

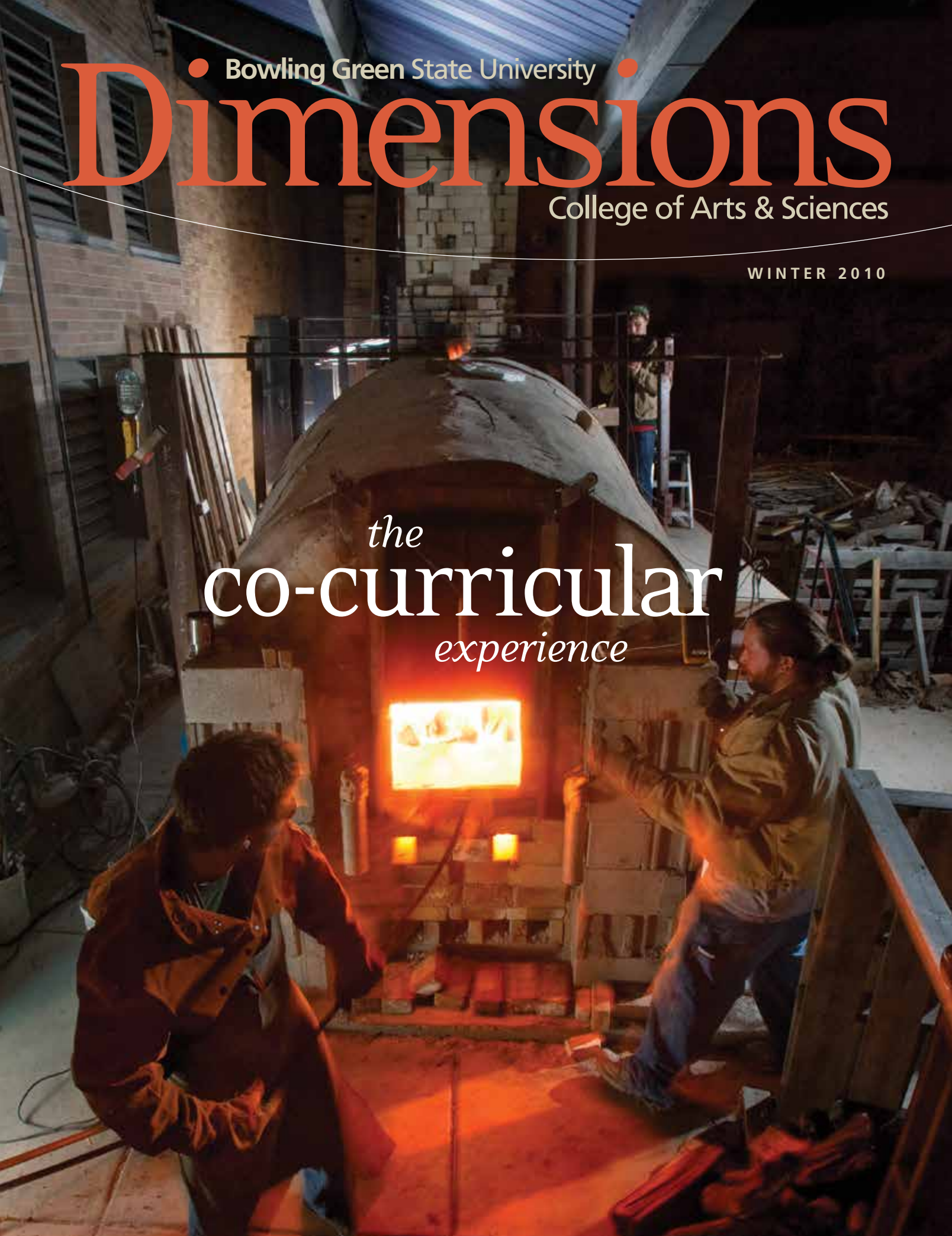
• Bowling Green State University •

# Dimensions

College of Arts & Sciences

WINTER 2010

*the*  
co-curricular  
*experience*



# features

## The Co-curricular Experience

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## Dimensions

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## Editor

Elaine Michalak

## Creative Director

Jeff Artz '92

## Photographers

Craig Bell  
Brad Phalin '88

## Contributors

Bonnie Blankinship

## Executive Assistant to the Dean

Jasmine Gordon Schulz

## College of Arts and Sciences Advocates

Lane Williamson, Chair  
Gerald Baker  
Douglas Balogh, Ph.D.  
Craig Burford  
Shawn Fiore  
Edward Largent III  
Ronald Matter  
Richard Newlove  
Myra Patchen, Ph.D.  
Edward Platzer Jr.  
Timothy Smith  
Logan Stone, Ph.D.

**Dimensions** is a publication of the College of Arts & Sciences at Bowling Green State University. Comments or questions should be directed to *Dimensions*, College of Arts & Sciences, 205 Administration Building, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403-0133 or email [jgordo@bgsu.edu](mailto:jgordo@bgsu.edu).

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**BGSU**

the  
co-curricular  
experience

*“We shape clay into a pot,  
but it is the emptiness inside  
that holds whatever we want.”*

- Lao Tzu, *Tao Te Ching*

Beginning in 2008, BGSU engaged members of its community in the process of strategic planning. During the course of “Charting Our Future,” over 200 ideas proposed by students, faculty and staff gradually coalesced into seven distinctive strategies that define the University’s priorities and approaches as we embark upon our second century. I’ve dedicated this issue of *Dimensions* to exploring the College of Arts & Sciences’ contributions to the first of these strategic goals, which is to “Create distinctive coherent undergraduate learning experiences that integrate curricular and co-curricular programs.” The College has always taken great pride in our faculty’s commitment to creating opportunities for student learning beyond the classroom experience, and I’m excited that BGSU has recognised the integration of curricular and co-curricular programming as one of its identifying characteristics.

In preparation for writing this column, I took an unforgettable opportunity to participate in one of the College’s many dynamic co-curricular activities—the firing of the traditional Japanese *anagama* kiln in the School of Art. As you will read later in this issue, the kiln needs to be stoked with wood 24 hours a day over the course of several days to raise the temperature to 2,400 degrees, and I volunteered to take a shift between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. to encounter firsthand the learning experiences that this rare opportunity affords our students in the ceramics program. In between stoking the fire every 15 minutes or so (and, let me tell you, while 2,400 degrees certainly *sounds* hot, it really has to be *experienced* to be believed!), I witnessed the power of collaborative learning as wood-kiln veterans passed along the benefit of their experiences to novices like myself. I saw the shift members work together as a team to solve problems and bring the theories they learned in the classroom to the real-life practice of firing the kiln. And, happily, I had the rare chance to encounter students where they work—to hear about their career aspirations, their development as artists, their experiences at BGSU—and to eat some tremendously good soup prepared at the kiln by a visiting Japanese artist!



