

Education professor earns Faculty Innovator Award

Textbooks aren't getting any cheaper, but one YSU faculty member has been offsetting student costs by substituting textbooks for the latest technologies and strategies in learning.

Lauren Cummins, associate professor of Teacher Education, is among only 10 faculty members statewide to receive the 2011 Ohio Faculty Innovator Award from the Ohio Board of Regents. The award is given to faculty members who creatively reduce the cost of class materials for students while improving the educational content of the course.

"Ohio's economic competiveness is built on the strength of its higher education system and keeping access to that system within reach of Ohio families," said Eric Fingerhut, former chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. "The faculty we honor have, with their dedication and hard work, helped make it easier for students to succeed in ways that will make them, and Ohio, more successful in today's knowledge economy."

In two distance-learning courses she teaches, Cummins uses VoiceThread and PBWorks Wiki, 2.0 technologies that provide critical analysis and interaction opportunities to students. VoiceThread applies multimedia resources while the wiki program lets a group set up and



Lauren Cummins

contribute to pages in a collaborative effort.

Cummins
uses photo
images on
VoiceThread
to
complement
concepts from
the course.
Students view
the images
that relate to a
concept and
respond to
questions for

each by either typing an answer or posting a recorded voice message via computer microphone or telephone. In addition, the wiki tracks student posts throughout the semester on a given topic. Students not only post their own research to the wiki but also comment on and expand their classmates' findings and add videos, podcasts and other links to better communicate their ideas.

The digital material employed in Cummins' Methods and Theories in Early Childhood Education course saves each graduate student \$121 in textbook costs.

Cummins acknowledges another advantage in using the technologies.

"Both are effective ways to engage students in the process of inquiry-based learning, taking them several steps beyond just covering the material and asking them to be responsible researchers," she said. "Textbooks shouldn't be the focus for all learning, but the springboard where learning begins. Information in and of itself is not learning."

Cummins received positive feedback from students of the distance-learning courses and plans to continue using the digital teaching methods in future classes. This semester, she added another 2.0 technology to the class, Webspiration, which challenges distance learners to work collaboratively to create a mind map of concepts taught.

By Andrea Armeni



Getting fit, healthy and happy

I had grown fat.

The first line in one of Stephen Flora's latest books was not something the YSU psychology professor took lightly. The revelation not only prompted a lifestyle makeover for Flora, but it also led him to new opportunities to teach others about his behavior analysis diet.

Get Fit, Healthy, and Happy with Behavior Analytic Training (BAT) is one of two new books published last year by Flora that deal with BAT principles for a healthy life.

Based on the science of behavior analysis, BAT uses a personalized and measured approach to dieting and exercise training. It involves assessing your current behaviors, taking on new behaviors gradually that help reach your fitness goal, and setting up motivating rewards as you progress.

Flora—who has published several scholarly articles on behavior analysis, psychology and athletics—argues that a person's psychology is influenced mostly by his or her pattern of behavior. By



"If you're used to eating two slices of Meat Lover's pizza every night, you're not going to be OK with switching to vegetarian pita pizza right away," professor Stephen Flora says.

changing behaviors, you can change the way you think or react to eating and exercising to create lasting results.

The key, he says, is gradual change.

"If you're used to eating two slices of Meat Lover's pizza every night, you're not going to be OK with switching to vegetarian pita pizza right away," said Flora, a board certified behavior analyst. "Instead, first cut down to only one Meat Lover's slice, then one regular slice, then a healthier alternative, until you reach your goal."

By replacing bad habits with good ones, gradual changes become normal behaviors, he added.

Flora used this technique himself to lose over 20 pounds and improve his martial arts skills. His BAT plan took him from years of never winning tournaments to placing first in a Professional Karate Commission state championship division. He now competes in several athletic events, including the famous Escape from Alcatraz triathlon, and has won the Steel Valley Triathlon Club's point series championship in his age bracket three years in a row. He focuses on using BAT to achieve athletic success in his second latest book, *Peak Performance, Personal Records, Ultimate Fitness, and Winning Athletic Competitions with Behavior Analytic Training*.

