

YSU Sends Delegation to China

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Several Youngstown State University administration and faculty members are taking a two-week trip to China on Oct. 20 in an attempt to build partnerships and recruit international students.

Provost Martin Abraham, Ann Gardner, assistant director of the Center for International Studies and Programs, Mike Crist, interim dean of the College of Creative Arts and Communication, Patrick Bateman, director of the MBA program, and Hazel Marie, chair of the department of mechanical and industrial engineering, will be making the trip. Qi Jiang, a professor in the department of sociology, anthropology and gerontology, will be meeting them there and serving as an interpreter.

Abraham said the primary objective of the trip is to create friends in China.

"We're hoping it will lead to a greater number of international students coming to Youngstown State," he said. "Not only do we want to bring more students to YSU, we also want to create opportunities for our YSU students to study abroad. The benefits you get from traveling to another country are tremendous."

Gardner was responsible

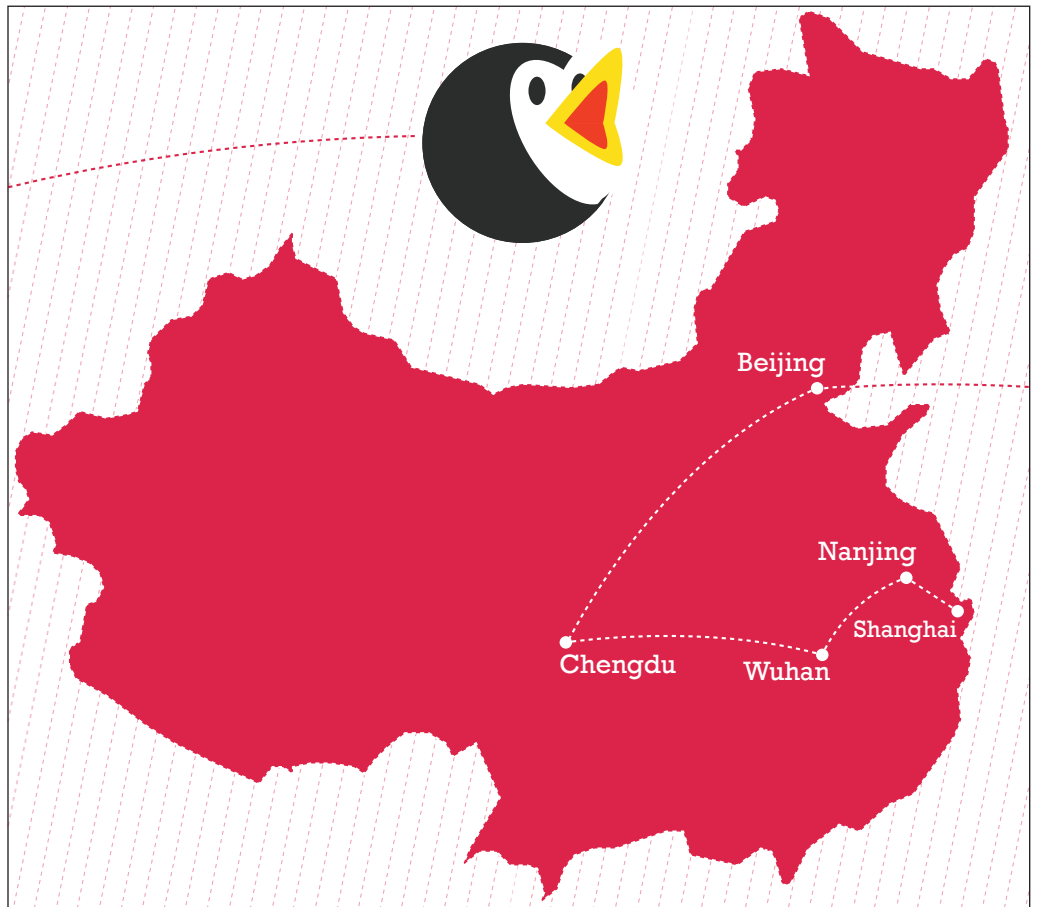
for planning and coordinating the trip. She said recruiting students from other countries will diversify the campus and create global awareness.

"We have very few Chinese students, and this is unusual. We think it's time to invite more Chinese students to YSU," Gardner said. "You want to have a global approach, and you don't want to create a monoculture where all of your international students are from one country because it's just not a good practice. We want a diversified campus."

The group will be traveling to Beijing, Chengdu, Wuhan and Nanjing. They will depart the country from Shanghai. They have scheduled visits at universities including the China University of Petroleum, the Chengdu Technological Institute and the Chinese University of Communications, where they will hold recruitment fairs and give presentations.

Gardner said they already have relationships with some of the universities because of professors at YSU like Ou Hu, an economics professor. He traveled home to Chengdu during his summer break and met with officials at Chengdu Technological Institute. After exchanging some letters and emails, he was invited to send his co-workers to the school.

Abraham said a big objective for this trip will be signing an articulation agreement in Beijing, allowing Chinese students to start studying in China and finish studying in the U.S.



GRAPHIC BY RJ MIKOLAJ/THE JAMBAR.

The YSU delegation will arrive in Beijing on Tuesday and depart from Shanghai two weeks later after meeting with Chinese universities to build relationships and partnerships to grow international opportunities for students.

"We intend to do it correctly, and we are committed to doing it well," Abraham said. "And so we will be meeting with the other universities we have been visiting with and in those cases we are signing a memorandum of understanding that indicates that we wish to continue to work with them and build those relationships and build successful partnerships."

He said it's about establishing trust and getting to know people.

"If you've ever experienced Chinese culture, it's really about who you know," Abraham said. "How much value people can provide for you depends on how well they can connect you with other people. It is very important to let the Chinese counterparts know

that we are serious about this."

Gardner said YSU is appealing to international students because of its mechanical and industrial engineering programs. About 22 percent of international students major in engineering.

