

• Bowling Green State University •

Dimensions

College of Arts & Sciences

2012

ARE FEMINIST
VOICES
IN HIP-HOP BEING HEARD?
A STUDENT'S RESEARCH
UNCOVERS
THE STORY

THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPERIENCE



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Ignite. Decipher. Bring home. Empower.

How do we define the undergraduate research experience? Too often we can assume that research is the purview of the faculty, or an activity or process of discovery for graduate students. But today's undergraduate students are encouraged to bring their critical thinking skills, their expertise, and their interests to help advance our understanding of the material, social, and cultural worlds that surround us. It's becoming a national expectation, and I'm pleased to acknowledge that the College of Arts & Sciences' students are part of the conversation, passionately engaged in pursuing their own research.

In this issue, we've focused on four different experiences. In each, undergraduate students take the plunge into research in the real world: from uncovering the culture of female hip-hop artists and investigating Lake Erie's "dead zone," to documenting a longstanding tradition of American music performance and cataloguing the voices of the local Latino/a population. These research experiences each required a different, careful balance of research skills, and found their expression in a range of different forms: a national research conference paper; a powerful, bioinformatics database; a photo documentary project; and a blog. In each case, also, key faculty members in the College guided our students' research enterprise, providing foundational skills, mentorship, encouragement, and advice—and, above all, their own time and expertise.

Once again, I'm reminded of the commitment our faculty bring to their teaching, the crucial component that makes a BGSU education, as VCT and Popular Culture student Bianca Garza describes it, a "seriously life-changing" experience.

In the following pages you'll find the discoveries our students have made—not the least of which, in the words of Computer Science major and Biology minor Robyn Edgar, is that in the world of research "not everything works out as planned!" I hope that you enjoy reading about these diverse research experiences as much as I have, and, as always, I welcome hearing about your own perspectives on preparing our students to face the challenges of the 21st century.

We've had a busy year at BGSU and in the College of Arts & Sciences. Our newly formed School of Critical and Cultural Studies has brought together students and faculty in some of BGSU's most well known programs for new and exciting collaborations in teaching and research. Our long-anticipated Wolfe Center for the Arts opened on December 9, 2011, and we've already seen our students sing, dance, and perform in outstanding productions of *The Arabian Nights*, *G. F. Handel's Hercules*, and *Chicago*. If you haven't yet had an opportunity to see our world-class facility, stop by for a tour! We would be very happy to see you!

With best wishes,

Simon Morgan-Russell | Dean



Women's Studies projects ignite passion for research

Students in BGSU's Women's Studies Program have found a common underlying theme in their undergraduate research—expect to be surprised. Whether it's the methodology, results, or what they discover about themselves, the research invariably opens their eyes.

For Shayna Noonen, who is completing a double major in women's studies and ethnic studies with a minor in Spanish, her personal thoughts on racism and sexism among hip hop artists turned out to be much more complex than she ever imagined.

Noonen, who was advised by Dr. Sarah Rainey, instructor and undergraduate studies coordinator in the women's studies program, and Dr. Emily Lutenski, a former instructor in the ethnic studies department, wanted her honors thesis research to “call attention to the white-washing of the term ‘feminist musician’ and the silencing of feminist voices in the hip hop genre.”

“I think the whitewashing applies to feminist musicianship in general and centers on white, female indie or alternative musicians and marginalizes more contested discourses, such as hip hop music,” says Noonen. “This silencing of feminist musicians was the impetus to start music festivals like the Michigan Womyn's Festival and the Lilith Fair.”

Noonen interviewed eight hip-hop artists, primarily from the Detroit area. “I came into the interviews with preconceived notions about what the artists would tell me, how they would steer the conversation, and I left completely blown away,” says Noonen. “I had anticipated formulaic answers, but the responses were unique and unexpectedly complicated my entire project.”

“I thought the artists would be focused on breaking through the glass ceilings in a male-dominated genre, but that was just one piece of their activism,” she explains. “They were art advocates. They investigated the prison-industrial complex in their lyrics. They talked about violence against women and their qualms about globalization.”

In an interview with DJ Mel Wonder, Noonen learned just how persistent feminist musicians had to be. Wonder explained how her attempts to sign up for a spot at an open DJ night were repeatedly thwarted as male musicians continued to sign up long after she was told the spots were all taken. Not one to give up, Wonder and her fellow female hip hop artist Piper

Carter created the Foundation, an organization that celebrates women of hip hop and gives them a safe place to develop their talent and become more empowered artists.

Noonen was selected to present her findings at the University of Richmond's Emancipatory Knowledge: Women's and Gender Studies Now Conference. Her research work also was awarded the “Best Undergraduate Student Presentation” at the BGSU's Women's Studies Research Symposium.

“I was so nervous about presenting this research that I had spent all semester working on, but it was a rewarding experience,” says Noonen. “I was asked questions at both events, and while they were intimidating at first, the more I talked about my work, the more I realized all that this project had taught me.”

According to Rainey, research projects such as those of Noonen, which reflect interdisciplinary theories about socially relevant issues related to women, are the kind of experiences women's studies looks forward to bringing to the new School of Cultural and Critical Studies.



Above: Shayna Noonen (left) with fellow student, Adeya Pinnix



Students help researchers decipher Lake Erie dead zone

Take a bucket of water from Lake Erie's dead zone. Add dozens of scientists and researchers who are diligently studying just exactly what the thousands of organisms are doing in that water, particularly in the summer when oxygen takes a nosedive in the lake's central basin. The result is a spirited effort to solve the many puzzles that lie within Lake Erie's dead zone. Today, BGSU undergraduate students have joined those researchers and will help to produce information crucial to the understanding of greenhouse gases and lake ecosystems.

BGSU biological sciences faculty Drs. George Bullerjahn, Robert Michael McKay and Paul Morris are studying the dead zones with the support of the U.S. Department of Energy's Joint Genomic Institute. They've enlisted the help of undergraduate students at the BGSU campus and also at Lorain County Community College (LCCC).

