

Del Bene publishes 200th article



Janet Del Bene

Since retiring eight years ago, Janet E. Del Bene, professor emerita of Chemistry, has been golfing, playing piano and organ, taking travel photos – and accelerating the rate at which she publishes her research work in quantum theoretical

chemistry.

This year she reached a significant milestone: the publication of her 200th scientific paper, believed to be the most ever by a YSU faculty member.

“Dr. Del Bene is a tremendous asset to both YSU and the world of science,” said Ikram Khawaja, interim provost. “Her research productivity sets a benchmark which is not easy to replicate.”

Del Bene’s 200th publication will be celebrated at an invitation-only reception

on Oct. 27 in the DeBartolo Stadium Club at Stambaugh Stadium.

Del Bene retired from teaching in 1999 to have what she calls a “continuous sabbatical.” Since retiring, the Howland resident has dramatically increased her research, writing and work-related travel.

Whether from home, YSU or a foreign university, Del Bene accesses the Ohio Supercomputer Center in Columbus to do her calculations.

Although her work touches on a variety

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From Dalai Lama to YSU

New chef’s culinary experiences span the globe

He once had a job cooking for the crew of an oil exploration ship that traversed the Amazon River and Gulf of Mexico. He’s even cooked in the kitchen of the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India.

Now, Clint Kifolo has brought his culinary skills to YSU, where he’s the new executive chef for the university’s dining services.

“It is the only profession that returns immediate laughter, friendship and memorable experiences from your guests and friends,” Kifolo said.

As executive chef, Kifolo oversees the cooking staff at Christman Dining Commons and the new Pete’s Arena restaurant in Kilcawley Center.

“I love it here,” Kifolo said.

Born in Amarillo, Texas, and later moving to Pennsylvania, Kifolo traces his fascination with cooking to his grandfather, who also worked as a chef.

Kifolo started his career as a bus boy in Warminster, Pa., before attending Bucks County Community College outside Philadelphia in 1984 to study the culinary arts. After working as an apprentice in private country clubs and completing the required 6,000 hours, Kifolo became a certified journeyman cook upon graduation from the BCCC in 1987.

In 1996, he moved up one more step, earning a certified executive chef designation from the American Culinary Federation.

There are only 7,000 certified executive chefs in the world. The next step up is master chef.

“There are currently only 63 master chefs in the world. Emeril isn’t even a master chef,” Kifolo noted.

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YSU’s new executive chef Clint Kifolo rustles up a wide selection of culinary delights in Christman Dining Hall.

Hynes-Finnegan pledges \$500K

The John and Loretta Hynes and the John D. Finnegan Foundations have pledged \$500,000 to YSU's Centennial Capital Campaign to help in the construction a new building for the Williamson College of Business Administration.

It is the 14th gift of \$500,000 or more to the \$43 million campaign, which was launched a year ago. The Hynes-Finnegan Foundations' gift brings the campaign total to \$34.2 million.

"It is our pleasure on the 100th anniversary of the founding of YSU to provide this gift and to be a part of the university's Centennial Campaign and the construction of this new building," said David Sabine of Huntington Bank, the Trustee of the Hynes-Finnegan Foundations.

"The new facility will help connect the university with downtown Youngstown and also will provide a tremendous resource for the entire business community."

YSU President David C. Sweet said: "We appreciate the Hynes-Finnegan Foundations' continued generosity and support of YSU and

its students. This gift reflects their strong commitment to the future of YSU, the city of Youngstown and the entire Mahoning Valley."

The five-year Centennial Capital Campaign is the largest in the university's history and is a partnership between YSU and the YSU Foundation. In addition to a new building for the business college, the

campaign will be used to improve science and engineering laboratories, construct an indoor practice facility for student athletes, and increase endowments to support student scholarships, faculty chairs and professorships, the nursing program and the Rich Center for Autism.

The Hynes-Finnegan Foundations were formed in 1957 by John D. Finnegan and John Hynes, the founders and original owners of Hynes Industries in Youngstown.

