

Metro College helps local businesses

General Manager Judy Volpe learned last year that her business, Brainard Rivet Co. in Girard, would have to acquire a new, international certification to stay competitive.

Volpe contacted YSU Metro College, the process went smoothly, and Brainard received the certification in June 2007.

Brainard, Division of Fastener Industries, Inc., is one example of the success of the Metro College's Target-Industry Training Program, which helps local businesses make improvements at lowered costs.

Improvements may include training in supervisory leadership, product quality assurance, and "a variety of quality programs designed to build teams, improve output and raise customer satisfaction," said Rufus Hudson, Metro College marketing coordinator.

Hudson said the Metro College team identifies a business that could benefit from the program, highlights an area

for improvement, and mediates between the business and outside sources, such as trainers or consultants.

Savings to the businesses come in two ways: negotiations by the Metro College and grants they secure from the Ohio Board of Regents.

"These programs are part of the Metro College mission as well as YSU's outreach mission," he said.

Hudson and Michael Glonek, program planner at the Metro College, have assisted 10 businesses in the tri-county area since 2003 with this program. They have facilitated training for a total of 706 employees, and have saved companies

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Brainard Rivet Co. of Girard now proudly flies a flag signifying its new quality certification. From the left are consultant Tom Fazekas, General Manager Judy Volpe, Quality Manager Scott Felger, and Rufus Hudson, marketing coordinator of the YSU Metro College.

YSU Foundation funds Investment Program

YSU business students will be responsible for managing a \$250,000 portfolio of stocks, bonds and other funds under a new program developed by the YSU Foundation and the finance faculty in the Williamson College of Business Administration.

The YSU Student Investment Fund is designed to give graduate and undergraduate students hands-on experience in the financial markets, said Reid Schmutz, president of the YSU Foundation.

"We are delighted to provide the funding and the expert oversight to help students experience firsthand the world of

managing an active portfolio," Schmutz said. "From its founding, the YSU Foundation's focus has been on helping YSU students achieve their potential. We believe this program is in keeping with that focus."

The Foundation, with more than \$170 million in assets, provides in excess of \$5 million annually in scholarships to YSU students and supports a variety of other educational programs and endeavors at the university.

"We appreciate the Foundation stepping up to advance and enhance the educational opportunities available to our

students," YSU President David C. Sweet said. "This program will allow our business students – many of whom someday will be managing their own portfolios – to get a close-up view of the world of finance."

Under the YSU Student Investment Fund program, the Foundation will provide \$250,000. The fund will be managed by YSU students enrolled in a course called Practicum in Portfolio Management, taught by Dr. Peter Chen, assistant professor of accounting and finance. The course, which will begin in January 2008,

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Wathen: Island of calm amidst a sea of insanity

In his fourth decade at YSU, Dan Wathen has one more honor to add to a long list.

The university's head athletic trainer recently received the Lifetime Service Award from the Certification Commission of the National Strength and Conditioning Association. It's the first time in the organization's 22-year history that a lifetime award has been presented.

Wathen, 57, of Liberty, who is published widely and recognized around the world for his expertise, also has received

NSCA's Lifetime Achievement Award, President's Award and Coach of the Year.

The organization kept his most recent award a secret, so when Wathen attended the NSCA's conference in Atlanta over the summer, he had no idea he was going to be honored. He said he went to what he thought was just another reception, only to be "stunned" and "taken aback" to see his picture posted and to receive the award.

"He was one of the pioneers in the field of strength and conditioning," said Todd Burkey, YSU strength and conditioning coach.

Wathen hails from the Bluegrass State, where he earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from the University of Kentucky and a master's degree in education, specializing in athletic training, from Eastern Kentucky University.

Wathen was an eight-time state weightlifting champion in Kentucky, where he also coached independent weightlifting teams to four state championships.

Before coming to Youngstown, he worked as assistant trainer at both of his alma maters as well as for the Cleveland Browns.

When he was hired at YSU in 1976, he was the sole trainer/strength and conditioning coach for all university sports. Now, some 400 football games, three football coaches and 4,500 athletes later, he supervises a staff of six and is responsible for the well-being of close to 400 athletes.

