From the Dean’s Office

On May 9th University College held an award ceremony to honor our faculty members. Along with Dr. George, Dean and Ms. Michelle Hollis, Assistant Dean, both of University College are:

Outstanding Part-Time Faculty—Terry Shoemaker
Award for Student Advisement—Jane Olmsted
Award for Teaching—Kristi Branham
Award for Research/Creativity—Dana Bradley
Award for Public Service—Megan Thompson (not pictured)

CONGRATULATIONS!

Also on May 9th University College recognized our faculty members who are retiring. Along with Dr. George, Dean of University College are:

Ms. Paula Trafton—17 years of service
Ms. Freda Mays—37 years of service
Dr. Ken Kuehn—30 years of service
Ms. Linda Sparks—35 years (not pictured)
Ms. Linda Todd—20 years (not pictured)

Thank you for your dedication!

Where's Big Red?

Big Red (JUST LIKE the image to the left) is hidden somewhere in this newsletter. Be the first to find him and you win a University College travel mug! Email wendi.kelley@wkub.edu and tell us where you found him!
We are seeking Math and English Peer Tutors for the fall. Please drop by room 234 at South Campus and complete an application. We are currently interviewing.

Job Title: Math/English Peer Tutor
Payrate: $7.40/hr
Hours per Week: 10 - 20 hours per week
Beginning Date: August 19, 2013
Number of Positions: 6
Work Schedule: Based on student schedule, during operating hours of LAC
Job Description: Tutor South Campus students in freshmen level mathematics and/or English. Assist students with study skills and basic computing issues. Additional duties may include class visits to promote the LAC, assisting with ATP, and working with specific classes in a manner similar to PASS.

Required Skills: Must be a current WKU student. Math tutor: Minimum of an A or B in DMA 096 and enrollment in MA 116 (MA 116 completion preferred) English tutor: A or B in ENG 100 (ENG 200 completion preferred) Must have a 3.2 GPA or higher, excellent interpersonal skills, excellent communication skills, and fluent verbal and written command of the English language. Must be interested in helping others and be an open, tolerant individual and the ability to tutor other subjects as needed.

Department: Alice Rowe Learning Assistance Center
South Campus
Contact Person: Jan Duvall or Nichole Sherrell
Location: South Campus, C234
Maggie Woodward–Sundance: An Indescribable Impact

I’ll start with the facts. Over the course of eight days, I attended 24 screenings of 23 films in ten different Sundance categories. I sat in nine theatres that spanned the eleven square miles of Park City, Utah. I watched a looping, 61-minute New Frontier “experience” that slowed down a New York City street to the tempo of a Sonic Youth guitar track, romanticizing the discarded cigarette butts free-falling into grimy cement. I went through an entire bottle of SPF 50 facial sunscreen. I used up two tubes of Chapstick. I lost three reusable water bottles and ruined one pair of boots. My instinct in summarizing a days-long experience like this is to quantify things: to answer questions like how many?, how much?, how often?. But the Sundance Film Festival was unique. No matter how many lists I scribble, photo albums I create, or numbers I tally, I won’t be able to accurately describe how this class and festival experience impacted me. So much of Sundance is being in the right place at the right time, a talent I always thought I was lacking. However, somehow, in Park City, my luck increased tenfold. I managed to get into a small premiere party for Joseph Gordon-Levitt’s HitRecord on TV and watched the show with Joe himself. I conned my way into a secret screening of the yet-to-be-released film Nymphomaniac Vol. I, shown to a small crowd in the Egyptian Theatre. I met my TV heroine, Aubrey Plaza, and I successfully saw every film for which I was on the waitlist. I met the lead actress (Carla Juri) for my favorite World Cinema Dramatic film (Wetlands); the director of my favorite US film (Gillian Robespierre/Obvious Child) hugged me after I told her how much her story meant to me. I’m not sure how to encapsulate the joy and surrealism of attending this festival except to say that I don’t know how I’ll not go back. Despite the severe lack of sleep, meals skipped out of business, and frozen toes, I would do it all again tomorrow. I count the 2014 Sundance Film Festival as a singular experience that will continue to influence my creative and critical abilities.
Bonner Leaders Complete an Exceptional Semester of Service-Learning

