Summer 2013

University College Connection Summer 2013

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The Dean’s Office would like to welcome our new student worker, Kaitlyn Soler. She joins Ryun Warren in our front office. Feel free to contact Kaitlyn and Ryun at 745-4092 if you have questions regarding regional mail pickup or delivery.

Welcome aboard, Kaitlyn!

**Regional Mail**

University College is responsible for getting mail from the Bowling Green campus to the regional campuses. If you have an item that needs to go to South Campus, Elizabethtown, Ft. Knox, Glasgow or Owensboro campuses, you may call our office (745-4092) by 12:00 p.m. for same day pick-up. You may also drop off your mail at: Tate Page Hall, Room 201. Please CLEARLY label the mail with the person’s name, campus, building name, and room number. Also, please allow plenty of time — Plan ahead! Couriers do not run daily during the summer hours. Your cooperation is appreciated!

**Good Luck to everyone on a successful 2013-2014 Academic Year!**
Fallon Willoughby, seated at the sign-in desk, has been with the ARLAC since August 2009. She will be leaving the center to work with the SC Cornerstone program as a GA. We will miss her in the ARLAC but we are excited about her graduate studies and new GA position. Good Luck Fallon!

The Smarts Think Tank Café will open on August 26th, at South Campus. Hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.. Breakfast will include breakfast plates, wraps, sandwiches, muffins and of course, coffee. The lunch menu will range from salads to burgers with snacks in the afternoon hours.

Come check out the new South Campus food courts. A place where you can hangout, watch T.V., use the available WiFi at a booth, or relax between classes. You can do this while enjoying good food in an inviting and friendly atmosphere.
On May 28, 2013, Alice Rowe died of cancer at the age of 82. She was passionate about helping students learn and achieve their educational goals and wanted the students to have a place to get help with their course work. On April 22, 2004 the Learning Center at South Campus was renamed the Alice Rowe Learning Assistance Center in honor of her dreams for WKU students. In the center hangs a plaque.

It reads: “Dr. Alice Rowe, an exceptional educator who believe in, supported, and encouraged all students. Her vision of providing the opportunity and guidance for students to become independent learners is achieved through this Learning Assistance Center. SUPPORT – INDEPENDENCE – SUCCESS”.

She is missed by many who remember her as sweet, gentle, caring, passionate and driven.

The Learning Assistant Center has hired seven new Peer Tutors:

Hannah Allen
Maura Blankenship
Sarah Hay
James Martin
Benjamin Spurrier
Karlesha Taylor
Skylar Wooden

They will be joining Ali Abdulrheem, Chloe Brown, Katie Jaggers, Josh Treon and Kenny Khamvongsa.

We are open Monday-Thursday from 7:45 to 6:00, Friday 7:45 to 2:00, Saturday 9 – 12 and Sunday 2 – 5.
We offer tutoring in Math, English, Spanish, Chemistry, Computer Programming and Psychology as well as technology support for Blackboard, TopNet, NetID’s and Microsoft Office.

We are located at South Campus in Room C234.
Hello everyone, my name is Cynthia Hunter and I am fulfilling the role as the Coordinator of Academic Advising and Student Services at the South Campus location. I wanted to introduce myself and describe some of my duties in order to become a useful resource to the WKU staff/faculty/students as needed. My brief introduction:

* I am a WKU Alumnus with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication.
* I am currently enrolled in the WKU Master’s Program for Public Administration (MPA)
* My office is located at South Campus, Dean’s Suite C108, Contact Phone Number: 270-745-3198,
* Email: cynthia.hunter@wku.edu

Academic Advising & Student Services Role at South Campus

* One primary factor of my role is to act as the Academic Plan advisor on South Campus to assist students in meeting their Standards of Academic Progress (SAP) Academic Plans required by WKU’s Office of Student Financial Assistance, if they have suffered insufficient academic progress for the previous semester completed. I meet with each student individually a minimum of twice each semester to discuss their current courses, grades & concern of grades, to ensure they are in compliance with their agreement to complete 6 study hours each week monitored by swiping in at the LAC on South Campus or TLC on Main Campus and maintaining a 2.0 GPA for the semester and passing all classes. I also have an open door policy to meet with each AP student throughout the semester to discuss any academic concerns or goals and to offer direction on how to accomplish what they are attempting.

