

Student Module of Banner system up and running

After nearly four years of preparation, YSU is launching the Student Module of the campus-wide SCT Banner administrative computer project.

Students will register for classes, review and accept financial aid awards, review and pay their bills, register for parking and perform an array of other tasks via the MyYSU portal, available at <https://my.ysu.edu>.

"The Student Module gives all students increased accessibility to university services that will take them from application through graduation, all by way of the Internet," said Jeanne Herman, associate

registrar and head of the Student Module implementation team. "It will have a significant impact on how students do business with the university."

In addition, under the new Student Module, YSU faculty will submit grades, access class rosters, access student advising information, post class materials and can e-mail students via MyYSU. Several hundred faculty members have participated in training sessions dating to last fall in preparation for the change.

The new system begins with registration for summer and fall 2008 semesters.

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New grant brings Carroll's total to \$4M



Jeff Carroll

Physics professor James "Jeff" Carroll's research on nuclear isomers has already attracted the most federal grant funds ever awarded to a single faculty member in YSU history. Now he's adding another

\$1 million to his tally.

Carroll, an internationally-respected nuclear physicist, has been awarded a three-year, \$1.09 million research grant by the federal Defense Threat Reduction Agency to continue researching ways to release the energy stored in nuclear isomers.

The latest award brings Carroll's nuclear isomer research grant total to more than \$4 million since 2000. YSU and the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington D.C. were the only two isomer research projects to get money in the most recent round of funding.

Carroll said the competitive award was essentially a renewal of previous grants received from the Department of Defense through the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, but the DTRA recently began awarding grants in the field so the application process was tough and drawn-out. The process – from initial pre-proposal, through the invited proposal stage to the official award – took 8 months.

"These agencies usually give three-year awards, then assess whether we're providing the quality information they're looking for," he said. "This is the third renewal of a three-year award, and that speaks well of how the project is regarded in Washington and elsewhere."

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Art major Hope Sweaney gives the thumbs-up after being the first YSU student to register for classes through the MyYSU portal. Applauding the moment are, from the left, Kyle Blattert, senior mechanical engineering student; James Stipetich, academic advisor in the College of Fine and Performing Arts; Jeanne Herman, associate registrar; Mary Lou Weingart, senior academic advisor in F&PA; and Donna Wainio, technology and training specialist.

eUpdate exclusives

For more news about YSU, read these and other stories in eUpdate at <http://cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.

- **After four years of development, YSU's master's of social work program has been awarded full accreditation by the Council on Social Work Education. CSWE identified several strengths of the program, including administrative support, curriculum content areas, diversity, field education, a well-developed plan for assessment, departmental leadership, strong advisory boards and relationships with external constituencies, student support services, articulate students, and faculty commitment to excellence in instruction.**
- **A production crew for MTV's *True Life* series was on the YSU campus recently, shadowing freshman Rahsean Bridges of Farrell, Pa. for a program on shopping addictions.**
- **Campus News Roundup: YSU forms International Faculty Association; Nominations sought for first annual Nursing Distinguished Alumni Awards; Serbian Jewish writer David Albahari visits campus; Department of Social Work sponsors a diversity conference; Williamson Symposium features head of the Society of Human Resource Management.**
- **Funding for prisons is taking up more and more of state budgets, and higher education appears to be paying the price, according to a new report from the Pew Charitable Trusts.**
- **Faculty salaries have increased 4 percent on average, according to the 2007-08 National Faculty Salary Survey from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources.**

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

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Linsalata donates \$500K; campaign reaches \$41.6M



Jocelyne Kollay
Linsalata

YSU graduate Jocelyne Kollay Linsalata has pledged a \$500,000 gift to help in the construction of a new building for the Williamson College of Business Administration.

"In the 21st century, I see Youngstown State University as the brain and the heart of the Mahoning Valley," said Linsalata, who lives in Gates Mills, Ohio, and is an active participant in the medical and education communities in Cleveland.

In recognition of the gift, YSU will name the Gallery in the new business building in Linsalata's honor.

