

Connexus

Connexus ~ Latin ~ bound together by ties of friendship, kinship, etc.

Fall 2006

Focus on an Advocate:

Wiley Blevins continues to cheer for BGSU

From his days of cheerleading at BGSU to today where he continues to support the University in other ways, Wiley Blevins' dedication to learning, both for others as well as himself, has characterized his approach to life.

Today, this support comes in several forms: serving on EDHD's Advocates Board, establishing a scholarship fund for EDHD students and returning to campus often to talk to students about his experiences as a teacher, author and publisher.

As the first from his family to attend college, Blevins especially likes supporting first-generation college attendees like himself. "I know how challenging it can be—both financially and emotionally—and now I have a chance to make it easier for these future BG alums," says Blevins.



Blevins received his bachelor's degree in elementary education from Bowling Green State University in 1987. He then went on to distinguish himself as a teacher for numerous years in both the United States and South America.

While at Harvard University earning his master's degree in education with a focus on reading instruction ('90), Blevins began to apply his expertise as an educator to the publishing world by joining Houghton Mifflin in its reading department. He then went on to spend almost 11 years at Scholastic in New York, most recently as the executive editor and director of primary programs. He is currently the vice president and editorial director of Macmillan/McGraw-Hill's education group.

"As a member of the Advocates Board," Blevins explains, "I get the opportunity to give back to the university that has given me so much. BGSU is where it all started for me in the field of education."

Blevins has authored more than 50 children's books. His works also include more than a dozen books for teachers on phonics and reading success, instructional programs for Scholastic and professional articles and studies.

"Wiley, a man on the cutting edge of children's learning and pedagogy, brings a wealth of knowledge to EDHD, especially in the areas of reading, authoring books and publishing," says Dr. Josué Cruz, dean of the College of Education and Human Development. "He is an extraordinary individual with creativity, a strong work ethic and excellent interpersonal skills. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated individual as our advocate."



From the Dean

The College of Education and Human Development's vision is to promote a dynamic community of lifelong learners and leaders who will pursue the improvement of society and the human condition

across the life span. This quest revolves around the college's core values—dedication to inquiry, reflection, risk-taking, collaboration and partnership and equity.

The college pursues its mission as an academic leader for the interdisciplinary study of teaching, learning, leadership and human development. Our mission focuses on educating professionals who will positively impact the development of individuals, families, communities, schools and other institutions in society.

Since 1985, our focus has included educators beyond the scope of traditional teachers such as those in the School of Teaching and Learning (STL), including early childhood, middle childhood and adolescent young adult teachers, and the School of Intervention Services (SIS), including special education teachers. For example, the School of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) prepares educators dedicated to communicating, advancing and applying knowledge that fosters the well-being of individuals and families. The School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies (HMSLS) is committed to the creation, enhancement and dissemination of knowledge in the fields of human movement, sport and leisure. And the School of Leadership and Policy Studies (LPS) prepares educators to assume leadership roles in formulating and implementing administrative policy and improving practice at all levels of education and in agencies outside of formal educational settings.

This movement of broadening the definition of educators is now being carried out in many other universities of our size and complexity across the country. I am proud to be a part of a college that is on the forefront with such a great vision and mission. I hope you are too!

Josué Cruz Jr.

Josué Cruz Jr.

EDHD develops child and family policy institute

The Ohio Department of Education's Center for Student's Families and Communities, has awarded the College of Education and Human Development (EDHD) a \$180,000 subsidy grant to develop the BGSU Institute for Child and Family Policy (ICFP). The mission of the institute is to facilitate the development of policy and best practice models that effectively address the needs of children and families.

Development of the institute began this past spring. Staff members have started work on initial policy briefs and recruitment of faculty affiliates.

Dr. Josué Cruz Jr., dean of the college, will serve as the interim director for the institute. Drs. Randall Leite and Laura Landry-Meyer, both faculty in the human development and family studies program in EDHD's School of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS), will serve as the associate directors.

