OSU scholars will discover Columbus

By Ruth Hanley
Dispatch OSU Reporter

Ohio State University scholars will get an early start this year on celebrating the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the Americas when they begin translating into English an international bibliography on the New World explorer.

Un Secolo Di Bibliografia Colombiana 1880-1985 is "the definitive bibliography on Columbus," OSU President Edward H. Jennings said.

The book, compiled by Italian Simonetta Conti, is a 359-page listing of books, journal articles and other published works about Columbus and New World exploration. Titles are in several languages, including English, German, Italian and French.

OSU will publish the English translation, with funding from an Italian bank, Jennings said.

The book probably will be published in Italy and will be available for the anniversary in 1992. Columbus landed in the Americas in 1492.

The translation and publication "will advertise Ohio State to every Columbus scholar in the world," Jennings said.

The agreement became final last week while Jennings was on an eight-day trip to Europe. He visited Italy, France and Spain to discuss plans for the 1992 observance and to develop and expand OSU contacts and exchange programs.

In the next six years, OSU will have a series of activities commemorating Christopher Columbus, including lectures, faculty and student exchanges, and cultural and historical exhibits.

Paolo Emilio Taviani, an Italian scholar and politician who wrote the preface to the Columbus bibliography, is chairman of the academic committee for the Italian 1992 celebration, based in Genoa. Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, a sister city to Columbus, Ohio.

Jennings described Taviani as "one of the most influential men in Italian politics" and OSU's major contact for other 1992 activities.

Other results of Jennings' European trip include:

- An agreement with the chief administrator of the Bibliotheque Nationale, France's national library in Paris, to allow OSU faculty members and graduate students to use the facility. Only 360 people are permitted in the library each day to examine the medieval works that are the library's specialty.

- Acceptance of an OSU invitation for M. Pierre Rosenberg, chief curator of paintings at the Louvre, to lecture in Columbus. A date has not been set.

- Possible expansion of student and faculty exchange programs with the Jose Ortega Y Gasset Foundation in Spain and the Ecole Superieure de Commerce de Nantes in France, as well as development of exchanges with the universities of Genoa in Italy and Castille-La Mancha and Madrid in Spain.

OSU makes big impression on Italians

By Ruth Hanley
Dispatch Staff Reporter

Between university presidents, Enrico Beltrametti envies Edward Jennings his space.

Beltrametti, president of Italy's University of Genoa, spent the past three days in Columbus as part of a tour of seven U.S. universities. One of his major impressions of Ohio State University has been the size of the campus.

"Genoa is a town extremely compact between the sea and the mountains," he said yesterday at a reception hosted by Jennings, the president of OSU. The university's buildings are scattered throughout Genoa because there is no room for a central campus, he said.

"WHEN WE see the very big area you have, this causes us to have the envy," he said.

Beltrametti is one of five Italian university presidents who visited OSU as part of a U.S. Information Agency tour. At OSU, the group met with representatives of the physics, language, economics and other departments.

The Italian officials also are making contacts on the trip to aid in future establishment of faculty and student exchange programs.

The number of students in such exchanges is "not significant" and should be higher, said Vincenzo Buonocore, president of the University of Salerno and head of Italy's national committee of university presidents.

Jennings said the visit of the Italian officials offers an opportunity for "making friends" in preparation for future collaborations. One major project in the works is the 1992 celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first voyage to the Americas.

JENNINGS VISITED Genoa in April to offer 18 proposals to university officials there. Some of the proposals, in areas ranging from medicine to the humanities, are tied to the 1992 celebration.

Beltrametti said the OSU proposals are under discussion. He expects another meeting between OSU and Genoa officials in December, after which decisions are expected on some of the proposals.

Christopher Columbus was born in Genoa, a sister city to Columbus. Both the cities and their universities plan to play a major role in the 1992 celebrations, Beltrametti said.

ALSO IN Columbus were the Rev. Franco Frilli of the University of Udine, Pietro Ferri of the University Institute in Bergamo and Ignazio Melisenda Giambertoni of the University of Palermo.

They visited the University of Virginia before coming to Columbus Sunday. Other stops will be Boston, Harvard, Princeton, Duke, North Carolina and North Carolina State universities.



Dispatch photo by Doral Chenoweth III

OSU President Edward H. Jennings, second from right, meets with Italian university officials, from left, Ignazio Melisenda Giambertoni, Enrico Beltrametti, Vincenzo Buonocore and the Rev. Franco Frilli.

Italian presidents see

By Jeff Grabmeier

Five Italian university presidents found a lot they liked when they visited Ohio State for the first time last month.

After three days of touring the Columbus campus and meeting with University and city officials, the presidents said they were impressed with everything from the strong academic programs to the abundant green spaces on campus. Now, they want to become better acquainted.

"I have the feeling that this is indeed an important university of the United States," said Enrico Beltrametti, president of the University of Genoa, at a reception during his visit. "There are indeed many reasons to be interested in establishing contacts between Ohio State and my university."

Although no agreements were finalized, the Italians expressed interest in a variety of joint projects with Ohio State, including a technology transfer and an expansion of student exchange programs.

The presidents toured the Columbus campus July 20-23 as part of a three-week tour of American institutions sponsored by the United States Information Agency.

For all the presidents, it was their first visit to Ohio State. However, President Jennings had met Beltrametti in April when he visited Italy as part of a European trip.

"The academic exchanges we are developing in Genoa and with other universities in Italy have enormous potential benefits, even beyond the individual faculty members and students who are immediately involved," Jennings said. "There also is no doubt that the personal relationships established in this kind of official visit are invaluable to Ohio State's continued success in the international arena."

Also, Jennings said, "It was a great pleasure to have the chance to return the warm hospitality that our own delegations have received in Italy."

Ohio State was made part of this national tour through its special relationship with the University of Genoa. The two schools have established academic collaborations and joint commemorations for the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's landing in the New World, which occurs in 1992. Genoa and Columbus are sister cities.

"We have already developed a number of ideas for exchanges between our universities, which I hope will become reality in the near future," Beltrametti said. "We hope to continue to make progress, keeping in mind the 1992 celebration. It's a very important year for all of us."

Representatives of Ohio State will go to Genoa later this year to continue planning for 1992, Beltrametti said.

Although the 1992 celebration is receiving much attention, the Italian presidents are interested in building relationships with Ohio State that will last long after 1992, said Luciano Farina, an associate professor of Romance languages who

much they like at OSU

helped host the group during its University visit.

Farina said Vincenzo Buonocore, president of the University of Salerno, expressed particular interest in Ohio State's Library Control System (LCS). He would like to see similar computerized library systems developed for colleges in Italy.

He also proposed expanding the student exchange programs between Ohio State and Italian universities.

Buonocore's interest carries special significance because he is the "President of Presidents," the head of Italy's national committee of university presidents.

"When you have Dr. Buonocore convinced of the importance of these exchanges, you have the chief convinced," Farina said.

In addition to their meetings, the presidents visited several academic departments, including physics, economics and entomology, the College of Agriculture and the Computer Graphics Research Lab. They also toured the Edison Welding Institute, the WBNS-TV studios and met with representatives from other Ohio universities.

On the second day of their visit, they toured Columbus as guests of Mayor Dana "Buck" Rinehart. At a reception in the Ohio Union, Rinehart presented the Italians lapel pins emblazoned with the seal of the city and declared them honorary citizens of Columbus.

The presidents praised Ohio State throughout their trip.

Beltrametti said he couldn't help but be envious of the University's campus.

Genoa is squeezed between the sea and mountains and there is not space for a university campus, Beltrametti said.

"So when we see the very big area you have, this causes us a sense of envy," he said with a smile. "We don't have the open spaces."

The Italians were also overwhelmed by the reception they received at Ohio State, Farina said.

"They were totally surprised by the human warmth they felt here. They wouldn't stop talking about it," Farina said. "Coming from a full week in Washington, they said Ohio State was like a homecoming."

The presidents started their United States trip July 13 in Washington, where they toured federal agencies and foundations, the Library of Congress and the University of Virginia. From Ohio State, they made stops at the University of North Carolina and Boston, Harvard, Princeton, Duke and North Carolina State universities.

In addition to Beltrametti and Buonocore, the other presidents were: The Rev. Franco Frilli, University of Udine, Udine, Italy; Pietro Ferri, University Institute, Bergamo, Italy; and Ignazio Melisenda Giambertoni, University of Palermo, Palermo, Italy.

Planning sets sail for

President Jennings marked the approach of Columbus Day by naming a council to oversee Ohio State's involvement in the 500th anniversary celebrations of Christopher Columbus' landing in the Americas.

Jennings has asked Francille M. Firebaugh, vice provost for international affairs, to chair the 1992 Coordinating Council. Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, will chair the council's steering committee.

"The naming of this council is an important step in planning for the anniversary of Columbus' landing in the Americas," Jennings says. "I believe that through the efforts of the faculty and staff on the council, Ohio State will be an international focal point for scholarship and academic exchange involving the quincentenary."

Firebaugh says the 23-member council will plan and coordinate a variety of activities centering on Columbus' life and times, and the effects of his discoveries on the Americas and on Europe.

"It's an opportunity for a scholarly look at this important historical event," Firebaugh says. "It's not going to just be a celebration."

Ohio State will sponsor conferences, research, exhibits, publications and international exchanges related to Columbus and his voyages, Firebaugh says.

The council will consist of three panels: international collaboration, research, and community education and partnerships. A steering committee will coordinate the actions of the council.

In addition, Jennings named a 22-member administrators liaison group. This group, also chaired by Firebaugh, includes department heads and deans of the faculty and staff members on the 1992 Coordinating Council. It is designed to help communicate the goals and plans of the council.

"With the broad scope of our activities related to 1992, ranging from law and medicine to the more obvious language and culture connections, communication throughout the University will be vital," Firebaugh says.

While the 1992 council plans for the future, some events concerning the quincentenary observance already have begun.

Manuel Del Valle, mayor of Seville, Spain, visited Ohio State and met with several University officials as part of a three-day stop in Columbus Sept. 18-20.

Del Valle came to Ohio at the invitation of Mayor Dana Rinehart. Seville will be the site of the World's Fair in 1992. While in Columbus, Del Valle toured the University, attended the President's Council black tie dinner and watched the Ohio State-Colarado football game.

Also, this week Ohio State is sponsoring its first major working research conference related to the quincentenary. The conference begins today and will continue through Saturday at the Christopher Inn, 300 E. Broad St. It is titled "Early European Encounters with the Americas: Reciprocal Influences of Cultures in Contact."

Among those participating in the conference will be William McNeil, the vice president of the U.S. Quincentenary Commission; Paolo Emilio Taviani, an Italian senator, chairperson of Italy's national committee on the quincentenary and emeritus professor of political science; and Alfredo Jimenez, a professor at the University of Seville and the head of cultural events for the 1992 World's Fair.

"We have attracted some of the world's most prominent scholars in an-

Quincentenary

thropology, history, art history, literary criticism and other disciplines for this conference," says Zacher, who helped organize the event.

Following are the members of the 1992 Coordinating Council. The chairs and vice-chairs of the committee and panels are noted:

Steering committee: Firebaugh; G. Michael Riley, dean, College of Humanities; Zacher (chairperson); and the chairpersons and vice chairpersons of the three panels. Lisa Holstein, director of editorial projects for President Jennings, will serve as his liaison to the committee.

International collaboration panel: Christine Bornstein, history of art (vice chairperson); David Hansen, agricultural economics and rural sociology; and Stephen Summerhill, International Studies (chairperson). Luciano Farina, Romance languages and literatures, will serve on the subcommittee as special coordinator for Italy. Salvador Garcia, Romance languages and literatures, has been named special coordinator for Spain.

Research: Rolena Adorno, Romance languages and literatures (chairperson); Kenneth Andrien, history (vice chairperson); Erika Bourguinon, anthropology; Peter Givler, University Press; Laurence Hallewell, University Libraries; Albert Mancini, Romance languages and literatures; John Rule, history; John Stewart, English; and Zacher.



MANUEL DEL VALLE AREVALOS, mayor of Seville, Spain, visited Ohio State last month to discuss Quincentenary plans with Columbus and University officials.

Community education and partnerships: Jeff Grabmeier, communications services; Richard Hopkins, history; Henry Hunker. geography and public administration; J. Lance Kramer, continuing education; Robert S. Livesey, architecture (chairperson); John C. Peterson, horticulture; Riley; and Emmanuel Rudolph, botany (vice chairperson).

Columbus Day, 1992 drawing near for OSU

By Kristi Ferguson
Lantern staff writer

As Americans celebrate Columbus Day today, Ohio State is beginning preparations for Columbus Day 1992.

President Edward H. Jennings recently appointed 23 faculty members to organize campus activities for the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of America.

Francille Firebaugh, vice provost for international affairs, will chair the 1992 Coordinating Council.

Firebaugh said the council will coordinate academic exchanges between Ohio State and the University of Genoa, Italy, celebrations of Columbus' life and the benefits Italy, Spain and the Americas have shared.

"It's a great opportunity for the United States to improve its relations with the whole Latin world," said Richard Higgins, U.S. consul general in Genoa, Italy, who visited the university Friday.

Columbus and Ohio State are doing more to celebrate the 500th anniversary than any other American city or university, Higgins said.

Christopher Columbus discovered America in 1492. His voyage was sponsored by the King and Queen of Spain. He was a resident of Genoa, Italy, which is one of Columbus' sister cities.

"Christopher Columbus' discovery of the New World was one of the great events in human history and a shared experience of every American," Higgins said.

Ohio State is planning to coordinate programs with the University of Genoa in cancer research. Also, city officials in Seville, Spain invited Ohio State to prepare an exhibit for the World Fair which will be held there in 1992. An exchange of professors is also being planned with the University of Seville. Other joint programs include a display of old and new world flora, exhibits of maritime exploration and exchanges of art and students in celebration of the anniversary.

Higgins said the people of Genoa became familiar with Ohio State and Columbus after Jennings visited there last spring.

As part of the 1992 celebration, Genoa plans to complete a revitalization of their central port to commemorate the Italians who emigrated to the United States, Higgins said.

Last weekend, Ohio State sponsored a research conference for international scholars to debate the affects of early European encounters with the Americas as a result of Columbus' discovery of the New World. Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, organized the event.

Benefits discussed included the cultures and technologies Europe brought to America, plants such as tomatoes and potatoes and animals such as buffaloes and jaguars that America introduced to Europe, Steve Hill, director of international studies said.

University, Genoa join to plan 1492 anniversary

By Jeff Grabmeier

Ohio State has taken the lead among American universities in developing relationships with Italy, says the U.S. consul general to Genoa, Italy.

And Italy, particularly Genoa, is expected to generate a lot of interest in the celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's 1492 landing in the Americas. Higgins says Ohio State has been the first university to capitalize on that interest.

"I'm not aware of any other university that has entered into such a close relationship with Genoa," says Richard Higgins, consul general since 1984. "I'm impressed with Ohio State. You've gotten in ahead of a lot of other institutions."

Higgins met with University officials as part of a three-day trip to Columbus Oct. 8-10. During his stay, he met with city and campus leaders who are involved in preparing for the anniversary celebrations.

Genoa, the fifth largest city and largest port in Italy, is the birthplace of Christopher Columbus and sister city to the city of Columbus.

President Jennings visited Genoa and met with Higgins and other Genoese officials during his trip to Europe in April.

Jennings's trip, and others by city and University representatives, have made Ohio State and Columbus familiar names in Genoa, Higgins says.

"They have put Columbus and Ohio State in the consciousness of a lot of people in Genoa," he says. "It's a process that doesn't happen overnight, and one that has to continue."

One way that this process occurs is through the growing relationship between Ohio State and the University of Genoa. Higgins notes that the two universities have proposed 17 joint projects in areas such as arts and languages, mathematics and cancer research.

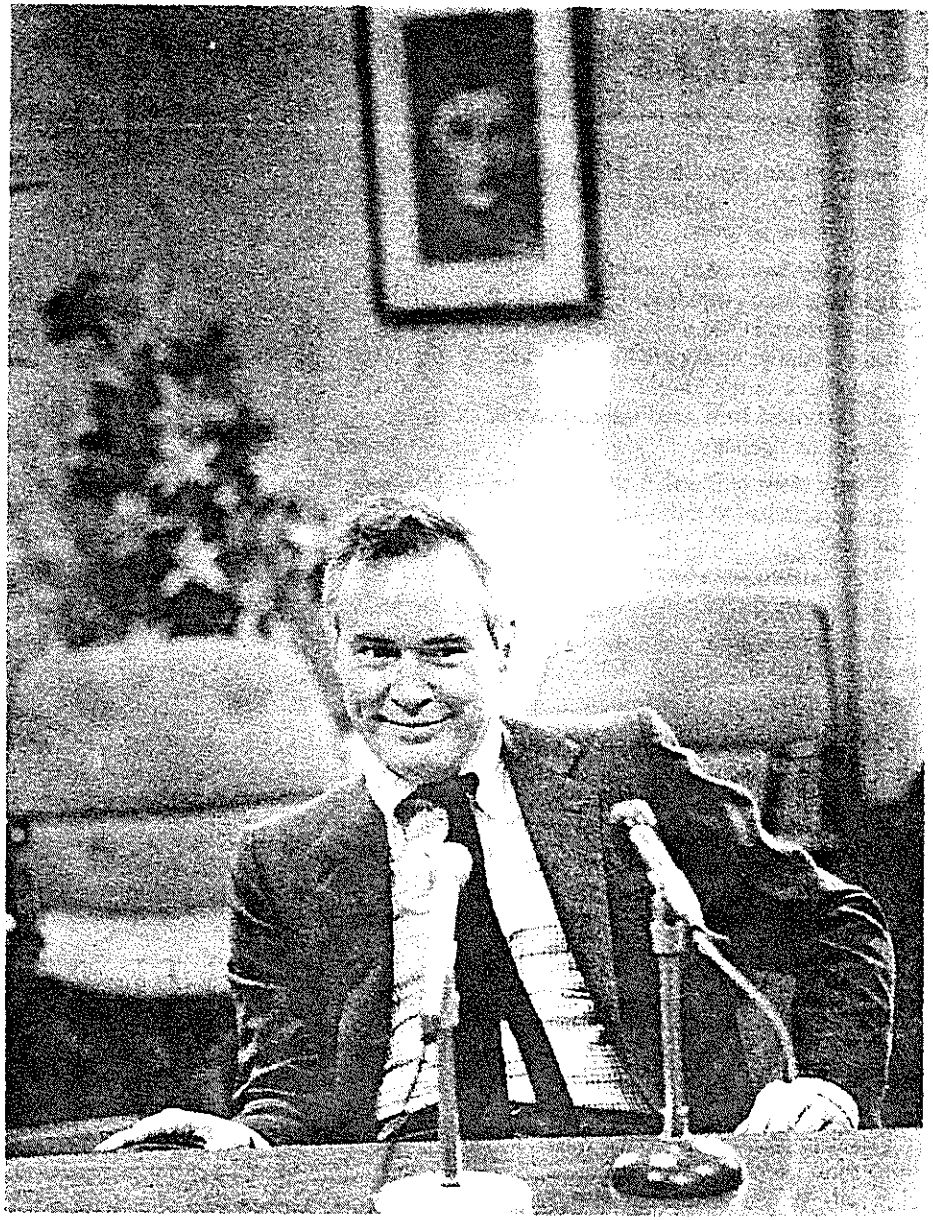
The city of Columbus, along with Ohio State, also has developed and strengthened relationships with Italy.