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Walking the Walk: YSU Students Participate in Million Man March

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Twenty Youngstown State University students traveled to Washington, DC over the weekend to participate in the 20th anniversary of the Million Man March.

Shienne Williams, Julian Jones, Kyra Lowery and Myreah Williams were among the students who made the trip.

"Honestly, it was the most beautiful experience I ever had in my life," Shienne Williams said. "It's a stereotype where you can't have so many black people in an area or it's gonna be violent, or it's gonna be out of control or something, and it was very peaceful, and it was a great

message."

Tiffany Anderson, director of the Africana studies program, organized the trip and obtained funding from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. She said the initial Million Man March was organized to respond to concerns that black men were absent in their communities.

"Louis Farrakhan decided to intervene in saying we cannot be men who are complacent with our position," Anderson said. "He called for one million black men to come to Washington, DC to demonstrate the solidarity of the demographic and their commitment to the race."

The students said they had very little connection to the initial march, but they felt a desire to participate because of recent events in communities of color.

"Because of what's go-

ing on in the country, there needs to be social justice, and I felt like I could go as a representative of my city," Shienne Williams said.

Jones said the gathering was particularly meaningful right now.

"I think we needed it at this time, because there is so much going on," Jones said. "Just to see everyone come together and be peaceful."

Anderson said the call for the march was directly related to the injustices that have been happening against people of color.

I think that the timing is actually quite terrifying," Anderson said. "That we can be 20 years past the initial march and be at a more desperate time."

Jones said several victims' families spoke at the march.

"It was good to see Trayvon Martin's mother and Mi-

chael Brown's father speaking. [The family of] Sandra Bland. Their parents were there to speak on behalf of them," Jones said. "It's just good to hear how they're trying to make things better and change as well."

Anderson said there is significance in getting on a bus to go to Washington, DC for black Americans because it has repeated itself throughout history. From Martin Luther King, Jr.'s original March on Washington, to the original Million Man March, to the current rally.

"I love that they had the opportunity to share that moment with people on the bus that were not students," Anderson said. "Before we get to this place where there are hundreds of thousands of people who have the same perspective, we're able to recognize that there are 54

people from Youngstown who are sharing the same perspective."

Lowery and Myreah Williams said they met someone on the bus who had attended the original march 20 years ago. Shienne Williams said it was very important.

"It was very symbolic for us to get on the bus and go, because that means we're taking a stand for something," she said. "It's showing us taking a stand for something. It's historic."

Several students commented on the lack of major media coverage.

"It made me upset that it didn't get coverage, and that it was a peaceful and positive thing," Lowery said.

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TEDx Speaker Series

Greg Mook: Making People Feel Welcome

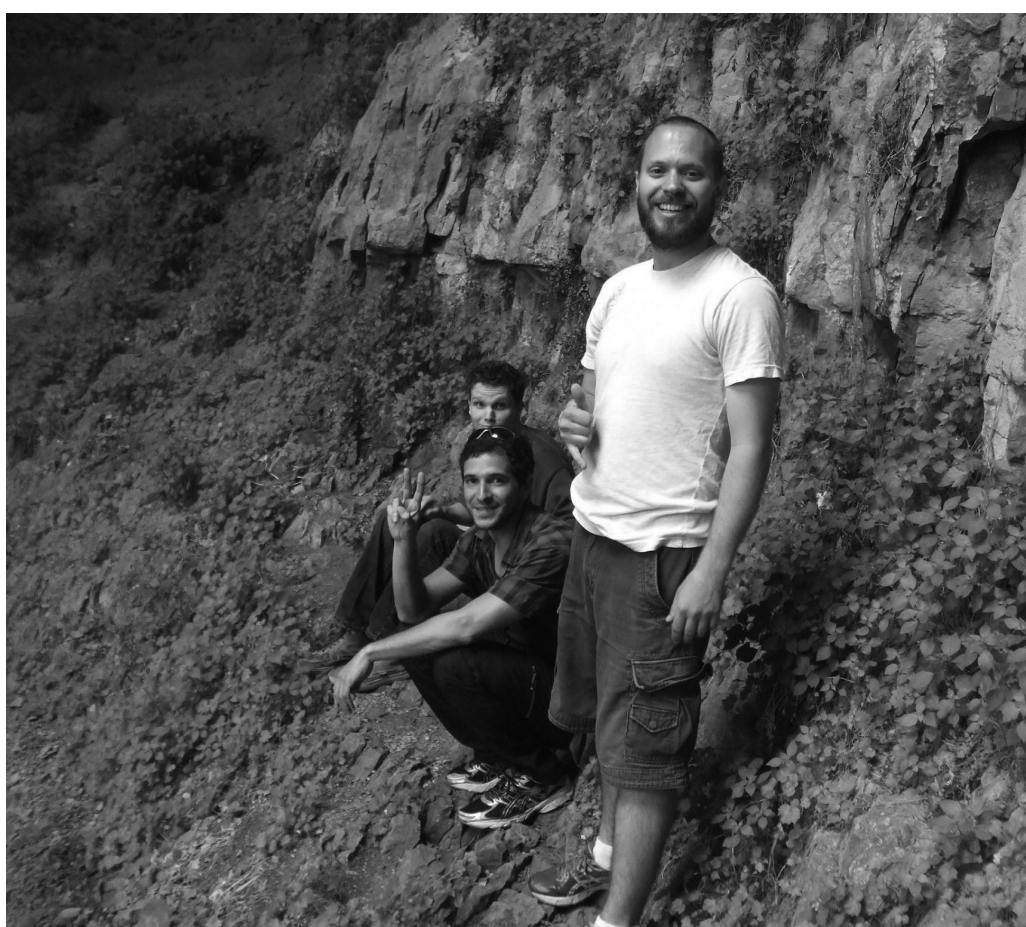


PHOTO COURTESY OF GREG MOOK.

