

## DEAN'S PERSPECTIVE

### Fostering critical thinking about values

Rarely have I been as proud to be a faculty member as I was this past fall. In the hours, days and weeks following the attacks of Sept. 11, I marveled as my colleagues worked with students—in their classes and offices, in teach-ins and in discussions in residence halls—to help them absorb, reflect upon and understand the seemingly incomprehensible.

This experience underscored for me the vitally important role Bowling Green State University plays in educating students for lives of principled, reflective citizenship. As the events of Sept. 11 and its aftermath forcefully reminded us, we and our students live in a world in which we confront ever changing and ever more difficult moral and ethical issues. And the decisions we make about these issues will have profound consequences for our communities, the nation and the world.

#### Moving tradition forward

BGSU has a long tradition of preparing students for responsible citizenship as well as for success in their chosen fields. That tradition, I'm happy to say, is in good hands today, as indicated by our community's response to the events of Sept. 11, faculty members' commitment to preparing students to think critically about difficult social, political, scientific and professional issues, and our students' impressive involvement in community service activities.

Building on our rich tradition, the University community is now engaged in an exciting discussion of how we can better prepare reflective citizens. Last year, the University Committee on Vision and Values—which I had the pleasure to chair—developed an ambitious set of recommendations designed to make critical thinking about values central to the Bowling Green experience.

#### Recommendations

To achieve this goal, we recommended that the University more purposefully communicate its expectations to incoming students. This would begin with an intensive orientation that clearly conveys our purpose. It would continue in a freshman seminar (offered in a variety of disciplines and interdisciplinary areas) that introduces students to critical thinking about values, develops the sensibilities and skills necessary to make informed judgments about difficult issues and fosters intellectual engagement and a commitment to act on one's values.

In addition, we suggested a junior bridge experience and a senior capstone course to ensure that the seed planted in the freshman year matures and blooms as students move toward graduation. The committee also proposed an integrated set of co-curricular experiences that would amplify and nurture critical thinking about values and offer students opportunities to act on their values.

#### An ambitious vision

This vision is exciting, but we have a long way to go to make it a reality. Currently, we are developing pilot projects to test and refine our proposals. We are also engaging the entire University community in discussions about means and ends, as we seek to accomplish something that few large public universities have attempted.

I promise to keep you apprised of future developments as this exciting initiative evolves. In the meantime, I hope you enjoy the features in this issue of *Dimensions*. They speak to our commitment to serve the larger community while educating students for life in a changing world.

—Dr. Donald G. Nieman



“ Building on our rich tradition, the University community is now engaged in an exciting discussion of how we can better prepare reflective citizens.”

# From ancient ice

NEW CHAIR OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES EXPLORES LINKS

So where do new flu viruses come from?

Dr. Scott Rogers, the new chair of Bowling Green State University's Department of Biological Sciences, has a mind-boggling new theory that began falling into place a few years ago: some viruses melt from out of the earth's ancient ice where they may have been frozen for more than 100,000 years.

Now Rogers is looking for some Himalayan ice to check his theory that many influenza viruses are coming out of that high altitude ice and then moving from China into the world's population. Unlike other strains of flu that are constantly mutating in animal hosts, these viruses could be old, perhaps unchanged for centuries.

"This project started about 15 years ago when two colleagues of mine were down in the Caribbean having drinks with ice and wondering whether they were going to get sick," Rogers recalls. The answer to that question turned out to be an emphatic yes. Don't drink the water, or bottled drinks with ice.

"People figure when they freeze something everything dies, but it doesn't," he continues. "We found freezing drops the microbe population to about 50 percent, but there's still plenty left." Rogers' theory is a good example of how pure science sometimes works: looking for the answers to interesting questions can lead to even more interesting questions.

## Focus on research

Rogers, who arrived at Bowling Green last May from the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science and Forestry, is pleased to be in a setting where open-ended research is encouraged. As he leads the Department of Biological Sciences, this is a focus he hopes to continue to foster among his colleagues.

BGSU's biological sciences department has more than 30 faculty teaching approximately 600 undergraduate majors and nearly 100 graduate students. More than 6,200 BGSU students enroll in biology classes each year. The department trains professionals for careers in both applied and fundamental areas of the field including behavioral biology, biochemistry, ecology, genetics, microbiology and neuroscience.

It is an exciting time for the department. In October the University Board of Trustees approved a fiscal year 2003-08 capital budget request, which has been sent to the Ohio Board of Regents. Included was a request for funding to begin planning construction of a biology/laboratory building.

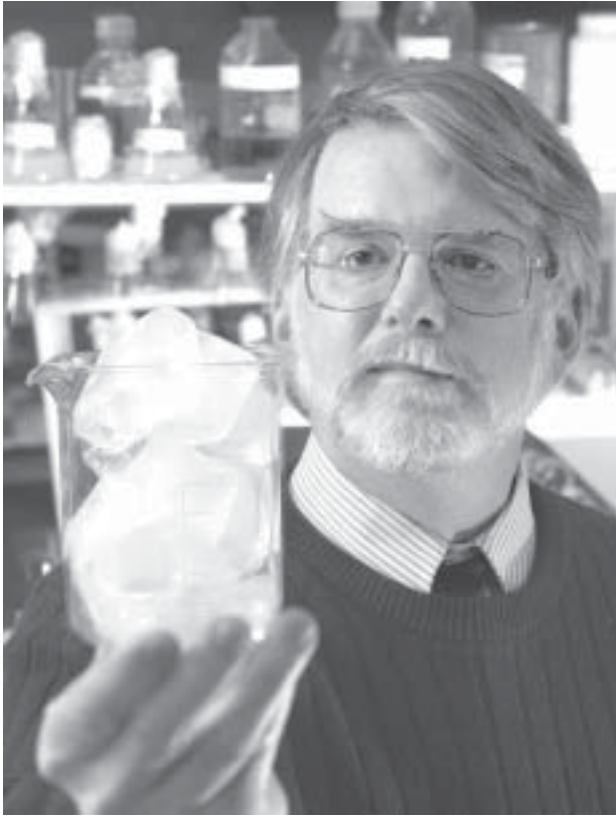
The gift of an endowed professorship in biology also was announced recently. (See story next page). Rogers says he is impressed with the quality of instruction in the department and that "research in certain labs is going extremely well." He continues to challenge his colleagues, however "to write more grant proposals and more papers."