The Bonner Leader program at Western Kentucky University is providing a way for students to afford higher education by participating in meaningful service throughout our great community. Bonner Leaders complete a majority of their service hours with a primary community partner. The longevity of the Bonner Leader’s commitment with their primary partner gives the Bonner Leaders an opportunity to take on a high level of responsibility within the organization. In addition, these primary partners become valuable networks for our Bonner Leaders during their undergraduate experience and into their job seeking years. Bonner Leaders also work together to identify community issues that they are passionate about, and they use their networks to bridge various partners and create sustainable solutions.

Cumulatively the Bonner Leaders have served more than 2,080 hours this academic year. They serve various populations including youth, adults, sexual assault victims, refugees, physically disabled, mentally disabled, and the hungry and homeless individuals of our community. We will soon welcome the incoming Bonner Leaders for 2014-15!

The $100 Solution™ Fall Training

Register today for The $100 Solution™ Faculty and Staff training that will take place on Friday, September 5, 2014 at the ALIVE Center from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This training will allow interested individuals to become certified faculty and staff in teaching The $100 Solution™ in classes and co-curricular settings. The $100 Solution™ is a popular and effective service-learning tool at WKU, and it is a leading model utilized around the world. Nearly 200 students participate in courses at WKU each year that utilize The $100 Solution™ as a service-learning tool. Students apply their course concepts in real-world settings by partnering with the community to solve a problem or address a need. Please register by Wednesday, August 29th by visiting http://www.wku.edu/alive/the100dollarsolution/thds_faculty_staff_training.php.

You can find more information about The $100 Solution™ on the WKU ALIVE Center’s website at http://www.wku.edu/alive/the100dollarsolution.

If you have any questions about the training, please contact Lauren Cunningham at lauren.cunningham@wku.edu.
Hill House Students Share their Year of Success

Hill House graduate assistants shared their accomplishments for the academic year through presentations to support staff and departmental advisors on May 14th. This has been a pivotal year for the Hill House program, as this year’s students laid significant groundwork for sustainable partnerships with area schools and nonprofits. One partnership in particular that promises continued success is with The Academy at 11th Street. The Academy is an alternative school for students that have experienced behavioral issues in their traditional school settings. Hill House students worked with the Academy students this year to develop an ongoing mentorship and career development program for present and future Academy students. Through this partnership, Academy students identified areas of potential career interest, and Hill House students created a career fair inviting only businesses that fit the students’ career interests. Future plans for the mentorship and career development program consist of a career shadowing program matching Academy students with business partners in the students’ areas of interest. Hill House students expressed much excitement about the relationships developed and progress made in mentoring Academy of 11th Street students.

Hill House students also completed individual public research or evaluation projects; some of which will continue next academic year for 2nd-year Hill House students. Research and evaluation projects included:

* Community Development and the Rural Community: Understanding the Influence of Transient Populations
* Bi-racial Children as Invisible Victims of Bullying: The Prevalence of Bullying Among Biracial Children in Comparison to Mono-racial Children
* Association Between Fluoride in Drinking Water and Dental Caries of Children in South Central Kentucky
* The Bereavement Program at Hospice of Southern Kentucky

Hill House students have the opportunity to share the findings of their research or evaluations to public audiences relevant to their areas of work. Join me in congratulating Hill House students of 2013-14 on a job well done! For more information, contact Lauren.cunningham@wku.edu.

Housing & Residence Incorporates Service for its First Theme House

WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships and the department of Housing & Residence Life have teamed up to bring the FIRST themed-living house to WKU! The new theme house will be called The $100 Solution™ House and is located just minutes from campus on Chestnut Street. The $100 Solution™ House will focus on service-learning and we are selecting five undergraduate WKU students to work with local community partners and organizations to build a better Bowling Green starting in the fall.

