Department of Design

By Nancy Wardwell

Last October the Department of Design celebrated 50 years.

It has evolved from the early Art Department and remains housed in Hayes Hall. When Hayes opened in the 1890s, the Department of Art shared the building with the Military Department. The second floor offices were just down the hall from the indoor target range!

“Design” implies function. Throughout the 50s and 60s, a small group of faculty members in the School of the Arts experimented with the development of courses that allowed students to study applied problems – creating graphic designs, product designs, and designs for interior spaces. As more faculty with formal design education and experiences joined the school, the desire for a stand-alone four-year curriculum became even more imperative. Ceramicist Don Woods brought together the first team of design specialists, so the independent unit was ready when the University created the College of the Arts in 1968.

Charles Wallschlaeger led the new department for 18 years. His interest in design education in Europe led him to form relationships with schools in Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Italy and Germany, and by inviting waves of temporary visiting faculty from these forward-looking design schools, the curriculum of Ohio State’s programs took a distinctive shape as both human-centered and socially oriented.

“Within the backdrops of Ohio, a national manufacturing center, and Columbus, a center from product development and retail and brand identity design, today’s Ohio State Department of Design is filled to the brim with students who are focused on using their talents to help create the next generation of designs that will support our preferred future.”*

* Thanks to Mary Anne Beecher, Professor and Chair of the Department of Design for most of this material – and thanks to the chance meeting of Dr. Beecher that led to interest in this fascinating department!
FROM: The President

Funding Biomedical Research

OSURA is fortunate to be associated with a world-class research university. OSURA members learn about some of the great programs being done at OSU at OSURA lunches, dinners and the annual conference. You do not have to understand all of the program but think about how it could improve quality.

Establishing a viable research program takes commitment, time, networking, money and luck. Time and money are needed to develop an idea, collect preliminary data and communicate it effectively to one’s peers. These are learned during pre- and post-doctoral training and on the job. With development funds from institutions, foundations, etc. preliminary data is generated as a basis for submitting the research grant proposal. Networking and publishing research results in high-impact peer-reviewed journals are key mechanisms used to ‘market’ research ideas to peers for funding. When I started writing grants in the late 70s, the success rate was 30%, i.e. 30% of the research proposals submitted to the National Institute of Health (NIH) were funded. Now it is around 10%. The decrease in the success rate can be attributed to biomedical inflation and cuts in the federal budget. The funding levels for biomedical research at NIH Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 is $26.9 billion, which is $5.7 billion below the (FY) 2017 level. See https://www.hhs.gov/about/budget/fy2018/budget-in-brief/nih/index.html. More than 80 percent of NIH’s budget supports nearly 50,000 competitive grants. These grants support the work of more than 300,000 researchers at more than 2,500 universities, medical schools, and research institutions in every state and around the world. The Department of Defense also funds biomedical research with about $1.5 billion for FY19. While this may seem like a lot of money, just look at the low success rates and ask any scientist how hard it is to fund their research.

How is research funding decided? Each funding agency determines its research priorities in consultation with scientific and consumer advisory boards. The research is sent to a peer review panel composed of scientific experts in the area and nonscientists (consumers) for evaluation. The panel meets most relevant projects. Once approved, funds are allocated for one to five years. Every year, the project investigator must send in an annual report and apply for a competitive renewal detailing their accomplishment to continue funding. As you can see, biomedical research funding undergoes rigorous peer review, especially in the current tight funding environment. Unfortunately, many good proposals and ideas go unfunded due to the limited funds.

Biomedical research is just one example of programs at OSU that can benefit from community support. As part of being a retiree it is important to give back to OSU. Consider supporting an OSU program that interests you, e.g. donating to an OSU research, scholarship, student social program and/or volunteering your time.

Steven D’Ambrosio
President of OSURA
Live in style. 
Live in the moment. 
Live in The Fairfax.

Residences are reserving fast. 
Don’t miss your chance.

It’s the beauty of a spacious residence with nine-foot ceilings and expansive windows. It’s the beauty of a lush green campus behind a gated entry. But the real beauty of living at The Fairfax is having the time to enjoy and appreciate all that you’ve earned in life.

