

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE

Mailed Dec. 1, 1986

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - An article by Dr. Jack D. Bakos, Jr. of Boardman, professor and chairman of the Civil Engineering Department at Youngstown State University, appears in the November issue of "Engineering Education."

The national publication of the American Society of Engineering Education has a circulation of about 15,000 among professional engineers and engineering educators.

In his article, "A Departmental Policy on the Development of Communication Skills in Undergraduate Engineering Students," Dr. Bakos describes how YSU's Civil Engineering Department has developed a policy in which communication drills, both written and oral, have been integrated throughout the students' four-year curriculum. This is done to emphasize numerical and communication skills.

Dr. Bakos noted that engineers entering the job market for the first time need to be able to express themselves effectively, writing and orally.

Civil engineers, he said, are called upon to interact with contractors, inspectors and the general public. Because of the heavy academic demands placed on engineering curriculums, problem solving skills are normally emphasized and communication skills are often neglected.

Dr. Bakos' article shows that YSU's required communication drills have actually helped the engineering student grasp basic engineering principles. He believes that by writing down concepts in one's own words or by expressing such concepts orally, a person develops a clearer understanding.

-MORE-

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The article also includes how such communication concepts can be incorporated into the curriculum with a minimum of disruption to the usual course of instruction.

With the widespread distribution of the journal, Bakos hopes that other departments and/or schools will be able to incorporate these techniques into their curriculum and help increase the communication skills of engineering students.

Dr. Bakos joined the YSU faculty in 1969 after service as a captain in the Army Corps of Engineers. He was named chairman of the Department of Civil Engineering in 1979 and has received YSU's "Distinguished Professor Award" and "Watson Merit Award" and the the Society of Automotive Engineers' "Outstanding Educator Award." He was recently named "Outstanding Civil Engineer of the Year" by the Youngstown Branch of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Listeners to Youngstown State University's American Public Radio Station, WYSU-FM (88.5) can tune in Dec. 7 and 21 for a special Advent service signalling the beginning of the Christmas season.

To celebrate the days before Christmas, the faculty and students of St. John's College at Cambridge University in England present their world famous Advent Carol Service, which includes familiar carols and hymns, Biblical lessons and antiphons.

The choir, under the direction of George Guest, is made up of 16 choristers and four probationers, who are between 7½ and 9 years old. The choristers are students in the University who are elected to their places as Choral Scholars.

This unique service can be heard at 1 p.m. Dec. 7 and 10 p.m. Dec. 21 over YSU's fine arts radio station.

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