

# YSUupdate

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

February 5, 2010

## \$200K grant focuses on social/emotional learning



Philip Ginnetti

The Beeghly College of Education will soon begin incorporating social and emotional learning theory into its curriculum under a \$200,000 allocation from the federal government.

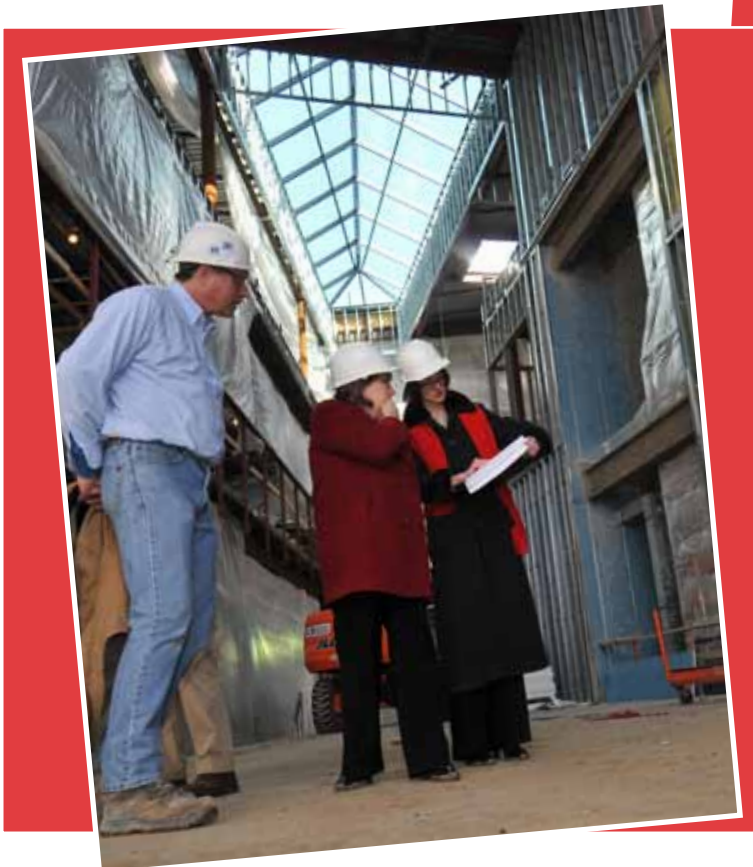
The funding, part of an \$8 million grant secured by U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan for job creation and programming in Mahoning, Trumbull, Summit and Portage counties, will help put YSU on the cutting edge of social and emotional learning nationwide.

"We're very excited to be a part of this," said

Philip Ginnetti, dean of the Beeghly College of Education.

SEL is a process for helping children develop the fundamental skills for life, including the ability to manage emotions, develop caring and concern for others, establish positive relationships, make

*(continued on back page)*



## Construction tour

Dean Betty Jo Licata recently led a brief tour of the inside of the new Williamson College of Business Administration building now under construction between Rayen Avenue and Wood Street. To the left, with the windows of the first-floor atrium towering above, Licata looks over blueprints with Heather Chunn, YSU development officer, and Dave Gase of Marous Brothers Construction. Also on the tour was Richard Feldmiller, YSU senior project manager, pictured above with Licata and Chunn. The \$34.3 million, 106,000-square-foot building includes a 200-seat auditorium, a four-room conference center, a cafe, classrooms, computer labs, a financial services lab, a professional sales/communications lab and much more. The facility, which is about twice the size of the business college's current home on Lincoln Avenue, is scheduled to open for the start of the fall semester. For more photos, visit eUpdate at <http://cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.

## eUpdate exclusives

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

- **Margaret L. Murphy, a strong voice for community development in Youngstown, has announced that she is stepping down as the founding executive director of Wick Neighbors Inc.**
- **Jay Alan Gershen, vice chancellor for external affairs for the University of Colorado Denver, is the new president of the Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy.**
- **YSU's Africana Studies Program schedules an array of programming throughout February in celebration of African American History Month.**
- **Ohio Speaker of the House Armond Budish is the featured speaker at the annual tri-county legislative breakfast hosted by YSU and the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber.**
- **Mad About the Arts set for Feb. 19; Campus competes in RecycleMania; Biennial Faculty Exhibition to open at the McDonough Museum of Art; Mayor speaks at STEM Awards Dinner; YSU hosts Business Start-Up seminars; Students selected as Beeghly Fellows; Music at Noon concerts continue this semester; and much more.**

# Students speak, YSU responds; lounges undergo improvements

Large student lounges in DeBartolo and Cushwa halls have undergone \$120,000 in major renovations as a result of the work of the Academic and Student Areas Enhancement Committee.