Up to 50 student athletes at a given time may be injured, and Wathen establishes rehabilitation programs and works with athletes hands-on at facilities in Stambaugh Stadium. His job goes beyond the prevention and treatment of injuries, though.

Wathen also checks equipment and fields for safety, tends players during football games, and even takes athletes to medical appointments. And then there's the endless paperwork involved with injuries, physicals, and continuous drug tests, not to mention insurance matters.

From August until December, Wathen is often on campus seven days a week, putting in up to 16-hour days, Burkey said. "It's not really a job; it's a lifestyle," he said. "You've got to love it."

Assistant Athletic Trainer John Doneyko agreed, adding that he learned from Wathen to come in every day "ready to handle being pulled in a thousand directions."

Wathen acknowledged the demands of the job, particularly during football season. "When it's a sea of insanity around you, you have to be the island of calm," he said.

Wathen, who received YSU's Distinguished Service Award in 1990 and was inducted into YSU's Athletics Hall of Fame in 1995, plans to retire in March.

"His life has been this university," Burkey said. "There'll be stories about Dan 30 years from now."

In retirement, Wathen said he plans to stay in the Youngstown area, but he wants to travel. "I've gotten wanderlust in my old age," he added. ■

(Story by Elaine A. Habeger)

eUpdate exclusives

For more news about YSU, read these and other stories in eUpdate at <http://cfweb.cc.yosu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.

- **The YSU scholarship fund in memory of slain Youngstown police officer Michael T. Hartzell continues to grow.**
- **YSU's Students Motivated by the Arts celebrates its 10th Anniversary with the grand opening of the SMARTS Store.**
- **Richard Teerlink, former chair of Harley-Davidson, Inc., spoke at YSU's Paul J. and Marguerite K. Thomas Colloquium on Free Enterprise.**
- **YSU hosted the Fifth Annual Nursing Research Symposium.**
- **Malcolm Barber, one of the world's premier historians on the Crusades, visited YSU to meet with students and give a public lecture.**

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Dan Wathen, head athletic trainer, works on senior linebacker James Terry in the training room in Stambaugh Stadium.

Faculty & Staff

Send items for "Faculty & Staff"
to racole01@ysu.edu.

Mustansir Mir, professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, and director, Center for Islamic Studies, has had the book *Understanding the Islamic Scripture: A Study of Selected Passages from the Qur'an* published by Pearson Longman.

Anne York, associate professor, History, presented a paper at the annual meeting of the Western Society for French History in Long Beach entitled "Louis XIV and the Jansenists: The Role of the Jesuits in the Confiscation of Quesnel's Papers." She also presented a paper at the Western Association of Women Historians in San Diego entitled "The Filles de l'Enfance: Another Look."

James J. Carroll, professor, Physics and Astronomy, co-authored the following: "Weak K-Hindrance Manifested in Alpha Decay of the 178m2-Hf Isomer" with Russian colleagues, in the May 2007 issue of *Physical Review C*; "Coulomb Excitation of the 242m-Am Isomer," with colleagues and with recent YSU graduates David Gohlke and Ronald Propri, in the May issue of *Laser Physics*; and "Nuclear Isomers: Recipes from the Past and Ingredients for the Future" with Philip Walker, University of

Surrey, in the April 2007 issue of the European journal *Nuclear Physics News*.

Matt O'Mansky, assistant professor, Sociology and Anthropology, designed, constructed, and ran "The YSU Simulated Dig" at the Canfield Fair. The Sim Dig, a 1 x 1 meter, 35 cm deep box that serves as an archaeological dig site, is on display in the Anthropology department and is scheduled to be presented at local schools.

Arnold A. Smith, adjunct professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, had "Time and the Medieval World" published in *Philosophy Now*, Issue 62 (July/August 2007).

Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez, director, Dr. James Dale Ethics Center, and professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies, was named to the editorial board of *The Journal of Religion, Conflict, and Peace*, which is published jointly by Earlham, Goshen, and Manchester Colleges. He also presented "Writing Your Own Obituary" at a seminar on end-of-life issues sponsored by the Mahoning Valley Association of Churches, and he delivered the sermon "Patriotism and Morality" at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Youngstown.