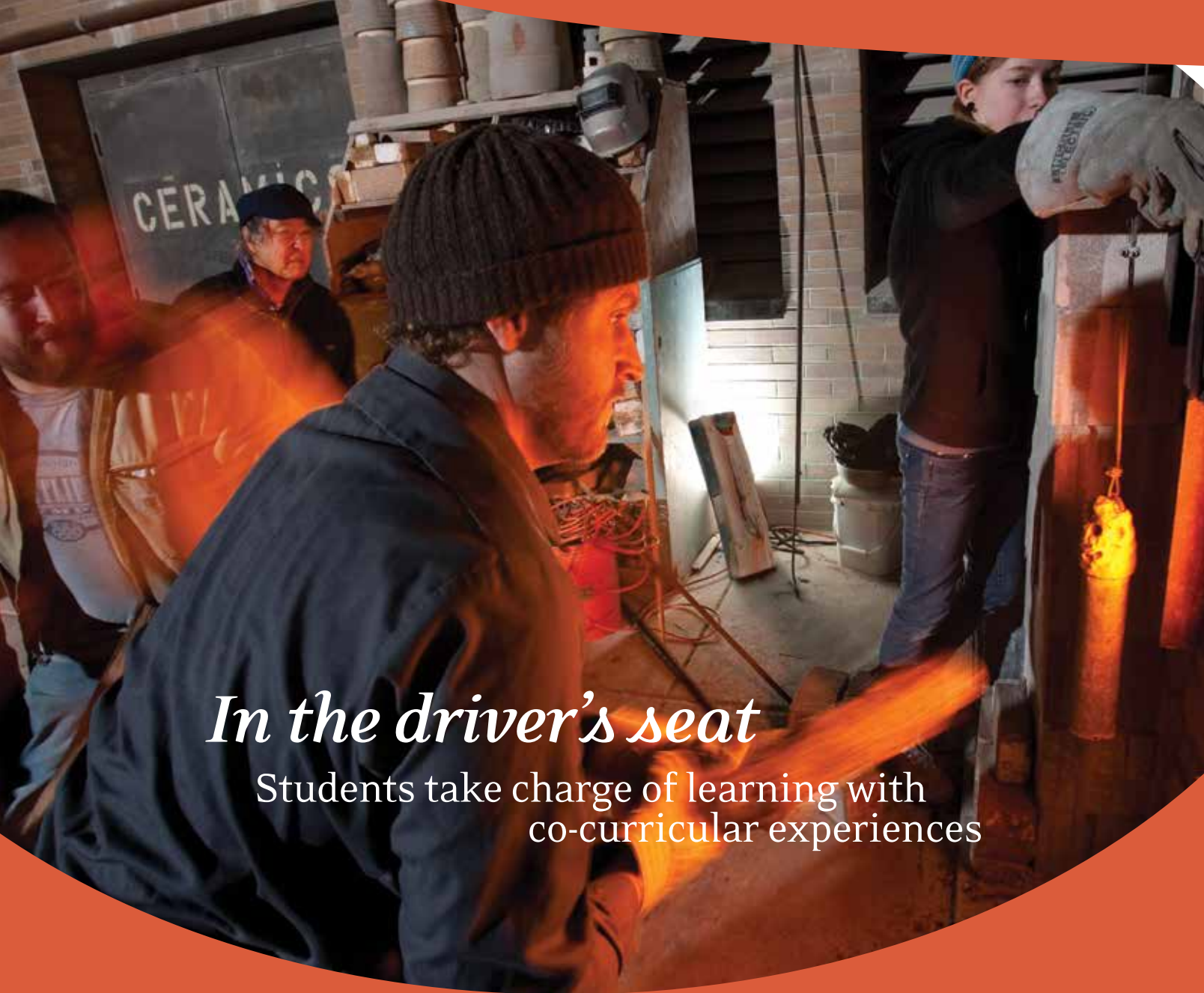
Simon Morgan-Russell and John Balistreri

The power of the co-curricular experience lies in its ability to draw together the often disparate skills, theories and content areas from students’ other educational experiences at BGSU to push them to think beyond the limits of the classroom. In using what they have learned in hands-on, practical or applied situations, our students make informed decisions and must respond to challenges that require an integration of their knowledge and abilities in immediate and significant ways. Although I was able only to spend time recently in the School of Art, I know that powerful, engaging, co-curricular activities occur across the diverse disciplines in the College of Arts & Sciences. I hope that you will enjoy reading about a selection of them in the pages that follow. And while these activities originate with our deeply committed faculty, it is our students themselves who breathe life into them and claim them as their own. After the *anagama* firing was over, one of the students I’d worked with said, “Well, will you be back in the spring when we do this again?”

Absolutely.

Simon Morgan-Russell | Dean





## *In the driver's seat*

Students take charge of learning with co-curricular experiences

Teaching someone to drive while riding shotgun can certainly be a potentially traumatic experience for both the instructor and the driver...

*"Watch that stop sign!"*

*"Which pedal is the brake?"*

*"Look out for that bicyclist!"*

*"Right turn. No, your other right!"*

*the*  
**co-curricular**  
*experience*

As painful as such incidents may be, you simply can't learn to drive by studying manuals or observing as a passenger.

Of course, the same can be said about mastering any number of skills, from art to writing and speaking a foreign language—most of us learn so much more when we can actively participate rather than passively observe.

What we know instinctively is also documented by a growing body of research which clearly documents that students learn more when traditional classroom lessons are supplemented with co-curricular opportunities.

At BGSU, students and faculty have embraced co-curricular instruction that challenges students to realize their full potential.

Asian and Peace Studies students don't just read about how devastating the atomic bomb was to the people of Hiroshima; they travel to Japan and meet residents that still carry the scars—both physical and psychological—from the bombing.

Students at the School of Art don't just look at ceramics created by internationally renowned artists; they work 24/7 managing a unique wood-fired kiln and creating one-of-a-kind pots and vessels.

In addition to developing superior skills in their discipline, BGSU students who participate in co-curricular activities enjoy cultural, professional and social opportunities that allow them to take the lead in shaping their future.

## More snakes, please

Like any doting parent, Dr. Eileen Underwood just couldn't say no when her children asked for another pet. Only in her case, they weren't asking for puppies or kittens, they wanted a poison dart frog, or a boa constrictor, or perhaps a bearded dragon.

In 1997, just as Underwood's home collection was getting too large to manage, she made the decision to research life on a less microscopic level than the genetic research in fruit flies she had been conducting for 25 years. She transferred the reptiles to BGSU and started the herpetology lab to offer BGSU students the opportunity to enhance their classroom lessons and gain a more complete understanding of reptiles and science.

Today, the lab houses more than 48 species of snakes, lizards, turtles and frogs with more than 200 live reptiles. And since reptiles are bred in the lab, there are new reptiles being added all the time.

The herpetology lab is run exclusively by student volunteers who feed, handle and care for the lab residents. The students also conduct lab tours for visiting primary school groups and educational demonstrations throughout the community.

"I spend every spare moment I have at the herpetology lab,"

enthuses junior biology major Hannah Gerritsen. "With the extensive selection of king snakes, rat snakes, milk snakes, boas and pythons there is always so much to do and learn. Today I fed more than 100 baby snakes, weighed and fed two racks of snakes that we are preparing for seasonal cool down, and evaluated the health of a group of hatchlings."

Gerritsen says she not only gains a deeper understanding of her course work while working in the lab, she also receives guidance from Underwood and advanced students on potential research topics and areas of study. "The lab is where I really feel the course of my future being developed," Gerritsen notes. "Not only is this a great opportunity, it's a lot of fun."



## ... or maybe a fish

For students with an interest in marine life instead of reptiles, co-curricular opportunities abound at BGSU's marine laboratory. The lab, which contains more than 3,000 gallons of seawater and 66 genera of marine life—including sea anemones, corals, starfish, sea urchins, snails, crabs, lobsters, algae and marine fish—is unmatched at Ohio universities.

"Students interested in aquatic or marine biology are encouraged to get involved in the lab right away," explains Nicholle King, a senior biology major with a specialization in marine and aquatic studies. "There are more than 60 tanks that include a wave tank, cold water tanks and coral reef tanks. Right now, we are working on creating a salt marsh environmental tank. I have learned so much about marine life and aquarium science at the lab that I can't imagine my education without this wonderful opportunity."

Dr. Michael McKay, Ryan Professor of Biology and director of the marine program, says the benefits of the co-curricular lab extend beyond the invaluable hands-on experience students gain maintaining the tanks and marine life. "The marine laboratory is open to anyone wishing to view the animals or talk with the students. Last year, students provided tours and demonstrations for more than 1,400 visitors to the lab. They are frequently commended for their professionalism, enthusiasm and breadth of knowledge. I can't think of a better way to position students for success in their futures."





## “I always knew I wanted to write”

Thanks to the efforts of Karen Craig and Michael Czyzniejewski, BGSU creative writing faculty, students learn about what a writer needs to do besides actually writing in order to be successful. They are co-editors of *Mid-American Review (MAR)*, an international literary journal that recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. The journal is dedicated to publishing the best contemporary fiction, poetry, nonfiction and translations. Published through the cooperation of the creative writing program, the Department of English, and the College of Arts and Sciences, MAR offers students the opportunity for a behind-the-scenes look at publishing.