"From what I can see, Columbus is doing more than any other city to build ties in Italy. The only other city that comes even close is Miami," he says.

Higgins says he hopes interest in 1992 continues to grow in the United States.

"I'm intensely interested in 1992 because I think it is a great opportunity for the United States to improve its relations with the whole Latin world. I think if we would miss this chance, we would lose a great opportunity."

The people of Genoa are "very excited" about the anniversary, Higgins says. They are planning a variety of events, including an exposition on Italian immigration to the United States.



Richard Higgins

Photo by Jo Hall

Columbus, sister state work out agreement

By James Breiner
Dispatch Assistant Metro Editor

GENOA, Italy — The Genoese have a reputation as tight-fisted businessmen who drive a hard bargain.

But trading Ohio for the Italian Riviera hardly seems fair. Rinaldo Magnani of Genoa, the Socialist president of the Ligurian region which includes the Riviera, does not see it that way.

He sees the sister-state agreement between Ohio and Liguria reached last week as a great opportunity for Liguria to find markets for its computer and robotics companies and to set up joint ventures with Ohio companies.

"BUT THERE IS a relationship that goes beyond this that is a human relationship," Magnani said.

Cementing the sister-state relationship was one goal of an eight-member Ohio delegation visiting Liguria and its capital, Genoa, last week.

Ohio State University, the University of Genoa and the cities of Columbus and Genoa worked out details of a four-sided agreement to hold cultural, academic and commercial exchanges focusing on the 1992 observance of Christopher Columbus' voyage to America. Genoa is the explorer's birthplace.

Groups in the two cities planning 1992 observances met to establish reciprocal display agreements. Magnani is in a good position to help because he is the Italian representative to the international committee for the 1992 Columbus celebrations.

HEADING THE local delegation and representing Mayor Dana G. Rinehart was Gene D'Angelo, president of WBNS-TV and a member of President Reagan's Quincentennial Jubilee Commission.

State Rep. Mike Stinziano, D-Columbus, who sponsored a resolution to establish the sister-state relationship with Liguria, represented the state and Gov. Richard F. Celeste.

Representing OSU were Francille Firebaugh, vice provost for international affairs; Christian K. Zacher, director of medieval and Renaissance studies and chairman of the university's 1992 steering committee; John C. Peterson, horticulture professor and director of AmeriFlora '92; David S. Yohn, director of the Comprehensive Cancer Center; and Luciano Farina, professor of Romance languages.

Tara Barney represented the Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Jubilee Commission of Columbus. She is its director.

The university, AmeriFlora, the jubilee commission and private sources paid travel expenses. Stinziano's trip was paid for by the jubilee commission.

CELESTE IS expected to visit Liguria this spring, and then agreements may be reached on specific cultural and economic exchanges.

Liguria is one-twentieth the size of Ohio and has one-fifth the population, but is like Ohio in making the transition from an industrial to a service economy.

The sister-city relationship is 32 years old, but both sides felt a need to renew it and to include the universities.

The University of Genoa, with 30,000 students, and Ohio State are the furthest along in establishing exchanges.

ALREADY AGREED upon are:

- Support of visiting scholars to study the host region's history.
- Joint conferences in mathematics and systems theory.
- Continued contacts between OSU's cancer center and Genoa's comparable institute.
- Cooperation in research and study of international law.
- Exchanges of art exhibits. "Genua Picta," depictions of Genoan architecture in paintings, prints and drawings, will come to Columbus in 1988. OSU is planning to send Genoa before 1992 a large exhibit of works.

A KEY PLAYER on the Italian side of the negotiations is Sen. Paolo Emilio Taviani, a Christian Democrat who was one of the founders of the postwar republic and is a Christopher Columbus scholar.

Taviani has been invited to speak at OSU's June commencement.

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Trip to Europe ends in agreement

By Brent Snow
Lantern staff writer

Members of a committee planning the 1992 commemoration of Chistopher Columbus' landing in the Americas returned last week from an 18-day trip to Europe.

Representatives from both Ohio State and Columbus traveled to Columbus' sister city, Genoa, Italy, to sign an agreement which established a joint committee between the two cities to plan the anniversary commemoration.

Ohio State was represented by Francille Firebaugh, vice provost for international student affairs, and Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.

The committee consists of eight members – two each from Ohio State, the University of Genoa and the cities of Columbus and Genoa.

Firebaugh said much was accomplished on the trip, including plans to exchange both faculty and research with the University of Genoa.

While in Genoa, the group met with the university president, deans and two city representatives, she said.

Firebaugh said Genoa and Columbus have been sister cities for 32 years, but the 1992 commemoration gave the cities and universities a special chance to work together and learn from each other.

The joining of the two as sister cities came as a result of Genoa being the birthplace of Christopher Columbus and the fact that Ohio's capital is the largest city in America bearing his name.

"The 1992 commemoration will benefit both students and faculty members from both universities," she said. The benefits will be derived from the long list of projects planned for the commemoration.

For the last year and a half, Zacher said, trips have been made between the two universities and project ideas have been exchanged. The ideas that appealed to both universities were chosen.

These include an exchange of professors from various departments, an exchange of faculty members from the universities' cancer centers and an exchage of art exhibits, said Zacher.

A history professor from the University of Genoa is scheduled to come to Ohio State next week and will present a lecture series.

In the spring of 1988, an art exhibit is scheduled to come to Ohio State from Genoa.

Zacher said the committee wants to see relations between the two universities continue.

"We want the affiliation to last beyond the 1992 commemoration and are trying to create projects that will not end with the celebration, but endure," he said.

Zacher said it is also important to remember that the committee is four-sided, meaning both the universities and the cities are working together.

Costs of the trip were paid for by a special 1992 budget set up by President Edward H. Jennings.

Zacher said the people in Genoa were very generous to the Ohioans and provided free accommodations and meals as well as guides.

Zacher said representatives from the University of Genoa are planning a June trip to Ohio State.

Scholar samples utopia

By Lee Stratton
Dispatch Staff Reporter

Valeria Gennaro Lerda is going home to Genoa, Italy, today after a glimpse of utopia in Ohio.

Lerda, a professor of American history at the University of Genoa, was the first scholar to visit Ohio State University in an exchange program between the schools. The agreement is part of the prelude to the 1992 observance of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' voyage to the New World.

The official reason for her 15-day visit was to conduct research and "to know as many colleagues as possible," Lerda said.

HER RESEARCH focused on utopian experiments in communal living, which abounded in Ohio in the 19th century. Lerda spent much of her time poring over materials gathered for her at OSU libraries and in the archives at the Ohio Historical Center. She also visited Zoar, Ohio.

Zoar was founded in 1817 by a group of German Separatists, who developed a commune in an attempt to create a better life. That experiment lasted 79 years.

"I am trying to find why Ohio seemed to be a right place for utopian experiments," she said. "Was it the open land? The geographical setting?"

These experiments in communal life are a part of American life, she said.

"AMERICAN HISTORY cannot be studied outside the context of European history," she added. "It is all related. You have to go back to Europe to understand the United States. America didn't just suddenly appear without any linkage. It's a long road."



Dispatch photo by Mary Circelli

Valeria Gennaro Lerda is sampling the better life

Lerda said she had 300 to 400 students taking credits in North American history. This was her first visit to OSU, although she has been to other American universities on previous visits. She found this 15-day visit passed too quickly. "It is a short time for what I have to do," she said.

The task would have been much tougher without help. Everyone from Warren Vantine, chairman of the OSU History Department, to secretaries and faculty members helped, she said.

Research is easier in the United States than in Italy, partly because of the central campus arrangement of universities, she added.

"THE ORGANIZATION of the library is great," she said. "I miss the American universities when I am in Italy."

Not all her research has been academic.

"I try to share the everyday life with the people," she said. "I didn't stay in the archives all the time."

The native of a country known for its cuisine also paid her host city a compliment. "Columbus has a lot of good restaurants," she said. "The food is quite good."

Flower festival part of celebration

By Tonya J. Flory
Lantern staff writer

The chief landscape architect for Walt Disney parks will serve as chief architect for "Ameriflora '92," the United States' first International Floral and Garden Festival, to be held in Columbus in 1992.

"Ameriflora '92" is part of the celebration that will commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of the new world, said John C. Peterson, executive director of the event and associate professor of horticulture at Ohio State.

Scott Girard, who has been the chief landscaper with Disney for 22 years, will be working with the Peridian Group, a landscape architecture/planning firm based in Irvine, Calif.

The six-month exposition should draw visitors from all over the world to view an indoor floral show and outdoor garden festivals, incorporating horticultural traditions from around the world, Peterson said.

About three million visitors are expected to attend the exposition, he said.

Franklin, Wolfe, Academy, Nelson and Jeffrey parks, on the east side of the city, will serve as the sites for the 160-acre outdoor garden festival. The indoor displays will be held at the Ohio Center.

Girard said that "Columbus has the best to offer in the 1992 celebration." The city is "blessed with a great park system," he said.

Jack Connell, of Connell's Flowers, is chairman of the executive committee for "Ameriflora '92." "Columbus will emerge as a great city and there will be a lasting benefit well after 1992," he said.

Connell said that the exposition has gone beyond just talk. "We have found the expertise and if we do this thing with all the zest and knowledge we have, we will have jumped over a major hurdle. This is not just pie in the sky."

Columbus is ideal for the celebration because of its accessibility to visitors, Peterson said.

Prof plans '92 floral show for U.S.

By Cole E. Hatcher
Lantern staff writer

The seed has been planted and it has begun to take root. John Peterson intends to see that it blooms in 1992.

Peterson is the executive director of AmeriFlora '92, the first international floral and garden exhibition to be held in the United States. The exhibition is to be held in Columbus as part of the 500th anniversary celebration of Christopher Columbus' 1492 discovery of America.

Peterson is an associate professor of horticulture and an associate professor at the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center.

"(President Edward H. Hennings) is essentially loaning me to the project for the next six years," Peterson said.

He said one of the biggest challenges in planning AmeriFlora is getting international plant material for the exhibit.

Peterson said a biological containment center with warehouse and greenhouse facilities is going to be built for the exhibit because the foreign plant material will have to be quarantined for a period of time after it arrives in the United States.

During this time the plants will be checked for insects or diseases that are unknown to this area.

"We don't want to bring in another Japanese beetle or Dutch elm disease," Peterson said.

He said there are no specific construction or funding plans for the containment center yet, but it is hoped that Ohio State will be able to use the center for restricted research projects in such areas as biotechnology and microorganism development after AmeriFlora has ended.

"What Ohio State will end up with...is probably one of the best biological containment facilities in the country," Peterson said.

Charles Powell Jr., a professor of plant pathology who specializes in ornamental and floriculture plant diseases, said Ohio State has no biological containment facility at this time.

Powell said the amount of time that the international plant material will have to be quarantined depends on why the plants are being inspected. He also said some types of plants will not be permitted into the country under any circumstances.

He said all inspections will be done by the federal government.

Powell and Richard Lindquist, an entomology professor who specializes in ornamental and floriculture plant insect control, will serve as liaisons to the federal inspectors, helping them to derive new test methods if necessary.

"Our role is to try to make sure that things run smoothly," Powell said, "as far as ensuring the people of the United States that the plant material that comes in will be healthy and will not be bringing in any diseases."

Peterson said Ohio State is involved in many aspects of AmeriFlora and that several faculty members are serving on an advisory committee. They include professors from the following departments: entomology, horticulture, landscape architecture, medieval studies, romance languages and plant pathology.

Peterson said Ohio State is providing some in-kind funding for the exhibition including personnel support and office space, supplies and equipment. He said he doesn't know of any plans for the university to provide direct funding.

Peterson said the university might not have a flower and plant display.

Instead, he said OSU projects may include "new technology" exhibits focusing on hydroponics, tissue cultures and dwarf tree systems.

Hydroponics is a method by which plants are grown in nutrient solutions rather than soil. Tissue culture studies attempt to grow entire plants from pieces of plant tissue rather than from seeds, graftings or rootings.

Dwarf tree systems studies use trellis-type trees to try and reduce the land area needed to grow such things as fruit trees.

Peterson said the Ohio State Cooperative Extension Service might establish a horticulture information center for the exhibition.

He said the main theme of AmeriFlora is "Discovery" and that there are several categories of exhibition under this theme. These include international, national, new technology, commercial, amateur and professional horticulture organization, recreational and play space and floral graphic exhibits.

Peterson said floral graphics uses plants and flowers to create artwork. This art may be abstract or form characters, such as Donald Duck.

He said it is important that there is harmony among the displays and that the city government, the university and the business and residential communities continue to work together.

"We have to create a level of enthusiasm and appreciation for what this event is and all the things that can arise from our city hosting it," Peterson said.

Peterson said the AmeriFlora exhibits will be held on about 160 acres at Franklin, Wolfe and Academy parks. Jeffrey Park will be used as a special event and reception center.

AmeriFlora is expected to cost $50 million and attract three million visitors. It is scheduled to run for about six months.

The exhibition will open with a 15-day International Indoor Floral Exposition, which might be held at the Ohio Center.

AmeriFlora is digging in for big show

By Jeff Grabmeier

John Peterson doesn't have time to stop and smell the roses.

But when his work is completed five years from now, an estimated three million visitors will come to Columbus to smell roses and a variety of other flowers and plants from around the world.

Peterson is executive director of AmeriFlora 1992 Inc., a non-profit organization that is planning the United States' first international floral and garden festival.

The festival will be held in Columbus beginning in April 1992 as part of the city's celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' landing in the Americas.

AmeriFlora was recently named one of the five American focal points for the 1992 celebrations by the U.S. Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Commission.

Other focal points will be the proposed Chicago-Seville world's fair, various maritime festivals, international tall ship displays and local 1992 Columbus Day celebrations.

Peterson, associate professor of horticulture, says the University will be actively involved in planning and running AmeriFlora.

"Ohio State has taken a leadership role in putting the show together, along with the city of Columbus and the area business community," he says.

AmeriFlora will be held at Franklin, Academy and Wolfe parks along Broad Street at Nelson Road. Together, the three parks cover 160 acres.

The exhibition begins in April 1992 with a two-week indoor floral show. Immediately following, an outdoor garden festival will begin and continue through October.

Continued on page 12.



John Peterson Photo by Jo Hall

Peterson says he hopes to have 20-30 international exhibits represented at AmeriFlora.

"This is going to be seen as one of the major 1992 celebration events in the world," he says.

Peterson was named executive director of AmeriFlora when the organization was incorporated last October. Peterson remains a full-time Ohio State employee, but has been given an 80 percent administrative appointment to run the organization.

"Essentially, President Jennings has lent me to this project for the next five years," Peterson says. In addition, two other AmeriFlora employees are supported by Ohio State.

Other University faculty are involved as members of the AmeriFlora Advisory Committee.

For example, Richard Linquist, professor of entomology, and Charles Powell, professor of plant pathology, are helping to develop a program for importing plants and flowers from other countries for the exhibition.

Three faculty from the Department of Landscape Architecture are also on the committee: Douglas Way, department chairperson, Deborah Georg, assistant professor, and Stephen Drown, associate professor.

Other members of the committee include Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, Luciano Farina, associate professor of Romance languages and literatures and Steven Still, professor of horticulture.

Peterson says Ohio State will be the site of a large greenhouse that will be built to serve as a quarantine holding facility. Flowers and other plants from other countries will be stored in the building when they first arrive to be checked for insects and diseases.

The success of AmeriFlora is "very much dependent on the involvement of Ohio State," Peterson says. Students and graduates will have the opportunity to work at the exhibition.

While the focus of AmeriFlora is on horticulture, Peterson says that he hopes other departments of the University get involved. For example, art exhibits or lectures could be held at the parks in conjunction with AmeriFlora.

"This is an opportunity for the University to become more involved with the community," he says.

Although AmeriFlora is years away, planning for the event is already far along, according to Peterson. Officials must present a master plan for the exhibition on Sept. 5 to the International Association of Horticulture Producers, which has the power to officially sanction the event.

The association is holding a meeting on that date in Austria.

As part of the master plan, officials are preparing programs for funding, importation of plants, use of park land and awards and judging for the exhibition, Peterson says.

Early funding for AmeriFlora has come from the city of Columbus, Ohio State and the local business community.

The organization will also obtain money from sponsorships, exhibitors, donations and government sources, he says.

AmeriFlora gets more attention

Endorsements called step toward international producers' blessing

By Robert Sohovich
Dispatch Development Reporter

Support is growing among florists and growers for AmeriFlora '92, the international garden and floral exhibition planned for Columbus in 1992.

Endorsements include those of the Ohio Nurserymen's Association, the Ohio Florists' Association, the Florida Foliage Association, the Central Ohio Allied Florists Association, the Society of American Florists, American Horticultural Marketing Council and Bedding Plants Inc., an international trade association.

"Having this support is very meaningful for getting the show sanctioned by the Association of International Horticulture Producers," said John C. Peterson, AmeriFlora executive director.

