

July 2010



A crowd of about 500 people were on hand as Cynthia E. Anderson entered Tod Hall for her first day as YSU president.

President Anderson starts ‘new era’ at YSU

On a sun-splashed morning, with the statue of Howard W. Jones as a backdrop, Cynthia E. Anderson was welcomed as Youngstown State University’s seventh president by a cheering crowd of an estimated 500 students, faculty, staff and community members.

With the YSU band playing, cheerleaders lining the sidewalk and led by Pete and Penny penguin, Anderson was greeted at the entrance to Tod Hall on her first day as the university’s new president on July 1.

“Today is an unbelievable and obviously very special day for only about a million reasons,” Anderson said at a podium flanked by red, white and black balloons.

“I thank all of you for your confidence in me, your support and in so many, many cases – your love,” said Anderson, the first woman and the first YSU graduate to serve as president in YSU’s 102-year history. She replaces David C. Sweet, who retired June 30 after 10 years at the university’s helm.

“Today absolutely does begin a new era, and I’m hoping that it will be an era that is known for student success and academic excellence. I want those words – student success – to be much more than words. They need to be actions.”

Anderson, YSU vice president for Student Affairs for the past 15 years, said the university must do all it can to help students succeed.

“We’re going to have to take a much more focused approach to identifying and satisfying the needs of our students,” she said. “They had many university from which they could have chosen – they chose us. They entrusted their education and their future to us...We have an obligation to them.”

She said the university will showcase “the achievement and the success of our wonderful students like you have never seen before. It’s time we both show and tell the world that our students are absolutely second to none across this country.”

She also said no single person at the university can accomplish anything alone. “We have to come together on behalf of our university, our students, our community and beyond,” she said. “And folks, we need to get serious about that. Everything that we will accomplish, we will accomplish together.”

After a reception in the lobby of Tod Hall and a series of interviews with local news media, Anderson received a congratulatory telephone call from Gov. Ted Strickland and then headed to her office on the second floor.



A group of YSU student athletes huddles around President Cynthia E. Anderson during a reception in the lobby of Tod Hall.

July 2010

Cafaro Family donates \$1 million for YSU WATTS

The Cafaro Family is donating \$1 million for the construction of the Watson and Tressel Training Site at Youngstown State University.

“My father was always a strong, but quiet, supporter of higher learning here in his hometown,” said Anthony Cafaro Sr., the recently retired president of The Cafaro Company and son of company founder William M. Cafaro. “It has been so impressive to watch the growth of the Youngstown State campus in recent years. We are thrilled to continue our ongoing commitment to YSU.”



Anthony Cafaro Sr., left, presents a \$1 million gift to YSU President Cynthia E. Anderson during a news conference today. Also pictured, from the left, are YSU head football coach Eric Wolford, former YSU head football coach Jim Tressel, and Scott Schulick, chair of the YSU Board of Trustees.

The track and the lobby of the Watson and Tressel Training Site, also known as WATTS, will be named in honor of the Cafaro family.

“On behalf of the entire YSU community, I want to thank Tony Cafaro and all of the Cafaro family for this generous gift,” YSU President Cynthia E. Anderson said. “This gift represents the Cafaro’s continued faith in the future of YSU, our students and in the entire Youngstown community.”

WATTS is an \$11.4 million indoor practice facility now under construction along Elm Street and the Madison Avenue Expressway, on the site of YSU’s former outdoor track. The facility is funded through a combination of private donations and university bond financing.

The facility, scheduled for completion by the end of this calendar year, will be used primarily by YSU’s intercollegiate athletic teams, including baseball, football, soccer, softball and men’s and women’s track. The facility will accommodate team practices, intramural sports, campus-wide activities and special events.

The Cafaro Foundation is a charitable entity established by the Cafaro family in memory of William M. Cafaro, the founder of the real estate development and management company in Youngstown that bears his name. For more than a half century, Cafaro, and his wife, Alyce, and brother John A. Cafaro, have supported churches, schools, hospitals and other charitable causes. The Cafaro Company is one of the nation's largest privately held real estate development firms, managing more than 30 million square feet of property in 11 states.

The Cafaros' support for YSU dates to the 1960s. William M. Cafaro was a key advocate for Youngstown University becoming a state public university in 1968. He also was one of the founders and one of the first board members for the YSU Foundation. William's son, Anthony Cafaro Sr., is a 1968 graduate of YSU and currently a member of the board of the YSU Foundation. Anthony's wife, Phyllis, served on the campaign cabinet for the recently completed YSU Centennial Capital Campaign. Anthony and Phyllis' sons, Anthony Jr. and William, a 1992 YSU graduate, now lead the company.