"I am so pleased with the work of Dr. Leite and Dr. Landry-Meyer toward the creation of the institute," said Cruz. "The Institute for Child and Family Policy represents the first program in Ohio aimed at providing explicit, non-partisan child and family policy research, analysis and recommendations to legislators, legislative staff, state agency personnel and education and social service professionals throughout the state."

The institute will serve as a clearinghouse for policy research and recommendations and will maintain affiliations with researchers at BGSU as well as other institutions throughout Ohio.

For more information, email the institute at icfp@bgsu.edu.

2006

homecoming
BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

College welcomes alumni, friends

The College of Education and Human Development once again is hosting a tent during the 2006 Homecoming on Oct. 14. Please stop by the tent from 2 to 4 p.m. for free food and to reconnect with your EDHD friends.

For more information about homecoming, refer to homecoming.bgsu.edu.

Faculty & Staff News

The College of Education and Human Development is pleased to welcome the following new faculty and staff:

School of Leadership and Policy Studies

- Dr. Paul Johnson, assistant professor, politics and community engagement, institutional policy and administrative leadership

School of Teaching and Learning

- Joan Livingston, assistant professor, early childhood literacy and graduate reading
- Dr. Eric Worch, assistant professor, early childhood science methods

School of Family and Consumer Sciences

- Dr. Susan Peet, lecturer, early childhood and human development
- Dawn Murrell, lecturer, early childhood
- Dr. Ashutosh Sohoni, assistant professor, interior design



Faculty and staff enjoy camaraderie and food at picnic to kick off the 2006-07 academic year.

School of Intervention Services

- Dr. Amy Scheuermann, assistant professor, math methods

School of Human Movement, Sport and Leisure Studies

- Dr. Timothy Bott, assistant professor, physical education teacher education
- Todd Keylock, instructor, exercise physiology
- Colleen Murphy, lecturer, dance
- Dr. Erianne Weight, assistant professor, sport management

Office of Research and Field Experiences

- Nancy Allan, director of field experiences, joined the staff this past spring
- Michelle Frey, secretary

Firelands–Early Childhood Education

- Lori Pierce, instructor, reading specialist

It is also with mixed joy and sadness that we announce the retirement of the following faculty member:

- Dr. Sally Kilmer, who has been a leader in child development initiatives, retired from the School of Family and Consumer Sciences after 27 years of service to BGSU. She received emerita status following her retirement.

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Scholarships FULFILL DREAMS

Having the support of her family and her own initiative and dedication of working two jobs—one in the Office of Marketing and Communications at BGSU—Amanda Riggenbach (Mansfield, Ohio) has dreamed of becoming a teacher since she was very young.

“Amanda has worked hard to achieve her goal of becoming a teacher, but the support of others through scholarships has brought her one step closer to making her dream a reality,” explains Amanda’s mother, Kim Riggenbach.

Amanda, an early childhood education sophomore in the School of Teaching and Learning (STL), has been the recipient of the Sherrie Jones Scholarship for Future Educators as well as other scholarships for the past two years. Dr. Sherrie Jones '72, '74, who spent more than 20 years as an educator and school administrator before entering the world of international business, created the scholarship to encourage outstanding students to become professional educators.

“It means so much to me that someone cares and believes in me enough to help me pursue my dreams of getting an education, becoming a teacher and touching the lives of others in a positive way,” Amanda says. “I hope that someday I can follow in Dr. Jones’ footsteps and help others attain their goals as well.”

Her statement demonstrates that the power of scholarship is not only in the financial support to help with the expense of an education but also in the emotional power of recognizing a student and trusting in him or her.

This year, through the generous donations of friends of the College of Education and Human Development, 12 new scholarships have been created. They are as follows and add approximately \$50,000 of available scholarship money to EDHD students each year.

