

## Department of Mathematics and Statistics

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**DR. JONG PIL LEE  
SPEAKER AT AUGUST  
2011 COMMENCEMENT**


Dr. Jong Pil Lee (MS 1964 Mathematics) was the commencement speaker at the August, 2011 BGSU commencement. He earned his PhD in 1970 from the University of Alberta, Canada. He is a Professor at the SUNY College at Old Westbury, Department of Mathematics, Computers & Information.

To read more, see "Dr. Jong Pil Lee" in *Alumni News* on page 6

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**DEPARTMENT OFFICERS**

Kit Chan	CHAIR
David Meel	ASSISTANT CHAIR
Tong Sun	GRAD CHAIR
Elmas Irmak	UNDERGRAD COORD

We hope to include news of many more alumni in future issues, so please tell us about you: new and updated career news, family news, and anything you would like to share. A survey is provided for your convenience on the last page, or simply send an email to one of the editors.

Maria Rizzo, Editor  
[mrizzo@bgsu.edu](mailto:mrizzo@bgsu.edu)

## Message from the Chair



The University has a new look. Many new buildings opened within the last year. As you may remember, our Math Building is located at the Southeast corner of Merry and North College. At the Northwest corner, we now have a nice looking contemporary dormitory, Falcon Heights. Located between the School of Art and the College of Musical Arts is the new Wolfe Center uniting various art studies at BGSU. This remarkable looking building is designed to resemble the glaciers and rocks that shaped the geography of Ohio. If you drive past Bowling Green on I-75, you will see a new building, the Stroh Center, which is specifically designed to host major events, such as presidential inaugurations, commencements, concerts, and athletics. Come back and see us soon!

Besides new buildings, we also welcomed our new President, Dr. Mary Ellen Mazey, who has provided a good vision for the future of the University under the current financial climate. I am most impressed with her visiting every academic department when she first arrived, and she surprisingly completed all visits shortly after her first fall semester. When Dr. Mazey visited our department, she showed a friendly and warm personality, and is ready to roll along.

Our department is now in the process of changing the delivery of some of our foundational math courses from the traditional classroom lecture style to the new emporium style, or a hybrid of the two styles. These are courses ranging from Intermediate Algebra to Precalculus. The emporium style is designed to allow students to do their homework problems in a large computer lab, or a math emporium, with assistance from instructors who oversee the lab. In this way, the students work at their own pace to improve their math skills. When a student cannot solve a problem completely, the computer will show the student the correct method and will generate a similar problem to help them get through the concepts. At similar institutions, this approach has been proven to be a successful way of training students to achieve algebra skills. We are looking forward to having the emporium in our building, using part of the space that once housed the Ogg Science Library.

Kit Chan, Chair  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics



## Do you remember?....

### A look at the last 100 years of BGSU & Math

Last year's newsletter featured a department history celebrating the BGSU centennial, which also happened to be the centennial of our department (the first faculty member of the Bowling Green Normal School was J. Robert Overman,

Harold Tinnappel (1918—1968) joined the mathematics department faculty of BGSU in 1949. He was a graduate of Ohio State University with B.A., M.A. and Ph. D degrees. He was a member of Phi Delta Kappa, Sigma Xi, American Mathematical Society, American Mathematical

### The first faculty member of the Bowling Green Normal School was J. Robert Overman, who happened to be the first mathematics faculty member.

who happened to be the first mathematics faculty member.) The article was well-received and generated many letters and emails from alumni about their memories and favorite professors.

Ed Moats (1966) pointed out that we omitted Harold Tinnappel from our department history. "I took calculus from him in 1963. He was eccentric, beloved, and a marvelous teacher." With apologies for the omission, we include some information about Prof. Tinnappel and another historical department photo.

Association, Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and the Greater Toledo Council of Teachers. He was editor of the book review section of the Mathematics Teacher magazine and a past national officer of the Kappa Mu Epsilon national mathematics honor society. In 1968 at the age of 49 he was found dead at his home in Pemberville by a neighbor, investigating after he was absent from his classes. The Harold A. Tinnappel Science Scholarship was established in his name, and continues to be awarded annually to outstanding BGSU science students. ■

## Obituary

Esther D. Krabill died on May 14, 2012 in Toledo, Ohio at the age of 97. She was the widow of retired faculty member David M. Krabill who preceded her in death in 2003. She was a retired Mathematics teacher for the Bowling Green City schools and Bowling Green State University. In 1940 she married David Krabill, who came to BGSU in 1946. Tom Hern recalls that "she always smiled and found the best in everyone. They often invited people to their home for dinner. He introduced modern computing to BGSU. He oversaw the start up of the computer science department here. A conference room is named for him in Hayes Hall."

