

Faculty class of 2005 is largest in five years



Anwarul Islam



Peter Reday



Dolores Sisco

From Singapore to Toronto, California to Florida, YSU's faculty class of 2005 comes to YSU after accomplished careers and studies in engineering, international business, law, counseling, literature, biology and dozens of other disciplines.

They come from universities throughout the world, including Michigan State, Oklahoma State, Florida State, Brandeis, Montana, Nebraska, Georgia State, Texas, Alabama A&M, Nevada, California State, Northern Iowa, Baylor, Northwestern, University of Toronto, Nanyang Technological University in Singapore and Ocean University of QingDao, China.

"It's really a nice testament to our stature that we're able to attract some very qualified people, people who could have gone elsewhere," said Robert K. Herbert, YSU provost and vice president for academic affairs. "The fact that they chose to come to YSU really says something positive about YSU and the community."

In the last five years, YSU has hired 134 new faculty members, including 79 in permanent, tenure-track positions, according to the university's human resources department. That represents a turnover of more than 30 percent

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Talk to YSU's new faculty members, especially those from outside the Midwest and Northeast, and the topic eventually turns to the weather, especially winter.

"I've never actually seen it snow," says Anwarul Islam, assistant professor of civil/environmental and chemical engineering and a native of Bangladesh in Asia.

"I've seen it on TV, but that's it." "I had never heard the term 'Lake Effect' before I came here," says Deborah Jackson, assistant professor of counseling who comes to YSU from Mississippi State University.

"I've heard lots of jokes and comments about the weather and snow since I got here. I guess I'll just have to wait and see what's in store."

As the fall semester progresses, and as Northeast Ohio's snow season approaches, Islam, Jackson and 34 other new faculty members settle into their offices and move through their first few weeks on the job at YSU.

Ribbon cut for \$12.1M rec and wellness center

What began as the dream of a few students nearly a decade ago culminated on Sunday, Sept. 25 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center on the YSU campus.

At least 200 donors and friends of YSU joined university staff and students to celebrate the opening of the 67,500-square-foot center, built as the result of a \$12.1 million fund-raising campaign.

"The rec center is more than just a building," said senior Melissa Nero, one of the students who led the push to get the center built. "It is a place that puts students first - a place that brings us one step closer to making the university more student-friendly. It gives students a reason to stay on campus."

Opened to students on Sept. 26, the center features a 53-foot climbing wall, one of the highest in the state of Ohio, a one-eighth mile indoor walk/jog track and thousands of square feet for strength and conditioning, four multi-purpose courts, aerobics, racquetball and a meditation center.

"The journey to get the recreation center built illustrates the best of what this campus can accomplish when everyone works together," said YSU President David C. Sweet.

The fund-raising campaign garnered nearly 600 gifts, including a \$2 million donation from the Andrews Trust, the largest single gift in YSU's history. Other major donors included \$1.5 million from John and Denise DeBartolo York, \$1 million from the Ward and Florence Simon Beecher Flad Foundation, \$750,000 from Tony and Mary Lariccia, \$600,000 from the Kresge Foundation and \$500,000 from D.D. and Velma Davis.

"The center is a magnificent gift from the people of the Mahoning Valley to students at YSU," said H.S. Wang, chairman of the YSU

Board of Trustees and \$100,000 rec center donor.

"It's unbelievable to see all your work coming to fruition when a lot of people said it couldn't be done," said Ralph Morrone, a 2001 YSU graduate who was instrumental in getting the idea for a rec center accepted by the students. "The rec center will be an excellent enrollment retainer and a great place to welcome new students."

After the ribbon-cutting ceremony, tours of the complex were offered that featured several of the 135 students who will work at the facility demonstrating how the equipment will be used.

One of the most popular demonstration sites was the climbing wall. Rikki Lawrence of Struthers, a junior environmental studies

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The Red Zone...

