

P&G Gives \$1 Million for New Childhood Center

The P&G Fund, the foundation of Cincinnati-based Procter & Gamble, has given the university a gift of \$1 million to support construction of the College of Human Ecology's new early childhood development center in Columbus' Weinland Park neighborhood. The center—the first university based early childhood laboratory school built in a low-income neighborhood—will offer interdisciplinary research, teaching, and ser-

vices targeted to the neighborhood's most pressing. Groundbreaking for the center will take place in 2005, with the opening planned for autumn 2006.

"The College of Human Ecology has a unique vision for improving the lives of underserved children," said Charlotte Otto, president and trustee of the P&G Fund. "We at P&G share this vision. The college's early childhood development center fits with our corporate initiative of focusing on improving the lives of children ages 13 and younger."

Dean David W. Andrews conceived the idea of building a new early childhood development center and targeted the Weinland Park community because of the college's extensive involvement in the area as well as recognition of the poverty, unemployment, and low educational attainment of its residents. Situated to the east of Ohio State's main campus, Weinland Park is a neighborhood of documented need. According to the 2002 U.S. Census Report:

- Income levels average \$15,252 for homeowners

and renters, and only \$4,000 for those residing in government housing.

- Only 30 percent of area residents over the age of 25 have high school degrees or the equivalent.
- More than half of the total 1,044 neighborhood families are female-headed with children under age 18.

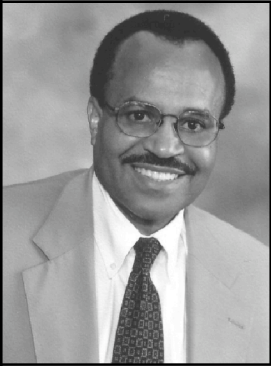
"We thank the P&G Fund for joining our first major donor, Betty Schoenbaum, as a partner in this effort. The P&G Fund has become a vital part of our approach to solving the challenges facing families like those living in Weinland Park," said Andrews, who expects a portion of the enrolled children to receive subsidized scholarships. "The P&G/university model partnership will help us move forward in our work, which includes collaboration with Columbus Public Schools and the Weinland Park community," he said. "Many will benefit from a nationally recognized center where scholars and students can conduct cutting-edge research. We expect our discoveries to improve the lives of young children and their families worldwide."

Vice Provost for Minority Affairs

MESSAGE FROM MAC

Dear Friends of Ohio State:

It is customary to look back—at the end of one year and the start of a new one—to review the milestones that marked the purpose of the previous twelve months. Doing so today, we can readily affirm that The Ohio State University is moving steadily toward realizing the goals of our Diversity Action Plan.



As evidence, during 2004:

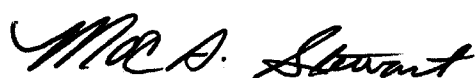
- Barbara R. Snyder was selected as the university's executive vice president and provost. This is the first time Ohio State has had both a female president and provost.
- Three African-Americans were appointed to senior positions: Melvin Shipp as dean of Optometry, John Roberts as dean of Humanities, and Jacqueline Jones Royster as interim executive dean of the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences.
- The university's Board of Trustees approved a plan to provide access to healthcare benefits to a broader range of dependents, including eligible domestic partners.
- *Black Enterprise Magazine* again named Ohio State one of the 50 best colleges in the nation for African-American students.

These are just some of our most significant achievements. There were countless others that did not create the same ripples, but which, when combined, demonstrate the university's steadfast commitment to diversity. For example:

- The colleges of Education and Social Work both offered new courses focusing on diversity, including Needs and Social Conditions of Latinos/as and Sexualities in Education.
- The university began producing and airing radio spots aimed at encouraging African-American youth to attend college.
- Ohio State's web accessibility policies to aid the disabled were nationally recognized.
- Ohio State's American Indian Council (AIC) hosted its first student-initiated and student-run powwow.

I hope you'll agree that it has been a year of momentum. Please take time now to review additional highlights from autumn quarter.

Sincerely,



Mac A. Stewart
Vice Provost

PROGRESS REPORT

Faculty and Staff Recruitment

Deborah A. Ballam, professor of legal environment at the Fisher College of Business, was appointed director of The Women's Place and Associate Provost for Women's Policy Initiatives. Ballam served in an interim leadership position for The Women's Place (TWP) for the past six months while a national search was conducted. She is an award-winning teacher who served for seven years as director of the Honors Program in the Fisher College of Business. Also a recipient of the 2002 YMCA Women of Achievement Award, Ballam was a member of a task force that spearheaded the coordination and consolidation of several initiatives into what ultimately became The Women's Place. She also was on the search committee for TWP's first director; and has been a member of the President's Council on Women's Issues. Ballam earned four degrees from Ohio State, including a J.D. and a Ph.D. in history. Her appointment, subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, was effective January 1, 2005.