THE INTERNATIONAL association is expected to act on the sanction request Sept. 5 in Tulln, Austria. Approval will help attract foreign exhibitors.

AmeriFlora, which will be the first international floral and garden show in the United States, is scheduled tentatively from April 3 to Oct. 12, 1992. AmeriFlora officials are asking the association to sanction a 16-day kickoff exhibition planned for the Ohio Center.

The indoor display is to be followed by an outdoor exhibition planned for Franklin Park on E. Broad St. and adjacent Wolfe and Academy parks.

The 160-acre site is to feature fountains and floral and garden displays, as well as scentific and technical exhibits. The garden will remain when the exhibition ends. Plans include enlarging the Franklin Park Conservatory.

"WE'VE NEVER had a truly outdoor showcase," said Henry M. Cathey, director of the National Arboretum in Washington. "AmeriFlora will give us a tremendous opportunity to showcase our products and our pride."

Cathey, who is attending the Ohio Florists' Association meeting in the Ohio Center, said the 1992 meeting of the American Horticulture Society will be in Columbus in conjunction with AmeriFlora. The society has about 40,000 members, said Cathey, a board member and past president.

Harry K. Tayama, Ohio Florists' executive director, said AmeriFlora "will result in people from the United States, North America and Europe coming to Columbus."

Tayama, an Ohio State University horticulture professor, said the show also will benefit the ornamental plant industry.

"It will make Americans more aware of how flowers and ornamental plants can improve the quality of life," he said. "In Europe, which has a long history of floral exhibitions, people believe in going to the store to get bread and milk and a plant. They bring plants home all the time. Plants are a part of the lives."



File photo

John C. Peterson

WILLIAM STALTER, executive director of the Ohio Nurserymen's Association, said, "AmeriFlora will turn the parks into a showcase that will last for years and years. It will call worldwide attention to Columbus."

John Harmon, executive vice president of the 2,400-member Florida Foliage Association, said in a telephone interview, "Our board unanimously supports AmeriFlora. We will do everything we can. We have committed the Florida Foliage Association and its participating agencies to do anything we can to help Columbus make this a festive occasion."

Ideas take root; flower work grows

By Jeff Grabmeier

Now that Ameriflora '92 has received an important international sanction, officials have turned their attention to the nuts and bolts of displaying a world-class flower and garden exhibition.

"We've put together the concept. Now, our short term goal is to work out how to do it," says Ameriflora executive director John Peterson.

At a meeting earlier this month in Austria, the Association of International Horticulture Producers sanctioned Ameriflora's 17-day indoor show planned for Columbus in April 1992.

The event, which will be the first international floral and garden show in the United States, also will include an outdoor show that will continue through October.

Although the outdoor show did not receive an official sanction, Ameriflora officials said this will not affect the size or the quality of the exhibition. Ameriflora did not expect a sanction for the outdoor show, Peterson says, because one had already been given to a show in the Netherlands for 1992.

Peterson, who also is an Ohio State associate professor of horticulture, says the sanction for the indoor show will add prestige to Ameriflora and will allow officials to work with foreign governments on an official basis.

The U.S. Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Commission has named Ameriflora one of five focal points during the 1992 celebrations commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus' landing in the Americas. Other focal points will be the proposed Chicago-Seville world's fair, various maritime festivals, international tall ship displays and local 1992 Columbus Day celebrations.

Ameriflora 1992 Inc., a private, nonprofit organization, will spend about $50 million to put on the floral and garden show, Peterson says.

Visitors can expect to see thousands of varieties of vegetation, Peterson says, from rare cacti to carnivorous plants.

Ameriflora's 2.5 acre indoor show will be located at the Ohio Center. The outdoor show will be held over 160 acres at Franklin, Academy and Wolfe parks along Broad Street at Nelson Road.

Celebrations planned

City to remember discovery of Americas

By DENISE L. CLARK
Lantern staff writer

The Ohio State University will be participating in the 1992 celebration to commemorate Columbus' discovery of the Americas with the project, "The Columbus Legacy: An Interdependent World."

The project, under the direction of the Office of International Affairs, started in 1984 when Ohio State sponsored a pre-planning conference to discuss what events could be done.

"We have been planning for the last two years just how the university and the city of Columbus should approach this commemoration," said Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and chairman of the steering committee.

The problem is not so much figuring out what they are going to do, but which of a long list of activities they want to do, Zacher said. The decisions should be made by the first of the year.

Gail Summerhill, 1992 program assistant, said the committee wants to reach beyond the local interest and stress the historical meaning while also highlighting the university.

"The progam is to reflect awareness of what the university stands for," Summerhill said. "Individual achievement, group endeavor, advancement of learning and risk taking."

The Quincentennial Steering Committee is planning academic programs to promote awareness of the event. Speakers are being planned for two conferences co-sponsored by Ohio State a..d the Dominican Republic. The first conference is scheduled to be held in Santo Domingo in 1988. An identical conference will be held in Columbus during 1989.

Summerhill said there is an exchange program for students and faculty that has been set up between Ohio State and the University of Genoa, Italy.

Genoa, Columbus' sister city, is the birthplace of Christopher Columbus.

Many countries, including Italy, Spain (the country Columbus sailed for), and the Dominican Republic (the country Columbus first sighted), are planning some type of celebration, Summerhill said.

Zacher said events planned with international countries are to celebrate the contact between the cultures and acknowledge the ties between the countries.

Ohio State is working closely with the Smithsonian Institute to sponsor a traveling art exhibition that will open in Washington, D.C., and be in Columbus in 1992.

The university's logo for the quincentennial celebration, created by University Publications, features three ships to represent the ships Columbus sailed in, said David Hoover, director of University Publications.

Hoover said the logo was originally intended for use by the city of Columbus and the university, but the city decided on something different.

Leslie Winters, director of contracts administration, said since the logo was designed for the university, initial applications to copyright the logo have been made.

Any revenue generated from the use of the logo would benefit the university, Hoover said.

Summerhill said that Ohio State will be working closely with the city of Columbus during some of the planning for the cultural events.

Lawmakers like AmeriFlora '92

By George Embrey
Chief, Dispatch Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON Many Ohioans in Congress registered support yesterday for AmeriFlora '92.

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio, Gov. Richard F. Celeste, AmeriFlora President John F. Wolfe and the event's executive director, John C. Peterson, briefed the Ohio delegation on the flower and garden exhibition that is to celebrate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' voyage to America.

"It's not a house and garden show. It's on a par with the Olympics," Peterson said.

GLENN SAID the six-month exhibition, to open in April 1992, could "develop into a whole new industry for Ohio." Columbus might use the buildings and the international interest generated by AmeriFlora '92 to become a world distribution center for cut flowers, he said.

Celeste said Ohio is a leading state in horticulture. During AmeriFlora, "we become the center of attention worldwide in this particular arena," he said.

Wolfe, president and publisher of *The Dispatch,* told the Ohio delegation that "a tremendous partnership had been formed to make this come to pass." The partnership involves private citizens, The Ohio State University and state, county and city governments.

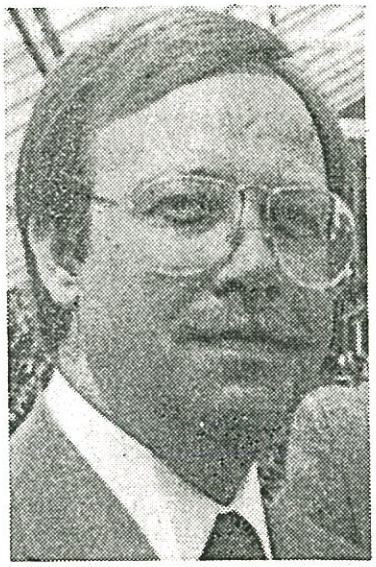
SEN. HOWARD Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, asked about private and local support. "I think it is an exciting concept," he said later. He said federal support will depend largely on how well the event is backed by private and government money at home.

Rep. Tony Hall, D-Ohio (Dayton), said after the briefing that he believes AmeriFlora '92 "will be good for Columbus and Ohio." He said he wonders how much federal subsidy it will require.

Wolfe said no special federal appropriation will be needed. Some money already budgeted in several federal agencies, including the Commerce Department, will be sought for AmeriFlora, he said.

PETERSON SAID Ohioans in Congress will be asked to help cut federal red tape and to speed action on such things as getting plant imports through Agriculture Department inspecting points.

OSU President Edward H. Jennings said two structures to be built for AmeriFlora, a plant quarantine building and a "super-greenhouse," will have lasting value in increasing the leadership of the university and Columbus in horticulture science and business.



Dispatch file photo
John C. Peterson

Rep. Douglas Applegate, D-Ohio (Steubenville), said Washington attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors with its flowers, particularly its Cherry Blossom Festival. "I can see a tremendous potential that the AmeriFlora gardens might become a permanent attraction to those sorts of crowds each year," he said.

Other speakers included City Council President Jerry Hammond; Gene D'Angelo, president and general manager of the WBNS stations; Franklin County Commissioner Jack Foulk; Marjory Pizzuti, director of the 1992 Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Jubilee Commission; and Reps. Chalmers P. Wylie, R-Ohio (Columbus), and John R. Kasich, R-Ohio (Westerville).

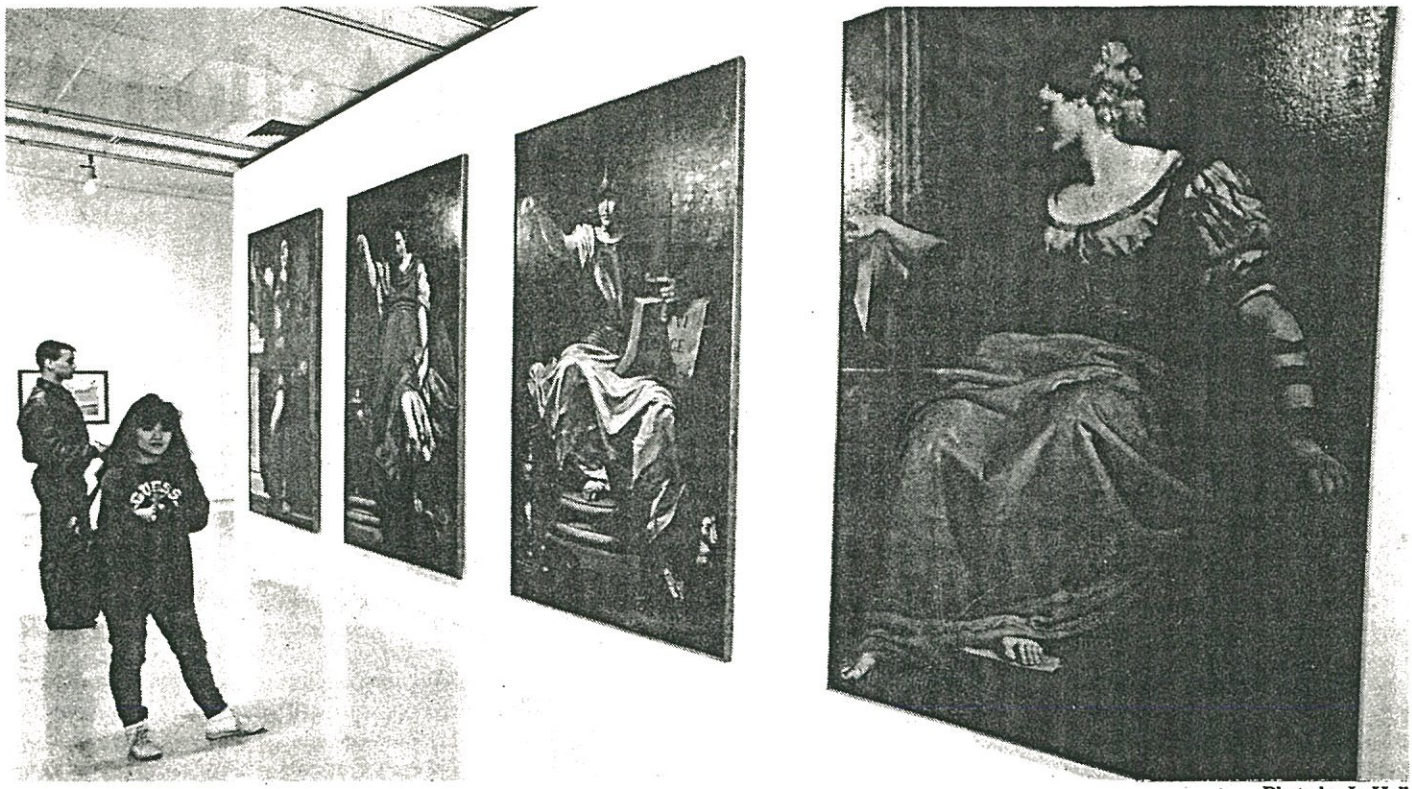


Photo by Jo Hall

MATTHEW POWELL of Cambridge, Ohio, a freshman majoring in business, left, and Gina Lapurga of Cleveland, a junior majoring in medical illustration, admire some of the pieces featured in "Genua Picta" at the Hoyt L. Sherman Gallery.

Building art creates space in Genoa

By Jeff Grabmeier

With its narrow streets and alleys lined with tall buildings, Genoa, Italy, easily could have seemed cramped and squeezed-in.

But the Genoese of the 16th and 17th centuries came up with an unusual way to give the city a more open feeling: paint facades on the exteriors of buildings.

Although many of these works have deteriorated through the centuries, art experts are working to restore the paintings to their original luster.

These painted facades are the subject of "Genua Picta," (Latin for "Painted Genoa") an art exhibition on display at the Hoyt L. Sherman Gallery.

Many of the Genoese facades were painted to "give the illusion of wider spaces" in the densely-built city, says Christine Bornstein, chairperson of the Department of History of Art.

Often, the building exteriors were painted with false architectural features, such as arches or elaborate windows. In addition to giving a sense of expanded space, the paintings unified the city's architecture through the use of similar themes on buildings, Bornstein says.

The facades had yet another purpose — to serve as a symbol of social status.

"Many facades depict ancient myths or heroic deeds," Bornstein says. "The owners of these buildings wanted to glorify themselves through the paintings."

Facades and other paintings that decorated public buildings often were declarations of fundamental principles of society, according to Bornstein. The Genua Picta exhibit, for example, features four large paintings depicting the "cardinal virtues" of fortitude, prudence, justice and temperance.

On May 24 at 7 p.m. in 100 Stillman Hall, three history of art faculty members will present lectures related to Genua Picta. They are: Anthony Melnikas, "The Precursors to the Genoese Painted Facades"; Francis Richardson, "Painting in Genoa in the 16th century"; and Barbara Haeger, "Rubens and Van Dyck in Genoa."

Genua Picta is Ohio State's first major exhibit offered in connection with the celebration of the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' landing in the Americas.

The sponsors include Francille Firebaugh, vice provost for international affairs and chair of the 1992 Coordinating Council; Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies and chair of the council's steering committee; the Ohio State Columbian Quincentenary Committee; the Department of History of Art; the City of Columbus Quincentennial Jubilee Commission; the Greater Columbus Arts Council; and many private donors.

Don Nigro signs on at Thurber House

By Michael Grossberg
Dispatch Theater Critic

In a *coup de theatre* arranged with The Ohio State University, Don Nigro will be the Thurber House's first playwright-in-residence this fall.

The nationally recognized playwright will live in the Thurber House while writing and teaching a class on playwriting at OSU.

Firman Brown, OSU theater department chairman, said Nigro's stay will be a "most exciting opportunity, further rewarding to us because Nigro is an Ohio native and OSU graduate.

"Establishment of this joint artistic arrangement is another step forward in the OSU theater's involvement with other Columbus artistic centers."

NIGRO, OF Malvern, Ohio, has visited Columbus several times recently to confer about his residency with Brown and Michael Rosen, Thurber's literary director.

"Sponsoring a playwright-in-residence is something we've always wanted to do," Rosen said. "James Thurber did work in journalism, storywriting and playwriting. We wanted to include all these areas in the scope of The Thurber House residencies."

OSU has commissioned Nigro to write a play about Christopher Columbus in honor of the city's 1992 celebration of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America. Nigro is writing a historical drama, tentatively titled *Mariner*, that will recount Columbus' discovery of America. OSU plans to stage the world premiere during its 1989-90 or 1990-91 season.

Regional playwrights are invited to enroll in Nigro's playwriting class, scheduled for 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Tuesdays and Thursdays from Sept. 21 to Dec. 1. For details, call OSU at 292-5821.

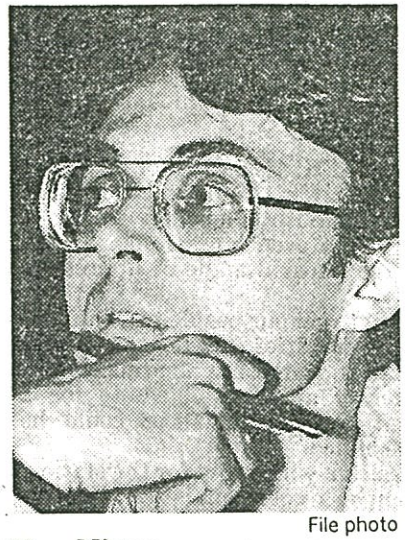
Paula DiPerna, current writer-in-residence, ends her stay in August at The Thurber House, 77 Jefferson Ave. Nigro will be the Thurber resident from September to December.

NIGRO'S MORE than 40 plays have been seen off-Broadway and at regional theaters across the country. Most recently, Princeton's McCarter Theatre presented Nigro's *The Dark Sonnets of the Lady*, which received a respectful review in *Variety*. OSU presented *Sonnets* in 1985, with Nigro as director.

One of Nigro's works, *God's Spies*, was commissioned by Actors Theatre of Louisville. The Hudson Guild Theatre, which gave Ed Graczyk's *Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean* its New York debut, did the same for Nigro's *Seascape with Sharks and Dancers.*

Among the prolific 38-year-old's other plays are *Terre Haute, Beast with Two Backs, Captain Cook, Doctor Faustus, The Devil, Cincinnati, Loves Labours Wonne* and *LaSomething in the Basement.*

Said Rosen, "Our plan is to have a resident playwright one quarter each year from now on."



