

## Committee eyes alternative transportation



Paul Kobulnicky

Weather permitting, Paul Kobulnicky rides his bike to work every day, pedaling back and forth from Poland to the YSU campus.

"I really don't like to drive my car unless I have to, and if I ride my bike to work, I can park right outside my window," he said.

As chair of an eight-member committee that is close to his eco-friendly heart,

Kobulnicky, executive director of Maag Library, heads up YSU's new Alternative Transportation Advisory Committee.

Formed in December and comprised of YSU faculty, staff and students, the transportation committee is in the midst of designing plans that, when in motion, will make YSU a greener, more accessible campus.

Because YSU is predominantly a "one car, one person" university to which most students and employees commute from surrounding neighborhoods, the com-

mittee is focusing its efforts on making transportation to and from the university more energy efficient, cost effective and time friendly.

"It used to be that we were trying to come up with alternative transportation ideas because of the high gas prices," Kobulnicky said. "Now it's because of the economy."

Fueled by a struggling economy and the demand for more ecologically-friendly transportation systems, the committee has

*(continued on back page)*

## Counseling professor's book tackles juvenile depression

Searching for inspiration for his first children's book on juvenile depression, *When Devon Met Oz: Helping Children Cope With Depression*, Don Martin had to look no further than the family dog.

Oz, the Martin family's real-life beloved Boxer, was a fitting protagonist for the story due to his comforting nature, said Martin, YSU professor of counseling and special education.

"He's very affectionate and people-focused," Martin said. "He seemed to be perfect for the story because he is so aware of moods, and he can be consoling in a way."

Exhibiting the same compassionate qualities, storybook Oz befriends a disheartened young boy, Devon, in the park after a soccer game. Devon is struggling with schoolwork and athletics, and he has no appetite or energy. Conscious of the boy's despair, Oz brings the attention of Devon's brother, mother, teacher and school counselor to the boy's lethargic state. Thanks to Oz, Devon receives help for his depression and gains a four-legged, hotdog-snacking friend along the way.

According to the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, five percent of children and adolescents suffer from depression at any given time. With his 48-page, full-color book, Martin said he hoped to increase parents', educators', coaches' — and most importantly, children's — awareness of juvenile depression.

*(continued on back page)*

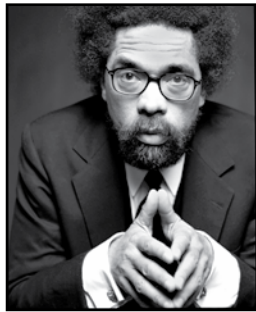


Don Martin, professor of counseling and special education, with the family dog, Oz, the inspiration for Martin's children's book on juvenile depression.

## eUpdate exclusives

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

- **Cornel West, one of the nation's most provocative public intellectuals, speaks 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 26 in Stambaugh Auditorium as part of YSU's Skeggs Lecture Series.**



Cornel West

- **Career and Counseling Services helps displaced workers in their job searches.**
- **Four finalists in the search for a new dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts will be visiting campus Feb. 24 through March 6.**
- **Former YSU head football Coach Jim Tressel is honored as the 2009 Penguin of the Year at the Penguin Club's 19th Annual Scholarship Ring Banquet.**
- **Campus News Roundup: Sophomore receives study abroad scholarship; bridge-building contest set for Feb. 20; Teaching & Learning Conference comes to campus; lectures on Darwin and Ten Commandments; journalist forum; and much more.**

# YSU's first master's degree in psychology starts fall semester

Through his involvement in a master's degree program during graduate school, Michael Clayton gained a passion for program creation and entrepreneurship.

Now, he's getting a chance to put that passion to good use at YSU.

Clayton, assistant professor of psychology, came to YSU three years ago specifically to put together the first-ever master's program in the psychology department. Approved in December, Clayton's hard-earned master's program will accept enrollment for its first class in Fall 2009.

Clayton said a significant need exists in the Mahoning Valley for the program, listing positions in fields such as autism treatment, geriatrics, developmental disabilities and special education as those in need of professionals with master's-level training.

"Our master's program is the only program of its kind in Northeast Ohio," said Clayton, who earned his Ph. D. from the University of Nevada, Reno. "Ohio State University is the next closest opportunity for this kind of training."

When the master's track is initiated in the fall, four to six students will be accepted, but eventually that number will rise to 15. Students will earn considerable professional training in the program.

