

May 2011



Kristine Beauchamp

magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in applied science, earned her degree in only three years and was unanimously named Outstanding Human Ecology Student. She received a Dean's Award at 2011 QUEST, is a member of Golden Key and Phi Kappa Phi honor societies, and has volunteered more than 100 hours at the St. Vincent DePaul soup kitchen. And now it's on to Boston, where she has landed a position as a sales associate with EMC, an industry-leading data storage company and one of *Business Week's* "best places to launch a career."

James Aldridge of Brookfield, graduating with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering, is now headed to Cleveland, where he enters Case Western Reserve University's Ph.D. program in

Graduating Student Success Stories

Academic excellence and student success have been the mantra of Cynthia E. Anderson since becoming president of YSU nearly a year ago.

With that in mind, and as hundreds of students complete their studies, receive their diplomas and enter the next phases of their lives, *YSUpdate* takes the opportunity to recognize a handful of the dozens of graduating students who are – by all measure – Student Success Stories. To read more details about their accomplishments, as well as other Student Success Stories, visit <http://web.ysu.edu/studentsuccessstories>.

Kristine Beauchamp of Boardman, who graduates



James Aldridge

macromolecular science and engineering. He will work with the internationally recognized Baer and Hiltner research group. “When you’re determined,” he said, “you can do anything.”

Janet Lynn Gbur, who graduates with a master’s degree in mechanical engineering, is also headed to Case Western to work on a Ph.D. in materials science and engineering. Gbur previously earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and pre-medicine from Kent State University and a bachelor’s in engineering in materials science from YSU. An internship with CleveMed, a medical device company in Cleveland, led to work on multiple National Institutes of Health grants and the design of a patent-pending EEG electrode.



Janet Lynn Gbur

Nicholas Meditz of Canfield, who graduates with a bachelor’s degree in finance and a minor in economics, was recently honored by Ohio’s secretary of state for his outstanding leadership as president of the student government at YSU.



Nicholas Meditz

“The accomplishments and consistent successes of Nicholas Meditz are testaments to what can be done for the lives of others and for our communities,” the honor reads. He plans to work in the finance field and will be pursuing an MBA or a master’s in computational finance.

Dana Strollo of Campbell and **Lauren Furnkase** of Austintown, who graduate with bachelor’s degrees in respiratory care, joined professionals, physicians and Ph.D.s from around the world to present their research at the 56th American Association for Respiratory Care International Respiratory Congress in Las Vegas. Teresa Volsko, director of

the YSU Respiratory Care and Polysomnography programs and the students’ faculty advisor, called their findings “highly significant.”

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Prof's research examines 'publicness' of Facebook

As social networking sites such as Facebook continually update user privacy policies, they also are redefining what it means to publicly interact online. These sites have dealt with privacy issues in the past; legalities over the collection and storage of postings and features like Facebook's 2006 News Feed have often left users questioning whether there really is such a thing as a "private account" in a virtual public space.

Some claim this increasing publicness encourages site members to share personal information online. Others say it does just the opposite and inhibits self-disclosure.

Patrick Bateman, assistant professor of Management at Youngstown State University, is finding evidence to settle the growing debate.

"People will disclose less on social networking sites the more public they believe them to be," said Bateman. "This finding runs counter to a common perception permeating the media and society that social networking technologies fuel people to disclose information, providing them with an outlet, even a stage, to communicate freely with the world. People aren't necessarily looking to communicate with a large group of unknown others."

In "To Disclose or Not: Publicness in Social Networking Sites," published in the March 2011 issue of *Information Technology & People*, Bateman and coauthors Jacqueline Pike of Duquesne University and Brian Butler of the University of Pittsburgh tested the competing theories using data from an online survey of social networking site users.

Subjects were recruited online and linked to the first half of a two-part survey, where they answered questions regarding their offline self-disclosure behaviors and demographics. The second part of the survey then measured participants' perceptions of how public they believed certain sites to be, as well as their willingness to share personal information based on these perceptions.

Results showed that when participants felt a site was more public, they would self-disclose less—evidence that debunks the theory claiming that people will participate more fully online to gain social rewards. The findings instead support the theory that people are reluctant to self-disclose online potentially because of unintended consequences with family, friends, employers or other unseen audiences



Patrick Bateman

“Unlike physical public spaces, virtual publics of social networking sites make it hard, if not impossible, for an individual to tell how many other people may be ‘listening’ to the conversation,” said Bateman. “While many benefits can be realized, users need to recognize these are indeed public spaces, accessible to millions, whenever they choose to post content.”