When it opens in 2021, The Fairfax at First Community Village will offer 70 contemporary, spacious apartment homes in the English Country Manor style along with the security of lifelong healthcare. And the best time to secure your place in the next generation of retirement living is right now.
**Committee Meetings**

- **April 2 (Tuesday)**
  - **Benefits Committee**
  - **Time/Place:** 9:15 a.m., Longaberger

- **April 9 (Tuesday)**
  - **Board Meeting**
  - **Time/Place:** 9 a.m., Longaberger

- **April 16 (Tuesday)**
  - **Craft Group – Plant Day**
  - Bring your own container, items to augment the supplies/plants provided. Please RSVP marycull.4@gmail.com by April 12.
  - **Time/Place:** 2:15 - 4 p.m., Roosters (back room) 3370 Olentangy River Rd
  - **Cost:** Snacks (on your own), supplies, and plants (approx $1-$4 per plant)
  - **Arranger:** Mary Cull (Craft Group SIG)

- **April 18 (Thursday)**
  - **Litter Picking Team**
  - Challenge Level 3
  - Please join us in our efforts to keep campus litter-free. Wear your walking shoes, sunblock and hat. We will have gloves, tongs, trash bags and buckets.
  - **Meet by:** 8:30 a.m. in the lobby of the Longaberger Alumni House. (In the event of inclement weather, this group will not meet. We’ll be finished in time for the Lunch Bunch event!)
  - **Arranger:** Mary Cull (Litter Pickers SIG)

- **April 20 (Saturday)**
  - **Walking/Hiking Group**
  - **Challenge Level 2-4**
  - Everyone welcome. Join us on the trails at Char-Mar Ridge Park, 7741 Lewis Center Rd, just off Rt 3.
  - **Time/Place:** 11 a.m.
  - **Arranger:** Hallan Noltimier (Walking/Hiking SIG)

- **April 23 (Tuesday)**
  - **Tertulia Breakfast**
  - Please join OSURA members and friends for breakfast and conversation.
  - **Time/Place:** 8 a.m., OSU Faculty Club
  - **Cost:** On your own
  - **Arranger:** Jerry Dare (Tertulia Breakfast SIG)

- **April 24 (Wednesday)**
  - **Bridge Group**
  - Please join us. We welcome new members. Please RSVP 614-292-2262 by April 12.
  - **Time/Place:** 25 cents for prizes the day you play. Come enjoy the fellowship, and have fun playing a good game of bridge at the same time.
  - **Time/Place:** 1 p.m., Friendship Village of Dublin, North CR
  - **Arranger:** Steve Miller (Bridge Group SIG)

- **April 25 (Thursday)**
  - **Dinner Series: Treating Valvular Heart Disease—A Personalized Approach**
  - Lakshmi Dasi, Associate Professor Biomedical Engineering, and Scott Lilly, Associate Professor Cardiovascular Medicine, will share developments in the treatment of valvular heart disease including advanced imaging, modeling, and simulation in cardiovascular medicine. They are available to a wider group with shorter hospitalization and lower complication rates, transforming the care of patients with valvular heart disease.
  - **Time/Place:** 5:15 p.m. reception; 6 p.m. dinner; 7 p.m. lecture; OSU Faculty Club
  - **Cost:** $25 (service charge included)
  - **Registration Deadline:** Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by April 22
  - **Arranger:** Carol Newcomb (Dinner Series SIG)

**Monthly Activities**

- **April 10 (Wednesday)**
  - **Book Club**
  - “The Woman Who Smashed Codes: A True Story of Love, Spies, and the Unlikely Heroine Who Outwitted America’s Enemies” by Jason Fagone. The title says it all. It’s about Elizabeth Smith Friedman, a Shakespeare expert, whose exploits in crytology have only now come to light. She and her husband used it to confront evils, from smugglers in Prohibition to Nazi and Japanese spies in WWII.
  - **Time/Place:** 1:30 p.m., Carriage Hill of Arlington Party House, Lafayette Drive. Call Lee Hill (614-459-4743) for directions. Note: one week early due to Easter.
  - **Contact Person:** Elenore R. Zeller

- **April 11 (Thursday)**
  - **Photo Society**
  - Program: “Creative Photography: Finding Personal Expression” presented by Amy Boye. Amy has been a photographer for more than 50 years, both as an aspect of her job and as a much-loved hobby. She recently retired with 37 years as a graphic designer, illustrator and photographer here at OSU.
  - **Member Theme:** Reflections
  - **Time/Place:** 5:15 p.m., cocktails; 6 p.m., dinner; 7 p.m., program; OSU Faculty Club. You MUST make reservations for dinner by calling 614-292-2262 by April 8.
  - **Cost:** On your own
  - **Arranger:** Jack Nasar (Photographic Society SIG)

**Challenge Levels**

1. **Light** – may include a few stairs.
2. **Moderate** – may include a few sets of stairs.
3. **Moderate +** – may include climbing many stairs and/or uneven terrain.
4. **High** – may include lots of walking, climbing stairs, hilly walkways and/or extended weather exposure.
Registration Instructions