LAUREN FOOTE
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Greg Mook graduated from Youngstown State University in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in professional writing and editing, but he didn't take a conventional path after graduation.

"After I graduated from YSU, I was not getting paid much to do what I had a degree in," Mook said. "I needed a job. I was not interested in a lot of writing or editing jobs."

He had been working with ministries since 2005 with middle and high school students. He did a lot of short-term mission trips to do humanitarian work and tell people about Jesus through action and work. A

desire to help people led to an interest in becoming an emergency medical technician.

"With the work in disaster relief I got more involved, and a friend of mine was an EMT, and we had the same thought in working in disaster relief, so I just kind of jumped into it," Mook said. "What can I do to help people after a disaster? Oh look, this is something. I did the EMT and Paramedic program right after that and got certified in both at YSU."

He worked for AmeriCorps in New Orleans in 2009 conducting surveys and working with middle school students. It built on a connection he developed with the city following Hurricane Katrina.

"My church had taken three trips to New Orleans. They were like weeklong

trips," Mook said. "I developed a relationship with the community center down there that was doing rebuilding some with gutting the houses and cleaning them up and eventually rebuilding them."

Mook is currently working as a paramedic and finishing his master's degree in global studies. He said he's feeling a pull to do similar work overseas on a long-term basis.

"I started looking into doing my master's degree in global studies for seminary. It is cross-cultural, and you need to do an internship," Mook said. "I have a contact in Lebanon, and he got back to me and said to come on over there. I went there for six months. It was a really cool experience."

Mook will be talking at TEDx Youngstown in January about the idea of being

welcome to other cultures.

"The idea of making people feel welcome, how it relates to the refugee situation and to leaving Syria and leaving Iraq and going to Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey and then heading up to Europe and the United States," Mook said. "It is hard to find a welcoming country, welcoming in the attitudes of the country and the government but also just finding a place to live and work."

He said there is a lot of conflict in the world: religious, social, racial and the idea of "welcome" could have a broader application.

"If we expand our idea of welcome more often, we can maybe come up with better solutions than just yelling at each other all the time," Mook said. "That is gonna be the application of the talk."

He said he hopes the talk will encourage people to communicate.

"I'll be happy if people listen to each other more, despite their good friendships, hopefully sit down with one another and talk out different points of view instead of polarizing everything and arguing all the time," Mook said.

He said people are often too quick to make judgments without accounting for social or cultural differences.

"Find something or someone that differs from you and communicate. People have a very good reason for living the way that they do and believing in the things they believe in," Mook said. "Sometimes we want to look past that and change their way of thinking without considering all the aspects of that person."

Physical Therapy Students to Present Research in California

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Youngstown State University physical therapy students Drew Snyder, Teale Bennett and Jeremy Oller will be presenting research they conducted at the American Physical Therapy Association's Combined Sections Meeting in Anaheim, California in February.

The research seeks to understand how physical therapy students are feeling toward issues involving health policy, what causes these feelings and how to bring awareness to what is

best for the patients.

"We looked at the attitudes of physical therapy students concerning some controversial topics in the healthcare industry," Snyder said. "These topics include Obamacare, Medicaid expansion in Ohio, mandatory vaccinations, physician-assisted suicide, marijuana legalization and disability insurance." The research — which they first presented at the Ohio Physical Therapy Association's Scientific Symposium last week — was conducted by survey, asking controversial questions of their fellow physical therapy students.

Snyder said the study

showed that physical therapy students' views were not affected by higher education, but by where they grew up and their political views.

He said these views all have the potential to be of great importance to students' future patients.

"While some of the polled topics may not directly influence the evaluations and development of a patient's physical therapy plan of care, these issues do affect our patients in regards to access to healthcare and other forms of chronic pain management or end-of-life decisions," Snyder said.

"I came up with the survey questions and survey

form. Jeremy [Oller] has a very good background in statistical analysis and took the lead on running the statistical software. Teale [Bennett] put in a lot of work to format our poster and make sure that our data was professionally displayed."

Snyder said the research group's achievements reflect the strength of the physical therapy program.

"We have a great, hardworking faculty that takes a vested interest in our interests and desires for where we want to take our careers," Snyder said. "We are honored to be able to represent our university and this great program on a national

platform."

Bennett agreed.

"This project is giving us the opportunity to represent our school, profession and fellow students," Bennett said. "The project also gives insight regarding the curriculum and what students are gaining from it."

The research stemmed from a class project in Weiqing Ge's Language, Culture and Health class. Ge said all three of the students were hardworking and passionate researchers.

"They're all very bright," Ge said. "I didn't have any funding for this project. They worked on it based on their interest and spare time."

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NEWS BRIEFS

Photographer Lectures at YSU

David Hilliard, a contemporary photographer known for his panoramic photography, lectures on the Youngstown State University campus in the McDonough Museum of Art. Hilliard's panoramic photos are known for documenting his life and the lives of those around him. The lecture is presented by YSU's art department, is free and is open to the public. For more information, call 330-941-2307.

YSU Celebrates Homecoming

This Saturday marks the 75th annual Homecoming at Youngstown State University. The annual homecoming parade up Fifth Avenue will begin at 2 p.m. The homecoming football game against South Dakota State will begin at 4 p.m. The 2015 homecoming King and Queen will be crowned at halftime.

MILLION MAN MARCH FRONT

"But we'll see all the marches that happened after all the lynchings of Eric Gardner and Trayvon Martin. There was news coverage of all of that, and that was because there were riots," Myreah Williams added. "It was because people were pissed off, but when we're peaceful there was no news coverage."

Shienne Williams said she hopes people use the things they experienced as an impetus for change when they return home.

"I think it's important because we need to take this demonstration and move it into our communities and have peaceful communities instead of killing each other," she said. "We need to stop killing each other. We need to be nonviolent towards each other."

