Bracken Environmental Lectureship Resolution  
Adopted  
November 1, 2010

Whereas a goal of Ball State University is to address local, state, national and international needs through professional activities that foster collaborative, mutually beneficial relationships with its diverse constituencies;

Whereas a guiding principle of the Ball State University’s Strategic Plan is to develop and pursue innovative approaches to environmental sustainability;

Whereas Ball State University values the quality of life in the region and assumes responsibilities for educating a responsible citizenry;

Whereas the Bracken Environmental Fund was a $500,000 gift made to the university in September 1997 to enhance Ball State’s academic environmental programs by bringing expert speakers to campus, providing faculty research grants and helping students work on environmental projects with faculty members;

Whereas the gift was made possible by the estate of Rosemary Bracken, the daughter of Frank C. Ball, whose late husband, Alexander M. Bracken, was president of Ball State's Board of Trustees for 22 years and was a chairman of Ball Corporation; and

Whereas the Ball State University Council on the Environment whose membership represents the university and surrounding Muncie community, and is charged to recommend policies for the good of these communities.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Council on the Environment requests:

That Ball State University invite J. Carl Ganter, nephew of Edmund F. Ball and cousin of Rosemary Bracken, to deliver a 2011 Bracken Environmental Lecture.

J. Carl Ganter is the founder and director of Circle of Blue, which is a nonprofit affiliate of the internationally recognized water, climate and policy think tank, the Pacific Institute.
Circle of Blue “... makes the complexities of the global freshwater crisis relevant and personal. Circle of Blue reports and collects information … and presents it in coherent, accessible and connected forms ….

"Circle of Blue approaches the freshwater crisis with three coordinated, inter-related components: front-line journalism, existing and new science and data, and innovative communications design. Circles of Blue's reporting captures the heart through exceptional fact-based storytelling, making water issues personal and relevant while providing a hub for data visualization, aggregation, and integration ...."

J. Carl Ganter would have broad appeal among Ball State University's academic community because of Circle of Blue's scientific approaches and communications efforts, as well as among citizens in the community due to the fact he is the nephew of Edmund F. Ball.

Ball State University also can strengthen its partnership with Circle of Blue. Ball State University's Department of Journalism's journalism graphics program is an education partner of Circle of Blue.