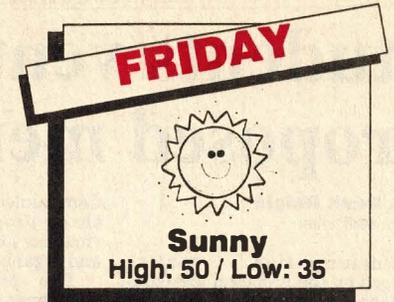




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Two Modern Greek profs are recent award winners

By Jennifer R. Kinsey
Lantern staff writer

Amid all the dismal restructuring plans, there is at least one dean on this campus who had a lot to be happy about this past week.

David Frantz, acting dean of the College of Humanities, said the Department of Near Eastern, Judaic and Hellenic Languages and Literatures at Ohio State probably has "... two of the most prominent young scholars in the field."

Frantz is referring to Vassilis Lambropoulos, a professor of Modern Greek, who is one of six professors campus-wide to receive the Distinguished Scholar Award; and Gregory Jusdanis, an associate professor of Modern Greek, who was recently awarded a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship for the 1994-95 academic year.

Lambropoulos was presented the award, along with a big, red apple, by Frantz and OSU President E. Gordon Gee in a surprise visit to his advanced Modern Greek class yesterday.

"I don't know if it's the apple of knowledge that Eve gave to Adam, but it is more than tempting," Lambropoulos said.

Frantz said Lambropoulos is the first to receive the Distinguished Scholar Award in the Modern Greek program's 19-year history at Ohio State.

According to the announcement that requested the department's nominations for the award, the

Distinguished Scholar Award is one in which the university "... bestows honor and recognition upon those whose research and scholarly activities are at the forefront of the field."

Scholars are selected not only for outstanding research in their personal field of study, but also for research that has benefited the university as a whole.

Lambropoulos's award includes a



What I find encouraging is that the university is willing to disregard age and honor people exclusively on the basis of their achievements."

— Vassilis Lambropoulos

\$20,000 grant for his own research within the Modern Greek program, and a \$1,500 honorarium.

"When people think of the Humanities, they usually do not consider Modern Greek, which attracts fewer students. People often forget that excellent work is being done in

the smaller areas as well," Lambropoulos said.

He added the Modern Greek program at Ohio State is trying to highlight some of the more recent cultural achievements in Greek history, as opposed to the more recognized and familiar history of ancient Greece.

Lambropoulos was born in 1953 and raised in Athens, Greece. Before joining the faculty at Ohio State 13 years ago, he received his Ph.D. in Modern Greek literature from the University of Salonika, Greece, and subsequently spent two years in England at Birmingham University on a post-doctoral fellowship.

The Distinguished Scholar Award often goes to people who are closer to retirement, and it recognizes a lifelong achievement, Lambropoulos said.

"What I find encouraging is that the university is willing to disregard age and honor people exclusively on the basis of their achievements," Lambropoulos said.

For Jusdanis's fellowship, more than 800 scholars applied, but he was one of only 30 scholars to receive the award given by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in the Smithsonian Institution.

Jusdanis was notified of his acceptance on Feb. 25, and said he will be conducting research on nationalism and culture, with access to the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

See GREEK / Page two



Sophia C. Antjas/the Lantern

OSU President E. Gordon Gee presents Professor Vassilis Lambropoulos with the Distinguished Scholar Award.

Students vent concerns about proposed merger at forum

By E. Dean Reigle
Lantern staff writer

Communication majors, outraged by the proposed merger of the School of Journalism with the Department of Communication, dominated an open forum Thursday held to discuss the restructuring of the college of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Randall Ripley, dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, defended the proposed restructuring plan to a full auditorium of about 250 undergraduate and graduate students, mostly communication majors.

Ripley's proposal calls for the merging of the two programs into a new School of Communication and cutting its budget by a projected 30 percent.

"Our judgment is that the importance will be enhanced if we have a single, sizeable unit that is specially focused on this set of phenomena rather than two small units," Ripley said.

"I understand that less money is less money, but I think there are opportunities there to build," he added. "But that will mean some change, too."

With this proposal, the School of Journalism would lose specialized sequences, and the Department of

Communication would possibly lose three programs: philosophy of rhetoric, forces shaping the media, and organizational communication.

The proposal requests all departments of the college to make cuts, but many students at the forum said the two programs were being unfairly asked to suffer the bulk of the college's budget cuts.

Vincent Berdayes, a Ph.D. candidate in the Communication Department, said the merging and cutting of the departments is not a logical solution.

"If anyone is copping out, it's you (Ripley) with this plan by lobbying a 17 percent budget cut on one department (communications) and cynically calling it an opportunity for growth," Berdayes said. "I guess following that logic, we should ask for a 50 percent budget cut and hope that we get really big."

The proposal states there is the possibility that current rhetoric programs and faculty in the Communication Department might move to other departments, such as the Department of English, as the new School of Communication emerges.

"Cutting rhetoric programs is not a focus, that is simply saying that when you merge two programs, there are going to be people who'd rather be elsewhere," Ripley said.

Many students said they think the cuts should be spread equally across all departments in the college, but Ripley said he does not agree with cutting all departments equally.

"I hold a very strong belief that any across-the-board decisions are an easy way to keep peace in the family," Ripley said. "You sort of gratify the status quo without really thinking about it. It's not a satisfactory way of trying to make progress."

Many communication students were outraged they were not asked to provide input before the proposal was made. Ripley said because of pressure to complete the proposal by the Feb. 1 deadline, there was not enough time to hold a forum with students until now.

"I see no evidence whatsoever that anything we say here will have any impact on our college and the futures we have here at Ohio State," said one student during the forum. He said he thought the meeting was an expression of students' dissatisfaction and Ripley's defense of the proposal.

"This is a very complicated process," Ripley said. "Resources are not allocated in any way on the basis of enrollment-based formulas. It's certainly important to try to bring student demand and class supply into balance."

• Greek

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

"I'm very pleased that my work has received this recognition, and that I'll be working with a distinguished community of scholars," JUSDANIS said. "I'm looking forward to forming new relations with people from all over the world."

JUSDANIS was born in a small village in northern Greece. At the age of 10 he moved with his parents to Canada, where he eventually earned his bachelor's degree from McMaster University.

From 1978-80, JUSDANIS studied

Classics at the University of Bonn in Germany, and then moved to England for three years where he earned his Ph.D. from Birmingham University. JUSDANIS then came to the United States on a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Indiana in Bloomington, and began his work here at Ohio State in 1987.

The Woodrow Wilson Fellowship is the second fellowship JUSDANIS has received in two years. JUSDANIS was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship for the 1992-93

academic year.

According to an issue of the *Humanities Exchange*, a newsletter published by the College of Humanities, the Guggenheim Fellowship is awarded to artists, writers and scholars every year. Of the more than 3,000 applicants for the fellowship, JUSDANIS was one of 149 to receive the award.

JUSDANIS said that although he will miss teaching, he's enthusiastic to take his wife and two children to Washington, D.C., with him for the next academic year.