

WYSU acquires new director

By AMY CARPENTER
Jambar Entertainment Editor

Robert Peterson says he is looking forward to becoming the new director of WYSU-88.5 FM, beginning July 1. He will succeed Stephen J. Grcevich, present director, who recently retired after serving 18 years with YSU.

Peterson said he was not planning any major changes in the station's format or staff, but said that two new people will be added to the present staff of three.

In addition to the regular staff members, YSU students work at the station up to 20 hours per week.

Peterson explained that by hiring students to work part-time, the station can "help their dollar go further" and at the same time provide employment and experience for the employees, mostly YSU telecommunications students.

He also noted that the staff members get along well together.

Peterson said he sees no major problems with the station and said it does an excellent job of bringing the University into the community.

"The radio station gets to more people than any other event on campus," said Peterson.

WYSU-FM is a fine-arts, public broadcasting station organized in 1969 by Grcevich.

Peterson said listeners can hear the station throughout the Mahoning Valley and also in some areas of Columbiana County and in several western Pennsylvania counties.

"We've got a broad coverage range," he said.

Peterson, a former English instructor at YSU, has been working with WYSU-FM since 1972 when he was named News and Public Affairs director for the station.

In 1977, he became program director and manager and in 1982 was named producer/announcer for the station.

When not at the station, Peterson works as secretary to the board of trustees of Ohio Public Radio (OPR).

He explained that OPR furthers the interest of public radio by exploring sources for funding and programming for public radio in Ohio.

He is also a charter member of the Youngstown Press Club, an organization comprised of people who work for the media in the Mahoning Valley.

Peterson said he finds Youngstown a good place to live, but said the city's biggest problem is a lack of confidence.

"It bothers me that the brain power wants to leave and go to greener pastures," he said.

"Most other cities have worse problems than Youngstown."

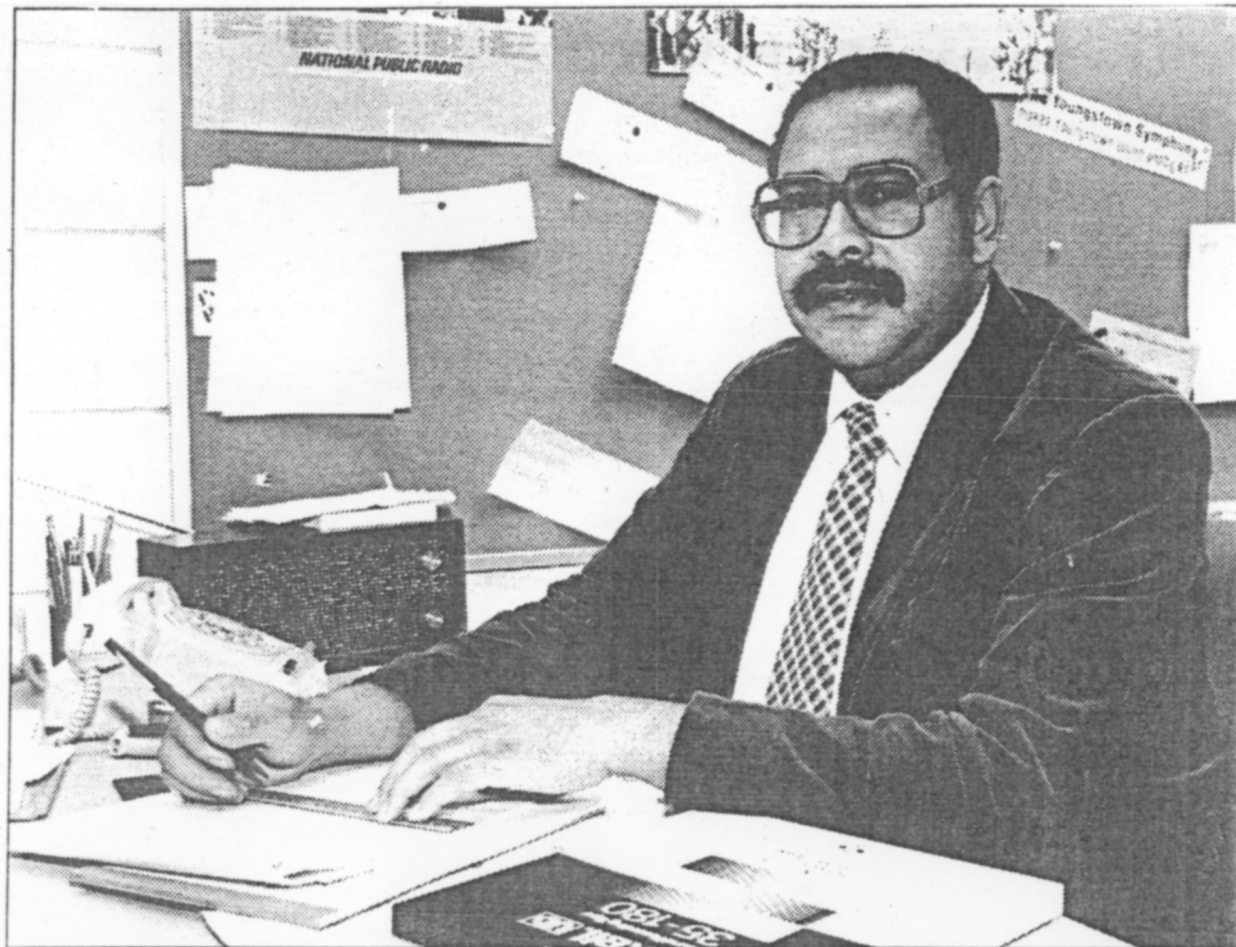


Photo Courtesy of University Relations/Elise Cleary

Robert Peterson was recently named the new director of WYSU-FM radio