In addition, Bateman’s team found potential implications for organizations that manage social networking sites. They analyzed self-disclosure items such as gender, age, religious views, and favorite TV show, and found that perceived publicness also discourages users from sharing items about their interests and affiliations.

“This is an interesting challenge for these sites,” said Bateman, “as they rely on users to self-disclose to generate content essential for attracting more users and dollars from advertisers. Our study suggests that rather than having complicated privacy policies, Facebook might consider providing users with cues as to how public posts and profiles really are.”

By Andrea Armeni

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Meshel donates sculptures to Jazz Studies

Harry Meshel, a member of the YSU Board of Trustees, former president of the Ohio State Senate and a long-time fan of jazz, has donated sculptures of three legendary musicians to the Jazz Studies program in the Dana School of Music.

The sculptures by artist Ed Dwight depict Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie and Miles Davis and will be on display at the Butler Institute of American Art in Youngstown.

(Editor's note: A ceremony and reception to unveil the sculptures is at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 7, in the Butler Institute of American Art.)

“This gift is symbolic of two of Sen. Meshel’s great passions in life – YSU and jazz,” President Cynthia E. Anderson said. “On behalf of the entire university, I want to thank Sen. Meshel for his continued generosity and his unflinching support of YSU and its students.”

Meshel, a 1949 graduate of Youngstown College, said the donation is his way to pay tribute to the many talented faculty and students who have been associated with YSU’s jazz program. “What they do is extraordinary,” he said. “It is my privilege to be able to contribute these sculptures as an inspiration to our students and faculty.”



Harry Meshel

The sculptures are the latest of many gifts Meshel has made to the Jazz Studies program over the past several years. He also established the Senator Harry Meshel Jazz Scholarship. Kent Engelhardt, associate professor and coordinator of Jazz Studies, and Meshel also announced the establishment of the Jazz Visitors Fund to bring regional and national touring jazz musicians to the YSU campus to perform and teach.

“This fund will create opportunities for our students to experience national and regional jazz musicians in the daily academic environment,” Engelhardt said.

The sculptures are part of Dwight’s “Jazz: An American Art Form,” a series of more than 70 bronzes that depict the evolution of jazz. For more information, visit www.EdDwight.com. In addition to the scholarship in Jazz Studies, Meshel has endowed the Evangelos Michelakis Meshel Scholarship in Philosophy, the Evangelos Michelakis Meshel Award for Greek and Ancient History, both in honor of his father; the Rubini Michelakis Meshel Scholarship in Social Work, in honor of his mother; and the George Meshel Scholarship for Art.

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Ted Bosela

Washington lab donates relays to EET program

Schweitzer Engineering Labs Inc. in Pullman, Wash., recently donated state-of-the-art microprocessor-based power system relays to YSU's School of Engineering Technology.

The equipment is valued at nearly \$60,000, said Ted Bosela, professor in the electrical engineering technology program.

The equipment will be used to provide students enrolled in the EET program with experiences in the application of smart grid technologies in the power generation, transmission and distribution areas. The relays, which form the building blocks of smart grid technology, have enhanced communications capabilities that can be used for real-time

monitoring, protection and control of the power system, Bosela said.

“Having this equipment means that we will be able to provide our students with instruction using real-world equipment,” he said. “This will help them in the field, since this is the same equipment used by the electric utility companies and large industrial plants to protect, control and monitor their power systems.

Bosela said he anticipates that the market for graduates trained in these ‘smart’ technologies will be in demand as the electric grid is modernized and updated.

“Since our graduates will already be familiar with the equipment when they graduate, they should have an edge over graduates from other programs,” he added.

Bosela said he attended an SEL technical seminar in Columbus last spring when the regional business manager from SEL told him about the company's program to donate equipment to universities.

“She told me to look through their catalog and see what I wanted,” he said. “So, working with the SEL application engineers, I submitted to design and construct power

system training equipment that incorporated the SEL relays and sent it to her. Several weeks later, I received word that it had been approved. “

The SEL equipment arrived early last fall.

“Since then, we have been constructing the training equipment, and expect to have it fully operational for instruction this fall,” Bosela said.

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On a rainy May afternoon, President Cynthia E. Anderson joined Jamail Johnson's parents, Sidney and Shirlene Hill, and other family members and friends to dedicate the planting of an oak tree on the campus core in memory of Johnson.

Tree dedicated in memory of Jamail Johnson

An oak tree was planted in memory of YSU student Jamail Johnson during a ceremony on Tuesday, May 3, on the campus core.

The event took place near the "Rock" on the south side of Kilcawley Center.

Johnson, 25, died Feb. 6 during a shooting at a house located off campus. His funeral service was held in YSU's Beeghly Center. He was a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity and was to graduate from YSU this month.