See <http://www.bgsu.edu/departments/math/faculty/page52752.html> and <http://ohio.obituaries.funeral.com/2012/05/15/esther-krabill/> and also see the photo above in Department History for a photo of David Krabill. ■



Math Department in the 1950s:

Front row: *Anna N. Gryting, Clifford A. Long.* Second row: *Dr. F. C. Ogg, Dr. Harold Tinnappel, H. R. Mathias.* Third row: *Dr. Louis Graue, Dr. Bruce R. Vogeli, George Van Zwalenberg.* Fourth row: *Dr. David M. Krabill, Harry Wohler.*

## Fred Rickey (Distinguished Teaching Professor Emeritus)

has retired in July, 2011 from the Department of Mathematical Sciences of the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he has been a faculty member since 1998 after retiring from BGSU. He visited the department October 20, 2011 and treated colleagues, friends, and students to a colloquium talk "The impact of ballistics on mathematics. The work of Robins and Euler in the eighteenth-century." Then October 21-22 he attended the MAA Ohio Section meeting, where he presented "Why do we use "slope" for "m"?" On Monday, October 24 for our department's Calculus Seminar he gave a talk "The Fundamental Theorem of Calculus: History, Intuition, Pedagogy, Proof."

Rickey, a logician turned historian, retired (the second time) "because he could not get any work done while working (and he had graded enough calculus problems)." After earning three degrees from the University of Notre Dame (Ph.D. 1968) he joined Bowling Green State University. He has broad interests in the history of mathematics and is especially interested in the development of the calculus.

Rickey loves teaching and obviously enjoys giving lectures to mathematicians about the history of their field (something he will continue in retirement). He received the first award from the Ohio Section for Distinguished College or University Teaching of Mathematics, and one of the first MAA National Awards for teaching. ■



# Dr. Neal Carothers

retired from BGSU in August 2011, after 24 years of faithful service to the department and university. His career was characterized by a rich intellectual aesthetic, quiet professional achievement, and a deep sense of service.

Neal received the Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 1982, held visiting positions at Wayne State, Texas A&M, and Oklahoma State, before joining our faculty in 1987. His career-long expertise lay in Banach Space theory and Functional Analysis. Over the years he certainly published his share of research articles. But this was not where his real passion lay. "As I saw it," he says, "I was hired to focus on other things, too. I wouldn't mind being remembered as someone who put a lot of effort into his teaching. I tried to approach each new course as a personal learning experience, and I was rarely disappointed".

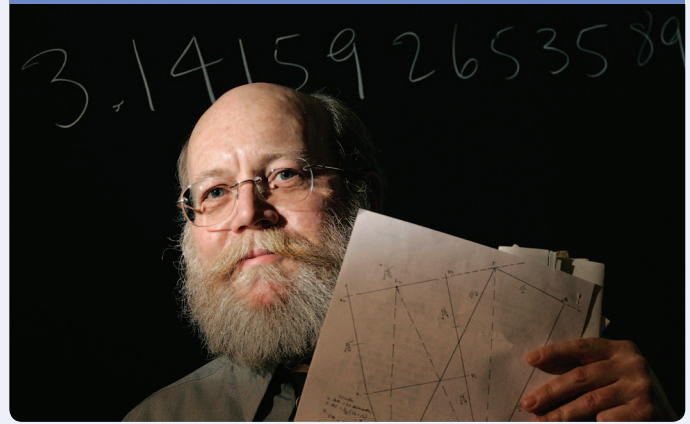
**I was hired to focus on other things, too. I wouldn't mind being remembered as someone who put a lot of effort into his teaching. I tried to approach each new course as a personal learning experience, and I was rarely disappointed.**

In terms of intellectual creativity and scholarly work, Neal found a good balance between publishing journal articles, directing research of students, presenting in seminars, and writing books. For him these were all expressions of his love of mathematics, and his desire to communicate it with others in a generous, artistic sense. An unsolicited review for his first book, appearing in the *Mathematical Gazette*, indicates this. "The overwhelming impression is that *Real Analysis* was a labor of love for the author, written with a genuine reverence for both its beautiful subject matter and its creators, refiners and teachers down the ages. As such - and high praise indeed - it will sit very happily alongside classics such as Apostol's *Mathematical Analysis*, Royden's *Real Analysis*, Rudin's *Real and Complex Analysis* and Hewitt and Stromberg's *Real and Abstract Analysis*."