Bruce Waller, professor and chair, Philosophy and Religious Studies, had "Sincere Apology Without Moral Responsibility" published in *Social Theory and Practice*, Volume 33, Number 3.

Joan L. Boyd, professor, Health Professions; **John Hazy**, assistant professor, Criminal Justice; and **Sal Sanders**, assistant professor, Health Professions, will have the article "Communicating and Understanding Laboratory Test Results: What Matters?" published in the November 2007 *Lab Medicine*.

Weiqing Ge, assistant professor, Physical Therapy, had "Response of Lumbar Paraspinal Muscle Spindles Is Greater to Spinal Manipulative Loading Compared with Slower Loading Under Length Control" published in *The Spine Journal*.

Richard Pirko, producer/technician, Physics and Astronomy, presented a program entitled "Sputnik, and the Space Race" for the Penn-Harris-Madison school district in Mishawaka, Ind., on Oct. 4, the 50th anniversary of the launch of Sputnik. ■

Owwweee...

Samantha Cope of Alliance, a junior secondary education and English major, winces as Karen Hicks of the Youngstown Community Health Center readies to inject the flu vaccine. On Friday, Oct. 26, 133 YSU students, faculty, staff and others received the vaccine in the Student Health Clinic in Kilcawley House. "Our students and our employees are pretty good about making sure they get the shots," said Sue Ferrier, nurse supervisor for Student Health Services. For more information, visit SHS at <http://cc.ysu.edu/student-services/health/index.shtml>.





Metro college

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\$174,793 through grants.

"Being targeted more to the business community, the Metro College is fortunate to be able to access these resources to help companies be competitive," Hudson said.

He said Brainard Rivet is a typical company to benefit from the program.

Brainard, a 100 percent employee-owned company, manufactures rivets and other fasteners for the farm and railroad industries, but mainly for automobiles and trucks. So when the International Automotive Task Force issued a new quality management system certification, Brainard knew it had to keep up.

"If we did not update our previous certification, we would have lost some of our current customers and would not have been able to pursue new business with automotive transplants," Volpe said.

She contacted the Metro College, where she received "a lot of support."

"Rufus was very accommodating and did the majority of the work," Volpe said. "He introduced us to a knowledgeable consulting company, and made my job very easy, as he had a very thorough understanding of the Ohio Board of Regents filing requirements."

Brainard's quality manager, Scott Felger, said that consultants from QMS Consulting in Cleveland visited Brainard

repeatedly over the next several months to conduct trainings with Brainard's 35 employees and implement production methods geared toward the new standard. The internationally recognized certification, known as ISO/TS 16949:2002, involves defect prevention, waste reduction, and overall quality assurance.

Brainard received the certification in June 2007, and in October received a flag indicating their new status. Sales Manager Bob Byers said the certification is "a great marketing tool," and he expects an increase in sales.

Other businesses assisted by the Metro College's program include B&D Trucking, Falcon Foundry, Seckley Industries and Venture Plastics. Training topics include quality assurance, environmental waste management, and lean enterprises, a method to maximize efficiency.

The Metro College is currently working with Summer Garden Foods, previously the John Zidian Co., in a variety of areas, from development of a new facility to employee training to qualify certification. Summer Garden is planning to expand globally, and, Hudson said, "We're helping them make that quantum leap." ■

(Story by Elaine A. Habeger)

YSU Foundation

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will include undergraduate and MBA students who have completed courses in business finance and investment analysis. Oversight will be provided by Chen and an advisory council made up of members of the YSU Foundation and the local business community. Eventually, the program will be expanded to include all interested WCBA students.

The program will allow students to learn how to develop a portfolio strategy, analyze data, explore various investment methods and examine investor behaviors, said Betty Jo Licata, dean of the Williamson College of Business Administration. The Fund's investment goal is to outperform S&P 500 index returns consistently, but at the same time maintain an acceptable risk, she said.

"There is no better way to learn than by making decisions that have a real impact," Licata said. "Students will gain a better understanding of financial concepts, investment research, and portfolio management. We are grateful to the YSU Foundation for providing our students with a unique and valuable learning opportunity."

Earnings will be reinvested in the Fund. ■