Wendy Smooth, assistant professor, was hired in a joint research appointment with the Department of Women's Studies and the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. Her **research focus is on minority women in state legislatures**. Formerly with the political science department at the University of Nebraska, Smooth received her Ph.D. in government and politics from the University of Maryland. While there, she also received a certificate in women's studies.

The Colleges of the Arts and Sciences announced a search for **multiple faculty positions in ethnicity, and race and nation studies**. The faculty are being recruited to teach Afro-Hispanic Literature and Culture, African American Literature, American Indian Studies (in comparative studies and linguistics), Asian American Literature, Asian American Cultural Studies, Latino/a Literature, and Latino/a History. The positions will be filled this academic year in time for the start of classes in autumn 2005.

Student Recruitment and Retention

The newly created **African-American Male Resource Center** officially opened its doors in November with a kick-off celebration featuring keynote speaker Dr. Boyce Watkins. The center, which provides specialized resources to retain and graduate African

American male students, is an outgrowth of the African-American Male Initiative. Watkins, author of *Everything You Wanted to Know About College*, offered advice about how to succeed at Ohio State as a minority student.

David Moody, a senior in mechanical engineering, spoke at President Holbrook's pregame brunch prior to the Ohio State-Michigan game on November 20. In addition to excelling as a student in engineering, Moody is president of the Ohio State chapter of the **National Society of Black Engineers**, which is dedicated to increasing the number of culturally responsible Black engineers. At the event, attended by approximately 400 university, state, and community leaders and friends of the university, Moody spoke about the vast opportunities and resources available to him at the university, which have prepared him to meet his goal of graduate study followed by becoming a "distinguished professor, hopefully here at Ohio State."

Ohio State received \$100,000 in funding from the Lumina Foundation for Education for a project to study retention of non-traditional students. Proposed by a collaboration of campus women's groups this summer, the **Retention for Success** project will follow 97 recipients of Ohio State's 2004-05 Critical Difference for Women re-entry scholarship grants through the university, collecting data to detect gaps and barriers in services that prevent success. President Holbrook said the project is timely in that it helps further the university's goal to achieve the diversity that promotes a vigorous intellectual environment.

Academic and Research Programming

The Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in the Americas is leading an initiative that seeks to understand structural racism and the ways in which it operates, with the goal of finding effective ways to dismantle it. **The Racial Disparity Project**, a collaboration with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, D.C., will create a web site to present data on racial disparities. The institute recently completed a report on housing needs by income level, race, and family status of people living in Franklin County.

Ohio State researchers **linked racial differences and poverty** as barriers for some women that keep them from taking advantage of cancer screenings that could

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PROGRESS REPORT

(Continued from front)

potentially save their lives. Dr. Electra Paskett, director of the Center for Population Health and Health Disparities at the Comprehensive Cancer Center, led the team of scientists at Ohio State and the Wake Forest University School of Medicine. In trying to identify a way to increase use of mammography among poor, rural women over age 40, researchers surveyed African American, Native American, and white women about their knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors regarding breast and cervical cancer screening. Researchers discovered that overall, the women had poor knowledge about cancer screening, and significantly fewer Native Americans and African Americans were able to mention or describe these procedures compared with white women. Many study participants, especially minorities, said money was an issue; some said they did not have medical insurance; and most of the women reported that their doctors did not prompt them to get screened for breast cancer.

Leadership/Recognition

Black Enterprise Magazine named Ohio State one of the 50 best colleges in the nation for African American students. The university ranked 44th among 482 during the most recent survey, up from 45th the previous year. The rankings were conducted by surveying nearly 1,900 African American higher education professionals to assess the social and educational environments for African American students. The five-year graduation rate for African Americans and the percentage of African American undergraduates also were considered. Mac Stewart said that Ohio State's ability to remain competitive with the nation's top private institutions, including some of the historically Black colleges and universities, indicates that the university's strategies for developing programs that address the academic interests and needs of students and provide a solid base of support are working.

Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age, written by Associate Professor of History Kevin Boyle, was named book of the year in the nonfiction category for this year's National Book Award. *Arc of Justice* recounts the story of Ossian and Gladys Sweet, an African American doctor and his wife, who were indicted for murder in Detroit in 1925. Boyle provides a spellbinding account of race relations in the Jazz age, of events leading up to the indictment, and of the defense that was mounted on the Sweets' behalf by the NAACP and Clarence Darrow, the trial lawyer best remembered for his role in the Scopes Monkey Trial.

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund, a national organization supporting Hispanic higher education, recently honored Ohio State at a gala event in Cincinnati for **commitment to the advancement of Hispanic education**. Considered the nation's leading organization supporting Hispanic higher education, the fund was founded in 1975 and has awarded more than \$144 million in scholarships to Latinos/as across the country.