Neal was also able to transmit this love of mathematics and this aesthetic balance to his students. One of his doctoral advisees, Dr. David Sobiecki (Miami University, Hamilton) writes, "He guided me to a path where my love of teaching could coexist with the requirements of being a real mathematician. I see Neal's influence in my teaching every day, an influence which continues into my career as a textbook writer. I once asked Neal why he was so generous to me in so many ways, and he just shrugged and said, 'One day you'll pass it on to your students.'"

Toward the later stages of his career Neal turned increasingly to activities of service, first as Graduate Coordinator and later as Department Chair. He brought this same thoughtful generosity and effectiveness to these endeavors as he always had to his other professional work.

"I'm certainly proud of everything I did that furthered the cause of our graduate program", he says. Neal conceived of and implemented (with funding from the College) our Summer Fellowship Program.



This continues to benefit our Department to this day. It is an effective recruiting tool, enriches our summer program, and helps students complete their degrees more quickly.

Neal also was quite conscientious in recruitment of a bright and well balanced population of graduate students. He became adept at advocating the advantages of Bowling Green as a place of opportunity and personal support. At one point during his time as Graduate Coordinator, our Department ranked 7th the nation in terms of ratio of female Graduate Assistants.

Neal was also proud of his eight years as Chair, and rightly so. He viewed it as the culmination of his career, and brought his characteristic sense of quality and generosity to the task. "I worked hard at opening up lines of communication with the other science departments", he says, "and I worked hard at improving the Department's image around campus. All the work we did on curriculum reform, placement testing, the math lab, supplemental instruction, etc., was a huge success, I think, and was viewed favorably from all corners. It was a Departmental effort, of course, and some of it can be traced back to Jack Hayden. But I was definitely the public facilitator/apologist for much of it."

During his term as Chair, Neal's contributions to the university extended beyond the walls of the Mathematics and Statistics Department. Dr. Charlie Onasch,

Chair of the School of Earth, Environment, and Society, fondly remembers Neal:

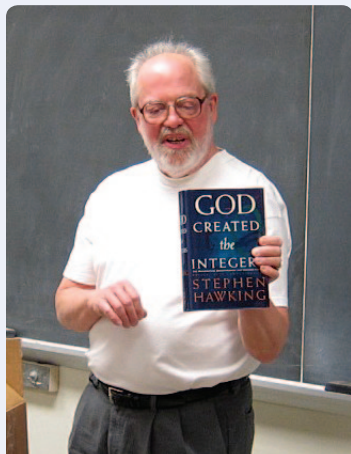
"He was the curmudgeon of the Chairs and Directors. When others would nod blankly in approval of some report or proposal, Neal would say 'Wait a minute' raising good questions regarding its rationale and consequences. He kept us all honest! ... Beneath his seemingly gruff exterior was a Chair that cared deeply about his Department. I don't think that there was a stauncher defender of his or her programs. Neal's concern extended beyond his Department as he would argue for fairness and openness at all levels of the university. This last trait earned him a lot of respect in the administration, and a lot of committee assignments!"

Neal was a great friend to BGSU and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics. He enriched our lives, both personally and professionally, and we have learned a tremendous amount from him. His presence amongst the hallowed halls here at BGSU will be sorely missed and we wish him good luck as he moves on to new challenges. ■

Photo by Andy Morrison, The Toledo Blade for "Pi Day" 2007. The full article is online at <http://www.toledoblade.com/Culture/2007/03/14/Pi-Day-is-something-to-celebrate.html>

## Ray Heitger

retired from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics in 2012, after over 30 years of teaching mathematics. Reflecting on this career Ray wrote "As you know I am in my last days as a Mathematics teacher. I want to say I have thoroughly enjoyed my fourteen (counting spring semester of 1969) years at BGSU. Some I have gotten to know better than others but it has certainly been a pleasure to work with all of you. I intend to play more music (still looking for a steady gig!), visit our nine grandchildren more often, and do some traveling with Elizabeth. On the professional side, I plan on doing some writing and speaking at conferences. (I'm scheduled for OCTM in October.) Perhaps I'll cross paths with some of you at various meetings. I would be available for subbing if I'm around. Like Tom (Hern), I'll work for food. ... I wish all of you continued success in your careers and personal lives. If you see I'm playing somewhere, please stop by and say hello."



**RAY HEITGER** admires a retirement gift from his friends and colleagues, at a reception for family, friends, and colleagues, April 12, 2012.

