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CHHS June eNewsletter

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CFS students take part in Earth Day Fashion Show

The Earth Day festival was held on April 29, and several members from two design, merchandising and textile classes took part in the Earth Day fashion show held in front of DUC. The students put together unique garments made from various recycled materials such as newspapers, soda can tabs, vinyl records, and ties, just to name a few. The students were judged on fit, practicality, creativity, and construction. Franklin junior Maggie Burrell won first prize for her dress which was constructed out of ties from her dad's closet.

To read the College Heights Herald story on the fashion show, click here

For a look at some of the designs presented during the fashion show, click here.

"Celebrity" Judges Cheryl Osborne, Laura Rogers, & Julie Ransdell

<u>WKU's KPHA Student Chapter Receives Best Student Chapter Award – *Second Year in a row*</u>

Kentucky Public Health Association's (KPHA) student chapter at Western Kentucky University was judged as the 'Best Student Chapter' in the state of Kentucky for the second year in a row at KPHA's 62nd annual conference in Louisville. The conference was attended by 27 students, graduate and undergraduate, and seven faculty members from the Department of Public Health. Drs. Cecilia Watkins and Grace Lartey, faculty sponsor and co-sponsor of WKU student chapter along with Dr. Gary English, Head of the Public Health Department and Dr. John Bonaguro, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS) were also present to support the students at the conference.

WKU's students presented 21 posters and gave 6 oral presentations on topics ranging from occupational and environmental health issues to behavioral and policy change initiatives. The annual conference is a reflection of Public Health in the state of Kentucky.

The conference provided students the opportunity to interact with their peers from other universities and network with various Public Health agencies. The keynote speaker at the conference was Dr. David Rustein, Acting Deputy Surgeon General of United States who

applauded Kentucky for various initiatives it has taken in the field of Public Health. He was also impressed by the number of students at the conference and referred to them as the 'New Workforce' in the field.

Students and Faculty from WKU's KPHA Conference

CHHS students and faculty members honored at this year's CHHS Awards Banquet

The annual CHHS Awards Banquet was held on Saturday, April 24th, at the Carroll Knicely Conference Center. Sixty-one graduate and undergraduate students were honored for their outstanding achievements. Awards were also presented to faculty members Dr. Dawn Garrett-Wright (Nursing), Dr. Scott Lyons (Kinesiology, Recreation, & Sport), Dr. Lynn Austin (Allied Health), Dr. Steve Spencer (Kinesiology, Recreation, & Sport), and Denise McMillan (Social Work). For a list of all award winners, please click here.

Nursing Graduate receives Nursing Excellence Award at Taylor Regional Hospital

Western Kentucky University's Nursing program ranks among the best in the country. All programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Carrie Shuffett, a December 2007 graduate of the BSN program, expressed her gratitude for the skills and knowledge she received from the WKU Nursing Program in a letter she sent to the School of Nursing. "Recently, I have been nominated for the Nursing Excellence Award" Shuffett said, "I do not believe that the successes that I have had so far would be possible without the knowledge I received from WKU."

Shuffett is currently a registered nurse in the ICU & Telemetry units at Taylor Regional Hospital in Campbellsville, KY. She said that WKU provided the critical thinking skills that an entry level nurse would need to have.

Shuffett's letter goes on to say, "I cannot thank everyone enough for what you did. Everyone helped build my knowledge base, critical thinking skills and confidence. I cannot sing your praises enough. I am always using all of the knowledge that I received from every one of my classes there. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you."

WKU's School of Nursing was re-accredited in 2008 for 10 years, the maximum term possible, by the CCNE. "The School's standard of excellence is reflected by our large pool of excellent student applicants, our outstanding clinical agency support, and our nursing board pass rate, which is consistently higher than the national average. The 10-year reaccreditation demonstrates that our national accrediting body recognizes the continued excellence of the nursing programs at WKU School of Nursing." said Dr. Mary Bennett, director of the WKU School of Nursing.