Students in the program will gain two



Michael Clayton

years of practical experience working hands-on with different populations of people for each of their two years. Experience with autism, developmental disabilities, geriatrics, special education and organizational behavior management will be encouraged.

"Graduates will be qualified to sit for the certification exam in order to be certified as behavior analysts," Clayton said.

With this professional experience, program graduates will be prepared to enter any number of readily available jobs in the psychology field.

"There are far more jobs than there are applicants in the field," Clayton said. "Salaries of \$60,000 per year are common with a master's degree and board certification in applied behavior analysis."

The demand for board certified behavior analysts will eventually allow the YSU master's program to expand. "I predict that the program will see phenomenal growth," Clayton said. "I have had interest from people in Pennsylvania, New York, West Virginia, Indiana, as well as all areas of Ohio."

Clayton also gave credit to the YSU Psychology department, Shearle Furnish, dean of the YSU College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, the YSU Graduate School, and Tracy Thurkow of Pittsburgh's Continuous Learning Group, for their help in developing the new program.

For more information on the program, contact Clayton at 330-941-1613. ■

Story by Britta Snowberger

## Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

The YSUUpdate is published every other week during the academic year and once a month in the summer by the Office of Marketing and Communications. 8-003

Marketing and Communications  
133 Tod Hall, Youngstown, Ohio 44555-3519  
[racole01@ysu.edu](mailto:racole01@ysu.edu) 330-941-3519  
[cevinarsky@ysu.edu](mailto:cevinarsky@ysu.edu)



## Moses and Abe

Paul Finkelman of Albany Law School presented the lecture "Are the Ten Commandments the Moral Foundation of American Law?" in Beeghly Hall on Feb. 10. Later that day, Finkelman appeared in Kilcawley Center in celebration of the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birthday, where he talked about "The Great Emancipator as Lawyer: How Lincoln Ended Slavery."

# NASA chooses YSU for galaxy images

Two mural-sized images of the Messier 101 galaxy that were digitally photographed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Great Observatories are now on display at the Ward Beecher Planetarium at YSU.

NASA selected YSU's planetarium as a permanent site for the spectacular images of the galaxy, known also as M101. Located more than 22 million light years from Earth, it is nearly twice the size of our own Milky Way Galaxy.

Pat Durrell, planetarium director and an assistant professor of Physics and Astronomy, said the unveiling of the images in the planetarium lobby kicks off a series of campus events planned in observance of 2009 as the International Year of Astronomy.

YSU is one of about 100 science centers, museums, planetariums and educational venues across the country chosen by NASA to display the photographs.

The larger, 6-foot-wide image showcases the galaxy's features in three full-color digital photos: one in infrared light observed

by the Spitzer Space Telescope, a second in visible light observed by the Hubble Space Telescope, and a third in x-ray light observed by the Chandra X-Ray Observatory.

Durrell said the second framed image combines the views from all three telescopes into a composite.

"They are both quite stunning and are really quite impressive," Durrell commented.

The International Year of Astronomy celebrates the 400th anniversary of Galileo first turning a telescope toward the heavens. NASA has established permanent

display venues across the country for its galaxy images and is helping to organize unveiling events nationwide to call attention to the three Great Observatories and the achievements astronomy has made over the last four centuries.

"The International Year of Astronomy represents an exciting opportunity to give everyone a chance to observe and appreciate the universe," said Durrell. "We are thrilled to be taking part in this year-long celebration." ■

*"They are both quite stunning and are really quite impressive."*

— Pat Durrell —

## International Year of Astronomy

*The following events at the Ward Beecher Planetarium are part of YSU's International Year of Astronomy observance:*

**March 20 and 21**, 8 p.m. - Albert Einstein: Physicist, Philosopher, Humanitarian, part 1.

**March 25**, 8 p.m. - Albert Einstein: Physicist, Philosopher, Humanitarian, part 2.

**April 2**, 1 to 2:30 p.m. - Space Observations: Past, Present & Future, a live Webcast discussing Galileo and the importance of space observations throughout history.

**April 3** - 100 Hours of Astronomy, includes planetarium shows at 7 and 8:30 p.m. and telescope observation opportunities on the YSU campus starting at 8 p.m.