Ray is leader and clarinetist of the Cakewalkin' Jazz Band, which is billed as Toledo's oldest New Orleans style jazz band. To find out where Ray and the band are playing, check out his web site [www.rayheitger.com](http://www.rayheitger.com). ■

## Mary Koshar

won the 2011 Distinguished Instructor/Lecturer Award. Her accomplishments were publicly recognized on Opening Day, 2011, at the College of Arts and Sciences meeting where Dean Simon Morgan-Russell presented her with a plaque. Mary received \$1,001, for the 1001 things instructors and lecturers do for their students, and a professional development fund of \$500. ■

## Professor Barbara Moses

retired in 2011 from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics after 33 years as a leader in the promotion of math education. In the past decade she has received over \$6 million in external grants for projects aimed at both pre-service and in-service math teachers, from kindergarten through college. She has developed the department's Master of Arts in Teaching program and was the first director of COSMOS (Center of Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education: Opportunities for Success), and the first director of the state Science and Mathematics Education in Action teacher-preparation program. In 2009, she received the Kenneth Cummins Award for Exemplary Teaching of Mathematics at the University Level from the Ohio Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Her long-time colleague Jim Albert recently interviewed Barbara, where she was asked to reflect on her career and comment on some of the challenges and opportunities in mathematics education.

### JA: Why did you decide to go into education?

BM: I have a boring answer to this one. I always, always, always wanted to teach. I loved explaining things. I loved reading. By the time I was in junior high, I knew I wanted to teach. The only question was what level I wanted to teach at. I did teach high school, but I always had questions about how curriculum was sequenced or what other ways a certain topic could be motivated. I wanted to do research in how people learn mathematics. Although I was in a Ph.D. Program in mathematics, I decided that I didn't want to spend the rest of my life just researching mathematics. I wanted to reflect on how individuals process mathematical information. I was very lucky. I spent the last 33 years doing just that.

### JA: What was the most enjoyable aspect of your time at BGSU?

BM: Without a doubt, it was working with students. I loved teaching and working with students outside of class. I loved watching a light go on for a student when he was deciphering a difficult math concept. I liked thinking of different ways to present the same topic and using current events to stimulate discussions about math. It was, however, the audience that I worked for. It's the students that I miss most about being retired.

## Jim Albert

is the new Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports. Jim is featured prominently in an article "At Moneyball U, What are the Odds?" in the Education Life supplement of Nov. 6, 2011 (Sunday) NY Times. In fact, Jim has given several invited talks about Moneyball: at the University of Montana in September, 2011, and a talk titled "Measuring Athletic Performance – The Role of Luck in Sports" as the The James Sehnert Lecture, at Northern Kentucky University in October, 2011. In September, 2012, Jim will be the the Buckingham Scholar at the 40th Annual Mathematics and Statistics Conference at Miami University of Ohio, where he will be giving three talks, each with a sports theme. ■

The NY Times "Moneyball" article is online at [http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/06/education/edlife/at-moneyball-u-what-are-the-odds.html?\\_r=1&ref=edlife](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/06/education/edlife/at-moneyball-u-what-are-the-odds.html?_r=1&ref=edlife)

**JA: What is the best thing about being retired?**

BM: Being able to decide what I want to do and when I want to do it. It is a totally unstructured life.

**JA: What changes have you noticed in undergraduate students in the 30+ years that you have spent at BGSU?**

BM: Students are basically the same. However, in recent years, the lower tier of students lacks motivation and wants to have everything done for them. Unfortunately the majority of the students in college today is only looking for the diploma and is not interested in the beauty of mathematics.

**JA: What are some of the new challenges in mathematics education research?**

BM: Probably the biggest challenge is the role of technology in learning mathematics. Questions abound, such as, "is distance learning as effective as face-to-face instruction?" or "how should software packages like fathom and geometer's sketchpad be used effectively?" How much of instruction should be lecture and how much should be student discovery? Are we training future teachers of mathematics for the classroom of the future?

**JA: What are some of the recent changes in the preparation of early-childhood education majors in teaching mathematics?**

BM: There is much less emphasis on number. The early childhood teacher must be prepared to teach geometry, to teach probability and statistics, even to teach algebra (mostly finding patterns). They will continue to use hands-on manipulatives, but they are encouraged to use a student-centered approach and to use software. They are being encouraged to teach thematically, that is, select a theme like Egypt of 2500 years ago and bring math with history and science and language arts all to the table at once.

**JA: Why do you continue to be a fan of the Pittsburgh Pirates, a team that has had a losing record the last 19 seasons?**

BM: The Pirates had their day back in the 70's, and they will rise again! I remember going to Forbes Field, when I was an undergraduate at Carnegie Mellon. Maybe the Pirates just need me to come to some games now.