1. **Registrations requiring payment:** Registrations can be made by going on-line to osura.osu.edu or by calling 614-292-2281 or 1-800-762-5646. You can pay by credit card (preferred), or if you mail in a check make it payable to OSUAA. Put the name of the trip in the Note/Memo section of the check and send or drop off to:
   
   Customer Service  
   c/o OSURA  
   Longaberger Alumni House  
   2200 Oentangery River Road  
   Columbus, OH 43210

2. **Registrations NOT requiring payment:** Registrations will be made through the Arranger’s email provided in the description of the event, or if you do not have computer access call 614-292-2281.

The reservation is not made until payment is received.

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**April 10 (Wednesday)**  
**The Ohio State University Airport (Don Scott) Tour**  

**Challenge Level 2**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
Join a guided tour of the inner workings of the OSU Airport. Afterwards, walk to the attached hangar to view a privately-owned small plane and hear from a member of the International Organization of Women Pilots and a participant in the annual Air Race Classic.

**Meet by:** 12:45 p.m., OSU Airport, 2160 West Case Road  
**Return:** 3:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** No cost  
**Registration Deadline:** Register at OSURA. CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com by April 3.  
**Arranger:** Susan Berntson (Cultural Arts Committee)

**April 12 (Friday)**  
**BalletMet – Cinderella**  

(Senior Dress Rehearsal)  

**Challenge Level 1**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
A fairy tale full of hope, hardship and happily ever after, this lush production, set to Prokofiev’s score, brings this tale to life. Choreography is by Columbus’ Edwaard Liang. Anyone who has seen his work will know this is a special event. Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by May 1.

**Arrangers:** Susan Berntson and Alabelle Zghoul (Cultural Arts & Travel Committees)

**May 11 (Saturday)**  
**Health & Wellness:**  
**Lecture Series**

**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
Garth Essig, MD, of the ENT Department, and Siri Hiremath, MD, of the Ophthalmology Department, will address the normal changes in these special senses that occur as we age and also the abnormal conditions that may develop and require professional attention.

**Time/Place:** Check-in and coffee at 8:30 a.m.; lectures 9 a.m., Martha Morehouse Auditorium, 2050 Kenny Road  
**Cost:** Free: Note packages will be provided.  
**Registration Deadline:** Register at OSURA. Health.Wellness@gmail.com by May 6.  
**Arranger:** Rod Tomczak (Health & Wellness SIG)

**May 12 (Sunday)**  
**“Venus in Fur”**

Columbus Civic Theater  

**Challenge Level 1**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
A huge and long-running success on Broadway, Venus in Fur is “a sex comedy... but also something darker, stranger and altogether more delicious: a suspense-packed study of the erotics of power.” (Charles Isherwood NYT) Register at OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com PREFERRED, or call 614-292-2281.

**Time/Place:** 2 p.m. Civic Theater, 3837 Indianola Avenue (arrive early to buy tickets)

**Cost:** Purchase at the theater – $15 (for the first ten who register); others $17.50.  
**Registration Deadline:** May 5  
**Arranger:** Marilyn Blackwell (Cultural Arts Committee)

**May 24 (Friday)**  
**BalletMet – By Liang**  

(Senior Dress Rehearsal)  

**Challenge Level 1**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
By Liang features 3 different ballets in one show. Choreography is by Columbus’ Edwaard Liang. Anyone who has seen his work will know this is a special event. Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 beginning April 8. Tickets will be held at Will Call.

**Time/Place:** Curtain rises at 11 a.m. Doors open at 10:15 a.m. Davidson Theater (Riffe Center), 77 S. High Street  
**Cost:** $19 (admission ticket)  
**Registration/Refund Deadline:** May 17  
**Arranger:** Rai Goerler (Cultural Arts Committee)

**June 25 (Tuesday)**  
**A Walk Thru History in Newcomerstown, OH – Home of Woody Hayes**  
Newcomerstown and Ravens Glenn Winery  

**Challenge Level 2**  
**REGISTRATION REQUIRED**  
A walk thru history! Visit an original Temperance Tavern, Ohio Canal and Stage Stop Museum. We’ll have lunch on Main Street, talk with Woody Hayes, and tour Raven’s Glenn Winery. $5 for winetasting on our own.

