

# News • Briefs

YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY

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Contact: Ron Cole, director of  
University Communications,  
330-941-3285

*Featured in this week's YSU News Briefs:*

- **Summer Bridge Program adds STEM component**
- **Session planned for internship program at business college**
- **Faculty/staff honors, presentations, publications**

## **YSU's Summer Bridge program adds STEM component**

Youngstown State University's annual Summer Bridge Program, which has been successful in improving retention and graduation rates for multicultural students, continues next week with a new component for students studying science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The free week-long program, which this year runs July 31 to Aug. 5, brings a group of freshmen multicultural students to campus every summer to take classes, learn about the university and stay in the Cafaro House residence hall – all aimed at giving students a head start on academic and campus life before classes officially start in late August.

Jonelle Beatrice, associate executive director of Student Life and director of the

Marion J. Resch Center for Student Progress (CSP), said the program has proven to

provide a significant positive impact on students staying enrolled and graduating.



**YSU's Summer Bridge Program for multicultural freshmen has resulted in improved retention and graduation rates. This year's program runs July 31 to Aug. 5.**

“The idea is to get these students off to a good start in their college lives so they can be successful both in and out of the classroom,” said Mike Beverly, senior coordinator of CSP Multicultural Student Services.

This year, 34 first-year students are registered to participate. They will take classes on how to be successful in the classroom (i.e., time management, test- and note-taking techniques, etc.) and attend workshops on academic support services offered by YSU (i.e., Center for Student Progress, the Writing Center, Reading and Study Skills Center, etc.).

“The expectations for college are significantly higher than for high school,” Beatrice said. “Learning to manage your time more efficiently, and seeking support services when needed can affect student's future success.”

Also, for the first time this year, 11 of the 34 students will participate in Summer Bridge programming specifically for students studying STEM disciplines – science, technology, engineering and mathematics. The STEM component is funded through a grant from the Raymond John Wean Foundation.

Beatrice emphasized that Summer Bridge does not end after one week. The Bridge and Beyond program extends into the regular academic year, creating a learning community where students take classes together and meet monthly throughout their freshmen year.

For more information, visit [http://web.ysu.edu/gen/ysu/Summer\\_Bridge\\_m1530.html](http://web.ysu.edu/gen/ysu/Summer_Bridge_m1530.html) or call Beverly at 330-941-3538.

### **Session planned for internships at business college**

The Williamson College of Business Administration at Youngstown State University will host an information session for employers interested in the college's internship program on Thursday, Aug. 4. The session begins with breakfast at 7:30 a.m. and a program from 8 to 9 a.m.

The information session will feature an overview of the WCBA's internship program, the steps involved in establishing an internship opportunity through the college, the benefits of internships, tips to effectively recruit students, and the expectations of host employers.

To make a reservation, contact Leigh Ann Waring, director of undergraduate student services, at 330-941-1884 or [lawaring@ysu.edu](mailto:lawaring@ysu.edu) by Aug. 2.

### **YSU faculty/staff awards, presentations, publications**

**Cameron Hughes**, programmer and analyst for Computer Services and member of the YSU Application Development Group, presented his research, “Extracting Micro Ontologies from Interrogative Domains for Epistemic Agents” at the 22nd Midwest Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science Conference. His co-presenter was YSU alumna Tracey Hughes.

The following Counseling faculty presented at the American Counseling Association International Conference in New Orleans: **Victoria Kress**, professor, co-presented “The Counselor's Survival Kit: 30 Creative Intervention Tools” and “Effectively Working with State Counselor Boards: What Counselors Need to Know and Do!”; **Jake Protivnak**, associate professor, and **Matthew Paylo**, assistant professor, co-presented “College Counseling for Non-Traditional Students: Challenges to Engagement” and “An Experiential Learning Project: School Counselor Advocacy at the Individual, Administrative and Policy Level.” Paylo also co-presented “Counselor, Heal Thyself: Preventing, Recognizing and Addressing Vicarious Trauma.”

**Jacob Breland**, assistant professor of Management, coauthored two papers that were presented at the annual conference of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology in Chicago: “Interactive Effect of Narcissism and Political Skill on Network Positioning,” and “When Bullying Pays Off: Political Skill and Job Performance.”

**Zbigniew Piotrowski**, professor, Mathematics and Statistics, gave a talk titled “Quasi-continuity and Cliquishness” during his research stay at the Laboratoire de Mathematiques, Universite de Rouen, France.