

## Gov cuts ribbon on materials research lab

Gov. Ted Strickland and YSU President David C. Sweet cut the ribbon on YSU's new \$2.1 million Center for Advanced Materials Analysis, an Ohio Third Frontier research facility designed to assist local companies develop new products and create new jobs.

The center features two new electron microscopes, one with the capability to magnify materials by 1.5 million times their original size, allowing researchers to analyze the internal chemical structures of advanced materials.

"This center represents a new era in scientific research at YSU and a bold step forward in transforming Youngstown into a hot spot of advanced materials research and production," Sweet said.

"Combined with other research activities now underway in the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, this center positions YSU as a driving force across Northeast Ohio in linking research with business to create new products and spark economic development."

The center is funded through the Ohio Third Frontier's Wright Centers of Innovation Program.

Tim Wagner, YSU chemistry professor and director of the new center, said equipment in the lab provides analysis

capabilities that few, if any, predominantly undergraduate universities in the nation have.

"A world-class laboratory of this caliber provides an array of new op-  
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Gov. Ted Strickland, flanked by state legislators, tours the YSU Center for Advanced Materials Analysis in Ward Beecher Hall. To the left is Tim Wagner, YSU professor of chemistry.

## Employee Annual Fund donations hit record high

Faculty and staff contributions to YSU's Annual Fund have already surpassed last year's dollar total by 44 percent - with more than a month still remaining in the current fiscal year.

YSU employees have donated more than \$120,000 to the 2010 campaign, compared to \$83,000 in fiscal year 2009. The number of employees supporting the fund has also grown by 44 percent, from 209 last year to 300 this year.

The Annual Fund is the university's main yearly fund drive for alumni and employees. The money supports scholarships, department programs and initiatives and the YSU Foundation.

Catherine Cala, development director, attributes the increase to three factors: leadership gifts made by YSU administrators, including the president, provost, vice presidents, deans and directors; the Office of University Development's personal approach to the faculty/staff campaign; and employees with big hearts.

"Every fall, we approach our senior administrators first, encouraging them to demonstrate their support before we invite faculty and staff to participate," Cala said. "Their generosity sets the pace for the campaign."

Cala also noted that this year the Development office hosted pie and coffee

receptions in each college and division to help encourage participation in the An-  
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### Annual Fund

Employee donations to the Annual Fund have more than doubled in three years.

Fiscal year	Faculty/Staff
2010	\$120,000*
2009	\$83,000
2008	\$69,247
2007	\$58,806

\*through March 31

# YSU earns presidential honor for engagement

YSU has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll, the highest federal recognition a college or university can receive for its commitment to volunteering, service-learning and civic engagement.

"Congratulations to YSU and its students for their dedication to service and commitment to improving their local communities," said Patrick Corvington, chief executive of the Corporation for National and Community Service, which administers the annual Honor Roll award.

The Honor Roll, launched in 2006, annually recognizes institutions of higher education for their commitment to and achievement in community service. Honorees are chosen based on the scope and innovation of service projects, percentage of student participation in service activities, incentives for service, and the extent to which the school offers academic service-learning courses.

"We are proud of the service that our students, led by remarkably committed members of our faculty and staff, provide to the community," YSU President David C. Sweet said. "This is yet another recognition of how YSU is engaged in the community in which it serves."

More than 5,000 YSU students participate in community services of some kind, said Ron Shaklee, director of the YSU University Scholars and Honors Program. About 500 students participate in at least 20 hours

of community service per semester. The total number of service hours engaged in by YSU students adds up to about 75,000, Shaklee said.

In the application for the award, Shaklee highlights the university's annual Shantytown homeless awareness project, developed by students in the Leslie H. Cochran University Scholars Program. The project, which includes about 110 students and 2,500 service hours per year, involves the construction of a

cardboard box city near the Lyden and Cafaro house residence halls. Students stay in the temporary shelters for a weekend in November. Since its inception 12 years ago, the project has logged nearly 23,000 hours of volunteer time and raised nearly

\$36,000 in monetary, food, personal needs items and clothing donations for the Rescue Mission of the Mahoning Valley, Salvation Army, Beatitude House, Second Harvest Foodbank, Habitat for Humanity and Re-Store.

"Through the process, students learned valuable lessons related to the less fortunate, many of whom are located within a few blocks of the university," Shaklee said. "They learned equally valuable lessons related to team building and cooperative activities."

