As you will see in this issue of Connexus, this past year has been one of excitement, new opportunities and challenges. We have been quite busy preparing for an accreditation visit by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) in October 2008. It has also been a time of intense strategic planning, not only for the College of Education and Human Development (EDHD) but also for the University as a whole and the entire University System of Ohio.

In what would normally take an entire year, all the faculty and staff within EDHD participated in creating a strategic plan for our college. We reviewed existing strategic plans and benchmarked our basic criteria through a “compact” reporting process to the Office of the Provost. As prescribed by the Provost, our compact addresses several key questions such as what is our core mission, what support goals are essential for this core mission and what are we engaged in that does not directly relate to this core mission?

Through this process, we have identified the following seven goals for our college.

1. Reinvigorate our collegial environments to optimize collaboration and interdisciplinary thinking and focus so that we may maintain a coherent instructional environment.
2. Highlight and strengthen the college’s productivity in research and creative inquiry by obtaining and investing fiscal resources from both internal and external sources.
3. Expand the development and use of innovative technologies by college faculty, students and staff.
4. Continue the college’s commitment to equity and diversity through social action;
5. Actively engage in efforts to enhance student success;
6. Contribute to the promotion of BGSU as a premier learning community through engagement with local, national, and international schools, businesses, community agencies and others; and
7. Maintain and improve program integrity with regard to enrollment, curriculum and accreditation.

As we prepare to celebrate BGSU’s centennial, I am so glad that you have been a part of this great college, and I look forward to sharing our future accomplishments with you as we move forward with our goals. I hope you will continue to join me in following the college and its successes into our next century as part of this great university in Ohio.

D. Rosalind Hammond
Focus on an Advocate: The connection continues for John Harrington

John Harrington's connection to the College of Education and Human Development (EDHD) may not be obvious at first glance, but it runs deep into his childhood. With his father serving as associate dean, assistant dean, dean and professor from 1959 to 1984, Harrington grew up with a close association to EDHD, and that link continues today as he serves as an advocate for our college.

Still living in the house in which he grew up, Harrington remembers his childhood with great fondness. "There were college meetings in our living room and dinner parties for BGSU faculty quite regularly. My dad took me to BGSU concerts and sporting events every week," Harrington said. "My life was positively affected by BGSU. I serve on the Advocates Board because it is now my turn to pay it back."

After almost 20 years working for other companies in human resources and sales, Harrington started his own business in 1997 and continues to perform all the functions necessary (e.g., finance, sales, marketing, etc.) for Evergreene Equipment Co., Inc. with $3 million in annual sales. He holds a bachelor of arts degree from Baldwin-Wallace College with concentrations in business, public address, education and history with miscellaneous post-graduate work in business from BGSU and Cleveland State University.

In his spare time, Harrington enjoys sailing on Lake Erie with a 5' by 8' BGSU flag on the mast and spending time with his three children—Dave who graduated from BGSU last May, Sarah who is currently attending BGSU, and Rob.

Faculty congratulated

The college is proud to announce the recent promotions of several faculty members. Congratulations are extended to:

- Dr. Lynn Darby (HMSLS), Dr. Jodi Haney (STL) and Dr. Patricia Kubow (LPS) for their promotion to full professor.
- Drs. Timothy Murnen and Nancy Patterson (STL) and Dr. David Stoddin (HMSLS) for receiving tenure along with their promotion to associate professor.
- Dr. Audrey Ellenwood (SIS) for her promotion to associate professor.
- Dr. Fiona Stacklsson (higher education and student affairs) for being designated associate professor emeritus.

Service-learning programs honored

BGSU’s commitment to service-learning and civic engagement has earned it a place on the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2007. Launched in 2006, the honor roll is the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for such a commitment.

In its application, BGSU identified five exemplary programs that demonstrate the range of ways its Service-learning programs are honored.

- the Parent/Professional Empowerment Project which takes the innovative approach of embedding parents of children with disabilities as co-teachers in an EDHD class and
- a BGSU collaboration with the Perrysburg Heights Community Association (PHCA) involving oral histories, online presences and a community mural.

For additional information about these projects, refer to the spring and fall 2007 Connexus, respectively, at www.bgsu.edu/colleges/edhd/connexus.

For additional information about the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, refer to www.learnandserve.gov/about/programs/higher_ed_honorroll.asp.