**JA: How has technology changed the teaching of mathematics at the elementary level?**

BM: Technology has changed the teaching of mathematics at all levels. At the elementary level, there are software packages for practice that contain cute pictures. The software also suggests remediation so that a student who is making a certain type of error will understand why the answer is incorrect (instead of just seeing a red line through his work). The software can then provide additional problems to determine if the student has

corrected his errors. When a teacher has 25-30 young students in class, it is difficult to provide individual attention to each one. There are also clever software pieces that promote problem solving at the elementary level. There are online activities that really engage students so that the teacher does not have to reinvent the wheel each day. There are virtual manipulatives for students to play with, even though the school does not have the money to buy the actual tools.

**JA: What do you think about the math emporium model for teaching developmental mathematics?**

BM: Only time will tell. These students have been unsuccessful in their attempts at math prior to coming to BGSU. If the assistants at the emporium can spend time with each student, the assistants may be able to motivate the students, and the students will succeed. A computer is not necessarily a panacea.

**JA: Looking back over your career, what accomplishments are you most proud of?**

BM: I am probably most proud of the ACTION program, and being its Director for the first two years until I retired. Although it can only serve 25-30 students per year, the ACTION program is aligned with all the research-based pedagogical approaches that have been shown to bring great results for future teachers of math and science (like teacher as researcher, teacher as a reflective person, teacher as part of larger study group, etc.) I am quite proud of the students in ACTION (the first cohort) who will be seniors next year. I am also proud of being the first Director of COSMOS and being the first Bailey Endowed Professor of Mathematics. I am proud of being a successful grant writer and working with teachers of mathematics at all grade levels.

**JA: What was your favorite course to teach and why?**

BM: I loved teaching geometry since it is such a beautiful subject, highly visible, allowing students to write informal proofs in an intuitive manner. It describes our environment and allows for experimentation. I so enjoyed having students discover Euler's formula or why there are five Platonic solids.

**JA: What advice do you have for a new faculty member who is working in mathematics education?**

BM: It is important to understand your audience. If you are teaching a class that is designed for math education students, make sure that you point out how some of the material being learned might tie in to the elementary, middle or secondary math curriculum. Material that is relevant is much easier to learn. Connections will be formed. ■



## Dr. Jong Pil Lee

(MS 1964 Mathematics) was the commencement speaker at the August, 2011 BGSU commencement. He earned his PhD in 1970 from the University of Alberta, Canada. He is a Professor at the SUNY College at Old Westbury, Department of Mathematics, Computers & Information. Jong Pil Lee has been tireless in his efforts to improve the quality of mathematical education in the United States. A distinguished teaching professor at the State University of New York College at Old Westbury, he has demonstrated incredible initiative and determination in mentoring thousands of students and teachers in mathematics. He was named a Distinguished Service Professor by SUNY in 1990 and he has been a member of the SUNY College at Old Westbury faculty since 1973.

- In 2006, he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Alberta.
- In recognition of his commitment to education and mentoring, he was honored in Washington, D.C. with a prestigious 2005 U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. This Presidential Award recognizes individuals and organizations that have demonstrated a commitment to mentoring students and



increasing the participation of minorities, women, and disabled students in science, mathematics and engineering.

- He is also an inaugural inductee of the Long Island Mathematics Educators Hall of Fame. He gave the introductory speech at the 2006 Long Island Mathematics Conference held at SUNY College at Old Westbury and is president of the LIMC board. He is also a member of the board for the Nassau Mathematics Tournament.

For a more detailed biographical sketch see the article in the sentinel: <http://www.sent-trib.com/front-page/bgsu-grads-make-history> or view his commencement address at [https://dvss.bgsu.edu/public/publicPlayer.php?movie\\_id=b49a1f1efb215346fdcaaa62b1d621f4](https://dvss.bgsu.edu/public/publicPlayer.php?movie_id=b49a1f1efb215346fdcaaa62b1d621f4) ■

**Champike Attanayake** (PhD 2008) is now at Miami University - Middletown. He recently gave a contributed talk at the MAA Ohio Section Meeting in Findlay, OH, October, 2011.

**Mohammad Aziz** (PhD Statistics 2011) is Lecturer at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, CA.

**Lynette Boos** (PhD 2006) is a faculty member at Providence College. Lynette was one of the organizers for MAA Contributed Papers sessions for the January Joint Math. Meetings in Boston, 2012..