For one of the undergraduates, Robyn Edgar, a computer science major minoring in biology, the research opportunity presented itself as a result of her desire to find a summer job.

"I walked into Dr. Morris's office in February 2010 and explained that I was looking for a job that would give me practical experience in both computer science and biology and he just happened to have a project that fit the description," says Edgar, who plans to obtain a master's degree and Ph.D. in applied bioinformatics.

Edgar's research centered on completing computational analysis of the metagenomic sequence data from Lake Erie, using a "super computer," part of the Ohio Super-computer Center.

"Every step of the project was a new learning curve," says Edgar. "Not only did I learn a lot from the project itself, but I also learned a lot seeing the process of research firsthand. Not everything works out as planned and it is good to see how to deal with those problems when they arise."

"Working on this research project has given me an entire new set of bioinformatic skills," she adds. "It has taught me to work independently and how to problem solve in an applied situation. It also provided me with opportunities to go to conferences and meet people with similar interests and see other projects in related areas of research. All of that benefits me greatly in both academics as well as professionally."

"Robyn was very motivated and took this research as far as she could," says Morris. "The database analysis she completed was a tremendous launching pad for her academic career; her research work makes her a prime candidate for graduate school."

Undergraduate research at Lorain offers similar benefits to its students. The college, in partnership with BGSU, allows students to complete classes at LCCC and earn a bachelor's degree in biology from BGSU. Lorain students can complete an independent undergraduate research class under the mentorship of LCCC faculty Dr. Kathy Durham, with oversight by McKay and Bullerjahn.

"Our hope is that the students get excited about the research process and will continue it at the graduate level," says McKay, which is exactly the route several LCCC graduates have chosen.

Nick Sarn, who graduated in 2011 with a major in biology and minor in chemistry, assisted in the research of genes involved in nitrogen transformations in the Lake Erie dead zone. The process ignited his interest in research and he now hopes to continue in that area and earn his doctorate.

Data obtained from the research is part of a "big picture" effort among several organizations working to understand the impact of Lake Erie's dead zone. BGSU also collaborates with Environment Canada, the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Above left: BGSU scientists deploying a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) in order to visualize algae communities attached to the ice. Above right: Dr. George Bullerjahn works in the lab on board preserving microbial samples for microscopy and cell enumeration by flow cytometry.



House concert research brings career focus home

Bianca Garza has no plans to put down roots when she graduates, but if her professional career is anything like her educational journey, she will leave her mark wherever she goes.

Garza, a senior majoring in visual communication technology with minors in popular culture and audio recording technology, never picked up a camera until her freshman year, a serious turning point in her university education.

Her undergraduate research project on American house concerts for a popular culture research class taught by associate professor Dr. Becca Cragin was also a defining moment. It eventually turned her career goals on their head.

House concerts, a deep-rooted tradition once common in early America, have found new audiences today, with an increasing number of musical performances held in living rooms, backyards and barns. Garza's research documented performances in eight states through digital photographs and video recordings. Her journey took her from Brattleboro, Vt., to Brevard, N.C., to Elgin, Ill.

"My research project was seriously life changing," Garza says. "Now I know that the people I met during my research this summer are the kind of people I want to photograph."

"As I continue to accumulate a body of work over time, it is my hope that through these visuals others will be able to learn about the rich musical heritage of this country."

"I'd like to go somewhere for three weeks, work there, and then move on," she says. "I like that lifestyle and having that outsider's view and opinion."

It's exactly that kind of critical thinking that Cragin says her popular culture research class encourages in students.

"Research is not so much accessing information as it is the critical thinking and higher-level skills that go along with it," explains Cragin. "The students have to present their work verbally and in writing and they give each other critical feedback."

"Bianca is very driven and focused and chose to be more passionate about her research. She found a way to also make the research work for her and make it relevant to her career."

In fact, in addition to Garza's research in Cragin's class, she secured a grant from the Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship for the photography journey of contemporary house concerts that took her across the eastern United States.

"The students who understand the value of research are often self-starters," says Dr. Lou Krueger, a professor in the School of Art who mentored Garza in her photo documentary research project. "We try to help them see the big picture, but it's really their research, their work."

"Bianca did something that extended far beyond the actual research," says Krueger. "She has parlayed this into a professional career. She's breaking ground in the area of house concert photography."

Those who know Garza may not be too surprised. Quiet and unassuming and humble to a fault, she is also tenacious with a capital "T." As an undergraduate, she hopped in her car and traveled to Detroit two or three times a week to photograph the music scene and create new work. During a stay in New York City, her goal was to secure an internship at *Rolling Stone* magazine. She did. Along the way, she photographed the legendary guitarist Les Paul and was befriended by Bob Gruen, John Lennon's photographer.

But it's the people—not their names—that interest Garza the most. That seems to be what makes the house concerts so appealing.

"House concerts attract much more diverse audiences than commercial concerts," says Garza. "You see older couples, kids, young adults, all together. The performers and audience let their guard down; there's no pretension."

And if Garza continues down her current path, she'll be sitting happily in the corner, observing and photographing it all.

Above: Musical performances photographed by student, Bianca Garza



Service learning enlightens, empowers students and Latino/a population

Oral history, one of the world's oldest forms of research and communication, has a 21st century twist in Dr. Valeria Grinberg Pla's service learning course—blogging in Spanish.

Exploring Latino/a and Latin American Culture through Service Learning, now in its fourth year, not only gives students the opportunity to hone their research skills, they also strengthen their Spanish in real world situations, and, perhaps most importantly, gain and share a new perspective on the Latino/a population.

The students complete 20 hours of service work at area nonprofit organizations, including Adelante—the Latino Resource Center in Toledo, and the Perrysburg Heights Community Association and then blog in Spanish about their work.

