



Sen. Lugar leads off country's largest geothermal energy project

Calling it "a bold endeavor" with significant consequences for the energy future of Indiana and the nation, U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) initiated work on the country's largest geothermal energy project May 9 on the Ball State University campus.

Joined by President Jo Ann M. Gora and in the company of members of the Ball State Board of Trustees, local government leaders and other invited dignitaries and friends of the university, Lugar pushed the button activating a large drilling machine that carved out several feet of the first of up to 4,000 boreholes at the heart of the planned system.

Within a decade, the university expects to heat and cool via geothermal means more than 40 buildings on its 660-acre campus, realizing significant annual energy savings and cutting carbon emissions by approximately 80,000 tons per year.

Lugar, long a proponent of greater U.S. energy efficiency and independence, was on hand for the unusual groundbreaking by virtue of his presence as the principal speaker at Ball State's 155th Commencement exercises conducted earlier in the morning on Old Quad. In addition to conferring degrees upon approximately 2,500 undergraduate and graduate students at the annual spring ceremony, Gora presented Indiana's senior senator — after 32 years on Capitol Hill now the ranking Republican in the Senate — with the President's Medal of Distinction, one of the two highest honors the university can bestow. Lugar, a former Rhodes Scholar, also received an honorary doctor of laws degree from Ball State in 1986.

"Innovative technologies will only take hold and produce more jobs if consumers and investors believe in them. People have to see that the technology works and that it can save them money," said Lugar, citing a recent study by the Department of Energy that suggests aggressive deployment of geothermal technology could save Americans as much as \$38 billion by 2030, just a generation from now.

"This campus is making an extraordinary contribution to demonstrating the viability of geothermal technology. In the coming years, it will be swarmed with scientists, engineers, tradesmen, investors, and students anxious to learn from your experience."

Leading the way

To be implemented in stages, the geothermal system eventually will replace Ball State's four aging, coal-fired stoker boilers, slashing the university's energy costs by some \$2 million annually while reducing its overall carbon footprint by roughly half.

The price of the project is estimated at \$65 million to \$70 million. Yet, as a result of the current economic climate, university officials anticipate a highly competitive bid process that could result in a highly favorable final cost.

"At the beginning of this academic year, we launched with great fanfare our new capital campaign, Ball State Bold," reflected Gora. "With help from Sen. Lugar, we conclude the year in similar, exciting fashion, and prove once again that the university's innovative and entrepreneurial thinking is more than mere words.

"The spirit that drives us to pioneer new ways of learning in higher education and explore blossoming technologies is the same that drives us to lead the way in demonstrating that geothermal energy is an economically viable and environmentally advantageous energy source of the future."

With memories of \$147 per barrel oil and price spikes for other fuel sources such as coal fresh in their minds, members of the university's Board of Trustees approved the geothermal alternative in February. Key among the factors influencing that historic decision were early efforts by Lugar and his staff to put campus officials in contact with geothermal experts from Oak Ridge National Laboratory as well as the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), who confirmed that such a system is both feasible and, over the long term, cost effective.

Already receiving inquiries

With worldwide energy demand expected to rise by as much as 20 percent (U.S. demand by as much as 30 percent) within the next few decades, Lugar has warned that "in the absence of revolutionary changes in energy policy" we also risk "multiple hazards for our country that could constrain living standards, undermine our foreign policy and leave us highly vulnerable to economic and political disaster."

However, he also cites the more positive news of fresh research indicating that the growth rate in worldwide energy consumption could be cut in half over the next 15 years if households, commercial enterprises and industry take aggressive energy efficiency actions.

And already the university is receiving inquiries from other institutions across the country interested in its geothermal initiative, reports Jim Lowe, director of engineering and operations, who is heading up Ball State's project.

"This provides a great opportunity for us to show the U.S. that this works, that you can install a large system of this nature and with that, the fear factor is gone," said Lowe.

'Broad education perspective' makes Jacobson new Teachers College dean

John E. Jacobson has been named the new dean of Teachers College at Ball State University. Provost Terry King announced the culmination of the university's search for a new dean to succeed Roy Weaver in a message to the faculty May 15.

Jacobson currently is dean of the James I. Perkins College of Education at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, where he has served since 2003.

An accomplished scholar and researcher, Jacobson has extensive experience in higher education, having also previously served in a variety of roles at Texas Christian University, the University of Texas at Arlington and The University of Missouri-Kansas City, King noted.

