



ENGINEERING A BETTER WORLD

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Engineering majors study to become problem solvers in a wide variety of disciplines and situations. For the newly formed Engineers Without Borders chapter at Youngstown State University, participating students hope to use their skills to help solve problems across the globe.

Engineers Without Borders USA was incorporated in 2002 and is comprised of engineers and non-engineers working towards sustainable solutions to global problems. The organization boasts 286 chapters nationwide and serves 39 countries.

The newly formed chapter was chartered during the spring semester; however, a shaky start stunted the group's initial growth. After a restructuring and a renewed recruitment effort, interest in the group has spiked, and the organization is hoping to pursue their first major project.

Senior Nick Fischer, the president of YSU's EWB chapter, has worked for the past year to rally interest in the organization and to ensure the group is run according to EWBUSA national standards.

"Last semester when we first chartered it was a rocky start. We lost an adviser and a lot of students just lost interest while we were looking to replace the adviser," Fischer said. "This semester it really took off though. There's been a lot more interest."

BUILDING A CHAPTER

The group's first challenges were securing the right to call themselves an official EWB chapter, as well as raising union dues and learning how to properly run the chapter.

Fischer filed all the necessary paperwork and accompanied five members of his group to a conference in Washington, D.C. where the team learned how to manage their chapter. To pay for the trip and their dues sophomore Jacob Millerleile, the organization's treasurer, helped run fundraisers through the chapter's fundraiser committee.

"We raised enough money to take care of our initial costs and had enough left over to fund our trip to D.C.," Millerleile said. "Our next goal is to fund our first overseas engineering project."

The initial engineering project, should finances and logistics work out, will take the team to Mbeng, Cameroon to help bring a clean water source to a town in

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS-USA CONSISTS OF A NETWORK OF **14,700 members.**

EWB-USA PREDICTS THAT THEIR WORK HAS AFFECTED MORE THAN **2.5 million lives.**

EWB-USA COLLABORATES WITH LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS, HAVING COMPLETED **684 community development projects.**

THEIR WORK HAS IMPACTED **39 countries.**

STATISTICS COURTESY OF EWB-USA.ORG

GRAPHIC BY STACY RUBINIC/THE JAMBAR.

the area. Currently, Fischer is searching for a professional mentor with international development experience to accompany the team.

"Generally the national organization wants us to partner with three professional mentors, one with design experience, one with construction experience and one with international experience. We have two: Tony Vercellino from civil and environmental engineering and Patrick O'Brien in construction. We're still looking for a local professional with international development experience," Fischer said.

The group is not only looking for mentors, but more student members as well. Engineering students are obviously welcome, but Fischer hopes non-engineering students will join the organization as well.

"Obviously for Cameroon we'd welcome any students who could speak French. We're looking for business students to help us with grants and helping secure corporate sponsors and English students to help us with grant writing," he said. "You don't need to be an engineer to make a difference here."

Once the group is assembled and the money is secure, YSU's EWB chapter would then carry out their project in Cameroon, after which they would be required to maintain contact with the local population for a minimum of five years, ensuring the community

could maintain and repair their project once they fully leave the region.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF CHANGE

Kelsey Kojetin, the communications manager for the Engineers Without Borders national office, explained the philosophy behind their five-year requirement.

"We want to make sure all of our projects are sustainable ... the EWB members on the ground can help the local communities by teaching them how to build and maintain a project. We try to think in the long-term when it comes to aid projects," Kojetin said. "Instead of our organization seeking out opportunities among communities, communities request us. They fill out a request form and then we work on sending a team."

Though Fischer is in his final year, he hopes to leave future students interested in the EWB organization with a sustainable leadership plan. He said he believes his work is worth giving students an outlet for the skill they've learned at YSU.

"Everyone is excited; everyone wants to help," he said. "EWB lets you apply the knowledge you've gained at YSU to help radically change the lives of others."

Clinical Drug Study Grant First for YSU



PHOTO COURTESY OF RON COLE

Jane Wetzel, associate professor in the department of physical therapy, accepts the Dean's Award from Martin Abraham as part of her research in the grant.

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On Wednesday, Nov. 12, Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals, a global pharmaceutical company, awarded Jane Wetzel, Youngstown State University associate professor in the department of physical therapy, and Erdal Sarac, a Canfield physician, over \$70,000 in a research grant to conduct a study designed to evaluate the

effects of a drug treatment on patients with chronic kidney disease who have been on dialysis for less than five years.

Wetzel said that Sarac contacted the university's department of physical therapy with his idea of evaluating the clinical drug trials to patients with kidney disease.

"During that time, Dr. Sarac was looking into an investigator-initiated drug trial. He was attending conferences

where the sponsor of our grant was also presenting their product," Wetzel said. "[Sarac] needed to get an expert to look at how muscles are functioning, strength in general. He came to our department; our department chair sent out an email. He really approached us initially about another trial. It had to do with nutrition and a nutrition supplement, and

DRUG STUDY
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YBI Reaches Out to the Community

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Youngstown Business Incubator is launching the second phase of the five-year fundraising campaign that began in January 2013, and they're asking for donations from the Youngstown community.

Jim Cossler, CEO of YBI, said this offers the community the opportunity to participate in one of the greatest urban comebacks ever.

"We firmly believe that if we are successful, the spectacular growth you have seen from our organization these past fourteen years will pale in comparison to what you will see from us in the next ten," Cossler said. "We are seeking to raise \$2.5 million through public contributions, to not only make critical investments in the most promising portfolio companies in the YBI, but also serve as a highly attractive drawing force for equally promising young companies."

Colleen Kelly, director of development at YBI, said they focused on corporate sponsors in the campaign's first year and now they're going out into the public.

"One thing that we're really focusing on is online donations, like \$5 a month, \$10 a month. We're calling them 'Friends of YBI' — people that like what we're doing here, but can't make that major commitment or major gift, but still like the YBI, support Youngstown, what we're doing and want to give \$5 or \$10 a month as a recurring gift," Kelly said.