The committee, which consists of students, faculty, staff and administrators, was formed in 2007 after members of Student Government went around campus, analyzed and photographed campus facilities that they felt needed improved, and presented a detailed report to President David C. Sweet.

"As an institution, our top priority is to listen to and effectively respond to the needs of our students," said Gene Grilli, vice president for administration and finance. "We heard the students, we formed this committee and we have now been able to move forward in completing improvements to these two student lounges, which were in much need of renovations."

Abbie Twyford, executive vice president of Student Government and a member of the committee, said students will continue to monitor the campus and bring concerns to the committee.

"It's great to see some improvements be-

ing made to some of these very visible areas that students use the most," she said.

In Cushwa Hall, carpet, chairs, tables, couches and other furniture were replaced in the main atrium lounge, and a 50-inch television was installed, said Vince Sacco, director of facilities and a member of the committee. In DeBartolo Hall, furniture and wall coverings were replaced in the lounge on the first floor. Sacco said additional electrical outlets were installed in both lounges to allow students to charge laptop computers and use other electronic devices.

"I love what they have done," Twyford said.

Sacco said the lounges in DeBartolo and Cushwa halls are the largest at the university and were identified in surveys as the two that needed the most work. He said the committee will now begin to look at other areas of the campus, including the student lounge in Ward Beecher Hall.

"There are still a lot of projects that need to be addressed," Sacco said. "We will continue to meet, identify projects and complete them as the funds become available." ■



Students relax in the newly renovated student lounge in the atrium of Cushwa Hall.

## Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

The *YSUpdate* is published every other week during the academic year and once a month in the summer by the Office of Marketing and Communications. 8-003

Marketing and Communications  
133 Tod Hall, Youngstown, Ohio 44555-3519  
[racole01@ysu.edu](mailto:racole01@ysu.edu) 330-941-3519  
[cevinarsky@ysu.edu](mailto:cevinarsky@ysu.edu)



# Faculty & Staff

Send items for "Faculty & Staff" to  
Cynthia Vinarsky at [cevinarsky@ysu.edu](mailto:cevinarsky@ysu.edu).

**Stephen E. Rodabaugh**, associate dean of the College of STEM, will publish the paper, "Relationships of Algebraic Theories to Powersets over Objects in Set and Set x C" in the February 2010 edition of *Fuzzy Sets and Systems*. Also, Rodabaugh's paper titled "Lattice-Valued Predicate Transformers and Interchange Systems" with Kent State University collaborators Austin Melton and Jeffrey T. Denniston (a master's graduate of YSU) was accepted for plenary presentation at, and inclusion in the proceedings of, the 31st International Seminar on Fuzzy Set Theory ("Linz Seminar"): Lattice-Valued Logic and Its Applications, Feb. 9 through 13, at Bildungshaus St. Magdalena, Linz, Austria.

**Paul R. Carr**, assistant professor, Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership, had an article titled "Political Conscientization and Media (II) literacy: Critiquing the Mainstream Media as a form of Democratic Engagement" and a book review titled "Multicultural Education Policies in Canada and the United States"

published in *Multicultural Education*.

**Yogendra M. Panta**, assistant professor, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, presented a paper at the 2009 American Physical Society in Pittsburgh, titled "Electrochemical Detection of Mercury Under Magnetohydrodynamic Convection, Magnetohydrodynamically Driven Microfluidic Channel." Co-authors of the paper are **H.W. Shawn Kim**, YSU professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, and Shizhi Qian from Old Dominion University. In addition, Panta presented the paper "Analysis of Magnetohydrodynamic Flow in Microfluidics" at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Physical Society Division of Fluid Dynam-

ics in Minneapolis. **Wei Lin**, a YSU graduate student and co-author of the paper, is working on this topic for his thesis.