* My goal is to educate each student on the importance of meeting the requirements to ‘graduate’ from the AP program and to provide the student with available additional tools to utilize if they are suffering in a particular course and to network the student with the LAC or TLC to receive the tutoring they may need to be successful. It is important to identify that in the first 4 weeks of the semester to prevent the student from falling so far behind that they feel they are unable to recover with a passing grade.

* Academic Advising is my 2nd priority within my job description. I have taken the initiative to glean training and advice from the AARC (Academic Advising Retention Center) to ensure I offer South Campus an equivalent advising experience in comparison to what our WKU Main Campus students receive.

* However, I have a 100% open door policy for all students to come in and discuss any concerns or questions about WKU services available; such as, free tutoring offered, workshops, compression courses, and other various services that many students didn’t realize we offer. Some of our students that are attending courses at South Campus, especially students in many of the Academic Support courses, need a support system that they may not have for many different reasons. They are young adults or non-traditional students from various demographics; often first generation, underprepared, and/or from a non-traditional college student background, that may need someone to ask how they are doing and take interest in their success and even show concern for potential signs of failure. My desire is to promote ONE identity within the WKU student population that has their courses at either Main Campus or South Campus.

* I am currently in the process of developing various advising workshops that offer a more in-depth academic advising experience. At this time I am in the midst of creating assessments for the student population at WKU-South Campus to provide their feedback as the clients we serve. This is in effort to ensure each student is equipped to make potential life-altering decisions informatively and with guidance from various WKU departments that could have a great impact on each student’s college tenure experience and career path. Each workshop will be complimented with incentives to attend and designed to cater to the student’s needs and interests.
WKU REAL

In an effort to increase visibility and awareness of the assistance available to our adult students, WKU REAL is changing its name. We are awaiting final approval of our new name, so we will announce that in an All Staff, All Faculty email as well as the next University College newsletter. The new name and logo signature, designed by the Marketing and Communications Department, will make the program compliant with the university brand and will be a more expedient description of the program. We will continue to provide the same support and services to WKU’s adult learners. We are also working on several projects that we hope will be part of the continual development of the program:

- While the Adult Learner Study Room will continue to be a quiet room for adults, we are working to make it more of a resource room for them as well. An additional bulletin board has been added which will highlight various important resources and opportunities for students. A large dry erase board has also been added to allow students to share tips and suggestions with each other.

- In an effort to facilitate ways for our adult learners to communicate with each other, we are working with Creative Web Services to develop a closed community for adult learners on WKU’s Facebook app. A number of adults are already using the site, but we hope that a community just for adults will prompt greater discussion between our students.

- We are going to be working with Dr. Joelle Davis Carter, Assistant Vice President for Retention & Student Services in their efforts to promote and develop the Student Success Coaching Program, a student-to-student mentoring program.

* A comprehensive list of campus resources—complete with locations, phone numbers and web addresses—has been compiled and will be distributed to adult learners at the beginning of the semester. We hope that a convenient list of academic resources will increase usage of these valuable opportunities. We will also make this list available to any other program or department that would like it.

In Other News

With the departure of Rebekah Phillips, John Hart has been named Interim Director for the next fiscal year. At the end of this period the director’s position will be filled through the standard procedure.
The Western Kentucky University Hill House

The Western Kentucky University Hill House program is on course to begin another successful semester of community development in Bowling Green. This year’s Hill House is comprised of students from the Social Work and Public Health departments at WKU.

This special group of students receive a graduate assistantship to work in the community in which they live. Each semester Hill House students work together to plan and implement a project and event that supports and encourages community in their neighborhood. Additionally, students report their progress through a blog, which can be found at wkuhillhouse.posterous.com. Their responsibilities include organizing a forum for discussion, maintaining communication with neighbors, and sharing their experiences with the larger campus and Bowling Green community.