Kelly said the funding will go into their entrepreneurial program and their additive manufacturing program.

YBI
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Gospel on the Airwaves

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While most Rookery Radio shows cover sports, news or university happenings, one show — hosted by 19-year-old Chris Gunther — focuses exclusively on the Gospel.

“The Chris Gunther Show” airs every Thursday from 7-9 p.m. Gunther said he hopes this show will foster positive feelings among listeners.

“My show is about giving people words of encourage-



GUNTHER

ment, and I try to let them know that [despite] anything they might be going through, that they have God and it is going to be alright,” Gunther said.

Gunther has been on the radio for just over a year, and though his show now focuses exclusively on the gospel, it hasn’t always been this way. Gunther’s show began as a gospel and R&B/hip-hop show, called the “KT & CG Show” — a program hosted by Gunther and a co-host.

“The audience loved our show; they loved how we showed them how you can still be saved and have your variety of music while still having fun,” Gunther said. “But I was still somewhat getting criticized by others who thought I was a hypocrite, but despite that [criticism] my co-host and I kept the

show running with a lot of listeners.”

Even though Gunther’s original show was a huge hit amongst many, his co-host and him still had many disagreements which ultimately lead to them parting ways.

“I loved and still do love my co-host, but we just didn’t agree on certain things and that happens. Sometimes God makes things happen without you knowing why and that is when faith comes in; you just got to trust him,” Gunther said.

After Gunther’s first week of having his own show, he said he wanted to make it an all gospel program.

“In the last show I hosted, every time we played gospel music or had a Christian-influenced guest, our listeners would love it. We got wonderful feedback and to me that was God telling me I needed to do his work, inform the world about who he is and what great things he has done for others as well as what he can do for them,” Gunther said. “Since I not only love God but gospel music as well, I just thought ‘well let’s do it,’ and since Rookery Radio is a place where you really can just be yourself I got the green light to go forward with my plan, and I have had a great show ever since.”

The Chris Gunther show is now a hit among many. But the transition to a gospel themed show did not resonate with everyone.

“I lost a lot of friends and people who previously supported me; it was hard. I tried to hold it inside and not let it get to me, but I was still hurt,” Gunther said. “But one thing I did know was that I was doing God’s work and this was just what I had to go through at that time.”

Despite these troubles, Gunther’s show maintains popularity among a loyal listener base.

“Just got to stay tuned and see,” Gunther said. “God is leading the way.”

Are Finals Too Final?

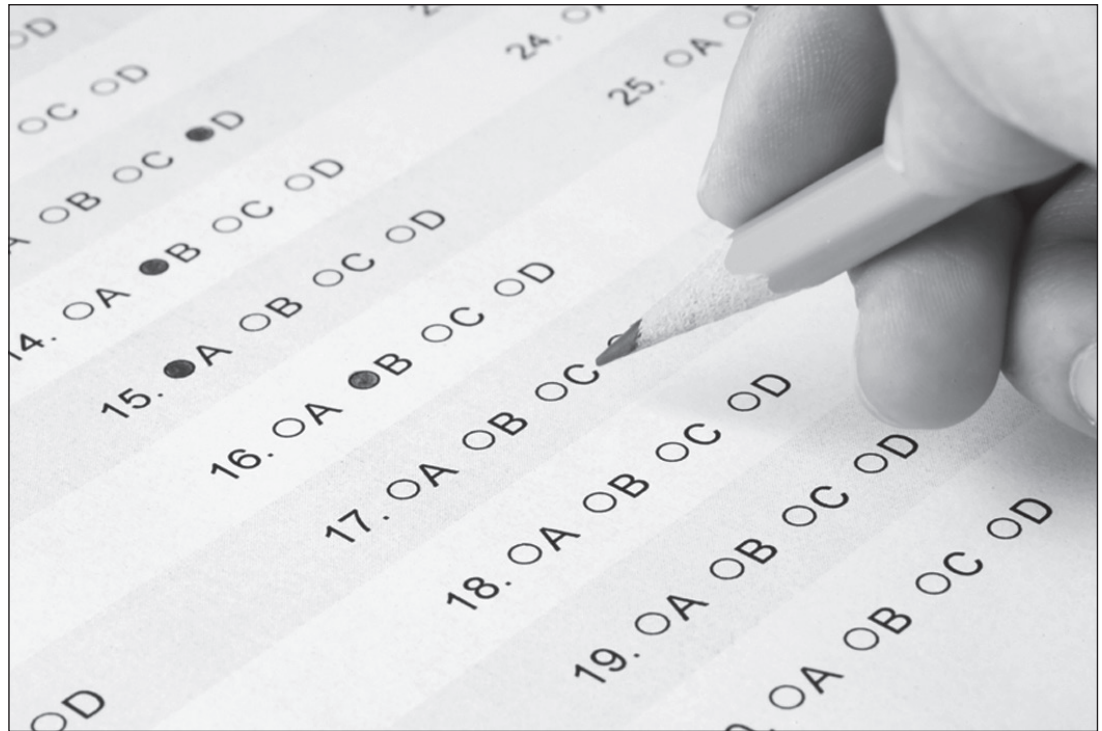


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALBERTO G./FLICKR. "EXAM." CC BY 2.0

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Finals week is less than one week away, and most students have at least one final that will be the difference between letter grades.

It is common practice for a student’s final grade to weigh heavily on his or her performance on the final exam, but it may not be the best pedagogical practice. In fact, some people suggest that students do not retain very much information this way at all.

Richard McEwing, an education professor at Youngstown State University, said that final exams are fair, but should be preceded by multiple assessments. He compares a test without class preparation to a football game without practices.

