

FROM THE DESK OF JOHN SAMPEN

Spring in Bowling Green—what a glorious time! Flowers are out, coats are packed away, and everyone is smiling. Our campus lives are continually renewed and refreshed.

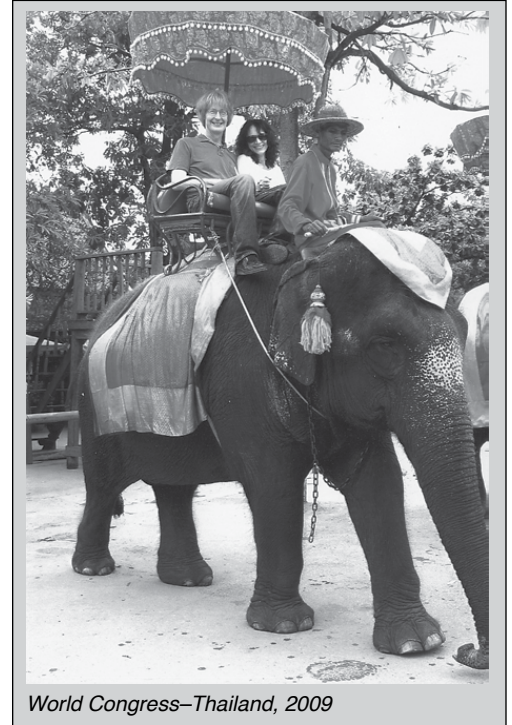
Marilyn and I are completing our 33rd year and we will soon be the college's "oldest" music faculty, especially with the upcoming retirements of Vince Corrigan and Burton Beerman. We miss our former colleagues but it is exciting to see fresh and energetic new talents in our building.

Travel is still our special passion. Since 2008, Marilyn and I have enjoyed trips to Greece, Cyprus, Thailand, Cambodia, China, Taiwan, Canada and at least 20 states in the USA. Some of our vivid memories include a trek through the jungle temples of Cambodia's Angkor Wat, riding the elephants in Thailand, and performing with 100 Chinese saxophonists on the Tibetan plateau.

Our children are well established on the west coast with David in Los Angeles where he has recently arranged, performed and recorded music for an upcoming independent film. Maria and family are in Seattle/Tacoma where she is a tenured professor at the University of Puget Sound and is currently completing a series of performances featuring the Tchaikovsky and Brahms violin concertos.

Like every university in America today, our BGSU budget is threatened—but we will survive and perhaps will grow even stronger as we work through the financial complexities. And it is so exciting to watch construction of our award-winning BGSU theatre complex on the site of the old round Saddlemire Building (directly across from our College of Musical Arts).

I love the quote by Nelson Henderson that says "the true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit." May we all help plant and create artistic pathways to the future.