DELEGATION TO CHINA FRONT

"We have amazing equipment over here. We have six out of the seven technologies available for 3D printing. We are extremely strong in this area," Gardner said. "And engineering is an extremely popular major for international students. So, we want to showcase our additive manufacturing 3D printing program."

Marie will be giving presentations in China that showcase the advantages of being an engineering major at YSU.

"One of the things that is exciting about us going to China is that we are going to highlight manufacturing and our new manufacturing program," Marie said. The second thing is that we are not only going to highlight our manufacturing strengths at YSU, but our additive manufacturing strengths. We're one of the premiere universities in additive manufacturing."

She thinks that one thing that will make international students interested in YSU is its affiliation with America Makes.

"We have assembled an amazing team from the stand-

point of designing for additive manufacturing," Marie said. "From designers to innovative machines to the analysis of the parts, they're my faculty. It makes me really proud. So, to have a chance to share it with the world is very exciting."

It's customary to give gifts to a host in China — two engineering students created 3D printed models of a penguin and a panda to represent YSU and China. After presenting a video at Chengdu University that shows the creation of those 3D models, Marie will present them to the university as an act of friendship and to create interest from students.

Gardner said she couldn't have planned the trip without the collaboration of professors. Jiang helped coordinate the effort and translated emails for her. In the future, they would like to plan trips to other countries.

"We are really excited," Gardner said. "We are looking forward to welcoming new international Chinese students on campus in the future and promoting our programs, and I've just been really pleased on how everyone has been working together to make this trip together."

Student Loan Borrowers Face Too Many Repayment Hurdles, Feds Say

By Ali Montag

McClatchy Washington Bureau (TNS)

WASHINGTON — Student loan servicing companies are coming under fire by regulators for the second time in two months.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau released a report Wednesday criticizing student loan servicing companies, which are contracted to handle details like collecting monthly payments, for not helping borrowers get into plans that make it easier to repay loans.

The agency's student loan ombudsman found that in particular, borrowers with older federal student loans may be more heavily effected by loan servicing problems, although complaints about servicing are widespread.

In September, after analyzing 30,000 public comments that showed companies using "a wide range of sloppy, patchwork practices that can create obstacles to repayment, raise costs, cause distress and contribute to driving struggling borrowers to default," the bureau announced plans to explore industrywide regulations.

More than 25 percent of all student loan borrowers were behind or defaulting on their loans, according to the September report, while Wednesday's shows that 30 percent of borrowers with Federal Family Education Loan Program loans are behind.

Both reports point to problems like paperwork processing delays, inconsistent instructions from loan servicers and difficulty enrolling in income-driven repayment plans as contributing to struggling borrowers' challenges.

Natalia Abrams, executive director of Student Debt Crisis, a nonprofit group that pushes for changes in how education is financed, said loan servicing companies "are not alerting the student loan borrowers of all of their options if they run into trouble."

In a survey of 3,000 borrowers done by the group, almost 60 percent said their loan servicer did not inform them of federal programs to help repay their loan, even though they were eligible to apply for them, Abrams said. Borrowers also complained of loan servicers processing payments late, incorrectly reporting credit scores and losing information.

Although graduated students are not typically referred back to their schools for help with loans, said Anna Griswold, executive director for student aid at Pennsylvania State University, she has heard of problems with servicers from both struggling borrowers and those just trying to pay down their principles early.

Griswold said students receive guidance from their school on loans when they graduate, but servicers have direct access to the borrowers for the rest of their repayment.

"Students are given packets of information when they leave school about their options in loan repayments. Some study these carefully and others

may not," she said in an email. "However, when a servicer first sees that a borrower is struggling (misses a payment), they are not always proactive in helping the borrower or moving them to a different payment plan."

Despite the Education Department's requirement that students get counseling when they take out loans and when they graduate, there is still a lack of information and they "don't know their options," said Sheelu Surrender, director of financial aid at Wichita State University.

"There are so many different types of repayment programs out there," she said.

The first income-driven repayment plan was created in 2007, and payment plans have become more complicated since, evolving with the Pay as You Earn program from the Department of Education, changes from Congress and the White House.

The complexities of laws around student debt contribute to the lack of information about federal repayment programs, said Beth Akers, a fellow at the Brown Center on Education Policy at the Brookings Institution.

"It's easy to pick on the servicers for doing a bad job, but it kind of begs the question, why is it so difficult for students to navigate the system on their own in the first place?" she said. "It's just this building up of incremental policy changes that have led to the building of this complex and complicated set of repayment options for borrowers."

In contrast to legal com-

plexities, there are only a handful of companies that service student loans. For federal loans taken out through the Education Department, there are only 10 companies that do the job.

Servicers' biggest problem is borrowers who aren't engaged, said John Remondi, president and CEO of Navient, one of the largest loan servicers, which used to be affiliated with Sallie Mae, a publicly traded corporation involved in the student loan business.

"Ninety percent of the defaults that we see off of our servicing platform each year are from customers who had zero contact with us during the 12 months that it takes to default," he said in a September statement at a Deutsche Bank conference. "During that time frame, we would typically attempt to connect with that customer 300 times through mail, phone calls, text messages or emails."

In July, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau charged Discover Bank \$18.5 million for illegal student loan servicing practices, like overstating how much was due on bills and calling consumers early in the morning and late at night to collect debts.

A time line for new rules isn't specified yet, but the report recommends policy actions like incentivizing servicing companies to enroll borrowers in federal student loans' flexible repayment options, which would increase their motivation to fit borrowers into the best plans.

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Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton on the debate stage on Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015, in Las Vegas. (Brian Cahn/Zuma Press/TNS)

Dana Concert Band Invited to Carnegie Hall to Perform



The YSU Wind Ensemble will perform for the second time at world-renowned concert venue Carnegie Hall in New York City on Nov. 27.

PHOTO COURTESY OF DANA SCHOOL OF MUSIC.

