Welcome to the spring edition of College Insider. In this issue you will read about special projects and activities that keep the students and faculty busy in the College, learn about the new associate deans and see some of the renovations that are now a reality in the Education Building.

New Associate Deans

I am pleased to introduce two new members of the College leadership team – Dr. John Fischer and Dr. Mary Murray, who have been named associate deans. They fill the positions most recently held by Dr. Sue Houston, who was promoted to vice provost for undergraduate education, and Dr. Lynn Darby, who served as associate dean on an interim basis.

Dr. Fischer is associate dean for administration and Dr. Murray is associate dean for student and academic services. For more information about their backgrounds in education, see page 9.

Outreach to Alumni and Professionals

One of the goals of the College is to reach out to our alumni and area educators and professionals. “Setting the Pace,” a lecture series organized by Mary Heather Munger, the College’s professional development specialist, will feature Dr. Marilyn Friend for the final lecture this academic year. Dr. Friend, a professor emeriti at University of North Carolina-Greensboro, will be on campus March 21 to present a free lecture followed by a workshop (registration required) about “Inclusive Practices
and Collaboration.” To learn more about Dr. Friend’s visit and other professional development opportunities go to bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/pd.html

Building Renovations

I am happy to inform you about the completion of renovations to the Education Building, totaling nearly $1 million in total investments. We have added new energy-efficient lighting throughout the facility, and with the students in mind, we have created more comfortable surroundings for them to meet, study and relax. The student academic services suite has been transformed as part of the move from the third floor to the first floor. According to Matt Webb, director of student and academic services, the renovated space helps the staff better meet students’ needs. Photos of the renovations are on page 10 and our Facebook page.

With the infrastructure and new leadership in place, and the addition of 21 terrific new tenure-track positions, I am excited to be in my second year of service as the dean. The landscape of education continues to change; yet, we are always looking ahead to better serve our students and community.

For more information, you can visit our website and also keep up to date on Facebook. If you have questions or comments about the College, please contact the Dean’s Office at 419-372-7401.

Sincerely,

Brad Colwell

Dean
BGSU Peace Corps Program Cited Among Best

For the second consecutive year, BGSU has made it onto the Peace Corps list of top universities producing volunteers. This year with 24 alumni currently serving, BGSU is ranked 21st on the list, up from 25th last year when there were 19 alumni serving as volunteers. The University is also now ranked fourth in the state.

The Master of Arts in Cross-Cultural and International Education (MACIE) program within the School is a major factor in the University’s recognition. MACIE started in May 2006 and now offers a Peace Corps Paul D. Coverdell Fellows graduate program in the area of International Education. This unique graduate program offers Peace Corps volunteers who have completed their service the opportunity to attend BGSU to earn an advanced degree, with financial assistance and the chance to use their knowledge and skills in community internships as part of the program’s requirements.

Since Peace Corps was founded by President John F. Kennedy in 1961, 255 BGSU alumni have served. Nearly 6,600 Ohioans have served during that time, making it one of the highest volunteer-producing states in the nation. Today, Peace Corps members are working on issues that impact the entire world, including education reconstruction, HIV/AIDS prevention, food security, clean water accessibility and environmental conservation.

Mary Nativia Jones, a MACIE student and Peace Corps Fellow, explains Peace Corps work to interested BGSU students during a special event in 2011.
Symposium Focuses on Food and Nutrition Challenges

In October, the Food and Nutrition Department hosted the 3rd Annual 21st Century Nutrition Challenges: Food and Nutrition Symposium. Bringing nationally known speakers and professionals throughout the region to campus each year, the symposium honors and showcases some of our graduates for the benefit of current students.

This year, the symposium welcomed speakers from Ohio, Illinois and Texas. Topics included chronic kidney disease, lean body mass, functional food and the association of cancer, metabolic syndrome and food allergies.

Krystle Zuniga, an alumna of the dietetics programs, presented her dissertation research entitled: “Functional Foods for the Prevention of Prostate Cancer.” Other than skin cancer, prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer found in American men. In 2011, nearly 250,000 new cases were diagnosed.

More than 100 professionals, faculty and students attended the symposium.