Amey Cossentino, assistant director of the Honors Program said Shantytown "not only provides a way for these students to give back to the surrounding community, but it affords to them an opportunity to develop a strong bond and community within their classes, and solidifies their connection to YSU."

To see the full list of Honor Roll recipients, visit [http://www.learnandserve.gov/about/programs/higher\\_ed\\_honorroll.asp](http://www.learnandserve.gov/about/programs/higher_ed_honorroll.asp). ■

*"We are proud of the service that our students, led by remarkably committed members of our faculty and staff, provide to the community,"*

- David C. Sweet

## Faculty recognized with 2010 Distinguished Professor Awards

Twenty-six faculty members and hundreds of students were recognized at the annual Honors Convocation in Kilcawley Center on April 26.

Recipients of Distinguished Professor Awards were:

**For Excellence in Teaching:** **Joan Boyd**, Health Professions; **Mary Beth Earnhardt**, English; **Margaret M. Gittis**, Psychology; **Patricia A. McCarthy**, Nursing; **Daniel J. O'Neill**, Communication; **David H. Pollack**, Mathematics and Statistics; **Jill M. Tall**, Biological Sciences; **Padraic W. Taylor**, Mathematics and Statistics; **John C. Wilcox**, Dana School of Music.

**For Excellence in Scholarship:** **Corey E. Andrews**, English; **James Andrews**, Physics and Astronomy; **Paul R. Carr**, Educational Foundations, Research,

Technology, and Leadership; **James J. Carroll**, Physics and Astronomy; **Michael C. Clayton**, Psychology; **AKM Anwarul Islam**, Civil/Environmental and Chemical Engineering; **Jozsi Z. Jalics**, Mathematics and Statistics; **Joseph J. Mistovich**, Health Professions.

**For Excellence in University Service:** **Julia M. Gergits**, English; **Sherry L. Linkon**, English; **Zara C. Shah-Rowlands**, Human Ecology; **Ronald V. Shaklee**, Geography; **George Yates**, Mathematics and Statistics.

**For Excellence in Public Service:** **Adam C. Earnhardt**, Communication; **and Louise Pavia**, Human Ecology.

Receiving the **Watson Merit Award** for outstanding department chairpersons were: **Dora L. Bailey**, Teacher Education; and **Vernon Haynes**, Psychology. ■

## Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

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# Faculty & Staff

Send items for "Faculty & Staff" to  
Cynthia Vinarsky at [cevinarsky@ysu.edu](mailto:cevinarsky@ysu.edu).

**Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez**, professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, and director of the Dr. James Dale Ethics Center, has been elected to a five-year term on the Board of Directors of the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.

**Paul R. Carr**, assistant professor, Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership, edited a book titled, *Youth Culture, Education and Resistance: Confronting Commercialization and Neo-Liberalism*, published by Sense Publishers. In addition to being the editor, he wrote two chapters in the book: "The neo-liberal social order, youth and resistance" and "Political (il)literacy: Confronting the neo-liberal agenda."

**William Binning**, professor and chair emeritus, and **Sunil Ahuja**, associate professor, Political Science, co-authored an essay titled, "Ohio District 16 Race (Bocieri v. Schuring): One of the Nation's Most

Competitive Open Seats," published in *The Roads to Congress 2008* edited by Robert Watson and published in 2010 by Lexington Books, a division of Roman and Littlefield publishers.

**Matt O'Mansky**, assistant professor, Sociology, Anthropology and Gerontology, recently presented the paper, "Highland-Lowland Interaction in the Maya World: Preliminary Results from the Sebol Archaeological Project, Guatemala," at the annual Midwest Mesoamericanist Meeting. He also presented the paper "The Classic Maya East-West Transversal Exchange Route in Lithics and Exotics: Patterns, Complexities, and Changes in Late Classic Interregional Political Economy" at the 75th Annual Society for American Archaeology Conference.

**Sylvia J. Imler**, associate professor, Counseling and Special Education, presented research on culturally responsive practices titled, "Cleaning the Mirror: Re-

flections of a Practicum Experience," at the 2010 Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo in Nashville, Tenn.