File photo

Don Nigro

Grant broadens Genoa involvement

By Jeff Grabmeier

Ohio State's three-year-old affiliation with the University of Genoa, Italy, has been largely based on exchanges of cancer researchers and mathematicians.

But now, faculty members in the humanities and social sciences will be more involved.

Ohio State has received a three-year, $50,000 grant from the United States Information Agency's University Affiliations Program to develop its relationship with the University of Genoa in these academic areas.

"This grant is highly competitive and it's quite an honor for Ohio State to receive it," says Christian Zacher, chairman of Ohio State's Columbian Quincentenary Committee. "The USIA only awards the grant to universities with a proven track record of successful exchanges."

Of 60 universities that applied to the USIA program this year, 25 received funding. Ohio State was among six universities funded for projects in Europe.

Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, will co-direct the exchange project with Luciano Farina, associate professor of Romance languages and literatures.

Ten Ohio State faculty members will visit Genoa and six of its faculty members will come here. Most will spend a month or longer conducting research, lecturing and teaching.

The theme of the exchange program is "cultural exchange in its historical context," Zacher says. Participants will examine the influence of historical forces upon cultural expression including religious sculpture, paintings, city plans, artisan stonecarving and immigrants' narratives.

"Our relationship with the University of Genoa has arisen from our joint interest in commemorating the 500th anniversary of Columbus's landing in the Americas," Zacher notes. "But our affiliation has expanded into other areas. We are collaborating in a variety of academic areas."

Ohio State researchers will study a

broad range of topics, including comparisons of the Italian and U.S. constitutions, the history of one of Italy's most famous banks, and images of Christopher Columbus in art.

Some of the research projects for the Genoese faculty members include a study of Italian immigrant experiences in North America, particularly Ohio, and 19th century experimental utopian communities in the Midwest.

The exchange program will start in the 1988-89 academic year when six Ohio State faculty members will go to Genoa, and three of their researchers will travel to Columbus.

Ohio State faculty members going to Genoa next year are: Francis Beytagh, dean of the College of Law; Christine Bornstein, chairperson of the Department of History of Art; Barbara Groseclose, associate professor of history of art; Kay Bea Jones, assistant professor of architecture; Timothy Redman, assistant professor of English; and Amy Shuman, associate professor of English.

In the following years, Ohio State participants will include: Farina; David Frantz, associate professor of English; Thomas Heck, associate professor of music; and Albert Mancini, professor of Romance languages and literatures.

The University of Genoa will send faculty members in law, philosophy, art history and history.

Grant aids OSU-Genoa exchange

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Staff Reporter

The Ohio State University is sending something to Genoa, Italy. And it isn't artwork by Roy Lichtenstein.

Three OSU faculty members will go to the University of Genoa in the fall to research and lecture as part of a faculty exchange program.

A $50,000 grant from the United States Information Agency will help pay for 10 OSU faculty members to work in Genoa and six Genoa faculty members to come to OSU during the next three years.

The exchange program grew from the joint effort of Columbus and Genoa to commemorate in 1992 the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' landing in the Americas.

Mayor Dana G. Rinehart has proposed giving Genoa *Brushstrokes in Flight*, the Lichtenstein sculpture at Port Columbus, in time for 1992.

Christian Zacher, director of OSU's Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and Luciano Farina, an OSU associate professor of Romance languages, are directors of the exchange program.

"It seemed like a natural affiliation to set up," said Zacher, chairman of OSU's Columbian Quincentenary Committee.

The exchange program will focus on the significance of 1992, Zacher said.

While in Genoa, OSU researchers will study historical and cultural topics, including comparisons between the Italian and United States constitutions and artwork of Christopher Columbus.

Genoese researchers will examine lives of Italian immigrants in North America and 19th-century experimental utopian communities in the Midwest.

OSU faculty members, mostly from the humanities and social sciences departments, will spend up to a month in Genoa.

The two universities have exchanged faculty members in the past.

Before, the universities paid the expenses for the exchanges. This is the first time OSU has received federal funding for the exchange, Zacher said.

City, OSU trying to focus on 1992 festivities

When Christopher Columbus arrived in the New World in 1492, the natives were not prepared.

But for the 500th anniversary of the voyage, the city of Columbus will be ready.

John Williams, executive director of the Christopher Columbus Quincentenary Jubilee Commission, spoke to a group of delegates at the Quincentenary Humanities Conference at The Ohio State University yesterday to bring some focus to the 1992 celebration.

"The city of Columbus and OSU have been most effective in setting the civic and institutional agenda," Williams said.

"We have heard a consistent refrain regarding the problem of finding a focus," he said. "But a single theme is elusive because of the nature of the celebration."

Williams spoke of the dispute about who officially discovered America. The main achievement of Columbus is that he sailed to America, went back to Europe and talked about his discovery, Williams said.

"The community interest in Christopher Columbus is strong because he is a symbol of the desire to integrate while maintaining original heritage," he said.

OSU foots $4.5 million AmeriFlora bill

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Staff Reporter

The Ohio State University will pay for construction of a $4.5 million horticultural information center in Franklin Park to be used as part of AmeriFlora '92.

The center will be moved to OSU after the international floral exhibit ends.

OSU trustees approved the project yesterday. Money for the project has been appropriated to the university by the Ohio General Assembly.

The AmeriFlora '92 Technology and Horticultural Information Center will house horticultural and technological displays and educational and informational programs.

"AmeriFlora was looking for something that would be consistent with the overall development of the exhibit. I think this will be," said Richard D. Jackson, vice president of business and administration at OSU.

"From the university's standpoint, this is a very exciting project because it will be moved to OSU when Ameriflora ends," he said. The center will become part of the OSU arboretum.

AmeriFlora is one of several events scheduled in Columbus for 1992 to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' first voyage to America.

Construction is scheduled to begin next spring and should be finished by fall 1991. A site in Franklin Park for the center has not been selected.

In other matters:

- OSU's five-year campaign to raise $350 million is ahead of schedule, trustees were told. About $316 million, or 90 percent of the campaign's goal, had been raised through September, said university spokesman Malcolm Baroway. The campaign began September 1985.
- The trustees approved the sale of 92.6 acres on Harrisburg Pike, near Briggs Road, to T & D Properties for $300,000. OSU Trustee Leonard J. Immke gave the land as a gift to the university in 1986. The money will go to the Leonard J. Immke Jr. and Charlotte L. Immke Chair in Cancer Research Fund, which supports the work of a researcher at OSU's cancer research institute.
- The MerryMakers Club of Columbus Inc., a black men's organization in Columbus, established an endowed fund to provide financial aid for black students who have qualified for National Achievement Scholarships.

Italian scholars examine immigrants, philosopher

By Jeff Grabmeier

Nearly 500 years after Christopher Columbus first landed in the Americas, Italian scholars continue to explore the "New World."

But now it's intellectual discoveries they seek.

Two faculty members from the University of Genoa, Italy, came to Ohio State recently to conduct research.

Italo Bertoni, professor of moral philosophy, is studying Josiah Royce, a versatile American teacher and philosopher of the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Adele Maiello, professor of American history, is studying Italian immigrants to the Columbus area.

Both are here under a three-year $50,000 grant from the United States Information Agency's University Affiliations Program. The University received the grant last summer to develop its relationship with the University of Genoa.

Ohio State has strengthened its relationship with Genoa as part of the commemoration of the quincentenary of Christopher Columbus's landing in the Americas.

Christian Zacher, chairman of the University's Columbian Quincentenary Committee, co-directs the USIA program with Luciano Farina, associate professor of Romance languages and literatures.

Bertoni and Maiello are the first of six Genoa faculty members who will come here as part of the USIA program. Ten Ohio State faculty members will go to Italy.

If Bertoni and Maiello are any indication, the program should be a success. Both say their time at Ohio State has been productive and rewarding.

"Americans have been very, very helpful to me," Maiello says. "Many people have helped me with my research."

Maiello, who arrived in late October, will stay only a few weeks. She describes her trip here as an exploratory visit to find out what records and research material are available on Italian immigrants.

She says that at this point, she does not have a firm idea of the direction her research is going to take.

"I'm just trying to understand how Italian immigrants behaved in America, and trying to understand what they did."

In addition to viewing census records and other documents, she has established contacts at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, which has a large Italian immigrant population.

If funding is available, she hopes to come back for several summers to complete her research. Eventually, she wants to write a book on the Italian immigrant experience in America.

Bertoni will be at Ohio State most of autumn quarter conducting his research on Royce, who he admits is "quite unknown" by most people. But Royce's contributions in history, literary criticism, psychology and philosophy made him broadly influential in America and Europe. Royce, who was born in California and taught for many years at Harvard, was known as an idealist philosopher who emphasized a religious view of reality and the connection of the individual to society.

Much of Bertoni's work at Ohio State involves using the libraries' collections to research Royce's life and contributions. "I hope to eventually write an interpretation of Royce's philosophy," he says.

But Bertoni's work on Royce wouldn't have happened at all if it weren't for his own persistence. Bertoni wanted to do his doctoral thesis on Royce, but his advisor told him he would do better to research other philosophers. It was only later, as a professor, that Bertoni decided to pursue his interest.

"I felt it was my personal duty to come back and study the philosopher," he says. Bertoni now is considered a leading expert on Royce.

Ohio State also hosted a third Genoa scholar for several weeks this quarter, although he wasn't part of the USIA program. Enrico Zanelli, chairperson of the University of Genoa Department of Law and Economics, made the first of several visits to Ohio State to lecture on comparative constitutional law.

Later this year, several Ohio State scholars will travel to Genoa for their part of the USIA exchange program.

Architects hired to design AmeriFlora inspection center

By Robert Sohovich
Dispatch Development Reporter

The Columbus architectural firm of Moody-Nolan Ltd. has been hired to design the $2.25 million AmeriFlora '92 inspection and quarantine center. It will be built on The Ohio State University's West Campus.

The General Assembly has provided money for construction, and OSU is overseeing the project. The money was included in the state's set-aside program for minority-owned businesses.

FEES ARE being negotiated with the state's Department of Administrative Services.

The center will be a reception and inspection area for plant materials from other countries intended for use in exhibits at the 1992 international floral and garden exhibition.

Imported plants and growing material are inspected to protect American plants from disease or insects. John C. Peterson, AmeriFlora executive director, often has joked that he does not want to be known as the one who introduced the disease that eliminated the American corn crop.

THE CENTER will have a 4,610-square-foot plant inspection facility, a 15,000-square-foot greenhouse and a 22,000-square-foot outdoor holding area. It will be built south of Howlett Hall and east of the Howlett greenhouses.

The site was chosen because it will be convenient for OSU's departments of horticulture, agronomy, plant pathology and natural resources. Once the six-month AmeriFlora exhibition is over, the center will be used solely by OSU.

Frederick E. Hutchinson, OSU vice president for agricultural administration, said, "I am very excited about this new facility. Horticulture is one of the fastest-growing agricultural segments in our state.

"Our undergraduate and graduate students must be exposed to the most advanced research capabilities.

"WE NEED the new inspection and quarantine facility to enable our gifted scientists to work in the most advanced areas of research."



Peterson, who also is an OSU associate professor of horticulture, said the center will include computerized control of environmental systems and watering.

Plant-testing center coming here



Tim White

FARM-TO-MARKET

Fourteen inspection and quarantine stations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service rim the border of the United States. The centers, which ensure that incoming flora and fauna are free of disease and pests, are in such cities as Miami; New Orleans; Nogales, Ariz.; San Diego; and San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Thanks to AmeriFlora '92, center No. 15 will be in Columbus.

The Ohio State University and AmeriFlora announced last week that Moody/Nolan Ltd. had been awarded the contract to design the AmeriFlora '92 Inspection and Quarantine Center.

The Ohio General Assembly funded the $2.5 million facility in its budget for the 1988-89 biennium. OSU will build the center and use it for research and education programs after 1992.

"The basic reason for the inspection and quarantine center is to make sure AmeriFlora does not result in the introduction of any new insect pest or exotic plant diseases that will have a negative impact on U.S. agriculture," said John C. Peterson, executive director for AmeriFlora '92.

There's no shortage of examples of foreign pests that have entered the United States and flourished.

It is reported to have been a fan of Shakespeare who brought starlings to America because he could not live without hearing their chirp, alas. The house mouse and the brown rat stowed away with immigrants and found the environment here to their liking. Despite the efforts of Chemlawn and Chevron, the dandelion invaded and took root.

We have learned to live with such bugs as the Japanese beetle, the coddling moth and the European corn borer. The boll weevil is still an expensive problem.

The chestnut blight has made a rarity of American chestnut trees and the Dutch elm disease is in the process of obliterating the American elm.

Soybean cyst nematodes and golden potato nematodes are among the newest crop pests to come to our shores. Plant pathologists fear that oat and corn cyst nematode varieties may follow.

"It's no accident that this has been one of our top priorities," said Peterson. "We have been working with APHIS officials for two years planning this facility."

Filtering out potential problems will begin overseas, he said. "There will be strict guidelines for foreign producers to ensure the risk of contamination is very low even before the plant material gets here."

Organisms linked to the roots pose a special problem. Guidelines require exhibitors to send plants in an artificial, pasturized growing medium that is pathogen-free. Soil as such is not allowed to enter the country.

Which plants may enter the United States and how to deal with them once they get here are spelled out in the APHIS publication, *Title 7 Code of Federal Requirements 319-37.* Bruce Smith, state director of APHIS, calls it "Quarantine 37."

The 27-page book prohibits the importation of common plants like roses and chrysanthemums from certain countries. Those permitted to enter the the United States face a two-year quarantine.

During that period, the roses periodically are tested for rose wilt virus and the mums for white rust of chrysanthemum. If no disease problems show up, the plants can be moved outdoors.

"Viruses are our main concern," said Smith.

Other plants that require up to two years in quarantine include pines, maples, willows and elms. Most fruit or nut trees face the same "post-entry quarantine."

Once the plants are in the inspection center, they will be in a biologically contained unit, said Charles C. Powell Jr., an OSU plant pathologist.

All vents will be covered with screen filters. Any effluent will be chlorinated before it is released. All growing medium used in the center will be run through a sterilizer. There will be chambers to isolate plants and laboratories to conduct tests without removing samples from the facility.

The containment capacity of the center gives OSU scientists a unique capability for biotechnology research, Powell said.

"All biological engineering has an out-plant test phase. Testing plants has raised concerns. With this facility, Ohio State can test bioengineered plants without releasing them in the environment."

Whether the center will continue as a federal quarantine station after AmeriFlora is still under discussion. If it does, it will provide the university's already highly regarded Plant Disease Clinic with the added capacity to be an international plant disease diagnosis center.

Bids opened for floral inspection center

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Staff Reporter

The Ohio State University will have a greenhouse for agricultural research to show for its efforts in helping AmeriFlora '92.

Bids were opened yesterday in the state architect's office to determine who will build an inspection and holding center for foreign plants that enter the United States for the international floral and garden exposition.

The state gave OSU $2.225 million for the center, to be built near Howlett Hall on the campus. Once AmeriFlora ends, it will be turned over to OSU's agricultural department.

"It is a unique setup," said John H. Seilhamer, university architect emeritus.

"The appropriation is for the long-term benefit of the university. It just happens to have the pleasant advantage, or byproduct, of serving AmeriFlora in an interim basis."

AmeriFlora '92 will begin April 3, 1992, with an indoor floral show in the Ohio Center. The indoor show ends April 19. The outdoor exposition will run from April 20 to Oct. 12, 1992, in Franklin, Wolfe and Academy parks.

The center at OSU will serve as a receiving point for international plants appearing in the show. The plants will be placed in quarantine, checked for diseases and treated if necessary.

Each country will have a bay in the center. Eventually, the plants will be moved outside to become acclimated to Columbus, and then they will be moved to Franklin Park.

Besides a greenhouse, OSU hopes to gain an international reputation in horticulture from its affiliation with AmeriFlora.

"It is important because OSU does need additional greenhouse space," Seilhamer said.

"But having international floral interests focusing on the campus certainly brings a firsthand awareness of all these different foreign agencies to the academic capabilities of the university."

Work will begin on the project this spring. It is expected to be completed sometime in 1991.

It will take up to two weeks for the state architect's office to certify bids opened yesterday and to award the contracts. Bidding was limited to minority contractors and joint ventures involving minority contractors.

The apparent low bidders are:

General contract — Miles McClellan Construction of Columbus, $1,095,000.

Plumbing contract — Miles McClellan Construction of Columbus, $192,000.

Heating, ventilation and air-conditioning contract — Limbach Co. and Ro-Dan Mechanical Service, both of Columbus, a joint bid, $522,420.

Electrical contract — Steagall Electric of Cincinnati, $304,908.

Board allots more than $2 million

Regents appropriate construction funds

By Crystal Sadler
Lantern staff writer

The Ohio Board of Regents appropriated $2,274,697 to the $3,620,865 already given to Ohio State for a variety of projects, including construction on the biocontainment facility for AmeriFlora '92.

The Controlling Board for the Regents requested the Ohio Board of Regents to allot an extra $1,975,098 to cover construction costs for the facility.

The biocontainment facility will be the inspection place for all foreign floral arrangements sent to AmeriFlora '92. At the facility the arrangements will be checked for any diseases or dangerous bugs, Curt Moody of Moody-Nolan, Ltd. said. Moody-Nolan created the design of the biocontainment building.

AmeriFlora '92 also received a three-year $300,000 grant for its Franklin Park Conservatory expansion and renovation from the Columbus Foundation.

The additional funds appropriated by the board for Ohio State will be used for the following:

- Transmission equipment for WOSU-$155,871
- Mansfield campus parking lot construction-$81,258
- Lima campus parking lot construction-$51,600
- Basic renovations for Founders Hall-$9,870

The board also approved distribution of funds to Ohio State for the 1991 fiscal year for Sea Grants, the Ohio Supercomputer Center, the Cooperative Extension Service, the Labor Education Service, the Cancer Hospital, clinic teaching, and clinic support.

The approved funding equals more than $3.9 million.

During the meeting, Board of Regents Chancellor Elaine H. Hairston said the board needs to encourage more Ohioans to attend school in the state because Ohio is falling behind in its rate of graduating students from four-year colleges.