An architect's rendering of YSU WATTS.

With this gift, the family has donated nearly \$2.5 million to YSU. In the mid 1990s, the family made a \$1 million gift to name Cafaro House residence hall on the north end of campus. In 2003, the family gave \$250,000 for the construction of the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center. Four years later, the family made a \$100,000 gift to the YSU nursing program to

name the Betty Nohra Room in Cushwa Hall. The family has also annually supported the William and Alyce and the John Cafaro Scholarship at the YSU Foundation.

The WATTS is named after Jim and Ellen Tressel and Ellen's parents, Frank and Norma Watson, who donated a combined \$1 million when fund-raising for the project began three years ago. Tressel was head coach of YSU's football program for 15 years, winning four NCAA Division I-AA national championships before taking the head-coaching job at Ohio State University in 2001.

To see photos, a video of the architect's renderings and a live webcam of the WATTS construction site, visit <http://www.ysusports.com/watts>.

July 2010

YSU designated a Tree Campus USA University



Members of the YSU grounds staff were awarded the CityScape Beautification Award. From the left are Gary Dipasquale, Carter Bidwell, Dom Dipasquale, Rich Conway, Mark Blazek, Dave Ewing, Larry Tooker, Bob Jennings and Ira Adair.

USA University designation.

“The Tree Campus USA program will have a long-lasting impact at Youngstown State as it engages college students and local citizens to plant trees and create healthier communities for people to enjoy for decades to come,” said John Rosenow, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation.

Lola Lewis, regional urban forester at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, presented the Tree Campus USA plaque to YSU President David C. Sweet during a ceremony on campus today. Sweet also unfurled the university’s Tree Campus USA banner.

At the same ceremony, Sharon Letson, executive director of Youngstown CityScape, presented the CityScape Beautification Award to YSU. CityScape, started in 1998, is committed to revitalizing downtown Youngstown and gateways to the city through beautification, education and preservation.

The Arbor Day Foundation has designated YSU as a Tree Campus USA University for its dedication to campus forestry management and environmental stewardship.

YSU, with nearly 1,900 trees on its 145-acre urban campus, is among only four universities in

Ohio and 74 nationwide to earn the Tree Campus

“The grassy mounds and tree-filled terrain of the campus core are signature qualities of our university,” Sweet said. “The Tree Campus USA designation and the CityScape award are recognition of the hard work of so many people on campus and in the community who are committed to preserving and enhancing the university’s landscape for generations to come.”

A recent inventory by Davey Tree Expert Co. identified 1,847 trees (78 species) on the YSU campus, from flowering crabapple and red maple trees to Austrian pine and callery pear trees. The estimated value of the trees is \$2.26 million.

After 70 campus trees were destroyed by two summer storms in 2007 and 2008, YSU launched a Campus Beautification Initiative that seeks to preserve campus trees and green spaces by establishing an endowment to help support the ongoing care and maintenance of campus grounds. To generate funds for the endowment, donors sponsor memorial trees, benches and bricks for the campus.

In November 2009, the first two donor trees were planted on the campus core. At the ceremony today, two additional donor trees were planted. A magnolia tree was planted in the memory of Youngstown Police Capt. Kenneth Centorame, a 1974 YSU alumnus, from his wife, Susie, and children Katie and Mike. And a tulip poplar tree was donated by Robert A. Hogue, associate professor of Computer Science and Information Systems, in the memory of his parents, Earl R. and Kathleen A. Hogue.

For more information on the Campus Beautification Initiative, or to make a donation, visit <http://www.ysu.edu/treesbenches/> or contact University Development at 330-941-3119.

Tree Campus USA, a national program launched in 2008 by the Arbor Day Foundation, honors college and universities and the leaders of the campus and surrounding communities for promoting healthy urban forest management and engaging the campus community in environmental stewardship. To receive Tree Campus USA status, YSU met five core standards of tree care and community engagement: establishing a campus tree advisory committee; evidence of a campus tree-care plan; verification of dedicated annual expenditures on the campus tree-care plan; involvement in an Arbor Day observance; and the institution of a service-learning project aimed at engaging the student body. For more information about the Tree Campus USA program, visit www.arborday.org/TreeCampusUSA.

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July 2010

Centennial Campaign closes books at \$53 million mark

YSU's Centennial Campaign officially closed its books in June and will go down as the most successful fund-raising effort in the university's 102-year history.

The campaign, led by the Office of University Development, raised \$53 million for student scholarships and capital improvements, including construction of the new building for the Williamson College of Business Administration. That's well above the \$43 million goal set for the campaign when it started six years go.

The fund drive featured six gifts of \$1 million or more and 58 gifts of \$100,000 or more.

"I am forever amazed and humbled by this community's support for YSU," said Tony Lariccia, a 1966 YSU graduate and chair of the Centennial Campaign Cabinet. "I want to thank everyone who has contributed to this important effort and to the cause of improving opportunities for youth and making our city and the Mahoning Valley a better place to live and work."

Paul McFadden, chief development officer, said funds raised in the campaign will be used to establish an endowment for undergraduate scholarships and graduate fellowships, need-based scholarships, minority scholarships, endowed faculty chairs and professorships. In addition, funds are being used for student facilities, including the new state-of-the-art WCBA building now under construction, improved engineering and science facilities and the new Watson and Tressel Training Site, an indoor athletics practice facility now under construction.

YSU also announced that it met the Kresge Challenge. In December 2008, the Kresge Foundation of Troy, Mich., committed a \$1.2 million challenge grant to the campaign, charging YSU to raise \$2.4 million to meet the challenge.

July 2010

DiPillo named interim dean, Beeghly College of Education



Mary Lou DiPillo

Mary Lou DiPillo, associate dean of the Beeghly College of Education, has been named interim dean. She replaces Philip Ginnetti, who became provost at Edinboro University in Pennsylvania.

A native of Youngstown and a graduate of Ursuline High School, DiPillo 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.

July 2010

Six faculty members awarded emeritus status

The following Youngstown State University faculty members were granted emeritus status by the YSU Board of Trustees:

- Friedrich Koknat, professor of Chemistry, 40 years of service.
- Sharon P. Shipton, professor of Nursing, 34 years of service.
- Howard W. Pullman, professor of Teacher Education, 33 years of service.
- Jane M. Reid, professor of Marketing, 33 years of service.
- Iole C. Checcone, associate professor of Foreign Languages and Literatures, 11 years of service.
- Gunapala Edirisooriya, chair and professor of Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership, 7 years of service (posthumously).

July 2010

Crawford, Meditz named to Board of Trustees



Delores Crawford

Gov. Ted Strickland has named Delores Crawford, community affairs director at WKBN, to a nine-year term on the YSU Board of Trustees. The governor also named YSU student Ryan Meditz to a two-year term as a student trustee.

Crawford, a 1968 YSU graduate, replaces John Pogue, whose term on the board has expired. Crawford's term will expire in 2019. Meditz replaces Student Trustee Dan DeMaiolo, whose term has also expired. Meditz' term will expire in 2012.

Crawford has been at WKBN since 2005 and hosts the community affairs program "Sunday Morning with Dee" that airs Sunday mornings. She previously was director of Mahoning County Department of Job and Family

Services/Child Support, minority coordinator for the YSU Urban Studies Department, and vice president of planning and allocations for the Youngstown/Mahoning Valley United Way.

She also serves on numerous community committees and boards. She is vice president of the Mahoning County Library, chairman of the Community Development Committee of First National Bank of Pennsylvania and a member of the United Way Women's Leadership Council.

Meditz, a native of Bridgeville, Pa., who moved to Canfield in elementary school, is a 2008 graduate of Canfield High School and is studying Spanish and International Marketing at YSU. He is a University Scholar and a member of the YSU Student Government Association, American Marketing Association, Spanish Club and Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. He volunteers as the Canfield High School Band photographer, an assistant for the Canfield Varsity hockey team, a participant in the Shanty Town Homelessness Awareness event, and StreetScape 2010.



Ryan Meditz

July 2010

Festival of the Arts, Smoky Hollow Run this weekend

Nearly 70 artists from Virginia, West Virginia, New York, Indiana and North Carolina, as well as Ohio and Pennsylvania, will participate in YSU's 12th Annual Summer Festival of the Arts July 10 and 11 on the YSU campus.

In addition to the juried Artists Marketplace, the two-day event includes a children's art tent and dozens of activities sponsored by cultural and arts organizations and YSU departments. Also featured is the Festival of Nations, which highlights the Mahoning Valley's diverse ethnic populations through a presentation of food, displays, presentations and musical or dance performances.

"The Summer Festival of the Arts is about making the arts accessible to everyone," SFA Coordinator Lori Factor said. "Both the fine and performing arts are showcased at the event, and we are proud to welcome local artists as well as those who call the Valley 'home' for this weekend. We have become a destination event for artists to promote and sell their artwork and patrons have come to expect a great selection of art year after year."

