

News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:

- **DiPillo named interim head of education**
- **Students award grants under Pay It Forward initiative**
- **YSU faculty/staff awards, publications, presentations**

Calendar

Tuesday and Wednesday, July 13 and 14, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The YSU Board of Trustees will conduct a board retreat in the conference facilities at Geneva Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio.

Wednesday, July 14, 4 p.m. The YSU Board of Trustees' Academic and Student Affairs Committee meets in the Trustees Meeting Room on the first floor of Tod Hall. The full board will then meet at **4:15 p.m.**, also in the Trustees Meeting Room in Tod Hall.



Mary Lou DiPillo

DiPillo named interim dean of education

Mary Lou DiPillo, associate dean of the Beeghly College of Education at Youngstown State University, has been named interim dean. She will replace Philip Ginnetti, who is leaving YSU to become provost at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania.

DiPillo, a native of Youngstown and a graduate of Ursuline High School, earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Mercyhurst College in Erie, Pa., a master's in education from YSU and a Ph.D. in elementary education from the University of Akron.

DiPillo taught various grade levels at St. Christine School in Youngstown for 21 years before joining the full-time YSU faculty in 1992 as an assistant professor of Early and Middle Childhood Education. In 2000, she was named chair of the Department of Teacher Education, and she became associate dean in 2002. As associate dean, DiPillo served as coordinator for the last two accreditation visits by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

She has worked with numerous teachers and school districts on professional development initiatives related to literacy and increasing students' reading achievement. She is currently state treasurer and on the board of the Ohio Council of the International Reading Association.

She is the author of several scholarly articles, has made dozens of professional presentations and is a member of several professional organizations. She received the Service Key Award from the Mahoning Valley Chapter of Phi Kappa Delta and the YSU Distinguished Professor Award for Public Service, both in 2001.

Students award grants under Pay It Forward initiative

Youngstown State University students have awarded \$13,500 to four area nonprofit organizations as part of the *Pay It Forward: Strengthening Communities through Student-Led Philanthropy Initiative*.

YSU's Center for Nonprofit Leadership, housed in the Williamson College of Business Administration, received \$15,500 in grant funding from the Ohio Campus Compact to participate in the *Pay It Forward* program. The program helps students learn how to be engaged citizens and to understand the important role philanthropy plays in the health of local communities.

Students in three courses (Basic Public Relations, Nonprofit Leadership, and Nonprofit Community Service) each had \$4,500 to award to regional nonprofit organizations for a combined total of \$13,500.

The regional nonprofit organizations receiving awards are:

- Inspiring Minds of Warren (\$4,500) for the Learning with a Purpose After-School Program.
- Habitat for Humanity of Mahoning County (\$2,250) for the launch of a media campaign to promote the Habitat-Mahoning County Building Project.
- Etruscan Press of Youngstown, (\$2,250) to market and promote the Mahoning Valley Youth Diversity Outreach Program to Mahoning Valley community sites and schools.
- McDonald Local Schools – Roosevelt Elementary 2nd Grade (\$4,500) for the Being Excited About Reading (B.E.A.R) Bags Literacy Program.

This effort is made possible through the effort of Ohio Campus Compact, in partnership with Kentucky Campus Compact and Michigan Campus Compact. Funding for *Pay It Forward* is made possible through the Corporation for National and Community Service (Learn and Serve America Higher Education) and Ohio Campus Compact. The Corporation for National and Community Service improves lives, strengthens communities, and fosters civic engagement through service and volunteering.

The project engages business majors and nonprofit leadership students in professional development opportunities with the nonprofit community and fulfills the mission of the Williamson College of Business Administration, which is to prepare undergraduate and graduate students for productive and fulfilling careers as leaders in business, government, nonprofit organizations, and society. The Center for Nonprofit Leadership offers a certificate and a minor in Nonprofit Management and Leadership, which can be combined with any major on campus.

For more information on the Pay it Forward grant funding or YSU's Center for Nonprofit Leadership, contact Laura McCaskey at 330-941-1870 or LJMcCaskey@ysu.edu.

YSU faculty/staff awards, presentations, publications

Peter Norris, professor of Chemistry, and YSU students presented results from their American Chemical Society funded project at the spring national meeting of the American Chemical Society in San Francisco. Students **Krista Cunningham** and **Antony Okumu** presented the poster, "Safe Alkyl and Acyl Azide Synthesis Using Arylsulfonyl Azides," while Norris presented a paper entitled "Synthesis and Metal-catalyzed Decomposition of Furanose-derived Diazoesters."

Fred Viehe, associate professor, History, has been notified that his article, "Atavistic Monsters and Hedonistic Culture: A New Definition for American Organized Crime," will be published in the *International Journal of the Humanities*. In addition, he recently presented "The Underworld Never Seemed So Fair: Women as Pirates, G'hals, Mafiosas, and Gangsteristas" at the 8th Hawaii International Conference on Arts and the Humanities in Honolulu.

Frank X. Li, assistant professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, presented, "Real-time Urban Bridge Health Monitoring Using a Fixed Wireless Mesh Network," at the 2010 IEEE Radio and Wireless Symposium in New Orleans. The co-authors are **Anwarul Islam**, associate professor, Civil Engineering, and **Graciela C. Perera**, Computer Science & Information Systems.

Ronald P. Volpe, professor, Accounting and Finance, and **Kathleen E. Mumaw**, instructor, Accounting and Finance, published "Financial Illiteracy and the Subprime Mortgage Crisis" in the fall 2009 *Journal of Business and Accounting*. Mumaw presented the paper at the 17th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Business and Behavioral Sciences in Las Vegas, where the paper was recognized with the Best Paper of a Track award.

Virginia Bendel Draa, coordinator of Family and Consumer Sciences Education in Human Ecology, published "Cyberbullying: Challenges and Actions" in the *Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences*. Co-author was part-time faculty member and graduate student in counseling, **Tara D. Sydney**. Draa and Sydney also collaborated on the presentation, "Cyberbullying: What Family and Consumer Science Professionals Can Do to Help" at the Ohio Association of Family and Consumer Sciences annual conference in Westlake, Ohio. In addition, Draa presented her design "In the Garden," a wedding gown constructed with reused vintage trim and organic cotton, in the juried design exhibition on sustainability in apparel design at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual Conference in Knoxville, Tenn.

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