World Congress—Thailand, 2009

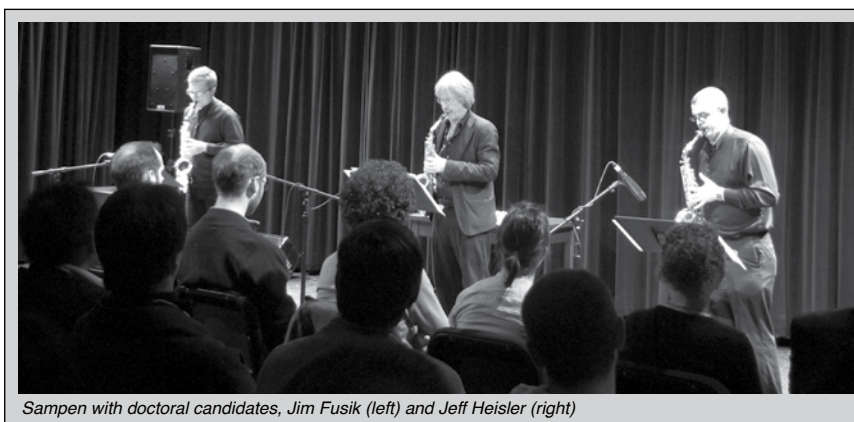


Tibetan Plateau in China

HONORS AND AWARDS

Andy Braet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winner - Canadian Music Competition (2009)
Po-Fang Chang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recipient of 2010 Music Certificate
James Fusik	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate Winner - BGSU Competitions in Music (Ibert), Soloist with the BGSU Philharmonia, and Winner of the Audience Choice Award (08/09) • Winner - Richardson Solo Competition in Michigan (2010) • Recipient of 2009 Fulbright Scholarship • Winner of the Pro Musica Graduate Scholarship (4/10)
Jeff Heisler	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First graduate of BGSU's Doctor of Musical Arts in Contemporary Music (2010) • Winner of the Kennedy Award (4/10)
Zach Hinson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate Winner - BGSU Competitions in Music and Soloist with the BGSU Philharmonia (Tomas) (09/10) • WW Winner of the Coulon Special Achievement Award (4/10) • Winner of the Pro Musica Undergraduate Scholarship (4/10)
James Lang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winner of the Elfreda M. Rusher Music Education Scholarship (4/10) • Winner of the OCMEA Scholarship (4/10)
Andrew Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergraduate Winner - BGSU Competitions in Music (Ibert), Soloist with the BGSU Philharmonia, 4th place Audience Choice Award (08/09)
Carl Wiggins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate Winner - BGSU Competitions in Music and soloist with the BGSU Philharmonia (Tomas) (09/10)
Borealis Quartet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergrad Winners - BGSU Chamber Music Competition (2010) (Frakes, Lang, Hinson, Kopcienski)
Dodecathedron Quartet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate Winners - BGSU Chamber Music Competition (2009) (Fusik, Li, Wiggins, Braet)
Quatuor du Jour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undergrad Winners - BGSU Chamber Music Competition (2009) (Green, Hinson, Parks, Sevel)
WCJC Quartet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate Winners - BGSU Chamber Music Competition (2010) (Conn, Wiggins, Chang, Johnson)

NEW DOCTORS IN THE HOUSE



Sampen with doctoral candidates, Jim Fusik (left) and Jeff Heisler (right)

The BGSU College of Musical Arts happily celebrates the success of our music doctorate. Now in its 4th year, the Doctor of Musical Arts is one of the only programs in the U.S. to focus on contemporary music. The CMA accepts four new DMA students each year in the fields of performance, conducting or composition. Each person is fully funded with a tuition waiver and stipend. Current DMA students now number seventeen with three composers, three conductors, three pianists, two percussionists, two saxophonists, one violinist, one singer, one clarinetist and one flutist.

DMA saxophonists Jeff Heisler and James Fusik have been outstanding assets to the school and program. Jeff Heisler joined the 2006 inaugural class and he is now graduating in May 2010 as the College's first Doctor of Musical Arts! Jeff's special achievements include the North American premiere of Luciano Berio's *Recit* with the BGSU Philharmonia. He also worked with composers Steve Reich, Morton Subotnick and Ellen Zwilich in creating new saxophone versions of their compositions. Reflecting on his experiences as a DMA student, Jeff explains that the College of Musical Arts features "many specialists in contemporary music such as Professors Sampen, Shrude, Kuehn, Leclair, Lillios and Rosenkranz. The environment for new music at BGSU is incredible."

Jim Fusik was named winner of the Richardson Woodwind Competition (Lansing, Mich.) in February 2010. Jim has also collaborated with composer Walter Mays in orchestrating and premiering a new piano/saxophone version of Mays' *Saxophone Concerto*. Regarding his first year as a doctoral student, Jim explains that "the program is exciting because the collective DMA students all bring to the table different specialties or areas of interest within new music. It is artistically stimulating to exchange ideas about new music and to collaborate in the presentation of premieres and new types of concerts."

Next fall, saxophonist Noa Even will join the DMA's elite saxophone ranks—she matriculates to BGSU after finishing studies in France, Northwestern and Illinois.

The two current doctoral saxophonists have collaborated with Dr. Sampen in recent projects such as a professional recording of *Trope* by Dr. Marilyn Shrude, which will be released on CD next year. Heisler and Fusik are also highly involved in Dr. Sampen's ongoing research and development of a unique archival collection of music for saxophone and electro-acoustics. And perhaps most important, they are a terrific resource for our undergraduate students and indeed our whole faculty.

CURRENT EVENTS



2008/2009 Saxophone Class—Christmas Caroling

We love our saxophones at BGSU where we "work hard and play even harder." Barbeque king Jeff Heisler and his wife Megan hosted many of our fall and spring parties—we will miss their home and the annual bocce and volleyball games. The Wiggins/Simms house was often a gathering place for talent displays of Guitar Hero while the Heller/Hummer duo hosted our 2009 Christmas party with "virtuosic" singing of the "Partridge in a Pear Tree." Sampen and Shrude organized the 2008 Christmas party complete with outdoor saxophone caroling and freshman Andrew Park won the 2009 studio spring ping-pong tournament.

Our saxophone quartets played frequent concerts throughout the Midwest, the East Coast, Georgia,

Illinois, Missouri and Canada. Of special note was a large contingent of BGSU students and alumni who attended the conference and "stole the show" at the 2010 NASA Biennial Convention in Athens, Ga.

Special saxophone guests for 2008-2010 included Steve Duke (Northern Illinois University), Michael Ibrahim (University of West Virginia), Ryan Muncy (Northwestern) and Randy Hall (Augustana College).

Our graduating classes of 2009/2010 featured seniors Jessica Heller, Jessica Simms, Katie Hachey and Beth Hummer. Students completing their graduate studies included DMA candidate Jeff Heisler, performance major Carl Wiggins, graduate education major Aaron Backes, and Chinese music certificate students Po-Fang Chang, Vicky Chin and Hantao Li.

Next year we welcome six new graduate saxophonists and at least six undergraduates from all over the world.



2009/2010 Saxophone Class—Studio Party & Volleyball

ALUMNI UPDATE

Claudia Schaetzle (1997 MC) reports the release of new CDs titled *Times Telling True* (sax/organ) and *In domum Domini ibimus* (sax quartet). Order from www.cschaetzle.com **Kirk O'Riordan** (1994 MM) is now an assistant professor and director of dbnds at Lafayette College (Easton, Pa.). Kirk was featured as a composer at the NASA Biennial Conference in Athens, Ga., this past March. His wife (Holly Roadfeldt) is teaching at the University of Delaware. **David Babich** (2007 BM) recently won a position in the U.S. Navy Band. David is also finishing his master's degree at Northwestern University. **Cia-Hsiu (Kenny) Tsai** (2000 MM) is married to **Vedell Pai** (biochemist) and they have just celebrated the birth of their new daughter.

After completing his DMA from Eastman in 2009, **Chih-Huan Wu** (2004 MM) has returned to Taiwan where he is the instructor of saxophone at the National University of Tainan (Taiwan). Wu also plays in the *Composition VII Saxophone Quartet* with **Po-Yuan Ku** (2002 MM) and **Chen-Yu (Jimmy) Lee** (2001 MC). Ku has completed his DMA from the University of Alberta and Jimmy currently teaches at several universities in Taiwan.

Megumi (Nakamara) Edge (1999-2000*) was married to Eric in October of 2008. Megumi currently works in the Claims Department for Aflac in Columbus, Ga.

Yu-Ting Tung (2006 MM) was married to Travis and they are now living in Provo, Utah. Yu-Ting completed her second master's degree in ethnomusicology in 2009.

William Budai (1994 MM) has begun a new college teaching job (piano) at Campbellsville University in Kentucky. **Joel Diegert** (2008 MM) reports that he recently was named second prize winner in the prestigious Saxianna Chamber Music Competition. During summer 2009, Joel organized a solo recital tour in Armenia and Russia. He is currently studying at the Conservatory of Versailles with Vincent David and at the Conservatory of Boulogne-Billancourt with Jean-Michel Goury.

Matt Balensuela (1985 MM) announced that his book *Boethius to Zarlino* won the Music Library Association's Duckles Award. Matt is professor of musicology at DePauw University.

Michael Holmes (2004 BM) was the sabbatical replacement (saxophone teacher) at the University of Illinois for 2009-2010 and he has just accepted a new administrative position with the Conn-Selmer Company in Elkhart, Ind. Michael is also the director of our prestigious Super Sax Camp. **Andy Braet** (2009 MM) was winner of the 2009 Canadian Music Competition. He currently works in Edmonton, Alberta, after spending several weeks abroad in Paris. **Chris Corde** (1994 BM) is doing a great job as orchestra director at Blythewood High School in Columbia, S.C. He also is a member of the South Carolina Symphony (violin). Chris and his wife Leah have a four-year-old daughter and three-year-old son. **Craig Young** (1988 BM) was soloist on the John Williams' *Escapades* for alto saxophone and orchestra with the Mississippi Symphony. Craig also continues his work as director of bands and saxophone instructor at Mississippi College in Clinton, Miss. We saw **Scott Cooper** (1980 BM) at the BGSU Discovery Day with his daughter Jaynie who is planning to attend BGSU as an undergraduate in voice. Scott is a video editing specialist and composer for the Believer's Christian Fellowship in Warren, Ohio, where he and his wife Kim have two children.

David Wegehaupt (2007 BM) is a master's student at Arizona State University after enjoying his Fulbright Studies in Paris during the 2007-2008 school year. **Sean Patayanikorn** (2008 MM) and **Ryan Muncy** (2006 MM) both continue their DMA studies at Northwestern University. **Allison Balcetis** is pursuing her doctorate at the University of Alberta where she is an instructor of saxophone. Allison, Ryan, Sean and David are all members of the *Anubis Saxophone Quartet*, which is gaining significant critical acclaim. The ensemble will return to BGSU in fall 2010 for a featured performance on the Forefront Series.

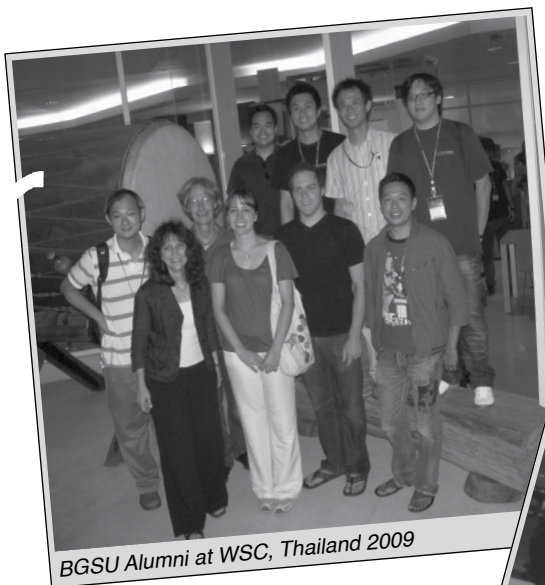
Wes Miller (1989 BM) and **Brian Thomas** (1987 MM) have reorganized the Black Swamp Saxophone Quartet in Columbus, Ohio. Other current members include Michael Cox (Capital University) and Jay Miglia who was a former jazz instructor at BGSU. Wes is a long-time owner of the Columbus Music Academy. **Michael Ibrahim** (2002 MM) has assumed a tenure-track teaching post at the University of West Virginia.



Alumni (O'Riordan, Leffue, Ibrahim and Blossom, L-R) at 2010 NASA Biennial

ALUMNI UPDATE (cont'd)

Sax 4th Avenue was recently the featured solo ensemble with the Toledo Symphony on Philip Glass' *Concerto*. The group has been in existence since the 1990s and consists of alumni **Stan George** (1989 BM), **Shannon Ford** (1995 MM), **Kevin Heidbreder** (1985 MM) and **Jason Yost** (1993 BM).



BGSU Alumni at WSC, Thailand 2009



Saxophone Class of 2003



Saxophone Class of 1996 with Karel Husa



Saxophone Alumni at BGSU Alumni Band Concert 2010

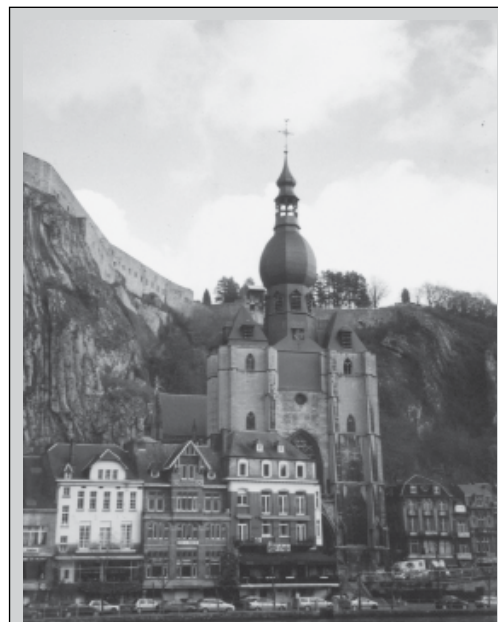


Saxophone Class of 1999

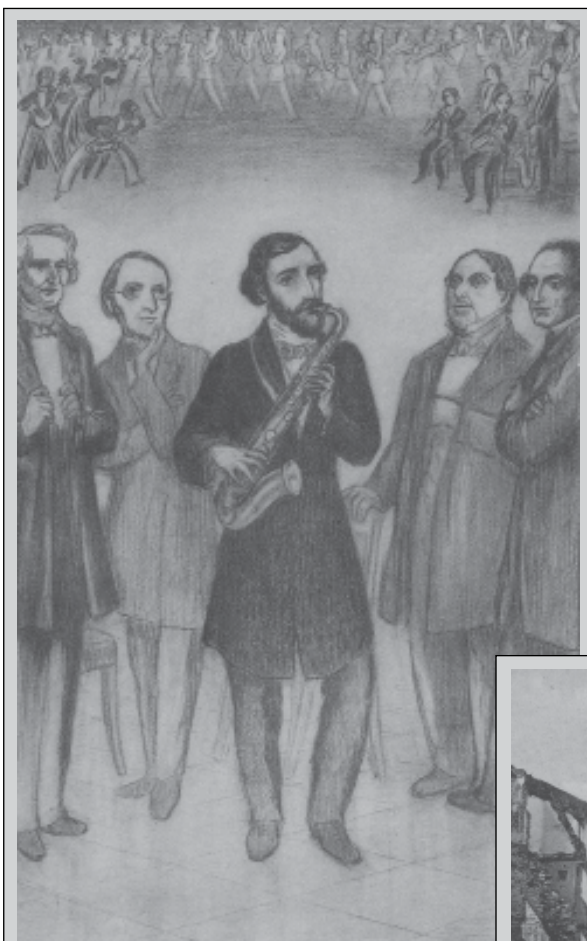
DINANT, BELGIUM



Dinant, 19th Century



Dinant, 21st Century



Sax and his new "Saxophone" – 1843

Dinant, Belgium is the home of Adolphe Sax and the 5th Annual International Adolphe Sax Competition, which will feature BGSU doctoral candidate Jim Fusik and many other BGSU Alumni. We wish you all the best of luck!!



Sax's Home, post-war 1940's