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On Nov. 27, the Youngstown State University Dana Concert Band will perform at Carnegie Hall in New York City.

Stephen Gage, the director of bands in the Dana School of Music, will be leading the 55-piece ensemble. They were invited to perform at Carnegie by Manhattan Concert Productions earlier in May. The Dana Concert Band is the only other university band invited to perform that day.

Gage said that while there was not much time to raise the

funds, he knew he could rely on the YSU Foundation to help send the band back to Carnegie for the first time in a decade. Gage takes pride in the fact that YSU is supportive in making sure students with all interests get the chance to pursue their passions.

"This University is unique in the sense that it creates opportunities for its students," Gage said.

Gage has been with YSU for 23 years and says that in that time, the University has transformed from parochial to cosmopolitan. He feels the institution has matured by selecting a world class faculty that fosters

a sense of pride in the students.

He believes that Youngstown is a "cultural heritage driven valley" that brings a lot to the different programs YSU offers. He said that since the students are immersed in the culture from the time they are born, they are excited about studying the arts, like the students in the Dana Concert Band.

"Music is the vehicle, but it's all about the students," Gage said. "55 people with similar aspirations, but their individuality makes it special."

Tommy Starr, a sophomore percussionist, said that it will be his first time going to New York, and he is looking forward

to the performance.

"I love music so much," Starr said. "I do my best to not let my nerves get the best of me, and I just focus on the enjoyment I get from playing."

He says that everyone has professional mindset while rehearsing, and it is like the band is one big family.

Dean LaSalandra, a bassoon performance major in his fifth year at YSU, is excited about getting the chance to play in the hall itself.

"The design of the hall gives the chance to truly showcase our abilities," LaSalandra said.

LaSalandra also said that he is thankful for the trip being

fully funded and that they get \$50 per-day food allowance. He also looks forward to watching the Macy's Day Parade and crossing it off his bucket list.

"I've been here a while and this ensemble is the best I've played with yet," LaSalandra said.

Gage said that the Dana program attracts bright and talented students from all over. He is excited to take another generation of students to Carnegie Hall, which he described as the "pinnacle of performance venues."

Tickets for the performance can be purchased at carnegiehall.org.

Game Developers Lecture at McDonough

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Members of the Youngstown Game Developers delivered a lecture at the McDonough Museum of Art on Tuesday night.

Kendra Corpier, Bill Jones and Andrew Pavlic from the Youngstown Game Developers told brief retellings of their experiences leading up to their involvement with independent video games.

Michael Crist, interim dean of the College of Creative Arts and Communication, introduced the lecture. Crist said that the college is thinking about starting an undergraduate program geared toward

game development, giving students the opportunity to have a head start in the industry.

"I walked over here today because I wanted to see what the interest is like," Crist said. "I walked in here, and I was excited to see that there were people here that are interested in it. I'm here to say that the College of Creative Arts and Communications and Youngstown State University hope to be involved in the not-too-distant future."

Crist went on to say that, though the process will be a long one, having a video game development program at YSU would be worth it.

The Youngstown Game Developers formed last year in October. The group gathers regularly to network and discuss the trade with local developers.

"Our goal is to basically just help one another," Corpier said. "It's to network with each other, help each other, be successful. Whether or not you're indie — doesn't matter. You can come in working for EA. We will happily accept you."

One person or small teams create indie games. Projects are generally paid out of pocket by the creators or from crowd-funding services.

Corpier is the owner and operator of Eimear Studios and Eim-Games and works at Minute Man Press as their senior graphic designer. She previously worked at THQ as a tester on the racing game, "Juiced." After leaving THQ, Corpier worked as a media designer at Univision Television Network in Phoenix.

While on the job, she in-

terviewed some of the people working at Hello Games, the British video game developers who are currently working on the highly anticipated title, "No Man's Sky." After that interview, Corpier knew what she wanted to do with her life.

Jones previously worked with Wither Studios in Pittsburgh. The studio developed "Crowman and Wolfboy," an iOS game funded through Kickstarter. Jones, along with Wither, showed the game at Penny Arcade Expo (PAX) East.

He has participated in two Global Game jams, which are conferences where developers band together to create games in a short span of time, usually one to three days.

An audience member asked Jones what students should be

doing to get into game development.

"Your best bet is just to build games," Jones said.

Pavlic works in digital art and content creation. He does freelance work, creating 3D modeling for organizations such as SpeechPathology. Aside from his professional work, Pavlic has created models for games and taught at the Pittsburgh Center for the Arts.

Last year's North American Conference on Video Game Music at the McDonough was the first conference of its kind in the United States, and the second in the world. The Youngstown Game Developers are planning a 48-hour game jam at the McDonough on April 1 to 3 in 2016.



PHOTO BY BILLY LUDT/THE JAMBAR.

The marketing team for Push For Pizza, a location-based mobile application created last year, stopped by campus on their east coast tour. The app aims to streamline ordering pizza, and partners with local pizza shops. Push For Pizza's development team is based out of New York City. The marketing team parked a Lamborghini in the campus core. They handed out free pizza and coupons for a discount on the first order used on the app. YSU was the 26th stop in Push For Pizza's 80-campus tour. Push For Pizza is working with Pizza Joe's and Belleria.

“The Third Half of the Show”:

Tributes to Teresa “Teri” Riley

Teresa Riley would have turned 59 this week. The tributes in this article — with its puns and allusions to “Car Talk,” one of Teri’s favorite NPR shows — express both admiration for her life and career and great sadness over her untimely death from cancer a few weeks ago.

“Click and Clack”

In fall 1984 — just a year after marrying and soon after earning Ph.D.s from Syracuse University — Teresa Riley and Tod Porter joined the faculty of Youngstown State University as assistant professors in the economics Department.

Over the next 31 years, Teri and Tod functioned as a team, both at home and at YSU. Their family grew; their careers prospered.