“The students learn how to express themselves through writing and learn from each other's blogs,” she says. “It has been a transformational experience for many of the students.”

“This week when I went to Adelante for my last service day, I felt proud to have participated with this organization. I learned a lot from this experience because I was able to witness how Latinos live in Toledo, Ohio, learned about the health care system in the U.S. and that there is hope in this world. There is no better way to understand people from different cultures and who speak different languages than to look at how they live and what kind of difficulties they face.”

—Blog entry by Emily Manders in fall 2011; transcribed by V. Grinberg Pla

“Many of the students in this area have had little or no contact with the Latino/a population,” says Grinberg Pla, an assistant professor in the Department of Romance and Classical Studies. “Their service work and interactions with Latino/as helps them to get to know the Latino/a population, particularly in northwest Ohio.

Grinberg Pla also launched an oral history project regarding Latino/as for interested students. Students must complete online training of the Human Subjects Review Board before they conduct any face-to-face interviews.

“It's critical that students learn to just listen when they are interviewing people,” explains Grinberg Pla. The names and actual locations of those interviewed are changed to protect identities. Students record their interviews with the individuals, transcribe the interviews, and then erase the recordings to further ensure privacy.

“The stories and interviews are a source of inspiration to the Latino/a population,” says Grinberg Pla. “It shows them that others want them to be heard and to learn about them.”

“I want to give my children the opportunities I never had. We all had a happy life, but I always wanted to learn more. Ideally, I wanted to be a seamstress, to make dresses, blouses, things like that. I do sew, but I would be better if I had gone to school. This is why I don't mind living far away from my family in Mexico. I know that here my children have better opportunities.”

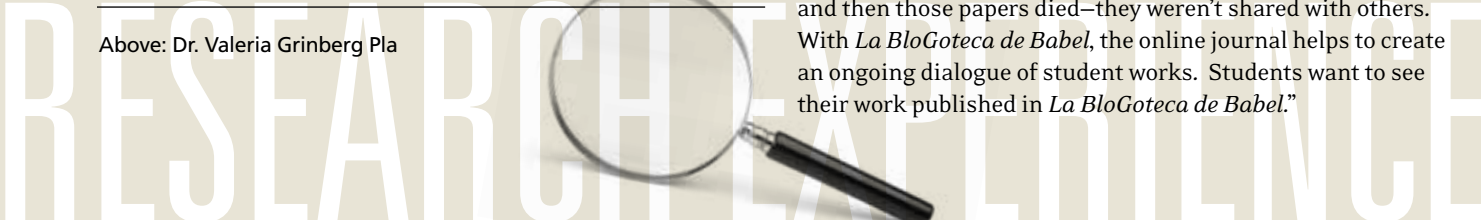
—Woman interviewed by Anacaryn Solórzano and Mary Guillermo in fall 2011; transcribed by V. Grinberg Pla

Grinberg Pla said the most important lesson that everyone can learn is that the Latino/a population is bicultural and bilingual. “This is a very important part of the ethnic identity of the Latino/a population.”

Student blogging about Latino/as and Latino/a issues can also be found at the undergraduate online journal *La BloGoteca de Babel*. This journal is designed to encourage conversation and critical analysis across space and time.

“*La BloGoteca de Babel* showcases some of the very best of student writing,” says Dr. Nathan Richardson, an associate professor of Spanish and chair of the Department of Romance and Classical Studies. “It used to be that students wrote papers and then those papers died—they weren't shared with others. With *La BloGoteca de Babel*, the online journal helps to create an ongoing dialogue of student works. Students want to see their work published in *La BloGoteca de Babel*.”

Above: Dr. Valeria Grinberg Pla





THE WOLFE CENTER FOR THE ARTS OPENS DOOR TO INSPIRATION, COLLABORATION





Bowling Green State University's new Wolfe Center for the Arts is 360 degrees of inspiration. The sloping, 93,000 square foot building features angled walls, a striking fly tower, and a full wall of glass at the entrance. Designed by international architectural firm Snøhetta, based in Oslo, Norway, and New York City, the Wolfe Center, new home to BGSU's Department of Theatre and Film, and to some School of Art and College of Musical Arts classrooms, is form and function married. Once inside, you feel the creative vibe.

"The Wolfe Center for the Arts will quickly become a 'destination for the arts' for northwest Ohio audiences," says Dr. Ron Shields, chair of the Department of Theatre and Film. "It's a place to see everything from student video and film work displayed 24 hours a day to exciting theatrical productions. Most importantly, it's a place to see students from across the arts interact as they move and work in the building."

"The building embraces a very judicious and effective use of light," says Dr. Katerina Rüedi Ray, director of the School of Art. A glass walkway connects the Fine Arts Center and Moore Musical Arts Center with the theatre and film department's new home. The connection was a deliberate design element, intended to make the Wolfe Center a place where the arts mingle.

"It is a real benefit for the art, music and theatre students to be in the same building for some classes," says Ray. "It gives them more opportunities to learn from each other and collaborate."

"BGSU has always been recognized for its outstanding arts programs," says BGSU President Mary Ellen Mazey. "The Wolfe Center provides a new level of excellence for our students and our economy. The center maximizes creativity and innovation, which are among the top five skills that employers look for today."

The two-story building features state-of-the-art digital art, graphic design and post-production film labs, academic offices for theatre and film faculty, computer labs, student workstations, rehearsal rooms, and a grand staircase. The 400-seat Thomas B. and Kathleen M. Donnell Theatre with its "grand drape" is at once traditional in shape but contemporary in feel and function. The center also includes a choral rehearsal room and the 120-seat Eva Marie Saint Theatre, named for the Oscar-winning actress and 1946 BGSU graduate.

"The new theatres in the Wolfe Center are outstanding," says Schyler Graham, a senior majoring in theatre with a specialization in design and technical theatre. "The Eva Marie Saint Theatre is a black box theatre that gives us the chance to do things that we couldn't before. It can be configured in just about any style of stage that we want (such as proscenium, thrust, or in-the-round). The Donnell Theatre is a proscenium stage with an apron on two hydraulic lifts that can create an orchestra pit. It has a full fly system in it, which allows us to design more intricate shows."

Ethan Roberts, a junior majoring in film production with a minor in arts management, has found the new film equipment lab particularly helpful. "The private editing suites in the Wolfe Center are a great resource for anyone in the film program who needs to edit."

"Arabian Nights," the inaugural student production at the Wolfe Center that showcased this spring, was a perfect example of the arts at their finest," says Dr. Simon Morgan-Russell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "The Center offers limitless possibilities for productions that our community will enjoy for years to come."

The Department of Theatre and Film and the College of Musical Arts produced "Hercules," an opera by Handel, and the musical "Chicago." In addition, faculty from theatre and film and the School of Art are planning an interdisciplinary class for fall 2012 that will focus on artistic practices that blend performance and video and filmmaking.

For Shields, these collaborations epitomize what the Wolfe Center represents. "This building was truly designed to be a place of collaboration and innovation across the arts, a space equal to the talents and potentials of our students."

The Wolfe Center for the Arts was named in honor of Frederic (Fritz) and Mary '68 Wolfe of Perrysburg, who donated \$1.5 million to the center. The Thomas B. and Kathleen M. Donnell Theatre was named for Findlay residents Tom and Kate Donnell, who donated \$750,000.



(Above): State-of-the-art Thomas B. and Kathleen M. Donnell Theatre.

(Opposite page, left to right): Mary and Fritz Wolfe; hundreds attend The Wolfe Center for the Arts opening night back in December; Tom and Kate Donnell; Mary Wolfe and President Mary Ellen Mazey.

(Top left): Anne Katrine Senstad, creator of "Eternal" artistic centerpiece in the main lobby, talks with Mary Wolfe as husband Fritz and daughter Frederica look on.



BGSU fills need with online Fire Administration degree

The first class of the new Bachelor of Science in Fire Administration (FIAD) degree at BGSU is full and applications for the next class, which begins fall 2012, are arriving daily. This program was created in response to a need to prepare chief officers to meet increasingly complex challenges today and in the future. "The Bachelor of Science in Fire Administration will provide me with the foundation to meet these new challenges head on," said Jonathan Westendorf, chief of Franklin Fire Department.

"Our first cohort is a group of dedicated fire professionals who are committed to earning their bachelor's degree to advance their careers and contribute to their departments in meaningful and tangible ways," said program adviser Dr. Melissa Miller, political science.

The FIAD program is one of only a few in the country with an administrative focus. It allows fire and emergency professionals who have an associate's degree or the equivalent plus professional experience to complete a bachelor's degree online. The political science department and Continuing & Extended Education (CEE) jointly administer the FIAD degree.

This degree-completion program was a natural extension of BGSU's 38-year involvement with State Fire School, said Dr. Marcia Salazar-Valentine, executive director of economic development and CEE.

Daniel Podlogar, assistant fire chief of Lawrence Township and coordinator of emergency medical services for Massillon, said, "An online program is about the only way I could finish a degree. The fire administration classes are relevant to both of my jobs."

Ann Light, CEE associate director and recruiting adviser for the FIAD degree, was instrumental in designing the degree program. "The development of this curriculum spans nearly 10 years and would not have been possible without the generous contributions from the chief officers who drew on years of experience to ensure that the classes are academically challenging and professionally relevant. It is a dream come true to see it come to fruition with such an outstanding group of students."



BGSU biologists (left to right)
Drs. Karen Sirum, Paul Morris and
Vipaporn Phuntumart

Biologists reap grant to fight soybean disease, train new scientists

A new research grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture is bad news for soybean diseases but good news for undergraduates studying biology. Three BGSU biologists – Drs. Paul Morris, Vipaporn Phuntumart and Karen Sirum – are part of a team of 28 scientists that has been awarded a five-year, \$9.28 million grant by USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture. Led by Dr. Brett Tyler of Virginia Bioinformatics Institute, the project’s goal is to engineer new disease-resistance strategies to reduce soybean crop yield losses due to root and stem rots.

In addition, because of the increasing amounts of genetic data that are becoming available, part of the funding will be used to prepare a new generation of biologists to sequence DNA and analyze information related to plant and other genomes. BGSU will receive \$350,000 over the five-year period for Morris, Phuntumart and Sirum to train six undergraduate students each year of the program.

Science education research specialist Sirum, one of 29 selected as founding members of the National Science Foundation-funded Society for the Advancement of Biology Education Research, will have overall responsibility for assessment and implementation of the undergraduate research programs at the five participating institutions, supported by a shared USDA/NIFA investment of \$1.2 million. One goal will be to establish criteria for undergraduate genome annotation competency and define standards for achievement and certification that students completing the program can add to their resumes.

“The new grant-funded program has the potential to be a model for integrating genome annotation into the core training of a new generation of undergraduates. The research experience they gain will enable them to graduate and join competitive research programs elsewhere,” Sirum said.

Outreach activities are a key part of this grant. The project will also build on the popular Kids’ Tech University program sponsored by the Virginia Bioinformatics Institute and establish a new Kids’ Tech University program at BGSU.

Best of the Best



Meel named distinguished teacher of mathematics

Dr. David Meel's longtime commitment to helping students master and teach mathematics, along with his contributions to the profession, was recognized by the Ohio Section of the Mathematical Association of America. The organization presented him the Award for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics.

Meel has been teaching math full time at BGSU since 1996 and has twice received the Kappa Mu Epsilon (mathematics honorary) Excellence in Teaching Mathematics Award at the University.

He is active in creating and employing teaching innovations such as interactive applets for linear algebra and calculus. He has used quilt pattern construction in teaching prospective teachers, as part of mathematics in art, and has published on the topic. He has also written on the use of storytelling and writing in teaching math.