"Jocelyne is the perfect example of how YSU alumni make a difference not only at the university but within their own communities as well," YSU President David C. Sweet said. "We thank Jocelyne for her continued support."

The gift is part of the \$43 million YSU Centennial Capital Campaign, the largest fund-raising effort in the university's history. The new building for the Williamson College of Business Administration is a major part of the campaign.

With Linsalata's gift, the campaign total to date is \$41.6 million.

Linsalata is a graduate of Chaney High School in Youngstown, where she has endowed a scholarship for first generation college students. She enrolled at YSU and earned a bachelor's degree in 1974 and master's degree in business administration in 1980.

Linsalata has remained active at YSU as a member of the Centennial Capital Campaign Cabinet, President's Council and the Board of Directors for the YSU Foundation. She is on the Visiting Committee of the YSU Beeghly College of Education and recently served on the Higher Education Leaders for Prosperity in Ohio.

She is co-chair of the capital campaign for University Hospital's Center for Emergency Medicine, a member of the Rainbow

Babies & Children's National Leadership Council, and a past vice president of the Cleveland Area Alzheimer's Association.

The Gallery in the new business school building will showcase the industrial history and entrepreneurial spirit of the Mahoning Valley. The Gallery will be adjacent to the community gathering space/atrium, and across from the 200-seat auditorium on the south end of the new building. The Gallery can be used as a small reception area, meeting room or study area.

Thus far, the Centennial Capital Campaign – a partnership between YSU and the YSU Foundation – has received 17 gifts of \$500,000 or more, totaling \$21.8 million. In addition, there have been 40 gifts between \$100,000 and \$500,000, totaling \$7.1 million; 19 gifts between \$50,000 and \$100,000, totaling \$1 million; and 43 gifts between \$10,000 and \$50,000, totaling \$855,000.

For more information on the campaign, visit <http://www.ysu.edu/centennialcampaign/index.htm>. ■



YSU hosts steel bridge, concrete canoe competitions

More than 300 of the best and brightest engineering students from 14 Ohio, Pennsylvania and Kentucky colleges will visit YSU April 3 through 5 as YSU hosts the annual American Society of Civil Engineers' Ohio Valley Student Conference.

The conference features a steel bridge building competition at Beeghly Center on Friday, April 4, and a concrete canoe race at Pine Lake in Columbiana on Saturday, April 5. Both competitions are free and open to the public.

Students will also compete in a concrete horseshoe throwing competition, a wastewater treatment design competition, an AutoCAD drafting competition, a land surveying competition and an ethics technical paper competition.

Bill Pitoscia, a senior civil engineering student at YSU, is conference chair and a member of YSU's 35-member team. He said the YSU teams have been working since September on the steel bridge, a scale model about 20 feet long, 48 inches wide and 5.5 feet high, and the 20 foot long concrete canoe, both of which are designed, fabricated and constructed to meet competition specifications.

YSU engineering students placed first



YSU engineering students Cody Bruce and Mike Grummley prepare the concrete canoe for competition. The canoe race is among several events featured at the annual American Society of Civil Engineers' Ohio Valley Student Conference, hosted this year by YSU April 3 through 5.

in the steel bridge competition and in the AutoCad computer drafting event at last year's regional conference at Ohio State University.

The first place finish in the bridge event qualified the team to compete in the national competition at California State

University, Northridge, where they assembled their bridge in 2 minutes and 20 seconds to take first place for speed of construction, and 11th overall out of 45.

For more information, visit http://www.ysu.edu/stu_org/asce/. ■

Faculty & Staff

Send items for "Faculty & Staff" to Cynthia Vinarsky at cevinarsky@ysu.edu.

Frank X. Li, assistant professor, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, presented a paper titled "Theoretical Analysis of Single Electron Spin Surface Detections," at the 3rd IEEE Nano/Micro Engineered and Molecular Systems Conference 2008. The meeting was held in Sanya, Hainan, China.

