instructions on viewing leave balances for their employees)
- AHRS FOCUS users (training on PS Query and Crystal)

If you believe that any person or area not represented on this list needs to be included, please send that information to BGat100@bgsu.edu.

Administrative Audix outage scheduled

As part of the phone switch upgrade that will be taking place during the break, Administrative Audix (voice mail) will be unavailable from 6 p.m. Jan. 3 until 6 a.m. Jan. 4. All mailboxes, saved messages, greetings and features will remain unchanged.

CALENDAR

Monday, Dec. 20

Dissertation Defense, "Photoactive Metallopeptides to Investigate Dynamic Peptide-Protein Interactions," by Liu Liu, photochemical sciences, 3 p.m., 123 Overman Hall.

Tuesday, Dec. 21

Men's Basketball vs. IPFW, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 23-24

Offices closed.

Thursday, Dec. 30

Women's Basketball vs. Bucknell, 7 p.m., Anderson Arena.

Friday, Dec. 31

Offices closed.

Friday, Jan. 7

Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Saturday, Jan. 8

Hockey vs. Alaska-Fairbanks, 7:05 p.m., Ice Arena.

Continuing Events

Dec. 20 through Jan. 7

Winter Break, spring semester classes begin Jan. 10.

Jan. 5-6

Technology-Equipped Classroom Training, beginning at 10 a.m. Wednesday and 1:30 p.m. Thursday, 206 Education Building. Contact Julie Baker at jbaker@bgnet.bgsu.edu for more information.

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FACULTY

Humanities-BGSU Firelands. Assistant Professor/Instructor. Call the dean's office, 2-0623. Deadline: Feb. 4.

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.

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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/

The deadline for employees to apply for the following positions is 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28.

Administrative Secretary 2 (C-137-Re)—Dean of the College of Education and Human Development. Pay grade 10. Twelve-month, full-time position.

Secretary 2 (C-138-Re)—Office of the Assistant Vice President for Executive Communications. Pay grade 7. Twelve-month, full-time position.

Secretary 1 (C-139-Ve)—University Bookstore. Pay grade 6. Twelve-month, full-time position.

Cashier 1 (C-140-Ve)—Dining Services. Pay grade 3. Twelve-month, part-time position.

ADMINISTRATIVE

View job descriptions at:
www.bgsu.edu/offices/ohr/employment/adm_staff/

Instructional Technology Specialist (V-142)—Instructional Media Services. Administrative grade 11. Deadline: Jan. 7.

Data Warehouse Analyst (R-139)—Office of the Chief Information Officer. Administrative grade 13. Deadline: Dec. 24.

Digital Asset Analyst (R-137 and R-139)—Instructional Media Services (two positions). Administrative grade 12. Deadline: Dec. 24.

Web Applications Developer (V-134)—Information Technology Services. Administrative grade 14. Deadline: Dec. 24.

Associate Director of Academic Affairs (V-140)—University Honors Program. Administrative grade 15. Deadline: Dec. 31.

Registrar (V-131)—Registration and Records. Administrative grade 19. Deadline: Jan. 10.

Senior Associate Director (V-119)—University Dining Services. Review of applications began Nov. 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

Manager, University Dining Services (V-035)—Division of Student Affairs (Re-advertised). Two positions, administrative grade 12. Review of applications began Aug. 6 and will continue until the positions are filled.

OBITUARIES

Jorge L. Fernandes, 36, a visiting assistant professor in ethnic studies, died in an auto accident Dec. 19 in Pennsylvania. He had joined the University fall semester.