Meel is dedicated to preparing graduate students to teach math, and has developed and taught numerous courses, including online courses for in-service teachers.



Woodruff named Fellow of top science association

Distinguished Research Professor of biological sciences Dr. Ronny Woodruff can now add another title to his name: Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). AAAS is the world's largest general scientific society, and publisher of the journal *Science*. The tradition of AAAS Fellows began in 1874.

The association announced the prestigious designation Jan. 11, 2011. Last year's 503 Fellows "have been elevated to this rank because of their efforts toward advancing science applications that are deemed scientifically or socially distinguished," AAAS said. Woodruff was chosen "for distinguished contributions to research and teaching in evolutionary genetics, and to service as director of the Mid-America *Drosophila* Stock Center and editor of *Genetica*."

New Fellows were recognized Feb. 19 during the association's annual meeting in Washington, D.C. The names of the new Fellows were published in the "AAAS News & Notes" section of *Science* on Jan. 28.

Woodruff has taught at BGSU since 1977, and is known for engaging students in his vigorous research agenda. In March 2010, he was presented BGSU's Elliott L. Blinn Award for Faculty-Undergraduate Student Innovative Basic Research/Creative Work. With the help of nearly 90 undergraduate students, Woodruff has studied the mechanisms of evolution using the fruit fly as a model organism. From 2008-10 alone, he and his students published seven teaching articles and presented posters at several conferences and talks.



Awards recognize excellence

The University honored excellence at its annual Faculty Recognition dinner. From the Master Teacher to the Center for Teaching and Learning, 10 faculty members and one unit were recognized.

Those honored and their awards were:

- **Dr. Robert DeBard**, higher education and student affairs, Master Teacher
- **Dr. Arjun Gupta**, a Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Lifetime Achievement Recognition
- **Dr. Fleming Fallon**, public and allied health, Distinguished Teaching Professor
- **Dr. Kristine Blair**, chair of the English Department, President's Award for Collaborative Research and Creative Work
- **Dr. Catherine Cassara**, journalism, Faculty Distinguished Service Award
- **Dr. Ronald Shields**, chair of the Department of Theatre and Film, Recognition for Chair/School/Director Leadership
- **Dr. George Bullerjahn**, biological sciences, Olscamp Research Award
- **Dr. Weidong Yang**, biological sciences, Outstanding Young Scholar Award
- **Dr. Janet Hartley**, management, Faculty Mentor Recognition
- **Dr. Robert Vincent**, geology, Community Involvement Award
- **Center for Teaching and Learning**, Unit Recognition Award



Manning, Brown journal article named best of year

Last summer was not a vacation for Drs. Susan Brown and Wendy Manning, co-directors of the National Center for Family and Marriage Research (NCFMR) at BGSU. Capping off a busy season of research and conference-hosting, the two were presented the inaugural Article of the Year Award from the American Sociological Association's Section on Sociology of the Family for the best journal article published in the past three years. Brown and Manning accepted the award on Aug. 20 at the ASA conference in Las Vegas.

Published in the journal *Demography* in 2009, "Family Boundary Ambiguity and the Measurement of Family Structure: The Significance of Cohabitation" explains some of the difficulty demographers and policy makers encounter when trying to define what constitutes a family. Manning and Brown discovered significant discrepancy between teens and mothers in identifying and reporting their living arrangements as "family" when cohabitation is involved.

The evolving American family is a major topic for the center and its affiliates. The NCFMR hosted its annual research conference in Washington, D.C., July 19 and 20. Counting Couples, Counting Families addressed the increasing complexities of family structure and living arrangements measurement, bringing together researchers, federal data providers, and policy makers to develop "best practices" measures that can be used in future data collection efforts.

The researchers were scarcely home when they hosted the Pilot Data Conference on married and cohabiting couples Aug. 4 at BGSU. The event was an opportunity for the center's faculty research affiliates at other universities to share their findings.



BGSU artists dominate Toledo Museum show

It was an artistic "embarrassment of riches" for BGSU when award winners were announced for the 93rd annual Toledo Area Artists Show on Aug. 26.

BGSU faculty, students, alumni and an Arts Advocate received 17 of the 23 awards given at the opening of the exhibition at the Toledo Museum of Art. Metalsmith Tom Muir, BGSU Distinguished Professor of the Arts, received a First Award, the Best of Show award, and the Toledo Area Sculpture Guild Rose M. Reder Award for his intricately crafted teapot "Twin Risers." Instructor Marcelle Dupay received two awards: the Athena Art Society Award and the Toledo Federation of Art Societies Purchase Award for her collage "Free to Be ...?"

All other BGSU winners received one award. Among them: Junior BFA student Camille Isaacs won a Second Award for her self-portrait in oil, "Glowing." May 2011 graduate Samantha Guy won a Third Award for her complex sculpture made of buttons, fabric and thread.

Ronald Jacomini, professor emeritus of art, also took a Third Award for his portrait of his former colleague David Clayton.

Last year's showing was more selective than in past years, with only 65 artworks selected from among 757 entries. The show typically features more than a hundred works. The jury comprised Brian Kennedy, Toledo Museum of Art director, and Amy Gilman, associate director and Contemporary Art curator. "Both are experienced international contemporary art jurors. This makes the selection of so many BGSU artists – from a much smaller crop – a very special honor indeed," said Dr. Katerina Rüedi Ray, director of the School of Art.



Swedberg receives prestigious UCDA award

When Matthew Davis, associate professor and chair of the division of Graphic Design, School of Art, entered a student's design piece in the 41st Annual University and College Designers Association (UCDA) Competition, he had high hopes. It turns out his instinct was right. Morgan Swedberg's, graphic design, "I/O 2011 AIGA Toledo / BGSUGD Student Portfolio Review Day" poster won a coveted Award of Excellence in the competition.