She said in 1947, 4.41 percent of Ohioans completed four years of college which at that time was 97 percent of the national rate. In 1987, 16.3 percent completed four years of college which translates to 81 percent of the national rate.

"We are not closing the gap," Hairston said. "We will be taking up the problem in innovative and assertive ways."

The next meeting of the Ohio Board of Regents is scheduled for September 14.

Translations to aid Columbus studies

By Jeff Grabmeier

English translations of Christopher Columbus's diary and other books concerning his life and times will be available to American scholars as the result of a new project at Ohio State.

University officials have agreed to provide English translations of selected volumes of the *Nuova Raccolta Colombiana* — the "New Columbus Collection."

The 24-volume collection is being published by the Italian government to commemorate the quincentennial (500th) anniversary of Columbus's arrival in the Americas, to be observed in 1992.

An international team of eminent scholars are writing and producing the volumes, three of which already have been published in Italy.

"This collection is the most significant scholarly project associated with the Columbian Quincentenary," says Christian Zacher, director of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies. Zacher is one of the translation project directors.

A team of American experts, coordinated by a seven-member University Translation Advisory Board, will reproduce English versions of 12 key volumes in the series that will be of special interest to English-speaking readers, Zacher says.

"The volumes include newly edited documents from Columbus' time and updated research concerning the life and work of Columbus," he says.

"In addition, some volumes examine the contributions of other important figures and events of the age of discovery."

The translated collection will include volumes devoted to Columbus' ships and his life in Italy and Spain; reflections on the explorer by his contemporaries; Italian maps of the era; and the archaeology of places Columbus visited on his voyages.

Some of the works, such as Columbus' diary, have been translated into English before. But the *Raccolta Colombiana* will bring many of these works together for the first time and include the most up-to-date research and scholarship on Columbus, Zacher says.

The first three translated volumes, including the Columbus diary, will be published in April. The remaining nine volumes will be published periodically over the next several years.

In addition to Zacher, other translation project directors are Luciano Farina, associate professor of Italian, and David O. Frantz, associate dean of humanities and associate professor of English.

They signed the agreement in Columbus with Fausto Fontecedro, director of the publishing division of Italy's Polygraphic Institute and Mint of the State.

OSU greenhouse will welcome AmeriFlora plants

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Higher Education Reporter

AmeriFlora '92 is creating a greenhouse effect on The Ohio State University campus.

Construction of a greenhouse is under way near Howlett Hall, which is between Rt. 315 and Coffey Road.

The greenhouse will be used to quarantine plants shipped to Columbus for AmeriFlora. Once the international flower and garden show is over, OSU horticulturists will use the building to conduct research.

"I think it is an important addition for the College of Agriculture," said John H. Seilhamer, a university architect emeritus who is coordinating the design and construction of the building.

"It will extend the greenhouse capacity of the college, which is much needed."

The state gave OSU $2.225 million for the greenhouse. Workers broke ground in the spring and are expected to finish the job next year, in time for AmeriFlora. The exposition is to begin April 3, 1992, with an indoor floral show.

The indoor show ends April 19, and an outdoor exposition is to run from April 20 to Oct. 12, 1992, in Franklin and Wolfe parks.

The greenhouse will serve as a receiving point for international plants used in the show. Plants will be flown from their country of origin to Port Columbus, where trucks will take them to the greenhouse.

Once there, the plants will be quarantined, checked for diseases and treated, if necessary.

Federal law requires that the foreign plants be quarantined, Seilhamer said.

"This definitely helps prevent introduction of any foreign disease or insect that might not be native to the United States," he said.

"So many times, insects or animals brought into the country accidentally can adapt to our environment and do great damage."

Each country will have a bay in the center. Eventually, the plants will be moved outside to become acclimated to Columbus, and then they will be moved to Franklin Park.

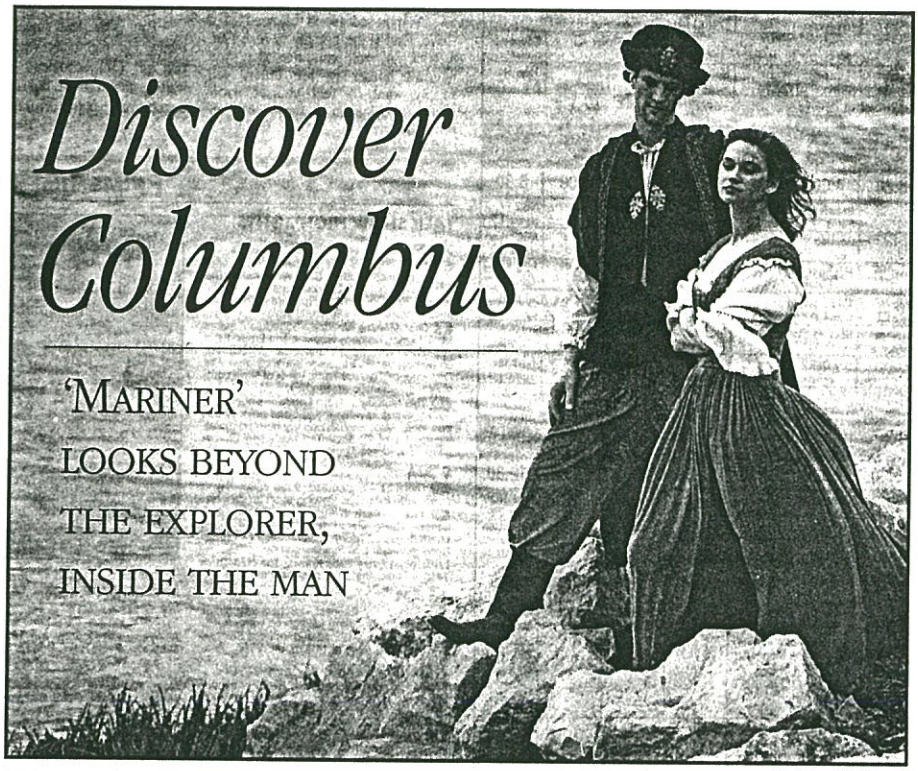
The greenhouse will contain storage and office space that will fit nicely with OSU's plans.

"It does have a laboratory that might be converted for more specific university use, but it is my feeling that it will essentially be used for research," he said.

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Discover Columbus

'MARINER' LOOKS BEYOND THE EXPLORER, INSIDE THE MAN



Shane Henry (Columbus) and Kim Ryan (Beatriz) in the Ohio State production of *Mariner* Jim Criswell Jr./*Dispatch*

By Michael Grossberg
Dispatch Theater Critic

Discover Christopher Columbus: the *man,* not the myths. That was the noble aim of playwright Don Nigro in researching and writing *Mariner*, his new play about the controversial explorer. The world premiere will be Wednesday at The Ohio State University.

"There is the historical Columbus, the great hero of the paintings, who clearly couldn't have been much like that," Nigro said.

"Then there is the more recent view of Columbus as the genocidal butcher who brought slavery to the New World."

Mariner, commissioned in 1985 by the OSU theater department for the 1992 Quincentennial and co-sponsored with the Columbian Quincentenary Committee and Christopher Columbus Quincentennial Jubilee Commission, rejects both myths.

"If you take either view, you relieve yourself of the necessity of ever thinking about Columbus again," Nigro said.

"You also deny what seems to me to be the most interesting thing about him: Columbus was a real person who lived and breathed, loved and hated, just like us."

Nigro's hallucinatory drama, set on a shipwreck, explores Columbus' life retrospectively from his deathbed in 1506.

Most of the 16-member cast play multiple roles, leaving the Thurber Theatre stage only to change costumes and characters.

"Columbus made four voyages, but the focus of *Mariner* is on his interpersonal relations," Nigro said.

Shane Henry stars as the Italian explorer who set sail for India only to discover an unknown continent.

David Bugher plays Torquemada, who persecutes and interrogates Columbus toward the end of his life. Kim Turney plays Princess Juana the Mad, who toys with the explorer earlier in his storm-tossed career.

"They attacked him at every turn," Nigro said. "Columbus struggled for years against pompous authority figures who said he was crazy."

Nigro, also of Italian descent, said that he easily identifies with Columbus' struggles.

"He was stubborn; so am I," said Nigro, 41. "Columbus was obsessed; so are writers. He persevered with finding, exploring and discovering. That's what playwrights do, too."

So far, the Ohio native and OSU graduate has written about 80 plays.

"It's really easy to write that many plays," he said, somewhat disingenuously. "You just have to have nothing else to do."

In fact, Nigro had to pay his proverbial dues, just like most struggling writers.

"Most playwrights get killed one way or another," he said. "Either they kill themselves, or they get killed spiritually because there's not enough money in it."

More than half of his scripts have been staged at least once — but Nigro, by necessity, had to learn the value of patience.

"It often takes years to find a first production," he said. "It's always been difficult, but it gets worse as the years go by. Most theaters are scared to death now that they're going to go out of business, because they're losing funding and people are attacking and censoring them."

Seascape With Sharks and Dancer, perhaps his most frequently produced play, had a typical history. Nigro wrote it in 1973. The world premiere was 1974, after which no one saw it for six years. Then *Seascape* began to be staged again. Since the script's belated publication in 1985, it has been produced more than 80 times in four countries.

Although it took more than a decade, Nigro now has enough plays being produced to live off the royalties while writing more at his father's house in Malvern, Ohio.

"One of the virtues of living in the country is that I live inexpensively," he said.

"When I have a new production, I travel for a frenzied month or two. When I get totally exhausted, I come back home to write. That rhythm has proven useful in keeping my sanity."

Nigro, an OSU playwriting instructor this quarter as the James Thurber writer-in-residence, also will direct *Mariner.*

"I like directing my own stuff, especially at universities," he said. "The student actors are young enough that they have not practiced their bad habits long."

After switching gears from playwriting to directing, Nigro considers his own script fair game.

"Once I'm the director, I'm not the playwright anymore. I like to tell the cast: I'm sorry the playwright couldn't be here, so we're just going to have to figure it out together."

Nigro expects to make more cuts and revisions after OSU's premiere. He will write a "final draft" for publication this summer by Samuel French, a New York publisher.

The script, already listed in French's catalog, has sparked considerable interest from other regional and college theaters looking for an appropriate way to celebrate Columbus' discovery of America.

"It's been in the catalog since last fall for precisely that reason," Nigro said. "We wanted to give other people a chance to do it for the quincentennial."

But the city named after the explorer will discover it first.

Mariner, The Ohio State University's world-premiere student production of Don Nigro's historical drama about Christopher Columbus. Directed by Nigro.

Major cast members:
Columbus.....Shane Henry
Torquemada.....David Bugher
Princess Juana.....Kim Turney

Performances: 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday; and May 14-18 in Drake Union's Thurber Theatre, 1849 Cannon Dr.

Tickets: $6 to $9. Call 292-2295.

Ohio State invests $15 million in AmeriFlora

By Samantha G. Haney
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State has invested about $15 million of state appropriations into AmeriFlora '92 for capital improvements that will benefit OSU in the long run, said John Peterson, former AmeriFlora '92 executive director and OSU faculty member.

Peterson, associate professor of horticulture and director of the OSU Biocontainment Facility, served as executive director of AmeriFlora '92 for five years while maintaining his faculty position. Peterson ended his directorship in December.

Peterson said the Ohio legislature added about $15 million to the board of trustees state appropriations request. The money was for capital improvements at AmeriFlora '92. He said all the projects Ohio State has invested in are tangible, and will benefit the university when AmeriFlora '92 ends.

A new biocontainment facility being built will cost $2.5 million. The facility, near the veterinary school, will be used to inspect and quarantine plants from overseas appearing in the floral shows, Peterson said. He said the U.S. Department of Agriculture would not give permission for the facility to be built without Ohio State running the project.

"The only other facility as sophisticated and technically advanced in terms of research and plant maintenance is in Belsville, Md. and belongs to the Department of Agriculture," Peterson said.

Ohio State invested $4.5 million into constructing the Discovery Pavillion at AmeriFlora '92. The pavillion has been bolted together rather than welded so it can be moved to campus or elsewhere to promote the university.

Ohio State has also spent $7 million for renovations and expansion of the Franklin Park Conservatory. Ohio State will have an easement agreement with Franklin Park for access to the conservatory for teaching and community service projects after AmeriFlora '92 ends.

John Ellenger, associate vice president for agriculture administration, said Ohio State will have promotional displays with the theme "International Garden of Knowledge" at the floral show for its recruitment and horticulture programs.

"The show gives Ohio State and the department of horticulture unique visibility to people whether they're from Columbus or Copenhagen," he said.

Printed materials on graduate and undergraduate programs and videos about the colleges and their activities will be presented at an information booth to promote Ohio State, Ellenger said.

"People will hopefully leave with (an) appreciation that Ohio State is a great institution that works teaching, research and service across the globe," Ellenger said.

University President E. Gordon Gee replaced former president Edward Jennings on the AmeriFlora '92 Board of Trustees. Gee said he is impressed with the program's accomplishments, and that the university is as much a giver as a receiver from AmeriFlora '92.

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Rebecca Lusk, AmeriFlora '92 communications director, said Ohio State was the obvious choice for horticulture plans for AmeriFlora '92. "The stature of Ohio State lends credence to the program," Lusk said.

She said Ohio State helped with a number of important projects including the Discovery Pavillion, the biocontainment facility and expanding the conservatory. Lusk said OSU communications staff on a trustees subcommittee helped in answering concerns raised about the event by residents in the Franklin Park area. Ohio State also had input in the landscaping plans and staffing for landscaping properties which face the AmeriFlora '92 grounds.

AmeriFlora '92 is the first floral show in United States to be sanctioned by the International Association of Horticulture Producers, based in Paris. Lusk said floral shows like AmeriFlora are a traditionally popular European event.

The sanction makes AmeriFlora '92 a prestigious event allowing American and European businesses to make contacts, Lusk said.

Lusk said AmeriFlora '92 is a $93 million project. The AmeriFlora '92 budget consists of $21.2 million in private funding and $33.7 million in public funds.

Private funds will be used for operating expenses and public funds for capital expenditures projects, Lusk said. She said these projects include providing a new athletic facility to replace Academy Park, which lays inside the AmeriFlora '92 grounds and will be unavailable. Other plans are for improved sewage systems, landscaping and an amphitheater in the park.

Lusk said some of the events at AmeriFlora '92, which opens April 20 next year, will include nine different climactic environments inside the conservatory with different plant life represented. "It will actually be raining inside," she said referring to a mountain-forest environment in the conservatory.

There will be live entertainment and cuisine from around the world in addition to the floral show. "There will be something for everyone from two to 92," Lusk said.

No special rate awaits students at AmeriFlora

By Erin Habersack
Lantern staff writer

OSU students who are planning to attend AmeriFlora in 1992 should begin saving their pennies now.

Although Ohio State is contributing $15 million in state-donated funds to the six-month mega-event, OSU students will get no discount on the $20 ticket price.

AmeriFlora '92 is $9.3 million international floral exposition that will take place in the 100-year-old Franklin Park.

AmeriFlora

The six-month extravaganza will feature:
- A $9.3 million international floral exposition in the 100-year-old Franklin Park.
- A discovery pavilion
- A 50-foot classic carousel
- An International Ampitheater

Attractions at the show will include more than just flowers. There will be a discovery pavilion, a 50-foot classic carousel, an International Ampitheater, shopping, food and much more.

OSU's $15 million for AmeriFlora '92 will be spent on a variety of projects that should benefit the university long after the event ends Oct. 12, 1992.

For example, Ohio State will set up promotional displays with the theme "International Garden of Knowledge," designed to recruit students into horitcultural programs.

Despite the fact that the high ticket price may deter students from attending AmeriFlora '92, a spokesperson for the event said AmeriFlora '92 needs to compete with other local attractions.

"In other area attractions there really aren't student rates," said Joy Salzman, publicity coordinator for AmeriFlora '92, "(and) we're competitive."

Yet the general admission ticket prices at competing attractions, such as King's Island and Cedar Point are both slightly cheaper than the suggested ticket price at AmeriFlora.

AmeriFlora '92, however, is offering a group rate program to different groups and organizations around Columbus. Ohio State and university organizations would have the opportunity to purchase a "bulk" of tickets and sell them to students at a discounted rate, if the university accepts the proposal.

"The more tickets you purchase the (more the) price would go down even more," Salzman said.

John Ellenger, assistant vice president for agriculture

See AMERIFLORA Page two

administration at Ohio State, said he thinks it is premature to sit down and decide what type of ticket price Ohio State could obtain until AmeriFlora '92 has developed a total ticket policy. But he thinks Ohio State will accept the proposal.

"I believe that in due course we will arrive at a group price for our university family," Ellenger said.

Ellenger also said the entire university community should be included in the proposal — not just students.

"The entire family should be included," he said, "staff, faculty, and their family members will want to attend."

Jim Wood, a junior majoring in landscape horticulture, said it doesn't matter how much the event will cost because he plans to attend.

"I think it's well worth it," he said, "I would have no problem paying $20."

Actor taking Columbus on the road

By ErinMarie Medick
Dispatch Staff Reporter

No Santa Maria, no Nina and no Pinta, but Christopher Columbus manages just fine as he travels around central Ohio in an Oldsmobile announcing his upcoming 500th anniversary.

Columbus, or Jeff Edsell, visits city council meetings in communities throughout central Ohio to promote the 1992 Quincentennial Jubilee celebration.


Jeff Edsell

Edsell, 24, a part-time graduate student at The Ohio State University, began his stint as Columbus last month. He appeared in Upper Arlington, Worthington, Westerville, Gahanna, Grove City and Logan.

During a two-minute presentation, Edsell introduces a county commissioner and a member of the jubilee committee. He thanks the community for its participation in the upcoming 1992 celebrations.

"I'm usually greeted by stunned silence," Edsell said. "Most of the people don't know I'm coming. Usually they're just told that there will be a presentation by the quincentennial committee. The last thing they expect is that Christopher Columbus is going to come walking in. I like the surprise of it."

Edsell graduated from the University of Dayton in 1989 with a bachelor of arts degree in English and a minor in theater. Active in the theater at OSU, Edsell heard of the part and auditioned for it.

