

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

Contact: Bob McGill

Mailed April 18, 1986

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - "Pornography: Where Do We Draw the Line?" will be the topic of discussion at a Youngstown State University Faculty Forum at 8 p.m. Monday, April 28, in the Lecture Hall (Room 132) of DeBartolo Hall (College of Arts and Sciences), Spring Street.

Faculty Forums are free and open to the public. They are offered by the University's College of Arts and Sciences to provide students, faculty and the public with information and insight into various topics by qualified experts from many fields.

The moderator will be Dr. Patricia Gilmartin-Zena of Boardman, assistant professor of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work at YSU.

The topic, "Where Did We Draw the Line?" will be presented by Dr. Sandra Stephen of Youngstown, assistant professor of English.

"Sexual Power and Pornography: A Feminist's View," will be discussed by Dr. Glorianne Leck of Youngstown, professor of Foundations of Education.

"ACLU Position on Pornography" will be presented by Dr. James Henke of Youngstown, professor of English.

"Pornography and the Problem of Reality" will be discussed by Dr. Brian Murray of Youngstown, assistant professor of English at YSU.

There will be time for discussion of the topics after the presentations, and a reception will follow in Rooms 121-122.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third in a series of seven releases on a total of \$692,000 awarded to YSU by the Ohio Board of Regents in "academic challenge" funds to develop key areas of academic endeavor to meet demands of the future.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The "Academic Challenge Program," a component of the Ohio Board of Regents' Selective Excellence initiative, released \$60,000 to Youngstown State University's English Department to upgrade journalism studies and enrich technical writing classes.

The Selective Excellence initiative provides incentives for state-supported colleges and universities in Ohio to advance existing academic programs at undergraduate levels which are related to the university's mission and will also benefit the community and state.

In addition to providing funds to purchase nine computers and printers and a laser printer for classroom use, the money will also be used to establish professional writing internships at area businesses for YSU students and for recruitment of minority students interested in a journalism career.

Dr. Charles Nelson, assistant professor of English who specializes in technical writing, said many firms are shifting to in-house production of documents, grants, brochures and other publications with the availability of new computerized printing aids. "Desktop publishing is becoming the cutting edge of technology," said Nelson.

Using a portion of the grant money, Dr. Nelson and Dr. Bege Bowers, an assistant professor of English with a specialization in professional writing, will visit area businesses and corporations to set up professional and technical writing internships for YSU students.

MORE

ADD ONE

Also, assistant professor of English and journalism Carolyn Martindale will visit area newspapers to secure journalism internships. In addition, she will discuss writing and journalism careers with high school students, including minority students.

"Now is a good time for minority students to consider a career in journalism because newspapers are looking for qualified minority reporters," said Martindale.

To further improve technical writing classes and journalism studies, the university is hiring a part-time graphics consultant to work with the students and teachers and also the editors of the university newspaper, The Jambar.

Dr. Bowers said the improvements being made in the professional writing studies will not only aid students interested in adopting professional writing as their profession, but will also aid students studying special fields of technology which demand superior communication skills.

As an example, Dr. Bowers said recent studies and statistics reveal that people working in administrative levels of engineering have to write more and those who write well get promoted to such upper-level positions.

She added that a representative from IBM Corporation told her the task of finding students experienced in both technology and technical communication is difficult.

Dr. Barbara H. Brothers of Youngstown, chairwoman of the Department of English in YSU's College of Arts and Sciences, said the Regents' grant will open new doors for University-community cooperation, and at the same time will give students an opportunity to learn more new technology applications in the field of modern communication.

Already a "center of excellence," the YSU English Department has earned local, regional and national distinction in a number of areas. In the past two years, students were awarded the national Phi Kappa Phi scholarship for graduate study, an internship with the Detroit Free Press and post-graduate Pulliam Journalism Fellowship.

MORE

ADD TWO

Since 1977, English Department faculty members, comprising less than 8 percent of the total eligible faculty, have been awarded more than 24 percent of the university's "Distinguished Professorships" for exceptional teaching, scholarship and service.

The English Department itself has been honored for creative community service, particularly for its work with the Youngstown and Mahoning County public schools, and for sponsoring the annual English Festival--a nationally recognized model for encouraging an interest in literature and excellence in writing before students reach college age.

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