

Students living on campus hits peak

The number of students living in on-campus housing is at an all-time high, and university officials are exploring options to meet what they anticipate will be an increasing demand over the long term.

On the first day of classes for fall semester, 1,291 students were living in the university's four residence halls, University Courtyard Apartments and Buechner Hall, said Danielle Meyer, director of university housing.

It is the highest number of students ever to live in on-campus housing at YSU and is an increase of 300 since fall semester 2000, Meyer said.

"The demand for student housing has steadily increased over the past several years," she said. "This year, in particular, we had a late surge of students."

In all, 822 students are living in the four university-owned and -operated residence halls – Cafaro, Lyden, Kilcawley and Weller houses. In addition, 400 students are living in University Courtyard, a privately-owned apartment complex operated in partnership with YSU. And, 69 students are living in Buechner Hall, a privately-owned and -operated residence hall.

The 1,291 student resident population this semester represents the maximum number of available beds in on-campus housing.

The numbers are not necessarily surprising to Meyer. In the late 1990s and early 2000s, YSU's student residence halls were at or above capacity for several years, prompting the university to convert residence hall study lounges into bedrooms. When the 400-bed University Courtyard opened in 2003, the situation was eased, but YSU housing officials predicted that capacity would be reached again by 2008, which it now has, Meyer said.

The growth is not expected to end.

(continued on back page)



Students move into Lyden and Cafaro house residence halls before the start of fall semester classes. The number of students living in campus housing is at an all-time high.

DeBartolo donates \$750,000

Edward J. DeBartolo Jr., a Youngstown native and five-time Super Bowl champion owner of the San Francisco 49ers, has donated \$750,000 to help fund YSU's new indoor athletic training facility called the WATTS (Watson and Tressel Training Site). The field will bear DeBartolo's name.

"Youngstown will always be home to me and my family, and it means such a great deal to me to be able to contribute to the completion of the WATTS," DeBartolo said. "My life has been so enriched through sports and this is my way of helping young athletes achieve their dreams. This championship level facility will pro-

vide the competitive edge for Youngstown State to continue its winning tradition."

The gift and the indoor training facility are part of YSU's Centennial Capital Campaign.

Ron Strollo, executive director of intercollegiate athletics, thanked DeBartolo for the gift. "It is an honor to know that Mr. DeBartolo is a believer in the people and students at Youngstown State," he said.

The gift also will help the university create an inner-city program to reward student athletes who demonstrate excellence on the field and in the classroom. Students will attend developmental camps

(continued on back page)

eUpdate exclusives

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

- **Demolition continues on five abandoned buildings along Wood Street and Rayen Avenue to make way for the new \$34.3 million Williamson College of Business Administration at YSU. See photos and watch webcam.**
- **Welcome Week features a fire eater, student organization fair, foam party and much more. What's a foam party? See photos and view video.**
- **See photos and view videos of President David C. Sweet's State of the University address and Summer 2008 Commencement.**
- **In memoriam: Former YSU Professor Larry Hugenberg.**
- **Campus News Roundup: YSU prof named 2008 Social Worker of the Year; YSU Center for Judaic and Holocaust Studies sponsors Schindler exhibit; Season tickets on sale for YSU football; YSU president named Business Advocate of the Year; Fund created to benefit the family of athletics department videographer; and much more.**
- **Gov. Ted Strickland brings his "Conversation on Education" forum to YSU. The forums are being held throughout Ohio and focus on the six principles for education reform that the governor laid out in his State of the State address in February.**

Youngstown STATE UNIVERSITY

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'Grow Home' campaign targets YSU entrepreneurs

Come home to grow. That's the message U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan wants to communicate to YSU alumni entrepreneurs outside the Mahoning Valley who may be contemplating a business start-up or expansion.

The congressman is spearheading a campaign called "Grow Home," in conjunction with YSU's Centennial Celebration and in partnership with the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber. The campaign's goal is to give alumni an inside track to benefits the Mahoning Valley can offer new and expanding businesses.

Ryan, along with YSU President David C. Sweet and Chamber President Thomas M. Humphries, held a press conference in YSU's Kilcawley Center on Sept. 4 to publicize the Grow Home campaign, which was first announced to YSU alumni in the summer edition of *YSU Magazine*.

"The Grow Home campaign is an effort to encourage successful YSU alumni to invest in their home community," said Ryan.

"I can't tell you how often I run into people from Youngstown, now living in Miami, or Chicago or Cleveland, who stop me and say, 'Yeah, I may live here, but Youngstown will always be my home.' This is an opportunity for those people to play an active role in our future economic success and to reverse our community's brain drain."