Now concentrating on his fifth overall book and an upcoming conference presentation, Flora continues sharing BAT principles with eager audiences.

"I always get the question, 'But what if you don't have time to exercise?' If you have time for your favorite TV show, you have time to exercise. It's all about choices," Flora said. He suggested tips to help jump start an exercise routine like "putting your remote in your running shoes" or walking around the soccer field while the kids are at soccer practice.

His next book will further discuss exercise and its applications to psychological disorders, and Flora's conference presentation is scheduled for May 27 at the Association for Behavior Analysis International Convention in Denver.

Flora earned a Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Georgia in 1990. Teaching at YSU since 1993, his courses focus on areas of human learning and applied behavior analysis.

By Andrea Armeni



New Blackboard features introduced on campus

A new feature in the Blackboard Learning Management System at YSU allows students and professors to more easily detect potential plagiarism.

The SafeAssign Plagiarism Detection tool is among three new functions now available through Blackboard, the new online course management software implemented by YSU last fall to help faculty enhance the educational and communications process of their classes.

SafeAssign compares papers that are submitted against other papers available on the Internet and in YSU's document repository, said Lloyd Painter, YSU manager of technology customer support and training. The software generates an "Originality Report" that indicates the percentage of the document that was possibly plagiarized and areas where it detected plagiarism, he said. Students can also use the software before they submit assignments to instructors.

"It's a very popular tool in higher education," Painter said. Other universities using the software include Baldwin Wallace, George Mason, Florida State, Virginia Commonwealth, Stony Brook, Southern Florida, Central Michigan and San Diego State.

Another new feature is Blackboard Mobile, which provides students and faculty access to Blackboard courses and content – including assignments, announcements and discussion boards – from their smart phones, including the Android, BlackBerry, iPhone and iPad.

"This will enable a whole new level of interactivity," Painter said.

The third feature is integration of TurningPoint Technologies with Blackboard. TurningPoint's response system that allows instructors to "poll" students during lectures and presentations is now available in all standard multimedia classrooms across campus. The new feature allows instructors to correlate responses from the devices to specific students, enhancing the capabilities of the technology, Painter said.

For more information on the new features, call the YSU Instructional Technology Center at 330-941-3244 or email itc@ysu.edu.



YSU staffer's efforts to preserve ducks on Beaver Creek recognized by state

Jim Dolan may spend his nine-tofives testing and maintaining hightech video and sound equipment at YSU, but after work, his favorite thing to do requires a much different skill set

Dolan has been a birder his entire life, but the TV production studio engineer at YSU's Department of Communications has been taking his hobby even more seriously in recent years. His work to preserve Beaver Creek State Park in Columbiana County, where he lives, has been recognized by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and has resulted in several sheltered homes for his feathered friends.

Dolan started the conservation project a few years ago when he spotted the Common Merganser, a type of duck, nesting on Beaver Creek.



Jim Dolan at Beaver Creek State Park in Columbiana County.

"It surprised me because they're typically found in more northern regions," he said. "I reported them to the ODNR and really stunned and excited them. The chief naturalist there suggested putting up a nest box to see if they'd use it."

Dolan jumped on the opportunity to preserve the species in the park but wanted to turn it into a bigger project.

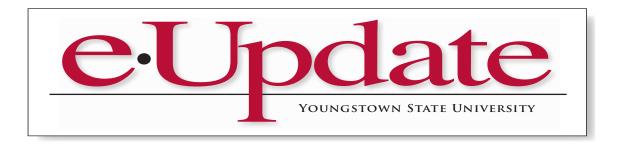
"A friend and I decided to apply for a Little Beaver Creek Land Foundation grant. They ended up giving us the money to build 10 nest boxes along the water shed of the park," said Dolan.

The two friends used the grant to purchase materials and built and installed the nest boxes across the park and through Fredericktown. The boxes are used by the ducks during nesting season, providing them with shelter to lay and incubate their eggs.