To complete their Hill House experience, students complete an applied community-based research project connected to their academic discipline during their time in the program. The students are supported by their academic advisors, the WKU ALIVE Center and the Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility.

The Hill House is located at on the corner of High Street and East 11th Street. For more information about the WKU Hill House please visit http://www.wku.edu/alive/hillhouse/ or contact the ALIVE Center at 270-782-0082.

The $100 Solution™ Fall Faculty & Staff Training

The Western Kentucky University ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships will host its fall training for The $100 Solution™ program on Friday, September 6th from 9 am - 3pm at the ALIVE Center, located at 1818 31-W Bypass. This training will serve as an introduction to the service-learning model known as The $100 Solution™ at WKU. Currently, WKU serves as the academic home for The $100 Dollar Solution™ and is proud to work along side of its founder, Dr. Bernard Strenecky, Scholar-in-Residence in the Honors’ College.

For more information about The $100 Solution™ and to register for the training, please click the link provided: http://www.wku.edu/alive/the100dollarsolution/thds_faculty_staff_training.php
Bonner Leadership Scholar program

Eight new Bonner Leadership Scholars will start their first semester at Western Kentucky University this fall. The Bonner Leadership Scholar program is the national Bonner Foundation's Bonner Leader program at WKU designed to transform not only the students who are directly supported by the program, but also the campus and community in which they serve and learn. The eight new students, in addition to the returning students, will complete 10 hours of community service, professional development, and personal enrichment activities each week in exchange for financial support from WKU and the national Bonner Foundation’s AmeriCorps program.

The Bonner Program began in 1990 at Berea College to help students in financial need. The founders believed in the importance of education and sought to find a way to connect a college or university to the surrounding community. Over 80 colleges and universities manage Bonner programs, and the WKU ALIVE Center looks forward to expanding the program.

Welcome the 2013 Bonner Leadership Scholars

Kurtis A. Spears, Burkesville, KY
Raymond C. Smith, Bowling Green, KY
Grace B. Gilliland, Dickson, TN
Erin E. Evans, Louisville, KY
Courtney R. Ritchie, Viper, KY
Katherine J. Hall, Glendale, KY
Lejla Mehmedovic, Bowling Green, KY
Joanna Williams, Clarksville, TN (returning scholar)
Jillian Weston, Bowling Green, KY (returning scholar)

Service Learning at Western Kentucky University

Western Kentucky University’s definition of service-learning states:

Curricular service-learning is a course-based, credit-bearing educational experience in which students participate in an organized service activity that meets a community need and reflect on their service activity as a means of gaining a deeper understanding of course content, a broader appreciation of the discipline, an enhanced sense of social responsibility and/or a greater interest in an understanding of community life.

To this end, the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships has instituted a number of activities and practices in order to support and enhance service-learning at WKU. WKU has come a long way since 2007 in establishing itself as a leader in civic education. We are proud of our accomplishments and efforts, but there is always more to do. We are excited about the ever-increasing interest and demands of our student population that service be a part of their academic experiences, and it will be the continuing mission of WKU and specifically the ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships to meet these needs. We want WKU to become a prominent university for service, utilizing service-learning as the vehicle to get us there. It is our desire that the name “Hilltopper” becomes synonymous with the idea of a WKU graduate who is both socially aware and civically engaged.

For more information about the WKU ALIVE CCP or the Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility (ICSR) please visit the www.wku.edu/alive/ or www.wku.edu/icsr/.
Welcome, Julia Rivas!
The ALIVE Center welcomes our new Office Associate, Mrs. Julia Rivas. Julia serves as the primary point of contact in maintaining resources and fielding communications related to the university’s regional stewardship mission. She also manages volunteer services and the Center’s budget and personnel actions. Previously, Mrs. Rivas worked as the coordinator of the Hispanic GED and ESL Program and as the Multicultural Services Coordinator at the ALIVE Center.