The campaign dovetails with YSU's commitment to advancing the regional and state economies, said George McCloud, YSU vice president for advancement.

"We're hoping this partnership with Congressman Ryan and the Regional

Chamber will inspire many of our alumni to investigate the business potential here in the Mahoning Valley," McCloud said. "We want them to consider locating their companies in the Youngstown-Warren area, not just out of loyalty for their alma mater, but because there are real opportunities for them here."

YSU alumnus Gary Wakeford is a case in point. The president of Syncro Medical Innovations, a start-up medical equipment company that opened its world headquarters in downtown Youngstown last October, said he made location an issue when Norwich Ventures, a Massachusetts venture capital firm, offered him the job.



U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan and YSU alumnus Gary Wakeford, president of Syncro Medical Innovations, talk about the Grow Home campaign at a news conference on Sept. 4 in Kilcawley Center.

"I told them I'd take it on one condition. The company had to be headquartered here," said Wakeford, who earned both baccalaureate ('83) and MBA ('94) degrees from YSU.

That was 20 months ago, and while Wakeford stressed that Syncro is still an early-stage start-up, he said local, state and federal government leaders have done their best to support its growth.

For more information, visit www.ysugrowhome.com. ■

Faculty & Staff

Send items for "Faculty & Staff" to
Cynthia Vinarsky at cevinarsky@ysu.edu.

David G. Kurtanich, associate professor, **Edward Garchar**, adjunct faculty, and the late **William A. Wood**, professor, all of Engineering Technology, presented a paper titled "Engineering Technology's Design Across the Disciplines" at the American Society for Engineering Education National Conference in Pittsburgh. The paper was published in the proceedings of the conference. Another paper authored by **Kurtanich**, **Wood** and **Robert DiRienzo**, a YSU engineering alumnus and currently a project engineer for Taylor Engineering, Inc. in Jacksonville, Fla., was also published in the proceedings of the ASEE Conference. That paper was titled "Temporary Loads During Construction: Undergraduate Research and Course Development."

Michael Clayton, assistant professor, Psychology, published a paper titled "Using Stimulus Equivalence to Demonstrate Pre-Existing Linguistic Relations: A Systematic Replication and Extension," in the *Mexican Journal of Behavior Analysis*. Linda Hayes of the University of Nevada was a co-author. Clayton was also appointed to the Board of Editors of the *Journal of Organizational Behavior Management*, a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal for organization development practitioners and human resource managers.

William Greenway, professor, English, authored a poem, "Ghostwriters in the Sky," which was published in *Xanadu* (2006-2007): 24.

Arlene Floyd, director, Office of Associate Degree and Tech Prep Programs, presented a paper titled "Creating a Comprehensive and Holistic Afterschool Learning Center Environment for Students and Families" at the U.S. Department of Education 21st Century Summer Institute in Dallas.

Weiqing Ge, assistant professor, Physical Therapy, presented a paper titled "Passive diffusion of an RGD peptide decreases the responsiveness of slowly and rapidly adapting mechanoreceptors in rat skin" at the third International Society for Neurochemistry Special Neurochemistry Conference - 8th International Meeting for Brain Energy Metabolism in Beijing, China.

Anisa Alghamee, catering lead, Sodexo Campus Services, was named the food service company's district Circle of Customer Excellence Employee of the Month for May, in recognition of her commitment to customer service.

Frank Akpadock, senior research associate, Center for Urban and Regional Studies, presented a paper titled "Central Cities and the Suburban Interdependence Hypothesis: An Empirical Examination of the Debate" at an International Planners Conference in Winnipeg, Canada. The conference was titled "Planning in Challenging Times."

John Russo, coordinator, Labor Studies Program and co-director, Center for Working-Class Studies, testified in June at a hearing before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science and Technology in Washington D.C. His topic was "American Decline or Renewal? Globalizing Jobs and Technology."

Virginia R. Monseau, professor emerita, English, published an article titled "Risky Business: Whose 'Right Thing' Are We Talking About?" in a recent edition of the *English Journal*.

Shane V. Smith, assistant professor, Geological & Environmental Sciences, has been elected president of the Shenango River Watchers Inc. SRW Inc. is a non-profit watershed group, headquartered in Sharon, Pa., with the mission to clean, preserve and protect the environmental, scenic, and recreational attributes of the Shenango River.

Zbigniew Piotrowski, professor, Mathematics and Statistics, recently addressed the 5th International Conference on

Applied Mathematics in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. His lecture was titled "On Banach-Dudley Theorem."

