

In memoriam Robert K. Herbert



Robert K. Herbert

A memorial prayer service for Dr. Robert K. Herbert, YSU provost and vice president for academic affairs, is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, July 28 in the Cathedral of St. Columba in Youngstown.

Herbert, who became YSU's provost in July 2005, drowned while vacationing with family in Costa Rica.

"Strong advocacy for academic standards, integrity, effective leadership, and commitment to student success were hallmarks of his tenure at YSU," said YSU President David C. Sweet.

Herbert was married to Dr. Barbara Nykiel-Herbert, a faculty member in YSU's English Department. They have two sons, Ian and Sebastian, and a daughter, Veronica. Bob's love for and pride in his family were evident to all who knew him.

Sweet led a delegation of YSU representatives to Herbert's funeral in New York on July 13.

Herbert's legacy to YSU includes the development of a comprehensive Academic Strategic Plan (see story on page 2), the continued development of the Youngstown Early College, and the creation of two new colleges: the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics and the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.

Before coming to YSU, Herbert served as dean of liberal arts at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, and chairperson of the Department of Anthropology at the State University of New York in Binghamton. He had taught at institutions throughout the world, and his extensive scholarly work on linguistics and South African languages achieved national and international recognition.

A native of Long Island, N.Y., Herbert received a bachelor's degree in linguistics from Queens College (City University of New York), a master's degree and Ph.D. in linguistics from Ohio State University, and a master's degree in higher education administration from the University of Michigan. ■

Khawaja named interim provost

Ikram Khawaja, a retired YSU professor, department chair and college dean, has been named interim provost and vice president for academic affairs.

Khawaja's appointment becomes effective Aug. 20. He replaces Robert K. Herbert, who drowned this summer while vacationing in Costa Rica.

"Dr. Khawaja has extensive and varied experience and is a proven, respected campus leader," YSU President David C. Sweet said. "We are grateful for his acceptance of this new assignment."

A national search for a permanent provost will take place during the next academic year, Sweet said.

"I am honored to accept this position and to assist the university in any way

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Tressels, Watson give \$1 million for new indoor WATTS Center

In 15 successful years as the head coach of YSU's football team, Jim Tressel left a lasting imprint on the Mahoning Valley.

That imprint grew even larger as YSU announced that Jim and, his wife, Ellen, and her parents Frank and Norma Watson, are donating a combined \$1 million to YSU's Centennial Capital Campaign.

"We are appreciative to the Watsons and Tressels for their continued generosity and support," YSU President David C. Sweet said.

The gift will be used to help fund a

new \$3 million indoor practice facility for YSU's Intercollegiate Athletics.

In recognition of the gift, the facility will be called the WATTS Center (Watson And Tressel Training Site). YSU has yet to identify a location for the facility.

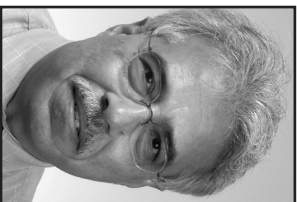
"YSU will always hold a special place in my heart," said Tressel, who left YSU in 2001 to take the helm of the Ohio State Buckeyes. "We believe in paying forward, and it is our pleasure to be able to give back to a university that has meant so much to us and to help a project that will serve students for years to come." ■

Feds award \$1M to YSU Upward Bound

YSU's Upward Bound program, which helps high school students prepare for college, has received \$1 million to continue operating for the next four years.

"It has taken a lot of hard work and commitment to get into the schools and establish ourselves as a worthwhile program," said Jennifer Roller, Upward Bound director. "We've done that now, and we can continue to build on our success."

A national program funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Upward Bound is designed to help first-generation, college-bound high school students or high school students from low-income families



Ikram Khawaja

North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. "Dr. Bowers and I agree that it is in the best interest of the university at this time that she remains in that position as we enter the critical stages of the accreditation process," Sweet said.

Khawaja joined YSU's faculty in 1968 and served 17 years as chair of the Department of Geological and Environmental Sciences. He was director of faculty relations from 1997 to 2000 and served as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from July 2001 to July 2002 before retiring in December 2002. He returned to YSU as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from July 2005 to July 2007.

He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Karachi in Pakistan, a master's from Southern Illinois University and a Ph.D. from Indiana University. ■



WATTS Center
Jim and Ellen Tressel and Frank and Norma Watson have donated \$1 million to YSU's Centennial Capital Campaign. Pictured at the news conference are, from the left, YSU President David C. Sweet; Tony Larriccia, campaign chairman; Frank and Norma Watson; their daughter, Ellen Tressel; Jon Heacock, YSU head football coach; and Jim Tressel. Read story on Page 4.

eUpdate exclusives

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

- Q&A with former state Sen. Harry Meshel on his appointment to the YSU Board of Trustees.
- Summer enrollment is up 232 students or 5.1 percent from the same time in 2006.
- More than 40 YSU alumni, family members and friends joined about 200 other volunteers for Streetscape 2007 in downtown Youngstown.
- U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown led a roundtable discussion at YSU on the GI Bill and other veterans-related issues.

- YSU sophomore Doug Wajda is spending a lot of time this summer at two internships that are out-of-the-ordinary – and out of this world.

- The Mahoning County Convention and Visitors Bureau has invested \$10,000 to assist YSU to promote the Summer Festival of the Arts.

- The Ohio Summer Honors Institute marked its 20th year on the YSU campus this summer.

- Campus News Roundup (YSU Women's Club Scholarships, kicking camp at Stambaugh Stadium, summer campus work projects, Forte on the Fifty and much more.)

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

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Marketing and Communications
133 Tod Hall, Youngstown, Ohio 44555-3519
raacle01@ysu.edu 330-941-3519

Plan outlines academic vision

Increasing the number of graduate and international students, improving the full-time/part-time faculty ratio and developing a University College to provide better academic support to students are among the goals outlined in YSU's new Academic Strategic Plan.