Julia was born in El Salvador, Central America. At the age of thirteen her family migrated to New Jersey, where she lived for five years. Despite her unfamiliarity with the language, culture, and customs, Julia worked very hard to improve herself and help her family. Later, Julia and her family moved to Bowling Green, Kentucky, where she graduated from high school and had the opportunity to attend Western Kentucky University. She was the first in her family to graduate from an American university, acquiring a BIS in Interdisciplinary Studies with emphasis in Organization and Communication of Ideas from WKU.

Julia is a caring person who strives to give back to her community. She became part of HOPE, the Hispanic Organization for the Promotion of Education, to help Latino students to pursue higher education. Julia was the first president of the organization in 2009 and continues to be an active member. She believes that education is the key to success and with hard work, faith, and great expectations everything is possible. Please join us in welcoming Julia to the ALIVE Center and University College!
Diversity and Community Studies is excited to welcome nine new faculty, staff, and graduate assistants to our programs (and a tenth on the way).

**African American Studies**

**Dr. Andrew Rosa** received his doctorate in African American Studies from the W.E.B. Du Bois Department of African American Studies at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Before joining Western Kentucky University and the Department of Diversity and Community Studies, he taught a range of courses on slavery, social movement history, and the intellectual history of the African Diaspora at Oklahoma State University. In all of his courses, he enjoys challenging students to think critically and creatively about what it means to be citizens of the world, especially in light of globalization, which has affected human societies differentially and unequally. His courses centralize the experience African Americans while recognizing the diversity and complexity of experiences among African and African descended populations.

In 2013, he was awarded a fellowship from the Schomberg Center for Research in Black Culture, a division of the New York Public Library. His work has been published in *Race and Class, American Studies*, and *History of Education Quarterly*. Currently, Dr. Rosa is writing an intellectual biography entitled *St. Clair Drake: A Biography of the African Diaspora*, under contract with the University of Georgia Press, examines Drake’s life history, as a scholar activist, along specific routes of migrations, settlements, solidarities, and conflicts in the Black Atlantic World.

**Gender & Women’s Studies**

**Jacqueline Adams**, though not new to DCS, is joining GWS in her second year. She will teach her first section of Intro to Gender & Women’s Studies in the spring, after receiving training and assisting with fall courses under the mentorship of Dr. Molly Kerby. Jacqueline’s interests are gender and race disparities related to civic engagement and higher education.

**Gerontology**

**Haley Canary** says, “I am a GA in Gerontology while I am pursuing my Master’s Degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology. I am originally from Bowling Green and in my “spare” time I’ll be working part-time as a bartender/server at Montana Grille, too.

I recently graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology. While at UK, I worked on a study for two semesters which explored the social effects of team members and the prejudice against those people, in relation to evolutionary psychology. This was a successful study that sparked my interest in furthering my experience in research. I am excited about working with the WKU Aging/Center for Gerontology team on the WHO Age Friendly Cities research project and getting the opportunity to learn more about the aging community!”

**Darla Hayden** says, “I have been working in the healthcare field since 2007, which is when I received my State Registered Nurse Aide certification and began employment as a CNA in long term care. Since then, I have realized my love for working with the elderly and will graduate in May 2014 from the MHA program. It has been a long career aspiration of mine to become an Administrator in long term care, so understanding the elderly is very important to me.

(continued)
Institute for Citizenship & Social Responsibility

Dr. Judy Rohrer, Director of the ICSR

Judy Rohrer has a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Hawai‘i. Her research clusters around feminist theory, LGBTQ studies/queer theory, disability studies, critical race studies and indigenous studies. Her first book, *Haoles in Hawai‘i*, was published in 2010 through the University of Hawai‘i Press. It is the first volume in a series on race and ethnicity in Hawai‘i. She is working on her second manuscript, “Staking Claim: Race and Indigeneity in Hawai‘i.” It brings together an analysis of racial formation and colonization in the islands through a study of legal cases, contemporary public discourse (local media outlets, local literature), and Hawai‘i scholarship. She has published on race and colonization in Hawai‘i, gay marriage, disability studies, and citizenship in *Racial & Ethnic Studies*, *borderlands*, *Feminist Studies*, *The Contemporary Pacific*, *American Studies*, and *American Quarterly*.