**Sylvia J. Imler**, associate professor, Department of Counseling and Special Education, published "Integrating the Curriculum in a Living Science Lab Provides Learning for All" in the Fall/Winter 2009 edition of the *Ohio Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Journal*.

**Deborah Mower**, assistant professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, published a paper titled "Teaching Sympathetic Moral Reasoning" in the journal *Teaching Ethics*. ■

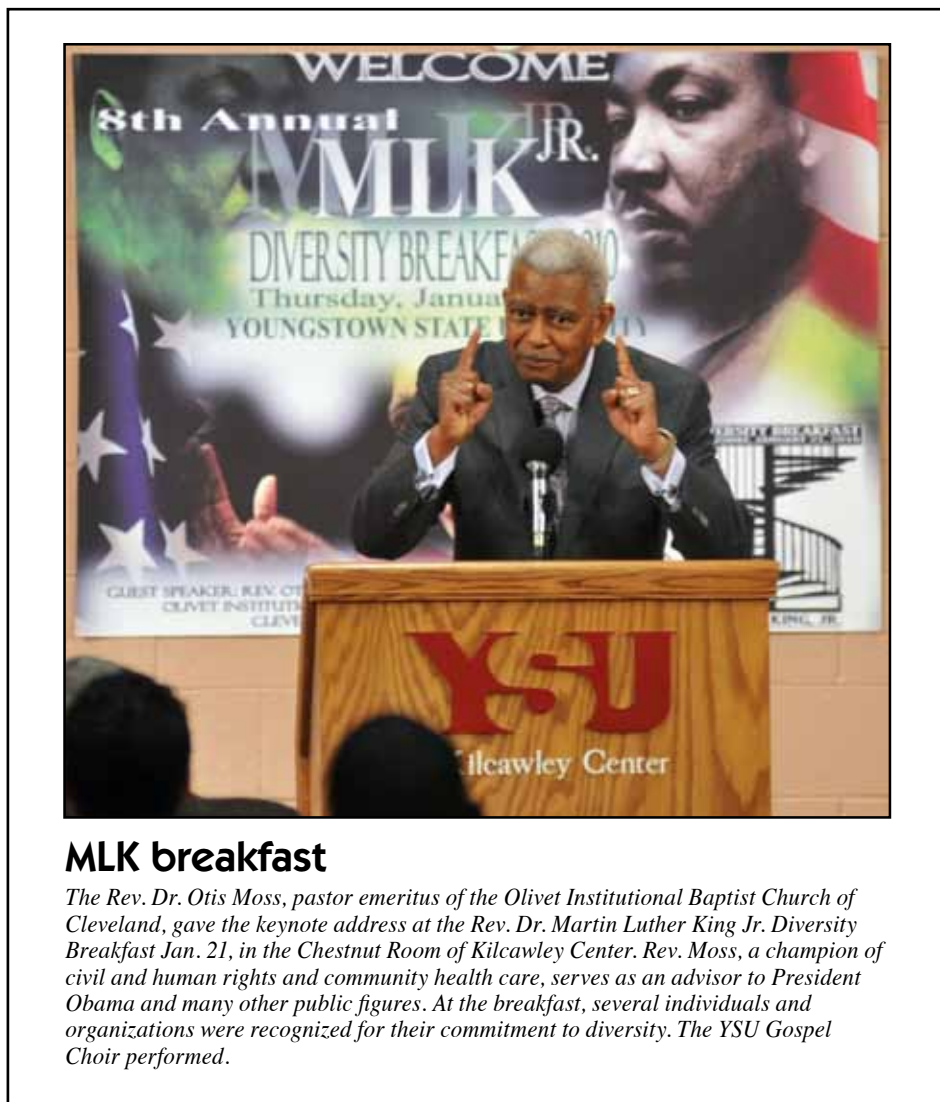
## Spring enrollment increased 27 percent in last decade

YSU's enrollment continues on the upswing this spring semester, up nearly 1,000 students from last spring semester.

Over the past 10 spring semesters, the number of students on campus has increased by 2,965, or 27 percent.