"They originally wanted Shane Henry, who plays Columbus in the play *Mariner* at Ohio State," Edsell said. "But because of that play he wasn't available. Shane saw my audition and recommended me to Bob Wharton at Ohio State theater."

Edsell, who wants to become a professional, said this is his first paying part. "It's great to be doing something you love while earning money at the same time."

But the real fun, he said, is seeing the reactions.

"Once they get over the surprise, people usually get into the act. I've never had a job where you have to think on your feet as much. Some of the ad libs I get from people are a lot of fun to play off of."

OSU may purchase Ameriflora pavillion

By Rebecca Gonso
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State may spend more than $1.7 million to acquire a building that it is not sure what to do with.

Through an arrangement with Ameriflora, Ohio State may get a building known as the Discovery Pavillion, under construction at Franklin Park for the 1992 Ameriflora exhibit. Whether Ohio State gets or wants the pavillion is uncertain, in part because of the expense to move it.

The state appropriated $300,000 to relocate the building after Ameriflora finishes next October, but it will cost over $2 million to actually move it and reassemble it, according to John Seilhamer university architect emeritus.

"The original decision to move the pavillion was not based on technical logic," Seilhamer said. "Someone thought, 'Why not salvage it and move it to Ohio State?' In theory that sounds great, but in practice it's impossible because of the size of the building."

Whoever gets the building after its used at Ameriflora, will have to pick up the balance of the cost, Seilhamer said.

The 18,000 square-foot pavillion was originally intended to be relocated to Ohio State, said Carl Jennings, site development director of Ameriflora.

Seilhamer agrees the building is scheduled to be dismantled and moved after Ameriflora, but added that where it will go has not been specified.

If Ohio State does get the pavillion, it will go to the Chadwick Arboretum on West Campus and be used as an information center, with classrooms and offices, Seilhamer said.

Some OSU administrators don't think the pavillion's design functions well for an arboretum.

"This type of building doesn't fit in with the image of an arboretum and the cost is prohibitive," said John Ellinger, OSU assistant vice president of agriculture administration.

"It (the pavillion) was originally designed for one function and now it's trying to be fit into a second function," Ellinger added.

Columbus recreation and parks department and community residents don't care where the pavillion goes as long as it leaves Franklin Park.

"The pavillion is not intended to stay in the park after 1992," said Alan McKnight, administrative coordinator for Columbus recreation and parks. "The community residents want to see the park back to its original condition. They do not want to see buildings. They want open green space and they have a great deal of input."

Franklin Park, on East Broad Street, belongs to the Columbus recreation and parks department and is leased to Ameriflora, McKnight said.

The cost of moving and rebuilding the pavillon and deciding where it will go will not be an issue if Franklin Park residents and Columbus recreation and parks decide to keep the building at the park.

They may want to keep it there once they see what it looks like when it's done, Jennings said.

The pavillion is bolted together and can be rebuilt into any shape and used for many purposes, Jennings and Seilhamer said.

It would take about three years to rebuild before it could be used, Seilhamer added.



Judith Panek/the Lantern

Max Sealock, left, and Rita Meder spend their volunteer time preparing the grounds at Franklin Park for AmeriFlora '92.

OSU gets facility after AmeriFlora

By Julie Fry
Lantern staff writer

The Ohio State University will get more than just a few flowers from the six-month international floral exposition coming to Columbus in April.

Fifteen million dollars was donated in Ohio State's name to AmeriFlora '92 with the money the state allocates for capital construction projects.

AmeriFlora '92 projects include a biocontainment facility that will become university property at the conclusion of the event in October of 1992, said Bill Shkurti, OSU's acting vice president of finance.

The facility will be used for plant-related research by OSU's College of Agriculture, said Luther Waters Jr., chairman of the Department of Horticulture.

"It's (the facility) basically a large, sophisticated green house. We will be able to bring in plants from other parts of the world to study," Waters said.

Ohio State students will use the facility for a wide variety of research projects, Waters said.

OSU's College of Agriculture will display video presentations and distribute information on Ohio State to recruit students and raise support for the university during the event, said John Ellinger, assistant vice president for agriculture administration.

The "International Garden of Knowledge" presentations will be held in the Pavilion of the Seasons.

AmeriFlora, located at 1995 E. Broad St., will run from April 20, 1992 to Oct. 12, 1992 and will feature the first internationally sanctioned floral and garden competition ever held in the United States.

AmeriFlora tickets

Discount rates for season tickets and daily passes for AmeriFlora '92 have been arranged between the University and AmeriFlora. They are available to faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Ohio State rates for adult season passes are $59, a $10 discount. Single-day passes are $14.95, a $5 savings. Senior citizens will pay $46 and $12.95, while children 4-12 years old pay $25 and $7.45.

AmeriFlora begins a six-month exposition April 20 at the 88-acre Franklin Park on East Broad Street.

Tickets are available at the Ohio Union Business Office from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and at University Hospitals Gift Shop from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday, and from 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. The discounted prices will be in effect through Dec. 31.

For more information, call Jim Chisman at 292-8993.

Students, staff have opportunity to see Ameriflora at discount rate

By Stacy Goldheimer
Lantern staff writer

OSU staff and students planning to attend Ameriflora '92 have the opportunity to save money by purchasing discounted tickets, said Valerie Pastore, director of media relations for Ameriflora.

"As a university, we wanted to get the best deal possible," said James Chisman, assistant vice president of University Public Safety.

The regular retail price for an adult, single-day ticket is $19.95, but for people showing OSU identificfation, the price is $14.95. Season passes for adults are $69 but OSU staff and students can purchase them for $59.

"We don't feel ticket prices are expensive at all. They are less expensive than amusement parks," Pastore said.

Ameriflora is expecting $56 million in ticket sales based on an estimated 4 million visitors, she said.

The money generated from ticket sales goes back into the park to help pay for operational costs, she added.

Ameriflora's $94 million budget comes from a diverse amount of revenue generators including corporate sponsorship, state, county and city funding, and parking, Pastore said.

The State of Ohio allocated $15 million to Ohio State to be given to Ameriflora, said Tom Bay, director of capital planning for the Ohio Board of Regents.

"The money for Ameriflora was allocated through Ohio State because it was the easiest way for money to be channeled into community projects for buildings," Bay said.

Of the $15 million, $4.5 million will be used for the Discovery Pavilion, $2.25 million is being used for a biocontainment facility and $7.2 million will be used for the Franklin Park Conservatory improvements, Bay said.

According to a statement released by Ameriflora, the Discovery Pavilion will display two films produced specifically for Ameriflora '92. In addition, the Franklin Park Conservatory has been restored and expanded to display one of the nation's most complete collections of flowers and plants.

The biocontainment facility will be used for plant related research by OSU's College of Agriculture.

In the end, Ohio State will benefit from these facilities because even when Ameriflora leaves, the resources will still be there, Pastore said.

The money the state uses to pay for these facilities comes from general revenues, which includes income and sales tax, Bay said.

But, if the debts cannot be covered completely by general revenues, then the money can come out of student tuition fees from universities in Ohio, he said. "The ultimate way to pay for that debt would be student fees if everything else falls apart."

If general revenue is not enough to cover a specific project such as The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland or the construction of Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, then the state can dig into student tuition, Bay said.

The state has not had to take money out of student tuition fees in the past, he added.

Tickets for Ameriflora's six month celebration are available at the Ohio Union Business office Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

OSU discounts on ticket rates will be offered through December 31.

AmeriFlora funds are just passing through

By David Tull

Ohio State has not been given an extra $15 million nor has it decided to spend $15 million on AmeriFlora, as some of the University community apparently believe.

The misunderstanding evidently results from a state of Ohio allocation two years ago specifically for AmeriFlora. The beginning of some activities at the exposition, and reports in November of the allocation and its intended use triggered a *Lantern* article and a succession of letters to the editor that have led students and faculty to believe this $15 million is University money.

The grant is in the state's capital budget as a "pass-through" allocation in Ohio State's name, according to William J. Shkurti, acting vice president for finance. The money was channelled through Ohio State to AmeriFlora for accounting purposes, he says.

"The money was never intended for Ohio State, is not under the control of Ohio State, did not come from Ohio State and is not available for Ohio State to spend. In fact, it would be illegal for these funds to be spent for any purpose other than that for which it was originally appropriated by the General Assembly."

This is a common process in state budgeting, points out David Marsh, assistant vice president for facilities planning. "This is simply a way to fund some of these projects (that are not normally in the state budget)."

Ohio State previously has been the nominal recipient of allocations that went elsewhere.

For example, the last biennial budget included $13 million for the pediatric education facility at Children's Hospital and $500,000 for the Thurber Center for Literary Arts, Marsh says. Both were listed on state capital budgets as allocations for Ohio State, although the funds could be used only for specified purposes.

"Generally, such allocations provide some benefits to the institution," Marsh adds. For example, Children's Hospital is one of several sites for education of Ohio State medical students.

A $2.2 million biocontainment facility at AmeriFlora will be available for Ohio State's agriculture students after the

AmeriFlora items temporarily live at OSU

■ *The new bio-containment center permits quarantining of plants, and later will be used in research.*

By Michael Leach
Dispatch Garden Reporter

Roses from England and other plants from Morocco have taken up temporary residence on The Ohio State University campus in the dead of winter.

They are in the new bio-containment center at OSU, some undergoing quarantine before delivery to the AmeriFlora '92 site in Franklin Park.

The $2.5 million building is designed for the quarantining of some types of plants for AmeriFlora and to be used afterward for teaching and research by OSU.

Built with money appropriated by the General Assembly to OSU for the joint AmeriFlora-university project, the building was designed to rigid U.S. Department of Agriculture quarantine specifications.

The building was scheduled for opening in the spring of 1990 but wasn't ready until September 1991. One construction delay was due to redrawing of the plans. The original design would have cost $1 million more than the $2.5 million appropriation. And the Persian Gulf War forced the supplier of aluminum framework to retool temporarily to make war supplies.

In some cases, the construction delay prompted exhibitors to find some substitute plants or use domestic sources for displays because foreign plants couldn't meet quarantine restrictions at OSU in time for the April 20 AmeriFlora opening.

"There haven't been any problems at all. The international exhibitors have worked around it," said Tom Fontana, AmeriFlora's general manager. Use of U.S. plants is cost-effective and helps the nursery industry, he added.

David Kunkler, AmeriFlora exhibits project manager, said an abundance of imported material has been grown for years in the United States, so exhibitors have had little difficulty finding representative plants.

Although the bio-containment center won't serve AmeriFlora as much as originally planned, OSU always was intended to get the most value from it, Fontana said. The project satisfies public-funding requirements for AmeriFlora-related "legacy" projects — long-term use for the public good, he said.

The sophisticated containment center is the largest of its kind in the Midwest, said Joe Takayama, bio-containment greenhouse coordinator and manager.

Specific plans for its future at OSU have not been made, but it opens the possibility of interdisciplinary research on plants not available because of quarantine restrictions, he said.

It has 11 compartments with screened openings to prevent insects from moving in or out of the complex or between compartments. Filtered air and a drainage system that removes and holds harmful wastes before discharge into the sanitary sewer are part of the design. An electronic security fence monitors the site on Coffey Road just north of OSU's veterinary hospital.

Because the USDA also has certified the AmeriFlora site in Franklin Park as a quarantine area, many plants will be kept there.

After AmeriFlora ends Oct. 12, quarantined plants will be destroyed, taken to other quarantine sites or returned to the country of origin, Kunkler said.

A compilation of local, state, and national stories about The Ohio State University and issues concerning higher education.

NEWS DIGEST

Published by the Office of University Communications

Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

OHIO STATE

The Columbus Dispatch JAN 0 1 1992

OSU jumps aboard fete with chair, translation

By Tim Doulin
Dispatch Higher Education Reporter

The Ohio State University has jumped upon the discovery ship for 1992.

An English translation of some of Columbus' works, two endowed chairs and a number of lectures and art exhibits are in OSU's plans for the quincentennial. Faculty members and scholars at OSU are translating works that might help offer a more well-rounded look at Columbus.



The Italian government is publishing the *Nuova Raccolta Columbiana* — the *New Columbus Collection*. About half of the 24-volume collection is being translated into English from Italian.

The collection combines works of nearly 100 years ago with modern commentary and interpretations.

Columbus' diary of his first voyage also will be translated. The diary is a redaction by a contemporary of the explorer that historians have been translating for years.

The English series, like the original Italian volumes, will be published by the Italian Federal Printing House. The first volumes are expected to be released this spring.

OSU also is establishing two endowed chairs: The Prince of Asturias Chair in Hispanic Studies and the Columbus Chair in Italian Renaissance Studies.

In 1989, former OSU President Edward H. Jennings met in Madrid

[Cont. on next page]

with King Juan Carlos of Spain to establish a Spanish studies chair. The chair was named after Prince Philip, heir to the Spanish throne.

The $1.25 million chair, funded by OSU and the Spanish royal family, is expected to sponsor scholarly research by top scholars from Spain.

The Columbus Chair in Italian Renaissance studies will be held by top U.S. scholars. The College of Humanities is working with the Spanish National Commission, the Italian government and local officials.

OSU also plans to host a lecture series and art exhibits. They will include:

- March 5 — "In the Botanical Wake of Columbus" by John Kingsbury of Cornell University. A public lecture and slide presentation in the Botany and Zoology Building.
- March 17-20 — "Satellite Positioning." A poster exhibition of 16th century Portuguese maps in Weigel Hall.
- June 8-July 24 — "Maps and the Columbian Encounter." Philip Sills Exhibit Hall, main library.
- In October — "1492 Celebrations and Lamentations." An art exhibition in Hopkins Hall.
- Nov. 5-7 — A public lecture by Henry Lewis Gates.

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NEWS DIGEST

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Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

OHIO STATE

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Five area schools work with OSU to mark 'encounter'

The Columbus Dispatch

JAN 01 1992

By Steve Wright
Dispatch Staff Reporter

Scarcely an educator will let 1992 pass without some observance of Columbus' encounter with the Americas, but five area elementary schools are creating quincentennial projects intended to leave an impact for generations to come.

Three Columbus, one Worthington and a parochial school are working with The Ohio State University on projects with a discovery theme.

Marilyn Johnston, an associate professor in OSU's Department of Educational Theory and Practice, said the five were identified as model schools by OSU's Quincentenary Committee.

Among those five schools, "you probably have as much cultural diversity as there is in all the city," Johnston said. "We really are interested in dealing seriously with some of the issues and controversies. Living in Columbus where all of these things are going on to mark the 500th anniversary of 1992, we want to know what does it mean to *discover* as opposed to *encounter*."

She said Columbus' encounters forever changed the world, and the five schools' projects will attempt to emphasize discovery and the value of different cultures.

Don Kramer, principal at Gables Elementary School, a Columbus school on the Northwest side, said his school is developing a discovery garden.

The garden, which was planned by Gables students with help from OSU landscape architecture students, eventually will cover up to five acres.

He said students designed themes for the garden that tie into Columbus' voyages, including herbs and plants that were brought over by Columbus and those that he took back to Europe.

"They also want a rainbow design of flowers to represent the diverse cultures at their school and in their country," he said.

Carmen Cordova, a teacher at Worthington Estates Elementary School, said students are planning a variety of projects under the theme "Voyaging through the Americas."

Students in each grade are studying various north, central and south American countries and writing to students in those lands.

"The fourth-graders are shooting a video that will become a day in the life of a fourth-grader in the Worthington Schools," Cordova said. "We contacted a school in Quito, Ecuador, which is one of the countries the fourth grade is studying, and they are going to shoot a day in the life video of their culture for us."

The school also has a gigantic world map that outlines Columbus' four voyages and will host a multicultural festival on May 15.

Kay Noble, principal at Douglas Alternative Elementary School, a Columbus school on the Near East Side, said her school's goal is a discovery room.

"We want a room full of things for young children that would be a permanent legacy from 1992, but the things in it will change all the time," she said. "We may start out with ships, hands-on things about sailing, projects showing how things float, water experiments, sea shell collections, items that tie into Columbus' voyage. But for the long run, we want to have a room for young people to reach out and discover things that get them excited about science and math."

She said second- and third-graders are studying immigration to the United States and subsequent migration across the country. Fourth- and fifth-graders are studying what a new planet would be like if they settled it.

Scott Power, the principal at St. Catherine School, a Diocese of Columbus school in Bexley, said students have replica passports they are using to mark discoveries.

"When they attend a field trip or make a discovery while visiting some place with their families, we stamp their passports," he said. "Then they will have a souvenir at the end of the 1992 discovery year."

Power said a discovery festival on April 30 will showcase student plays, skits, poems, writings and other projects reflecting their discoveries.

Keith Rinehart, principal at Second Avenue Elementary School, a Columbus school in the Short North, said he would like to see the school's fledgling nature area expanded as part of the observance.

"When we get into the springtime, we want to involve the neighborhood groups, garden clubs and senior citizens with students in adding to the nature area," he said.

University people help AmeriFlora blossom

AmeriFlora '92 provides an opportunity for Ohio State faculty and staff to educate the public in many ways, through lectures, displays, publications and volunteering.

"Most of the programs we have prepared involve the demonstration of how plants, people, research and teaching — around the world — are interrelated," says John Ellinger, assistant vice president for agriculture administration.

The exposition opened April 20 at Franklin Park Conservatory on East Broad Street in Columbus. It continues until Oct. 12.

The University's educational activities include a lecture series sponsored by the Chadwick Arboretum. Lectures will be given every Saturday between April 25 and Oct. 10 in the new Conservatory Library at Franklin Park. Topics will include highway beautification, recycling, the use of taxol, tissue culture, the rise of horticultural therapy, crafts and residential design.

Ohio State's exhibit, "International Garden of Knowledge," opens June 1. It will be a 1,600-square-foot display in the Pavilion of the Seasons, open daily from 9 a.m.-10 p.m.

"The exhibit includes pictures, photos and writings from a number of departments across campus," Ellinger says.

Included are:

- Rare artwork from University Libraries, including samples from the Banks' Florigeum collection of 730 original watercolor prints of flowering plants from Captain Cook's 1888 world trip.
- Displays illustrating landmark decisions on environmental law in the United States and elsewhere, from the College of Law and the School of Natural Resources.
- Artwork by College of the Arts faculty and students.
- An interactive laser disk computer system, developed by University Systems and the Office of University Communications. The system will display the latest technology and provide information about the University.
- Original poetry and prose that showcase plants, from the Department of English.