Nic Hartmann, Public Scholarship Coordinator

Having earned his MA in Folk Studies from Western in 2009, Nic returned to Bowling Green after spending nearly four years in Canada, where he is a Ph.D. candidate in folklore at Memorial University of Newfoundland. Nic’s research interests fall into the study of narrative, place, and community-based folklore, as well as how folk culture can be applied to both pedagogy and social justice. In October, he will be presenting at the annual meeting of the American Folklore Society in Providence, Rhode Island; his paper, titled “‘I Never Considered Myself an Albertan’: Reflecting Home, Family and Work in the Narratives of Newfoundland Oil and Gas Workers,” is part of his research on occupational and family life of offshore workers in the province.

Nic will be part of ICSR’s involvement in the Kentucky Teen Institute, which will have their Winter Summit at WKU this coming semester. In addition, he will be involved with the joint efforts of ICSR and the ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships, working with both Hill House and The $100 Solution™ Project.

Laura Goodwin, ICSR GA for Public Achievement

Through her varied work experience, one thing that has always been on the forefront for Laura Goodwin: working toward building a more just and sustainable community and world. Working in religious education for many years, most recently as Director of Children’s Education at Christ Episcopal Church in Bowling Green, KY, Laura has had many opportunities to help build communities in her own backyard as well as abroad. Locally, and one of Laura’s proudest accomplishments at Christ Church is maintaining, with the help of the parish children, an internationally registered Monarch butterfly garden. Food is also one of Laura’s passions and she has recently been heavily involved with the Southern Kentucky Regional (SKY) Farmers Market, as a long-time board member and then serving as its first Market Manager for three years. Her involvement with SKY Market allowed her the opportunity to see farming practices up close while also educating the general public on the importance of “buying local.” It also allowed her the honor of being chosen as a United States delegate to the International Slow Food Movement’s Terra Madre Conference in Turin, Italy. It was there, learning about the worldwide need for “good, fair, and clean food” and the challenges the world is facing including soil fertility, water scarcity, loss of biodiversity, climate change and landscape destruction that Laura decide to embark on the Master of Arts in Social Responsibility and Sustainable Communities.

Laura will join the ICSR as a GA with the Public Achievement Program.
Bianca Brown, ICSR GA for Public Achievement

Bianca, who grew up in Rodeo, California, is a first-year graduate student at Western Kentucky University (WKU). She is the Public Achievement Coordinator for the Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility and received an undergraduate certificate from that department as well. Brown earned her BA in English and philosophy at WKU and is currently working toward a master’s degree in social responsibility and sustainable communities. After graduation, she plans to utilize her background in English studies to continue working with community members, affecting positive social change through literacy education for upward mobility. Brown’s primary interest is taking an active role in helping others to realize and exercise their own power. “I believe that if one feels it is possible to be disempowered by others, one was never self-empowered to begin with,” said Brown. “As I feel involvement in political life begins foremost with the self-empowerment of the individual, I aim to inspire others through my own actions and philosophy of civic engagement: the hopeful messages each of us deserves to share with the world must be masterfully crafted, expressed with confidence, and relentlessly upheld.”

MA Social Responsibility & Sustainable Communities

Beth McGrew is the new graduate assistant for the SRSC. She will be conducting research at Bernheim Forest & Arboretum and working on other projects related to sustainability.

“Through the MA in Social Responsibility and Sustainable Communities, I intend to focus on building community through sustainable urban gardening initiatives. I hope to build a project based on edible landscaping as a means to serve, educate, and empower the community, as well as revive the connectedness between people and their food.”