The inaugural group of students living in The $100 Solution™ House this fall must possess passion, a positive attitude, and the potential to serve as a leader in the area of service-learning through The $100 Solution™ at WKU. Email thds@wku.edu to learn more about this new and exciting opportunity or to request an application.
Have you ever wanted to see what the Women Studies house looks like from the inside? Here is your chance! Here is our home-grown tour of the WS House, led by our student assistant, Leah Railey. Film is by Brian Sexton, recent WKU graduate.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVLugEMuUSE

New Major in Diversity & Community Studies

In May, the WKU Board of Regents approved the first major in the department. Chair of the BOR curriculum committee, Dr. Bale from Glasgow, complimented the proposal for the major, saying it was “well written” and “interesting.” Dr. Bale read this portion out loud-- learning how to problem-solve, take direct action, and identify positive ways of conflict resolution are key for students’ success—saying, “as a business person I’d like to see more of this.”

Strategies for social change are among the most challenging to study and to implement, especially given the sense that consumer-oriented systems are unstoppable. For this reason, learning how to problem-solve, take direct action, and identify positive ways of conflict resolution are key for students’ success in a wide range of vocations, ranging from social services to governmental and non-profit organizations, at all levels from local to international. This major will be especially appealing to offices of diversity in corporate or university settings and to community-based non-profit organizations. The program aims at transformative knowledge, changing consciousness and shaping leaders who are less susceptible to short-term answers at the expense of long-term sustainability of the environment and communities that must share the world.
Official Catalog Description

The major in diversity & community studies provides graduates with a critical framework for understanding social systems and structural forms of oppression at local and global scales. Students also gain practical skills of working with others to solve problems related to citizenship and activism. Such knowledge and skills are necessary for a wide range of vocations, ranging from social services to governmental and non-profit organizations, at all levels from local to international. Students majoring in diversity & community studies must earn a minimum of 33 semester hours and must also select a minor. The major leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree.

The major in diversity & community studies requires a minimum of 33 semester hours and a minor. If the minor is fewer than 21 hours, students will need to select additional electives from any of the categories below to make up the difference.

The following courses are required for the major (15 hours)
- ICSR 200: Introduction to Social Justice
- ICSR 300: Public Problem-Solving
- AFAM 190: The African American Experience
- GWS 200: Introduction to Gender & Women’s Studies
- DCS 400: Capstone in Diversity & Community Studies

Students are required to take an additional 18 hours of electives, selecting at least six hours from the following three categories:

**Formations of identity and narratives of oppression (minimum of 6 hours):**
- COMM 463: Intercultural Communication
- ENG 360: Gay and Lesbian Literature
- ENG 393: African American Literature
- GWS 375: American Masculinities
- PSY 355: Issues in Cross-Cultural Psychology
- SOCL 355: Sociology of Gender

**Advocacy and social change (minimum of 6 hours):**
- AFAM 333: Hip Hop and Democracy
- AFAM 343: Communities of Struggle
- GWS 350: Feminism, the Arts, and Social Change
- HIST 358: Blacks in American History Before 1877 OR
- HIST 359: Blacks in American History Since 1877
- HIST 453: American Women’s History
- PS 373: Minority Politics
- SOCL 240: Contemporary Social Problems

**Systems, Local to Global (minimum of 6 hours):**
- DCS 360: Place, Community, Resilience
- ECON 464 Economics of Poverty
- FLK 330: Cultural Connections and Diversity
- GEOG 110: World Regional Geography
- HIST 446 American Legal History
- RELS 408: Religion and Ecology
- SWRK 330: Human Behavior in Social Environments I
We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Saundra Ardrey! She was nominated by Leah Ashwill for the Office of Secretary of State’s 2014 Outstanding Civic Education Leadership Award. The selection committee chose Dr. Ardrey as an award finalist. She was invited by Secretary of State, Alison Lundergan Grimes to participate in a brief ceremony during the KHSAA Boys’ Sweet 16 Tournament in Lexington, KY, on March 21st.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

What an adventure! Twenty four students Explored Trinidad for ten days during Spring Break 2014. The program took students to various places in Trinidad and Tobago to study the history, culture and natural wonders of an island nation shaped, over the course of four centuries, by distinct processes of human migrations, conflicts, and settlements. Students visited important political, historical, and cultural sites in the capitol city of Port of Spain, Central and South Trinidad, and its sister island of Tobago, and participated in a variety of cultural activities, tours, and lectures designed to promote cross-cultural awareness, understanding, and appreciation of life in the Caribbean.