"This tree will be a lasting reminder for generations to come of an exceptional student who positively influenced so many in such a short time," YSU President Cynthia E. Anderson said.

“It is also a reminder that all of us – in every city, every college and university campus across the nation – must rededicate ourselves to do what we can to ensure that such senseless violence does not happen again.”

Omega Psi Phi, Woodrow Wilson Middle School and the YSU Student Government Association dedicated a plaque in Johnson’s memory. The plaque will be placed adjacent to the tree. The tree has been donated by the Campus Beautification Initiative in partnership with members of Omega Psi Phi.

After the tree planting, the YSU Office of University Development, Office of Student Diversity and the YSU Student Government Association sponsored a Peace Rally and reception adjacent to the tree dedication site.

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Faculty/staff awards, presentations, publications

Cameron Hughes, programmer and analyst for Computer Services and member of the YSU Application Development Group, presented his research, “Extracting Micro Ontologies from Interrogative Domains for Epistemic Agents” at the 22nd Midwest Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science Conference. His co-presenter was YSU alumna **Tracey Hughes**.

The following Counseling faculty presented at the American Counseling Association International Conference in New Orleans. **Victoria Kress**, professor, co-presented “The Counselor's Survival Kit: 30 Creative Intervention Tools” and “Effectively Working with State Counselor Boards: What Counselors Need to Know and Do!” **Jake Protivnak**, associate professor, and **Matthew Paylo**, assistant professor, co-presented “College Counseling for Non-Traditional Students: Challenges to Engagement” and “An Experiential Learning Project: School Counselor Advocacy at the Individual, Administrative and Policy Level.” Paylo also co-presented “Counselor, Heal Thyself: Preventing, Recognizing and Addressing Vicarious Trauma.”

Jacob Breland, assistant professor of Management, coauthored two papers that were recently presented at the annual conference of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology in Chicago: “Interactive Effect of Narcissism and Political Skill on Network Positioning,” and “When Bullying Pays Off: Political Skill and Job Performance.”

Zbigniew Piotrowski, professor, Mathematics and Statistics, gave a talk “Quasi-continuity and Cliquishness” during his research stay at the Laboratoire de Mathematiques, Universite de Rouen, France.

Nina Stourman, assistant professor of Chemistry, gave invited presentations on her research in functional genomics of *Escherichia coli*: Glutathione Metabolism for the chemistry departments of John Carroll University and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln this spring. She also coauthored a paper that was recently published in *Biochemistry*, titled “Structure and Function of YghU, a Nu-class Glutathione Transferase Related to YfcG from *Escherichia Coli*.”

William Greenway, professor, English, recently published two poems: “Good Stories” appeared in *Valparaiso Poetry Review* and “Wolf Man” has been published in the spring issue of *Georgetown Review*.

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Retirements

Dennis Henneman, professor of Theater, enjoys a laugh at his retirement gathering in Bliss Hall last month. Below, he chats with Charles Singler, interim associate provost. The gathering was one of



many parties on campus this spring celebrating the service of dozens of retiring faculty, staff and administrators. Henneman has directed dozens of University Theater productions over a YSU career spanning more than 30 years.

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Commencement features Judge Economus, student speakers

U.S. District Court Judge Peter C. Economus, a YSU graduate, will speak at spring commencement on Saturday, May 21.



Kim Taylor

from 1982 to 1995.

Taylor, who graduates with a bachelor's degree in geography, is a member of Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and Gamma Theta Upsilon, the International Geographical Honor and has numerous awards.

Gbur, who receives a master's degree in engineering, will now go on to the Ph.D. program in materials science and engineering at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.



Judge Economus

Undergraduate graduation will take place at 10 a.m. in

Beeghly Center. The ceremony for graduate students will start at 2:30 p.m.

Student speakers will be Kim Taylor (undergraduate) and Janet Lynn Gbur (graduate).

Economus was appointed U.S. District Judge for the Northern District of Ohio in 1995. He previously was a judge in the Court of Common Pleas of Mahoning County



Janet Lynn Gbur

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YSU app for Android

The YSU “app” is now available for Android mobile devices.

The app can be downloaded for free by visiting the Android Market online at <https://market.android.com/> and searching for “YSU.” The app can also be downloaded for the iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch via iTunes.

The app features a virtual walking tour of the YSU campus with stops at more than 20 buildings and 360-degree panoramic views of facilities and other campus areas, including Ward Beecher Planetarium, the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center and Stambaugh Stadium. The app also includes access to campus photos, university news releases and other information.



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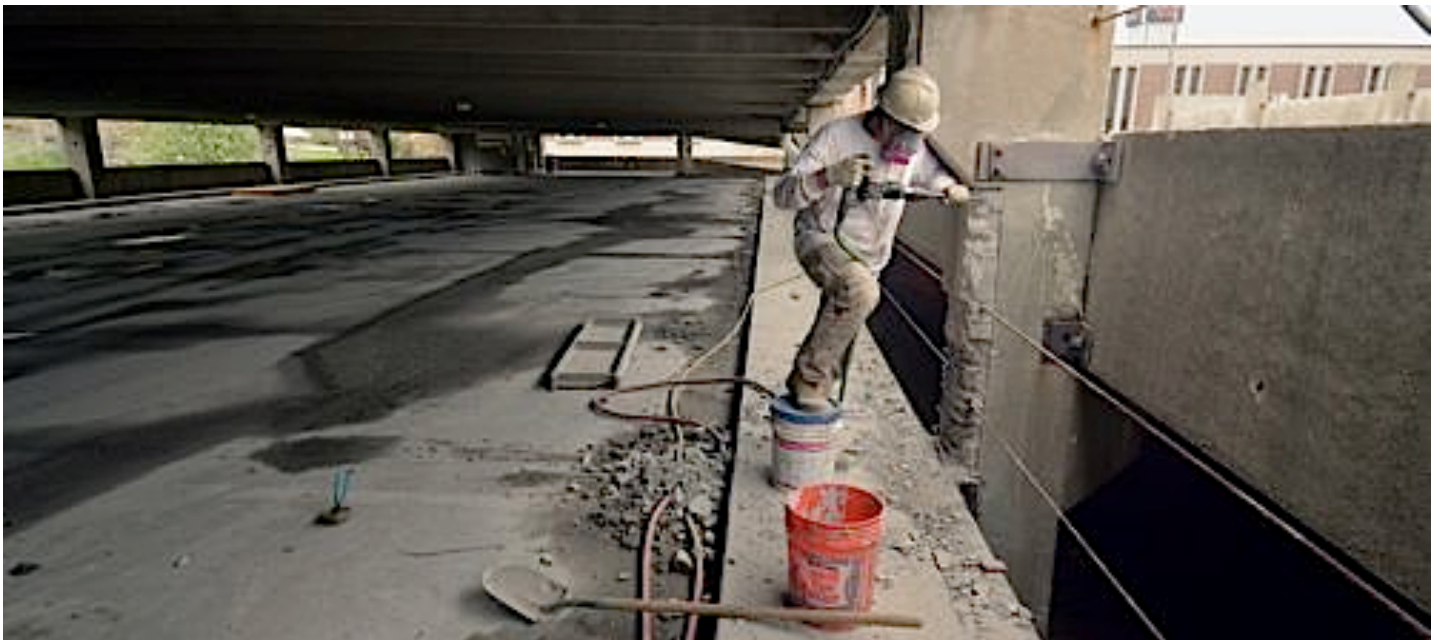
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The Lincoln shuffle

Kayla Elser, a junior dietetics major from Boardman, enters a shuttle bus at the Covelli Center in downtown Youngstown for the short ride to the YSU campus. YSU is using the Covelli lot and shuttles through May 13 while the M-2 Lincoln Avenue parking deck on campus is closed for major repairs. Below, a worker continues on the deck improvement project.



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Armed Forces Student Association holds car show

The YSU Armed Forces Student Association hosts a Car Show Fundraiser 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 14, in the M-26 parking lot at Lincoln and Fifth avenues on campus.

The event will feature awards, t-shirt sales, raffles and an appearance by YSU's own Pete and Penny.

For more information or to sign up to show your car, email afsa@student.ysu.edu, call 330-941-2523, or "like" the AFSA Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Armed-Forces-Student-Association/181630651859157>.

To view a flyer for the car show, click cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/ta/download.cfm.

To view a registration form for the car show, click cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/ta/download.cfm.

AFSA is a YSU organization through the Office of Veterans Affairs. AFSA consists of veterans who come together with the common interest of helping other local veterans. Some examples of sponsored and planned events are Valentines for Veterans, nursing home and hospital visits, Relay for Life and donations from "Fill the Humvee" for local food banks. All proceeds sponsor an AFSA scholarship for YSU veterans and supporting the Veterans Center at YSU.

Earlier this year, AFSA was accepted into national membership by the Student Veterans of America. Only two other Northeast Ohio universities hold membership.

YSU has been designated a Military Friendly School two years in a row by *G.I. Jobs* magazine.

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Nurse practitioner option started in master's program

YSU's master's program in nursing will begin offering this fall a new option for family nurse practitioner, one of the fastest growing fields in healthcare.