**Lihua Cai** (MA Statistics 2011) is a Research Analyst at CAN DO Center, Univ. of California at San Francisco.

**Jeanne Carlson** (BS Math, Economics 1959) is retired and lives in Huntsville, OH. She comments "After college – computer programmer at NCR, Dayton (repair man walked inside computer). M.Ed. at Wright State U., Dayton, and teaching certificate. Retired from Butler High School, Vandalia. Beginning 31st year part time at Sinclair Community College, Dayton. Enjoy teaching technical math with a lab at SCC. Students work together on projects in lab after lecture. Great

idea! – Bob Chaney developed the program. Near the end of the quarter, students program, calibrate, etc. robot SAM (Science and Math) on table."

**John Carson** (PhD 2000) is Chief Statistician at an environmental company in Findlay, Shaw Environmental. He visited the department in August, 2011, and presented an interesting seminar entitled "LCMRL, an Improved Approach to Estimating Quantitation Limits in Analytical Chemistry". John worked for 2 years on the response to the anthrax attacks. He works mainly in spatial and multivariate environmental statistics and in chemometrics. He has several current and past research projects with the USEPA laboratory in Cincinnati related to measurement systems and to drinking water protection. His wife Polona (Kalan) came to BGSU with G. P. Patil in 1999 for six weeks as part of a six month research visit to Penn State. John helped her with her doctoral research in multivariate composite soil sampling. She managed the forest ecology lab at the Slovenian Forestry Institute then returned to BG in 2005 and got an MBA. They were married in 2006, and she now works for the consulting business, P&J Carson Consulting, LLC.

**Emanuel Clayton** (BS Math-Actuarial Science 2005) is Mathematics Specialist/Adjunct Professor of Mathematics at Central State University, Wilberforce, OH. He married Erin Clayton in 2010, and they have two children, Elijah and Ciara. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Education at the Ohio State University.

**Luanne Howsman Frysinger** (BS Math Ed. 1986) is a high school math teacher at Marysville High School in Marysville, OH. She married Eric Frysinger and her daughter Haley Coder is a current undergraduate at BGSU continuing the same career path with a major in secondary math education.

**John Gene Grime** (BS 1967, MAT 1974) taught high school mathematics at Archbold High

School, Ohio, retiring in 1999, and is presently active in various fund-raising activities in Henry County, Ohio.

**Fama (Gearhart) Hanson** (Math and Science Education 1952) is retired as a teacher in public schools and college. She is married to Howard Hanson, Ph.D. She writes "I even baby sat for Dr. Krabill's children. I have taught math at all levels including teaching teachers how to teach math. My master's degree is from Ohio State. We have moved to Fishers, Indiana to be near our grandchildren."

**Tom Hileman** (1995 Mathematics) graduated with a double major in Mathematics and Physics. Upon graduation, Tom joined Ernst & Young, a large prominent consulting firm. He later went on to form his own company, Hileman Enterprises, located in Cleveland. Tom's company has been very successful and he has been very pleased to be able to hire a number of other BGSU graduates. In fact, his company was one featured in the current Spring 2012 issue of "BGSU Magazine" which you probably received (with Olympic gold medalist Dave Wottle on the cover). The article "Alumni Employers Nationwide are Hiring Fellow Falcons" has a nice photo of Tom with some of his BGSU alumni employees on page 18 of that issue. Mathematics and Statistics with the Physics department jointly hosted Tom for a "reunion" visit in February, 2012, where he met with faculty and gave some talks and practical advice to students about mathematics, physics, education, and careers.

To read the Spring 2012 BGSU Magazine article online click "View Magazine" at <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/mc/magazine/2012/spring/page111424.html>

(On the same page at the bottom you can click to watch a video of Dave Wottle's famous winning performance in the 1972 Summer Olympics 800M run – not to be missed!)

# Rob Furia

(Math/Actuarial Science 2012) was one of five Alumni Laureate Scholars at BGSU graduating this year. These high-achieving high school students receive full-tuition and book scholarships, funded by the generosity of BGSU alumni. The program was founded in 2002, with a goal to shape students into leaders.



Rob Furia accepted a position as an actuarial associate at Cincinnati Financial, early in his senior year, after two summers of internship experience with actuarial employers. He has delayed the start of his job until September, planning to spend his summer as an intern at a program in Colorado operated by H2O Church. Active in the religious program throughout college, he now has the opportunity to become mentor to other young adults. Rob has contributed in many student organizations including the Student Alumni Connection, President of the Student Actuarial Club, and intramural sports. For more information about the Alumni Laureate Scholars, see "Scholars Lend Advice to New BGSU Students" at <http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/alumni/news/page112248.html> . ■

**Ashok Kumar** (PhD 1981) is Professor and Interim Head, Math/CS Dept., Valdosta State Univ., Valdosta, GA. "Happily married for thirty-one years. Have two grown-up boys, both working. Have been teaching for the last 25 years at VSU; currently, the interim head."