Rogers sets a good example for his peers, having submitted five grant proposals recently. On the morning of the interview he polished off a paper whose publication will bring one facet of his ancient ice research to fruition.

Scott Rogers obtains ancient ice samples from the National Ice Core Lab (below) in Denver, Colo., where canisters of ice drilled from sites in Anarctica, the Arctic and others are kept at 36 degrees below zero.



# to viruses



Scott Rogers, chair of biological sciences, says that ordinary ice cubes like those in this beaker got him and colleagues thinking about what life exists in ancient ice.

Sometime after the Caribbean ice question started Rogers thinking, he began looking for life—fungi, bacteria, and viruses in the bacteria—frozen in ancient ice from Greenland or the Antarctic for 420,000 years, and studying their rate of mutation. This ice came from the the maximum depth that's been drilled so far.

“We found a 140,000-year-old virus from the ice core in Greenland that was virtually unchanged from a modern virus. How could that happen? We started thinking about what actually happens with the ice and we came up the idea called genome recycling. That was a few years ago and I'm just getting around to publishing it now.”

Genome recycling might explain why viruses disappear for decades, then resurface virtually unchanged, says Rogers: “We think they're probably frozen in the ice. Once they've remelted they can reinfect a virgin population.”

Rogers, who received his Ph.D. in botany and molecular biology from the University of Washington, has 38 publications and is a frequent presenter at national and international meetings and workshops.

—Jack Vitek, doctoral candidate  
in American culture studies

**“People figure when they freeze something everything dies, but it doesn't...we found freezing drops the microbe population to about 50 percent, but there's still plenty left.”**

## ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIP IN BIOLOGY GIFT OF RYANS

The generous donation from a Wadsworth, Ohio, couple has led to the creation of a new endowed professorship at Bowling Green State University. The Patrick L. and Debra Scheetz Ryan Endowed Professorship in Biology has been funded with a \$250,000 contribution to the University.

Both are 1974 graduates of the University; Patrick studied business and Debra, biology. Since graduation they have remained involved on campus. He serves on the BGSU Foundation Board of Directors and she volunteers for University Advancement activities and events

“The Ryan Professorship will enable us to recruit high-quality faculty who will provide leadership in teaching and research and help our Department of Biological Sciences achieve national prominence,” says Dr. Donald Nieman, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.



Patrick and Debra Ryan with Scott Rogers at the announcement of the Ryans' gift to BGSU.

# Regional audiences expand

BGSU's vibrant theatre department poised for new era

Mystery, suspense, tragedy, laughter, tears—nothing compares to the experience of live theatre.

And thanks to the hardworking students and faculty of Bowling Green State University's Department of Theatre, thousands of people in northwest Ohio have the opportunity to experience exceptional live performances that feature professional set designs, fabulous costumes and talented, rising actors.

On-campus performances, Treehouse Troupe tours, Horizon Youth Theatre and summers at the Huron Playhouse allow BGSU theatre majors to gain valuable hands-on experience while participating in meaningful community outreach. The theatre department's scope will soon expand with anticipated state funding of \$8.7 million to construct a new theatre building which will host three new state-of-the-art performance stages as well as offices and classrooms.

Dr. Ronald Shields, theatre department chair, says, "The anticipated state funding is really a validation of the hard work done over the last several years by BGSU theatre faculty members and staff."

## Programs, students growing

The theatre department has doubled the number of students enrolled as theatre or film studies majors and greatly increased student enrollment in general education classes. "In addition, you would be hard-pressed to find a student who has not seen at least one of our live performances and there is a waiting list for organizations interested in our touring performances," says Shields.

A key focus of the theatre department is providing student artists with production opportunities that allow them to develop the skills, abilities, attitude and spirit necessary for success in the professional theatre world while attending to the social and educational needs of northwest Ohio communities. These objectives are clearly realized with the highly successful Treehouse Troupe. Students line up to audition for this touring theatre group that takes live performances







Above: The Huron Playhouse company from 2001 poses near the State of Ohio historical marker designating the facility the longest running summer theatre in Ohio.

and theatre workshops to regional schools. Treehouse Troupe annually services 15,000 K-8 students with more than 50 performances throughout 12 northwest Ohio counties.

**Touring prepares professional actors**

Dr. Scott Regan, professor of theatre, explains, “Doing 50 performances of the same show is something our students will be expected to do when they graduate and are working in professional theatre.... They have to collaborate with other cast members, overcome the challenges of different locations and adapt to diverse audiences. The kids we perform for often have not had the opportunity to see a live performance.”

Regan and his students have expanded their outreach by creating theatrical productions with a focus on science education that they present at Toledo’s Center for Science and Industry. Theatre students also gain experience by teaching classes for and developing productions with area young people who participate in

Left: Matthew Gretzinger, graduate student in theatre, intrigues audiences as Prospero, the sorcerer, in *The Tempest*.

Right: Treehouse Troupe members Dominic Prinzo, Lisa Fulton, Lynn Lammers and Eric Magnuson, from left, take *Tales of Hans Christian Anderson* on the road to regional schoolchildren.

the departmentally sponsored Horizon Youth Theatre. The outreach programs are all designed to cultivate creativity at the early stages so it can span a lifetime.

**54-year tradition at Huron Playhouse**

Students also participate in the Huron Playhouse, the oldest continually running summer theatre in the State of Ohio. Recognized nationally as a premier educational summer theatre, the Huron Playhouse offers an amazing array of theatrical opportunities for some of the nation’s finest young actors, singers, dancers, technicians and designers who are preparing to take their first steps into the world of professional theatre, community drama and theatre education.

For over half a century, the Playhouse has continued to provide its audience and company members a well balanced season of comedies,

“ What makes BGSU’s theatre department so special is the chance for every theatre major to shine with lots of great casting opportunities and touring performances.”

Courtney Altenberg, theatre major

dramas, musicals, mysteries, melodramas, Shakespeare and children’s theatre. In the past 54 years, more than half a million theatergoers have attended 344 different productions of 279 different shows.

With so many opportunities for acting experiences and community service the theatre department is a vibrant, exciting community. Courtney Altenberg, theatre major, says what makes BGSU’s theatre department so special “is the chance for every theatre major to shine with lots of great casting opportunities and touring performances.”

Altenberg adds, “It has been an amazing experience to be a ‘real’ actor and work with my peers to make a show successful. The faculty are truly dedicated to their craft and encourage us to reach for the stars. I can’t think of anywhere I would rather be.”