Dolan purchased Ohio Wildlife Legacy Stamps to be displayed on each box. The stamps help Ohio's Division of Wildlife conserve, restore and manage the state's natural habitats. Generating more than \$20,500 for wildlife conservation, the stamps have led to research projects and resources for Bald Eagles, Sandhill Cranes, Ospreys, Waterfowls and many other animals.

"Hunters and fishermen help protect wildlife streams and habitats by purchasing licenses or permits, but birders don't have to pay anything to protect the habitat for birds," said Dolan, who is featured on the ODNR website as a Legacy Stamper. "But I think there's always something that you can do to help wildlife. Even one little stamp can help."

By Andrea Armeni



Reminder: Lincoln Deck closes April 18

Major renovations to the M-2 Lincoln Avenue parking deck will begin Monday, April 18, and the university is advising students and employees to make alternate parking plans, including using the parking lot at the Covelli Center in downtown Youngstown.

The 40-year-old deck, which consists of nearly 1,300 parking spaces, will close April 18 and

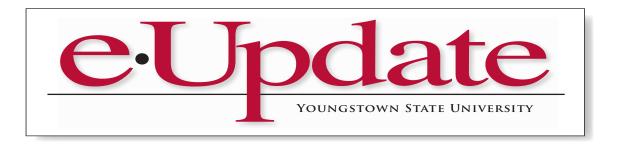


reopen for the start of fall semester classes on Aug. 29. In order to complete the work in time for the deck to open again for the start of the fall semester, it is necessary to close April 18, four weeks prior to the end of the spring semester.

Danny O'Connell, YSU director of Support Services, advised motorists to plan ahead.

During the closing, students, employees and visitors are encouraged to identify other campus lots in which to park, he said.

In addition, between April 18 and the end of spring semester on May 13, individuals with valid YSU parking permits may park at the Covelli Center on Front Street in downtown Youngstown. Shuttle buses will operate continuously between the Covelli Center and Lincoln Avenue on the YSU campus between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. The shuttles will drop-off and pick-up passengers in front of Moser Hall on Lincoln Avenue.

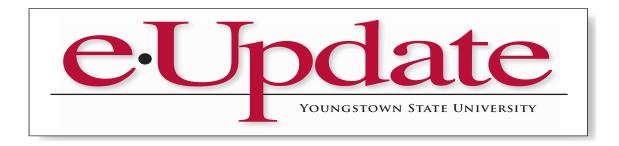


Faculty/staff awards, publications, presentations

Johanna Slivinske, part-time instructor, Social Work, and Lee Slivinske, professor, Social Work, published the book *Storytelling and Other Activities for Children in Therapy* with John Wiley & Sons this year. The book examines various life challenges confronting children, as well as the strengths approach to storytelling, an important tool in easing the pain of emotionally hurt children that can benefit mental health practitioners. In addition, Johanna Slivinske and Lee Slivinske, along with Linda Causey, assistant professor of Social Work, and Karla Wyant, instructor and advisor and internship coordinator of the YSU/LCCC Partnership Program, published an article, titled "Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Trumbull Advocacy and Protective Network: A Formative Evaluation" in the *Journal of Applied Gerontology*.

YSU Theater and Dance faculty **Nancy Wolfgang**, instructor; **Kevin Wolfgang**, adjunct instructor; and **Dennis Henneman**, professor; along with YSU student **Eric Lewis**, presented eight workshops involving more than 200 Ohio high school students and teachers at the 2011 Ohio State Thespian Annual Conference. The conference, held at Dublin Scioto High School last month, included presentations from theater professionals, professors and teachers from New York, Pennsylvania, Michigan and Ohio. YSU workshops ranged in topic from stage combat to the tricks of theatrical costuming to life as a professional musical theater performer. In addition, Wolfgang, who is also the official college representative on the Ohio Educational Theatre Association Board, organized the unified auditions for high school juniors seeking admission into college and university theater programs.

Samuel Adu-Poku, associate professor, Art, contributed a chapter, titled "Multiculturalism and Art Education: An Africentric Perspective," to *Art, Culture and Ethnicity*, published last month by the National Art Education Association.