Craig and Czyzniejewski also coordinate the annual Winter Wheat Festival that features a series of workshops and lectures about all sides of writing—from publishing to polishing, from getting started to perfecting your craft.

“I always knew I wanted to write, but didn’t really know what a writer’s life might look like,” explains senior English major Brian Metzger. “Since I started an internship at *Mid-American Review*, I have become more prepared for the reality of the work ethic in this field. I read submissions daily and learn from stellar entries as well as those that are less effective. I see great volumes of submissions each day so I now know just how hard I’ll need to work to break through.”

Metzger says this co-curricular experience is especially important for students in creative writing and English, noting, “There aren’t job fairs or set career paths for students in these disciplines so it’s extremely helpful to see how people are managing their careers in the creative sector.”

Creative writing graduate student Anne Valente served as coordinator for Winter Wheat this year and agrees with Metzger, stating, “At the festival, students get firsthand knowledge and guidance from people engaged in the profession of writing. There isn’t any pressure of grades or assignments, so students can feel free to experiment with their writing. The event also offers students direction in where to send their work in terms of publishing and targeting specific markets.”

Craig and Czyzniejewski are encouraged when they hear such comments from students, saying, “When you look back at your college experience, you don’t typically remember a specific exam—you remember experiences or people who engaged you. We strive to teach students not just the mechanics of writing, but also to provide them with meaningful co-curricular experiences that immerse them in the world of writing.”

## Experience: Japan

As far as memorable experiences rate, Catherine Kennedy, a junior Asian studies major, says nothing can compare to her trip to Japan last summer.

“I have learned so much about Asian language, culture, society and history throughout my classroom instruction at BGSU. However, I was amazed at how dramatically my language fluency and appreciation for the culture flourished in one short summer trip. By being immersed in Japan, I was able to improve my speaking and listening in a way that could never be duplicated within the classroom setting.”

Every year since 2002, Akiko Kawano Jones, Asian Studies Program director and lecturer of Japanese language and culture in the Department of German, Russian and East Asian Languages, takes a group of students such as Kennedy for a summer study in Japan.

Students attend daily classes at Nagoya Gakuin University to earn three credits of Japanese language taught by Jones as well as three credits for a Japanese culture course that includes instruction about Japanese customs, society, sports, art, ceramics, calligraphy, etc. Jones also takes students on field trips to get a first-hand look at Japan with excursions to shrines, museums, natural wonders, an elementary school and the Japanese ancient capitals of Nara and Kyoto.

“We didn’t seem to stop during the entire trip,” jokes Kennedy.

The culminating event of the summer study program is a trip to the Peace Memorial Museum in Hiroshima, Japan. The trip also serves as an introduction to the University’s Peace and Conflict Studies minor. “This is always a very sobering and emotional experience for students,” explains Jones. “Reading a textbook about the human and material consequences of the atomic bombings is one thing; talking to actual survivors is quite another.” Students also participate in home stays at Hiroshima and Seto-city that further deepen their connections to Japan and Japanese families.

Kennedy’s connections to Japan are now so strong that she is interested in working toward a full-year study abroad in Japan. “If I learned so much in one summer, just think what I can accomplish if I lived in Japan for an entire year.”



## Changing the world

While many students may articulate the importance of peace, Dr. Candace Archer, an associate professor in political science, wants students to understand the reality of translating ideals into action on the foreign diplomacy stage. She accomplishes this by taking a delegation of BGSU students out of the classroom for travel to New York each year to participate in the Model United Nations (UN) program.

"In Model UN, students step into the shoes of ambassadors from UN member states to debate current issues on the organization's agenda. Students make speeches, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with allies and adversaries, resolve conflicts and navigate the conference rules of procedure—all in the interest of mobilizing international cooperation to resolve problems that affect countries all over the world."

Students are invigorated by the opportunity to work toward solving global problems with college students from around the world. "The problems that Model UN committees try to solve are issues that have to be dealt with in the real world," says Amanda Muego, a sophomore with a double major in political science and German. "My delegation researched our country, its positions, the topics to be discussed and UN rules of procedure. We wrote position papers and practiced our debating skills. It was very satisfying coming up with realistic solutions that concern all of us. The diversity of opinions and perspectives brought together at the conference broadened my perspectives on the challenges faced by people in other countries."

Archer notes that the power of Model UN is that it allows students to gain an appreciation for the power of negotiation and learn to appreciate the cross-cultural exchange of ideas, philosophies and perceptions. "These are nuances that are best discovered in a co-curricular experience."



## Keepers of the kiln

Beneath midnight skies on a fine autumn evening, BGSU students stoke the fires of a rare *anagama* kiln. Wood crackles and smoke swirls as they work to maintain a temperature of 2,400 degrees in the 17-foot long, five-foot high *anagama* kiln.

The *anagama* (or "cave kiln") is a single-chamber, or tunnel, kiln introduced to Japan from China more than 5,000 years ago.

As heat and fire swirl through the chamber, fly ash settles on the ceramic pieces, melts and creates a natural ash glaze that cannot be achieved with any other type of firing.

"Learning all there is to know about *anagama* kiln firing is a daunting task, for no two firings are ever exactly the same," explains John Balistreri, a professor of art and head of the ceramic program. "Even the great masters cannot control the kiln to perfection. There are just too many variables—how much air, how much wood, what fuels to use, when to use them, how to control temperatures, how much stoking, how to stack the pieces, where to place the pieces. Obviously, the only way for students to appreciate the complexity of an *anagama* firing is to experience it themselves."

Accordingly, Balistreri coordinates at least one *anagama* firing per semester. As senior Adam Soboleski explains, "It takes two days to load the kiln and then we begin working in 24-hour shifts for four days to heat and control the kiln to create the effects we desire. We adjust the amount and temperature of the wood and the amount of air we let in through the damper, but there are other factors beyond our control, like weather, wood-condition and kiln atmosphere. These must be left to the traditional *kama no kami* or kiln god."

Both teacher and student agree that the benefits of the co-curricular experience far surpass the actual finished ceramics. "The kiln firing is a community event," they emphasize. "Students pull together and learn from one another and from visiting artists. Beginning students are energized by seeing the potential in the art created by the advanced students and advanced students start to learn the art of teaching."

Dean Simon Morgan-Russell found the community aspect



of the firing to be a hallmark of the event. “Everyone, including me, had pieces in the kiln. We were all invested in making sure the firing went as smoothly as possible. After all the hours of work it was thoroughly rewarding to see all the finished ceramic pieces and to find my own ceramics hadn’t broken or exploded during the firing. The students produced just marvelous work and I was quite happy with my own pieces as well.”

During the most recent kiln event, ceramic artist Mitsuo Kakutani joined BGSU students. Originally from Hyogo, Japan, Kakutani’s artwork is in the permanent collections of several museums, including the Guggenheim Museum in New York and the Haifa Museum in Israel. “It was amazing to work with such a master,” states Soboleski. “Not only was he very generous in sharing his expertise and knowledge, he made us a traditional Japanese soup at the kilnside that I still crave to this day.”

To view additional photos taken during the kiln firing please visit: <http://bgsuphoto.smugmug.com/Photography> and click on Japanese Anagama Kiln.

## Community connections

Much like visual arts, the art of communication requires an immersion in the field in order to develop and refine skills. “That’s why I’m so grateful for WBGU-FM,” states Dara Greene.

According to Greene, a communications major graduating in May, opportunities for students at WBGU-FM are endless. “I have had my own radio show every semester since my freshman year. I have gained hands-on experience in radio programming, operations, promotions, production, underwriting and, of course, all kinds of music.”

Greene points out that in addition to developing radio broadcasting skills, she has also enjoyed the community connections fostered by WBGU-FM. She explains, “The station is comprised solely of students, community members and faculty who volunteer their time to produce quality programming. People in the community are so encouraging of students who are working to develop both radio broadcasting skills and contacts.”