Prior to his career in higher education, Jacobson was an elementary school teacher and principal at Sage Creek and Westside schools in Spanish Fork, Utah, from 1975-90.

"Dr. Jacobson brings a broad education perspective and understanding of how Teachers College can fit into a national context," said King, adding "he has the credentials and skills for advancing the goals of the university's strategic plan. We are eager to welcome him to campus."

Jacobson earned his bachelor's, master's, education specialist and doctoral degrees at Brigham Young University. He is a reading specialist by training and has published frequently on the topic, focusing particularly on elementary school students.

King said that Jacobson earns wide praise from colleagues for his leadership and is noted especially for his high-quality accreditation practices — as evidenced by consistently superior marks from the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) at both Stephen F. Austin and the University of Missouri-Kansas City, where he was associate dean of the School of Education from 2000 to 2003.

Jacobson succeeds longtime Teachers College Dean Roy Weaver, a Ball State alumnus who returned to his alma mater in 1980 and was tapped as dean of the college in 1993. During his tenure, which King characterized as "superb," the college established the Indiana Academy for Science, Math, and Humanities and further developed Burris Laboratory School, which in 2007 received Blue Ribbon School designation from the U.S. Department of Education and was named among the nation's best high schools by U.S. News and World Report.

The university's successful Electronic Field Trip (EFT) program that has transported millions of schoolchildren worldwide to historic places and scenic wonders through Web-based lessons and live, interactive television broadcasts, also is Weaver's brainchild, King pointed out. So, too, is the requirement — a first on campus — that every student in the college have a laptop computer.

Other students at Ball State who now must submit an e-portfolio of their creative work in order to complete their degree requirements also can thank Weaver, King said.

"Roy is quick to credit others with the successes in Teacher's College while he has been at the helm," he added. "But I am certain the college would not have the reputation for excellence it enjoys today without Roy's dedication and guidance. The university is indebted to him for his service."

King was happy to report, too, that although he is retiring as dean effective June 30, Weaver will remain a member of the TC faculty in the Department of Educational Studies.

Health insurance premiums, honorary degree busy Board of Trustees

The cost of health care nationwide continues to rise at a rate higher than inflation. According to Randy Howard, associate vice president for finance and assistant treasurer, the university expects a 7.2 percent increase in overall expenses next year. In order to fund these increased costs, the Board of Trustees approved new rates for health insurance premiums at its May 14 meeting.

Ball State offers its employees multiple health insurance plans and each offers a robust level of benefits. In addition, the employee pays only 25 percent of the total premium cost, with the university contributing the remaining 75 percent. The same percentage changes in rates will apply to both the university's and employees' shares.

Howard explained that around 85 percent of Ball State employees are enrolled in the university's low deductible preferred provider organization (PPO) health plan. With the start of the new fiscal year, 12-month employees in the plan will see their monthly premiums increase by 7.7 percent from \$156.20 to \$168.22 for single person coverage, and from \$405.46 to \$436.38 for families. (Employees on 10-month contracts will experience premium increases from \$187.44 to \$201.86 per month for single coverage and from \$486.56 to \$524.02 for families.)

On the other hand, for 12-month employees who've opted to participate in Ball State's high deductible wellness option, monthly premiums actually will decrease 7.5 percent from \$108.86 to \$100.70 for singles and from \$282.58 to \$261.40 for family coverage. Employees using Ball State's high deductible health savings account (HSA) option also will see monthly premiums decrease by 15 percent from \$78.84 to \$67.00 for single coverage and from \$204.68 to \$173.98 for families.

It is the second year in a row that employees in those two plans will experience reductions in their premiums, observed Howard. Stressing that the choice of plans is a personal matter and each individual should consider the costs and benefits of each plan, given nationwide trends in health care costs and the current financial situation, he said the university is pleased to offer options such as the wellness and HSA options with significantly lower premiums.

In related action, the board voted to discontinue the university's "traditional" health care plan, effective July 1. The plan has seen a continual decline in participation and currently fewer than 40 employees and retirees are registered. Its elimination could save the university and the affected employees more than \$400,000 annually, Howard said. More importantly, the change will not affect the employees' choice of providers or level of service.

One of the university's existing plans, the low deductible PPO plan, will allow affected employees to access the same providers they currently use at the same or lower overall cost. In addition, those choosing providers that are "in network" can realize further savings.