Distinguished Professors named

The 2010-11 Distinguished Professor Awards will be presented April 25 at YSU's annual Honors Convocation in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center.

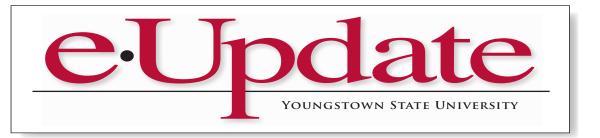
Here are this year's recipients:

For excellence in teaching: Maria E. Delost, Health Professions; Loren R. Lease, Sociology, Anthropology, and Gerontology; Susan A. Lisko, Nursing; Richard A. McEwing, Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership; John R. Sullins, Computer Science and Information Systems, Cynthia Vigliotti, English; Mark C. Vopat, Philosophy and Religious Studies; Darrell R. Wallace, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering.

For excellence in scholarship: Ganesaratnam K. Balendiran, Chemistry; John J. Feldmeier, Physics and Astronomy; Don Martin, Counseling and Special Education; Gang Peng, Management; Rachael J. Pohle-Krauza, Human Ecology; Bradley A. Shellito, Geography; Paul A. Sracic, Political Science.

For excellence in service: Annette M. Burden, Mathematics and Statistics; Janice G. Elias, Human Ecology; Anthony J. Kos, Management; Suzanne Leson, Human Ecology; Sherri R. Lovelace-Cameron, Chemistry; Nancy W. Mosca, Nursing; Cathy Bieber Parrott, Physical Therapy.

In addition, **Daniel H. Suchora**, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, will receive the Watson Merit Award, given to outstanding department chairpersons for administrative performance.



WCBA reaccredited by AACSB

The Williamson College of Business Administration has been reaccredited by the AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, placing WCBA among the top business schools in the world

"AACSB accreditation is an external validation of program excellence and the outstanding education that students receive in the Williamson College of Business Administration," Provost Ikram Khawaja said. "Students enrolled in and faculty teaching in the WCBA are part of a program that meets the most rigorous global standards that exist for business schools today."

Less than 5 percent of business schools worldwide have earned AASCB accreditation. To maintain accreditation, a business program undergoes an extensive internal review every five years, at which time the program must demonstrate its continued commitment to 21 quality standards.

"The faculty and staff of the WCBA are committed to providing our students with an exceptional business education that emphasizes applied learning and the importance of professional experience and engagement with the community," WCBA Dean Betty Jo Licata said. "AACSB accreditation is recognition of the quality of our faculty, students, and programs



Betty Jo Licata, WCBA dean, is flanked by the college's faculty and staff as she announces that the college has been re-accredited by AACSB.

and we are proud that our commitment to excellence is recognized by the reaffirmation of our AACSB accreditation."

The re-accreditation will be recognized April 28 at the 2011 AACSB International Conference and Annual Meeting in New York.



Judge Jones receives Friend of University Award

The Honorable Nathaniel R. Jones, retired judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, receives the YSU Friend of the University Award at a dinner Saturday, April 16, at the Youngstown Club in downtown Youngstown.

Initiated in 1997, the annual award recognizes alumni, friends and donors who have had a significant impact on YSU. The awards dinner is by invitation only. Previous recipients include the Schwebel and Beeghly families. Tony and Mary Lariccia, Frank and Norma Watson, and John and Denise DeBartolo.

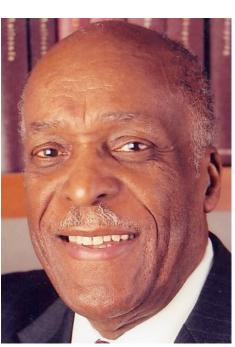
Jones, a native of Youngstown, served in the Army and then attended YSU, receiving his A.B. in 1951 and his L.L.B. in 1955. He was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1957. From 1956 to 1959, he was executive director of the Fair Employment Practices Commission of the city of Youngstown. He then began private practice, and a year later was appointed as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio in Cleveland. In 1967, he served as Assistant General Counsel to President Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil

Disorders. In 1969, Jones was invited to assume the responsibility as general counsel of the NAACP, a position he held for 10 years. In May 1979, President

Nathaniel Iones Carter announced his intention to appoint Jones to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. Jones took his oath of office on October 15, 1979.