Brittany Carter, an African American Studies minor, remarked, “This was an amazing experience! We were able to interact with Trinidadian college students and get to know some of the things they go through.”

“It really was weird being considered outsiders; we were the foreigners. It made me understand and appreciate another culture”, said Tevin Jones, an Interdisciplinary Studies major.

Political Science major Simone Smith was especially impressed with the lectures and guest speakers from the University of the West Indies. “I could really see the comparative and overlapping nature of the Afro-Trinidadian and African American experiences.”

In addition to the lectures, speakers and cultural visits there was plenty of time to enjoy the sun and the beaches. “Swimming in the caves was fun and so was jet skiing” at Maracas Bay, said Anthropology and Folk Studies major Raymond Smith. “The food was amazing especially the popular delicacy, bake and shark; that was my favorite”, explained Jana Harrison.

For Sidney Leavell, pre-nursing major, the service learning project with the Tunapuna Government Secondary School was the most inspiring. He and one of the young students shared stories and life experiences and they have continued to correspond through email.

Check out our blog at http://brittanycarter730.wordpress.com/

Sponsored by the African American Studies Program in cooperation with the University of the West Indies in St. Augustine, Explore Trinidad will be offered again during the 2016 Winter Term. For more information, contact Dr. Andrew Rosa, faculty leader, Andrew.rosa@wku.edu or Dr. Saundra Ardrey, Saundra.ardrey@wku.edu.

Come join the adventure!
Explore Trinidad Students, Simone Smith, Raymond Smith, Rauneisha Reid-Mayes, Coumba Sow, Mariah Tibbs, Robert Pugh, Tia Allen, presenting at the Study Abroad Symposium on April 19 at the Knicely Center.

Explore Trinidad students Jana Harrison, Coumba Sow, Jasmine Morgan, Tevin Jones, Karlos Harbor and Raymond Smith stuck in the tar at Pitch Lake, the largest commercial deposit of natural asphalt in the world.

Jana Harrison at Pitch Lake, the largest commercial deposit of natural asphalt in the world.

The official videographer for the trip, Ian Dowty, takes a plunge into the waters of Argyle Waterfalls.

An exciting feature of the Explore Trinidad trip was the service learning project where WKU students interacted with middle school students from Tunapuna Government Secondary School.

WKU students pose along the North Coast at Gasparee Islands, Trinidad.

WKU students Jasmine, Ashlee, Mariah, Eppiphanie, Rauneisha, Tevin, and faculty leader Dr. Andrew Rosa and his wife Teri get a tour of University of West Indies (UWI).

Explore Trinidad faculty leaders Drs. Lloren Foster, Saundra Ardrey and Andrew Rosa and his wife Teri present University of West Indies host Collette Hosten with a thank you bouquet.
Throughout the spring semester, student assistant Erin Miller compiled responses from student and faculty with the prompt, “I am a feminist because…” and created a short video, dedicated to assistant Anthropology professor, Dr. Lindsey Powell, who passed away this semester: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ylShdgCWMRQ&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ylShdgCWMRQ&feature=youtu.be)

Erin will spend fall semester studying at the Universidad de Belgrano in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is most excited about her Gender Studies and History of Tango courses.