In addition, a six-minute video will highlight Ohio State, its students, academic programs and outstanding teaching and research.

Primula, a magazine that focuses on Ohio State's research of plants, will have stories on everything from starting backyard compost to how the shrub Taxus could help prevent cancer.

Also in the Pavilion of the Seasons will be a display by the Black Studies Extension Center. The exhibit, across from Ohio State's "International Garden of Knowledge," will be open June 1-Oct. 12.

Ohio State also will participate in the AmeriFlora corporate-volunteer program.

"This program is an important way in which members of the University community can get involved in various hands-on activities," says Jim Chisman, assistant vice president for human resources.

From June 1-Oct. 12, the University will provide groups of 10 volunteers for weekly four- to five-hour shifts. AmeriFlora staff will customize the process to meet availability and time constraints.

University areas that are interested in providing volunteers should contact Chisman at 292-7970 as soon as possible to reserve time slots and work out administrative and training procedures.

Continued on page 7.

Since the inception of AmeriFlora '92 in 1985, the University has spent $250,000 of its own funds for display material and equipment, video equipment, publications and production costs, Ellinger reports.

"This represents only 50 percent of the original (AmeriFlora) budget, which was reduced by state budget cuts. Two-thirds of this amount will return to the University for use by departments and colleges after AmeriFlora '92," Ellinger says.

The state of Ohio provided $14.6 million in 1986 to AmeriFlora '92 for the construction of facilities, but the state transferred the money through Ohio State as the agency to handle the construction projects for AmeriFlora '92.

"The University served as a pass-through of those funds since AmeriFlora is not a state agency," Ellinger explains.

The funds paid for building the Franklin Park Conservatory, the Discovery Pavilion, the infrastructure for water, sewer and electricity at the park, and a plant quarantine facility at Ohio State.

Tickets are available at the Ohio Union business office from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and at the University Hospitals gift shop from 8 a.m.-8 p.m. Monday-Friday and from 10:30 a.m.-7 p.m. Sunday and Saturday.

At the University, daily tickets are $7.45 for children 4 to 12 years old, $14.95 for adults and $12.95 for adults 60 and over. At the door, tickets are $5 more.

Season tickets are $33 for children, $76 for adults and $63 for senior citizens. They allow holders to park at Wolfe Park for $4-$6.

For more information, call Shuley Cawood, 292-2011, or Ellinger, 292-1356.

OSU is planting a Garden of Knowledge in pavilion

■ *The display and a video will focus on the importance of plants.*

By Michael Leach
Dispatch Garden Reporter

Ohio State University is "planting" its International Garden of Knowledge at AmeriFlora '92.

The display fills 1,600 square feet of the Pavilion of the Seasons on the northwest corner of Franklin Park, which also will house the Smithsonian Institution's "Seeds of Change" and two other exhibits.

Components of the display were moved to the site Thursday afternoon. The exhibit opens to the public at 10 a.m. today after a viewing by the media from 8:30 to 10 a.m.

"We're praying a lot" that it gets done on time, said John Ellinger, the OSU assistant vice president for agriculture who is heading the installation.

Diverse materials and approaches will be used to explore the importance of plants. These include a video, antique books containing literature and poems about plants, and a live Australian insect nicknamed a "walking stick," which is housed in a special container.

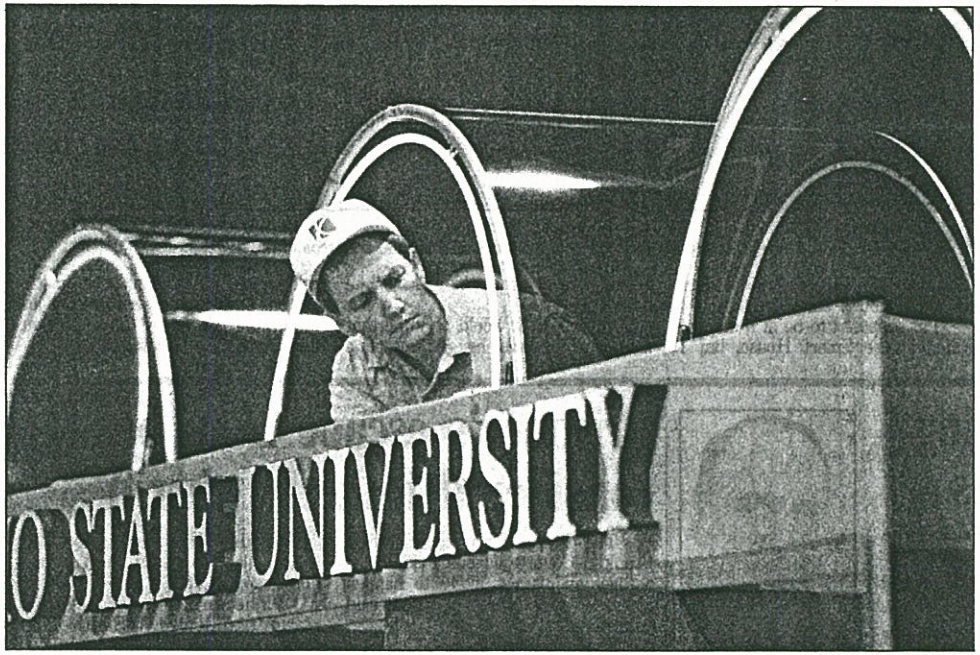
The fast-paced video covers topics from floral beauty to the 240 million-year-old plant fossils found in Antarctica.

Ellinger said the exhibit draws on the university's status as an international education institution and its worldwide research. Planning started three years ago.

Along with displays showing the importance of plants, there will be an interactive laser-disc system called "Touch Ohio State." This offers visitors 45- to 90-second bits of information on 28 subject areas of university, ranging from sports to medicine.

The concept was first demonstrated at Ohio's Center of Science and Industry in September. However, the AmeriFlora version will be more sophisticated.

While the exhibit will touch on a variety of areas, Ellinger said, "it's not heavy. It should be appealing and fun."



Eric Albrecht/ *Dispatch*

Ohio State's Mitch Jacobs examines the entrance to the school's display.

A compilation of local, state, and national stories about The Ohio State University and issues concerning higher education.

NEWS DIGEST

Published by the Office of University Communications

Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

OHIO STATE

Business First NOV 16 1992 NOV 16 1992

AmeriFlora pavilion may become museum

By STEPHEN LILLY

The future of AmeriFlora's Discovery Pavilion is unclear now that Ohio State University, which paid $2.45 million to build it, has decided it can't afford to disassemble it and move it.

But a union official has proposed converting the 18,000-square-foot building into an African American museum and keeping it in Franklin Park.

City and neighborhood officials still are mulling over the concept presented by Daniel K. Day, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio AFL-CIO. They say it will be another month before any formal consideration of Day's proposal is given.

Day could not be reached for comment last week. But his interest may stem from owning a collection of African American art, according to those familiar with the proposal.

During AmeriFlora, the building housed Huntington National Bank's "I Love this Land" multi-media show, an exhibit from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Dispatch's "Seeds of Genius."

Michael Link, chairman of the Near East Area Commission, said Day has made two presentations to his organization in recent weeks. NEAC is in the process of surveying residents within a three-block area of Franklin Park about the museum concept. He said a public hearing could be held within the next month if there is enough interest. NEAC will not take a position on the matter until that time, Link said.

He also wants to see if Day has the resources to make the museum happen.

AmeriFlora spokeswoman Val Pastore said she was unaware of the museum proposal.

According to the city's agreement with AmeriFlora, the building must be removed from Franklin Park by March 31 of next year unless the Columbus Recreation and Parks Commission approves a plan to keep it there. The city is not liable for any demolition or improvement cost to the building, said Alan D. McKnight, administrative coordinator for the Recreation and Parks division. The state has set aside $300,000 to fund improvements to the building if an alternative use can be found, its relocation or its demolition if necessary.

OSU backs off

McKnight is aware of the museum proposal, but no formal plan has been forwarded to the commission at this point.

"I haven't heard anyone say the concept is bad. The only question is whether the museum should be in the park or in that building," McKnight said. Recreation and Parks will take NEAC's recommendation and the survey results into consideration if formally asked to amend the AmeriFlora agreement and keep the building in Franklin Park.

Day's proposal came about after cash-strapped Ohio State backed off from a previous agreement to take the structure, because it would be too costly to disassemble and relocate to its campus. OSU spokesman Stephen A. Sterrett said the short-term life expectancy of the building, which he estimated to be 25 years, also weighed in the decision.

"In general, it's the university's position to assist the city's Recreation and Parks Department and AmeriFlora find appropriate uses on site if they want," Sterrett said. Ohio State had considered using the building as a visitors' center.

Construction of the building was financed by the state through a $15 million appropriation for AmeriFlora funneled through Ohio State. That $15 million also paid for construction of AmeriFlora's conservatory, infrastructure improvements and a bioconservatory located on the OSU campus.

Ohio State was to claim the Discovery Pavilion once the AmeriFlora exhibit closed. But that was before school officials learned that the $300,000 set aside to help with the move, improvement or demolition of the Discovery Pavilion is about one-tenth of what's needed to disassemble, transport and reassemble the structure on Ohio State's campus. That's more than the value of the building itself.

Given the current financial restraints that the university is experiencing, and given the cutbacks, it was deemed unfeasible, said John M. Ellinger, assistant vice president of Ohio State's College of Agriculture. Ellinger is in charge of handling the matter for the university.

If no alternative use is found and approved by the Recreation and Parks Commission by March 31, the building likely will be demolished.

Money not available to move AmeriFlora building to campus

By Christine Mortellaro
Lantern staff writer

Plans to move a $2.45 million building from AmeriFlora to OSU's campus have been halted as Ohio State seeks less expensive options.

The Discovery Pavilion, a 18,000 square-foot building, was constructed for AmeriFlora and funded by the state.

The $2.45 million was appropriated by the state through Ohio State, because AmeriFlora was not a state agency.

The state allotted an additional $300,000 to the university to disassemble the building and relocate it to campus.

Ohio State and AmeriFlora agreed the building would be moved to campus after the conclusion of AmeriFlora, said John M. Ellinger, assistant vice president of the Ohio State College of Agriculture.

Ellinger, who is in charge of managing the matter for Ohio State, said the $300,000 set aside for relocation is not nearly enough.

"In order to use it (the building), it will cost three million to disassemble, transport and reassemble it on campus," Ellinger said.

Ellinger said the estimates were given by the same engineers and architect group who designed the building.

An alternative to moving the pavilion would be to leave it in Franklin Park for another use, Ellinger said.

He said the community would have to come up with $110,000 a year to operate and renovate the building.

If the community does not contribute the money or decides the building should not remain in Franklin Park, Ohio State will sell the building for another purpose or salvage it, Ellinger said.

"OSU does not stand to lose money," Ellinger said. "It will be a good thing if we break even."

If the building has to be removed from the park, Ohio State will take bids from members of the community, he said.

Ohio State could make money on the building, depending on the bids, Ellinger said.

OSU and AmeriFlora are exploring a proposal from Daniel K. Day, secretary-treasurer of the Ohio AFL-CIO.

Day owns a collection of African-American art and is considering using the pavilion as a museum, Ellinger said.

"I think Mr. Day has a well thought-out proposal," said Alan McKnight, administrative coordinator for Columbus Recreation and Parks. "We're just waiting to see what kind of support it receives."

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

NEWS

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OHIO STATE SEEKS PROPOSALS FOR REUSE OF PAVILION

COLUMBUS -- The Ohio State University is soliciting proposals from the public starting Jan. 15 for the reuse of the Discovery Pavilion currently located at Franklin Park in Columbus.

The Ohio General Assembly authorized construction of the Discovery Pavilion for AmeriFlora '92. The building was completed in February 1992 at a cost of $2.45 million. The cost was paid through the sale of State of Ohio bonds.

Because AmeriFlora was not a state agency, the Legislature assigned the funds for the building to Ohio State, which oversaw the construction. A co-use agreement was signed by AmeriFlora and Ohio State, which is in effect until May 13, 1993.

The Discovery Pavilion is an 18,000-square-foot metal structure that can be disassembled and moved to a new location.

John Ellinger, assistant vice president for agricultural administration, said the university is seeking a public agency, a private organization, or an individual who wishes to use the building at their site. The only conditions of the proposal will be:

a) The building must be removed from Franklin Park as soon as possible at the bidder's cost.

b) The Franklin Park site must be returned to grass.

c) A private individual or organization must be willing to accept a 15-year co-use agreement with the university. A co-use agreement would permit university departments or programs to have access to the building at least five times per year.

For more information about the building plans or the proposals, contact Ellinger at (614) 292-1356.

#

OSU searching for agency to clean up AmeriFlora's mess

By Wendy Jo Huffman
Lantern staff writer

Ohio State might get stuck with AmeriFlora "leftovers" if no proposals for the reuse of the Discovery Pavilion are received from outside agencies.

Ohio State started soliciting proposals Friday from any public agency, private organization or individual who wishes to disassemble the building and use it at their own site.

If no proposals are submitted or accepted, Ohio State would be responsible for the removal, cleanup and storage of the pavilion, said John Ellinger, assistant vice president for Agricultural Administration.

The 18,000 square-foot, metal structure needs to be removed from Franklin Park, where it is now located, as soon as possible, Ellinger said.

The $2.45 million structure was completed last February and was paid for with State of Ohio bonds. The legislature assigned funds for the building to Ohio State, who agreed to oversee the construction. AmeriFlora could not receive the funds since it was not a state agency.

The original estimate to remove and disassemble the structure was $750,000. "We have $300,000 left after the original construction that would be applied toward the cost," Ellinger said. "There is currently no source for obtaining the remaining funds needed to remove the building."

If the university cannot find a use for the building it will be stored "piece by piece," Ellinger said.

According to Tracey Ward, admissions foreman for AmeriFlora, the Discovery Pavilion was a very interesting building that featured a wraparound theater and the "Seeds of Invention" exhibit.

Although a co-use agreement, which is in effect until May, was signed by Ohio State and AmeriFlora, the university has yet to use the facility, Ellinger said.

One of the conditions of the public proposal, he said, will be the acceptance of a 15-year, co-use agreement that will allow the university to have access to the building for a minimum of five times per year.

But, Ohio State does not have any specific activities planned yet, Ellinger said. "That will depend on what it's used for, who gets it and where its location site will be."

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NEWS DIGEST

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Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

THE OTHER PAPER
2/11-17/93

AmeriFlora

THE AGONY CONTINUES

A new bailout: *Dispatch* promises $2.6 million to restore park

By Margaret Newkirk

AmeriFlora closed up shop exactly four months ago tomorrow—with ceremony, bands, a flag lowering and a pretty much universal understanding that things had not gone as well as organizers had hoped.

Attendance was dismal, only half the projected 4 million. Subcontractors had to sue to get paid. In the days after the event closed, acquaintances of *Dispatch* Publisher John F. Wolfe, head of both AmeriFlora and the Quincentennial Commission, talked about how sorry they were for him. Then AmeriFlora quietly disappeared from the public eye.

It was over, right?

Not for John F. Wolfe.

On Oct. 13, the day after AmeriFlora closed, the board of directors of the Dispatch Printing Co. held what could only have been a painful meeting. The purpose? Bailing out AmeriFlora.

Whatever guarantees the *Dispatch* and other Wolfe family interests had put up in the first place, whatever guarantees the city's other big companies and banks had made, they weren't going to be enough.

And so, two weeks later, on Oct. 29, The Dispatch Printing Co. put up a brand new $2.6 million guarantee to bankroll AmeriFlora's most publicly visible obligation—the residual plan escrow fund. AmeriFlora had been obliged to set aside $2.6 million to restore Franklin Park for public use after the exhibition closed.

But the escrow fund never even got close to $2.6 million. On Oct. 29, it consisted only of $475,000 in

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cash and a little less than $1 million in bank letters of credit.

And so the *Dispatch* stepped in, guaranteeing the escrow in exchange for a document allowing AmeriFlora to use the original escrow money to pay other bills.

The record of that transaction, on file at the city auditor's office, offers a rare glimpse of AmeriFlora's financial problems. It's a pretty good indicator that AmeriFlora's losses may be even bigger than anyone imagined, and that AmeriFlora had already exhausted its entire $38 million in loan guarantees. The *Dispatch* guarantee is also the clearest sign yet that after all is said and done, after all the other deep pockets in town have taken their losses and washed their hands of AmeriFlora, it's still left to one family's organization to pick up the pieces.

In all probability, we'll never know how deep into their corporate or personal treasuries the Wolfes are forced to reach to make AmeriFlora whole.

Thanks, John F.

Franklin Park is full of mud and bulldozers these days, as AmeriFlora makes good on the promise it made—the one the Dispatch Printing Co. is paying to keep.

Someone still answers the phone at AmeriFlora. There's still an office, still a staff, still an operations director. (Mark Germyn is his name.)

There are still bills. At least one AmeriFlora vendor got its final settlement from the flower show as late as last week.

Money—AmeriFlora's bugaboo—is still flowing out the door.

And AmeriFlora, it seems increasingly clear, is broke. How broke is anybody's guess. What exactly is going on over on East Broad Street is still a mystery.

Who's paying the staff and renting the bulldozers? The park's complete reopening, planned for late March, has been pushed back until May. Why? Two huge buildings—the Discovery Pavilion and the Seeds of Change pole barn—are supposed to be removed. They're still there. Why?

And how much did AmeriFlora really lose?

The private losses

Rumors about AmeriFlora's losses were circulating well before the exhibit closed in October. Some kind of mega-loss seemed inevitable even last April, when construction crews were working around the clock (read: serious overtime) to get the event ready for opening day.

Factor in ticket discounts, which started showing up within weeks of opening day. Then add the unanticipated costs of bringing in big-name entertainment for the popular but expensive Hot Summer Nights program, which was added late. And add the 11th-hour effort to market AmeriFlora to the locals.

Mega-losses? Take it to the bank.

The original safety net to protect a shortfall was to be the event's 13 corporate guarantors, who put up somewhere between $25 million and $38 million.