This is the Foundations' fourth major gift to YSU in the past 11 years. The Foundations gave \$100,000 in 1996 to the YSU Foundation to establish nursing scholarships, \$10,000 in 2001 for the YSU Operations Improvement Task Force, and \$250,000 in 2002 for the construction of the Andrews Student Recreation and Wellness Center. ■

eUpdate exclusives

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

- YSU's newest graduate is Judge Henry Charles Robinson, 90, who received an honorary bachelor's degree in a ceremony last month.
- Homecoming 2007 featured parades, the crowning of the new king and queen and the official start of YSU's Centennial Celebration.
- Campus News Roundup: Shipka speaker talks about evolution; Marriott exec featured at Williamson Symposium; basketball teams prepare for new season; and much more.

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Golf for a cause...

Students Joey Schramer, Cole Cope and Sam Orlando celebrate the receipt of a \$45,000 check for the Rich Center for Autism at YSU. The check is the proceeds from the 12th annual Paula and Anthony Rich Memorial Golf Tournament and was presented at the center in Fedor Hall on campus. Also pictured from the left are Phyllis Ricchiuti and Geri Kosar, Rich Center trustees; Dominic Marchionda and Sonny Cascarelli, golf tournament chairs; and teacher Pat Lumpkin. Since its inception in 1995, the tournament has raised more than \$400,000 for the study and treatment of autism in the community.

Faculty & Staff

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

James J. Carroll, professor, Physics and Astronomy, co-authored "Prospects for Coherently Driven Nuclear Radiation by Coulomb Excitation" with Sarkis A. Karamian, Joint Institute for Nuclear Research, Russia, in *Laser Physics*. He co-authored "Photon Scattering Experiments on the Quasistable, Odd-Odd Mass Nucleus 176-Lu," with German colleagues, in the March 2007 issue of *Physical Review C*. And he gave an invited talk on "Photon-induced Isomer Depletion" in the Workshop on New Generation Isomers, part of the United Kingdom's Institute of Physics meeting on Nuclear and High-Energy Physics at the University of Surrey.

Daryl Mincey, professor and chair, Chemistry, and Science Advisor for the U.S. FDA Forensic Chemistry Center, was an invited speaker at the U.S. FDA District Office in San Juan, Puerto Rico, in August, and an invited speaker at the 66th annual Noti-Convencion: PRCHEM 2007 held in conjunction with the third annual Caribbean Forensic Chemistry Conference and the 15th Annual Caribbean Environmental

Chemistry Conference. Mincey and two FDA members conducted a workshop regarding Dietary Supplement, Counterfeit Drugs and Product Tampering.

Frank X. Li, Assistant Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering, presented "A Comparative Study of Electrode Geometry Affects on Corona Onset and Schottky Diode Breakdown" and "EMI Modeling in Automotive Data Communication Structure" at 2007 IEEE International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Paul R. Carr, assistant professor, Educational Foundations, Research, Technology and Leadership, had the article "'Shock and Awe' and the Environment" published in *Peace Review*, Volume 19, issue 3, in August 2007.

David Keith Stiver, instructor, Dana School of Music, had his work "Nocturne" recorded in July by the Prague Radio Symphony. The work will appear on the newest volume of ERM Media's Masterworks of the New Era series released in March

2008. "Nocturne" was created as a ballet concert piece for Ballet Western Reserve.

Joanne Gallagher, coordinator, Career & Counseling Services, had the article "Your Ideal Job is Out There! The Trick is to Find It!" published in the *Job Search Handbook for Educators*, a national publication of the American Association for Employment in Education, Inc., which she is also co-editing.

John Hazy, assistant professor, Criminal Justice, is serving as president of the Ohio Council of Criminal Justice Education until spring/summer 2008.

Matt O'Mansky, assistant professor, Sociology and Anthropology, co-authored the chapter "Status-Rivalry and Warfare in the Development and Collapse of Classic Maya Civilization" for the 2007 book *Latin American Indigenous Warfare and Ritual Violence*. He also gave an invited lecture, "Keeping Archaeology Relevant: Tourism, Development, and the Future of Archaeology," to the Mahoning Valley Archaeological Society. ■

Del Bene

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of areas, she focuses on characterizing and understanding hydrogen bonds, what she calls "the most important way in which two molecules can interact." Such bonds are important in many disciplines, with applications including drug interactions in the body and DNA replication.

"I've always been fascinated with chemistry," she said. And that fascination continues to propel her distinguished career.