The judges evaluated nearly 1,100 entries (mostly from professionals), awarding 188 awards - 6 Gold Awards, 6 Silver Awards and 176 Awards of Excellence. All winning entries were on display at the annual conference last October in Phoenix, Arizona.

Swedberg also presented her work at the BGSU Student Research Symposium last fall. The poster was designed as part of a Spring 2011 Independent Study, completed under the guidance and art direction of Davis.

Faculty projects reap economic development grants

The Division of Research and Economic Development has awarded two innovative projects developed by University faculty a total of \$100,000 in "seed money." Four finalists were chosen from a total of 10 proposals submitted by nearly all of BGSU's colleges in response to a call for economic development projects.

"We hope by linking the intellectual and human assets of the University with the needs of regional businesses and organizations, BGSU can become a more active participant in advancing the economy of Ohio," explained Dr. Michael Ogawa, vice president for research and economic development.

The proposal submitted by Drs. Timothy Pogacar, chair of the Department of German, Russian and East Asian Languages; Irina Stakhanova, Russian; and Amy Robinson, romance and classical studies, was awarded money to create The Language Services Group (LSG). LSG will employ undergraduate and graduate students, as well as faculty, to offer interpreting services, culture training and short- and long-term language courses to area businesses.

LSG is projected to create new jobs and bring additional work to Bowling Green from around the country, and potentially, the world.

Businesses of all sizes often need consulting or other professional services to grow. The second winning proposal aims to provide that service. Dr. William Balzer, dean of BGSU Firelands, and Kelly Cusack, assistant director in the Office of Education Outreach at Firelands, submitted a proposal for support of the Regional Incubator for Sustainability and Entrepreneurship.

Ogawa says his office will continue to work with the other two finalists in a consulting capacity. Those finalists were MetaDASH Design/Production Studio submitted by Heather Elliott-Famularo, digital arts, and Lori Young, graphic design, and Agile Software Factory submitted by Dr. Joseph Chao, computer science.



Rudisill to study Indian film dance as Fulbright scholar

While the United States is just beginning to enjoy television shows like "Dancing with the Stars" and "So You Think You Can Dance," they have been popular in India since 1995, says Dr. Kristen Rudisill, popular culture. Beginning in January, Rudisill spent six months as a Fulbright scholar in Chennai, India, studying the world of "film dance" competitions, an integral part of the Bollywood film industry as well as popular television.

Americans got a taste of film dancing at the end of the hugely popular "Slumdog Millionaire," but in India every film must have multiple dance scenes interspersed, Rudisill said. "Every actor must know how to dance." There are local school classes and studios specializing in film dance.

She comes well equipped for the study, having spent more than two years combined in India, first during stints at the American Institute for Indian Studies in Madurai, Tamilnadu, and later as a Fulbright student scholar doing her dissertation research in comedy theatre and popular performance in Chennai, and while beginning her examination of film dance. She received her Ph.D. in Asian Cultures and Languages from the University of Texas at Austin.

Rudisill has immersed herself in her work, learning the Tamil language as a graduate student and taking beginning film dance and other dance classes, which she continued to do on this trip.

An affiliate of the L.V. Prasad Institute for Television and Film, she used that connection to attend TV show tapings and interview film-dance choreographers (who are often the competition judges) and movie producers, in addition to going to as many local competitions as possible. "Chennai, with its 5-9 million inhabitants, provides rich opportunities for study," she said.



Alumna named to *The Hollywood Reporter's* Power 100

BGSU alumna Eileen O'Neill was ranked No. 22 on *The Hollywood Reporter's* Women in Entertainment 2011: Power 100 list moving up three spots from last year. While earning a master's degree in popular culture at BGSU, O'Neill interned at Discovery Communications. Twenty-two years later she is the group president of Discovery and TLC Networks.

Under her direction, TLC has added a number of popular reality series including "Cake Boss", "19 Kids and Counting" and "Say Yes to the Dress." Network Discovery and Discovery Fit & Health were added to her portfolio in 2011.

O'Neill and her partner, Dr. Karen Stoddard, who also has a master's degree in popular culture from BGSU, established the "Stoddard and O'Neill Endowment for Studies in Popular Culture Fund." O'Neill was honored as one of BGSU's "100 Most Prominent Alumni" in 2010.

BGSU students praised for research

Bowling Green State University graduate students were honored with Charles E. Shanklin Awards for Research Excellence at the 29th annual Graduate Student Awards Ceremony. Dr. Byron White, vice chancellor for economic advancement for the Ohio Board of Regents, spoke at the ceremony.

The Charles E. Shanklin Award for Research Excellence was established by Graduate Student Senate as a meritorious award to recognize excellence in original research by BGSU graduate students.

The Shanklin Award recipients were:

- **Arts & Humanities** - First place winner was Kari-Anne Innes in theatre and film. Second place went to Christopher Medjesky in media and communications.

- **Social and Behavioral Sciences** - First place winner was Sarah Domoff in psychology. Second place went to Brenda Oyer in higher education and student affairs.

- **Science and Mathematics** - First place winner was Karasinghe A.N. Upamali in photochemistry. Second place went to Olga Kutovaya in biology.



Alumnus honored at White House

BGSU alumnus Dr. Arnold Rampersad was one of 20 artists, writers and scholars recognized by President Barack Obama on March 2, 2011. Rampersad, known for his skill at telling the African-American story through the lens of biography, was presented a National Humanities Medal during a ceremony at the White House.