YSU fans line the decks of the Gateway Clipper ship on the Allegheny River outside Heinz Field in Pittsburgh as the YSU marching band and dance line perform. More than 1,400 alumni and other supporters attended the floating tailgate party, sponsored by the YSU Office of Alumni Relations, prior to YSU's football game with the University of Pittsburgh on Sept. 24. While Pitt won the contest 41-0, thousands of vocal, red-clad YSU fans filled several sections of Heinz Field to cheer on the Penguins.

Enrollment down; number of minorities up 9.1 percent

For the first time in five years, enrollment has declined at YSU, but minority student enrollment continues to increase.

Fall semester headcount enrollment stands at 12,812, down 2.2 percent from 13,101 in fall 2004. That's the first time that enrollment has declined since fall 2000, when the number of students on campus totaled 11,787.

"While we are disappointed with this decrease, we remain optimistic about enrollment," YSU President David C. Sweet said. "Even with this drop, enrollment is up by more than 1,000 students in the last five years."

Tom Maraffa, special assistant to the president, also noted that YSU experienced a smaller enrollment decline than other Northeast Ohio public universities, including Cleveland State (down 3.3 percent), Kent State (down 2.6 percent) and Akron (down 2.6 percent).

While headcount enrollment represents the actual number of enrolled students, full-time equivalent enrollment represents the cumulative number of full-time students. FTE enrollment also dropped this fall, from 10,518 to 10,332, a 1.8 percent decline.

On the positive side, enrollment of minority students increased 9.1 percent, from 1,791 last fall semester to 1,954 this fall, Maraffa said. The number of minority students has in-

creased by 672 or 52 percent since 2000, when there were 1,282 minority students enrolled.

In 2000, minority students made up about 11 percent of YSU's enrollment. This fall, minority students make up more than 15 percent.

The number of black students on campus, in particular, has experienced big increases, up 9.5 percent this fall to 1,528. Since 2000, the number of black students on campus has

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The numbers are in...

Despite a decline of 2.2 percent this fall, enrollment at YSU is up more than 1,000 students since 2000. The number of minority students is up 52 percent in that same period.

Year	Enrollment	Minorities
2005	12,812	1,954
2004	13,101	1,791
2003	12,858	1,656
2002	12,698	1,619
2001	12,250	1,424
2000	11,787	1,282

Source: YSU Office of Institutional Research



YSU President David C. Sweet, center, joins donors, trustees and other university supporters in cutting the ribbon for the \$12.1 million Andrews Recreation and Wellness Center on Sept. 25.

Byline

The Jambar: Adviser advises, doesn't dictate



By Tim Francisco
Assistant professor, English
The Jambar, adviser

The masthead of YSU's *The Jambar* reads "The student voice of YSU," a tag that serves as both a mission statement and a reminder for the student staff — and for the adviser as well.

One of the "perks" of serving as adviser to *The Jambar* is regular feedback

and comments from students, faculty and staff on specific stories and layouts that appear in the paper. These comments are usually insightful, often laudatory, as often critical, and always welcome. The YSU community draws much of its strength from a rich diversity of opinions on many matters, and the role of the student newspaper is no exception.

Ultimately, however, decisions on the content and direction of the newspaper are solely in the hands of the student staff. An adviser to a college newspaper is just that — an adviser, a guide who offers advice when solicited by the editorial staff. It is not the role of the college newspaper adviser to dictate what stories journalists will report, nor is it the adviser's charge to edit or even read copy prior to publication unless the editors ask he/she do so.

Student media operating within a public university serve as resources for both education and information. By providing the campus community with objective coverage of important events and decisions, the student press helps its readers to understand the university and the community at large, and as importantly, to make informed decisions. Editorials, commentaries and reviews provide insights and analyses on events, trends and everyday life from unique, albeit sometimes controversial, individual perspectives. And by practicing the reporting, writing, editing and design skills they learn in class, students gain valuable first-hand experience in journalism.

A critical element of this experience is the exercise of judgment on issues of ethics, fairness and even legality. While most student editors will surely seek the counsel of the adviser with a question of libel, or even taste, for an adviser to require review of the student-edited content is not only distasteful but a breach of the First Amendment.