**Meet by:** 7:30 a.m., Lakefront Bus Terminal (3152 E. 17th Avenue)  
**Return:** approximately 5:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** $58; cost includes motor coach transportation, museums, lunch, winery tour, snacks, tips.  
**Registration/Refund Deadline:** Register at osura.osu.edu or call 614-292-2281 by June 18.  
**Arrangers:** Jessica Pritchard and Cindy Giles (Travel Committees)

**Upcoming Events**

**Details in future issues**

**June 12 – Greek Orthodox Church Tour**  
**Arranger:** Margaret Hickle-Grimm

**July 16 – Tecumseh**  
**Arrangers:** Jessica Pritchard and Norma Harper

**September 11 – Annual OSURA Fall Conference**

**September 18 – Roscoe Village Tour**  
**Arrangers:** Deb Zang and Jessica Pitchard
FROM: The Benefits Committee

STRS Report

By Jerry Newsom

Given the downturn in the markets in late December 2018, it was no surprise that STRS’ investments were down 3.72% for the month, dragging down the return for the first half of the fiscal year to only +1.2%. This is well below the target rate of return of 7.45% per year, but January’s return of about +5% more than erased December’s loss and has things back on track. There was extensive discussion at the February Board meeting over long-term plans and what circumstances would justify resuming COLAs. There are so many different measures of fiscal health (e.g., the ratio of assets to liabilities, how long they expect it will take for this ratio to equal 100%, consultants’ predictions of future investment returns, etc.) that the Board felt no single criterion can be used to decide when COLAs should be resumed. The Board has already instituted two major cuts this decade (the 2012 cuts primarily affecting active teachers and the 2017 ending of COLAs for retirees), and the Board’s concern about avoiding a third major cut outweighs their desire to resume COLAs. Caution is reinforced by uncertainty (international trade tensions, Brexit, labor protests in France, fiscal sustainability in Italy, and coming elections in many countries). Changes will be decided by future Boards, and even when increases are made to existing pensions, they may not be in the form of the traditional annual percentage increase. There could be one-time cash payments or a one-time permanent increase. In the meantime, investment returns for STRS continue well above those typical of other state pension funds, and surveys of STRS members show their confidence in the system and the Board remains high.

Welcome New Retirees

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<td>Kay Yvonne Baker</td>
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<td>Kim L. Gress</td>
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<td>Amy C. Grove</td>
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The Lunch Bunch meets monthly at the Tremont MCL. The March meeting was especially interesting. Jason Cervenec, of OSU’s Byrd Polar Research Center, provided an informative overview of climate change, its impact in Columbus, and what we can do to adapt to the change. The meeting was very well attended.
OSURA ANNUAL MEETING IS BACK!

June 10, 2019
Longaberger Alumni House
2200 Olentangy River Rd.

- It is the time to celebrate our accomplishments
- Present the Outstanding Service Award
- Celebrate our Past Presidents
- Install our new Officers
- Greet old friends

Convenient free parking. Refreshments will be served!

HEALTH AND WELLNESS PRESENTATION

May 11, 2019
9:00 a.m.
Martha Morehouse Auditorium
2050 Kenny Road

- GARTH ESSIG, MD will speak for one hour on the normal and abnormal changes to the eye which are common as we age.
- SIRI HIREMATH, MD, in the second hour, will discuss normal and abnormal changes to the ears, nose and throat individuals can experience as they age. There is no cost for this presentation but registration is requested by May 6 at: OSURA.Health.Wellness@gmail.com

Refreshments and handouts will be provided.

In Memoriam

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2019 OSURA OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

It is the members of OSURA who make it such a successful organization. Each year we honor someone who has contributed to the betterment of OSURA Retirees.

If you would like to nominate an individual whose leadership and service has been outstanding – here is your chance!

The award will be presented at our Annual Meeting June 10, 2019 at the Longaberger Alumni House.

The nomination process is detailed on the OSURA website. We have simplified the form, so download the printable form, fill it out, and mail it to:

OSURA Customer Service
2200 Olentangy River Road.
Columbus, Ohio 43210

Or - electronically: mailto:osura@osu.edu

The Listservs of OSURA

OSURA has listservs: one for cultural arts, and one for dining and learning. These listservs send notices and reminders of programs, such as lunch bunch and the dinner series, travel, and cultural events. Together, they complement events announced in the newsletter or mention cultural and educational programs of potential interest to OSU retirees.

If you are an OSURA member and not already receiving messages from these listservs but would like to receive messages from these listservs, send an e-mail and your name to OSURA.CulturalArts.Travel@gmail.com and indicate the lists you would like to join. There is no charge. All addresses are accepted, including gmail, aol, att.net, etc.