Following his retirement from the Court of Appeals in March 2002, Judge Jones assumed a position as counsel with Blank Rome LLP. He was named the firm's Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer in 2006. In addition, he serves as honorary co-chair and director of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati. He is a member of the Toyota Motor Manufacturing, North America, Inc. Diversity Advisory Board, member of KnowledgeWorks Foundation Board of Trustees, and director emeritus of the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative. He has taught at several law schools throughout the nation and is the holder of 18 honorary degrees.

An internationally renowned civil rights activist, Jones played an important role in furthering



the abolition of apartheid in South Africa. The drafters of South Africa's new constitution and laws consulted him, and he conferred with Nelson Mandela upon Mandela's release from 27 years of imprisonment.

Jones has authored numerous articles and papers and has been the recipient of many honors and awards. Most recently he received Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.'s Laurel Wreath Award, The American Lawyer's Lifetime Achievement Award, the Just The Beginning Foundation's Trailblazer Award, the Metropolitan Club's 2005 Metropolitan Award, the 2005 Annual Fellows Award from the American Bar Association's Young Lawyers Division, the Queen City Foundation's Robert L. Black, Jr. Award of Excellence and Diversity in Education, the Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund Award of Excellence, the Ohio Bar Medal from the Ohio State Bar Association and was honored by radio station WCIN and The Fifth Third Bank as one of "The Fifty Most Influential Blacks in Cincinnati in the Last Half Century."

Jones is married to the former Lillian Hawthorne. They have four children, three of whom are lawyers and one an Atlanta businessman, and six grandchildren.



Rich Center presents Temple Grandin May 17

Temple Grandin, a renowned animal scientist and one of the world's most accomplished people with autism, will present a free lecture 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 17 in Stambaugh Auditorium in Youngstown.

The lecture, sponsored by YSU's Rich Center for the Study and Treatment of Autism, are free and open to the public. While the



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lecture is free, tickets are required. Tickets can be picked up at the information desk at Kilcawley Center and at the Rich Center, both on the YSU campus. Tickets are also available at Franklin Pharmacy in Warren, Salon at Creekside in Canfield and Inner Circle Pizza in Poland.

"Temple Grandin and her life is an inspiration for everyone with autism and those that live with, work with and care for people with autism," said Georgia Backus, director of the Rich Center. "This is a unique opportunity to hear her story and understand the struggles of individuals with autism and how to overcome them."

Grandin, diagnosed with autism in 1950 at the age of three, has been featured on national news shows ranging from National Public Radio and 20/20 to Larry King Live and The Today Show, as well as national publications such as *People* magazine, *Forbes, U.S. News and World Report* and the *New York Times. Time* magazine included Grandin in its 2010 *Time* 100, the magazine's annual list of the 100 most influential people in the world.

Also last year, Grandin's life was documented in an HBO film that won seven Emmy awards, including Best Made-for-Television Movie, Best Director and Best Leading Actress. The film also recently won a Golden Globe Award for Best Actress.

Grandin is a professor of animal science at Colorado State University. She earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Franklin Pierce College, a master's degree in animal science from Arizona State University and a doctoral degree in animal science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

For more information, visit <u>www.ysu.edu/richcenter</u> or call Tricia Perry, Rich Center events coordinator, at 330-727-9717.







READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL: Get a glimpse of the 2011 version of Penguins football at the annual Red White Spring Game at noon Saturday, April 16 in Stambaugh Stadium. Second-year head coach Eric Wolford, below, aims to improve on last year's 3-8 record. Also this week, Penguin coaches conduct a football clinic at 5:30 p.m. Friday, April 15, in the DeBartolo Stadium Club for women who want to learn more about the game.