“It would be unfair [for a football player] to play the game on game day without practices leading to that game under the guidance of a coach,” McEwing said. “The player must be given every opportunity to be prepared for the game day challenge and be prepared to do well. ... There should indeed be more assessments in a class than just a final, but it makes sense to have a final present. The final alone, therefore, does not determine if a student passes or fails.”

Zachary Vargo, a psychology instructor,

says that traditional exams and finals do not actually help students learn as well as they could. He says student have a higher learning potential when under the Personal System of Instruction (PSI), a learning system developed by psychologist Fred S. Keller.

“In PSI, instead of going over a unit of material, then testing over that material, then simply moving on the next unit regardless of the earned grade, it would be more appropriate to require the student to attain what we call a ‘level of mastery’ in order to move on,” Vargo said. “If [students] do not attain the required level, they simply re-study the material and then re-test. Under this system, there is no pass/fail. The student may take as many attempts as is necessary to attain the necessary level of mastery, after which they will move on to the next unit.”

Several colleges have started using the PSI approach to education. The approach has become popular for its ability to focus on individual student needs and learning styles, as well as allowing students to learn at their own pace. Students are also not penalized for failing, as they can continuously attempt to pass mastery exams.

McEwing and Vargo both agree that instructors must take the time to ensure that students are well prepared for exams, and that the final exams should not be the deciding factor in a student’s grade.

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OBAMA PROPOSES \$263M FOR TRAINING, BODY CAMERAS FOR LOCAL POLICE

CHRISTI PARSONS
Tribune Washington Bureau
(TNS)

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama is ordering up new rules for giving local police agencies access to surplus U.S. military equipment such as the armored vehicles, assault rifles and body armor that police in Ferguson, Mo., used in an unsuccessful attempt to quiet protests this summer.

Obama is also proposing a three-year, \$263-million spending package to expand training and increase the use of body-worn cameras for monitoring police interactions with the public. The proposal includes \$75 million that would provide matching funds for purchasing as many as 50,000 cameras. Such cameras might have provided more information in the deadly August shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old by a white Ferguson police officer.

The president’s directive comes along with the release of a new White House review that found the so-called “surplus” programs of the Department of Defense and other federal agencies to be a mishmash of rules and practices, with no clear sign that all police are properly trained and certified to use the military-grade equipment they receive.

The results of the review come a week after a grand jury in St. Louis County chose not to indict the Ferguson police officer, Darren Wilson, in the fatal shooting of Michael Brown. The shooting inflamed local tensions and led to unrest that brought attention to the use of military-grade equipment by local law enforcement officials in their response. Protests around the country and in Ferguson began anew last week in the wake of the grand jury’s decision.

With the report newly in hand, Obama is instructing his staff to come up with a list of military gear that has a legitimate civilian law enforcement purpose and thus can be sent to local police forces around the country, senior administration officials said Monday.

The new rules will also require that local officials review and authorize the acquisition of small arms and all other “controlled” equipment by their

communities, and that police be specially trained in their civilian use.

The rules will come within the next four months in the form of an executive order governing the Pentagon and all other federal agencies that run so-called “surplus” programs that distribute military-style equipment to police around the country.

“What he’s asking his agencies to do is add a very specific layer of accountability,” said one senior administration official familiar with the program. “These layers of accountability aren’t currently present in the program.”

In the case of Ferguson, the use of military equipment served only to escalate the conflict between police and protesters angry about the shooting.

As community leaders demanded to know why the police turned out at peaceful protests with riot gear and equipment, Obama ordered a White House review of the rules that govern the distribution of that material.

The new report identifies a “lack of consistency” in how the various federal programs are run and audited and raises questions about whether police know how to use the military-grade equipment, the senior administration official said.

Obama is discussing the report’s findings, and his new directive, in a series of Monday meetings with his Cabinet, young civil rights leaders and community leaders from around the country.

At the top of the agenda is finding ways to build trust between police and communities, an aide to the president said.

Obama directed his staff to draft an order that requires non-police officials to review and authorize the transfer of such equipment as small arms and armored vehicles before it can come to their communities.

Police forces would have to take part in rigorous training as well as follow-up reports for serious incidents involving the federal equipment, under the order.

In addition, Obama is setting up a task force to come up with recommendations for fighting crime while still building public trust. Charles H. Ramsey, the Philadelphia police commissioner, and Laurie Robinson, former assistant attorney general for justice programs, will co-chair the panel.

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NEWS BRIEFS

YSU Theater Wins Certificates of Merit

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival awarded Youngstown State Theater Certificates of Merit for direction, overall production value and overall ensemble work for the fall production of "The Spitfire Grill."
Carly Magnuson and Natalie Martzial — both senior musical theater majors and cast members of "The Spitfire Grill" — were also chosen to perform at the Kennedy Center's Region II theater festival in January.

New Scholarships Endowed to YSU

Roger and Gloria Jones have endowed two new scholarships to Youngstown State University. One scholarship will be awarded to a student in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; the other will be given to a College of Creative Arts and Communication student majoring in one of the fine arts.

Carols & Cocoa

Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music will be hosting their annual holiday concert on Dec. 3. Carols & Cocoa and the Dana Holiday Concert will begin at 7 p.m. in Stambaugh Auditorium. Cookies, coffee and cocoa will be available courtesy of Dana students.

that sponsor no longer had the competition that they initially had. In that trial and any trial that looks to improve, the status of someone with kidney failure, there is always going to be muscle weakness."

Wetzel, Sarac, Suzanne Giuffre, associate professor and director of clinical education at YSU, and Rachael Pohle-Krauza, associate professor of nutrition at YSU, as well as a few students, researched and collected data in order to present the pilot work to The Medical Research Council at St. Elizabeth's Health Center for lab work.

THE TRIAL

Wetzel said that the drug treatment going to be administered to patients is Acthar gel, a highly purified preparation of adrenocorticotropic hormone.