It’s difficult to talk about the accomplishments of one without talking about those of the other. Nonetheless, Teri made many distinct contributions over the course of her life and career — and her exceptional personal qualities underlie the reflections in this tribute.

“Historic and Folkloric”

Flash forward from fall 1984 to September 2015. Photographs larger than life cycle across a screen at the funeral home and again on the wall of the sanctuary at Poland Presbyterian Church.

A little red-haired girl — chopped bangs, an adorable smile. A young woman in a wedding gown. Newly-weds, Teri and Tod together, sporting copious 1980s hair.

Teri snuggling with three young children — her smile of contentment as broad as her face. A recent photograph, the three children all grown up: daughter Molly and Teri (so close, we learn, that they share a sense of humor and language

of their own); sons Andrew and Matthew standing with Tod, in back.

For many associated with YSU — who remember Teri the consummate professional, an outstanding teacher, associate dean, director of faculty relations, associate provost — the personal photographs reveal facets of Teri’s life that we might never have imagined for someone who worked so hard on campus. Added to our image of Teri the professional, these photographs depict a life so full, so multi-dimensional, so rich with love and accomplishment that it’s hard to believe they reflect just one “whole.”

Yet, the family members, YSU colleagues and community members who provided reflections for Teri’s Celebration of Life and this article attest to a life overflowing and well lived. We offer a few excerpts exemplifying common threads.

“Dewey, Cheetham & Howe”

In a perfect world, everyone would work and play fairly. But our world is not perfect. Too often we find ourselves embroiled in controversy, “unencumbered by the thought process.”

From 2006 to 2012, Teri served as YSU’s director of faculty relations, a difficult and sometimes thankless position created to help resolve issues fairly and judiciously. She also served on the Staff Relations Committee at her church. All venues need a Teri Riley to listen, reflect, adjudicate and advocate on behalf of fairness and justice:

Julia Gergits, chair, YSU English department: “I served as president of the faculty union on and off while Teri served as Director of Faculty Relations. As DFR, she was honest, clear-minded and straightforward, even when we were pressing . . . for changes

or decisions. We were never easy on her; in fact, we were often very difficult. But she remained calm and reasonable.”

Rev. Robbin Del Nagro, parish associate for Teri’s Celebration of Life at Poland Presbyterian Church: “Teri was . . . extremely competent, no-nonsense and organized. But she was also dedicated to a higher ideal. Teri had a strong sense of justice — she stood up in the face of injustice and was unafraid to confront the powers that sought to prevent a level playing field.”

Jodi Clowes, executive secretary, Provost’s Office: “Teri was always fair. She knew the rules and followed them. If you didn’t like a decision of Teri’s — it wasn’t because of her, it was because she was following a rule you may have wanted to bend.”

Ikram Khawaja, provost/dean/jack of all trades emeritus: “There was never any doubt how Teri would handle a difficult issue. The matter would be decided with utmost professionalism and integrity, with good humor and common sense. Indeed, Teri was blessed with a vast reservoir of common sense — something not always encountered in the higher-education community.”

“Erasmus B. Dragon”

Teri worked hard in every realm of her life, joyfully raising her children and doing the academic work she loved, but also taking on the nitty-gritty work that others shunned:

Matthew Porter, son: “The thread that would tie together a random selection of stories about my mother was her willingness to do work that others often would not do — and she would do it completely and efficiently. This clearly was my mother’s most admired quality and the one that I think she admired most when she saw it in

others and occasionally in her children.”

Jodi Clowes: “Teri . . . always helped when needed, regardless of the situation. Whenever phone calls came in from people who were upset or difficult, she always told me to transfer the calls to her — she would deal with these situations.”

Rev. Brent J. Eelman, interim pastor, Poland Presbyterian Church: “Teri got her hands dirty in the richness of life, whether it was in her garden, cooking in her kitchen, helping out with a meal at church or organizing the annual spaghetti dinner for the local Boy Scout troop.”

Andrew Porter, son: “Mom wanted us to know that there were no guarantees in life, but that didn’t mean you stopped struggling. Just because we don’t know what will happen doesn’t mean we just give up. Instead, she showed us that we needed to work hard if we wanted things to happen.”

“Don’t Drive Like My Brother!”

Clearly, Teri was a teacher-exemplar from beginning to end. One of the last things the family read to Teri was a letter from a former student:

Tom Wakefield, former student, now associate professor, mathematics & statistics: “I sought out your classes, taking all that I possibly could, because your teaching style and presentation of the material stimulated my interest. . . . Your faith in me meant so much and propelled me to pursue graduate work. Most importantly, you provided me an example of the influence college faculty can have in shaping students. . . . Thank you for being one of the most influential teachers in my life.”

Stephanie Smith, professor, art department, and successor to Teri as director of Faculty Relations: “In the past few days, I have found myself visit-

ing the over-1600 emails that I still have from Teri, as a means of denying her absence while trying to cope with the loss of a wonderful colleague and friend who has been one of the most important models to me of professionalism, capability and kindness in the workplace. . . . [M]y greatest hope is that she knew how loved and valued she is by so many of us. I do believe that she left the best sort of legacy in that she had a profound effect on the people with whom she worked.”

Andrew Porter: “The final time mom, Molly, Matt and I spoke, she told all of us she loved us deeply. Then she told us that ‘love and honor’ are the keys to life. That we needed to stick together as a family, and she would always be with us. Even to the end, she never stopped worrying and teaching us.”

Matthew Porter: “One of the last things our mother told us was to treat everyone with love and respect. I find this profound . . . because she so clearly demonstrated what this meant.”

“Stump the Chumps”

Why do terrible things happen to good people? Teri the loving daughter, wife and mother, valuable member of the YSU community and active church member left this world too soon. We end our tribute with a statement from Rev. Eelman: “The quality of life trumps quantity, and Teri’s life was filled with — was all about — quality.” May Teri rest in peace, and may her family, friends and colleagues find comfort in this time of sorrow.