Yvette Q. Getch began as the Executive Director of the Suzanne Vitale Clinical Education Complex in May. She received her B.S. in Social Work from The Florida State University in 1986, earned an M.Ed. in Independent Living Rehabilitation Counseling with a specialty in Deafness from the University of Arkansas in 1990, and earned her Ph.D. in Rehabilitation Education and Research from the University of Arkansas in 1996. Dr. Getch recently left the University of Georgia where she had worked since 1996. During her tenure at UGA she served as the Coordinator of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program and as Coordinator for the Undergraduate Service Courses. Dr. Getch has presented at numerous national and international conferences and has more than 40 publications. Her primary research interests include the impact of childhood chronic illness and disability on the family, school accommodations for children with chronic illness and disabilities, advocacy issues for children and adults with disabilities, and social justice advocacy for individuals from traditionally marginalized populations.
**Diversity and Community Studies cont.**

**Upcoming Event**

**Thursday, September 25, 5-8pm (including dinner)**

Sam Avery, “The Pipeline and the Paradigm: Keystone XL, Tar Sands, and the Battle to Defuse the Carbon Bomb”

Avery will present on his work and book project, after a local foods dinner. If you are interested in this important environmental issue, about which Paul Gilding writes, “If you want to know why this could be the battle that defines our generation, then read it [Pipeline], then get involved and join history,” please contact Jane Olmsted to be added to the guest list.

Sponsored by Social Responsibility & Sustainable Communities and University College.

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**Brandi Button**, Program Support Specialist, working in the main office of Diversity & Community Studies and in the ICSR

She says, “My name is Brandi Button and I am a native Kentuckian born, raised and residing in a small town in south central Kentucky. I started my undergraduate education at Belmont University in 2003 with the goal of studying Music Business. Rather quickly I learned that it was not for me and transferred to Western Kentucky University where I developed a passion for Sociology and Women’s Studies. I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in 2008 from WKU. After a break from academia I returned to WKU in the fall of 2011 to pursue a Master of Arts in Social Responsibility and Sustainable Communities alongside a graduate certificate in Gender and Women’s Studies. I graduated from the program in May 2013 and presented my thesis ‘Plain and Simple: The Will to Live Sustainably in an Unsustainable World’ in July 2013. Currently, I work seasonally at Mammoth Cave National Park, right outside my hometown of Park City, KY. I live on a small piece of land with my partner, two pigs, nine hens, one rooster and two dogs where we garden naturally and sustainably. I love to be outside doing any and everything, taking occasional breaks to read, share and create stories with family and friends, take photographs and journal. I am excited about all of the new opportunities I have to learn from the faculty, staff and students in the Department of Diversity and Community Studies and look forward to doing what I can to make WKU a sustaining, nurturing environment.”

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**Farewell to Cierra Waller and Leigh Gaskin**

Even as we welcome our new faculty, staff, and graduate assistants, we were able to bid adieu to at least two of our wonderful staff/graduate students. Leigh Gaskin is off to pursue her Ph.D. in American Studies at Washington State, and Cierra Waller has accepted a full-time advising position with Potter College of Arts & Letters. We’ll miss them!

WKU Aging, AARP Kentucky, Barren River Area Development District and the City of Bowling Green hosted a networking opportunity for organizations and businesses that have undertaken age-friendly initiatives.

“The Gathering”, held on August 1st, was an opportunity for 30 groups to network and share their efforts with other business leaders in Warren County. All businesses and organizations that work with seniors in any capacity were encouraged to attend.

The free event was part of an Age-Friendly Cities project. ‘AFC Bowling Green’ is a hands-on community initiative using the World Health Organization’s framework for assessing the age friendliness of Bowling Green.

The Gathering was from 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. in the Augenstein Alumni Center. Breakfast and beverages were provided.

The first Age-friendly Awareness Business Award was also presented at the meeting. The honor went to Mr. Brad Cannon.