Participants in the Artists Marketplace have applied to the event and been selected based upon the quality of their work. Jurors were Angela DeLucia, assistant to the director of the McDonough Museum of Art, and Susan Russo, professor emeritus of the YSU Department of Art.

Also featured at this year's SFA is a new public art project called "Three Letters Youngstown Project." Area artists will create banners incorporating the letters Y, S, and U. On the reverse side of the banner, artists will depict Youngstown in their own concept using red, black and white paint. The banners will be hung during the Summer Festival of the Arts with the opportunity for them to be auctioned at the conclusion of the festival.

The Summer Festival of the Arts is part of a series of events July 10 and 11, including the Smoky Hollow 5K Race, Tour of the Valley Bicycle race, Youngstown Jazz Festival, and St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Summerfest.

For more information, visit www.ysu.edu/sfa.

The seventh annual Smoky Hollow 5K Run and 1 Mile Family Fun Walk will be Saturday, July 10.

The event, which celebrates the history of the Smoky Hollow neighborhood just east of the YSU campus, commences from Harrison Field on Walnut Street behind YSU's Bliss Hall. The 5K run starts at 9 a.m., followed by the family fun walk at 9:10 a.m. Race day registration starts at 7:45 a.m. at Harrison Field.

Meanwhile, YSU announced that Forte on the Fifty, YSU's annual music and fireworks celebration in Stambaugh Stadium, will be discontinued due to the construction of the new Watson and Tressel Training Site.

The fireworks extravaganza presented at the event by BJ Alan Company was staged on the site where the WATTS Center is now under construction.

"In the interest of the safety of guests and the campus at large, we regret that the event will be discontinued," the university reported.

In the past, Forte on the Fifty was held in conjunction with the Summer Festival of the Arts.



July 2010

Auto Dealers give nearly \$50,000 to Rich Center

The Automobile Dealers Association of Eastern Ohio has announced that a charity auction held this spring as part of their President's Gala generated a record \$47,873 for the Rich Center for Autism at YSU.

The amount raised brings the 12-year total of charitable contributions raised by the annual event to \$399,088.

The Rich Center, located in Fedor Hall at YSU, is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with autism and their families through the creation, use and enhancement of innovative educational programs specifically designed to assure the attainment of a life of dignity and to enhance the individuals' opportunities to achieve their full potentials.

Although area automobile and truck dealers have long contributed to local charities individually, the dealer's organization annually conducts this collective effort as a way of assisting others in the community.

Members of this year's guidance committee include Chairman and new ADAEO Board President Rob Fellman of Boardman Subaru, Immediate Past President Russ Banks of Banks Chevrolet, Greg Greenwood of Greenwood Chevrolet, John Kufleitner of Columbiana Chrysler Jeep Dodge, Tom Levak and Steve Bott of Mark Thomas Ford, Donny Murphy of Donnell Ford in Boardman, Jim Whetstone of Acura of Boardman, ADAEO Executive Vice President Steve Chos, and ADAEO Administrative Assistant Cathy Swegan. J. Paul Basinger and the staff of Basinger Auction Service conducted the auction.

ADAEO was founded in 1964 and includes new vehicle dealerships and related businesses in Trumbull, Mahoning, and Columbiana Counties. For more information about the Automobile Dealers Association of Eastern Ohio, contact Steve Chos at 330-759-1111.

July 2010

New YSU men's tennis coach named

Mark Klysner has been named YSU's new men's tennis coach.

Klysner has spent the past two years as a Division I assistant and has experience as a head coach on the collegiate level.

"I would like to thank Ron Stollo, Emily Haynam, Elaine Jacobs and the entire Youngstown athletic department for this opportunity," Klysner said. "Throughout the interview process, I was impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment that the department showed towards athletics. I'm very excited to get to work and start building a program that can not only contend for a Horizon League title, but also compete at the national level."

Klysner was an assistant for both the men's and women's programs at Fairleigh Dickinson in 2009-10. The Knights' women's team won the regular-season conference title and had won 10 straight matches before losing in the Northeast Conference Tournament final. The men's team placed second in the NEC. He spent the 2008-09 campaign as a men's and women's assistant at Austin Peay.

"Coach Klysner brings a wealth of coaching and teaching experience that our program will greatly benefit from," said Ron Stollo, YSU executive director of intercollegiate athletics. "He has worked with some fine young tennis players and helped further their on-court careers and that is something we know will continue at YSU."