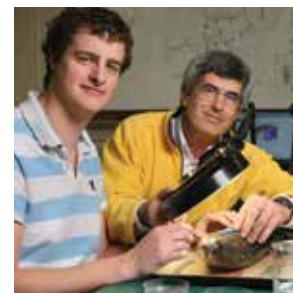
This year, Greene became the station manager. “I can’t think of a better way to prepare for a broadcasting career,” she says. “I’m working with equipment that is as technologically advanced as that found at many commercial stations. I have also made contacts with people around the country which I anticipate will help me secure a position in broadcasting upon graduation.”



“It is always a pleasure to work with students at WBGU-FM,” says Dr. Frank Goza, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, WBGU-FM faculty advisor, and “Blues Breakfast” radio show host. “They represent what is special about college students—enthusiasm, dedication, a commitment to ideals, and openness to other’s ideas and viewpoints. By working cooperatively with each other and community members, these students are not just producing radio shows, they are also learning to be the citizen leaders of tomorrow.”

## Jump right in

BGSU students studying biological sciences dive to the bottom of Lake Erie to set up cages for observing invasive species. Or they tromp through the frigid winter waters of a stream bordering Ohio and Pennsylvania to catch jumbo-sized spawning trout. Others prepare and process field samples back in the lab to discover answers to research questions.



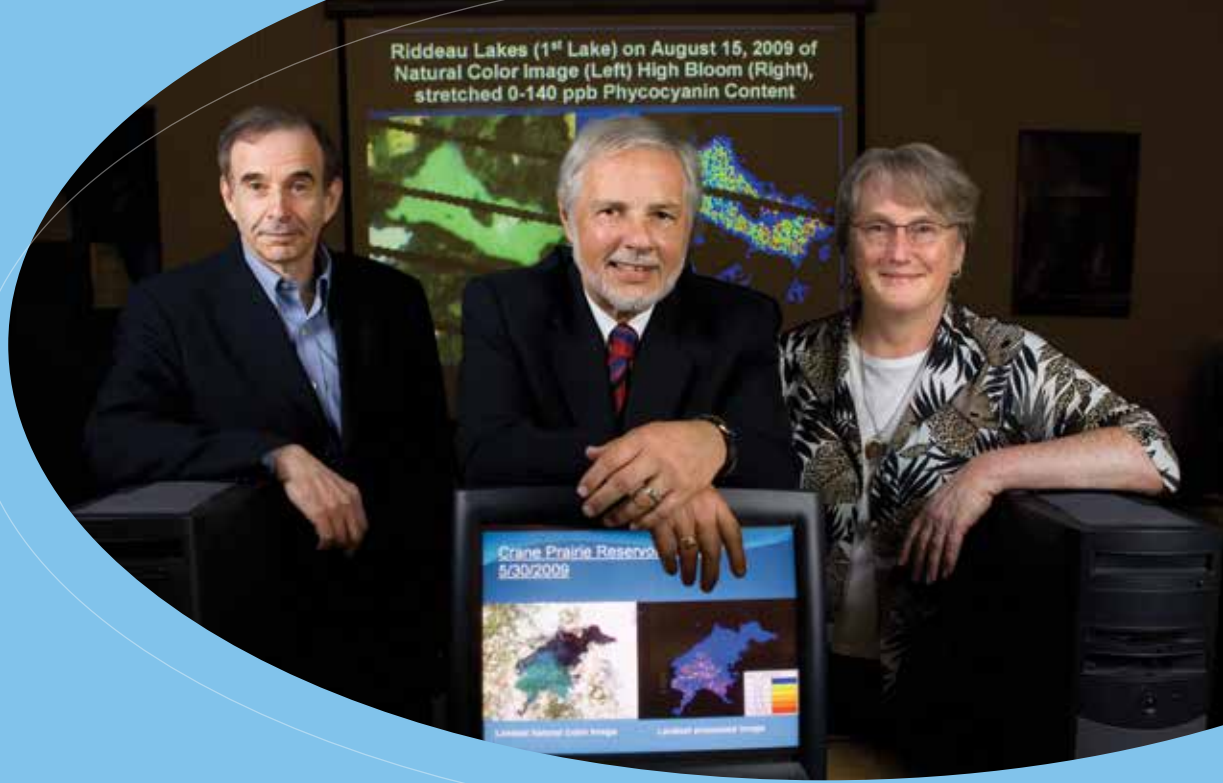
To Associate Professors Jeff Miner, biological sciences, and John Farver, geology, the hands-on experience of co-curricular field and research work is the only way for students to truly understand the realities of science. “Students are going to be much better learners when they see the practical applications of classroom lessons,” says Miner. “They learn fundamentals and advanced lessons in class, but in the field or lab they are challenged to apply those lessons while working within a team and learning from their mistakes. I want students to graduate with the knowledge and experience necessary to formulate scientifically sound strategies to answer their questions and hypotheses.”

Senior Aaron Svoboda, a biology major, says he is definitely more prepared for a science career after participating in Miner and Farver’s joint research project that provides co-curricular field experiences. “Before the field work, I wasn’t even sure which branch of biology I would pursue. However, getting out into the field and working with researchers showed me how much I liked being part of a team that is investigating new and exciting ideas.”

Svoboda’s field work, catching steelhead trout in streams and then removing the bone ear from hundreds of fish, contributes to a study that will establish if the diversity and distribution of these fish in Lake Erie is being negatively affected by environmental factors. “I loved this hands-on research and will definitely pursue field-based research work upon graduation. Thanks to my research opportunities at BGSU, I not only have a direction for my career, I have great experience that will position me to be competitive for jobs.”



# Blue Water Satellite



Milt Baker, Robert Vincent, Deanne Snavely

## BGSU SPINOFF COMPANY *pays off*

Until Blue Water Satellite Inc. came along, as company founder Dr. Robert Vincent puts it, “nobody had ever sold satellite monitoring of a reservoir to anybody.”

Six months after operations began, though, initial customers had bought into Blue Water enough that the Bowling Green State University spinoff company could make its first royalty payment to BGSU. The payment was modest (\$213), but “there will be more, and they will be bigger,” according to Dr. Deanne Snavely, interim vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate College.

Blue Water, she says, is “the first official BGSU spinoff company that has commercialized BGSU intellectual property.” In this case, the intellectual property is a patented algorithm developed by Vincent, a professor of geology, to detect the presence and location of cyanobacteria in drinking-water reservoirs. These blue-green algae present human health risks. The algal blooms are mapped on images from the LANDSAT satellite and targeted for treatment.

The patent was awarded in November 2006 to BGSU, which then granted an exclusive license to Vincent’s fledgling company. Working through the licensure process took about 18 months because every agreement had to be done for the first time.

In the meantime, Blue Water received a \$50,000 grant from the Toledo-based Regional Growth Partnership for a market analysis of the business’ potential. Funded through the Ohio Department of Development, the grant was crucial for convincing investors to finance the company. “Blue Water wouldn’t have come out of the chute” without RGP and its finance arm, Rocket Ventures, Vincent said.

Blue Water is Rocket Ventures’ first university-derived, start-up client company in northwest Ohio to make royalty payments to its parent university based on real earnings (sales revenue) from a bona fide paying customer.

While a percentage of any royalties paid to the University goes to the inventors of the licensed technology, the balance goes into the BGSU research

budget to support research activities. In Blue Water’s case, the University’s most important contribution is the potential benefit that its technology brings to the public.

Milt Baker, former director of entrepreneurial programs at the University, is Blue Water’s CEO.

The company has fewer than 10 clients so far but several are already repeat customers. However, with about 150 drinking-water reservoirs in Ohio, over 11,000 nationwide and more overseas—plus recreational lakes that could use the technology—a worldwide market is possible.



## In memoriam: Ray B. Browne

Dr. Ray B. Browne, who was instrumental in establishing the first full-fledged department of popular culture in the United States at Bowling Green State University in 1973, died Oct. 22. He was 87.

Internationally recognized as a publisher and expert in popular culture, Browne is often credited with coining the term and as being among the first to propose its serious study. In 1967, he created the Center for the Study of Popular Culture and published the *Journal of Popular Culture*, the nation's first publication of its kind, which includes writings of popular culturists, folklorists and American studies enthusiasts. He founded the Popular Culture Association and organized the Bowling Green Popular Press in 1970 and, in 1978, founded the *Journal of American Culture*.