**April 4**, noon to 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. to midnight - Global Star Party, offers the public opportunities for daytime and nighttime telescope viewing with assistance from YSU faculty, staff, students and members of the Mahoning Valley Astronomical Society. Planetarium shows also featured at 7 and 8:30 p.m.

**Sept. 25 and 26**, 8 p.m. - "The Star Seeker," a live stage presentation about Galileo's life, written and directed by YSU student David Munnell.



*Pat Durrell, assistant professor of astronomy, shows off one of the two images that are on permanent display outside the Ward Beecher Planetarium. YSU is one of about 100 science centers, museums, planetariums and educational venues across the country chosen by NASA to display the photographs.*



# Up and away...

YSU's enrollment continues on the upswing this spring semester, up by nearly 200 students. Over the last nine spring semesters, the number of students on campus has increased by 2,062, or nearly 19 percent.

Here is spring semester headcount enrollment since 2000:

<b>2009 .....</b>	<b>12,934</b>
2008 .....	12,755
2007 .....	12,502
2006 .....	12,192
2005 .....	12,396
2004 .....	12,360
2003 .....	12,215
2002 .....	11,833
2001 .....	11,155
2000 .....	10,872

Source: Institutional Research

## Transportation

(Continued from page 1)

brainstormed the following ideas, among others, for YSU's commuting population:

- Helping alleviate potential parking problems associated with the need to remediate or remove the Lincoln Avenue parking deck.
- Making WRTA buses more accessible to students and employees, and offering discounts for students. Kobulnicky is hoping that, in conjunction with WRTA, the university may be able to create a more prominent bus stop near campus.
- Developing a Park & Ride program, so students and staff may drive to a central location in area neighborhoods, park for the day, and ride the bus to campus. "I find the possibility of expanded park and ride express services to be quite exciting," said Chet Cooper, professor of biological sciences and a member of the committee. "A partnership between YSU and the WRTA in promoting such services would provide enormous benefits in terms of saving time and money, as well as alleviating the stress of confronting campus traffic congestion and the exhaustive hunt for parking during peak class times."
- Establishing an online Ride Share Network, in which students and faculty members would be able to volunteer to carpool to campus with other volunteers

who live in close proximity.

- Acquiring additional bike racks and better motorcycle parking for cyclists.

In the coming months, the transportation committee plans to host campus forums to discuss its ideas and hear suggestions from the university community.

"We want to get the information out there, and we want to get the campus involved," said Kobulnicky.

For more information on the Alternative Transportation Advisory Committee or for upcoming events, contact Kobulnicky at 330-941-3675. ■

Story by Britta Snowberger

### Members of YSU's Alternative Transportation Advisory Committee:

**Paul Kobulnicky**, Maag Library, Chair  
**Martin Abraham**, dean of STEM

**Jean Engle**, assistant director, Marketing and Communications

**John Hyden**, executive director, Facilities

**Judy Gaines**, executive director, Student Life

**Jennifer Jacobs**, undergraduate student

**Matthew Morrone**, business manager, Athletics

**Chet Cooper**, professor of biology and president of the Academic Senate

## Juvenile depression

(Continued from page 1)

"Childhood is more complicated now than it used to be, and kids are dealing with a lot of issues," he said. "We always assume that kids can't be depressed, and without adult help, children lack the coping skills and the understanding to deal with their problems."

Considering the scope and sensitivity of the subject, Martin did not attempt to take on the task of penning his first children's story alone. He enlisted the help of his wife, Magy, and his daughter, Erin, to create the family-oriented book on juvenile depression. Of course, Oz had a hand — or paw — in influencing the story as well.

"The book was a big collaboration for our family," Martin said. "My wife had the idea for the storyline, and we've both done a lot of work with children. We decided to write [the book] because we haven't seen anything yet that deals with child depression."

Released in July by New Horizon Press, *When Devon Met Oz* is part of a youth-focused mental health series compiled by the publishing company.

Martin said he has personally received a significant amount of positive feedback, and the book has earned numerous five-star reviews from satisfied readers.

"I have been looking for a book to use

in my work and have not found one that captures the issues surrounding childhood depression such as this," an anonymous Barnes and Noble customer wrote about *When Devon Met Oz*.

Martin said he plans to put together a second children's book about childhood obesity, and he's already picked the story's hero — his family's other dog, Zo. And with his first pet's newfound celebrity status, Martin's not ruling out a guest appearance from Oz just yet. ■

Story by Britta Snowberger