Tributes Compiled by Bege Bowers, professor of English and associate provost emeritus.

EDITORIAL

The Penguin and the Panda

JAMBAR POLICY

Since being founded by Burke Lyden in 1931, The Jambar has won nine Associated Collegiate Press honors. The Jambar is published twice weekly during the fall and spring semesters and weekly during the first summer session. Mail subscriptions are \$25 per academic year. The first copy of The Jambar is free. Additional copies of The Jambar are \$1 each.

OUR SIDE POLICY

The editorial board that writes Our Side editorials consists of the editor-in-chief, the managing editor, the copy editor and the news editor. These opinion pieces are written separately from news articles. They draw on the opinions of the entire writing staff and do not reflect the opinions of any individual staff member. The Jambar’s business manager and non-writing staff do not contribute to editorials, and the adviser does not have final approval.

YOUR SIDE POLICY

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Youngstown State University is invading China.

On Oct. 20, Martin Abraham, provost and vice president of academic affairs, and Ann Gardner, assistant director of the Center for International Studies and Programs, will accompany a small team of administrators and faculty to China to bolster relations with universities there in hopes that it will increase the number of Chinese international students at YSU.

Abraham and company will try to achieve this goal by showcasing YSU’s range of engineering courses, focusing especially on the additive manufacturing — 3D printing — classes and technologies on campus.

As reported in this issue’s story, “YSU Sends Delegation to China,” the team’s stated purpose in reaching out to attract Chinese students is to help build a diverse campus culture and strengthen opportunities for current YSU students to study abroad.

There can be no argument that in our increasingly shrinking world, exposure to and collaboration with peers from different global cultures is a good thing. Almost every student enrolled at YSU today will find themselves working in fields where they will work with — and compete against — individuals from around the world. Introducing a global culture at the collegiate level is a step toward real preparation for the work force.

That being said, the high-minded ideals behind creating a culturally diverse campus experience is not the sole benefit of attracting more international students.

They also bring in a boatload of cash.

International students — obviously not qualifying for in-state tuition — pay the out-of-state price of \$14,087 to attend YSU. Add in the cost to live near campus — as many do — and the price to attend YSU can rise to \$23,000 or more.

The push to reach out to students further from the traditional YSU recruiting range of Ohio and western Pennsylvania has been obvious. The hiring of Royall and Co. — a third party college recruitment

company — and the formation of the Honor’s College, which expanded the number of tuition scholarships given by decreasing the number of full ride scholarships, aided in attracting students from further away.

If out-of-state students are a priority — and they are — and there exists a country that is essentially hemorrhaging university students eager to study abroad — and there is — a university would be foolish to not at least attempt tapping that well.

In March, the Wall Street Journal reported that Chinese students are by far the largest demographic — 331,371 or 29 percent — of total international students studying in the U.S.

Not only are they plentiful, but according to a 2012 Zinch Market Research survey, 62 percent of Chinese students applying to undergraduate programs at American universities can afford to pay at least \$40,000 annually for their education. YSU would be a steal for students falling into that group, yet we see very few Chinese international students on campus.

A likely explanation for this lack of representation is that Chinese students trend toward attending public, flagship universities in the states where they choose to study.

In Ohio that obviously means Chinese students are heading for The Ohio State University. According to a report in 2014 from The Lantern, OSU’s student newspaper, Chinese students comprised nearly 60 percent of their international student population.

The YSU team doesn’t need to convince Chinese students to forget OSU and focus on YSU — though it’s unlikely anyone at YSU would lose any sleep over netting a few would-be Buckeyes — they only need to show off what we’ve got to offer and make a case for YSU as a real source of quality higher education.

As it turns out, that’s precisely what the YSU team is aiming to do. But should they? Is it in any way dastardly to try to attract Chinese students to our campus, especially with all the budgetary and labor troubles YSU is constantly bat-

ting?

Of course they should, and of course it isn’t.

At the end of the day, growing our international student population is a win-win situation. A diverse campus is better for the reasons mentioned earlier in this piece, and if having a diverse campus also happens to help fatten the university’s wallet, then it’s icing on the cake. Bringing more international students to campus would likely help YSU in solving some of the problems — at least the financial ones — facing the university.

Beyond that pragmatic view of the situation, it also seems like the individuals going on the trip have a legitimate interest in the non-monetary aspects of recruiting Chinese students.

Gardner helps run the CISP. Hopefully one can’t land that job without having a passion for international students and seeing them succeed. Plus, she’s on the Board of Directors of a Mahoning Valley child’s advocate program. Caring seems to be her thing.

As far as Abraham is concerned, this isn’t his first Chinese equivalent of a rodeo. Abraham traveled to China in 2005 for a recruiting trip while working as the dean of the University of Toledo’s graduate college. Later that year he published a scholarly paper in the academic journal “Environmental Progress” concerning the importance of China for sustainable development, aptly titled “The Importance of China for Sustainable Development.”

In other words, Abraham sees China as more than a land of rich, potential YSU students.

The rest are — if nothing else — taking the time out of their personal lives and travelling to the other side of the globe to help bring more students to the university. This is a good thing for the campus, any way you cut it.

This trip is a positive step toward making YSU less of a place that students “end up” and more of a place that students actively seek out.

That being said, we at The Jambar want to wish the team safe travels and good luck on their trip.

Make or Break for the Penguins

YSU Season Could Hinge on Win Against South Dakota State



Jody Webb cuts through a hole in the offensive line during the team's 31-29 loss to Illinois State University last Saturday. Webb combined for 107 yards and 39 yards receiving last week.

PHOTO BY DAN HINER/THE JAMBAR.

DAN HINER

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Things didn't go as planned for Bo Pelini, head coach of the Youngstown State University football team, during the Penguins' 31-29 loss to Illinois State University last week.