Einar T. Ingvarsson, assistant professor, Psychology, co-authored an article titled "An Evaluation of Intraverbal Training Procedures to Generate Socially Appropriate Responses to Novel Questions," published in the Fall 2007 edition of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, Issue 40. Co-authors were Jeffrey H. Tiger of the Munroe-Meyer Institute, Gregory P. Hanley and Kasey M. Stephenson, both of the University of Kansas. Ingvarsson was also appointed recently to the editorial board of the *European Journal of Behavior Analysis*.

Priscilla N. Gitimu, assistant professor, Human Ecology, co-authored a paper titled "Identification of Strategies Used to Accomplish a Spatial Visualization Task in Apparel Design," published in *Clothing and Textile Research Journal*, Issue 26(1), 2008. Her co-author was Jane Workman, a professor at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. Another article by Gitimu, titled "Influences of Training and Strategic Information Processing Style on Spatial Performance in Apparel Design" and based on her doctoral dissertation work, was awarded third place in a ranking of outstanding journal articles by the *Journal of Career and Technical Education Research*.

Annette M. Burden, associate professor, Mathematics, and Interim Distance Learning Director, has been appointed to the MapleSoft Academic Advisory Board.

Gunapala Edirisooriya, professor, Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership, published "A Market Analysis of the Latter Half of the Nineteenth-Century American Higher Education Sector" in the November 2007 edition of the journal *History of Education*.

Zbigniew Piotrowski, professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, co-authored an article titled "On planar approximations and convergence," in the *Far East Journal of Mathematical Sciences* 27, (2007). His co-author was Robert W. Vallin, professor of mathematics at Slippery Rock University. Piotrowski also presented a lecture, titled "Introduction to Separate versus Joint Continuity," at the College of Mathematical Sciences and Computing of Shenzhen University in China. ■



Banner

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All students must register via MyYSU. Summer registration begins Monday, April 7, and fall registration begins Monday, April 21. All students will receive detailed information by regular mail about the registration process.

The Student Module is the latest and most visible part of the SCT Banner administration system to be implemented. Previously, the system has been implemented in human resources/payroll, advancement (development/alumni) and finance. Implementation has involved hundreds of individuals across campus.

The MyYSU component of the system was introduced in fall 2006, providing campus e-mail, announcements, group communications and calendar options to all students, faculty and staff. The Student Module builds on that foundation, providing a plethora of additional online services.

Students who have not already logged onto MyYSU must do so to access the services. To access MyYSU, students should go to <https://my.yosu.edu>. Students will need their user name (MyYSU Portal ID) and password. The user name is located on the front of the student ID card, and is usually made up of each student's first initial, middle initial and last name. Spring term will be the last time students will use their Patron ID for registration and grade reports. ■

Carroll grant

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Most Department of Defense research funds go to projects of a more immediate nature, such as work that has potential to improve the safety of the troops in Iraq, Carroll explained. Allocations to fund long-term projects such as isomers are much more limited, so the competition is stiff.

Nuclear isomers have the potential for use as long-life power sources for a variety of specialized applications, said Carroll, an Oklahoma native who came to YSU in 1995 from the University of Texas in Dallas. The research he has been conducting for more than a decade with teams of YSU undergraduate and graduate students is focused on studying the isomers and on finding ways to "turn on" the energy inside.

YSU's Isomer Physics Project concentrates on discovery research, trying to develop a better understanding of the fundamental processes with new experiments, he said, rather than looking for applications.

For example, one student project now under way involves creating a container

that will allow researchers to shine x-rays on a small amount of a particular nuclear isomer inside a vacuum while using sensors to measure any energy that is released. The samples they're using are

minuscule – Carroll showed a sample, encased in a metal frame the size of a half-dollar, which he said contained only one hundred billionths of a gram of an isomer.

A graduate student from the physics department of the University of Surrey in England has just arrived to work with the research project

as part of an internship, the third student from that institution to participate, and Carroll says he typically employs about five other YSU students as research assistants.

"We have a lot of really smart, hard-working students from a variety of departments; only about half are physics majors," he said. "The students do the vast majority of the work. My role is to keep things going in the same direction." ■

“ We have a lot of really smart, hard-working students from a variety of departments. ”

Jeff Carroll