A glimpse of the slide show video compiled by Erin Miller

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**Student Led Activism**

**Hilltoppers 4 Choice** is a student-led organization dedicated to reproductive justice and sexual health. H4C’s goal is to make campus a safer place to discuss and evaluate reproductive justice and rights. Hilltoppers 4 Choice organized and contributed to several events this year including a Hope Harbor Benefit Dinner, Condomonium, Healthy Days, Take Back the Night, Rock 4 Choice, and sexual health discussions. H4C is a student-led and organized activism group that is proud to announce our future plans to merge with The Coalition for Gender and Racial Equality in fall 2014 to form The Feminist Alliance! This student-led organization will help to combine those efforts by feminist students on campus into one cohesive organization. If you are interested in getting involved with The Feminist Alliance please contact Justin Crenshaw, Co-President, at Justin.crenshaw501@topper.wku.edu.

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**Student members of H4C worked to promote understanding of reproductive rights and sexual education.**

H4C students hang a banner to promote the Healthy Days conference about sexual health.
The Coalition for Gender and Racial Equality has contributed to a number of events on campus including a film series and a dinner to benefit Hope Harbor. The highlight of The Coalition this year was hosting a reading and a discussion with Stacey Ann Chin. The Coalition purchased several copies of Stacey Chin’s *The Other Side of Paradise*. Justin Crenshaw, a soon to be junior in Coalition, led the reading group of students and faculty. Students and faculty were then able to see Stacey Ann Chin perform several readings and they attended breakfast with her the following morning for a discussion. The Coalition is proud to be a welcoming atmosphere for young scholars on WKU’s campus!

Justin Crenshaw led a book discussion of Stacey Ann Chin’s memoir *The Other Side of Paradise*.

Gender & Women’s Studies annual Awards Ceremony

Dr. Patti Minter, recipient of the Catherine Coogan Ward Feminist Action Award, for her long-time advocacy of LGBTQ students and her work in bringing partner benefits to WKU. Pictured with her nominator Dr. Molly Kerby, who writes “Patti is an activist and advocate for the rights of all people regardless of gender, sex, race, class, or sexuality. She is a definitely a role model for other women and encourages others to, as she says, ‘fight the good fight.’ I personally have spent many occasions campaigning, protesting, and advocating beside Patti. Her legal background is always helpful, her spirit it always motivational, and her dedication to the rights of women, people of color, and LGBTQ community members is always remarkable.”

Whitney Marsh, recipient of the Seneca Falls Personal Empowerment Award, for her pursuit of an education despite significant hurdles and her positive mentoring of her peers, with her nominator, Dr. Kristi Branham, who says, “For Whitney, school work comes first. She has made it clear that she prefers to be studying, genuinely enjoys her coursework, and tackles this material with an eye toward how it can aid her in her future goals. In other words, college isn’t just a set of tasks she must complete, but a window to a world of knowledge, experiences, and opportunities.” In her remarks, Whitney noted that her strength comes from the GWS community—her mentors there, her fellow students—and through a collective sense of purpose.
Report from SRSC Research Assistant Beth McGrew

WKU’s first Community Garden on campus is off the ground! Well, actually…I won’t say it. In the middle of April, we kicked off Earth Week in the garden with a Student Planting Party sponsored by Student Government Association. Neal Downing and his Manufacturing Science students constructed a garden shed out of repurposed pallets, on top of which the Ecology Club will install a living roof. On the south-facing side of the shed, WKU AID will maintain a living wall. The Office of Sustainability has partnered with local farmer Tim Kercheville of Festina Lente to design and construct a hugel, which is a permaculture technique used to garden sustainably. The WKU Food Pantry’s Plot is flourishing with cabbage, broccoli, kale, and cauliflower, and our bees will be arriving any day! Now, to select our Project Grow Fellows… Project Grow is a new student organization that will be comprised of 6 student fellows who will commit 5 hours/week toward maintaining the garden and landscape at the Office of Sustainability, coordinating with all participating organizations and individuals, and continuing to engage the WKU community in the garden.