The Penguins will participate in another matchup between two of the top programs in the Missouri Valley Football Conference as #11 YSU will face another top-10 football team on Saturday when they host #7 South Dakota State University.

"They're one of the top teams. They have been since I've been here — one of the top teams in our conference, but I think we definitely could come out and win," receiver Andre Stubbs said.

South Dakota State [4-1, 1-1 MVFC] has one of the top quarterbacks in the Football Championship Subdivision. South Dakota State's Zach Lujan's 1244 passing yards is 25th in the nation and second in the conference.

YSU [3-2, 1-1 MVFC] will

have a game plan for another possibility of playing two quarterbacks. Starting in place of an injured Lujan, freshman Taryn Christian has played in one game this season, a 24-7 win over Indiana State University last week, and was named the Missouri Valley Football Conference Newcomer of the Week and the STATS National Freshman of the Week.

There is a possibility that Lujan could start against YSU, and the Penguins have been game planning against both quarterbacks this week. Lujan is a pocket passer who is limited in his ability to run but can throw the football down the field. Christian is a mobile quarterback who can buy time with his running ability and struggles on down field throws, but he can throw the ball efficiently. Christian compiled 321 total yards, 221 passing yards and 101 rushing yards, during his only start of the season last week.

"Very similar to what we did last week. I don't know who they're going to play," Pelini said. "It seems like that will be a recurring theme around here

— you really don't know what to expect. You got to be ready for a lot of different things and you got to be ready to adjust on the fly.

"You only got so many hours in a day and so many things to prepare for and it's just part of the deal. You have to, like I said, have your game plan going in, and prepare to adjust according to what they're doing. So you have to prepare for a little bit more."

The Jackrabbits defense is one of the top defenses in the Missouri Valley Football Conference. South Dakota State doesn't have one dominate player on the defensive side of the ball. Eight players have accounted for the team's nine sacks, and South Dakota State has intercepted four passes, all by four separate players.

"They're kinda similar to what we saw last week in some ways, but they're going to do what they do and try to execute it at a really high level," Pelini said. "I think they kinda flood the box at times. Some times, they'll play a little softer, a little more two high. It depends on how they see a particular of-

fense. I think our guys have a pretty good handle on what they do, but you always got to be prepared for them to do something a little bit different.

Despite the tough SDSU defense, Stubbs believes YSU's offense can still run this typical game plan.

"Their defense has always been tough, but I feel like we could still do what we always do — run the ball," Stubbs said. "We could still pass the ball [with] play action and get the ball into people's hands in space."

Pelini said YSU played

hard in its loss last week, but the team had opportunities to capitalize but were unable to execute in critical situations. Pelini went on to say the team could still be one of the top teams in the conference, but they need to become more consistent.

"We didn't play well enough to win," Pelini said. "We had our opportunities, and we're a work in progress, and [we] got to get more consistent in some areas. I still think we still have a chance to be a good football team if we keep making some progress."

MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL ACTION WEEK SEVEN

(4) Illinois State vs. Missouri State

Southern Illinois vs. (21) Indiana State

South Dakota vs. (2) North Dakota State

Western Illinois vs. (12) Northern Iowa

Strong Freshman Class Adds Depth to Women's Basketball Roster

DAN HINER

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John Barnes, the head coach of the Youngstown State University women's basketball team, has gradually improved the program since taking over in 2013.

The women's basketball team is coming off one of the best seasons in program history following the 2014-2015 season. The Penguins finished with a 21-11 record and 9-7 in the Horizon League.

YSU participated in the NIT for the second time in three years but was eliminated during the first round after a 72-54 loss to Duquesne University at the Beeghly Center in March.

"That post season experience is crucial. We're getting an extra week, two

weeks, three weeks to practice. We're getting to know each other, and our chemistry is improving," forward Kelsea Newman said. "The better the competition, the more experience we're getting, and I think that's only going to help us in the future."

Entering this season the Penguins lost their top two scorers, Heidi Schlegel and Latisha Walker, to graduation, and the already young roster will have to pick up the slack in the scoring department.

"Heidi and Tish, they were fantastic," Newman said. "They were there whenever you needed someone to talk to; they were there whenever you needed help learning where to go during a certain situation. They really helped all the returners to learn what

to say and what to do in certain positions when someone asks you where to go."

YSU has a talented freshman class coming into the season. The four freshmen include point guard Melinda Trimmer, guard Alison Smolinski, guard/forward Jill Blacksten and forward Marissa Brown. All four were members of the all-Ohio basketball team.

Trimmer was named the Ohio Division II Co-Player of the Year last season, and Smolinski was named first-team all-state along with Blacksten. Brown was a third-team all-state selection.

Brown and Blacksten could help the Penguins on the boards. Both are 6-foot-2-inch forwards and could help YSU get rebounds following the loss of Schlegel and Walker. YSU was a

smaller roster last season and the size differential was evident during the team's losses to the University of Pittsburgh and Duquesne.

"I'm going to say our front court is going to be our biggest challenge because it's such an unknown right now," Barnes said. "Sarah [Cash] got some time last year and played well, and Morgan [Olson] got some time last year and played well. Then we have Marissa Brown, a freshman, who's got great size and ability, but again hasn't had any time. Jill Blacksten [has] great size and she can kinda play inside and out. All those things — who plays the best and who does the best when they're in there and they'll get the minutes."

Barnes said the team hasn't participated in five-on-five drills much this

season, but the freshmen reported for practice early in the year to participate in drills and learn the playbook. A set rotation hasn't been solidified to this point, but Barnes expects most of the roster to participate early in the season.

"I think we had a great summer," Barnes said. "The freshmen come in the end of June. So they had a couple months, or a month and a half, before school started to get used to the strength and conditioning and our offense and some of the defensive things we like to do. We talk a lot about getting better everyday, improving everyday and they're really taking that to heart and doing that. So it's exciting to see."