**Here is spring semester headcount enrollment since 2000:**

<b>2010</b> .....	<b>13,837</b>
2009 .....	12,934
2008 .....	12,755
2007 .....	12,502
2006 .....	12,192
2005.....	12,396
2004 .....	12,360
2003.....	12,215
2002.....	11,833
2001.....	11,155
2000 .....	10,872



### MLK breakfast

*The Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, pastor emeritus of the Olivet Institutional Baptist Church of Cleveland, gave the keynote address at the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Diversity Breakfast Jan. 21, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center. Rev. Moss, a champion of civil and human rights and community health care, serves as an advisor to President Obama and many other public figures. At the breakfast, several individuals and organizations were recognized for their commitment to diversity. The YSU Gospel Choir performed.*

## P-16 Partnership for Education fosters success in college

A group of civic leaders, businesspersons and educators, including many from YSU, have joined together to form the Eastern Ohio P-16 Partnership for Education.

The group, which began working together last spring and was publicly launched at a news conference in January, aims to create significantly better outcomes for students on all levels – from pre-kindergarten through college – in Ashtabula, Columbiana, Mahoning and Trumbull counties.

The goal of the group is to foster postsecondary success and career readiness by creating a seamless system of education that is student-centered, high-performing and continually responsive to community need.

“It’s important to get to parents very early on to learn and understand about



Alison Harmon

developmental stages and what’s important to prepare their children for education,” said Alison Harmon, associate dean of the Beeghly College of Education. Harmon planned and convened the initial P-16 meetings a year ago on behalf of YSU President David C. Sweet.

The partnership, which consists of 72 members, believes that if the region is to compete successfully in the global economy, it must build a culture and climate that will grow, attract and retain highly skilled, high-wage jobs that result in an enhanced and sustainable quality of life for its residents.

“We need a workforce that is educated in the sense that they can communicate, that they can do critical thinking, that they can do problem-solving,” said Steve Kristan, director of external affairs for AT&T and vice chair

of the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber’s board of directors.

“It’s critical for business to have those people.”

The idea for the P-16 Partnership started with Sweet and Tom Humphries, president of the Regional Chamber. Initial funding for the initiative has come from the Raymond J. Wean Foundation, YSU, the county educational service centers, the Martha Holden Jennings Foundation and the Regional Chamber. The group is hiring an executive director.

Among the 72 members of the partnership are Harmon; Phil Ginnetti, dean of the Beeghly College of Education; Martin Abraham, dean of the College of STEM; Jean Grabaskas, administrative assistant in the Beeghly College of Education; and Mike Hripko, director of research and economic development in the College of STEM. ■

## Education

(Continued from page 1)

responsible decisions, and handle challenging situations constructively.

Under the grant to YSU, faculty members from the College of Education will be trained in SEL theory. These faculty members will, in turn, incorporate SEL training and practice into the college by establishing and reinforcing SEL concepts throughout the college’s curriculum, Ginnetti said. The goal is for graduates of the college who advance into teaching positions to be able to include SEL concepts in their K-12 classrooms.

Representatives from the Collaborative for Academic Social and Emotional Learning, a not-for-profit organization that works to advance the science and evidence-based

practice of social and emotional learning, will come to campus for the training.

Tim Shriver, who also is national chair of Special Olympics, chairs CASEL. He is the son of the Sargent and

Eunice Kennedy Shriver. In addition to Shriver, celebrities such as actress Goldie Hawn have been advocates for implementing SEL in schools.

“There are a lot of big-name supporters behind this initiative, and we’re proud to be involved,” Gin-

netti said.

Ryan, Ginnetti, Hawn, Shriver and several other leaders in the SEL field attended a CASEL conference in Washington this past December. At the

conference, Ryan joined U.S. Reps. Dale E. Kildee and Judy Biggert in announcing the introduction of the Academic Social and Emotional Learning Act that authorizes the establishment of programs and allocation of funds to establish a national technical assistance center for SEL, grants to support evidence-based SEL programming, and a national evaluation of school-based SEL programming.

“If we want to push academic performance to the next level, we need to educate the whole child,” Ryan, an original co-sponsor of the legislation, said in a news release. “That means teaching kids how to appropriately handle their emotions and build productive relationships. It’s one of the most significant things we can do to support them. I wish SEL was in schools when I was growing up.”

In addition to YSU, the Youngstown, Warren and Niles school districts received federal funds to incorporate SEL into their curriculum. ■

*“If we want to push academic performance to the next level, we need to educate the whole child.”*

U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan