

News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

Nov. 14, 2011

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YSU's men's basketball team, led by junior forward Damian Eargle, above, opens the 2011-12 home schedule against Notre Dame (Ohio) 7:05 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15, in Beeghly Center. The squad also plays at home against UC Riverside at 7:05 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18. Eargle was the Penguins' leading scorer last year and led the Horizon League in blocked shots. The women's basketball team, led by Horizon League Preseason Player of the Year Brandi Brown, opens its home schedule 7:05 p.m. Monday, Nov. 21, against American in Beeghly Center. For more information, visit www.ysusports.com.

Calendar

Monday, Nov. 14, noon. A luncheon will be held in the Presidential Suites of Kilcawley Center to recognize this year's winners of the Michael T. Hartzell Scholarship. The scholarship fund, established in memory of the Youngstown police officer who was killed in 2003, has hit the \$250,000 mark.

Monday, Nov. 14, 1:45 p.m. YSU and the Youngstown Business Incubator hold a news conference in the Semple Buidling on Federal Plaza in downtown Youngstown to announce the creation of a new program aimed at helping emerging small businesses succeed.

Monday, Nov. 14, 2 to 5 p.m. YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration Global Entrepreneurship Week presents a Business Start-Up Seminar. See News Brief below for details. Registration is required.

Monday, Nov, 14, 8 p.m. The Flute Studio, directed by Kathryn Umble, present a recital in Bliss Hall. The concert is part of the YSU Dana School of Music's weeklong series of recitals. See News Brief below for more information.

Tuesday, Nov. 15, 7:05 p.m. The YSU men's hoops team open the home season against Notre Dame (Ohio) in Beeghly Center. The Penguins also play at home 7:05 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, against U.C. Riverside. Visit www.ysusports.com for more information.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 12:15 p.m. YSU Dana School of Music's string performers are featured in a Music at Noon concert in the Butler Institute of American Art. Free.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m. Dr. Aaron Manka, senior investigative scientist at the National Science Foundation, makes a presentation in Williamson Hall on the YSU campus. The presentation is sponsored by YSU's Dr. James Dale Ethics Center in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies, in collaboration with the YSU STEM College. Email Jenifer Miller at jamiller10@ysu.edu or call 330-941-4635 for reservations.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2 p.m. A panel discussion on childhood obesity by students enrolled in YSU's Communicating Contemporary Issues class will be held in the Common Room, Room 3112 in Cushwa Hall. The issues of negative marketing leading to obesity, physical education, school lunches, and school nutrition education will be addressed. For more information, contact Candiss Owens at 216-926-3038 or cn Owens@student.ysu.edu.

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 5 p.m. The Kappa Xi Chapter of YSU's Beta Alpha Psi chapter will be officially recognizing and celebrating their second Place finish at the August 2011 International Meeting of Beta Alpha Psi, held in Denver, Colo. The reception will be in the Williamson College of Business Administration building, rooms 3422 and 3423. The team of Karen Cooper, Matthew Pollock, and Evan Weaks will be giving their award winning presentation, "A Path to the Financial Information Profession," at 5:30 p.m. The public is invited.

Thursday, Nov. 17. YSU's Williamson College of Business Global Entrepreneurship week presents two workshops. **9 to 11:00 a.m.** Room 3423, Protecting Your Company's Assets From Fraud, and **1 to 3 p.m.**

Room 3423, The Fundamentals of Cash Flow – Raising, Tracking and Keeping Your Company's Cash. See News Brief below for more information. Registration is required.



Jorge Alberto Bolanos Suarez

Friday, Nov. 18, 1 p.m. Jorge Alberto Bolanos Suarez, a member of the Cuban Foreign Ministry since 1963, lectures on "Current U.S. – Cuba Relations: A Perspective from Cuba," in Board of Trustees Meeting Room in Tod Hall. See News Brief below.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 18, 19 and 20. University Theater presents the play "The 1940s Radio Hour" in Ford Theater on the YSU campus. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7:30 p.m., with the Sunday matinee at 3 p.m.

Students present research at national conference

Seven Youngstown State University students presented research at the Third Annual Undergraduate Research Conference at the Interface of Biology and Mathematics hosted by the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis (NIMBioS) at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville this fall.

The students were among more than 100 undergraduates from around the country who gave 50 oral and poster presentations on their research in mathematics and biology. Participants came

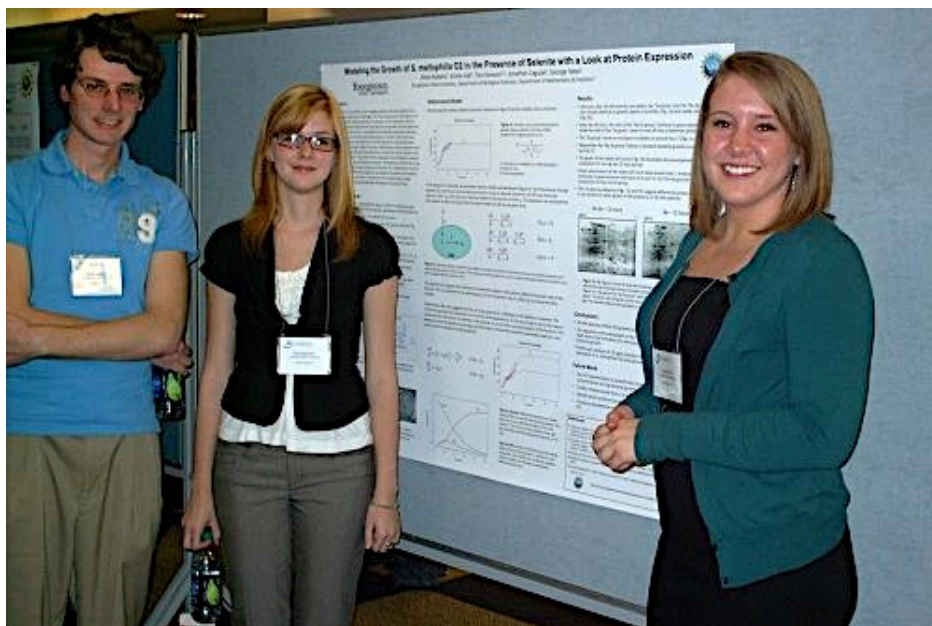
from 42 institutions in 20 states and Puerto Rico and Canada to present and listen to several invited talks and panel discussions on careers and graduate schools in the field.

The YSU attendees presented the following four research projects:

- **Sepideh Khavari** of Howland, mathematics major, gave an oral presentation “Mathematical Modeling and Analysis of Time-to-Peak Response in Biological Systems.”
- **Mark Radetic** of Austintown, majoring in biology; **Tara Sansom** of Sandy Lake, Pa., a biology major and mathematics minor; and **Emilie Hall** of East Liverpool, a biology major, presented a poster “Modeling the Growth of *S. maltophilia* O2 in the Presence of Selenite with a Look at Protein Expression.”
- **Bradely Slabe** of Austintown, mathematics major, and **Bobby DeVita** of McDonald, biology major, presented a poster “Mathematical Modeling and Data Analysis of the Growth and Acetone, Butanol, Ethanol (ABE) Production of *Clostridium beijerinckii*.” **Kevin McLane** of Girard, mathematics major, participated in the research but was unable to attend the conference.
- **Sam Jacobowitz**, a biology major from Syosset, N.Y., presented “Tachykinin Modulation of Prefrontal Cortex Neuron Activity.” **Jenna Hallapy**, a mathematics and biology double major from Columbus, and **Joe Copploe**, a biology major from McDonald, participated in the research but did not attend the conference but contributed to the research that was presented.

The students are part of a research program in Mathematical Biology and Undergraduate Research at YSU funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

The students, as well as more than 70 others who have excelled in their academic careers at YSU, are featured on the [YSU's Student Success Stories site](#).



YSU students Mark Radetic, Tara Sansom and Emilie Hall presented their poster “Modeling the Growth of *S. maltophilia* O2 in the Presence of Selenite with a Look at Protein Expression” at NIMBioS.

YSU takes lead in online quality assurance

Ask Annette Burden about the importance of quality control in distance education, and she'll tell you about lunch.

"My husband and I went to lunch the other day, and we both ordered a cup of soup and a salad," she said. "When it arrived, my cup was more like half of a cup and his was filled to the brim. My salad was significantly smaller and was missing the cheese, croutons and pepper. No quality control."



The same could be said for online courses.

"If there is no quality control over the course development, then students get what they get," said Burden, interim director of Distance Education at Youngstown State University. "One course might be really well organized and easy to navigate while the other is so disorganized that the student can't even find the assignments without spending a significant amount of time hunting for them."

Burden is leading an effort to make YSU a statewide model for quality assurance and continuous improvement in distance education and, along the way, ensuring that all of the university's online courses meet nationally-recognized standards.

Annette Burden

The effort started about a year ago, when Ohio launched a program for universities across the state to voluntarily assess their distance education courses through Quality Matters, a faculty-centered and nationally-recognized peer review process that sets standards for the sound design of online courses. "Prior to this, there was absolutely no quality control whatsoever in these courses," Burden said.

More than 400 colleges and universities in 42 states currently subscribe to Quality Matters. Sixty Ohio colleges and universities have signed up, the most of any state. Under the QM program, online courses must undergo an evaluation by a three-member peer review team and meet eight standards, ranging from the organization and navigation of the course to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. "For students, the QM stamp means that they know that course has been examined and has been quality approved," she said.

At YSU, six online courses have applied for review, and Burden said the goal is that all 80 online courses will receive QM approval within the next year.

Burden said YSU faculty is actively involved. Fifteen faculty members have been certified as QM Peer Reviewers, which means they are eligible to participate in the evaluation of courses. At least 10 other faculty members have indicated interest in becoming peer reviewers. If they follow through, that would give YSU the most peer reviewers in the state. In addition, YSU also currently has one individual certified as a master reviewer – Burden. Five others have indicated interest in becoming master reviewers, which would give YSU the most master reviewers in the state, as well.

"I am proud to say that the faculty here has really bought into this and recognize the importance of offering quality distance courses, and that does nothing but speak well for the university as a whole," Burden said.

The Annual YSU Distance Education Conference and Quality Matters Workshop, organized by Burden, was held on campus Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 in Lincoln Hall. The event, which focused on "Computing in the Cloud," attracted 40 attendees and featured a keynote address by Steve Wheeler, associate professor of Learning Technology at Plymouth University in England.

YSU currently offers 15 online degrees and programs. About 1,500 students annually enroll in online courses. For more information, visit <http://web.ysu.edu/de>.

Cuban diplomat visits campus to discuss relations with U.S.

Jorge Alberto Bolanos Suarez, a member of the Cuban Foreign Ministry since 1963, lectures on “Current U.S. – Cuba Relations: A Perspective from Cuba,” at 1 p.m. Friday, Nov. 18, in Board of Trustees Meeting Room in Tod Hall on the campus of Youngstown State University.

The lecture is sponsored by YSU's Global Education Program, Visiting Diplomat Series and the Dr. James Dale Ethics Center.

Bolaños Suarez has a long and distinguished diplomatic career, having served as Cuban ambassador to Poland, Czechoslovakia, United Kingdom, Brazil and Mexico, and since 2007 as Chief of the Cuban Interests Section, Embassy of Switzerland, in the United States. He is a political science and international law graduate of the University of Havana and did postgraduate studies in foreign relations at the University of London.

Start-ups, fraud, cash flow topics of Entrepreneurship Week events

YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration is sponsoring the following events in recognition of Global Entrepreneurship Week. All events are in Williamson Hall:

Monday, Nov. 14, 2 to 5 p.m. Room 3415, Business Start-Up Seminar, presented by William Oliver, Business Consultant, Ohio SBDC at YSU. The seminar is designed for those interested in entrepreneurship and who have never owned a business. Major topics include licensing, organizational structure, business planning, funding sources, financing options and business issues. The fee is \$10/person and **registration is required**.

Thursday, Nov. 17, 9 to 11:00 a.m. Room 3423, Protecting Your Company's Assets From Fraud, presented by Timothy S. Hefty, CPA, CFE, CFF, DABFA. Go beyond the usual discussion about internal controls and separation of duties. In this program we will discuss the characteristics of an individual that is likely to commit fraud, what a company that is vulnerable to fraud looks like and how frauds are discovered. We cover the top six actions a business owner can take to protect their company from employee theft and the top five myths about fraud prevention that, if believed, can result in thousands of dollars lost to employee theft. **Registration is required**.

Thursday, Nov. 17, 1 to 3 p.m. Room 3423, The Fundamentals of Cash Flow – Raising, Tracking and Keeping Your Company's Cash, presented by Timothy S. Hefty, CPA, CFE, CFF, DABFA. During this workshop, we will discuss how to raise cash (capital) for your company, the best practices for tracking your company's cash flow and ways business owners can reduce their costs in order to keep more cash in their accounts. **Registration is required**.