"So I know in order to fund research, I would need to look at a drug trial for anything on a larger scale," Wetzel said. "With any clinical research, you need a team of people. When you have a good physician who can help you recruit and want to see measures that you are interested in taking happen, it's a great collaboration. We need St. E's because we're going to have all the lab work that needs to be done and they will help us with that part."

The physical therapy department will perform tests during the trials, which will examine patients' abilities to perform therapy tasks along with examining patients' balance.

Some of these tests include gait speed, leg power tests, strong gait velocity tests and balance.

Wetzel said that the Acthar gel treatment that the team is going to perform with the grant money would not cure chronic kidney disease, but possibly strengthen the patients enough so that they will pass the tests.

"It's not going to provide a cure," Wetzel said. "It is something that preliminary trials have shown that milder forms of kidney disease where they aren't chronic. You have some degree of reversibility, but we can't make that kind of a promise to anyone. We are also going to research with an unbiased approach so even though we have our suspicions as to how things are going to go, we are trying not to put too much of a slant on exactly what the outcomes will be."

Wetzel added that these patients would benefit from the treatment and can predict whether or not they are at risk for disability.

BENEFITS OF THE STUDY

"We expect it to benefit the patient because it's supposed to stimulate the adrenal gland and that should create a better use of protein in the body," Wetzel said. "Protein builds muscle, and that makes a person stronger and then they are able to pass these tests. ... We look at gait speed, balance and specific tests that we know will predict whether or not someone is at risk

for falling and hurting themselves, at risk for disablement, and whether they will go into a nursing home or not."

The trials will take place at the Boardman Renal Group, the Canfield Dialysis Center and a Center for Dialysis Care in Warren.

Pohle-Krauza said that she is monitoring the nutritional aspect of the drug treatment and will assess how the drug will affect how a person's calorie intake, leading to their body functions.

"As a Registered Dietitian-Nutritionist, I have unique expertise in assessment of diet composition and quality, and of the way in which the body's composition lean or muscle mass and fat mass or biochemical parameters," Pohle-Krauza said. "Laboratory markers used to mark nutritional status or other physiologic conditions may change over time, depending on what the person is eating and how much they are moving around. By examining food intake, we can assess the ways in which the Acthar might influence overall intake of calories and of specific nutrients, and in turn, how these changes in intake may affect body composition or other indices of nutritional status — then subsequently, how these changes impact a person's ability to function."

Giuffre said that she has been collecting data and assisting others in the research team in writing the pilot for publication. She will also be helping with the strength and physical performance assessments.

"This is an important study because those individuals that are on dialysis long term can have further health issues," Giuffre said. "Finding a way to help them nutritionally, while maintaining their strength, balance and the ability to be functional in the community, is vital. Several of these individuals are young with families and working, and they need to continue to live active lives."

Giuffre said that the research grant will predominantly help those patients who are going to be involved in the trials, but it also advances the university further as an urban research institution.

"The benefit primarily is for the patients. We will hopefully impact the lives of those patients locally, but then possibly affect those around the country. This is a first for YSU, as a clinical drug study, which increases our reputation as a research institution. Additionally, receiving a grant like this always helps the researchers in obtaining further grants," Giuffre said.

Wetzel said that collaboration is one of the positive aspects that result from the grant.

"I think the number one thing that we are getting from this is collaboration between a physician group and the community — between St. E's hospital, the office of grants and research and the department of physical therapy — and then bringing the students in to see how that collaboration has come together," Wetzel said. "It's just not a one- or two-man show. It just can't happen unless all the stars align, and everyone wants to see it happen."

**YBI
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When YBI launched the fundraising campaign in 2013 their goal was to raise \$2.5 million. They've already succeeded in raising \$1.9 million.

They will also use the funding to help renovate their fifth building on campus.

"The fifth building will be used for graduate companies," Kelly said. "When we have companies that are graduating, instead of them moving away from our campus we like to keep them on campus ... to help our up-and-coming portfolio companies."

Barb Ewing, chief operations officer at YBI, said the fifth building will also serve as a "manufacturing hub."

"We have three companies on campus that do additive manufacturing, and that's what we're going to focus the fifth building on," Kelly said.

YBI received a \$3 million grant from the U.S. Economic Development Agency to renovate The Vindicator office building in September.

Kelly said it's important to note that while YBI re-

ceives a lot of funding from the state, many of the grants are contingent on matching funds.

"The thing about that funding is that it requires a match, so we need to come up with that match to enable us to use the funding that we've received from the state," Kelly said.

YBI was named the number one university-affiliated business incubator in the world earlier this year.

People who want to donate can find out how at ybi.org/donate-now/.

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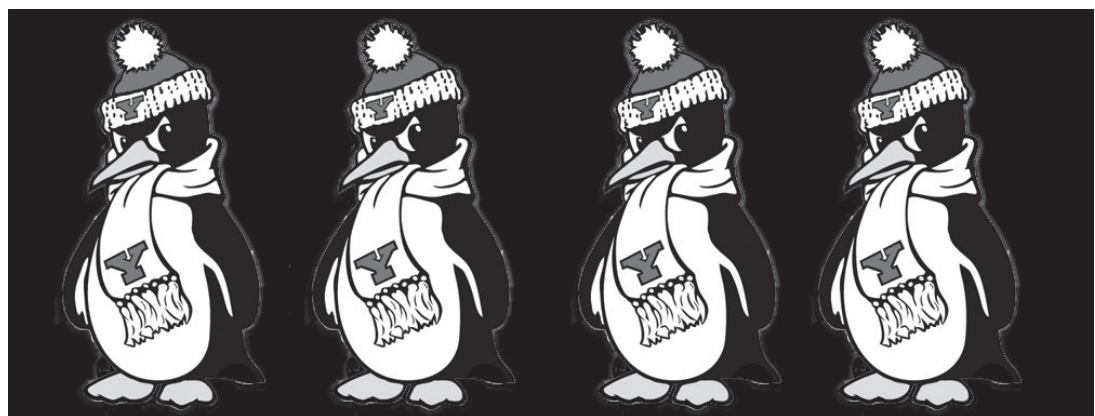
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Penguin Productions

GABRIELLE FELLOWS
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Penguin Productions is a student organization closely affiliated with the Youngstown State University campus that is responsible for bringing in different events to the students and locals of Youngstown.

Taylor Garland, the event leader of Penguin Productions, said that being a member of the organization requires you to get creative.

"[We're] a committee of students who have a love and passion for events and music. We work on bringing artists and fun events to the students of YSU ... We put on mostly music events [that] range from concerts on campus, the Live on Lincoln Block Party and events at the Covelli Centre," Garland said. "It takes a lot of creativity, especially if we are short with the budget. But we always manage to put on a great show."

This semester, Penguin Productions hosted both the Fall Fire Fest and Life in Color. The students who are part

of the organization are responsible for contacting booking agents, organizing the event by creating flyers to spread awareness, balancing the budget, managing the social media accounts and making sure all the final details are in place so that the event goes smoothly.

Carolyn Jesko, member of the Penguin Productions team, said that even though a lot of work goes into being an active member of the organization, the benefits are worth it.

"For every event, I just get really excited. There is so much work and behind-the-scenes stuff that goes on that is a lot of work and planning. But once the event is halfway through and I can relax and not worry about the event, I love seeing everyone's faces there, enjoying the entertainment that we have provided," Jesko said. "That's really the best feeling."

According to Jesko, there are always openings for students wishing to join in on the event planning experience.

"We look at what skills Penguin Productions is lacking — whether that be photography, marketing or graphic design to name a few — and



PHOTO BY GABRIELLE FELLOWS/THE JAMBAR.

fill them. We also look for people with a strong drive to succeed and like to apply their skills," Jesko said. "Even if you just know a lot about music, there is a spot for you."

Whether it be planning a new event or socializing with the other members of the team, Garland said she never fails to have a good time.

"I came [to Penguin Pro-

ductions] my first semester [at YSU] ... and it's one of my favorite things about my college experience. I've had so many opportunities to gain real world experience and have made so many connections," Garland said. "I love the whole process leading up to an event. It's like once we decide on what or whom we are bringing, everything sets

into motion — figuring out what needs done [and] who needs talked to. ... It can be slightly crazy at times but it's the best."

Penguin Productions plans to host a variety of events that will be announced through their Facebook page, facebook.com/YSUPenguinProductions, and Twitter account, @PenguinProduct1, next semester.

Nails in the Burlap: Fine Art in Downtown Galleries

BILLY LUDT
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Overlapping pieces of burlap and paper cover the walls of the Nove Gatto Gallery in the Erie

Terminal building. Upon these skyscraping canvases are the brush strokes of a man brought

back to the place he was born — a man who knows the phrase "starving artist" all too well.

Youngstown-born artist Maple Turner III returns to display his artwork in downtown Youngstown. His work is being shown in the Nove Gatto Gallery on the bottom floor of the Erie Terminal building and the McKelvey Gallery located on the third floor of the Knox Building.

The Maple Turner III show will be held from Nov. 29 to Dec. 20, 2015. An opening reception for the event was held Saturday in the Nove Gatto.

"I am just so thankful that I could bring this body of work downtown," Turner said.

Turner's career as an artist began at the collapse of the steel industry. He worked at J&M Steel in Youngstown, and then shortly after losing his job enrolled and graduated from Youngstown State University.

Turner studied painting at YSU, as well as theater design and silk screening.

Turner lived for 10 years in New York City, taking on several jobs to support himself in a city abundant with artists. He attended the prestigious Parsons School of Design.

"I work in unorthodox material like burlap, collage, pieces of paper — scraps thrown in the dumpster in Soho," Turner said.

When money was tight, Turner took to the streets of Soho in search of material. By picking up old flyers, scraps of paper, long pieces of burlap and paper left behind by businesses, he found his canvas.

Jacob Harver is the owner of Lemon Grove and a dear friend of Turner's. Harver met Turner through a mutual friend.

"I thank God for Jacob, because he has a vision — he has a dream," Turner said. "You don't have to go to New York City to go into a major gallery. You can come to downtown Youngstown."

Harver organized Turner's art exhibition. Partnering with the NYO Property Group, Harver was granted access to renovate the Nove Gatto in order to present Turner's work.

"It was pretty crazy this last month," Harver said. "We were getting both Nove Gatto ready and the third floor ready. It's been around the clock for the last month."

Harver was awake for forty hours straight before the event Saturday, putting some final preparatory touches on Nove Gatto and the McKelvey Gallery.

"It was a lot of hours, but luckily I was not alone for all of them," Harver said. "His artwork speaks for itself, but he's a great person and a great character. Maple's a wonderful human being."

Harver said that his favorite piece by Turner is the 15-foot high painting called "Let Us Not Forget 9/11."

"It really civilizes what the people of the city were going through during the tragedy," Harver said. "It's a powerful piece."

Last year, Turner's work was put on display in the Bliss Hall gallery. His larger pieces of work were not suited for the space available.

Thousands of pieces of Turner's work are available for purchase. Tours of the McKelvey Gallery and Nove Gatto Gallery are available. For more information visit the Knox Building's Facebook page.