Browne was a Distinguished University Professor Emeritus of popular culture at BGSU, where he taught from 1967-92. He established the popular culture department in 1973 with colleagues Michael Marsden and Jack Nachbar. In 1977, he received the title of Distinguished University Professor, which is accorded faculty who achieve national and international stature in their fields.

After his retirement from full-time teaching, Browne continued to contribute to the University's popular culture book collection through his writing and donations. BGSU's now 40-year-old popular culture library is named in honor of Browne and his wife Pat. They were co-editors of the 1,010-page *Guide to United States Popular Culture* published in 2001.

Browne wrote or edited more than 70 books and hundreds of articles, and was an editor of several publications. He was also widely quoted by media, lectured in several countries and was consulted by the Smithsonian Institution on popular culture issues.

The Millport, Ala., native received his bachelor's degree in English from the University of Alabama in 1943 and, after serving in the U.S. Army, a master's degree in English from Columbia University in 1947. He earned his doctorate in American literature, American history and American folklore from UCLA in 1956. He began teaching at the University of Nebraska in 1947 and subsequently taught at UCLA, the University of Maryland and Purdue University before coming to BGSU in 1967.



## New video viewing center named for Ralph Wolfe

A new campus resource for the study of film and video will bear the name of its benefactor. The Board of Trustees honored Dr. Ralph Haven Wolfe, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of English and Gish Professor of Film Studies, by naming a viewing center in his honor.

Located in Hanna Hall, the Dr. Ralph H. Wolfe Viewing Center will house a collection of film and digital videos. "It's going to be a wonderful resource for the campus," predicts Dr. Brett Holden, an assistant professor of theatre and film. "I can put things on reserve for my students to look at over the week. It will be an invaluable tool for the classroom."

Faculty and students from any discipline will be able to use the viewing center free of charge. It features individual carrels, each with a DVD and VHS player. The center, which will open this spring, is across the hall from the Gish Film Theater and Gallery.



Over his 50-year affiliation with BGSU, Wolfe has championed film studies and was instrumental in the establishment of the Gish Theater in commemoration of the careers of Ohio actresses Dorothy and Lillian Gish. Since his retirement in 1998, he has continued to serve as curator.

Holden has long been involved both with the Gish Theater and with helping to make the viewing center a reality. The center's collection is being built through donations of films and videos from current and retired faculty, and is becoming quite substantial. Kellie Tilton of Jerome Library is helping to catalog it.

## Catalano helps young artists enhance Toledo's Art Zone

Passers-by in downtown Toledo next spring may find themselves pausing to enjoy masterworks by artists from Van Gogh to Vasarely-not on canvasses but benches. A team of "Young Artists at Work," under the guidance of Dr. Dominic Catalano, an assistant professor of art, spent six weeks this summer recreating the works of art, from building the benches to painting the designs on them.

"I loved this program," said Catalano. "The students were the crème de la crème. They were an inspired, engaged group." Administered by the Arts Commission of Greater Toledo and with support from donors and a National Endowment for the Arts grant for the "Live, Work, Create Toledo" initiative, Young Artists at Work pays high-school students from around the region minimum wage for seven hours a day to work on large-scale projects that beautify the city.

The 19 students on "Team Matisse" identified 20 works from the Toledo Museum of Art as potential pieces for the project. "We weighed the pros and cons-would the images hold up on the benches? Would they be 'readable'?" Catalano recounted. Working with him was assistant instructor Ross Roadruck. Eventually, 10 paintings made the cut and the student artists were provided with high-resolution images of the artworks that they first gridded onto paper and then the benches.



The benches will be installed permanently on streets within the designated Art Zone of downtown Toledo. The designation focuses on art as a means to economic development.

For many of the young artists, the fun and importance of the project will culminate with being able to actually sit on the benches they created.





# Best of the Best



## Lu receives Olscamp Research Award

Dr. Peter Lu, Ohio Eminent Scholar in chemistry, is the winner of this year's Olscamp Research Award. He is an internationally recognized expert in the field of single-molecule spectroscopy—the study of biological and nonbiological processes in real time. His work has been described as “providing unprecedented insights into mechanisms of important enzymes and proteins.”

“Dr. Lu’s many accomplishments reflect positively upon our institution, and we are extremely fortunate to have him as a member of our faculty,” said Dr. Michael Ogawa, chair of the chemistry department, in nominating Lu for the award.

Ogawa noted the chemist’s stature in his field as well as his remarkable productivity. When Lu came to BGSU in 2006, he was described as one of a handful of pioneers in the area of biological applications of single-molecule spectroscopy. By being able to track the actions of a molecule as it interacts with other proteins and enzymes, instead of merely looking at static images, researchers can learn much more about metabolism and how to address biological problems.

Since coming to the University, Lu has also applied his methods of single-molecule fluorescence spectroscopy to the study of nonbiological systems relevant to the conversion of solar energy. A grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) supports his collaborative study with a German colleague of electron-transfer reactions on semiconductor surfaces.

The Olscamp award is given annually to a BGSU faculty member for outstanding scholarly or creative accomplishments during the last three years. The quality of research is evaluated in terms of significance within the discipline, national and international importance, artistic or scholarly creativity, and contribution to knowledge, culture or professional practice. The award includes \$2,000 and a reserved parking spot for one year.

Ogawa wrote, “Dr. Lu’s accomplishments during his three years here have been simply remarkable. After quickly constructing the specialized equipment and infrastructure needed to conduct leading research in his field, he has produced 15 peer-reviewed publications appearing in very prestigious academic journals, has been awarded five separate federal research grants (one each from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the NSF and the Department of Energy and two from the U.S. Army Research Office), and was invited by the Nobel Committee in Stockholm, Sweden, to present his research findings at the 2008 symposium on single-molecule spectroscopy.”

In addition, he has been named senior editor of the journal *Nano Reviews* and has been an organizer of several international symposia as well as a member of five separate NIH study section review panels.



## Highhouse named Ohio Eminent Scholar

Dr. Scott Highhouse has been named BGSU’s Ohio Eminent Scholar in industrial/organizational psychology.

Highhouse, a faculty member since 1996, fills the position that opened in June with the retirement of Dr. Milton Hakel, who had been the University’s Ohio Eminent Scholar in I/O psychology since 1991. Highhouse is one of two Ohio Eminent Scholars at BGSU, along with Dr. Peter Lu, in photochemical sciences. A colleague of Lu’s and another Eminent Scholar, Dr. Michael A.J. Rodgers, also retired recently.

The program was created by the Ohio Board of Regents 25 years ago and funded by the legislature to attract world-class scholars to the state’s universities. Bowling Green’s psychology department was awarded the Eminent Scholar position in I/O psychology in 1990. The industrial/organizational program has an international reputation for its research on human behavior in organizations and is ranked fourth among such programs nationwide in this year’s *U.S. News & World Report* rankings.

Highhouse, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1992, was associate editor of both the *Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology* and *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*. He has been named a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science and the Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology.

“Scott’s research is cited by scholars around the world,” says Dr. Michael Zickar, psychology department chair. His primary areas of expertise are assessment/selection for employment and human judgment/decision making. “He has served in leading positions in scholarly societies and is regularly consulted by leading companies on how to improve their hiring processes,” adds Zickar.

Highhouse formerly worked in organizational development at Anheuser Busch Companies. His work has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal* and *The Chronicle for Higher Education*.

### Alumni win top art awards

Two graduates of BGSU’s digital arts program were among five award winners in the 3D Games division of GameJam!—a new international video-game competition.

**James Maloney**, who received a bachelor of fine arts degree in May, won the Funniest Award for his “Henry the Frog” character, and **Greg Wark**, who earned his bachelor of fine arts degree in May 2008, took the Crowd Favorite Award for his “Creepy Crawler.”

The winners were announced during SIGGRAPH 2009, the 36th International Conference and Exhibition on Computer Graphics and Interactive Techniques.