Javed Alam, professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, co-authored a paper that was published in the proceedings of the 2007 American Society of Engineering Education conference and exposition in Honolulu, Hawaii. The paper was titled "Multimedia Aided Prototype E-Learning (Mapel) Modules for Teaching the Fundamentals of the Finite Element Method." Alam's co-authors were Joseph Rencis, professor and head of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, and Venkata Seshada Aluri, a graduate student at the University of Arkansas.

Kin P. Moy, assistant professor, Electrical Engineering Technology, conducted a two-day technical seminar in June for industrial and university engineers in Lugang, Taiwan at the invitation of the Automotive Research & Technical Center of Taiwan. It was his third technical seminar there in three years. The four-session seminar focused on technical issues related to electromagnetic compatibility testing methodology and international test standards for Taiwan's automotive electronics industry. Moy subsequently spent three days providing technical training for ARTC engineers. The ARTC funded the seminar and has also awarded YSU a research grant to develop test methodology for automotive wireless communication systems.

Two named to Board of Trustees

Gov. Ted Strickland recently named two new members to the YSU Board of Trustees. Carole S. Weimer of Youngstown, a special education teacher at Liberty High School since 1988, was named to a nine-year term. Daniel J. DeMaiolo, a junior studying advertising/public relations, was named to a two-year term as a student member of the board. Read more in eUpdate at <http://cfweb.cc.ysu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.



Carole S. Weimer



Daniel J. DeMaiolo

YSU Center awards projects, awaits U.S. DOT visit

A top official from the U.S. Department of Transportation visits Youngstown State University Sept. 16 to discuss the progress of YSU's Center for Transportation and Materials Engineering.

Paul R. Brubaker, head administrator of the U.S. DOT's Research and Innovative Technology Administration and a YSU alumnus, will attend a luncheon and will tour laboratory facilities in Moser Hall.

As the administrator of RITA, Brubaker leads the agency responsible for coordinating and reviewing U.S. DOT's \$1 billion investment in research, development and technology, and is charged with advancing technologies that will improve the nation's transportation system.

"From the beginning of his appointment, Mr. Brubaker has been dedicated to visiting centers such as YSU's CTME, and to understanding and addressing the challenges and issues our nation faces in the diverse realms of transportation," said Cynthia Hirtzel, executive director of the YSU Center.

Congress passed legislation nearly three years ago to fund 22 University Transportation Centers across the nation to advance technology and expertise in

transportation. In late 2006, with the assistance of U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan, YSU was selected as one of four sites in Ohio and received \$2 million in funding from DOT.

Earlier this year, the Center solicited research proposals and over the summer awarded funding to five projects. The projects range from research involving the development of lightweight automotive braking systems to the exploration of cost-effective solutions to reduce bumps at

pavement-bridge interfaces.

Hirtzel said research at the Center is a valuable asset to the Mahoning Valley, as well as to YSU and its students. "The Center gives students unique opportunities upon which they can build their experience in exciting new areas," she said.

For full story, including details on the research projects, read more in *eUpdate* at <http://cfweb.cc.yzu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>. ■

Student living

(Continued from page 1)

Jack Fahey, YSU executive director of student services, said a study conducted three years ago projected a long-term need for on-campus housing for a total of 2,000 students. The university's Centennial Master Plan identifies locations for a total of 2,400 to 2,800 student beds.

"We know we have some unmet needs," Fahey said.

He said YSU in general is exploring three long-term options to increase its on-campus housing stock: partnering with

private developers for apartment-style housing, constructing another university residence hall near the Cafaro/Lyden hall complex, and developing student residence options in houses in the "State Street" area just north of campus.

Fahey said the goal is to create a "critical mass" of students on a scale that eventually would support developments such as a grocery store, pharmacy and other businesses. ■

DeBartolo

(Continued from page 1)

hosted by DeBartolo's amateur sports company, DeBartolo Sports University, at the WATTS. DeBartolo Sports U offers sports academies in major cities across the country and will bring multiple camps to the Youngstown community in the future.

In July 2007, former YSU head coach and current head coach at Ohio State University Jim Tressel and his wife, Ellen, and her parents, Frank and Norma Watson, presented the university \$1 million to fund the multi-million dollar indoor athletics facility.

"As a first-time head coach at YSU, it was Edward DeBartolo Jr. that gave me the confidence, guidance and friendship that I needed to be successful," Tressel said.

The location and completion date of WATTS have not been finalized. ■



Buck-eyed...

Penguins tailback Dana Brown hits the line during the Aug. 30 season opener in Ohio Stadium in Columbus. The Buckeyes won 43-0. It was the second consecutive year that YSU opened the season at the Horseshoe. YSU's home opener is 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 13 against Central State. More photos in *eUpdate* at <http://cfweb.cc.yzu.edu/marketcomm/index.cfm>.