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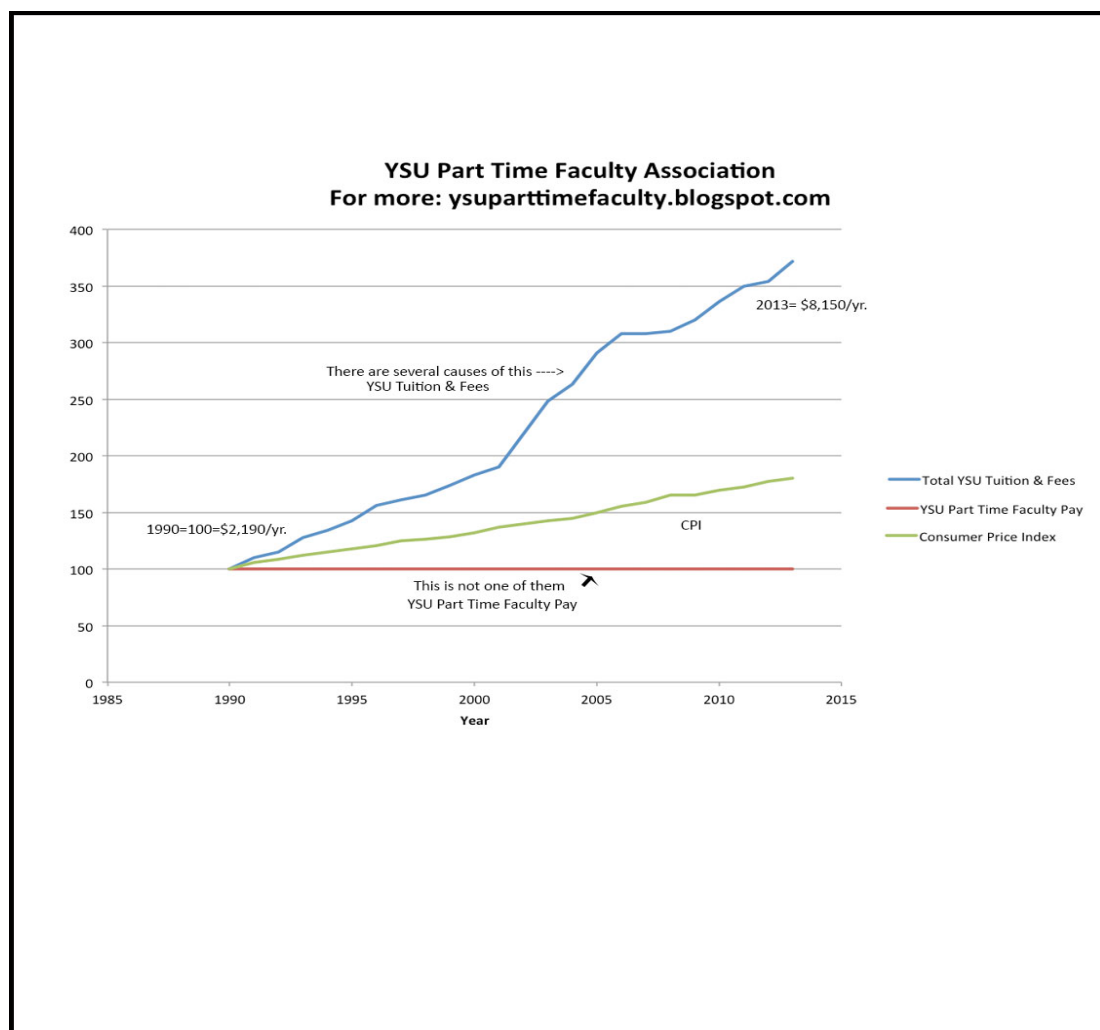


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EDITORIAL

THE WOUNDS RUN DEEP

The angry river that is the faculty and administration contract negotiations took an interesting turn last week that left the course ahead looking rocky and rapid-filled at best.

On Nov. 24, the Youngstown State University-Ohio Education Association faculty union voted to reject the contracts that the Board of Trustees ratified earlier in the month. Had the union agreed to the contracts, the conflict would essentially be over and there would be no looming threats to the spring semester.

The union didn't, and now it is unclear as to what will happen. At this stage, the ball goes back to the administration, who can choose to go back to negotiations — the option the faculty has officially agreed to support — or to reject the faculty's demands for further negotiations, which would very likely end in a strike.

YSU-OEA, the faculty's union, voiced several issues about their agreement with the administration. Issues of total pay decreases (when considered against the rising cost of living and other factors), healthcare contribution concerns (which ended up being resolved, not due to negotiations) and a lack of confidence in the administration's leadership were and continue to be the primary sticking points for the faculty.

At the union meeting where the contract was rejected, faculty present wore large red buttons, saying things like "We are YSU," "You can't put students first if you put faculty last" and "Academics over Athletics." Some students and members of the faculty are changing their profile pictures to photos of the buttons, and it's likely some faculty will be wearing the buttons around for the remainder of the semester.

The button concerning athletics is one that is especially fresh on the minds of the faculty, as Penguin head football coach Eric Wolford was terminated the same night as the contract rejection. This will require the university to pay up to \$100,000 to terminate his contract.

The contract buyout is especially concerning to YSU faculty as the accepted 2015 budget saw 15 layoffs of non-teaching personnel and the elimination of 43 open positions at the university. The administration justified these cuts by citing budgetary limitations, but somehow saw it appropriate to buy out Wolford's contract during a tumultuous negotiation with a faculty that already believes that the administration values athletic programs above all else.

Critics of the faculty's demands, such as those in the bizarre savage lands that are The Vindicator's online comment section, call the faculty entitled, greedy, lazy, etc. But make no mistake, the lack of understanding between the administration and the faculty is a two-way street, made obvious by the move to terminate Wolford's contract on the very night the faculty voted on the contracts.

This is not a new fight between the administration and the faculty. Each year the athletics program cuts more and more into the general fund, meaning less money is available for other crucial departments and programs, such as the library. While the athletics program upgrades their facilities — such as the Beeghly Center lobby, new stadium lights to keep up with NCAA broadcast standards, a hydrotherapy pool that can hold up to 15 football players and new softball and soccer venues — the library has had to consider cutting its online journal repository and hiring freezes have left necessary services for students understaffed.