- Fayette M. Paulsen Award
- Abby Lynn Hettel Memorial Award
- Magdalena Muniz Fribley Exercise Specialist Scholarship
- James L. Galloway Memorial Award
- Frank and Shirley Dick Scholarship
- Sandra L. Albers Scholarship
- Outstanding Reading Project Award
- Lawrence E. Weller Memorial Scholarship
- Charles L. and Alta B. Codding Education Scholarship
- Pauline and Delbert Henschen Outstanding Educator Scholarship
- Lambdin Devine Higher Education Administration Book Award
- Robert and Wrey Barber Scholarship

And for the 2006-07 academic year, the college was able to award more than \$208,425 to 164 EDHD students to help with their educational opportunities and dreams. But even with those figures, the number of students who qualify for scholarships far exceeds the number for which we have resources.

For additional information about the scholarship program, please contact Sara Zulch-Smith at szulch@bgsu.edu.

EDHD stewards campaign gifts

Alumni, friends, faculty and staff of the College of Education and Human Development are truly helping the University build dreams.

As of July 31, the college has raised more than \$6.4 million (of a \$7 million goal) to support projects, programs and scholarships within the college. University-wide, the Building Dreams Campaign (July 2002 to December 2008) has raised more than \$100 million (of a \$120 million goal).

And EDHD’s retired and current faculty and staff are a big part of that success. During this year’s Family Campaign, EDHD exceeded the average participation rate by 22 percent, and by the end of the campaign, more than 75 percent of the college faculty and staff had supported the campaign—the highest percentage of participation of all six colleges within BGSU.

The college is using these gifts for projects and initiatives that impact EDHD students and the University community. For example, some of the funds have been designated to update the School of Family and Consumer Sciences’ child development playground at Johnston Hall, expand technology available to EDHD students and guarantee tuition for the college’s gifted institute summer camps. Because of your support, the college is making a difference in the lives of students and those they will touch in the future.

To make a donation to EDHD, please contact the BGSU development office at 1-800-236-3112 or visit <http://giving.bgsu.edu/development/fundingopps/onlinegiving>. And please remember to specify EDHD as your desired donation fund. Thank you in advance for your generosity and investment in the future.

College offers new master’s degree

As cultures merge and populations diversify, teachers in the new millennium must be prepared to teach in a world that has changed over the last century. To address that need, the Division of Educational Foundations and Inquiry in the School of Leadership and Policy Studies is offering a new master of arts degree in cross-cultural and international education.

The degree will prepare professional educators to be effective leaders in the internationalization of schools and communities and to be positive facilitators of cross-cultural understanding.

The focus of the degree program is to prepare global educators who are able to:

- serve as leaders in internationalizing curriculum,
- foster international educational partnerships, and
- infuse education policy and practices with cross-cultural awareness.

For additional information, refer to www.bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/edfi/macie.

Service Learning BIG in Interior Design

The BGSU interior design (ID) students in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) have been very busy with service-learning projects this past year.

For example, the 30 students in Debra Zappitelli’s History of Interiors class prepared plans for redesigning two rooms in the Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center. The students prepared the renderings by viewing archival photos, reviewing written accounts of the rooms and traveling to Fremont to take their own photos, notes and measurements.

The Hayes Presidential Center is using the students’ work to help promote a fund-raising project to restore seven rooms to their condition when Hayes left the White House in 1881. For more information about the work on the Hayes Presidential Center, refer to www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/monitor/01-09-06/page16799.html.

This service-learning project not only benefited the students by gaining valuable professional experience but also benefited the community by promoting the restoration of a nationally historic building.

Senior Kitchen Project EXPANDS OPPORTUNITIES

The Ohio Board of Regents recently approved a \$500,000 joint use agreement between BGSU and the Wood County Committee on Aging (WCCOA) for the Wood County Senior Kitchen Project. Nancy Orel, who is president-elect of WCCOA, and HMSLS faculty members Dr. Amy Morgan and Dr. Lynn Darby worked on the agreement. As part of the agreement, BGSU students and faculty in gerontology, nutrition, and human movement, sport and leisure studies will have increased access to WCCOA’s activities and operations for service-learning opportunities. For more information, contact Lynn Darby at 419-372-6903 or ldarby@bgsu.edu.