"I fell in love with chemistry in high school," said Del Bene, a 1957 graduate of Ursuline High School in Youngstown. "I wanted to answer the question 'why?' Computational chemistry enables me to do this."

Originally from Girard, Del Bene earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1963 and a bachelor's degree in chemistry in 1965, both summa cum laude degrees from YSU. She earned a Ph.D. in chemistry in 1968 from the University of Cincinnati.

Her first published paper was part of her Ph.D. work and appeared in *The Journal*

of *Chemical Physics* in 1968. It presented a new method to compute energies of molecules in excited states.

Her 200th paper, published this year in *Magnetic Resonance in Chemistry*, explains how NMR experiments can be used to characterize hydrogen bonds, and suggests some new experiments which could provide new and important insights.

Del Bene learned from her mentors, "Research is never done until it is written up, peer reviewed, and published."

Del Bene often works and publishes with colleagues around the world. "There are no Lone Rangers anymore," she said. "The knowledge base in science is exploding, so the best way to keep pace is to collaborate."

She worked on two occasions with Nobel Prize laureate John A. Pople at Carnegie Mellon University. Since retiring she has been a visiting professor at the University of Sydney, Australia, held an adjunct profes-

sorship at the University of Florida, and was a BBVA Foundation Fellow at the University of Madrid, Spain.

Del Bene received YSU's Heritage Award in 2003 and the Dean's Lifetime Achievement Award for Externally Supported Research in 2003. She was given the National Honorary Member Award for an Outstanding Woman Chemist from Iota Sigma Pi in 2002, and she received a Two-Year Extension for Special Creativity (a Director's Award) for her 2002 National Science Foundation grant.

She is a 22-year member of the Clinical Research Committee of St. Elizabeth Health Center. She has been a consultant to Good-year and the National Institutes of Health, and an external examiner for the Department of Energy.

When asked what she is proudest of, Del Bene replied, "The kind of work I do is accepted by other scientists and used by them, which means that there is value in it." ■
(Story by Elaine A. Habeger)



New rock in town...

Prospective students visiting campus are being asked to sign their names on a new rock outside the Office of Undergraduate Admissions in Sweeney Hall. The rock was unearthed during the construction of the East Campus Gateway project on University Plaza. Sue Davis, director of undergraduate admissions, said signing the rock is a way for "future Penguins to make their mark" on campus. Michael Cucchiara, left, a senior at Liberty High School who plans to major in chemical engineering at YSU, and Steve Bosco, a senior at Oswego High School in New York who plans to enroll in the Dana School of Music, were the first prospective students to sign the rock during a recent campus visit. They are pictured with Davis.

YSU chef

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Over the following years, Kifolo began working his way up the food chain, earning chef positions in schools and restaurants, until landing a job at Plumsteadville Inn in Bucks County, Pa., where he worked for three years.

In 1999, Kifolo went to Dharamsala, India. "I spent one morning in the kitchen at the residence of the Dalai Lama, where we prepared Tuk Pa and Momo's for monks and the people in my group," he remembers.

"I spent one morning in the kitchen of the Dalai Lama."

The following year, Kifolo went to Belfast, Ireland, to work for an offshore oil exploration company that was building a new drill ship. On board the ship, Kifolo worked as the chef for four years, traveling through the Amazon River basin off of the coast of Brazil, the Caribbean Sea, across the Equator and through the Bermuda Triangle.

In 2003, Kifolo was hired by East Stroudsburg University, in East Stroudsburg Pa., where he worked two years as the university's executive chef.

"Clint was by far the most experienced chef we had at ESU for [his] extensive menu," said ESU Catering Manager Michelle Ljubicich. "Clients requested him to come back for the day to make his famous Indian fry bread."

At ESU, Kifolo created the school's annual Chef Challenge, a competition-style cook-off inspired by the Food Network's Iron Chef. Kifolo would cook-off with a chef from a neighboring university, and has won two events with dishes like wild mushroom cappuccino and cedar smoked salmon ravioli.

At YSU, Kifolo plans to host International Nights once a month in Christman Dining Commons. He also said he hopes one day to bring in guest chefs from neighboring schools. ■
(Story by Jenny Boyce)