The 22-page plan, presented to the Board of Trustees this summer, also calls for upgrading technology in all classrooms, creating additional classrooms, increasing student internship opportunities and increasing diversity among students, faculty and staff.

The plan, which spans from 2007 to 2013 and includes 21 goals, is more than a year in the making and included input from academic colleges, departments and programs across campus. The full plan is available at <http://www.ysu.edu/provost/index.shtml>.

Among the goals:

- Develop an organizational support structure, tentatively called the University College, that provides centralized academic support for specifically identified students.
- Strengthen academic advising.
- Install appropriate technology in all classrooms by 2013; provide additional classrooms, learning and study spaces and faculty offices; secure authorization and funding for a new STEM facility on campus.
- Increase FTE graduate enrollment from 500 to 650 by 2013; increase international student headcount by 3 percent by 2013.
- Improve the full-time/part-time faculty ratio to 60:40 by 2010 and 65:35 by 2013.
- Promote additional research activities to make YSU a major driver in regional economic development. ■

Board approves two-year tuition freeze

Tuition will be frozen for two years for undergraduate students living in Ohio under a new student fee schedule approved by the YSU Board of Trustees.

The action is in line with the tuition cap set in the new two-year state budget. The budget also provides YSU with about \$2.9 million in additional funds in fiscal year 2008 and \$4.1

million in fiscal year 2009, according to the most recent estimates provided by the state.

Gov. Ted Strickland visited YSU on June 29 to talk about the new state budget, particularly as it relates to higher education.

Read the full story on *eUpdate* at <http://cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>. ■



YSU President David C. Sweet, left, greets Gov. Ted Strickland during a campus visit this summer. Looking on is Ken Carano, the governor's representative in the Mahoning Valley.

First Place Bank gives \$500K to Centennial Campaign

First Place Bank Community Foundation has donated \$500,000 to YSU's Centennial Capital Campaign to help construct a new building for the Williamson College of Business Administration.

It is the largest corporate gift to the Centennial Capital Campaign thus far. "First Place Bank's long-standing, generous support of YSU reflects the bank's commitment to the university, Youngstown and the entire Mahoning Valley," said David C. Sweet, YSU president.

The gift will go toward the construction of a new \$30 million building for YSU's business college.

"First Place is committed to investing in Youngstown State University, the renaissance of the city of Youngstown and the people of the Mahoning Valley. This is our home, where we live and work, and we are committed to sustaining and improving the quality of life for everyone here in the Valley," said Steven R. Lewis, chief executive officer of First Place Bank.

First Place Bank has established a tradition of support for YSU. Over the past nine years, First Place has contributed more than \$200,000.

The five-year, \$43 million Centennial Capital Campaign is the largest in YSU's history. ■



From the left are Betty Jo Leclata, dean of YSU's Williamson College of Business Administration; Steven R. Lewis, chief executive officer of First Place Bank; and YSU President David C. Sweet.

Faculty & Staff

The essay, "Making Places Work: Felt Sense, Identity, and Teaching," by **Jeffrey Buchanan**, associate professor, English, has been published in *Placing the Academy: Essays on Landscape, Work, and Identity*.

"An Organizational Code of Public Health Ethics: Practical Applications and Benefits" was co-published in *Public Health Reports* by **Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez**, director, Dr. James Dale Ethics Center, and professor, Philosophy and Religious Studies; Matthew Stefanak, Mahoning County Health Commissioner; and Larry Frisch, NEOUCOM.

Diane Barnes, associate professor, History, presented "Fredrick Douglass: Federal Marshal" at the annual meeting of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association at Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, Pa.

G. Andy Chang, professor, Mathematics and Statistics, co-published "Determinants of U.S. Wildlife-Watching Consumption: A Tobit Analysis" published in *Tourism Analysis*.

Carl F. Chuey, professor, Biological

Sciences and curator of the herbarium, was presented with the 2005-06 Osborn Award at the Ohio Historical Society in Columbus. The annual award was given to Chuey at the advisory council meeting of the Ohio Biological Survey during the Ohio Natural History Conference. It was established to recognize individuals for significant contributions to biology and natural history in Ohio and elsewhere. The conference was sponsored by the Ohio Biological Survey and the Ohio Division of Wildlife. The award honors the founder of the Ohio Biological Survey, Herbert Osborn.

Jef Davis, director, Center for International Studies and Programs, presented sessions on "Designing Effective Intercultural Training for Developing Intercultural Sensitivity" and "An Intercultural Perspective on Answering International Students' 'Quick Questions'" at the national conference of NAFSA: Association of International Educators in Minneapolis, Minn.

Weiqing Ge, assistant professor, Physical Therapy, presented a discussion panel on New Discoveries in Basic Sci-

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ence Research, titled "Directional Effect of Vertebral Position on Muscle Spindle Responsiveness at L6-7 Segments." He co-presented "Changes in Lumbar Facet Joint Capsule Strain and Paraspinous Muscle Spindle Discharge during Vertebral Movement" at the 2007 Association of Chiropractic Colleges/Research Agenda Conference annual conference in Phoenix.

William Greenway, professor, English, has had the poem "Stroke" published in the anthology *Poetry Daily: Essentials 2007*, Sourcebooks, Inc.

Bonnie Young Laing, assistant professor, Social Work, presented "Organizing Disadvantaged African American Communities: An African-Centered Framework" at the 39th National Association of Black Social Workers Conference in Detroit.

Jason Rakers, director, Network & Telephone Services, recently represented YSU while serving as a judge for the Java and C++ programming competitions at the state leadership conference of the Pennsylvania Future Business Leaders of America. ■