The number of nurse practitioners nationwide has increased 75 percent in the last five years, said Patty McLean Hoyson, professor and chair of YSU's nursing department. New state laws expanding the scope of practice, prescriptive authority, third-party reimbursement, and the national effort to improve healthcare access, has resulted in an expanding role and increased demand for nurse practitioners, she said.

"We are very pleased and excited to bring this educational opportunity to YSU and our surrounding healthcare community," Hoyson added.

Family nurse practitioners are advanced practice nurses prepared to function collaboratively with physicians and other healthcare disciplines in providing primary healthcare in a variety of ambulatory settings. Graduates will be prepared to serve as healthcare providers for children and adults with common acute and chronic health conditions. Health promotion and disease prevention as well as teaching and counseling of individuals, families and groups are emphasized in the FNP curriculum. Graduates will be eligible to sit for national certification as an FNP.



The new FNP program at YSU is approved by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission. YSU now offers five specialty options for nurses seeking a master's degree – chronic illness clinical nurse specialist, nurse anesthetist, school nurse, nurse educator, and family nurse practitioner.

The FNP curriculum option is 52 credit hours of study over five, full-time semesters. A part time study option will be available.

For more information about graduate study in nursing at YSU, including the new family nurse practitioner option, contact Nancy W. Mosca at 330-941-1793 or nwmosca@ysu.edu. Students interested in applying should contact the graduate school at 330-941-3091. The deadline is June 6 to submit applications for fall 2011 classes. Applications for graduate study can also be found online at YSU's website, www.ysu.edu.

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APAS' Sharon Schroeder and Brenda Crouse recently presented school supplies to teacher Nancy Williamson's kindergarten class at Harding Elementary School in Youngstown.

APAS plans to continue to support the program by asking for donations from APAS members during the year at bi-annual membership meetings. To make a donation, contact Sharon Schroeder sjschroeder@ysu.edu.

APAS donates school supplies

The YSU Association of Professional and Administrative Staff donated school supplies collected during its spring membership meeting to Harding Elementary School in Youngstown.

Students in teacher Nancy Williamson's kindergarten class at Harding receive the school supplies when they are "caught" doing something good, both academically and in citizenship.

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Take Your Child to Work Day

Dozens of kids scoured the YSU campus on April 21 for the annual Take Your Child to Work Day. At the left, Johnny Benedik, 8, son of Marijean Benedik, director of Career and Counseling Services, climbs the rock wall in the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center. Above, Athena Burzynski, 9, daughter of Ghia Burzynski of Human Resources navigates through the high ropes course in the rec center.

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Sculpture donated by Solomons

Betty Gold, an internationally renowned artist whose sculptures have been exhibited across the world, was at YSU April 28 for the unveiling of one of her pieces.

“Mallorca VII,” a sculpture made of hand-welded steel painted red and standing six-foot tall, was donated to YSU by Marty and Sue Solomon of Vienna, Ohio.

“Betty Gold’s sculptures are celebrated around the world; it is a privilege and honor to have her artwork grace the YSU campus,” said Bryan

DePoy, dean of the YSU College of Fine and Performing Arts. “I want to thank the Solomons for their generosity in sharing this wonderful piece of art with YSU and the community.”

Marty Solomon is a principal officer with P&S Equities and a member of the YSU President’s Council. P&S Equities has a long history of giving to YSU, including donations for athletic scholarships, the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center, the Watson and Tressel Training Site, the new Williamson Hall and the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

The sculpture was installed between Bliss Hall and the McDonough Museum of Art on the YSU campus.

“Gold’s brilliant red sculpture was inspired by Origami, the Japanese art of paper folding, and its sleek minimal geometries compliment beautifully the architecture of the McDonough Museum,” said Leslie Brothers, McDonough director. “We are very pleased to have it nearby.”



Betty Gold, left, and Marty and Sue Solomon stand next to Gold’s sculpture near Bliss Hall.

Born in 1935 in Austin, Texas, Gold divides her time between Venice, California, and Palma de Mallorca, Spain. Her large, outdoor steel sculptures are on display in parks, university campuses and city centers across the world, including Baylor, Duke, Northern Illinois, Purdue and Virginia Commonwealth universities, as well as Bratislava, Slovakia; Palo Alto, Calif.; Fitzgerald's Park in Ireland; the Ronald Reagan California State Building; and the Walker Hill Art Center in Seoul, South Korea. She has had exhibits from Canada to Spain, and her work is currently housed in major museums around the world, including Albuquerque, Birmingham, New York, New Orleans, Indianapolis, Madrid, Spain and Gallarate, Italy.