The guarantors aren't talking—except, of course, for Banc One's Anne Hall, who would say only that AmeriFlora hadn't asked the bank for any more than the estimated $5 million it originally guaranteed.

How much of that guaranteed money would come from the Wolfes and their various enterprises is another unanswered question. One rumor, completely unsubstantiated, has the Wolfe stake in the guarantee pot as high as $30 million.

Thanks, John F.

Fun escrow facts

It's possible to read too much into the following. So we will. The escrow fund had no cash at the start of the show. What it had were two letters of credit and an agreement calling for AmeriFlora to put in 5 percent of its gate receipts during the event's run and later add an estimated $700,000 from the sale of AmeriFlora paraphernalia.

But there was only $475,000 in cash in that account by the time the *Dispatch* stepped in to bail it out.

Easy math: $475,000 is 5 percent of $9.5 million. Is it possible AmeriFlora took in only $9.5 million at the gate? AmeriFlora's original break-even gate receipt estimates were $38 million—and that number soared even higher shortly before the event opened.

Caveats: The escrow agreement isn't exactly firm about how often AmeriFlora was supposed to put in the 5 percent; it says only "from time to time." And AmeriFlora may not have put in the gate receipts from the event's final weeks, if the *Dispatch* bailout had already been decided.

The public losses

Four years ago, the state controlling board, the Legislature and the public went ape over a $1.6 million bailout for Son of Heaven.

AmeriFlora used public money, too—$33 million in city, county and state funds. The difference, we've heard over and over, is that *this* public money is for long-term capital improvements that we'll enjoy long after AmeriFlora is dead and gone.

Try this "permanent" capital improvement on for size. Ohio State University is willing to give away the Discovery Pavilion, an AmeriFlora structure built with $4.5 million in state capital improvement funds. The money was funneled through the university because the university, in theory, wanted the building back.

Two problems. The university has no use for the building. And the university doesn't want to pay $3 million to disassemble, move and reassemble a building it has no use for.

Ohio State advertised for bids to get rid of the white elephant two weeks ago. The building is free to anyone who will pay to haul it out of Franklin Park.

Will the legislature raise hell about $4.5 million down the drain? Not yet, though state Sen. Ben Espy is a little worried.

"It concerns me," Espy said. "It's in my district. And Ohio State's in my district. I'd like to know if there's been any acquiescence from the governor's office to do that, to give away a building built with state funds."

The residual plan

Meanwhile, the plan to put Franklin Park back the way it used to be seems to have hit another snag. The city Recreation and Parks Commission, with clearance from the neighborhood-based Residual Plan Committee, agreed a few weeks ago to allow AmeriFlora a deadline extension for completing the work.

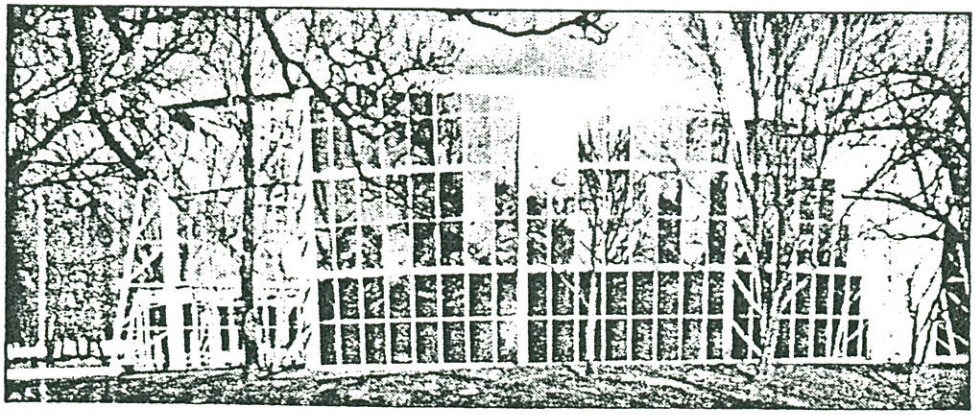
That work is now scheduled to wrap up on May 17, not March 30. Some parts of the park will be open when originally scheduled. Some won't.

The official reason? An unanticipated event called winter.

It seems that when the AmeriFlorites made their original promise to reopen the restored park by the end of March, they didn't realize that asphalt plants close down in the winter and that grass seed is harder to plant in the winter.

"Winter," said neighborhood leader Eva Crawley, "comes every year, doesn't it?"

Is winter the problem? Is money? Is it the fact that the Discovery Pavilion still is



White elephant: *Ohio State's Discovery Pavilion*

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sitting at Franklin Park and that even the best-case scenarios won't have it out of there before early May?

Nobody knows and AmeriFlora isn't talking. Nobody knows what's happening to the other to-be-removed monster building on the site either. It's the Seeds of Change building, the pole barn former Rec and Parks Director Jim Barney once wanted to buy, cut in half and make into two golf maintenance sheds.

That plan died when somebody figured out that, even cut in half, the building was about 10 times larger than any maintenance shed known to man.

When will we know?

Columbus may never get a full accounting of how much private money was spent on AmeriFlora. Then again, we might. The organizers do have to file a 1992 tax return with the IRS. That document will be a public record.

Figuring in extensions of the filing date, we may have some answers in October or November.

Meanwhile, somebody's still paying over on East Broad Street.

Who is it?

Below is a more or less verbatim account of what one phone answerer at AmeriFlora said when asked a few basic questions.

Who's in charge? "John F. Wolfe."

Who's making decisions? "John F. Wolfe."

Who's signing the checks? "John F. Wolfe."

Thanks, John F.

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NEWS DIGEST

Published by the Office of University Communications

Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

OHIO STATE

FEB 15 1993

BUSINESS FIRST / FEBRUARY 15, 1993

OSU: AmeriFlora pavilion up for grabs

By MAUREEN O'BOYLE

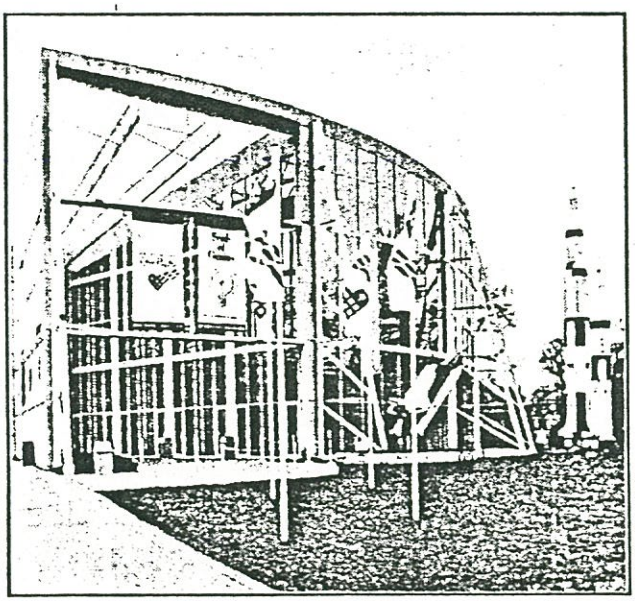
At least five corporations or individuals are interested in **AmeriFlora**'s Discovery Pavilion. They are expected to submit formal proposals to **Ohio State University**, the owner, to use the building after disassembling and removing it from Franklin Park.

Three are from Greater Columbus and two from outside the area, said John M. Ellinger, Ohio State's assistant vice president for agricultural administration. Ellinger would not disclose the names of those who have contacted him, nor would he characterize plans described to him.

Ellinger said names would be available after proposals were formally submitted to the university. Ohio State is soliciting proposals for the reuse, selective demolition or total demolition of the 18,000-square-foot facility. During the AmeriFlora international exhibition, the building housed Huntington National Bank's "I Love This Land" multimedia show, an exhibit from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Columbus Dispatch's "Seeds of Genius."

Ohio State, which paid $2.5 million to build the pavilion for the international floral exhibition, decided to solicit proposals after deciding it could not afford to disassemble the building and move it to its campus. An initial estimate shows that it could cost as much as $3 million to take the building apart, transport it to another site and reassemble it, Ellinger said.

"It's not a question of wanting the pavilion. When you are cut $80 million in funding since February of 1991, you can't afford to reconstruct the facility. That's a reality of the circumstances," he said.



JACK KUSTRON

AmeriFlora's Discovery Pavilion . . . may find new home

University administrators also based their decision on knowledge that the building is only expected to have a life expectancy of 25 years, said Stephen A. Sterrett, an Ohio State spokesperson. The building is made of structural steel bolted together with open web roof joists and can be dismantled and reassembled like an erector set.

Ohio State will accept proposals for the facility until 4:30 p.m. Feb. 22. The only conditions are that the building must be removed from Franklin Park at the bidder's cost, the site must be returned to grass, and any private individual or organization given the building must be willing to accept a 15-year co-use agreement with Ohio State.

The agreement would allow Ohio State departments or programs to have access to the building at least five times a year.

The co-use agreement is necessary because construction of the building was financed by the state through a $15 million appropriation for AmeriFlora passed through the university.

The state set aside $300,000 in 1986 to pay for improvements to the building if an alternative use could be found. Ellinger said the state did not provide these funds for any other buildings on the AmeriFlora site.

A proposal to keep the pavilion at the park and convert it to an African American museum has fallen through, said Michael D. Link, chairman of the Near East Area Commission.

"People wanted green space in the park," Link said. The commission recommended that Donald K. Day, who had proposed the museum, move the building behind the Martin Luther King Center on Mount Vernon Avenue. Day's interest in a museum stems from his personal collection of 500 pieces of African American art, literature and artifacts.

Day said he could not afford to move the building, and he is unable to pursue it at this time.

The Columbus Dispatch ■ Thursday, February 25, 1993

AmeriFlora building set to be demolished

By Darris Blackford
Dispatch Development Reporter

The Discovery Pavilion at Franklin Park appears to be headed for demolition.

On Jan. 15, Ohio State University began seeking proposals for the removal and possible reuse of the 18,000-square-foot structure.

Two proposals were submitted by Monday's deadline and both call only for demolishing the building, said John Ellinger, chairman of the university's AmeriFlora committee.

OSU was the intermediary for state money to build the $2.45 million pavilion at AmeriFlora '92 because funding had to go through a state agency.

A tentative decision has been made to accept the proposal of RCO Salvage and Demolition of Columbus, said Ellinger, assistant vice president of agriculture.

The company plans to dismantle the building and sell off the usable parts. The helix-shaped structure at the park's southeast corner housed two theaters that offered two presentations, *I Love This Land* and *Seeds of Genius*.

The other plan was submitted by Loewendick & Sons of Columbus.

About a dozen groups toured the building and expressed interest in reusing it, Ellinger said, but at least two of the groups indicated that dismantling then reconstructing the pavilion would cost more than building a new one.

"We did what we could do," Ellinger said. "If there's no one there (to reuse it), there's no one there."

The final agreement with RCO could be reached next week, Ellinger said, and the building could be removed from the park by mid-April.

The proposal calls for RCO to return 20 percent of the gross sales to the university. That money, along with $300,000 left over after the building was constructed, will be turned over to the state, he said.

Stanlee Culbreath, a Columbus lawyer who worked with the university in its proposal search on behalf of the Near East Area Commission, said it is unfortunate that the pavilion will not be reused.

"It's a waste of money," he said. "It seems that somebody could have put it somewhere."

At the same time, Culbreath, who lives on Franklin Park South directly across the street from the pavilion, is pleased the structure will be removed.

"The building really is not conducive to the environment in the park," he said.

A compilation of local, state, and national stories about The Ohio State University and issues concerning higher education.

NEWS DIGEST

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Mary Lindner,
News Digest editor

THE OTHER PAPER 2/25-3/3/93

City Beat

The pavilion's fate

The Discovery Pavilion at AmeriFlora is coming down.

Ohio State University has chosen its "apparent best bid" for the demolition of the troublesome building. A local salvage company will tear the building down and sell off the parts.

The university, which paid $4.5 million to build the building and had originally intended to relocate it to campus, will receive 20 percent of the proceeds from the salvage operation.

The financially strapped AmeriFlora will not have to pay a dime to get rid of the building. AmeriFlora's bills for restoring Franklin Park are being paid by the Dispatch Printing Co. and its publisher, John F. Wolfe. Wolfe headed AmeriFlora's board.

The demolition project could be complete by April 20, almost a month earlier than Ohio State University Vice President of Agricultural Administration John Ellinger predicted two weeks ago.

The demolition is still running about three weeks late, however. The building was supposed to be out of the park by March 31, the original deadline for AmeriFlora to return the park to the city.

AmeriFlora received permission last month to open parts of the park six weeks after the deadline, claiming that winter weather prevented laying asphalt and planting grass seed.

The extension did not include extra time for disposal of the Discovery Pavilion, city Recreation and Parks planner Alan McKnight said earlier this month.

Ellinger had first predicted that the building would not come down until around May 15, two days before AmeriFlora's extended deadline expired.

The bid received yesterday, from RCO Salvage and Demolition, will speed up the process because it requires no cash outlay from the university and will not have to be approved by the state controlling board.

Ohio State had allowed companies and public bodies to bid on four possible options, only one of which was demolition.

The university also solicited bidders who wanted to dismantle and relocate the building or store it for later use. That plan would have allowed Ohio State some limited use of the year-old pavilion.

In the end, though, the university received only two bid proposals, both for demolition.

—Margaret Newkirk

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NEWS DIGEST

Published by the Office of University Communications

Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

THE OTHER PAPER 3/4/93

AmeriFlora shell game

State paid for Franklin Park plumbing

By Margaret Newkirk

Inconsistencies continue to crop up concerning AmeriFlora's doomed Discovery Pavilion in Franklin Park.

Top among them: how much the building cost. Recent news reports have pegged the building's cost at $2.45 million. AmeriFlora's budget calls it a $4.5 million building.

The building's price matters because it was built with state money, funneled through Ohio State University's capital improvements budget.

And it matters because that money now appears to have been wasted; the Discovery Pavilion, unwanted by Ohio State

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and apparently by anyone else, will be reduced to rubble in April.

AmeriFlora organizers have consistently justified the event's use of state money by saying it was pegged to *permanent* capital improvements—AmeriFlora's legacy. The pavilion was one of those improvements and it was to benefit none other than Ohio State University. The pavilion was to have been dismantled, trucked to OSU's campus and reassembled.

By AmeriFlora's end, it was clear that Ohio State:

- Did not have a use for the building, and
- Did not want to pay the $2 million to $3 million it would cost to move it.

In fact, said John Ellinger, OSU's vice president of agricultural administration, Ohio State never wanted the building in the first place.

"In the three years or so I worked with the AmeriFlora group, they told a lot of folks it was coming back to the university," said Ellinger. "Where that came from I don't know. We were never in that loop from the beginning."

Ellinger also said tour guides on shuttle buses that went past the pavilion during AmeriFlora said it would be taken to Ohio State after the show.

So how much did the Discovery Pavilion really cost? Not counting the planning and architectural staff time Ohio State spent getting it built, the pavilion cost $2.45 million, said Ellinger.

The building is listed in AmeriFlora's budget as a $4.5 million line item, he said—despite the fact that $2 million of that was spent on infrastructure throughout Franklin Park.

Almost half of the money we were told went to build a permanent building for Ohio State, in other words, went to lay water and sewer lines for AmeriFlora. Those water and sewer lines are permanent, though most of them aren't necessary anymore and have been capped.

Also contributing to this story: Bob Irvin and Lisa K. Zellner.

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NEWS DIGEST

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Mary Lindner, News Digest editor

OHIO STATE

APR 16 1993

April 14, 1993 The Booster

AmeriFlora's Discovery Pavilion comes tumbling down

By Bob Irvin
SNP Staff Writer

And finally, all last week, the Discovery Pavilion — one of the cornerstone buildings of AmeriFlora '92 — came crashing down.

Never to rise again.

The original hope, and advertisement by AmeriFlora officials, was the building would go to the Ohio State University as a permanent capital improvement after AmeriFlora ended. But OSU officials after the show ended in October said they did not have the funds to dismantle, transport and reassemble the building at the university.

IT WAS then opened to public bidding with the offer that any party which could relocate it or demolish it could make an submit a bid.

Only two bidders came forward — both demolition crews.

And one of those eventually backed out. Last week, the lone remaining bidder, S.G. Loewendick and Sons Inc., of Columbus, tore down the building.

Preliminary site work began on April Fools Day.

Heavy demolition began April 5 and was to be completed by the weekend, barring inclement weather, said Fred Loewendick, project manager.

> "It made quite a pile of debris."
> —Fred Loewendick

OSU initially announced the contract would be awarded to RCO Salvage and Demolition of Columbus, whose bid included a provision that it would return 20 percent of the sale of reclaimable parts to the state capital improvements fund.

RCO owner Jim Ramey initially estimated that could bring the state a total of $100,000 or more, along with $300,000 which is to be returned to the state. That money was planned residual funds, approved by the state legislature, to move the building to OSU after AmeriFlora was ended.

OSU LATER said estimates placed dismantling and removal costs at $3 million.

Another snafu hit when RCO failed to show up for a scheduled bid meeting, said John Ellinger, an OSU vice president and chairman of the university's AmeriFlora committee. Because RCO was a "non-responsive bidder," Ellinger said, "that only left us with Loewendick."

Loewendick's offer was different. It offered to tear the building down at a charge of $25,000 — taken from the $300,000, Ellinger said — and profits from the sale of salvagable parts under a "selective demolition" agreement. Fred Loewendick said seven air conditioning units were saved from the building, along with some scrap steel. But, he said, the market isn't very good either for scrap steel or used air-conditioning units, even though the latter were in perfect condition.

LOEWENDICK SAID he estimated his company might be able to pull together $5,000, "max," on the sale of parts. Loewendick said tearing out the air-conditioning units was probably "a bad idea." Workers were down to ripping out concrete by the end of last week. Reseeding the grass was all that remained.

OSU also said this winter the building cost $2.45 million to build. Early AmeriFlora documents said it would cost $4.5 million. OSU said this winter $2.45 million had been spent on the building and $2.05 million on infrastructure throughout the park.

Demolition brought the saga of the building to an end last week.

"It made quite a pile of debris," said Fred Loewendick. "It was a substantial building — though it was built kind of funny."