At public universities such as YSU, student media are considered public forums, a status that accords them the same rights and freedoms from censorship guaranteed all other news outlets by the First Amendment. Unfortunately, recent trends suggest that many colleges and universities are increasingly seeking to assert control over student media.

In June of this year, seven appellate judges sided against student editors at Governor's State University in Illinois when the students sued school officials for suspending publication of the student newspaper for refusing to submit to prior review and approval of future issues. The case potentially opens the door for officials to decide that public forum status is not guaranteed to student presses, a move that could deal the death of the free student press and a devastating blow to journalism education on campuses across the country.

As you read *The Jambar*, it's important to keep the principles of a free press in mind, as well as the values of higher education. The paper may not always provide the views, or even the coverage that some (myself included at times) might prefer, but it is essential to understand that the paper reflects the efforts of students engaged in the craft of journalism and the process of learning. ■

Campus News Roundup

Professors Mir, Brown take CISP posts



Mustansir Mir



Steve Brown

and the head of the Center for Islamic Studies at YSU, and Steve

YSU Provost Robert K. Herbert has announced administrative changes at the Center for International Studies and Programs.

The office is now under the temporary stewardship of Mustansir Mir, University Professor of Islamic Studies

Brown, professor of English. Mir has agreed to serve as temporary special assistant to the provost for international initiatives, and Brown has agreed to serve as temporary special assistant to the provost for international students.

"Dr. Mir's expertise and skills will be useful to us as we continue to strengthen institutional partnerships with overseas universities and with international faculty members," Herbert said. "Dr. Brown's portfolio will include advising international students on our campus and recruiting international students."

Herbert said a search committee for a permanent director for CISP has been formed, chaired by Peter Kasvinsky, dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research. The committee's first charge will be to determine a set of priorities for the center and then to conduct a national search for a director. ■



WYSU-FM Director Gary Sexton runs through the Manistee National Forest in Michigan as part of a fund-raising effort for the station.

WYSU head finishes fund-raising race

After six months of training, Gary Sexton, director of WYSU-FM 88.5, successfully completed a 50-mile ultra marathon in Michigan to raise thousands of dollars to help finance a new transmitter for the station.

"The first 25 miles was pretty easy, and the hills weren't too bad, but the second loop around was a different story," said Sexton, who completed the last leg of the race with the help of his wife, Sue, running beside him. The race was on Sept. 17.

Sexton finished the grueling course in the Manistee National Forest in Northern Michigan in 8 hours, 44 minutes and 36 seconds, placing ninth in the race.

"Even though running is one of my favorite things to do, training at this level was a sacrifice," he said. "It's my hope that our station supporters will recognize this and will themselves be willing to make a sacrifice to help WYSU."

The fund-raising campaign has collected nearly \$35,000 so far, but donations are still coming in. The station had previously received \$20,000 from the Wean Foundation toward the new transmitter, which will cost \$70,000. The current transmitter was installed in 1989.

For more information or to make a donation, visit www.wysupower.org or call 330-941-3363. In addition to the campaign for the transmitter, WYSU is launching its annual Fall Fund Drive on Friday, Oct. 14. The station has a goal of \$88,500 to raise during the weeklong the campaign, which runs through Friday Oct. 21. ■

Constitution Day

Paul Kobulnicky, executive director of the Maag Library, talks with Robert Bennett, noted constitutional scholar and former president of the American Bar Association, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center on Sept. 19. Bennett spoke as part of YSU's Constitution Day celebration.

Percussion guest artist visits campus

Johnny Lee Lane, a world renowned percussionist and clinician, will share his professional insight during a guest artist visit to the YSU campus Oct. 12 to 14.

"It is my hope that Mr. Lane can assist us through establishing a unique collaborative relationship between YSU and Remo Inc., the world's largest percussion company, to develop a nationally recognized world percussion, drum circle, facilitation and dance accompaniment studies program at YSU," said YSU Director of Percussion Studies Glenn Schaft, who will serve as host to Lane during his visit and studied under him as a graduate student at Eastern Illinois University.

Lane is one of the nation's foremost college percussion

educators. He was director of percussion studies at Eastern Illinois University for 28 years and has spent the last three years at Indiana University School of Music at Indianapolis. He also is director of education for Remo Inc., the world's largest percussion company.

The public is welcome to attend the following events:

- Wednesday, Oct. 12, 7 to 8 p.m. — SMARTS Community Drum Circle, Thursday, Oct. 13, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Lecture/discussion on world percussion/drum circle facilitation, SMARTS Center, 258 Federal Plaza West, Powers Auditorium.
- Friday, Oct. 14, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. World Percussion Clinic for YSU Percussion Studio, Bliss Hall, Room 2326. ■

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

The *YSUupdate* is published every other week during the academic year and once a month in the summer by the Office of Marketing and Communications.

Executive Director: Walt Ulbricht
Assistant Director: Jean Engle
Update Editor: Ron Cole
Associate Editor: Wendy Wolfgang
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Photography: Jim Evans, Tony Mancino and John Vogel
Printing: YSU Printing Services

Marketing and Communications
133 Tod Hall, Youngstown, Ohio 44555-3519
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Faculty/Staff

Grants

Margaret Briley, assistant professor, Teacher Education, received a \$1,500 University Research Council Grant for "Accommodating Visual Motor Problems in General and Special Education."

Michael Crescimanno, professor, Physics and Astronomy, received a \$4,600 University Research Council Grant for "Theoretical and Experimental Opportunities for New Clock and Stopped Light."

Nancy Landgraff, assistant professor, Physical Therapy, received two University Research Council Grants: \$5,000 for "Functional Outcomes in Patients with Carotid Artery Occlusion" and \$500 for "Application of Gymnastic Loading Principles To An Adult Female Diagnosed with Osteopenia."

Scott Martin, professor and chair, Civil/Environmental and Chemical Engineering, **Gary Walker**, associate professor, and **Lauren Schroeder**, professor emeritus, both of Biological Sciences, received a \$3,900 University Research Council Grant for "Factors Limiting the Odor Causing Algae, *synura petersenii*."

Greg Moring, associate professor, Art, received a \$5,000 University Research Council Grant for "Public Constructions."

Presentations

Greg Claypool, professor, Accounting and Finance, presented "Fraud and the Accountant" at the 2nd annual Youngstown CPE Day.

Gunapala Edirisooriya, professor, Educational Administration, Research, and Foundations, presented "A Process Based Approach to Attitude Measurement: A Mixed Method Approach" at the American Educational Research Association's 2005 meeting in Montreal.

Rangamohan Eunni, assistant professor, Management, co-presented "Strategic Adaptation: An Integrated View" at the Eastern Academy of Management 2005 Conference in Springfield, Mass.

New employees join YSU staff

YSUupdate welcomes the following new professional/administrative and classified staff employees to YSU:

Full-Time Professional/Administrative

Jocelyn Bezeredi, instructional aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Laurie Brinsko, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Joseph Bonner, head coach, Volleyball, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Julie Chandler, research technician, Biological Sciences.

Jillian Coleman, assistant coach, Women's Swimming and Diving, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Jade Clayton, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Kellie Denmeade, academic advisor, William College of Business Administration.

Brian DePaoli, assistant coach, Men's Basketball, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Jill Holod-Dunbar, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Katie Ensley, assistant coordinator, Comprehensive Testing Center.

Maria Grothaus, housing coordinator, Housing and Residence Life.

Linda Hallock, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Jamie Johnson, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Patricia Lumpkin, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Daniel Kuzma, manager of recycling programs, Support Services.

Harry Meyer, coordinator of technology, Facilities and Conferences, Housing and Residence Life.

Kellie Mills, coordinator for retention services, Center for Student Progress.

Professional Activities

John Russo and **Sherry Linkon**, co-directors, Center for Working-Class Studies, hosted a seminar for 23 historians from around the United States who were part of an NEH seminar on Historic Landmarks of the Steel Industry, sponsored by Western Reserve Historical Society. Russo and Linkon also made a presentation on issues relating to de industrialization to 15 Chinese scholars visiting YSU, who were part of a delegation sponsored by the East/West Center.

Maria Delost, professor and director of clinical laboratory programs, Health Professions, completed the requirements for her doctoral degree at Virginia Commonwealth University in July. Her dissertation topic was, "Quality Laboratory Service – Is it related to Personnel Credentials?" **Andy Chang**, professor, Mathematics and Statistics, was a member of her dissertation committee.

Publications

Patrick Durrell, assistant professor, Physics and Astronomy, served as co-author of the poster "Searching for the Missing PG Hot Subdwarfs in SDSS and GALEX Data" at the June 2005 "Hot Subdwarf Stars and Related Objects" meeting.

Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, director, Dr. James Dale Ethics Center, professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, published "Terrorism, Innocence, and Justice," in *Philosophy and Public Policy Quarterly*. It is also reprinted in Bruce Waller's book "You Decide! Current Debates in Contemporary Moral Problems." He also published "The Iraq War of 2003" in *Teaching Ethics*.

Paul Rohrbaugh, librarian, Wilcox Curriculum Resource Center, had his article and game "Operation Kadesh: the Suez Crisis, 1956" published in *Command and Strategy*, a new military history magazine.

Peter Woodlock, professor and chair, Accounting and Finance, had the paper "Seven Steps To Effective Communication" published in *Catalyst: The Leading Edge of Ohio Business*. ■

Alaina Mitchell, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Byron Thorne, assistant coach, Men's Basketball, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Elizabeth Reel, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Cynthia Rogers, parent support group, Rich Center for Autism.

Robin Sakonyi, coordinator, Center for Student Progress.

Sarah Simon, assistant athletic trainer, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Taliah Watkins, intervention aide, Rich Center for Autism.

Leigh Ann Waring, coordinator, Career and Counseling Services.

Michael Wernicki, assistant coach, Men's Basketball, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Ruth Wilkes, resource development coordinator, Rich Center for Autism.

Erin Yiannaki, academic administrator for pre-professional programs, College of Arts and Sciences.

Part-time Professional/Administrative

Angela Cameron, Youngstown after-school alliance coordinator, Center for Human Services.

Sherod Holmes, Jr., assistant coach, Football, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Casey Vogt, assistant coach, Football, Intercollegiate Athletics.

Full-time Classified

Matthew Romeo, maintenance repair worker 2, Facilities.

Frank Oddo, maintenance repair worker 2, Facilities.

Sandra Olmi, account clerk 2, Student Accounts & University Receivables. ■

Six YSU faculty win NOCHE outstanding teaching award



Maria Delost



Jacek Fabrykowski



William Rick Fry



Randy Hoover



Richard McEwing



Victor Wan-Tatah

Six YSU faculty members receive 2005 teaching awards from the Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education at a luncheon on Oct. 7 at the University of Akron.

The YSU recipients are:

- **Maria DeLost**, professor and director of clinical laboratory programs.
- **Jacek Fabrykowski**, associate professor of mathematics and statistics.
- **William Rick Fry**, professor of psychology.
- **Randy L. Hoover**, professor of teacher education.
- **Richard A. McEwing**, professor, educational administration, research & foundations.
- **Victor F. Wan-Tatah**, professor of philosophy & religious studies.

"These YSU faculty members represent the best of the best classroom teachers in the state, and in the nation for that matter," said Robert K. Herbert, YSU provost and vice president for academic affairs.

"Their dedication to teaching, to the university and most especially to their students is commendable and well worth this recognition."

The YSU faculty members are among 56 faculty from 20 colleges and university's throughout Northeast Ohio to receive the awards. The recipients were drawn from the more than 9,000 full and part-time faculty members in the region.

"The list of 2005 honorees makes clear that great teaching is delivered in multiple forms," says Charles Hickman, NOCHE executive director.

"Charismatic lectures, introduction of simulations and field study programs that give students 'hands-on' learning opportunities, creative use of new learning technologies, and providing extraordinary access to students outside the classroom for academic advice and counseling are among the ways that these faculty members enhance learning at our member institutions." ■

Record 400 employees give to YSU Annual Fund

A record number of YSU faculty and staff gave to the university's Annual Fund in 2004-05.

Four hundred faculty and staff made contributions totaling \$67,000. It's the highest level of faculty/staff participation in the Annual Fund's history, said Jacquelyn Daniel, Annual Fund coordinator. In 2003-04, 313 faculty and staff made contributions.

"We are overwhelmed by the confidence that the faculty and staff continue to place in the growth of YSU," Daniel said. "Leadership

is key to any successful venture, and the strong show of leadership that the faculty and staff have exhibited could not have come at a better time for YSU."

The Annual Fund is YSU's largest annual fund-raising vehicle. The money is used to fund various scholarships, educational programs and other projects on campus. In 2004-05, the Annual Fund raised more than \$600,000, nearly 12 percent more than the previous year. ■



Flute ensemble

Danielle Frabutt of Austintown, a music education major, performs with the Dana School of Music's Flute Ensemble in the Butler Institute of American Art. The performance was part of Dana's Music at Noon Concert Series, which runs Wednesdays through Nov. 23 at the Butler.

“Homework Express” TV show produced in Bliss Hall

What is the smallest positive number that is divisible by all of the numbers from 1 through 10?

If area middle school students have trouble answering that and other math and science questions, help is just a phone call away.

“Homework Express” is a live homework help television show where students call in with math and science questions and teachers provide answers. The program, which began Sept. 20, is broadcast from the Bliss Hall television studio on campus.

The show, the first of its kind in Northeast Ohio, is aired on Time-Warner, Armstrong and Adelphia cable from 4:30 to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the school year. Kelly Stevens of WHOT-FM and Hot 101’s Wake Up Crew hosts the show.

A pool of five teachers from Warren G. Harding High School, Girard Junior High School, Girard High School, Volney Rogers Junior High School and East Middle School will rotate appearances on the show.

“We know students struggle with math and science and that a helping hand can make a difference,” said Fred Owens, a professor in YSU’s communication and theater department and the show’s project director.

A production of YSU’s telecommunication studies program, the show represents a partnership among the university, the Diocese of Youngstown, the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County, Warren-Trumbull County Public Library, Mahoning County Educational Service Center, Trumbull County Educational Service Center, Time-

Warner, Armstrong and Adelphia cable.

A studio crew of 14 YSU telecommunication students works on the production of all of the shows. The studio crew was selected by Amy Graban-Crawford, an assistant professor in communication and theater, and the show’s associate producer. “Working on the show will serve as a capstone to their academic careers,” she said. “It’s a good addition to what we do in the T-comm department.”

Telecommunications part-time faculty member Jim Stipetich is the show’s executive producer. “There are layers of value to the show – the kids being directly helped and all



the kids that are watching. It will also bring education more to the top of the mind – if it’s on television, it seems to become more legitimate.”

Similar shows have aired with success in Maryland, New York and West Virginia.

For more information, visit www.homeworkexpress.org or call 330-941-1855. (Editor’s note: The answer to the question? 2,520.) ■

New faculty (Continued from page 1)

in the faculty ranks, which number about 400.

The 36 new faculty this year, including 23 permanent, tenure-track positions, is the most in any single year in that five-year period.

“The infusion of new blood creates an excitement that’s contagious,” Herbert said.

Among that new blood is Dolores Sisco, a native of Philadelphia who grew up in Detroit and spent 17 years in the banking industry before earning a doctorate in English literature and entering the world of academe.

“It’s a tough town,” Sisco, assistant professor of English, said about her impressions of Youngstown. “It’s trying to come back. I like the blue collar attitude.”

Peter Reday, who grew up in a small town in Virginia, comes to YSU as an assistant professor of marketing after a 20-year career in business, including 13 years in Hong Kong and Singapore.

“I wanted to come back to the United States and try to impart to students here that there’s a global environment out there that

can’t be ignored,” said Reday, who spent two years on the faculty at Ashland University before coming to YSU.

“(YSU) has a pretty wide reputation as a big state school, so there are a lot more opportunities for personal growth for someone like me.”

Patricia Wagner, a lawyer and a new instructor of criminal justice at YSU, used to work on the 27th floor of a downtown Chicago office building as in-house counsel for Ameritech.

“I loved the urban life,” said Wagner, a native of College Station, Texas, whose father was a professor at Texas A&M University. “I thought I would stay there the rest of my life.”

But, when her husband, Tim, moved to Youngstown in 1992 to join YSU’s chemistry faculty, Wagner left her law work behind. Between raising two children, she has taught part-time at YSU since coming to the Mahoning Valley.

“Teaching is fun,” she said. “It’s more fun than practicing law. You can talk for an hour

without anyone raising any objections.”

Islam worked as an engineer on the construction of the Jamuna Bridge in Bangladesh, the 11th longest bridge in the world, before coming to the United States in 1999. He was offered the job at YSU two weeks before earning a doctorate in structural engineering from Florida State University.

“(YSU) has a lot of resources for research and teaching that is very good for someone just starting like me,” said Islam, whose doctoral dissertation focused on securing bridges from terrorist attacks.

“It’s not too big, and not too small. It’s a good fit.”

The influx of new faculty is the result, in part, of a spate of retirements and growing enrollment. Fifty-eight permanent, tenured faculty have retired since 2001, 22 alone at the end of last academic year.

Herbert said replacing experienced, retired faculty is not easy, but hiring new faculty can help bring new ideas and approaches to campus.

“There’s a real dynamic at work here,” he said. “We’re focused on the future. We’re building for the future.” ■

“We’re building for the future.”

—Provost Robert K. Herbert

Rec center

(Continued from page 1)

major, said she has already climbed to the top many times. “I am really excited about the rec center being here at YSU – it’s going to be great for everybody,” she said.

Full-time students pay a mandatory \$48 per semester fee to fund operations of the center. Faculty and staff who want to use the center will be charged a \$100 annual fee. The center is not open to the general public. ■

Enrollment

(Continued from page 1)

increased by 540 students or nearly 55 percent, from 988.

Hispanic student enrollment is up 9.6 percent this fall to 252 students and up by 62 students or nearly 33 percent since 2000.

Also on the positive side, enrollment of students outside Mahoning, Trumbull and Columbiana counties increased 13 percent to a seven-year high of 412, up from 363 last fall, Maraffa said.

While overall enrollment is down, the Bitonte College of Health and Human Services continued experiencing an enrollment surge, posting a 6.5 percent increase to 3,339 students. Since 2000, HHS enrollment has jumped by 1,249 students or nearly 60 percent from 2,090.

In terms of overall enrollment, Maraffa noted that graduate student enrollment dropped nearly 15 percent, from 1,298 last fall to 1,110 this fall.

Maraffa also noted that higher than usual numbers of students are leaving the university through graduation. The graduating class of 2004-05, for instance, numbered 2,025, the largest in a decade.

He also said that the university did not experience a surge of enrollment as it usually does during the two weeks leading up to the start of the fall semester on Aug. 29. He said some of that may be related to strikes by faculty and classified staff the week before classes started. ■



Ready to rumble...

The YSU football squad prepares to run onto the turf at Heinz Field in Pittsburgh for the start of its contest with the Pitt Panthers on Sept. 24. YSU, an NCAA Division I-AA team, was defeated by Pitt’s Division I-A squad. The game drew about 43,000 fans, including thousands from the Youngstown region.