–Terri Carroll ‘88



## Still going strong after 50 years of teaching and serving

When Dr. Stuart R. Givens steps into the classroom this semester to teach Canadian History 414, he will continue to make history. In his 50th year on the faculty at BGSU, the professor emeritus of history holds the University's record for years of teaching.

Nothing is more satisfying, Givens says, than “the sparkle in the eye of a student; the flash of a mind grasping a new concept...the hope that you may have made a difference or helped make society a little better—these are the things that make teaching rewarding and that have kept me looking forward to the next class and the next year.”

David C. Skaggs, BGSU professor emeritus of history, was invited to put his colleague's remarkable career into a historical perspective.



Service is the key word that defines Stuart R. Givens' half century at Bowling Green State University. More than simple longevity, his service represents the embodiment of quality and diversity and is distinguished by integrity, devotion and commitment to the best ideals of the University and the wider community.

Givens' service to country began when the young Washington, D.C., high school graduate found himself in the 17th Airborne Division as a member of a 57-mm. anti-tank gun crew. He first saw combat during the Battle of the Bulge. Later he participated in the largest airborne assault of the war—Operation Varsity—across the Rhine River in the spring of 1945. Flying through hostile anti-aircraft fire he landed in a tubular steel-and-canvas glider on enemy soil. Private Givens never boasted about his military service, but that flight and his subsequent combat in Germany remain seared in his memory.

After returning home, Givens pursued undergraduate studies at George Washington University followed by graduate work at Stanford University. He joined the BGSU staff with a joint appointment as an instructor in history and coordina-

tor of student activities in 1952. Four years later, with his doctorate in hand, he began full-time professorial duties that culminated in his being named a full professor in 1965.

Givens' parents were teachers and two of his children continue the tradition. For him teaching “involves being a catalyst and interpreter between students and ideas, and being an individual who challenges students to deal with concepts, to look beyond their current learning, to add to their sum of knowledge, and to think about limits, but also horizons.”

### **A popular course**

Over the years Givens taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses. One of his favorites was “Representative Personalities” in which students selected a variety of individuals from the 20th century about whose contributions they wanted to know more. Saints and sinners, politicians and scientists, intellectuals and tyrants received attention in this popular undergraduate course. In recent years Givens concentrated his teaching on “Canadian History,” a keystone course in the Canadian Studies Program of which he took the lead in developing.



Givens was a significant figure in the expansion of the history department, the revision of its curriculum and the invigoration of its graduate program during the 1960s and 70s. Serving on the executive committee and as department chair from 1965-69, he helped in the hiring of new faculty during a time of rapid expansion, paying close attention to the candidate's instructional and scholarly potential. Five of these new hires would eventually become Distinguished University Professors.

**Always willing to serve**

His service to the wider University, however, makes Givens legendary. He sat on and chaired so many committees and councils that even he has lost count. He served on the Faculty Senate for most of his years at Bowling Green and was its chair, vice-chair and secretary for several terms. Givens willingly assumed the tedious, time-consuming and little-rewarded tasks of secretary of many such groups.

He was instrumental in establishing the local chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, wrote an update of the University's history, *The Falcon Soars* (1986) and

was named "honorary alumnus" in 1983. Appointed University historian by President Olscamp in the mid-1980s, Givens continues to be an invaluable resource with his detailed knowledge of BGSU.

For over a quarter-century he represented the University on the Faculty Advisory Committee of the Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. He also served the Ohio Academy of History as a member of its executive committee, editor of its newsletter and its president, 1993-94.

For nearly 50 years he's been a member and past-president of the Bowling Green Kiwanis Club. His pancake flipping skills are legendary. The First Presbyterian Church repeatedly turns to him as a lay leader. No one knows how many tickets he has sold to the Conneaut Elementary School ice cream social.

Not one to act for personal agendas, Givens is a willing listener, a conciliator, a calming presence and a valued colleague. Serving the University for over half of its existence, Stuart R. Givens exemplifies the very best of faculty contributions to the development of BGSU.

*-David C. Skaggs, professor emeritus of history*

What makes Dr. Givens a special teacher?

**“He has an incredible amount of experience. He understands the complexities of his course material and is able to relate these issues to his students. The students he teaches are sometimes a quarter of his age and have had entirely different life experiences, yet he is able to motivate them to learn. With a sense of humor and an open classroom atmosphere, Dr. Givens not only teaches students about history, he also teaches them how to be better students, citizens and people.”**

Joe Genetin-Pilawa, graduate assistant in history, took Dr. Givens' course in Canadian history



# Headlines in Arts and Sciences

For more about these and other University headlines, visit About BGSU at [www.bgsu.edu](http://www.bgsu.edu).

## Researchers get powerful new tool

**Dr. Comer Duncan**, a professor of physics and astronomy, has received a significant boost to his research with a National Science Foundation grant to bring Internet2 to Bowling Green State University. Using this high-speed connection reserved for academics, he will employ supercomputers to further his study of astrophysics and relativity theory. The entire campus benefits, since other BGSU faculty may also use the Internet2 in their research.

## Visiting author enhances common reading experience

**Jean Heglund**, author of *Into the Forest*, spent two days on campus meeting with more than 450 students who had read her novel as part of a common reading experience. Chapman Community, UNIV, three English 111 sections and two environmental science sections reflected on the Apocalyptic tale of two young women who must learn to live off the land when the nation's gas supply suddenly runs out.

## NEA awards fellowship to BGSU writer

**Dr. Sharona Ben-Tov Muir**, associate professor in the English department, has been awarded a \$20,000 literature fellowship by the National Endowment for the Arts. She will use the fellowship to support her work as a poet.

## Santino leads American Folklore Society

**Dr. Jack Santino**, professor of popular culture, was elected president of the American Folklore Society, the national professional association for academic and public sector folklorists.

## CD-ROMs make art study interactive

BGSU art students under the supervision of art faculty **Bonnie Mitchell**, computer art, **Michael Arrigo**, art fundamentals, and **Heather Elliott**, computer art, have developed and produced interactive CD-ROMs to complement a series of six

The BGSU Fine Arts Center was pleased to host "Mirrors and Windows," an exhibit of compelling photographs and text by internationally noted African American artist Carrie Mae Weems. This photograph from her "Kitchen Table Series" was completed in 1990. Weems gave a public lecture preceding the opening of her solo exhibit.

art textbooks sold nationally. The first book in the series, *Art Fundamentals*, was written by BGSU art faculty and is now in its ninth printing.