Picture (left to right): Mayor Bruce Wilkerson, Winner Brad Cannon (Franchise Owner Home Instead Senior Care), Professor Dr. Dana Bradley, WKU President Gary Ransdell

First Annual
2013 Age-friendly Awareness Award
Home Instead Senior Care
Benefit Auction

Military Student Services is planning a benefit auction December 7, 2013, at the Augenstein Alumni Center, from 1-4 p.m. Donations for the auction are currently being accepted by MSS. Suggested items can include gift cards, hand-crafted items such as afghans, quilts and jewelry, services such as lawn or home maintenance, sports memorabilia and more. A list of donation suggestions is available from the MSS office. For more information, contact Teresa Jameson at teresa.jameson201@topper.wku.edu.

Scantrons & Bluebooks

Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, Veterans and their children may now pick up scantrons and bluebooks in the Veterans Resource Center, free of charge. The VRC is located in Tate Page Hall, Room 408 after August 26 and is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. during Spring and Fall terms, and 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. during Summer terms.

Stay Informed

Military Listserv

Stay informed of what is happening at Western Kentucky University through the military listserv, http://lists.wku.edu/mailman/listinfo/wku-military

All active duty, Guard, Reserve, veterans and their family members should join this mailing list to get updates on the many programs offered at WKU just for them.
The School of Professional Studies: Newest Academic School at WKU

During its July meeting, the Board of Regents approved the formation of the School of Professional Studies within the University College. The School of Professional Studies combines several existing academic units within University College to better serve students while also utilizing the talent within our College. The merger includes: The Department of Professional Studies from South Campus, The Department of Interdisciplinary Studies and the School of Leadership Studies on main campus to form the new School of Professional Studies. Programs within each academic unit remain unchanged. The organizational structure of the new School is depicted below:

Due to the re-organization, several staff and faculty changes have occurred.

The interim Director for the School of Professional Studies is Dr. Ken Kuehn. Dr. Kuehn was the previous Department Head for Interdisciplinary Studies. Dr. Kuehn will provide leadership for the new School until Dean George appoints a permanent Director which should occur during this upcoming academic year. Dr. Sara Northerner assumes the leadership responsibilities for the Interdisciplinary Studies academic unit.

The previous School of Leadership Studies included both Leadership Studies and the Center for Leadership Excellence. The Leadership Studies programs along with Dr. John Baker remain within the new School of Professional Studies as an academic unit. The Center for Leadership Excellence has become part of the Gordon Ford College of Business and the previous director for the School of Leadership Studies, Dr. Cecile Garmon, is now the Knicely Professor of Leadership within the Center of Leadership Excellence. Dr. Sarah Chace, also previously with the School of Leadership Studies, is now a faculty member in the Center for Leadership Excellence. Last Spring, Ms. Cindy Ehresman transferred from Leadership Studies to the Division of Extended Learning and Outreach as the Program Manager, Lifelong Learning. We want to thank Cindy, Cecile, and Sarah for all they have done while part of the University College family and wish them good luck in their new and exciting roles on campus.
What was previously known as the Professional Studies Department has now been separated into two academic units within the School of Professional Studies. The first academic unit is Business Studies, which includes the business programs, information systems programs, and office systems programs. The Unit Leader is Ron Mitchell. The second academic unit is Paralegal Studies, which includes the paralegal and real estate programs. The Unit Leader is Julie Shadoan. The full-time faculty in these two units has moved to the second floor of Tate Page Hall. Due to the timing of the move, classes will continue to be taught at South Campus for fall 2013, but will move to Tate Page Hall beginning in January, 2014. Ms. Haley Smith, the Office Associate with former Professional Studies Department, has taken a position in the Chemistry Department.

Dr. Jeff Butterfield provides leadership for the Technology Studies academic unit. Technology Studies houses the System Management and Computer Information Technology majors and is an affiliated academic unit with the School.

Ms. Vickie Payne, previously with FACET, is now the Office Coordinator for the new School of Professional Studies. Ms. Linda Brumit, Office Associate for the academic unit of Leadership Studies, will work with Vickie to provide administrative support for the new School.

Together, the newly formed School of Professional Studies will create synergies among academic units while leveraging the strengths of existing programs allowing for the creation of new programs that will accommodate the academic needs of our great students. We invite you to visit our School located on the second floor of Tate Page Hall.