A professor emeritus of English and humanities at Stanford University, Rampersad received his bachelor's and master's degrees in English from BGSU in 1967 and 1968, respectively. He was named a Distinguished Alumnus in 1992 and one of the Prominent Alumni in 2010. The University also granted him an honorary doctorate in 1995. His award-winning books have profiled W.E.B. Du Bois, Langston Hughes, Jackie Robinson and Ralph Ellison.

of the Best



Photo by Dena Eber

Art faculty help local Holocaust survivors 'bear witness'

On May 1, 2011, Yom HaShoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day, Toledoans of all faiths had the opportunity to view photographic portraits and the premiere of a documentary film sharing the stories of six local survivors of that terrible event. The film and photographs, which represent the first fruit of Bearing Witness: The Voices of Our Survivors project, were shown at Temple Congregation Shomer Emunim in Sylvania.

"To hear a Holocaust survivor speak is to hear history straight from the source," said Hindea Markowicz, director of the Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center of Greater Toledo. The Resource Center and the United Jewish Council of Greater Toledo called upon Heather Elliott-Famularo and Dena Eber, School of Art, for the project.

Sixty-five students in grades 7-12 from three area synagogues' Sunday Schools came to help interview the six survivors, who were recorded and photographed by Elliott-Famularo and Eber.

"These students represent the last direct links to the Holocaust able to pass their memories of this encounter on to their children, grandchildren and even great-grandchildren for them to tell their future generations," Markowicz said.

"I was honored to have this opportunity to meet and interview the survivors, and simultaneously collaborating with the community to help educate the students was profoundly rewarding," Elliott-Famularo said.

Over the next year, she will continue researching the survivors' stories and expand the film into a feature-length documentary, through support and a fellowship from BGSU's Institute for the Study of Culture and Society. Eber will expand the portrait narrative to include

symbols and items from the survivors' past in digital compositions.

Elliott-Famularo has previously created videos about the Holocaust when she worked with Dr. Burton Beerman, music composition, on his oratorio "Tikvah," based on the memoir of Philip Markowicz. Music from "Tikvah" will be featured in the film. Eber has also worked with Holocaust themes in her narrative imagery.

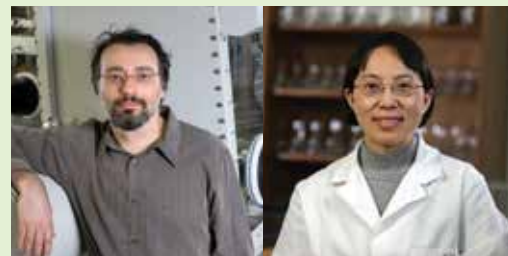
The Bearing Witness project is sponsored by the Ruth Fajerman Markowicz Holocaust Resource Center of the United Jewish Council of Greater Toledo, the BGSU School of Art and the artists.



Brown selected for distinguished faculty lecture

The landscape of romantic partnerships has shifted dramatically in several directions over the last decade. The nation now has more people than ever over 50 who are single and available to form new, unmarried unions.

Sociologist Dr. Susan Brown, co-director of the National Center for Family and Marriage Research at BGSU, discussed recent trends and patterns in intimate relationships in her College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Faculty Lecture on "Partnering in Later Life: New Frontiers in Family Research." Her talk included a look at partnership dynamics – whether dating or cohabiting – and their consequences for individual well-being.



Funding provides catalyst for energy research

Two BGSU scientists exploring alternative energy approaches have received University funding to help develop their research and its potential for commercialization.

Offered through the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, \$25,000 Commercialization Catalyst awards were given to Drs. Pavel Anzenbacher, chemistry, and Zhaohui Xu, biological sciences.

The award aims to give promising research a boost by providing the funding necessary to bring the results of faculty and student research and creative activity to the marketplace.

Anzenbacher works in the area of photochemical sciences, with a focus on the chemistry of materials useful for generating light. His Catalyst project involves organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs). Unlike traditional LEDs, the organic type uses only a fraction of the energy used by LEDs and contains no harmful heavy metals such as cadmium, making OLEDs safer both to use and to dispose of.

"If we could convert the majority of our general lighting to organic light-emitting diodes, we would reduce our energy consumption to a third of what we now use," Anzenbacher said.

He is working with Angstrom Technologies Inc. of Cincinnati to develop stable organic dyes that can be used in OLEDs for general lighting applications. One current use is in security applications such as ID tags that emit light when placed under a black light. Anzenbacher and his group are exploring market applications for the dyes.

Xu's project involves using genetic tools to develop a biofuel from plant fibers. She is working to genetically modify a heat-loving bacterium to make it more efficient at breaking down cellulosic, or plant, materials. The bacterium releases biohydrogen as a byproduct.

"Biohydrogen can be used directly as a fuel source or as an intermediate to produce other materials. Producing hydrogen from cellulosic biomass carries additional societal and economic advantages compared to food-derived biofuels," Xu said. "We feel this has very high potential in industrial applications."



NPR correspondent among 'Terror in the Name of Religion' panel

What happens when religion becomes a force not for peace but for violence? The Department of Journalism and Public Relations hosted a day in March 2011 focusing on "Terror in the Name of Religion." Events included a panel discussion with three national experts and the second annual Hiroko Nakamoto Peace Lecture.

At a time of strained relations between nations, ethnic and religious groups, when communication and understanding are more important than ever to national security, research studies by Gallup and others suggest American journalism does a poor job of covering Islamic and Muslim affairs at home and abroad.

The panel discussed "Media Coverage of Terror in the Name of Religion." The panelists included:

- **Dr. Charles Kimball**, Presidential Professor and director of the Religious Studies Program at the University of Oklahoma. He is a Middle Eastern studies scholar, Baptist theologian and specialist in Islamic studies. Kimball also delivered the Nakamoto lecture on "Turmoil in the Middle East and North Africa: Things That Make for Peace-Building." The lecture is made possible by the support that Nakamoto, a BGSU alumna, provides to the Peace and Conflict Studies Program.

- **Jamie Tarabay**, National Public Radio national correspondent and former NPR Baghdad Bureau Chief.

- **Salam Al-Marayati**, president of the Muslim Public Affairs Council. His articles and interviews have appeared in newspapers from *The Wall Street Journal* to the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *USA Today*. He has been featured on C-SPAN and NBC.