**Kimberly Monnier Zeigler**, who received a bachelor of fine arts degree in December 2008, won the 2009 Best of Show Award for her mixed-media work “Bee Harmony” in the 91st annual Toledo Area Artists Exhibition.

### Bryan named Honorary Alumnus

David Bryan received the Honorary Alumnus Award at the Alumni Association’s annual awards ceremony.

Bryan is an attorney with Wasserman, Bryan, Landry & Honold LLP, based in Toledo, and has been practicing law for over 30 years in northwest Ohio. Closely familiar with BGSU since childhood, he has followed the path of his parents, Ashel G. and Dorothy Uber Bryan, to serve the University over more than two decades. He is a past chair of the Board of Trustees and a current member of the BGSU Foundation, Inc.

From 2004-08, Bryan became even more involved with the University as a College of Arts and Sciences Advocate. He provided leadership for the Advocates’ Pre-Law Initiative as well as for the Medici Circle, a School of Art friends’ group that his mother helped found nearly 30 years ago. He and his wife, Myrna, regularly open their home for fund-raising events on behalf of the University and the school.

### Givens Fellow named

Callie King, a College of Arts and Sciences senior majoring in telecommunications, is a recipient of a 2009 Stuart R. Givens Memorial Fellowship. She traveled to Uganda in November to capture and record the stories of the Ugandan people to make a documentary film of their life and culture.

Named for the late BGSU historian, the Stuart R. Givens Memorial Fellowship was created by Ellen and Dr. Chris Dalton to allow one or two undergraduates each year to pursue an intense interest in a self-designed experience not possible in a traditional classroom. Ellen is the coordinator of budgets for the College of Musical Arts and Chris is the retired senior vice president for finance and administration and a former professor of chemistry at BGSU from 1979-87.



### Chaffin wins Goldwater Scholarship

Jennifer Chaffin, a biology major at BGSU, has won a prestigious Goldwater Scholarship—an academic-based honor that pays up to \$7,500 per year for tuition and fees, books, and room and board.

Chaffin, who has a 4.0 grade point average, is one of 278 Goldwater Scholarship recipients for the 2009-10 academic year. These sophomores and juniors are among 1,097 science, engineering and mathematics students who were nominated by faculty at their institutions nationwide.

“This scholarship is given to those undergraduates who show significant promise as a future scientist and is considered the premier scholarship for those students in the sciences,” says Dr. Paul Moore, biological sciences, who nominated Chaffin for the award and has overseen her research.

With a specialization in ecology and conservation biology, Chaffin describes her research as working “with agonistic (aggressive and defensive) interactions” between crayfish, which are naturally aggressive.

“Jennifer’s work clearly shows that the aquatic world is a lot more complex than we thought it was, and that crayfish are capable of performing some fairly advanced behaviors,” says Moore.

Chaffin spent last summer at the Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge in Maine, helping restore habitat for the New England cottontail rabbit.

She plans to spend more time in both the classroom and the field after earning her undergraduate degree next year. Her future plans include graduate school and then working with sustainable management of natural ecosystems and doing some teaching at the college level.

### Hess wins history honor

Dr. Gary Hess, a Distinguished Research Professor of history and nationally known authority on U.S. foreign relations, has been named the 2009 winner of the Ohio Academy of History (OAH) Distinguished Historian Award.

Hess is the fifth recipient of the award, which goes each year to a historian “whose teaching and scholarship, including substantial publications, transcend specialized fields and have an interest to educated persons beyond the discipline of history,” according to the academy. Hess is the author of seven books. The most recent, *Vietnam: Explaining America’s Lost War*, published last year, addresses seven critical issues in the literature about the Vietnam War. His previous book, *Presidential Decisions for War: Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf*, published in 2001, led to his service the following year as a consultant to the Central Intelligence Agency on long-range planning of U.S. foreign policy.

Hess is also past president of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, a former editorial board member for the journal *Diplomatic History* and former chair of the U.S. State Department’s Advisory Committee on Historical Diplomatic Documentation.

In 2006, he became the 10th recipient of the Norman and Laura Graebner Award for lifetime achievement as a historian of U.S. foreign relations.

Hess joined the BGSU faculty in 1964 and has held the rank of professor since 1972. He was named Distinguished Research Professor in 1988. That same year, he received the Olscamp Research Award from the University, which subsequently presented him with its Distinguished Faculty Service Award (1997) and Lifetime Achievement Award (2000). Also the recipient of three Fulbright awards and two National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowships, Hess was chair of the BGSU history department from 1973-81 and 1985-92.

He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1959, and his master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Virginia in 1962 and 1965, respectively. (continued next page)

Dr. Scott Martin, history department chair, nominated Hess for the OAH award. Founded in 1931, the academy is a professional society of teachers, scholars, public historians and students interested in all fields of history.



### Huber wins Faculty Innovator Award

Creating a free, online textbook used by students in his Animal Behavior class has earned Dr. Robert Huber, a professor of biology, one of the inaugural 10 Faculty Innovator Awards from the University System of Ohio (USO).

Huber and his fellow recipients received the \$1,000 cash award for using technological innovation to reduce the cost of textbooks to students. They were recognized by Gov. Ted Strickland and the Ohio House and Senate, as well as by Eric Fingerhut, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents.

In addition to the textbook, Huber “provides course material at no cost to students, including online media and lecture-note archives,” the USO said in its commendation.

Program funding is from the Ohio Learning Network Investment Fund. The network is a consortium of Ohio colleges and universities dedicated to using technology in teaching and learning, as well as promoting shared statewide resources.

“Making college more affordable, including leveraging technology to reduce out-of-pocket textbook costs for students, is a priority of the University System of Ohio,” says Fingerhut. “We commend the awardees for developing outstanding, affordable materials for their students and wanting to share their 21st-century ideas and practices with others across the system.”

### Muir honored for metals mastery

The Ohio Designer Craftsmen have presented Tom Muir, Distinguished Professor of the Arts, the Outstanding Achievement Award for a lifetime of work. The award was bestowed at the Ohio Craft Museum in Columbus, during the opening reception of the national competition, “The Best of 2009.”

Shown all over the world and written about in numerous publications, Muir’s exquisite creations in silver and gold, and his revival of the art of hollowware, have earned him applause and honors over the years. He is head of the jewelry and metalsmithing area in the School of Art, and furthers his educational mission with frequent lectures on art history and workshops on the craft of metalsmithing.

Since 1976, the achievement award has been given to individuals and organizations to honor their successes in their fields. It also recognizes the work they have done for the craft field, and their effectiveness in helping others to do well in their careers.

“Tom’s artistry dovetails seamlessly with his teaching to create a masterful environment for creativity and learning,” says School of Art Director Dr. Katerina Rüedi Ray. “His students have gone on to important graduate programs in jewelry and metals and highly successful careers as artists—and chocolatiers! His restless imagination and quirky sense of humor make working with Tom an endless process of discovery and surprise.”

### BGSU student artists shown

Several alumni of Tom Muir’s program participated in the “Best of 2009” show in Columbus. Chelsey Radabaugh, a 2006 graduate of the jewelry and metals program now in her second year of graduate school at Indiana University, received the Emerging Artist Award. Other BGSU graduates represented included Pamela Morris Thomford of Perrysburg and Andrew Kuebeck and Marissa Saneholtz, both of Bowling Green. Kuebeck is in his first year of graduate school at Indiana, while Saneholtz is at East Carolina University.



### Otiso honored by Kenyan president

Since coming to the United States from Kenya, Dr. Kefa Otiso, an associate professor of geography, has worked to raise awareness about his home country, to promote community and a better quality of life among Kenyans living in the U.S. and in Kenya, and to conduct meaningful research about relevant social issues and share it with others.

His efforts have been noted by Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki, who named Otiso an Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear, one of the country’s highest civilian honors. Kenyan Ambassador to the U.S. Peter Ogego presented the honor to Otiso.

Speaking on behalf of President Kibaki, Ogego called Otiso a “professor, a mentor and a leader who has promoted outreach and understanding about Kenya.” He is engaged in mentoring and helping fellow Kenyans have access to higher education opportunities here in the U.S., and has worked closely with other Kenyan community organizations to unite and improve the socioeconomic status of Kenyans in the U.S. and at home.

In accepting the award, Otiso thanked President Kibaki and Ogego, and also BGSU, “for welcoming us and making a place for us to thrive. I couldn’t ask for better colleagues to work with and grow academically.”

Praising Otiso’s contributions, Ogego noted his role as founder of the Kenya Scholars and Studies Association (KESSA), based in Bowling Green, which has advanced international dialogue and research on Kenya. Otiso organizes an annual KESSA conference in which scholarly and scientific work about Kenya is disseminated in the U.S. and Africa.

“BGSU has done very, very well in terms of educating Kenyan students,” says Otiso. “There are many of them here now, and we’ve easily had about 250 in the last 10 years.”

Dr. Bruce Edwards, associate vice provost for academic technology, has worked with Otiso for more than 10 years and said the conferences have “enhanced BGSU’s reputation. We are in his debt for bringing key global issues to our attention and for speaking about them so eloquently, both in writing and in person.”





### Szporluk named Guggenheim Fellow

Larissa Szporluk, an associate professor of creative writing, is among the 180 Guggenheim Fellows chosen this year from almost 3,000 applicants in the 85th annual competition for the U.S. and Canada. The Fellows include artists, scientists and scholars.

Szporluk plans to use the award to complete her fifth book of poetry. Since the publication of her chapbook in 1996, she has gone on to publish four books of poetry. Her work is included in *Best American Poetry 2001*, *New American Voices*, *20th-Century American Poetry*, *Contemporary Poetry in the U.S.* and numerous other anthologies.

In 2003, Szporluk received a National Endowment for the Arts grant as well as an Ohio Arts Council grant, and was invited to participate in the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C.

In 2005-06, she participated as one of three poets in the Georgia Literary Circuit tour, giving poetry readings at numerous colleges and universities throughout the state of Georgia. She was also an invited reader at the 2006 Belgrade International Book Fair, where she gave a talk on the imagination in contemporary American poetry and read her work.

Since its establishment in 1925, the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation has granted more than \$273 million in fellowships to about 16,700 people, among them scores of Nobel, Pulitzer and other prizewinners.



### Tarnovsky receives major research funding

Dr. Alexander Tarnovsky, an assistant professor of chemistry, has received two grants from the National Science Foundation (NSF) totaling more than \$1.1 million.

A Faculty Early Career Development, or CAREER, award has netted Tarnovsky about \$689,000 over five years. CAREER grants go to teacher-scholars who are likely to become academic leaders.

He was also awarded \$482,000 by the NSF for a new laser system and other instrumentation for the Ohio Laboratory for Kinetic Spectrometry at BGSU. The equipment upgrade will strengthen the laser facility originally built six years ago by Dr. Michael A.J. Rodgers, an Ohio Eminent Scholar.

“Not many people can perform the experiments we can perform,” says Tarnovsky. Those experiments involve “mapping the development of chemical reactions,” he explains. “A reaction may be slow overall but comprised of extremely fast steps, and ‘ultrafast’ reactions are ultra-efficient.” He uses flashes of laser light 1 trillion times faster than blinking to trigger reactions in the lab.

Processes at the molecular level decide if the reaction will be ultrafast, so he and his research colleagues are studying those events. They hope to learn what makes some reactions so fast and efficient and, beyond that, perhaps how to gain control over the molecular processes. If conditions can be manipulated, he says, so can outcomes, “which can be most useful” in, for example, medical applications.

Tarnovsky’s “using a very advanced technique to understand the nature of chemical bonding,” says Dr. Michael Ogawa, chair of the chemistry department, calling the work “important studies that will advance our fundamental understanding of chemistry.”

Best  
of the Best

## BGSU biologists' work published in *Nature*

The research of two BGSU biologists into *Phytophthora infestans*, the dangerous water mold that was responsible for the Irish potato famine, appeared in the Sept. 9 issue of *Nature*.

The publication is one of the foremost international science journals.

Drs. Vipaporn Phuntumart, an assistant professor, and Paul Morris, an associate professor, both of biological sciences, were members of a cohort of 96 scientists who applied their expertise to the analysis of the genome sequence of the pathogen. Scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Broad Institute coordinated the project.

The work is especially timely because the mold is considered a re-emerging disease and has recently attacked tomato crops at home gardens and farms in New York and Virginia as well as Ohio. In addition, increasing knowledge of how the plant pathogens work could also help scientists better understand how other organisms break down a body's resistance to both disease and treatment.

## BGSU gets triple notice in "America's Best Colleges"

The 2009-10 edition of *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Colleges" cites Bowling Green State University for excellence in undergraduate education in three categories—a strong commitment to teaching, first-year experience programs and learning communities.

Reflecting its strong emphasis on teaching, BGSU is ranked 11th with eight others among 80 institutions that have a focus on undergraduates in the "national universities" group. The group comprises public and private institutions including the University of Michigan, Princeton, Yale and Stanford universities. Rated by their peers, the 80 were singled out for their "unusual commitment to undergraduate teaching" and for "emphasizing that aspect of academic life."

"It's gratifying to be recognized by our peers in higher education as an outstanding university in which to receive an undergraduate education," said BGSU President Carol Cartwright. "This illustrates our commitment to helping students succeed."

Getting students off to a strong start has been a priority for the University for a number of years. Extending that commitment by staying connected with and supporting students throughout their undergraduate experience is a key element of BGSU's new long-term strategic plan, which emphasizes links between classroom learning and co-curricular activities.

"America's Best Colleges" identifies national universities as those "262 American universities (164 public and 98 private) that offer a wide range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral degrees." To rank them, *U.S. News* assigns them to a group of their peers using basic categories developed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.



## Jackson's books tackle youth politicization. . .

In 2002, Dr. David Jackson published the first edition of *Entertainment and Politics: The Influence of Pop Culture on Young Adult Political Socialization*.

Because the social media landscape has changed dramatically since then, it was time for an update of the book, which is a widely used text for understanding how young people acquire and hold political beliefs over time.

Substantially revised and more theoretically driven than the first edition, the new book also provides "more sophisticated analysis," says Jackson, now that scholarship in the field has developed along with the growing link between politics and popular culture.

In the second edition of *Entertainment and Politics*, Jackson, an associate professor of political science, expands his study of youth and media significantly to include surveys of not only young people in the United States but in Canada, Ireland and England as well.

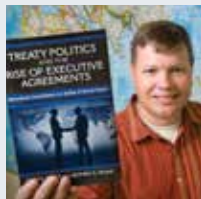
Contributing to the new edition was Dr. Neal Jesse, chair of the political science department, who co-wrote the chapters on England and Ireland, based on surveys and research he conducted while a visiting professor at the University of Manchester in 2007.

## . . . and lessons learned in a Polish bar

From September 2007 until the following February, Jackson was a Fulbright Fellow in Łódź, Poland.

He has written a memoir of his extended learning experience, called *Classrooms and Barrooms: An American in Poland*, published by Hamilton Books. Based on notes he took during his five-month stay and told in vignettes, it offers a rare glimpse into the ways in which working-class Poles perceive themselves and their opinions of America. It also demonstrates how much an academic can learn outside the classroom over a bottle of beer or a glass of cherry vodka, if he's willing to engage in conversation.

While teaching in the American studies and mass media department at the University of Łódź, Jackson was fortunate to find the Kresowa Bar—the most political bar he had ever been in, he says. And even more importantly, the man who was to become his favorite bartender spoke good English and was always willing to translate and provide “cultural sensitivity” guidance.



### Peake's book contrasts treaties, executive agreements

In their new book *Treaty Politics and the Rise of Executive Agreements*, Drs. Jeffrey Peake, an associate professor of political science at BGSU, and co-author Glen Krutz, of the University of Oklahoma, make the case that many executive agreements have resulted from congressional delegation of authority, and their use has helped make implementation of foreign policy more efficient, effective and, possibly, democratic. These agreements, in contrast to treaties, can be expedited relatively quickly, even though some require approval by a majority of both houses of Congress.

