

Faculty/Staff Recruitment and Retention

1. **R. Ellyn Perrone** was recently appointed as **vice president of government relations**. Perrone, former vice president for governmental affairs at Texas A&M University, will lead the Office of Government Relations, which develops and coordinates all aspects of the university's relationship with federal, state and local government officials, representatives and agencies. Perrone also will be responsible for implementing President Holbrook's initiative to expand federal relations efforts with elected officials and major funding agencies. She will work closely with faculty, staff and students, as well as the offices of University Relations and Development and the Alumni Association, to connect the resources and talent at the university with local and statewide needs. A native of Bryan, Texas, Perrone holds a master's degree in public administration from Texas A&M.
2. **Evelyn B. Freeman** was appointed as dean and director of Ohio State's Mansfield campus, effective Aug. 1, 2003. Freeman, director and professor of teaching and learning in the College of Education, has served as program coordinator for early and middle childhood education on both the Marion and Newark campuses; regional campus coordinator for educational theory and practice; acting coordinator of early and middle childhood education; section head for integrated teaching and learning; associate dean of education; and director of teaching and learning. Freeman holds a B.A. in sociology from Chatham College, an M.A. in educational psychology from the University of Chicago, and a Ph.D. in early and middle childhood education from Ohio State. In addition to her scholarly record, she has garnered significant research funding through the U.S. Department of Education.
3. **Gabriel Esquivel** joined the faculty of the **Department of Industrial, Interior, and Visual Communication Design** as a new assistant professor. With a bachelor's degree in architecture from the Universidad Intercontinental in Mexico and a master's degree in architecture from Ohio State, Esquivel has spent more than 20 years as a professional designer in Mexico and Columbus, with the last 10 years as a professional senior interior space designer with three prominent firms in Columbus—NBBJ, Karlsberger Companies and FMS Architects. He received the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Award State of Ohio Award for the design of McAlister Studios in 1995 and the AIA Columbus Chapter Award for Best Interior Design with Context Integration in 1997.

Student Recruitment and Retention

1. The most recent issue of the **Black EOE Journal**, the employment and entrepreneur magazine, highlights the efforts of the **Fisher College of Business** to recruit minority students into its MBA program. The magazine ranks Fisher as second in the nation among programs with the largest black percentage of its student body. In the article, the journal wrote that Fisher "obviously made great efforts to recruit black students and improve racial diversity," noting that Ohio State is located in a city and state with a relatively small black population.
2. The university's **Council on Diversity** issued a statement supporting the University of Michigan in cases now before the **U.S. Supreme Court**. The statement reiterated support for the current university practice of including race as a "plus factor" in the admissions process, and also declared that the university's race-conscious process would be eliminated as a legal option if the Supreme Court decides against the University of Michigan. It further defended this process as necessary if Ohio State is to achieve its goal of becoming a world-class university with a diverse student body. In summary, the statement affirmed that diversity is "not a deficit but a dividend, not a burden but a blessing, not a fad, but our future."
3. The **College of Engineering** and the **General Electric Fund** have announced an award of \$500,000 to the college to support its Partnership for Math Excellence, a collaboration between Ohio State and two Cincinnati public schools. Designed to strengthen the math skills of high school and junior high school students through a rigorous math curriculum featuring hands-on problem-solving experiences, the program will be piloted at Cincinnati's Aiken High School and Chase Elementary School. Both are inner-city schools where the students are generally considered less academically prepared. The program's ultimate goals are to prepare and encourage Aiken students to go on to college and pursue careers in quantitative fields such as engineering, and to eventually replicate the program at other high schools. By the end of the five-year program, it is hoped that Aiken students will also be ready to succeed in an Introduction to Engineering course like one now being piloted at Cincinnati's Walnut Hills High School as part of an existing Ohio State-GE Fund partnership.
4. The Office of **Hispanic Student Services** is celebrating a silver jubilee in 2003, and is featuring collaborative programs with many university departments. **Carmen Alvarez-Breckenridge**, coordinator of the office, organized programming for a celebration with the departments of Theatre, Spanish and Portuguese, the Center for Latin American Studies, and Latino Studies. One activity, the Ecuadorian Cultural Ambassador's program, brought cultural ambassadors from Ecuador to Ohio State. The program, "From the middle of the world to the middle of Ohio," featured music, presentations on the art and architecture of colonial Ecuador, and an art exhibition.
5. Ohio State hosted the Midwest Association of **Filipino American Conference** in February. Events at the weekend conference included workshops, vendor exhibits and a banquet. The guest speaker was Filipino Ambassador His Excellency Albert del Rosario.

Academic Programs

1. Ohio State hosted a panel discussion about the war with **Iraq** in an effort to educate the community about issues surrounding the conflict. Sponsored by the **Mershon Center**, which promotes the interdisciplinary study of international security and public policy, and the **Moritz College of Law**, the panel featured faculty with backgrounds in political science, military history and international law. Retired Gen. Todd Stewart, director of the Program for International and Homeland Security at the Mershon Center, also spoke about the effects of homeland security as a result of the United States entering into war with Iraq.
2. A "**Day of Remembrance**" program commemorating the internment of **Japanese Americans** during World War II was presented by the **Multicultural Center**. The purpose of the program was to remind the Ohio State community of the significance of these events by examining the personal impact of internment, and exploring how wartime tensions can impact civil liberties. Highlights of the program included a welcome by President Holbrook; an excerpt from *Something Strong Within*, a collection of films documenting the internment experience by Japanese Americans; a discussion about the life of Toyo Suyemoto Kawakami, a poet and former Ohio State librarian of 29 years; comments by Kurt Miyazaki, assistant professor of political science at Wittenberg University; and a question and answer session.
3. The **Multicultural Center** is establishing itself as the only such center in the nation that bridges between student affairs and academic affairs, by connecting students and services with research, teaching and other academic elements at the

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university. It now offers a catalog of all courses and programs that contain a diversity component, and has also created four new courses as part of the first-year success series, which welcomes and acclimates new students to college life. In addition, the center welcomed its first scholar-in-residence when architecture-educator and author **Sharon E. Sutton** visited in April. While at the University of Michigan, Sutton became the first African-American woman in the U.S. to be promoted to full professor in an accredited professional degree program in architecture.

4. **James O. Horton**, professor of American studies and history at George Washington University, presented “**Race and Region: Ohio, America’s Middle Ground**,” as part of the Ohio Bicentennial Distinguished Lecture Series. Horton, who has been a historical adviser to many museums including the Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, was one of two historians appointed by former President Clinton to serve on the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission. He is director of the Afro-American Communities Project of the National Museum of American History and author of “In Hope of Liberty: Culture, Community and Protest Among Northern Free Blacks, 1700-1860,” which was nominated for the 1997 Pulitzer Prize in history.