Katherine Borland, Lucy Murphy, Richard Shiels, and Christine Warner—faculty at the OSU Newark campus—received an Excellence in Engagement Interdisciplinary Grant for their proposal titled, **“Discovering the Stories of Native Ohio: An Oral History Project.”**

They expect this to be the inaugural project of their proposed OSU Newark initiative for the Study of Native American Earthworks, History, and Culture.

Dr. Mac Stewart was one of five Columbus community leaders recognized by the Phi Beta Sigma fraternity and *Leadership At Its Best*, an organization that focuses on motivating young black males to stay positive and continue their education through college. Stewart, along with the Reverend Dr. Charles Booth, Columbus City Councilman Kevin Boyce, C. Sunny Martin, and Ohio Representative Joyce Beatty, were honored at a November reception as leaders who serve as inspiration to others.

Access for the Disabled

In conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, the Medical Center joined the Mid-Ohio Board for Independent Living Environment and Columbus City Schools to offer internships at the Medical Center for **Columbus high school students with disabilities exploring careers in science, math, engineering and technology**. Titled the High School/High Tech Program, the initiative is sponsored by the federal Office of Disability Employment Policy.

L. Scott Lissner, the university's ADA Coordinator, was appointed to the **City of Columbus Advisory Committee on Disability Issues**. The committee meets monthly to advise the mayor and City Council on disability related complaint resolution, issues and trends affecting the city.

Awareness

Vincene Verdun, associate professor of law, kicked off the President and Provost's **Diversity Lecture and Cultural Arts Series** for 2004-05 with “The Significance of Brown v. Topeka.” Other autumn quarter events included: Linda Greene, associate vice chancellor for faculty and staff programs, and Evjue-Bascom, professor of law at University of Wisconsin-Madison, who delivered “Strategic Priorities, Strategic Funding;” a lecture by Carlos Cortes, professor emeritus of history at the University of California, Riverside, who spoke on “How the Media Teach about Diversity;” Debra Rolison, professor of chemistry at the University of Utah and a member of the Naval Research Laboratory, whose lecture was titled, “Can Title IX Do for Women in Science and Engineering What it has Done for Women in Sports;” Myra Gordon, associate provost for diversity at Kansas State, who delivered “Climate-Induced Failure to Thrive: A Sometimes Unintended Result of Faculty Diversification;” and finally, “An Evening with Maxine Hong Kingston,” who is a senior lecturer of creative writing at the University of California, Berkeley, and an author whose novels detail experiences of first-generation Chinese Americans.

A symposium titled, **“Moving Forward—Taking an Assertive Approach to Eliminating HIV in the African-American Community,”** assembled health experts, educators, and activists from around the country. Hosted by the King Arts Complex in Columbus, the participants discussed the prevalence of HIV in the African-American community and how best to stop the spread of the disease. President Holbrook and Drs. Fred Sanfilippo and Michael Para

opened the session with remarks and support from the university. Sponsors of the symposium included the Ohio State Medical Center AIDS Clinical Trials Unit.

Ohio State's GLBT Student Services marked **Transgender Days of Remembrance and Action** on November 20 to commemorate the lives of individuals who were murdered during the year because of their gender identity or expression. Begun in 1999, the Transgender Day of Remembrance is an international event held every November, and OSU was one the first colleges in the country to mark the day. Since then, GLBT Student Services has expanded the commemoration to include a series of programs throughout the month of November. The events seek to educate people about transgender issues and help them become better advocates for the transgender community. This year's activities included a conference, films, an open house, as well as the annual vigil.

Sheryll D. Cashin, professor of law at Georgetown University and author of **“The Failures of Integration: How Race and Class Are Undermining the American Dream,”** delivered a lecture on this topic that was sponsored by the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, the College of Humanities, and the Moritz College of Law.

In an effort to balance the rights of all students and following an extensive review, Ohio State revised its policies governing student organizations to allow those groups formed to foster or affirm sincerely held religious beliefs to **adopt a nondiscrimination statement** consistent with those beliefs. William H. Hall, vice president for student affairs, said the revised guidelines, which also deal with establishing student organizations and the criteria for awarding them funding and other benefits, were developed in large part by the Committee on Student Organization Classification and Resource Eligibility, an ad-hoc committee of the Council on Student Affairs. Students, faculty and other concerned individuals provided input through several avenues, including participation in open forums last spring.

Outreach Activities

The University Medical Center is behind an effort at the **Columbus Africentric School** to promote better exercise and eating habits among children as part of a national competition designed to help schools teach positive behaviors in nutrition and fitness. The Africentric School is one of five schools across the country selected to compete in the Cardinal Health Challenge, developed by VHA Health Foundation and underwritten by Dublin-based Cardinal Health Foundation. At the end of the fall semester, the school with the highest scores in fitness and nutrition progress will win \$1,000 in new physical activity equipment beyond the equipment provided for the competition itself. Each school has received state-of-the-art fitness equipment addressing deficit areas where children typically fail fitness tests, as well as a complete fitness and nutrition curriculum and teacher training.