Registration Fee for both seminars on Thursday, Nov. 17 is \$25 per person. To register contact Rosie Sulik at 330-941-2140 or rsulik@ysu.edu.

Weight control expert talks on campus

John Jakicic, professor and chair of the Department of Health and Physical Activity at the University of Pittsburgh, presents “Weight a Minute: Is Physical Activity and Obesity Just About Weight Loss” 4 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 30, in Room B031 of Cushwa Hall on the campus of Youngstown State University.

The presentation is free and open to the public.

Jakicic is the director of the Physical Activity and Weight Management Research Center at the University of Pittsburgh and has an **international reputation** as a leading scholar in the area of physical activity and weight control. He is also an expert in the implementation of strategies to improve long-term adherence to physical activity.

Pianos, flutes, saxophones, guitars and chorus

Youngstown State University's Dana School of Music will present a weeklong series of recitals beginning Sunday, Nov. 13. All concerts are free and open to the public.

- **Sunday, Nov. 13**, the Keyboard Department, under the direction of Caroline Oltmanns, will present a recital in Bliss Recital Hall, at **3 p.m.**, featuring guest performers Liliana Garlisi, a 15-year-old home schooled student in 11th grade from Chardon, Ohio, and Michael Nichols, a 16-year-old junior at Chaney High School of Visual and Performing Arts in Youngstown. YSU students will perform selections from Chopin, Stravinsky, Bartok and Gershwin, among others.
- The Flute Studio, directed by Kathryn Umble, will present a recital Monday, **Nov. 14** in Bliss Hall, at **8 p.m.**
- On **Wednesday, Nov. 16** the Women's Chorus, directed by Hae-Jong Lee, will present a recital at **8 p.m.** in Bliss Recital Hall.
- The Saxophone Studio, under the direction of James Umble, will perform a recital **Thursday, Nov. 17** at **7:30 p.m.** at the First Presbyterian Church of Youngstown, 201 Wick Avenue. Selections will include pieces by Debussy, Bach and Handel among others.
- Members of Francois Fowler's Guitar Studio will perform a recital **Thursday, Nov. 17 at 8 p.m.** in Bliss Recital Hall. The Guitar Studio has named many of its ensembles and duos to reflect Youngstown namesakes such as the Mahoning River Duo, Market Street Guitar Quartet, Youngstown Guitar Duo, Mill Creek Park Quartet and South Avenue Guitar Quartet. Selections include both classic and contemporary composers such as Bach, Villa-Los and Willis.

MBA session set for Wednesday

The Williamson College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University hosts a Master of Business Administration Information Session on **Wednesday, Nov. 16, at 5:45 p.m.** in Room 3418 on the third floor of **Williamson Hall**.

The Flexible MBA enables students to pursue their degrees either part-time or full-time. Classes are offered one night a week and on Saturdays. Some MBA courses are offered in 8-week blocks. Students may start any term fall, spring or summer. The MBA program is accredited by AACSB International, which represents the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide.

To obtain application information, contact Monique Bradford at 330-941-3069 or email mrbradford@ysu.edu.

Guitar duo performs on campus Tuesday

Duo Spiritoso, featuring guitarists Jeffrey McFadden and Andrew Zohn, will perform 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 15 in Bliss Recital Hall on the campus of Youngstown State University.

Since forming in 2004, Duo Spiritoso has performed throughout North America and Europe and is considered to be among today's most accomplished guitar duos. Duo Spiritoso has been invited to perform at major guitar festivals, including the Toronto Guitar Symposium, the Guitar Foundation of America Convention, Kras Festival (Slovenia), Guitare Rotterdam (Netherlands), the Festival Mediterraneo della Chitarra and the Ravenna Festival (Italy).



Duo Spiritoso – Jeffrey McFadden and Andrew Zohn.

McFadden has performed to great acclaim across North America and Europe after winning numerous awards and competition prizes in the 1990's. He has recorded seven CD's. He is a senior lecturer in guitar and an Eaton Graduate fellow at the University of Toronto.

Andrew Zohn has been acclaimed as both a performer and composer, winning prizes in five international competitions and performing on four continents. He currently serves on the faculty of Columbus State University in Georgia.

This concert is free and open to the public. For more information, call the Dana School of Music at 330-941-3636. For a complete calendar of events, visit <http://web.ysu.edu/fpa>.

physical activity to body weight regulation.

The presentation is part of the YSU Department of Exercise Science Lecture Series.