Leadership/Recognition

1. Ohio State law professor **Ned Foley** was named the **Robert M. Duncan/Jones Day Designated Professor of Law** at the Michael E. Moritz College of Law, a position recently approved by the Board of Trustees. Foley has taught at Ohio State since 1991 and is an expert in constitutional law, election law and education law. The professorship was made possible by gifts from Moritz Law graduates at the Jones Day law firm. It recognizes the distinguished career of Duncan, a university trustee who is a 1952 graduate of the Moritz College and is a retired partner of Jones Day. After beginning his law career in general practice, Duncan served as a legal professional for several public agencies before undertaking a judicial career that included the Franklin County Municipal Court, the Ohio Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Military Appeals and, ultimately, the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio. As a federal judge, Duncan presided over the landmark order ending segregation in the Columbus Public Schools.
2. **Dominic Dottavio**, dean and director of Ohio State’s Marion campus, was the recent recipient of the Black Heritage Council of Marion’s Diversity Leadership Award at the group’s 25th anniversary banquet. The award was given in recognition of the increasing ratio of minority students and staff at the Marion campus, and for supporting various diversity initiatives in the community. State Sen. Ray Miller was the keynote speaker at the event in which more than 200 people celebrated the culmination of United Black World Month activities.
3. Former Georgia congresswoman **Cynthia McKinney** kicked-off Ohio State’s 33rd annual celebration of **United Black World Month** with a lecture in February. McKinney, elected Georgia’s first African-American congresswoman in 1992, spoke on the topic of “Homeland Security for African Americans in 2003.” A celebration of African American history and culture, United Black World Month featured educational programs, lectures and community events. Umoja, the Swahili word for unity, was the theme for this year’s program.
4. United Black World Month was also celebrated by the **Community Extension Center**, which featured a month-long lecture series. **Kenneth Goings**, chair of African American and African studies presented “The Three Lives of Aunt Jemima and Uncle Mose, Or, How the Darkies Got to Harvard.” **Valerie Lee**, chair of English, presented “African American Literature and Folk Medicine.” Lecturer **Viola Newton** of African American and African Studies, presented “The Integration of Caribbean Blacks into African American Culture.” And **Ted McDaniel**, professor of African American and African studies and music, presented “Jazz,” which included a performance by the Ohio State Jazz Orchestra.
5. Former United Nations ambassador **Andrew Young**, highly respected for his perspective on government, international affairs and civil rights, visited campus as the inaugural speaker in the **First Year Distinguished Speaker Series**. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions and First Year Experience developed the series to enhance the academic experiences of first-year students. The lecture series will be held each year and will feature individuals who represent global ideas and perspectives. Young spoke about his experiences while at the U.N., and the organization’s mission toward international peace.
6. **William Hicks, MD**, professor of clinical medicine in hematology and oncology and also co-director of the diversity enhancement program for The James Cancer Hospital, has begun co-hosting a weekly radio program with Z-103 FM executive and community leader Les Wright. The program, “It’s All About Health,” is devoted exclusively to cancer control and education within the African-American community. During United Black World Month, the program applied principles of Kwanzaa to health to diminish disparities in cancer outcomes between minority and non-minority populations.
7. **Cynthia Tyson**, professor of teaching and learning, has been appointed to chair the American Educational Research Association-Division B **Affirmative Action and Equity Committee** for a three-year appointment.

Access for the Disabled

1. Ohio State and the ADA-Ohio recently co-sponsored a program titled **Multiple Perspectives on Access, Inclusion, and Disability**. John Wodatch, chief of the disability rights section of the U. S. Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division, was the keynote speaker for a program that focused on disability studies, transition issues for high school students with disabilities and civil rights issues.
2. The ADA Coordinator’s Office, the Office for Disability Services and the student organization Unity joined together to recognize faculty and staff members who have developed **web sites easily accessed by the disabled**. Jody Croley of Humanities Information Systems, Sharon Bierman of Physical Facilities, Doug Line of the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse, Margo Garcia-Hunter of Ohio Valley Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Pat Rigby of OSU Extension were all recognized for providing outstanding service to students with disabilities.

Minority Purchases

1. Ohio State’s purchasing department launched a **reporting tool for measuring the minority purchase order trends** to assist colleges and departments. Users of the university’s financial system will have access to reports that reflect purchase order and state-certified minority purchase order detail. Reports may be generated by total dollars, vendor usage, category, or account information, and may be viewed online, in print or exported into a spreadsheet.
2. **Ron Booth**, manager of renovation and construction (R&C) in physical facilities, hosted a session for minority vendors titled, “**How to Do Business With Physical Facilities**.” The R&C area coordinated almost 400 projects last year, and worked with numerous vendors in the trades areas—electrical, plumbing, painting, HVAC and general contracting. Booth and his staff spoke to more than 80 minority vendors, and they have received a number of contacts as a result of the session.