**Walfredo R. Javier** (PhD 1982) is Professor of Mathematics at Southern University and AM College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**Erica (Army) Lofthouse** (BS Integrated Math 2008) teaches high school mathematics at Van Wert High School in Van Wert, Ohio. She recently earned a Masters degree in Teaching and Learning with concentration in curriculum and instruction from Nova Southeastern University in Lima, OH with her husband Casey Lofthouse, (BGSU Mechanical Design, 2009).

**Karen Murany** (BS Ed., Math major 1965) is Professor of Mathematics at Oakland Community College, Royal Oak Campus, Royal Oak, MI. Her husband Andrew (deceased) graduated from BGSU (BBA 1965; MBA 1966). "I taught 4 years of h.s. in Elmira, NY (Regents Math), then taught 16 years at Lawrence Technological University. Now I have completed 20 years at Oakland Community College. I continue to enjoy teaching and the students and am thankful for the solid math instruction I had at BGSU."

**Alton J. Myers** (MA CS and Math 1970) is a retired teacher and minister. He writes "In the summer of 1964, I enrolled at BGSU as a graduate student while teaching high school science and math. Besides education courses my subjects included a math class taught by Dr. Frank Ogg. I believe it was the last class he taught before retirement ... I went to BGSU summers and winter nights to work on my Master of Arts degree in comprehensive science and math ..." After receiving a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Dubuque, after 21 years as Minister he returned to BGSU in 1997 to study writing through the SAGE program. "I think two of my historical fiction books are still in Jerome Library on campus: Calico Dance and Sizzlin' Summer Surprise."

**Jeffrey Nank** (BS Ed. Mathematics/Physics 1969) is IT Supervisor (retired), Lockheed Martin, Akron, OH. He is married to BGSU alumna Susan O'Linn Nank (BA International Studies, 1969) and writes "After 3 years in the U.S. Air Force, taught math in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio for 11 years. Interest in computers led to a programming job for 2 years, then a computer support job at Goodyear Aerospace, then LORAL Corp., and finally Lockheed Martin. I retired from Lockheed Martin in Dec. 2009 with 24 years of service."

**Dr. Richard H. Neff** (MA Mathematics 1968) is retired as Asst. Prof. of Mathematics, Messiah College, Grantham, PA, and resides

in Fairfax, VA with his wife Ava. He has a Dr. of Education from Temple University. "After teaching math for 30 years I retired from Messiah College Dept. of Mathematics in June, 1998; moved from Mechanicsburg, PA to Fairfax to be near our grandchildren. Since retirement I have been doing oil painting and I play banjo in several bands. We have a daughter and 2 grandchildren in Arlington, VA. We also have a son and 4 grandchildren living in France. I was a graduate assistant at BGSU from 1966-1968. It was my first experience teaching higher education and I loved it!"

**Adam Roberts** (PhD 2005) is department Chair at Clarion U., Clarion, PA.

**Thomas Rodgers** (BS Math Ed. 1963) is retired as mathematics teacher and resides in Anaheim, CA. "I taught math for 48 years. 3 years in Ohio and 45 years in Anaheim, CA. The last 7 years I taught adult education. The first 41 years were public school education. I was California Teacher of the Year in 2002 for the Anaheim Union High School District. I was Department Chairman for 20 years at the Junior High School. I had Dr. Ogg for Projective Geometry and Dr. Vogeli was my advisor and instructor for two classes."

**Michael Sarver** (PhD 2006) received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at Cedar Crest College, Allentown, PA. Cedar Crest is a liberal arts college founded in 1867. It has 1400 students and 90 full time faculty.

**Rob Schimmoeller** (BS Sec. Math. Ed. 1998; M. Ed.-Admin 2002) is a mathematics teacher at B-C-S Local Schools/Oak Harbor High School. He is married to Cindy Schimmoeller (BGSU 1999) and lives in Oak Harbor, OH. He is Head Baseball Coach, Asst. Football Coach, formerly Head Soccer Coach, and 2010 State of Ohio Soccer Coach of the Year.

**Irina Seceleanu** (PhD 2010) received the 2011-2012 Distinguished Dissertation Award from the BGSU Graduate College, for her dissertation "Hypercyclic Operators and Their Orbital Limit Points," under the supervision of Kit Chan.