Peake and Krutz, who attended graduate school together at Texas A&M, researched roughly 850 post-World War II treaties for the book, which was published by the University of Michigan Press.

### McMaster Visiting Scientist explores origins of animal varieties

In his 2009 Harold McMaster Endowed Visiting Scientist lecture Dr. Kevin J. Peterson discussed why the explosive rise of animals some 530 million years ago—a watershed event in the history of life—remains mysterious.

In his lecture on “microRNAs and the Evolution of Animal Body Plans,” paleobiologist Peterson suggested that a newly recognized group of genes—microRNAs—might have played a unique role in this “Cambrian explosion” of animal body plans, and thus RNA might hold not only the key to understanding the origin of life, but the origins of complex life as well.

Peterson, an associate professor of biology at Dartmouth College, focuses his research on attacking the problems surrounding early animal evolution using a molecular paleobiological approach. He is a 1989 graduate of Carroll College and earned his Ph.D. from UCLA in 1996.

The McMaster Endowed Visiting Scientist program is underwritten by a \$250,000 endowment funded by Helen and the late Harold McMaster. The longtime BGSU benefactors, from Perrysburg, funded the interdisciplinary program to bring eminent scholars or practitioners from the fields of chemistry, biology, geology, physics or astronomy to the University.



### Croucher named Outstanding Young Scholar

A wide-ranging curiosity and concern about the implications of how people and organizations communicate earned Dr. Stephen Croucher the 2009 Outstanding Young Scholar Award.

The award helps enhance the academic career of junior faculty by providing discretionary funds for the support of future scholarly activities. It brings a \$1,000 credit to the recipient's discretionary research account, in addition to a \$2,000 cash award.

Croucher, an assistant professor of communication, was nominated by his colleague Dr. Lynda Dee Dixon, who wrote of his “quantity and quality of research, grant-writing efforts, his increased writing and research skills and his choice of topics that relate to many crises that are local and international in scope.”

Croucher's investigations have taken him from the United States to France, Great Britain and, most recently, India. His peer-reviewed 2008 book, *Looking Beyond the Hijab*, is an examination of the failure of the French cultural adaptation model in the case of Muslim immigrants from North Africa. His second book, to be published this year, will analyze the ways in which cultural misunderstandings between Muslims and non-Muslims in France and Britain have contributed to increased conflict, prejudice and hatred.

Croucher recently completed grant-funded data collection in India examining the organizational dissent of people working in Indian firms. As for the next steps in his exploration of immigration issues, he sees promise in the study of religion as a variable in communication, and of intercultural adaptation within organizations.

Since he came to BGSU in 2006, Croucher has had nine, peer-reviewed journal articles and has three articles now in press in highly ranked journals. He has also made 23 research presentations at communication conferences here and abroad—winning “top paper” awards three times.

Croucher has received funding from the University of Oklahoma, BGSU, the U.S. State Department Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs, El Fayed Royal Family United Arab Emirates Research Grant Fund and the Department of Homeland Security.

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## Dear Alumni & Friends:

I hope that you've enjoyed this issue of *Dimensions* on co-curricular activities. Another way in which our students learn to synthesise what they have learned in their courses at BGSU is through internship experiences that allow them to see in the most direct way how to apply their skills in practical, real-world and professional contexts. Would you be interested in helping our students by letting us know if you have internship opportunities available in your field? It's especially meaningful for our current students to connect with alumni and see the possibilities for their own future development as professionals.

If you would consider beginning a conversation about internships for BGSU students in your company or profession, please contact Jasmine Gordon Schulz at [jgordo@bgsu.edu](mailto:jgordo@bgsu.edu) or 419-372-9606. It's a great way to make an enormous difference in the education of our students.

With best wishes,



Simon Morgan-Russell  
Dean

# Classnotes

## 1960s

**Becky Lower** '69, journalism and English, has published a romance book entitled *Caliente* and resides in Leesburg, Va.

## 1980s

**Tracy vonMaluski** '86, psychology, is an ESL professor at El Paso Community College and was recently awarded the EPCC Faculty Achievement Award. She resides in El Paso, Texas.

**Shannon Spencer** '89, English, is assistant director of annual giving at BGSU.

## 1990s

**Brian Schweinhagen** '91, computer science, competed in the 2008 Ironman Triathlon World Championship in Kailua Kona, Hawaii, last October.

**Anthony Snyder** '92, telecommunications, has been named manager of member engagement and community relations for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a Fortune 500 Fraternal Benefit Society, based in Appleton, Wis.

**Alexandra Hull Alarcon** '96, psychology, is an executive CAO corporate secretary at ACAMD Inc. She resides in Bakersfield, Calif.

**Jodi Anderson** '97, biology, is in her 10th year of teaching science at Bowling Green High School.

**Richard Marble** '99, biology, is the animal care facility coordinator at Ferris State University and resides in Big Rapids, Mich.

**John Wenzel** '99, journalism, has published a book entitled *Mock Stars* and is an arts and entertainment reporter for *The Denver Post*.

## 2000s

**Larry Heckman** '01, interpersonal communication, is district manager for Chief Buildings and resides in Delaware, Ohio.

**Lauren Bia** '04, interpersonal communication, is program coordinator of Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development at the University of Rochester.

**Michael Leaser** '05, history, is a volunteer educator for the Arizona-based International Foundation for Education and Self-Help. He is a trainer of teachers of English at the Teacher Training Institute in Fatick, where he delivers technical assistance in pedagogy, trains in-service teachers to develop innovative classroom management strategies, and cooperates with local nonprofit organizations to expand and improve a local community resource center.

**Megan Adair** '07, interpersonal communication, is employed at Katz Media in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Colleen Verbus** '07, theatre, is working with Disney Theatrical Group in New York City as a marketing and sales assistant. She previously did an internship with McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, N.J., as a marketing/special events intern. She resides in Astoria, N.Y.



## Support BGSU in 2010

A total of \$98,226 in gifts and pledges was given by College of Arts and Sciences alumni and friends during the 2009 annual appeal.

Your generosity helped fund numerous activities that contributed to advancing our students, faculty and the programs mentioned in this issue of *Dimensions*.

A BGSU student will be calling you to ask for your annual support of the College of Arts and Sciences. Through the generosity of the College of Arts and Sciences Advocates, your gift this year will be doubled by their matching challenge gift of \$10,000.

Thank you for your continued confidence and support. For more information about giving opportunities, please contact Julie Pontasch, major gifts officer, Office of Alumni & Development, 419-372-7617.

## Longitude & Latitude

Where are you? What are you doing?

We encourage our alumni to submit information about their professional accomplishments using our Web site: [www.bgsu.edu/colleges/as/page44805.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/as/page44805.html).

The form below is also provided. Please send it to Jasmine Gordon Schulz, College of Arts and Sciences, 205 Administration Building, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403.

Full name \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation year/major \_\_\_\_\_

Street address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Place of employment \_\_\_\_\_

Position/title \_\_\_\_\_

News \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a new address, please check.

## LOOK FOR US ONLINE

*Dimensions Online* allows us to send you timely information and news specifically related to the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as upcoming alumni activities and features on the college that appeared in our internal publications. While there is not a set schedule for *Dimensions Online*, it will come to you as often as necessary. If you have not received an issue and would like to begin receiving this, please supply us with your current email address and select "yes" for the "Receive Dimensions Online via Email" field at: [www.bgsu.edu/colleges/as/page44805.html](http://www.bgsu.edu/colleges/as/page44805.html).

## Construction of Wolfe Center for the Arts underway

Last April students from the School of Art's ceramics program presented a ceramic likeness of the new Wolfe Center for the Arts as part of the "groundbuilding" ceremony. This past October that "groundbuilding" officially began as ground was broken and foundation poured for the new structure. The Wolfe Center, projected to cost \$40 million, will be the first American project completed by Snøhetta, the architectural firm based in Oslo, Norway, and New York City. Completion is scheduled for fall 2011. You're invited to check the construction progress by going to the OxBlue construction camera on site at: <http://oxblue.com/pro/open/bgsu/wolfecenterforthearts>.