As a graduate student in the Social Responsibility and Sustainable Communities program, I am using this project to look at research questions such as; does an edible landscape or community garden effectively address accessibility and affordability--both obstacles to eating healthy? Or is there another variable that should be considered? Additionally, I’m looking at what elements are essential to building an environmentally sustainable project that continues to engage the community. Come join us in the garden!
WKU Aging Hosts Reception to Recognize Students, Faculty, and Community Partners

On May 5th, a reception was held at the WKU Faculty House to recognize all those who have contributed to the success of WKU Aging throughout the past year. Students, faculty and community members were honored.

Several individuals were honored for their work on the Age-Friendly Bowling Green Initiative. These included Bowling Green Mayor, Bruce Wilkerson; Bowling Green Neighborhood Services Coordinator, Karen Foley; as well as volunteers BJ McKenzie, Barbara Johnston, and Donna Woods.

Heather O’Banion Director of Village Manor and Brad Cannon, owner of Home Instead Senior Care were also recognized as Outstanding Community Partners. Two retiring faculty members were also honored. Ms. Ginny Pfohl of the Psychology Department and Dr. Susan Wesley of the Social Work Department were honored for their outstanding contributions and support to the Minor in Gerontology throughout the years.

Morgan Gruner and Kaleb Moore were presented with the Companions of Respected Elders (CORE) Founder’s Award. As pre-med students, Morgan and Kaleb created CORE to make a difference in the lives of seniors in the area. CORE does this through visits to residents in local nursing facilities. Kaleb and Morgan graduated this month and will both be continuing their education in pursuit of careers in medicine.

Amy Correll, an Honors Self-Designed Studies Major and Gerontology Minor was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award in the Gerontology Minor and Annie Trosper (not pictured) was awarded the Outstanding Achievement Award in the Graduate Certificate in Aging Studies.

Congratulations to all the graduates and honorees!
WKU Aging Announces the Aging Specialist Certificate

WKU Aging is excited to announce the new undergraduate Aging Specialist Certificate, which was recently approved at the Board of Regents meeting in April. Knowledge of aging is relevant to almost every area of study, and the Aging Specialist Certificate may supplement majors in various departments across campus, including, but not limited to, interdisciplinary studies, health sciences, leadership, social work, communication disorders, health care administration, psychology, sociology, hospitality management and dietetics and public health. The information gained through completing this certificate program can help individuals not only in their careers but also in their personal lives as they and members of their families age. Job opportunities related to aging are numerous among many settings including health and wellness companies, senior housing, advocacy and policy organizations, financial services, biotechnology, social service agencies, and academic and research settings.

COURSES IN THE CERTIFICATE
The 15-semester-hour program includes 6 required hours in gerontology and 9 hours distributed across the three categories below.

REQUIRED COURSES (6 hours):
GERO 100 (3) Introduction to the Aging Experience
GERO 485 (3) Seminar in Gerontology

APPROVED ELECTIVES (9 hours) Choose one from each category below:

Biomedical and health services: (3) hours
BIOL 344 Biology of Aging
CD 489 Geriatric Communication Disorders
HMD 367 Nutrition in Aging
EXS 455 Exercise and Aging
NURS 451 Gerontological Nursing
PH 443 Health and Aging
PH 464 Women’s Health

Administration, policy and management: (3) hours
HCA 340 Health Care Org and Management
HCA 345 Long-Term Care Administration
HCA 353 Quality in Long-Term Care
HCA 355 Nursing Facility Administration
HCA 471 Managed Care
SWRK 326 Services for Older Americans

Social and behavioral sciences: (3) hours
SOCL 342 Aging in Society
PSYS 423 Psychology of Adult Life and Aging
ECON 365 Economics of Aging
FIN 161 Personal Finance
FIN 444 Retirement and Planning
PH 444 Death, Dying and Bereavement
PHIL 322 Biomedical Ethics
PHIL 426 Philosophy of Old Age

*GERO 490 Independent Study in Gerontology (1-6 credits) and GERO 495 Topics in Gerontology (1-3 credits) may be counted towards the certificate.