School Offers Diverse Programs

With more than 30 professors, instructors, lecturers and professionals, the School of Family and Consumer Sciences offers undergraduate programs in:

› Apparel Merchandising & Product Development  
› Food & Nutrition  
› Health Promotion  
› Human Development & Family Studies  
› Interior Design

The school also offers a graduate program with a specialization in Food and Nutrition.
Faculty Lead Extreme Presentation

In November, Drs. Amy Morgan and Fred Andres presented a workshop entitled “Humans at Earth’s Extremes: Death in Death Valley” at the Northwest Ohio Annual Symposium on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Teaching Program.

The presentation and discussion centered around the 2009 death of a boy who had ventured on a day trip with his mother to a national park in Death Valley. Morgan and Andres discussed some of the factors that led to the boy’s death, including the mother’s use of a GPS without realizing the devices are unreliable in remote locations. They also explained the impact of a high heat index and the body’s responses. They addressed the science of hydration and how the human body will attempt to cool itself when faced with extreme circumstances.

The annual symposium serves as a popular opportunity for professional development for K-12 teachers, school administrators and higher education faculty members from the region.

Workshop Teaches Real-World Experiences

A BGSU alumnus is helping to prepare the next generation of sport management professionals. Richard A. Maxwell, a 1970 journalism graduate, returned to campus in November to offer “The NFL: Modern Sport Media and Management.”

Selected students from sport management (HMSLS) and communication studies (School of Media and Communication Studies) participated in Maxwell’s class to learn about the industry that he was a part of for more than 36 years. The retired senior director of broadcasting for the National Football League put students on five teams, where they assumed the roles of general manager, head coach, public relations director, marketing director and new media controller. As part of the learning experience, each team faced different scenarios and crises.

Participants also heard from numerous professionals, including individuals from ESPN, NBC Sports and the Carolina Panthers. The group traveled to Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions, visited the FOX-TV complex and saw a presentation highlighting the importance of quality community relations.
Autism Summit Continues 11-year Tradition

For many years, faculty in the School of Intervention Services have been providing leadership for an annual conference about autism.

The annual Autism Summit of Northwest Ohio at BGSU was founded by faculty members Dr. Ellen Williams and Dr. Lessie Cochran, and Ann Light, Continuing and Extended Education. The team started the summit to address the growing interest in and demand for information about Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), which is said to affect one in every 110 children in the United States.

Last year’s summit, which marked the 10th anniversary was highlighted by keynote speaker Dr. Temple Grandin. The renowned professor and doctor of animal science at Colorado State University in Fort Collins is the best-selling author of *The Way I See It* and was the focus of *Temple Grandin*, an HBO movie about her life. More than 500 people attended last year’s summit to hear Grandin’s ideas about raising children with ASD.

The Boston native explained that persons with autism first think in pictures, not words. “It’s important to develop kids’ strengths but it’s also important to broaden their scope,” she said. “I’m the person I am today because of all the experiences I’ve had and the opportunities those experiences offered me to learn, little by little. I’m still learning today. That’s what I want other people on the spectrum to learn, you just can’t give up. You have to keep trying.”

This year’s Autism Summit, scheduled for June 22 at BGSU’s Bowen-Thompson Student Union, will feature Dr. Paula Kluth, a consultant, author, advocate and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities. Kluth, who advocates for creating more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners, has written numerous books about autism and the inclusive classroom. For more information about the conference visit cee.bgsu.edu/conferences.

Last year’s keynote speaker, Dr. Temple Grandin spoke about raising children with ASD.
Professors Travel to New York City

If you want to learn how something is done, go to the source and see it firsthand. That is exactly what three professors within the School of Teaching and Learning recently did when they traveled to New York City.

Professor and school director Cindy Hendricks, along with assistant professors Angela Thomas and Penny Soboleski, ventured to four elementary schools in several NYC boroughs, including Our World Neighborhood School in Queens, Elias Howe Public School 51 located in Hell’s Kitchen, Chinatown’s Yung Wing Public School 124 and Public School 112 in East Harlem.

“We wanted to see for ourselves how teachers in New York City are working with English students when English isn’t their first language,” said Hendricks. “We got to spend time with students, and we also got to observe diverse populations.”

“I was extremely impressed by how welcoming the teachers were to us. They were open to sharing information and techniques that we have been able to bring back to our own program. Their dedication to students was also very apparent to us all.”