All current members of the traditional plan are being contacted personally to discuss their options, said Howard, indicating they will automatically be transferred into the low deductible PPO option unless they opt for an alternative plan during the open enrollment period that concludes May 29.

Another significant change impacting all of the university's health plan options is the determination that services and/or supplies related to the treatment of nicotine abuse from tobacco or other sources, which are not currently covered, will be included beginning with the 2009-10 fiscal year.

The step is the latest in the university's ongoing efforts to help employees who smoke or otherwise use tobacco products to kick the habit, observed President Jo Ann M. Gora. In 2007, at her urging, the board voted to make Ball State smoke-free except for a small number of designated outdoor smoking areas scattered across campus where students and others still may light up.

"We've made great progress in helping many of our employees who smoke or use other tobacco products make healthier choices," Gora said, noting the university's expanded schedule of smoking cessation classes and additional support measures for employees wanting to quit, including the availability in-person or by phone of smoking intervention coaches. "I applaud our trustees for this latest commitment to improving the overall health and welfare of the campus community, and I hope that any employees still using tobacco but wishing to quit will take advantage of this new opportunity to break free."

Astronaut honored

The board also approved the granting of an honorary doctor of science degree to NASA astronaut Richard Linnehan at the university's December 2009 Commencement ceremony.

A veteran of four space shuttle flights since 1996, Linnehan — a doctor of veterinary medicine (Ohio State, 1985) — has spent almost 60 days in space while orbiting the Earth nearly 1,000 times. He's also performed six spacewalks, including three during shuttle Columbia's 2002 service mission to the Hubble Space Telescope and another three

during his last trip into space in March 2008 aboard Endeavor for an assembly mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

His relationship with Ball State stems from NASA's long collaboration with the Human Performance Laboratory (HPL) on research that has, in the words of Provost Terry King, "resulted in valuable knowledge for the health and well-being of persons involved in space exploration."

Linnehan also has been a guest lecturer, researcher and teacher on campus, observed King.

Also on the agenda

In other business, the board members also

- voted in favor of tenure for 26 faculty members
- approved the promotions of faculty members in the Colleges of Applied Sciences and Technology (4), Architecture and Planning (5), Fine Arts (3), Sciences and Humanities (18) and Teachers College (3).
- approved continuation of the University Endowment Fund for the purpose of receiving, investing and disbursing at the discretion of the president unrestricted gifts made directly to Ball State University
- authorized the vice president for business affairs to execute the necessary documents providing a loan guaranty for the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity house at Ball State approved citations honoring Kellie Conrad '09, student trustee, for her service on the board from 2007 to 2009, as well as the Ball State women's basketball team for the squad's highly successful 2008-09 campaign, which produced a 26-9 season record, a Mid-American Conference championship and a first-ever appearance in the NCAA tournament, where the team defeated two-time defending national champion Tennessee in the first round.

Study finds less support for Indiana's cultural events from public, private sectors

Cost-conscious Hoosiers may be staying closer to home during this recession to enjoy nearby museums, parks and zoos, but Indiana's multibillion dollar cultural tourism industry is still suffering, says a new report from Ball State University.

"Cultural Tourism in Indiana: The Impact and Clustering of the Arts and Creative Services in this Recession" provides a county-by-county analysis of the state's cultural activities.

The recently completed report by Ball State's Center for Business and Economic Research (CBER) may be found in current studies and publications at www.bsu.edu/cber.

There are indications that state and local governments as well as endowments are significantly reducing much-needed financial support for the cultural sector, said Michael

Hicks, CBER director who co-authored the study with Nalitra Thaiprasert, a Ball State research economist.

"Indiana enjoys a wide variety of cultural tourism activity, but for many operations, we are at a critical financial standpoint," he said. "We have financially strapped communities shutting down swimming pools for the summer or museums being forced to reduce hours and staffing. This summer, we may have people wanting to do things, but there may be fewer options."

Cultural tourism employs 43,000

The report finds that cultural tourism in Indiana, which includes county fairs, theater productions, artistic works, architecture, movies, festivals and museums, accounts for more than \$4.9 billion in economic activity while employing more than 43,000 workers.

Activities tied to cultural tourism generate more than \$1.6 billion in value-added production and pay almost \$43 million in business related taxes (sales, income, property and license fees) annually.

The majority of Indiana's cultural attractions cluster in the state's two largest metropolitan areas of Indianapolis and the northwest counties stretching from Lake to Elkhart. Universities also play a significant role in the arts and creative sectors, with the top destinations located on or near college campuses.

Not all gloom and doom

However, the report is not all gloom and doom, Hicks said, pointing out that historical data shows that traditional tourism — some of which is arts related — will suffer less than the economy as a whole because people will choose to travel a short distance, cutting their costs by not staying in hotels or motels.

"Indiana's amusement parks and other similar activities are even less sensitive to changes in Hoosier incomes than in national incomes," he said. "This may mean that in-state tourists are even less influenced by overall economic conditions when choosing an amusement park than out-of-state visitors."

Best and brightest bagging bigger rewards

The old wisdom about reaping what you sow is gaining fresh evidence this spring at Ball State, where surging numbers of undergraduates and recent alumni who've benefited from the university's strategic drive to attract more high-achieving students are capturing increasingly large and prestigious postgraduate awards.

Showing the way is Ashley Keith, a 2009 graduate with a degree in computer science and criminal justice and criminology. An Honors College Scholar at Ball State, Keith is the

recipient of both a National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowship — the university's first since 1996 — and the Federal Cyber Service Scholarship for Service.

The NSF fellowship provides a \$30,000 annual stipend and a yearly cost-of-education allowance of \$10,500 for up to three years of graduate study. The Federal Cyber Service award, made jointly by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and the NSF covers tuition, room and board, and books for two years of study, includes a \$12,000 annual stipend and a paid internship. In return, scholarship winners commit to two years of service with a government agency after graduation.

In fall 2009, Keith will enter the information security technology and management program at Carnegie Mellon University's Information Networking Institute.

At first, the unusual circumstance of Keith having won two postgraduate awards sponsored by the NSF raised questions as to whether the young computer whiz from Fairfield, Ohio, would be able to accept both grants simultaneously, reported Barbara Stedman, director of national and international scholarships and Honors Fellow. In the end, though, she said it was agreed that because the NSF Research Fellowship could be deferred, Keith will use the Cyber Service Scholarship to complete her master's degree and hold the NSF Research Fellowship until her doctoral program.

Tough competition

Also planning on pursuing a doctoral degree is math and physics major Neal Coleman '10, named the recipient of a 2009 Goldwater Scholarship, the nation's top undergraduate award for students aiming toward careers in mathematics, science or engineering with a focus on research.

In addition to his double major, Coleman — an Honors College student and Whiting Scholar — carries a minor in mathematical economics. He intends to earn his Ph.D. in mathematical physics en route to a university level teaching and research position.

Making Coleman's Goldwater selection especially notable was the increased competition for scholarships awarded this year, said Stedman. In part because of the downturn in the economy, the Goldwater committee trimmed the awards given by almost 10 percent from the number distributed in 2008.

Also this year, December '08 graduate Brittany Moser was named the winner of a 2009 James Madison Fellowship. Established by Congress in 1986, the Madison program is one of the most prestigious in the nation, encouraging students majoring in history and social studies education to pursue teaching careers. Although approximately 50 senior fellowships are awarded to current teachers each year, Stedman said only eight or nine junior fellowships are given to graduating seniors or recent graduates, such as Moser, who haven't yet begun to teach. The grant provides \$24,000 toward the cost of a master's degree.

Pretty clear trend

Stedman considers the success of Keith, Coleman and Moser as "proof of what we've been doing recently in terms of recruiting these kinds of high-achieving students."

"The strategic plan that calls for attracting more of these students, helping them with scholarships, directing them to the Honors College ... it's only a few of years old," said Stedman. "But already I think we're starting to see a pretty clear trend where Ball State students are competing with the best of their peers around the country for many of these prestigious awards."

Helping bring the illustrious name "Fulbright" to Ball State again this year is Katie Bostdorff, a senior telecommunications major, who will experience her Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship in Indonesia during the 2009-10 academic year. Meanwhile, Lindsay Bacurin, a 2006 graduate with a degree in landscape architecture and urban planning, will be going to India for a year — courtesy of her Fulbright U.S. Student Grant — to investigate the built environment's influence on culture and use of social space as seen in two cities, Ahmedabad and Chandigarh.

International immersion also is a key feature of the Rotary International Scholarships won by senior Spanish education major Leslie Collins as well as her classmate, Spanish and English major Thiana Rarick, Stedman said. Collins is bound for Mexico for six months of intensive language study, while Rarick will invest the next year in graduate level study in English-Spanish translation in Argentina.

Both students also will serve as goodwill ambassadors during their time abroad, carrying out service projects they have designed and giving presentations about the United States to local Rotary clubs and other groups in their respective host countries.

Meanwhile, rising senior Lauren Hack had been awarded a Boren Scholarship by the National Security Education Program (NSEP) that will fund a year of study in Peru.

Hack, another Honors College student, is a natural resources and environmental management major carrying a minor in Spanish. During her stay in Peru, she plans to enhance her language skills (not only in Spanish, but also some of the regional Quechuan dialects) while taking coursework regarding natural resources management in that South American and Pacific Rim nation. After graduating from Ball State, she hopes to find a position with the U.S. State Department or Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), focusing her career on water and soil quality issues in underdeveloped countries.

And still to learn whether she will receive the National Public Radio/Kroc Fellowship for which she is a finalist is 2008 graduate Sarah Marty, added Stedman. The former WBST radio staffer, an English major, will find out this summer whether she'll soon get to spend a full year learning and training at NPR headquarters in Washington, D.C.

History professor honored to receive Lawhead Award

Carolyn Malone, associate professor of history, is the 2009 recipient of Lawhead Award for Teaching in the University Core Curriculum.

"I was honored and excited to hear that I was selected as the recipient of this award, especially since there are so many excellent people teaching core curriculum courses at Ball State," said Malone, who has taught History 150, Western World history, at Ball State for 14 years.

The Lawhead Award is presented annually to a member of the Ball State faculty and is based on teaching evaluations, contribution to the core curriculum, freshmen activities, service to the community and support letters from faculty and students.

The award was established courtesy of gifts from Victor Lawhead, former dean of Ball State's undergraduate programs, and his wife, Doris Lawhead, a former academic adviser.

Malone served on the University Core Curriculum Task Force II that created the university's new core curriculum. She played a leading role in developing a revised History 150 course for the new core curriculum.

"In History 150, I teach students about key developments, problems and issues in history with the hope that they will think critically about them and see that they are relevant to the world they live in today," Malone said. "Such reflection, I think, is a crucial part of a student's intellectual and personal growth. Isn't that what the university experience should be about?"

Malone was pleased to be nominated for the award by Tony Edmonds, the George and Frances Ball distinguished professor of history and a previous winner of the Lawhead Award.

"I appreciate the nomination just as I appreciate the ways in which he has supported and encouraged my work as a teacher over the years," she said.

Malone says the Lawhead Award is important because the core curriculum is a significant part of the university experience. The University Core Curriculum covers subjects such as writing, math, history and the arts and serves as the foundation for students' collegiate education.

Theater student recognized at Kennedy Center competition, keeps five-year string intact

Marcie Greene, a Ball State senior theater major, with an emphasis in design and technology, was selected as the most outstanding student lighting designer in the country at the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) in Washington, D.C. Her national awards include the Barbizon Award for Theatrical Design Excellence in Lighting Design and the National O'Neill Design Fellowship.

"The Barbizon Award is the most coveted and prestigious award presented to theater design students," said Bill Jenkins, chair of the Department of Theatre and Dance. "Marcie was also the only student recognized by the resident artistic staff of the O'Neill Playwrights Conference during the festival."

Greene is the fifth-consecutive student from Ball State's Department of Theatre and Dance to attend the prestigious KCACTF competition. The KCACTF is a national theater program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities across the country with the aim of improving the quality of college theater in the United States.

"The fact that Marcie is the fifth recipient from Ball State University speaks volumes about the spectacular strength of this department," said Ball State President Jo Ann M. Gora. "Awards of this caliber demonstrate that the education we provide our students is exactly what they need to succeed on a national level."

Greene attributes her success to the professors, mentors and friends within the Department of Theatre and Dance. She said she is very fortunate to have found a place where she can thrive as an artist and a developing individual.

"We are all incredibly proud of Marcie and the work she has done over her career at Ball State," Jenkins added.

After graduation, Greene plans to travel to Illinois to work as the master electrician for the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Following that, she plans to move to Chicago to pursue her design career.

ON CAMPUS

Mark your calendar for the annual family picnic

Mark your calendar for the 5th Annual Ball State Family Picnic on Thursday, June 18, from 4–7 p.m. on the Quad. Plan to bring your family and enjoy great food, fun games and activities for all ages, door prizes, and live music.

Reservation forms will be distributed in the coming weeks.

Fourth Red Carpet department honored

Provost Terry King presents the Department of Educational Psychology with an award for being named a Red Carpet Department winner.

The Department of Educational Psychology was recognized as the fourth Red Carpet Department of 2009. This new customer service recognition commenced in January and will continue for the remainder of the year. It is intended to recognize a university department that best exemplifies the Roll Out the Red Spirit of Service.

Staff members of the Department of Educational Psychology demonstrate "simplifying, owning, and showing you care" by going out of their way to meet with prospective students and parents who drop in the department without an appointment.

As a Red Carpet Department, Educational Psychology was awarded a framed certificate signed by President Jo Ann M. Gora. Terry King, provost and vice president for academic affairs presented the award to Lisa Huffman, chairperson, Department of Educational Psychology, and her staff on May 1.

Nominations for the Red Carpet Department recognition are due by the 20th of each month in order to be honored the following month and may be submitted online to Andy Gothreau, assistant director of human resources, training and development, agothreau@bsu.edu. Contact Gothreau for more information or visit the Roll Out the Red Spirit of Service Web site, www.bsu.edu/rolloutthered.

Service Superstar for April named

Provost Terry King presents Kristin Ramsey, box office supervisor and marketing/schedule coordinator for the Department of Theatre and Dance, with an award for being named Service Super Star for April.

Kristin Ramsey is Ball State's Service Super Star for April. Ramsey is the box office supervisor and marketing/scheduling coordinator for the Department of Theatre and Dance. She was nominated as a Roll Out the Red Service Super Star by Andrea Sadler, special projects and recruitment coordinator, Department of Theatre and Dance.

According to Sadler, Ramsey treats each patron with respect and dignity as if he or she is "the only customer she has to assist at the moment" and is especially helpful taking care of patrons with special needs.

As the Service Super Star of the Month, Ramsey was awarded a stadium blanket with an embroidered Roll Out the Red logo. Terry King, provost and vice president for academic affairs, presented the award to Kristin on May 1.

A Service Super Star will be selected monthly throughout 2009. Nominations are due by the 20th of each month in honor to be honored the following month. They can be submitted online by completing the form on the Roll Out the Red Web site — www.bsu.edu/rolloutthered. Contact Andy Gothreau, 5-1819, if you have any questions about any of the Roll Out the Red Spirit of Service initiatives.

IN THE NEWS

Mike Bloxham, director of Insight and Research the Center for Media Design Bloxham was quoted in an April 21 BizReport article, "Television Still Tops With Consumers." A report from the Council for Research Excellence by Ball State's Center for Media Design and Sequent Partners said consumers between 45 and 54 years of age

still consume most of their weekly video from the television. They consume more than 9.5 hours of television per day compared to other consumers who watch more than 8.5 hours per day. "It's not a study about TV or the Web or any other medium it's about how, where, how often and for how long consumers are exposed to all media," Bloxham said.

Harry Eggink, professor of architecture

The Indianapolis Business Journal quoted Eggink in an April 25 article, "Dreaming of Mass Transit: Ball State Students Rethink Existing Rail Lines, Delve Into Urban Renewal." Eggink's graduate students developed concepts for six train-station developments up and down the Nickel Plate, which runs from Noblesville to downtown Indianapolis. It's been chosen by city officials as the first regional transit corridor to be built — assuming funding can be nailed down. "When you have a transit opportunity, you have a totally new architectural plan," he said.

Michael Daehn, assistant professor in theater education

WRTV-6 quoted Daehn in an April 29 broadcast, "Music Strikes Therapeutic Chord With Special Needs Kids, Children Blossom In 3-Month Program." Ball State's Prism Project used performing arts to help children with disabilities perform on stage. The program paired performing arts students with the children. "I spent three months learning to love these 20 kids that are in the show," Daehn said. "They are so heartwarming."

President Jo Ann M. Gora

Inside Indiana Business quoted Gora in a May 4 article, "Geothermal Project Starts at Ball State." Sen. Richard Lugar will ceremonially start construction at Ball State of the country's largest geothermal heating and cooling system on May 9. Before the groundbreaking, he will be the principal speaker at Commencement. Lugar will also be presented with the President's Medal of Distinction. "Sen. Lugar's office was instrumental in connecting us early on with geothermal experts from Oak Ridge National Laboratory as well as the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), who confirmed not only that such a system is feasible on campus, but also that it offers tremendous energy savings for Ball State in the future," Gora said. "In light of such leadership during his 32 years on Capitol Hill, including his service as former chairman and now ranking member of the important Senate Foreign Relations Committee, it's not difficult to understand why Time magazine lists Sen. Lugar among its '10 Best' senators. Or why we should be so honored and pleased to have him be such a major part of what promises to be another exciting and history-making day for Ball State."

Michael Hicks, director of the Center for Business and Economic Research

The New York Times quoted Hicks in an April 23 article, "As Housing Market Dips, More in U.S. Are Staying Put." Fewer Americans are moving, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The number of people moving decline to 35.2 million from March 2007 to March 2008, the lowest number since 1962, when the nation had 120 million fewer

people. "I think it will be well into next year before we see any growth in migration, and that still may be optimistic," Hicks said. "If the stock market rebounds before the housing market, we might see a scramble for retirement housing." The story was also published by the Washington Post, Sarasota (Fla.) Herald-Times, Orlando Sentinel and 11 other media outlets.

Michael Hanley, assistant professor of journalism

Hanley was quoted in an April 28 WIBC-FM broadcast, "Ball State Professor Has Sexting Study." In recent months, dozens of teenagers have been charged with crimes related to sexting, sending nude or semi-nude photos via cell phone. The arrests have shocked parents, school officials and communities, Hanley said. "The digital version of love letters that include nude pictures is becoming common for many teens," he said. "But, instead of getting just a broken heart, teens are getting busted by the law. The results are causing serious review of pornography laws and enforcement across the nation." This story was also featured on WTHR-13.

Jeff Seitz, audio and digital systems engineer

Seitz was quoted in an April 29 Consumer Electronics Net article, "Ball State University Installs Second Aviom Pro16 Monitor Mixing System." Ball State's Music Technology Program installed an Aviom Pro16 Monitor Mixing System in Studio Two that is identical to the system in Studio One. A music business sequence will be introduced in fall 2009. "The theory and application of recording is taught in the recording classes," Seitz said. "Learning to do a headphone mix is certainly part of the process. I chose Aviom for our students because of its technical specification and ease of use."

SPOTLIGHT

Recognitions

Chu-yuan Cheng, Department of Economics, included in Marquis' "Who's Who in the World," 2009 edition, and "Who's Who in America," 2009 edition.

Rita Stewart, Conferences and Special Events, awarded the Jack Thornton Distinguished Service Award from the Association of Collegiate Conference and Event Directors International.

Publications

Chu-yuan Cheng, Department of Economics, "An Appraisal on the Economic Results of London G-20 Summit," Strait Review Monthly, Taipei, Taiwan, pages 3-10, May 2009.

David Haber, Fisher Institute of Wellness and Gerontology, "Promoting Healthy Aging," in "Gerontological Nursing: Competencies for Care," pages 328-353, 2009. Presentations

David Haber, Fisher Institute of Wellness and Gerontology, keynote speaker, "The Future of Aging," Valparaiso University, Ind., April 17, 2009.

Gregory Morrison, Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology, annual meeting, International Law Enforcement Educators and Trainers Association, Chicago, April 20-25, 2009.

- "Tracking Down Valid Firearms Training."
- Participated on the "Deadly Force" current issues expert panel.
Lori Rhoden, School of Music,
- "Sight-Reading Boot Camp," Music Teachers Association of California, Lakewood/Cerritos, Lakewood, Calif.
- "Pedagogical Challenges in Intermediate-Level Sonatinas," California State University, Fullerton.

Service

Chu-yuan Cheng, Department of Economics,

- Granted interview to Singtou Chinese Radio Station, San Francisco, on the "U.S. Economic Outlook after the Financial Crisis," April 29, 2009.
- Granted interview to Radio Free Asia, Washington, D.C., on the "Rising Optimism of Chinese Economy: Reality or Illusion," May 1, 2009.

Robert Fey, Department of Public Safety, selected to serve as an accreditation assessor for the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators Association.

Gracie Reiff, University Human Resource Services, elected to position of president-elect for the Indiana Chapter of the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources for 2009-2010.

Mei Zhong, School of Music, interviewed by WFIU Public Radio, Indiana University, Bloomington, April 22, 2009.

Creative Endeavors

Lori Rhoden, School of Music, guest artist piano recital, Biola University Conservatory of Music, La Mirada, Calif.

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