Dr. Catherine Cassara, journalism, served as moderator. Cassara is co-director of federal grants BGSU has to partner with universities in Tunisia and Algeria to promote environmental journalism education.

The panel discussion was BGSU's 2011 Florence and Jesse Currier Endowed Lecture, with support from the United Muslim Association of Toledo. The day's sponsors also included the School of Media and Communication and the Peace and Conflict Studies Program.

Board gives nod to new school, alumnus Narayan

The Board of Trustees approved the establishment of the School of Culture and Critical Studies. The new school will bring together popular culture, ethnic studies, American culture studies and women's studies – four units that are closely related in terms of their disciplines, theoretical foundations and curricula.

The school will provide additional opportunities for interdisciplinary research and teaching while achieving cost savings through the greater efficiencies of shared resources.

In addition to other action items, the trustees also approved the presentation of an honorary Doctor of Applied Science degree to alumnus Shantanu Narayan by the College of Arts and Sciences. A 1986 graduate with a master's degree in computer science, Narayan is president and chief executive officer of Adobe Systems Inc., one of the world's largest software brands. He and his wife, Reni, met while students at BGSU.



Former NFL exec teaches weeklong course

After 36 years in the NFL, alumnus Dick Maxwell came back to BGSU to help train the next generation of students interested in sports media and management.

Maxwell, a 1970 graduate, retired in 2006 as the NFL senior director of broadcasting. He still works for the NFL as a National Game Representative, working about 20 nationally televised games a season. He also coordinates the NFL's annual Broadcast Boot Camp for current and recently retired players who would like to explore sports broadcasting.

Last November, Maxwell worked with a select group of students during a weeklong, one-credit course called The NFL: Modern Sport Media and Management.

The class was divided into five sports organizations, each with a general manager or athletic director, public relations director, head coach, marketing or community relations director and new-media director. Throughout the week, each organization or team was faced with different situations and had to develop a management plan to address each one.

Students also heard from a number of professionals in the field including the public relations director for the Carolina Panthers, an NBC Sports producer and ESPN officials. On the last day, the class headed to Ford Field in Detroit for a tour of the facilities, including the FOX-TV compound, and saw a presentation by the Detroit Lions on the importance of community relations.



Toledo Museum of Art showcases BGSU artists

If you explored the Toledo Museum of Art last winter, you may have noticed an unusual number of pieces by BGSU students and faculty, spanning two exhibits.

"4 Art: Student Art from Bowling Green State University, Lourdes University, Owens Community College and the University of Toledo" featured nearly 100 works in a variety of media by the institutions' most talented emerging artists, including 27 works by BGSU students. These ranged from blown glass to woodcut to digital painting.

Charles Kanwischer, School of Art, was one of five contemporary artists in the "Small Worlds" exhibit, in the Canaday Gallery. Kanwischer created a dozen graphite pencil drawings of houses within a half-mile of the museum for the exhibit, which examines questions of size, scale and proportion.

"I like places and things in the process of changing from one condition to another—things growing and things coming apart in a sort of endless cycle. The drawings I've recently made depicting houses in Toledo arise from the same interest in ebb and flow, transferred to an urban setting," Kanwischer said.

Being selected for the exhibit is impressive since the museum only includes local artists if they are considered of national significance, said Dr. Katerina Rüedi Ray, director of the School of Art.

BGSU hosts Girl Power! empowerment conference

Thirty girls in seventh-10th grade visited the University November 19 to get a taste of college life and affirm their individuality. The Girl Power! conference is designed to promote college access for young women from northwest Ohio and was hosted by a Women's Studies/Ethnic Studies service-learning class, Gender and Practice in Community-Based Work.

The conference was attended by girls from community partner organizations that primarily serve populations of color such as the Toledo-based Adelante Latino Resource Center and the Perrysburg Heights Community Center. BGSU student organizers worked with these organizations to design a program that specifically presents information that will encourage the young women in their individuality, benefit them in their everyday encounters and in planning their future, and help them realize that college is an achievable goal.

The conference included a campus tour; a presentation about college access and financial aid from the offices of Admissions and Student Financial Aid; a lunch featuring welcoming remarks from President Mary Ellen Mazey; a basic growth-and-development course presented by Dr. Mary Krueger, director of the Women's Center; a discussion about representations of women of color in the media facilitated by Dr. Sarah Smith Rainey, Women's Studies, and students from the Precious Stones organization; and breakout sessions with BGSU student organization members.

Students in Gender and Practice in Community-Based Work seek to increase access to higher education for girls from diverse backgrounds by expanding their awareness of the steps to apply, enter and experience college.



WBGU-TV premieres 'Creative Economy of Northwest Ohio'

A documentary from WBGU-TV premiered March 2011 putting a spotlight on the importance of arts industries to northwest Ohio. "Creative Economy of Northwest Ohio" showcases the economic and community impact of the region's arts and culture and features interviews with cultural, state and business leaders.

Northwest Ohio's creative economy generates over \$2.4 billion in economic impact, sustains 33,000 jobs and provides more than \$250 million in local, state and federal tax revenue. A fast-growing sector, it fosters the entrepreneurialism, innovation, collaboration and communication needed by 21st century enterprises. With nonprofit arts at its core, it includes museums, historical societies, arts companies and independent artists, as well as design services; motion picture, video and sound recording industries; book and newspaper publishing; and art schools and services.

"Creative Economy of Northwest Ohio" was produced, directed, written and edited by Tony Howard, producer/director at WBGU; and shot by Matthew Blinn, WBGU videographer. Dr. F. Scott Regan, a BGSU professor emeritus of theatre and film, narrates the piece.

For more information, visit <http://arts.bgsu.edu>.

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On behalf of our students, faculty and staff, thank you for your past confidence and support and we hope you will consider continuing this in 2012, and beyond.

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