Our student athletes are incredible students. Most of us at The Jambar would die if we had to keep up with the rigorous training required to perform at the level of our student athletes. They are underappreciated. This is not a point against them.

We have to invest in our athletics, but that can't be at the cost of programs and services that are used by all students, athlete or not.

In a recent Jambar letter to the editor, A.J. Sumell, professor of economics, illustrated the priority YSU places on athletics over academics, asserting that the 2015 budget is reducing support for academic affairs by 9.6 percent, and increasing spending on athletics by 3.6 percent.

The administration and faculty may eventually come to terms with each other on conflicting positions concerning faculty salaries, but the fight over administration priorities is not one likely to be put to bed anytime soon. Until there is a total concession on the side of the faculty, or there is a change in culture in the administration, this

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.

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Just Be Around

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An old friend of mine had a baby last week and of course I was one of the people to show up, visit and hold that glorious bundle as we caught up on all we had missed over the last six months. She was once my best friend — we even lived together — but we had a falling out and things have never been the same over the years.

Earlier this semester, I wrote about another friend of mine whose sister died. Of course I showed up at her house to comfort her in her time of need, despite us not being super close anymore.

Reflecting on my reconnection with both of these friends over the last few months, I thought about why it took a major life event to make me realize how much these two people meant to me and how little the petty stuff we've been through means.

In "How the Stress of Disaster Brings People Together," in the Scientific Ameri-

can, published in November of 2012, Emma Seppala describes circumstances of extreme stress draws people to go out of their way to help others and be with one another.

"This more positive and social response could help explain the human connection that happens during times of crises, a connection that may be responsible, at least in part, for our collective survival as a species," Seppala said.

Both good and bad instances of stress bring people together to unite and be there for one another. The utter shock of something life-changing — a birth or a death — makes all other minor details of a long-standing relationship fall away, leaving only the importance of those directly and indirectly affected.

"Human beings are fundamentally social animals and it is the protective nature of our social relationships that has allowed our species to thrive," Seppala said.

When we come together during times of need, we are helping others continue to survive. The death of a family member is devastating, and no matter what they say, no one really wants to be left all alone.

The birth of a baby is a joyous event, but also scary. Suddenly you are responsible for another human being. Deep down, I am drawn to offer my support in either situation because everything after such an event is going to be different than life prior.

This behavior goes beyond just being a friend. Humans are born with an innate need to socialize with others. To some, it can even be considered a basic human need to survive.

"Decades of research shows that social connection is a fundamental human need linked to both psychological and physical health including a stronger immune system, faster recovery from disease and even longevity," Seppala said.

Without people supporting one another throughout their lives, no matter how frequent or infrequent, humankind would struggle to exist. Everyone needs someone else, no matter how often or how much attention. The important thing to remember when you think you're only around for times of struggle is that you're around — and whoever you are around for appreciates it.

Skeletons in the Green Room

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As of this writing, 20 women have stepped forward to accuse Bill Cosby of sexually assaulting them. The stories they tell are remarkably similar. Cosby established a professional relationship with the women, eventually drugged and then violated them while they were intoxicated.

The allegations first arose in 2004, but after an out-of-court settlement in the following year, they were mostly forgotten. It wasn't until a YouTube video of a bit by stand-up comedian Hannibal Burress went viral that people started paying attention.

"It's even worse because Bill Cosby has the f---ing smuggest old black man public persona that I hate. He gets on TV, 'Pull your pants up black people. I was on TV in the '80s. I can talk down to you because I had a successful sitcom.' Yeah, but you rape women, Bill Cosby, so turn the crazy down a couple notches," Burress said in the video.

Why did it take 10 years for us as a culture to take these claims seriously? Perhaps it is the personal way in which we have related to Cosby's art.

Amanda Taub laid this out in a piece written for Vox.com. "Believing or even paying attention to the allegations against Cosby would have

required us all to do work and make sacrifices, and we didn't want to do that. Ignoring his accusers meant that we got to keep our happy childhood memories of the "Cosby Show" ... but if we dismiss or disbelieve or even just ignore the allegations, then we don't have to do that work, or make those sacrifices. It's easier, even if it's wrong," she said.

You can see this present in those who suggest that Cosby's accusers are lying in order to obtain publicity or wealth. They make these claims despite the fact that a list of people who have risen to fame by falsely accusing someone of rape can be represented by a blank sheet of paper; despite the fact that there aren't 20 people lining up to accuse Tom Cruise of similar crimes; despite the fact that the statute of limitations has ran out on many of these crimes and there is no hope of the alleged victims receiving damages.

It's an easy trap to fall into. Loathe as I am to admit it, when Woody Allen's daughter published an open letter early last year accusing him of molesting her when she was seven, my initial stance was one of doubt.

"How reliable is a seven-year-old's memory?" I found myself saying just so I didn't have to re-evaluate the effect films like "Annie Hall" and "Hannah and Her Sisters" had had on me as a young adult. It makes me cringe in retrospect.

I wrestled with these feelings for a while before an interview with Lena Dunham on

Marc Maron's WTF podcast brought things into relief for me.

"People who really believe Woody Allen is guilty have not felt comfortable saying that because they're so afraid to lose their connection to his work," Dunham said, as if she were speaking directly to me. "And the thing is, I feel like people need to understand that you can hold two positions in your mind. You can know that someone's made work that's meaningful to you and also know that they have most likely molested their daughter."

Can we do this with Bill Cosby? It's certainly easier for us to do it with artists from the past. No one hesitates to admire a Caravaggio painting when visiting a museum despite the fact he was a murderer. No one refuses to attend a Wagner opera because he was an anti-Semite. With public figures like Cosby and Allen who exist in the present day media, though, the relationship is more difficult.

One thing is clear, if we are able to separate the artist from the art, we will be less likely to ignore the claims of people who are wronged by artists we admire. We will be less likely to grant them pardons because we don't want to complicate the relationship we have with their work and deny their victims their humanity in the process.