## Delinquency's effects on next generation studied

**Dr. Peggy Giordano**, Distinguished Research Professor of sociology, has received \$560,000 from the W.T. Grant Foundation to further her research into the effects of adolescent delinquency on the lives of offenders. The new grant will enable her to study the children of women who have been part of her

research since 1982, when they were residents of Ohio correctional facilities. Since coming to BGSU in 1974, Giordano has received more than \$3 million in federal research grants. Her co-researchers are Dr. Wendy Manning and Dr. Monica Longmore, also of the sociology department.

## Theatre major's play produced in Hollywood

**Keith Powell**, sophomore English and theatre major from Troy, Ohio, got his first break as a playwright when his play *Odds Are* was produced at the Hudson Theater in Hollywood.





# best

O F T H E B E S T

## Oiscamp Research Award

**Dr. Verner Bingman**, psychology, is the founding director of BGSU's Center for Neuroscience, Mind and Behavior. His research has centered on the role of the hippocampal area of the brain in processing spatial information and storing spatial memories. He has a four-year \$380,000 National Science Foundation grant.

## President's Award for Collaborative Research and Creative Work

**Dr. Narasaiah Gavini**, biological sciences, was honored for his research and collaborative work and for improving the quality of graduate education. In the last several years, his work has focused on the mechanism of nitrogen fixation. Recently he has been studying alternative drugs to treat breast cancer.

## Young Scholar Award

**Dr. Michael McKay**, biological sciences, in four years at BGSU has assembled a remarkable body of research of interest in the Great Lakes region as well as internationally. In general his work concerns the role of photoplankton in marine and lake productivity. His expertise with measuring that productivity has drawn worldwide interest as other scientists send samples to his lab for analysis. His work has been featured as a cover story in *Nature* and on National Public Radio.

## Goldwater Scholarship winners

**Habibullah Ahmad**, sophomore from Perrysburg, Ohio, majoring in biochemistry with a minor in computer science, was one of 302 students nationwide to receive a Goldwater Scholarship. This is the fourth consecutive year a BGSU student has been honored with one of the nation's most prestigious undergraduate awards.

Another Goldwater Scholarship recipient, chemistry and mathematics double major **Kristina Csaszar** recently had an article accepted by the *Journal of Molecular Biology*, one of the most prestigious journals on biochemistry and molecular biology. Csaszar, from Woodhaven, Mich., does research work with Dr. Neocles Leontis, chemistry, and Dr. Craig Zirbel, mathematics and statistics, on computer simulation and modeling of RNA 3-D structure and function.

## President's Award for Academic Advising of Undergraduate Students

**Dr. Lee Meserve**, Distinguished Teaching Professor of biological sciences, in 21 years on the faculty, has been dedicated to helping students succeed. He has advised pre-professional biology majors, served as the NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative and been active in the Advising Network. Students gave him the

Master Teacher award in 1992.

## Honorary Alumnus Award

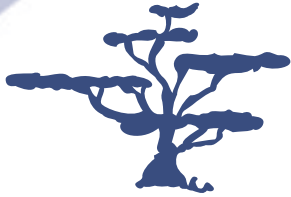
**Justine Magsig**, assistant director and academic adviser for BGSU's Center for Environmental Programs, has instilled a respect for the environment in hundreds of students and been active in preserving natural resources throughout the region.

## Fulbright grants take professors to Lithuania, India

**Dr. Wendell Mayo**, director of the University's Creative Writing Program, is teaching in the former Soviet republic of Lithuania during the 2001-02 academic year, as a recipient of a Fulbright grant. Mayo explored the social and political upheaval of the Baltic states in his 1999 book, *In Lithuanian Wood*. His short story collection *The Centaur of the North* received the Premio Aztlan Award.

**Dr. Srinivas Melkote**, telecommunications, will be teaching at Manipal University on the southwest coast of India as a Fulbright Scholar and visiting professor for spring semester. He will teach classes in research methodology and developmental communication methodology, as well as work with the faculty to modify the communications curriculum to include such new technologies as the World Wide Web and the Internet.

# New major focuses on Africana Studies



Students who wish to study African cultures and history in depth now have the opportunity to do so in Africana studies, one of the newest majors at Bowling Green State University.

The Africana studies program utilizes an interdisciplinary approach in the investigation of historical, artistic, cultural and political aspects of people of African descent throughout the world. All majors are encouraged to take language courses and to study abroad, facets of the major believed to be most important. Study abroad opportunities are available in Ghana with the College of Musical Arts and the School of Art, in Burkina Faso with the French department and in the Republic of Benin with the history department.

"Learning about countries within the context of the culture is invaluable. It makes the learning experience more meaningful and provides the knowledge of immediacy, bringing the study to life in ways that viewing films cannot do for them," says Dr. Lillian Ashcraft-Eason, Africana studies program director.

The program boasts experienced faculty with specializations in African studies throughout the University. Core courses first familiarize majors with history and methodology, followed by topical courses and a final capstone course where students assemble a portfolio of their studies.

In addition, the Africana studies program supports extracurricular events designed to complement classroom instruction. The Africana Heritage Series sponsors performing arts programs that display aspects of the cultures and histories of African peoples worldwide. Another event, the Africana Studies Student Research Colloquium, is a day-long program sponsored by BGSU and the University of Toledo where students present research papers addressing topics related to African and African diaspora themes.

Africana studies strengthens students' liberal arts background while preparing them to cope with a world of racial and cultural diversity.

*-Susan Waidner, senior, Pickerington, Ohio, journalism major*

# Getting the most mileage from a liberal arts degree



Photo courtesy of The New York Times/Jeffrey Z. Carney

**Noted authority on  
Afghanistan,  
Thomas E.  
Gouttierre '62  
spoke at BGSU's  
Spring 2001  
Commencement,  
where he received  
an honorary  
doctorate.**

this nation's "most interviewed" expert on Afghanistan. Yet despite the same questions from hundreds of interviewers, Gouttierre answers each inquiry with a passion that speaks of his fervor for people, teaching and human rights.

Gouttierre, a baker's son, decided as a college student that he wanted to quench his thirst for things international.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do, but I knew that I wanted to work and travel abroad," Gouttierre says.

"I think my family greeted my decision with mixed emotions," he said. "But my dad shared my passion and said to go and do it."

Gouttierre headed for Afghanistan, answering President Kennedy's plea for Peace Corps volunteers. He says his reason for staying 10 years is simple; "I loved the people."

In addition to his work as a Peace Corps volunteer, Gouttierre served as a Fulbright Fellow and executive director of the Fulbright Foundation.

Gouttierre's international expertise led to presentations on U.S.-Pakistani relations, international terrorism and human rights to the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee. In addition, Gouttierre has presented his views on Afghanistan and human rights to the British Parliament, the French National Assembly, the Norwegian Storting and the United Nations Select Committee on Human Rights. From 1996-97 he served as senior political affairs officer with the United Nations Peacekeeping Mission to Afghanistan.

It's been quite a journey for a man who attended BGSU, in part, because "I felt I should 'go away to college'—13 miles away, down Highway 25 to BGSU."

Gouttierre's accomplishments dispel any myths about the limited value of a liberal arts education. He says, "It is the ideal education for those seeking a limitless future."

**H**e quotes Doctor Seuss and speaks Afghan Persian. He's a master baker and Fulbright Scholar. Until he was 24-years-old, the farthest he had traveled was to classes at Bowling Green State University from his home in Maumee, Ohio. After Bowling Green and Maumee, he was living in Kabul, Afghanistan, working as a Peace Corps volunteer.

Today, he's considered a premier expert on international relations and human rights. If there were an award for maximizing a liberal arts education, Dr. Thomas E. Gouttierre could hang it next to his three honorary doctorates.

Gouttierre, who graduated from Bowling Green in 1962 with a B.A. in history and foreign languages and received an honorary doctorate from his alma mater last spring, is the dean of international studies and programs at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. The campus houses the Center of Afghanistan Studies, the only such center in the nation.

Understandably, Gouttierre is in demand. The 10 years he lived in Afghanistan, coupled with his current position, makes him perhaps

—Julianne Jardine



# Can religion have a negative effect on health?

BGSU professor's study gets international attention

The topic of religion has elicited powerful, passionate responses throughout history.

So it's not surprising that Dr. Kenneth Pargament's latest study, which suggests that religious anxiety could increase the risk of death in the elderly, has garnered international attention.

Pargament, a professor of psychology who has taught at the University since 1979, has been interviewed by the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, BBC and media from Norway and Japan since the controversial study was published in August.

"A number of studies have shown that religious involvement can help extend life expectancy," says Pargament, who is also an adjunct professor at Boston University.

"This is the first one that found certain types can be a risk factor for health and mortality. This just kind of shows the other side of religion, that religion can raise fundamental questions for people and pose difficulty for people who get stuck in their struggle."

Pargament was among the researchers who surveyed 596 elderly hospitalized patients in 1996. Patients who wondered if God had abandoned them, questioned God's love or thought the devil had a role in their illness were more likely two years later to have died than patients who did not hold such beliefs.

"Having questions about God is not an automatic death sentence," Pargament says, reiterating a point he has made in all those interviews with the media.

He hopes that the ill and their families, friends, clergy, physicians and psychologists use this study as a way to communicate and explore.

"Religious struggles are actually an opportunity as well as a potential threat. Think of them as a fork in the road," he says, adding that throughout history people have struggled with their beliefs and come out the better for them.

"The key may be what you do with your struggles. It can be a source of growth.... Take advantage of it and use it as an opportunity to talk to people and learn and grow."

Pargament witnesses religious struggles almost every semester when his new classes assemble at

BGSU. Each class usually has its share of devout Christians, those with questions about religion and atheists.

"The one thing we insist on is respect for diversity. People are entitled to their point of view," he says.

One assignment the students receive is to interview a person who is close to their own religious point of view and also talk to someone who has a different perspective. "I think it's challenging for everyone," says Pargament, who over the years has taught psychotherapy, introduction to psychology, religion and spirituality, and marital and family therapy.

"One of the things they always learn is the power of religion and the diversity of it," he says of his undergraduate and graduate students.

Pargament is the author of *The Psychology of Religion and Coping: Theory, Research, Practice*, a 548-page volume published in 1998. He is past president of the American Psychological Association's Division 36 (Psychology of Religion) and winner of the organization's William James Award for research on religion, stress and coping.

Pargament says he has always been interested in the link between religion and psychology and he hopes his research intrigues some of his psychologist colleagues, many of whom shy away from religious issues.

"Religion can be a powerful resource for solving problems so it seemed only natural to learn about it," he says.

-Debbie Rogers '88



**From baseball to presidential decisions to food history**

# An eclectic reading list

Faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences are the authors and editors of numerous new books on a wide range of topics. Among those recently published are:

**James H. Albert**, mathematics and statistics, co-author *Curve Ball*.

**Jeffrey Brown**, popular culture, author *Black Superheroes, Milestone Comics and Their Fans*.

**Pat Browne**, libraries and learning resources, and **Ray B. Browne**, popular culture, co-editors, *The Guide to United States Popular Culture*.

**M. Neil Browne**, economics, and **Stuart M. Keeley**, psychology, co-authors, *Psychology on the Internet: Evaluating Online Resources*.

**Rachel Buff**, history, author *Immigration and the Political Economy of Home: West Indian Brooklyn and American Indian Minneapolis, 1945-92*.

**Neal Carothers**, mathematics and statistics, author *Real Analysis*.

**Dena E. Eber**, School of Art, co-editor *Memory and Representation: Constructed Truths and Competing Realities* and editor *Electronic Art and Animation Catalogue*.

**Arjun Gupta**, mathematics and statistics, co-author *Parametric Statistical Change Point Analysis* and co-author *Matrix Variate Distributions*.

**Gary Hess**, history, author *Presidential Decisions for War: Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf*.

**Ken Kiple**, history, co-editor *The Cambridge World History of Food*.

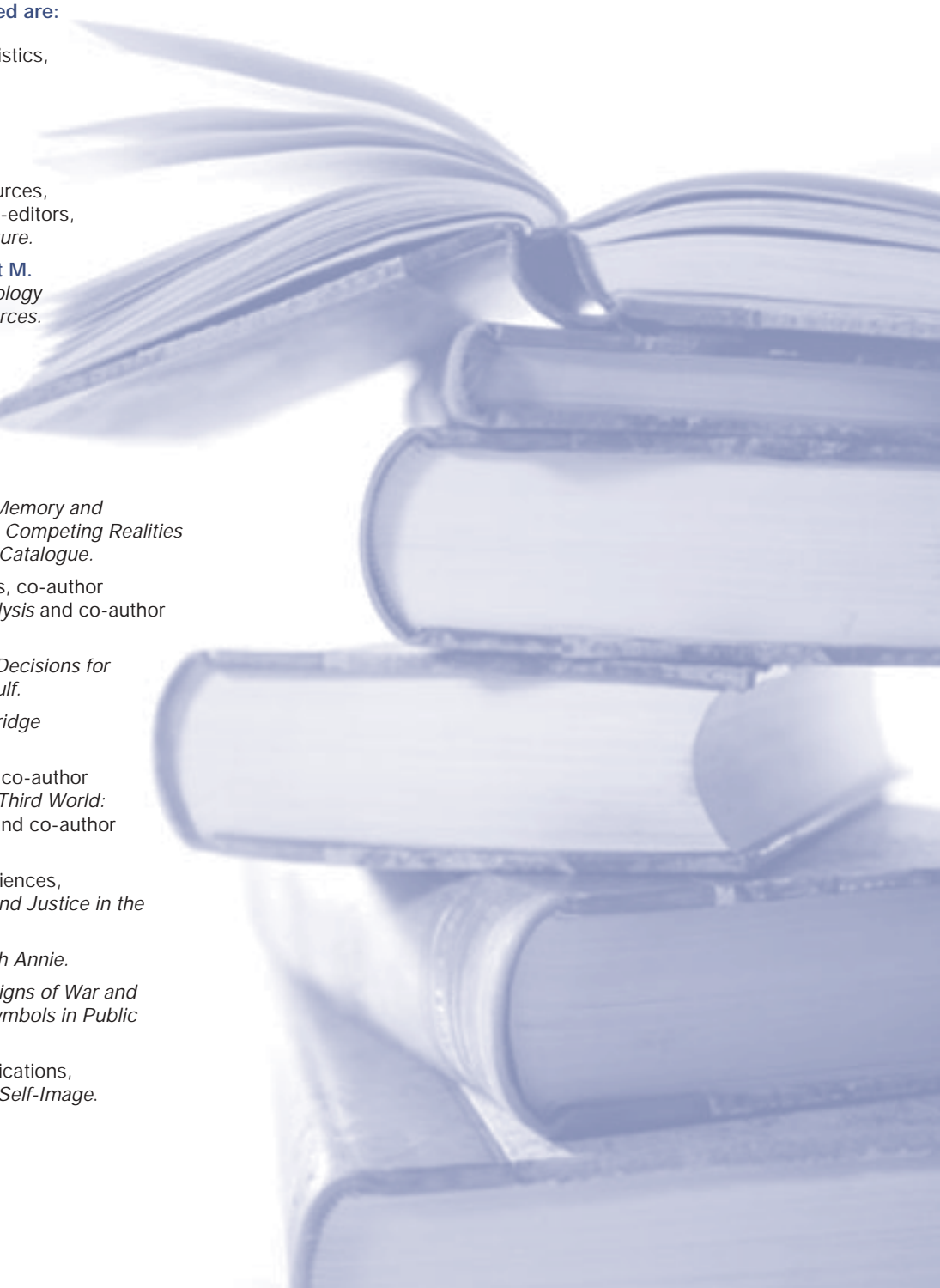
**Srinivas Melkote**, telecommunications, co-author *Communication for Development in the Third World: Theory and Practice for Empowerment* and co-author *Critical Issues in Communication*.

**Donald Nieman**, College of Arts and Sciences, co-author *Local Matters: Race, Crime, and Justice in the Nineteenth Century South*.

**F. Scott Regan**, theatre, playwright, *Irish Annie*.

**Jack Santino**, popular culture, author *Signs of War and Peace: Social Conflict and the Use of Symbols in Public in Northern Ireland*.

**Vickie Rutledge Schields**, telecommunications, *Measuring Up: How Advertising Affects Self-Image*.



# Advancing Arts & Sciences

## Ashland educator's legacy continues at BGSU

**M**argaret R. Finney, who received a B.A. in journalism in 1949 and an M.S. in education in 1951 from Bowling Green State University, was a life-long educator. She taught journalism in Ashland, Ohio, and at one time, simultaneously advised the high school's newspaper, yearbook and magazine.

Active in the community, Finney also served a number of years on the board of the Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association, based in the School of Communication Studies. She frequently presented workshops and judged journalism contests throughout the years, cultivating the talents and interests of young journalists.

"Margaret was really into journalism and Ashland produced many award winners over the years. She just liked kids and they really related to her," says Linda Fritz Glomski, coordinator of GLIPA, who fondly recalls the enthusiastic teacher.

Because of her commitment to young people, Finney decided to create two journalism scholarship funds at Bowling Green State University through a charitable bequest in her will, in addition to other scholarships she established in Ashland. Finney died in 2000. The first two scholarships will be awarded this spring for fall 2002 expenses, one to a graduate of a GLIPA member high school and another through the School of Communication Studies.

You can learn more about how to use a bequest to support a department or program in the College of Arts and Sciences by contacting Kenneth C. Frisch, CFRE, director of gift planning, at (419) 372-7675 or kenf@bgnet.bgsu.edu.

## Advocates enhance college advancement efforts

Twelve distinguished alumni and friends of the College of Arts and Sciences have joined the newly formed Arts & Sciences Advocates. They will lend their time and talents to advancing and promoting the college's outstanding programs, building alumni relations, advising the college on programs, curricula and student placement as well as serving as a career resource.

"We value their insights and expertise in our continual quest for excellence," says Dr. Donald Nieman, dean of the college. Advocate members include: William L. Arnold '74, Allen R. Baldwin '69, Carol Block, Kathy Cleveland Bull '83, '85, Rohan Champion '78, Steven L. Hanson '75, Richard Heck '72, Hindea Markowicz, Marian B. Moore, Dorothy J. Moorehead '56, Debra Ryan '74 and Timothy F. Smith '65, '68.

## E-Ziggy Zoomba...your electronic connection to the University

If you long to hear, "you've got mail" when you sign online, be sure to sign up for *E-Ziggy Zoomba BGSU Alumni News*. The Offices of Alumni and Development publish the electronic newsletter that highlights academics, arts, athletics and a wide range of current topics on campus.

To subscribe send your email address to ayziggy@bgnet.bgsu.edu along with your name, including maiden name and graduation year. Look for a new issue every six to eight weeks.

## Telefund begins in February

As we begin 2002, we extend our appreciation to you for your past support as Arts and Sciences alumni. The value you place on giving back to your University is important to the success of many continuing programs as well as new initiatives we have for our students and departments.

Last year the Arts and Sciences Telefund raised \$88,397, a 66 percent increase over the previous year. The goal this year is \$100,000.

One of our students will be calling you in February to ask for your pledge for 2002.

University-wide an effort is being made to increase student scholarships. We encourage you to consider a pledge to meet this need or to a department or program within the college that you wish to designate. For additional information, please contact Tim Koder at (419) 373-9465 or email tkoder@bgnet.bgsu.edu.



# LIFE LESSONS

**BGSU  
graduates  
reflect on  
values  
gained here**

Five Arts and Sciences graduates share their thoughts on the values they developed during their years at BGSU and how these values have served them after graduation. These individuals were recognized recently by the University.

## 2001 Accomplished Graduate Award Winners



*Cynthia Koppenhafer Bogner '74, Alexandria, Va., assistant deputy chief financial officer, Department of Defense (Comptroller), credits BGSU with instilling many values that have impacted her life including integrity, trustworthiness, accountability and goal setting, as well as...*

**"introspection** (it is important to continuously look at myself and find areas for self-improvement); **cooperation and caring about others** (the whole is so much greater than the sum of the pieces and it is amazing how much WE can accomplish in life when WE don't worry about who gets the credit); **showing respect for all...**"



*Steven L. Hanson '75, Sylvania, Ohio, president and CEO of Hanson Inc. interactive marketing and e-business solutions firm, says,*

"The experiences I had at BGSU both in and out of the classroom, opened my mind to a **greater diversity of ideas and people**.... The teachers and administrators **challenged me to think and encouraged me to a greater sense of excellence**.... I learned life lessons that served me well both personally and professionally—to be fair and honest; to treat others well; to approach life with enthusiasm and optimism."



*Dr. Lee Kroos '81, Okemos, Mich., professor, department of biochemistry, Michigan State University, says,*

"Two important values spring to mind. First the value of **hard work** in academic pursuits. My mentor at BGSU, Dr. William Scovell, always said 'Smart guys are a dime a dozen; give me someone who will work hard in the lab.' Remembering that has served me well. Second, I learned the value of **giving young people an opportunity to learn**. I am thankful for the opportunities I had to do undergraduate research. Now I encourage students to seek a lab research experience and try to provide a stimulating scientific environment in my own lab."



*Jeffrey B. Witjas '68, Malibu, Calif., talent agent, William Morris Agency, offers this advice based on values developed at BGSU:*

**"Cherish each day** and learn as much as you can. **Follow your dreams**—you can accomplish anything you set out to do. There are no limits, only those you set for yourself. **Never lose your sense of humor**, no matter how tough at times the job can be."

## Recent Graduate Award Winner

*Conrad K. Allen '91, Houston, Texas, senior geologist, ExxonMobil, says,*

"The faculty at Bowling Green (particularly in the geology department) fostered an environment that promoted teamwork and cooperation and those values remain with me today. As a geologist, I work with a technically and culturally diverse team of professionals.... Our success depends on **teamwork**, recognizing the values of **diverse ideas**, and above all—**selfless cooperation**."



## Star's return benefits future theatre students

Academy and Emmy-award winning alumna Eva Marie Saint '46 and her husband noted producer Jeffrey Hayden starred in A.R. Gurney's two-person play *Love Letters* on October 13 in the Eva Marie Saint Theatre at BGSU. The benefit performance attended by more than 400 raised \$17,000 for the Eva Marie Saint Theatre Scholarship Fund. Saint and Hayden also were part of festivities marking the 25th anniversary of the Lillian and Dorothy Gish Film Theater on campus. Saint and Lillian Gish appeared together in both a television and Broadway production of *The Trip to Bountiful*. Saint's stage debut in this play launched her career.



### 1950s

**Arthur M. Wheeler '51**, philosophy, is a retired professor of philosophy at Kent State University. He resides in Kent, Ohio.

**Robert Fitch '56**, Spanish, is a retired college relations officer for Citigroup. He is the 2000 recipient of the Frist Humanitarian Award for volunteer work at the Los Robles Regional Medical Center. He resides in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

**Paul Zelanski '58**, master of fine arts, is the author of *The Art of Seeing* (5th edition) and is working on the 4th edition of his book entitled *Color*. The author of two other books, *Shaping Space* and *Design Principles and Problems*, he continues to make art and show his work. He resides in Willington, Conn.

### 1960s

**Rex L. Bishop '68**, business administration, is chair and professor of business, economics and legal studies at the College of Southern Maryland. He was selected to attend the annual European Council for Business Education conference at International University in Moscow where he presented on microcomputer training to educators from around the world. He resides in King George, Va.

### 1970s

**Richard Brase '74**, English-speech, is the director of creative services for KGW-TV. He received the chairperson's award from PROMAX International for lifetime achievement in television. He resides in Portland, Ore.

**Mark Foust '77**, psychology, '79, English, is the director of marketing

and public relations for HCA Richmond Hospital. He lives in Midlothian, Va.

**Patricia Easterly '75**, art design, is an artist and teacher at Highland Institute. She has published a book and had her prints accepted in numerous juried shows. She is working on the illustrations for Purdue University's diversity project and resides in Lafayette, Ind.

**Meredith (Green) McKenzie '75**, American culture studies, is a broker associate for Coldwell Banker Previews International. She recently graduated with a juris doctorate from Loyola Law School and is the newly elected vice president of the National Women's Political Caucus, West Los Angeles chapter. She resides in Valley Village, Calif.

**Christine Wasserman '77**, English, was recently promoted to director of public relations for Toledo Hospital and Flower Hospital, ProMedica Health System. She resides in Toledo.

**Kevin R. Orr '77**, English and political science, is owner/president of Covers Unlimited Inc., a Louisville, Ky. stitching company focused on marine canvas, filters and custom soft goods manufacturing, and Packard Inc., a Sarasota, Fla. manufacturer of classic retro boats. He resides in Louisville.

**Corinne Casali '78**, creative writing, was recently promoted to assistant to the general manager, Cedar Point. She resides in Sandusky, Ohio.

**Scott Curry, '78**, chemistry, is a plant manager for USG-American Metals. He resides in Avon Lake, Ohio.

### 1990s

**Michael J. Tolan '90**, philosophy, is a librarian for the International Museum of Photography and Film. He resides in Rochester, N.Y.

**Aimee Andrews '90**, chemistry, is a physician specializing in pediatric emergency medicine at Children's Hospital, Columbus. She lives in Hilliard, Ohio.

**Mark Applegate '91**, sociology, is a sales manager for Excello Specialty Co. His wife, **Jerilyn (Spencer)**, interpersonal communication, is a human resources representative for General Motors. They reside in Olmsted Falls, Ohio.

**Jim Brownlow '91**, graphic design, recently opened his own design business, Chocolate Dog Studios. He lives in Willowick, Ohio.

**Katrina Vandenberg '92**, creative writing and French, is a writer. After returning from a year as a Fulbright Fellow in creative writing in the Netherlands, she resides in Lawrence, Kan.

**Jacqueline M. Bender '93**, journalism, is the executive producer for MTV/VH1. She resides in Los Angeles.

**Derek Wolfgram '93**, psychology, is the manager for five branches of the Denver Public Library. He attended the Stanford-California State Library Institute on 21st Century Librarianship and resides in Denver.

**Heidi Andres '95**, art history and popular culture, is currently a young adult librarian at the Berea branch of Cuyahoga County Public Library. She resides in Parma, Ohio.

**Melinda L. (Dolence) Rider '96**, biology, is a resident in family practice with the Dayton Community Family Practice Residency

Program. She is a graduate of Wright State University School of Medicine. Her husband, Brett '95, marketing, is area manager for Hasbro Toy Company. They reside in Dayton, Ohio.

**Brandi Sauers '96**, telecommunications, is an anchor/reporter for WBNS-10TV Eyewitness News, a CBS affiliate. She resides in Columbus, Ohio.

**Aaron C. McKenzie '98**, biology, is a biology teacher with Dublin City Schools. His wife **Candice (Rupnik)**, graphic design, is a graphic designer with Ohio State University. They reside in Powell.

**Brendan Regan '98**, English, is project manager for Across Media Networks. He resides in Denver.

**Aaron J. Szabo '98**, fine arts design, is an interactive designer for Mueller & Wister Inc. He resides in Audubon, Penn.

**Sheldon McLeod '99**, geology, is an engineering technician at Emcon/OWT. He resides in Massillon, Ohio.

**Todd P. Swartz '99**, English, is an implementation assistant with Alliance Data Systems. He lives in Columbus, Ohio.

### 2000

**Rachel A. Vigil '00**, ethnic studies and women's studies, is an assistant language teacher for The JET Program. In August she will relocate to the mountains of Northern Japan to teach English.

**Wendy L. Wellman '00**, journalism, is a reporter/photographer for *Archbold Buckeye Community Newspaper* and public relations director for Tully Esterline Motorsports, Ltd. She resides in Pettisville, Ohio.



Peter Voulkos fired the stoneware stack titled *Bucci* at BGSU in 2000.

Inset: Voulkos, in a 1999 visit to BGSU, is assisted by John Balistreri, head of the ceramics area at the School of Art.

The public has the opportunity to get close to the action when internationally renowned ceramics artists pay a working visit to the Bowling Green State University School of Art. Peter Voulkos, considered the father of the contemporary clay movement, will be joined by a dozen ceramics colleagues for "Peter Voulkos and Friends: A BGSU Interdisciplinary Art Symposium" Feb. 11-March 1.

Monday through Friday visitors may observe these prominent artists working with students as they collaborate in ceramics, printmaking, glassblowing and drawing. There is a fee for studio visits and reservations should be made by calling Susan Kozal at (419) 372-0107.

An invitation to watch friends make art

# PETER VOULKOS AND FRIENDS: FRIENDS:

A BGSU INTERDISCIPLINARY  
ART SYMPOSIUM

**Additional public events include:**

Small exhibit of representative work by Peter Voulkos and visiting artists.  
Feb. 12-15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Willard Wankleman Gallery. Free

Illustrated lecture by noted ceramists Don Reitz and Rudy Autio.  
Feb. 14, 7 p.m. Bowen-Thompson Student Union Multipurpose Room. Free

Illustrated lecture by Peter Voulkos.  
Feb. 20, 7 p.m. Bowen-Thompson Student Union Ballroom. Free



# LONGITUDE & LATITUDE

Where are you? What are you doing?

We welcome news and business cards from our alumni. Please send information about your professional accomplishments to Associate Dean Elizabeth Cole, College of Arts and Sciences, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403, or email [colee@bgnet.bgsu.edu](mailto:colee@bgnet.bgsu.edu).

This form is provided for your convenience.

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

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

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

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

Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

News \_\_\_\_\_

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## Theatre productions earn recognition

Two Bowling Green State University theatre productions have been recently honored by the United States Institute for Theatre Technology/Ohio Valley Section. For his scenic designs for *The Tempest*, Bradford Clark, associate professor, received an Award of Outstanding Achievement for Academic Scenic Design. His designs (shown on the *Dimensions* cover) will be displayed at the National USITT Design Exhibit at the convention in New Orleans this spring.

*The Tempest* designs will then tour as part of the USITT/ Ohio Valley Design Exhibit, as will scenic designs by Steve Boone, assistant professor, and costume designs by Margaret McCubbin, associate professor, for BGSU's production of *The Emperor of the Moon*.

This January, student actors and technicians from several BGSU Theatre productions competed in the Kennedy Center American Theatre Festival (Region III) in Evansville, Ind. Cast members of *The Tempest* were honored when a selection committee from the festival invited them to present a scene as one of the festival performances. Michael Ellison, assistant professor who also served as movement consultant for *The Tempest*, prepared and coached students for both the presentation and the competitions.

# BGSU

**Bowling Green State University**

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**BGSU's  
Vibrant Theatre  
Department**  
page 6



COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

# dimensions

WINTER 2002



4

## FEATURES

**New chair of biological sciences explores ancient ice** 4

**BGSU Theatre Department poised for new era** 6

**Beloved history professor continues to make history** 8

**Africana studies, a new major** 12

**Graduate proves 'limitless' possibilities of liberal arts degree** 13

**Religion and health—BGSU psychologist's surprising findings** 14

**Life lessons valued by BGSU graduates** 17



8



12

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15

## DEPARTMENTS

**Arts & Sciences Headlines** 10

**Best of the best** 11


**An eclectic reading list** 15

**Classnotes** 16

**Advancing Arts & Sciences** 18

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

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**On the cover:** Geoff Stephenson, BGSU doctoral student in theatre, portrays Alonso, the King of Naples, in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. For more on this award-winning production, see the back cover.