La Perichole opera set for April 14 to 17 on campus

YSU's Performing Arts Series present Offenbach's comic opera *La Perichole* Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday April 14, 15, 16 and 17 in Bliss Hall's Ford Theater at YSU.

Thursday through Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m. The Sunday matinee performance is at 3 p.m.

La Perichole is a beautiful young street singer in Colonial Lima, Peru. She and her singing



From the left, Cory Davis, Molly Scherer, Kayla Wilson and Trevor Coleman star in University Theater's La Perichole.

partner, Piquillo, can't earn enough to eat, let alone afford a marriage license. She falls under the eye of the Viceroy, who offers to make her an addition to his bevy of Ladies in Waiting. Hungry, she agrees and writes a farewell letter to her love. In true farce fashion, a mysterious marriage, a

misunderstanding, and an old prisoner lead to a happy ending for

all. Well, almost all! Mix in the melodies of Jacques Offenbach, the prolific composer of over 100 comic operettas, a recipe for a sparkling two hours of music and mirth ensues.

The opera program director/vocal director is Allan R. Mosher; music director/conductor is Jon Simsic; stage director/scenic designer is David Vosburgh; lighting designer is Kevin Wolfgang; costume designer is Barbara Luce of the Costume Kingdom; rehearsal accompanist/music preparation is Jerome Rezanka and hair and make up designer is Linda Leith. In addition, the others assisting with the production include assistant director, William

Monroe; Girard City Schools Children's Chorus director, Sue Ellen Harris Davis; master carpenter, Frank Bongen; and stage manager, Krista Ulbricht.

Show tickets may be reserved by calling the University Theater Box Office at 330-941-3105. Ticket prices are \$5 for YSU students with ID; \$15 for adults; \$10 for senior citizens, YSU faculty and staff and high school and college students from other universities. University Theater season ticket holders receive a special rate of \$5. Parking is available in the Wick Avenue parking deck for a nominal fee for all performances.



Philadelphia Eagles VP speaks at Communication Week

Pamela Browner-White, a YSU alumna and a senior vice president for the Philadelphia Eagles, is the featured speaker for Communication Week at YSU April 18 through 22.

Browner-White, who earned a bachelor's degree at YSU in 1987, joined the Eagles in 2008 as senior vice president of public affairs and government relations. She came to the Eagles from Citizens Bank, where she had been senior vice president and director of public affairs.

Her presentation, titled "Adventures of a Communications Professional," is at noon April 21 in the Williamson College of Business Administration, Room 3422.

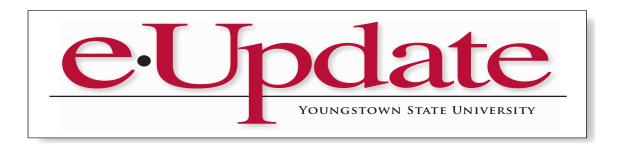
Other events include:

- Monday, April 18, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., party for communications majors/alumni, Inner Circle Pizza.
- Tuesday, April 19, 3 to 4:30 p.m., job and internship workshop, Maag Library communications classrooms. Speakers are Diane Hritz of YSU Career and Counseling Services and Jim Donnan, internship coordinator for the department.
- Wednesday, April 20, student scavenger hunt. Pick up list of items between 9 and 11 a.m. in the department offices, Bliss Hall. Prizes for first, second and third place teams.
- Thursday, April 21, 6:30 p.m., Communication Honors Banquet, Cassese MVR restaurant. Reservations required.
- Friday, April 22, 1 to 2 p.m., Master Class, Maag Library, Room 136, featuring Wittenberg University communications professor Matt J. Smith. His presentation is "Beyond BIFF! BAM! POW! Reading Comic Books as Communication."



Pamela Browner-White

For more information, call 330-941-3631.



CWRU prof concludes this year's Dana's Musicology Series

The Dana School of Music concludes this academic year's Musicology Series with a discussion by noted musicologist Mary Davis, chair of Case Western Reserve University's music department, at 4 p.m. Friday, April 29, in Bliss Recital Hall.