We might be better off if we could privilege works of art without privileging their creators, but how easy will that be?

THE JAMBAR COM

TRACK AND FIELD OPENS INDOOR SLATE WITH ICEBREAKER

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As the weather cools down, the Watson and Tressel Training Site heats up for the indoor portion of the Youngstown State University track and field season. It all begins on Saturday, Dec. 5 at 3 p.m. with the YSU Icebreaker at the facility.

Head coach Brian Gorby says his team's been training for months for this event.

"A lot of our sprinters, jumpers and throwers have been practicing all season long from pretty much August with conditioning and they've been doing 15 hours a week of conditioning for six to eight weeks," he said. "We're looking, of course, for everybody to come out and put something on paper and we'll get a pretty good idea what to do as far as our next meet in five weeks."

A year ago, the team had a strong showing at the event, anchored by Chenera Lacey, who took the high jump with a jump of 1.71 meters, which matched the event record for the WATTS Center.

Sophomore jumper Mackenzie Sturtz took a moment to discuss Lacey's intangibles.

"Chenera's a really strong competitor who helps me compete against her, pushing me to go farther than I could go by myself," she said.

Jennifer Neider, like Sturtz, believes that Lacey is a strong athlete.

"I think she'll do very well," she said. "She's a good asset to our team and she helped us win our championship last season."

Neider took the shot put event last year with a throw of 13.82 meters, while Jaynee Corbett took third-place honors with a throw of 13.02 meters.

In the one-mile event, Megan Monte, now a senior, clocked in with a fifth-place time of 5:42, and in the 400-meter run. The club had two runners clock in with times in the top five, Jennifer



Junior thrower Conner Neu begins his toss during a competition at the WATTS Center during the 2013-2014 season.

Shiley finished with the winning time of 57.95 seconds.

Gorby took time to praise both teams on their high finishes in the cross country championships.

"Our women are coming off of winning the championship and the men finished in third place," he said. "For the women, that's called the 'Triple Crown,' 'Quadruple Crown' right now. We're hoping to see our women come off that cross country championship and see some good performances."

Gorby pointed to junior thrower Conner Neu as the best men's field athlete.

"Conner is somebody who was an All-American last year as a sophomore, and he's one of the top 12 in the country," he said.

Neider points to the throwers and jumpers as the best field athletes on the team.

"I wouldn't say there's necessarily one specific person who's the best field athlete," Neider said. "I think that we're all strong as a whole."

Neider, whose strongest event is the shot put, has clear expectations for the Icebreaker.

"I just want to come out and win it as I have in the past two years, throwing 45, 46 feet," she said.

For the women, Gorby pointed to Neider, a shot-putter, as one of the best field athletes.

Gorby's expectations for the indoor season are the same as they've been for a decade — continuing the program's winning tradition.

"We've been either first or second place on the women's side for 10 straight years, during which time we've also been either first, second, third or fourth place on the men's side," he said. "In the last five years, we've been pretty much first or second on the men's side. We want to give ourselves a shot to win the championship and bring it home to YSU. We've won 23 titles and 27 runner-ups, so we want to build on that."

YSU Men and Women Look to Improve on Early Performances



Bobby Hain (20) attempts a contested jump shot against Oberlin College's Randy Ollie (25) during the Penguins' basketball game on Nov. 16.

JEFF BROWN

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The Youngstown State University women's basketball team is off to a 6-0 start for the first time since the 1996-1997 season, and only the third time the women have ever done so.

The Lady 'Guins are coming off two victories over the weekend in the Teresa Phillips Thanksgiving Classic. The Penguins were the only team to go undefeated in the Classic. Senior Heidi Schlegel was named MVP of the classic and also earned Horizon League Player of the Week honors. Schlegel is off to a phenomenal start this season averaging a double-double through the first six games, 15.3 points and 10.8 rebounds.

It has not been all easy for the Penguins. It took a free throw by freshman guard Indiya Benjamin with seven seconds remaining to lift the Penguins to a 51-50 victory over Nicholls State University on Saturday. The Penguins struggled throughout the game committing a season high of 27 turnovers.

"We need to continue to get mentally tougher," John Barnes, head coach for the women's team, said. "On Saturday, we let one error kind of compound into another into another instead of just forgetting it, putting it behind us, and moving forward."

Barnes said it was the zone defense of Nicholls State that gave the Penguins problems hanging onto the ball, but he thinks that having seen the zone early will help out in the long run.

"Even the next day Tennessee State tried to throw on a few different things and we handled it much better. We were much

more aggressive. We attacked it, instead of being tentative," he said. "As long as we keep getting better, keep improving. I'll be happy."

While the Penguins are off to a fantastic start, the YSU men's basketball team is fresh off an 84-76 overtime loss to Illinois State University.

Guard Marcus Keene led the Penguins with a career high 29 points including five three's, but the Penguins struggled once regulation ended, getting outscored 20-8 in overtime.

"We've just got to keep competing," center Bobby Hain said. "We're in every game I feel like. It's just sometimes we come up short or make a mental or small mistake. Like in Illinois State I missed a rebound, we missed a one and one. It's the little things we got to fix."

The Penguins look to rebound Tuesday night against Robert Morris University. RMU comes into the game 2-4 on the season and have struggled from the field, only shooting 33.7 percent.

"They're going to be a real competitive team, just like Kent [State University] was. It's such a close game we kind of see it as another rivalry game. So it's going to be an intense loud game," Hain said.

YSU is in the middle of one the toughest stretches their schedule presents this season as far as travel is concerned. After this week's game's against RMU and South Dakota State University on Friday, they will have played seven of their last eight games on the road.

"I'm not sure that there's anybody in the country playing seven or eight games not at home," Jerry Slocum, head coach for the men's team, said. "It's clearly a challenge to have that many road games."