Made possible through a campus grant and NYC contacts held by Thomas, the trio looks forward to using their experiences to strengthen the program at BGSU. “We are going to return in the future and we look forward to taking some of our own students so they can experience learning and teaching in different environments.”
Master’s Students Selected for Fulbright-Hays Grant

Allia Carter and Leilani Kupo, two students from the Higher Education Administration doctoral program, were recently selected to study multiculturalism and Arab identities in the Middle East through a federal Fulbright-Hays grant program.

Dr. Patricia Kubow, a full professor who also serves as the director of the International Comparative Education (ICE) Center at BGSU, received the grant from the U.S. Department of Education and served as the project leader.

A total of 14 participants from northwest Ohio traveled to the country of Jordan—surrounded by Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria and Israel—and participated in meetings with host country partners at the Ministry of Defense, the University of Jordan and the National Center for Human Rights, among others. They also visited a number of significant cultural sites including the Dead Sea and the Red Sea. Upon return, the participants created classroom lessons that integrated their Middle East learning with Ohio’s education content standards. Carter and Kupo went on to develop lessons now used in the graduate course, “Comparative Higher Education.”

Each year, the Fulbright-Hays program provides grants to colleges and universities to fund doctoral students’ trips to foreign countries for six to 12 months. The grant covers travel expenses, living expenses and project allowances for research. The overall purpose is to help expand the research knowledge and capabilities in areas of the world that are generally not included in United States curricula.

Fourteen participants from northwest Ohio traveled to Jordan to study multiculturalism.
Meet the Associate Deans

**Dr. Mary Murray, Associate Dean for Student and Academic Affairs**

After serving as an assistant and associate professor in the School of Intervention Services from 2005-11, Dr. Mary Murray was named the associate dean for student and academic affairs in August 2011.

Earning her Bachelor of Education degree and K-8 licensure in elementary education and a master’s degree in special education and K-12 intervention specialist licensure from the University of Toledo, Murray spent nine years teaching in Fulton County, Ohio, as an early childhood special education teacher. She obtained an education specialist degree in education administration and an elementary principal and superintendent license from the University of Toledo. For more than 10 years she served in several school administration positions. She earned a Ph.D. from BGSU in 2002 in education leadership and policy studies. Before returning to BGSU in 2005, Murray was an assistant professor within the School of Specialized Education Services (early childhood special education) at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

The associate dean for student and academic affairs is responsible for undergraduate student education, including curriculum, academics and appeals. She also oversees the teacher education programs, field office and student services.

**Dr. John Fischer, Associate Dean for Administration**

Dr. John Fischer has been a member of the BGSU faculty since 2000. He earned a bachelor’s degree in elementary education from BGSU in 1985 and took a teaching position at Burtonsville (Md.) Elementary School near Baltimore and Washington, D.C. He returned to Ohio in 1987 and taught in Columbus for eight years at the Fifth Ave. Alternative School for International Studies. During that time, he received his master’s degree in social studies and global education and a doctoral degree in social studies teacher education, both from The Ohio State University.

He joined the BGSU School of Teaching and Learning in 2000 as an assistant professor and was promoted to associate professor in 2006. Also at BGSU, he has served as director of the International Democratic Education Institute (IDEI) and as director of GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs).

His associate dean responsibilities include strategic planning, enrollment planning, support for new faculty and the tenure and promotion process.
Renovations Completed

The Education Building, which houses the College of Education and Human Development’s classrooms and offices, has a new look. The $1 million renovation includes refurbished and repurposed space for students to meet, study and relax. Also, the Academic Services suite is now more accessible to students in its new home in Room 102 Education Building.

President Mary Ellen Mazey, Coral Curns, Kerry Fial and Dean Brad Colwell helped cut the ribbon for the renovations of the Education Building.

Dean’s Office Staff

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Upcoming Events

Setting the Pace Lecture with Dr. Marilyn Friend
March 21, 2012
9-10 a.m. public presentation
10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Workshop (registration required)
101 Olscamp Hall

Literacy in the Park featuring Bad Kitty author Nick Bruel
March 24, 2012, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Bowen-Thompson Student Union Lenhart Grand Ballroom