The discussion, titled "Fashion à la Russe: Diaghilev's Dancers in *Comoedia Illustré*", is free and open to the public.

Davis will illuminate the multiple connections that linked Sergei Diaghilev's famous Ballets Russes to the world of Paris fashion in the early 20th century. The Ballets Russes productions in the French capital were landmark events, uniting a who's-who of avant-garde visual artists and composers – Picasso, Matisse, de Chirico, Stravinsky, Satie, Debussy, Prokofiev – with adventurous choreographers, all in the service of a new conception of dance. While often overlooked, costumes were key to the productions and performances and the Ballets Russes were a potent force in defining Paris style, bringing the work of great designers, such as Chanel and Jeanne Paquin to the stage, and creating sensibilities that resonated in the collections of couturiers from Paul Poiret to Yves Saint Laurent and beyond. Using the popular magazine Comoedia illustré – the Vanity Fair of its day – as a lens for exploration of these ties, Davis will illuminate ways in which Diaghilev's troupe functioned as a tastemaking, trendsetting, and fashion-centric enterprise.

Davis was appointed chair of the Music Department at CWRU in 2009. A member of the faculty since 1998, Davis was the first person to be appointed to the University's Robson Junior Professorship, which she held until her promotion to associate professor in 2005. She is currently associate director of CWRU's Baker Nord Center for the Humanities, and serves as university liaison and advisor to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. In 2007, she was the Howard D. Rothschild Fellow in Dance at Harvard University's Houghton Library.

Davis specializes in the cultural criticism of music, and her research focuses on the relationship of music to fashion. As an advisor to the Rock Hall, Davis oversees CWRU/Rock Hall collaborations including the annual American Music Masters series, which honors a pioneering figure in American popular music and culminates in a day-long conference on the CWRU campus and a major tribute concert.

Davis holds degrees from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame (B.M.), the Peabody Conservatory of Music (M.M. Piano), the New England Conservatory of Music (M.M. Musicology) and Harvard University (Ph.D., Musicology).

For more information, call the Dana School of Music at 330-941-3636.





QUEST

Mechanical engineering major Brooke Johnson presented her research on wind turbines at QUEST 2011, the annual forum for students to share their scholarly achievements. Dozens of undergraduate and graduate students made presentations on research covering an array of topics, from CEO compensation to moonbuggies (below) to walleye spawning and Bob Dylan.





Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour hits YSU April 20

The Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour, featuring two of America's top young entrepreneurs who've made, earned, or sold a company for millions and/or made a huge impact before the age of 30, will be visiting YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration on Wednesday, April 20 as a part of the Paul J. and Marguerite K. Thomas Entrepreneur In Residence Program.

The event, which is 1 to 5 p.m. in the WCBA Conference Center, is designed to help both students and members of the community succeed with starting their own business. The Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour program is free and open to the public. Registration is limited to 200. Register in advance at www.extremetour.org/ysu.



The tour event consists of two question-and answer-sessions with two young successful entrepreneurs at 1 and 3 p.m. Two interactive workshops focused on leveraging competitive advantage will begin at 2 and 4 p.m. Attendees are welcome to attend all or some of the sessions held throughout the afternoon.

The planning committee for the event includes the Monus Entrepreneurship Center, the Ohio Small Business Development

Center, and the WCBA. "The Extreme Entrepreneurship Tour: Dream Big!," founded by award-winning entrepreneurs Michael Simmons and Sheena Lindahl at 25-years-of-age, is presented in partnership with the Free Enterprise Campaign, with additional support from Inc. Magazine.

The tour has held more than 150 events throughout the country and attracted more than 600 people. The organization has received the Innovation Award from the National Association of Development Organizations and the Program of the Year award from Northern Michigan University. Lindahl and Simmons have both received numerous business awards – Lindahl was named by *Business Week* as one of the country's top 25 entrepreneurs under 25 and Simmons received entrepreneur of the year awards from the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship, Fleet, and the National Coalition for Empowering Youth Entrepreneurship.