**Dan Shifflet** (PhD 2011) is a new faculty member at Clarion University., Clarion, PA.

**Ron Taylor** (PhD 2000) recently received two of the three most prestigious awards from Berry College in NW Georgia where he is now Associate Professor of Mathematics: The Dave and Lu Garrett Award for Meritorious Teaching and the Martindale Award of Distinction. The Garrett is awarded based on student and alumni nominations and the Martindale is awarded based on faculty and staff nominations. Ron visited the department recently on May 28-29, 2012.

**Janell (Brinkers) Vickers** (BS Math, BS CS, 1974; MBA 1982) holds the title Lean Six Sigma Black Belt, and is employed at Mercy Catholic Health Partners Physician Enterprises (Toledo, Lima), and is married to Dave Vickers, residing in Perysburg, OH.

**Burma (Vanlandingham) Williams** (BS Mathematics 1965), former chair of the high school mathematics department in DeWitt, Michigan until 1973. She is married to Richard S. Williams, Ph.D. and currently resides in Spokane, WA. She has been an independent private math tutor in Pullman, WA for 25 years and is an associate researcher with her spouse in ancient Roman politics and Roman

## Alumni News, continued

Mathematics. She currently is a volunteer math tutor in the 2-12 grade tutor program at Gonzaga University in Spokane. "... I chaired the math dept. and taught math and physics at DeWitt, Michigan until 1973 ... Eventually we ended up in Pullman, WA, where my husband was the ancient historian from 1974 through May,

2011. Together we researched & published scholarly papers in late Republican Roman Politics (in ancient times) and ancient Roman Math. ... Our daughter Elizabeth was born in Pullman in 1975. She now lives in Cardiff, Wales... "

**Larry G. Williams** (BS Math 1966; MA Math 1968) is retired

Professor of Mathematics at Schoolcraft College, Livonia, MI. "I taught mathematics for 2 years at Findlay Univ. in Findlay, OH and I taught 37 years at Schoolcraft College. There I developed the math statistics course, taught the first interactive TV (remote) class and served as chairman of the department. I am now retired

and living in South Carolina where during the school year I tutor around 10 students. I was fortunate to have classes from Dr. Ogg shortly before he retired."

**Guangyuan Yang** (PhD 2012) is Senior Statistician at Capitol One, in Richmond, VA. ■

## Recent PhDs

**Tumpa Bhattacharyya** (Ph.D. in Mathematics, 2011) "Filters on Positive Cone of Lattice Ordered Groups" supervised by Warren McGovern.

**Kevin Rion** (Ph.D. in Mathematics, 2011) "Dense Orbits of the Aluthga Transform" supervised by Juan Bes.

**Mohammad Aziz** (Ph.D. in Statistics, 2011) "Study of Unified Multivariate Skew Normal Distribution with Applications in Finance and Actuarial Science" supervised by Arjun Gupta.

**Stephen Dinda** (Ph.D. in Statistics, 2011) "Predicting RNA Mutation Using 3D Structure" supervised by Craig Zirbel.

**Melanie Henthorn** (Ph.D. in Mathematics 2011) "Examples of Diagonal Operators that Fail Spectral Synthesis on Spaces of Functions Analytic in a Region" supervised by Steve Seubert.

**Kate Overmoyer** (Ph.D. in Mathematics 2011) "Applications of Entire Function Theory to the Spectral Synthesis of Diagonal Operators" supervised by Steve Seubert.

**David Rumsey** (Ph.D. in Mathematics 2012) "Error Analysis of RKDG Methods for 1-D Hyperbolic" supervised by Tong Sun.

**Daniel Shifflet** (Ph.D. in Mathematics 2011) "Optimally Clean Rings" supervised by Warren McGovern.

**Qie Li** (Ph.D. in Statistics 2012) "A Bayesian Hierarchical Model for Multiple Comparisons in Mixed Models" supervised by Junfeng Shang.

**Junvie Pailden** (Ph.D. in Statistics 2012) "Applications of Empirical Likelihood to Zero-Inflated Data" supervised by Hanfeng Chen.

**Yinna Wang** (Ph.D. in Statistics 2012) "Efficient Stepwise Procedures for Minimum Effective Dose Under Heteroscedasticity" supervised by John Chen.

**Guangyuan Yang** (Ph.D. in Statistics 2012) "The Energy Goodness-of-Fit Test for Univariate Stable Distributions" supervised by Maria Rizzo. ■