**William Greenway**, professor of English, has had three poems recently published in various publications. "The Dump" appeared in *The Broken Plate*; "Edges Dream" and "The Birth of Flight" will be published in the spring 2010 edition of *Lake Effect*; and "Fables" will appear in the spring 2010 *Tipton Poetry Journal*. ■

## Harris, Yiannaki honored

Two former employees – Professor Emeritus Ann Harris and Administrator Emeritus Harold Yiannaki – are the recipients of the 2010 Heritage Award, the most prestigious honor bestowed upon former faculty and administrative staff.

Harris joined YSU's Department of Geology as an adjunct instructor in 1961 and advanced through the ranks over the years to a full professorship. Since retiring in 2000, she has continued as professor emeritus. For more than 30 years, she has served as a professional consultant to engineering firms and to local, state, and federal officials in the areas of abandoned deep coal mine stabilization. Recipient of the YSU Distinguished Professor Award, Harris is the author of *Geology National Parks*.

Yiannaki served YSU in various capacities from 1969 until he retired in 2002, including an Administration Specialist, Admissions Counselor, Assistant Director of the Admissions Office, Director of Admissions, Registrar, Director of Enrollment Services, Executive Director of Campus 2000, part-time instructor, and the Executive Director of External Relations. His degrees include Ed.D. (1984) and M.A. Ed. (1972) from the University of Akron. After his retirement in 2002, the YSU Board of Trustees conferred upon him the title Administrator Emeritus. ■



Ann Harris



Harold Yiannaki

## It's All Good ...

*Jane Goodall, world-renowned primatologist whose landmark research on chimpanzees has become a foundation of primate research across the globe, gave the YSU Skeggs Lecture in a packed Stambaugh Auditorium on April 20. In the lecture, titled Gombe and Beyond: The Next 50 Years, Goodall reflected on the meaning of the past five decades of her work, the changes the world has seen in that time, and the impact the changes have had on people, animals and the environment.*





## Research lab

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opportunities for research for our faculty and the community,” he said. “Also, our undergraduate students will get hands on experience working on equipment that only graduate or Ph.D.-level students would be exposed to at other universities.”

The center, located in the Chemistry Department on the fifth floor of Ward Beecher Hall, is a joint project between researchers in the STEM college and at Fireline TCON Inc. (FTi), a subsidiary of the Youngstown-based parent company Fireline Inc.

The center will analyze the chemical structures of materials produced by FTi in order to improve the performance of the materials. For instance, FTi is working with YSU to develop lightweight brake rotors that would improve the fuel efficiency of automobiles, buses and trucks, Wagner said. The company also is pursuing improved materials for survivability and force protection systems for soldiers and military vehicles.

Mark Peters, general manager of FTi and co-investigator on the Ohio Third Frontier grant, said that an anticipated outcome of the overall project is the creation of new high tech jobs at FTi.

“This new center will help us shorten the time it takes to develop new products

and get them into the markets,” he said. “By the time we achieve full commercialization of our TCON ceramic-metallic composites, we expect to have hired many new employees.”

In support of the center, YSU’s STEM college has hired a tenure-track faculty member, Virgil Solomon, an ex-

pert in electron microscopy techniques who spent five years performing electron microscopy research at Arizona State University as a postdoctoral research fellow. The college is also in the process of hiring an electron microscopy technician to support day-to-day maintenance and operation of the research lab. ■

### A Great Partnership

*YSU President David C. Sweet and Mayor Jay Williams stand in front of banners recently installed throughout downtown and leading to the YSU campus. The banner campaign, led by the YSU Office of Marketing and Communications, was designed to celebrate the growing and evolving connections between the city of Youngstown and YSU. “This banner campaign marks another step in the continuing evolution of the city and the university and the common identities we share in transforming both YSU and Youngstown into a vibrant economic, educational and cultural center,” Sweet said. The banners were designed by Renee Cannon, layout design artist, who also designs the YSUpdate.*



## Annual Fund

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nual Fund.

“Our employees have an intrinsic response to help students,” she said. “Support for student scholarships is the largest component of the staff campaign, both in dollars and number of donors.”

Overall, the Annual Fund raised \$1.15 million by the end of March, with three months still left in the fiscal year.

“In an economic climate in which many colleges and universities are experiencing reduced philanthropy, YSU is celebrating growth in its Annual Fund,” Cala said. “We extend our thanks to our faculty, staff and alumni for their continued loyal support.” ■