For more information please contact: marybeth.hunt@wku.edu / 270-745-3177 or visit www.wku.edu/aging.
Senior Events Committee Spreads the Word through SOKY Happenings

As part of the World Health Organization’s Age-Friendly Cities Project, WKU Aging, AARP and the City of Bowling Green began collaborating in an effort called “Age-Friendly Bowling Green”. This project seeks to make Bowling Green a better place to grow older by asking individuals, groups and businesses in the community how policies and practices can be changed to make the city even more inclusive of older adults and more sensitive to their needs. “Community Conversations” were held throughout the area in 2012 and 2013 and a report is currently being prepared which will summarize the ideas and suggestions that were collected.

However, one idea came up so often that a group of area seniors decided to form a committee and get right to work on making it happen. While many people had indeed commented on all that the city has to offer seniors, they also often said that they did not hear about many of these opportunities until after they had happened. Therefore, the Senior Events Committee with the assistance and support of WKU Aging began compiling a calendar of events for seniors and distributing it at Kroger on Senior Discount Day. The events included on the calendar cater to a variety of interests and needs, including everything from computer classes, book discussion groups, BINGO, informational meetings, free medical screenings, senior exercise programs and many other events geared toward seniors.

The monthly calendar can now be found on the WKU Aging website at www.wku.edu/aging/seniorevents, and the committee plans on distributing it to local churches and other public locations frequented by seniors.

In addition, the committee has been able to further their goal of getting information to seniors by creating a senior page in SOKY Happenings magazine. Through Home Instead Senior Care’s sponsorship, the committee is creating monthly articles that feature the events, organizations and activities that make Bowling Green a “Forbes Favorite” for retirement and a great place for senior living. The May article is entitled “Bowling Green: A Winning Community for Retirees.” Find out where to get your copy of SOKY Happenings here: http://sokyhappenings.co/where.asp

Dr. Kelly Fitzgerald, Senior Scientist and Part-time Instructor for WKU’s Center for Gerontology was recently elected to the Executive Committee of the United Nations NGO Committee on Aging on April 29th, 2014. Dr. Fitzgerald will serve as Vice-Chair, and is a representative of the International Federation on Ageing (IFA). The goals of this committee include: furthering the U.N.’s mission of building a society for all ages; raising awareness of aging and intergenerational issues and ensuring they are adequately addressed by the U.N. System; advocating for a new convention on the rights of older persons; and influencing global policy and monitoring the implementation of existing commitments.

Congratulations, Dr. Fitzgerald!
Other News, Notes and Congratulations from WKU Aging

- Congratulations to Dr. Dana Bradley for receiving the University College Award for Research/Creativity!

- Dr. Dana Bradley and students Amy Correll and Hannah Ruggles attended the Southern Gerontological Society’s Annual Meeting last month in Little Rock, AR. Hannah and Amy both presented in poster sessions at the conference. The title of Hannah’s research is “Reducing Readmission Rates: How are hospitals improving care transitions of Medicare Beneficiaries in Compliance with the Affordable Care Act”. Amy received the undergraduate poster award for her presentation on “Older Kenyan’s Views of Geriatric Health Care Services”.

- Amy Correll also received a Pass with Distinction for her Honors Thesis entitled “International Health & Aging: Observations and Analyses of Elderly Care in Migori, Kenya”. She presented this research at the Posters at the Capitol event in Frankfort in February as well. Congratulations, Amy!

- Congratulations to Marybeth Hunt, Coordinator of Community Outreach and Advising for the Center for Gerontology for receiving the WKU Master Advisor Certificate earlier this month.

- Cherita Black, a Psychology Major and Gerontology Minor, presented at the Spotlight on Creative Activity and Performance at WKU’s Student Research Conference in March. Cherita’s project is called "The Influence of Life Review and Poetry-Writing with Older Individuals." Congratulations, Cherita!

- Congratulations to Ms. Darla Hayden, who graduated from WKU this month with her Master of Health Administration. Darla served as a Graduate Assistant for the Center for Gerontology for the past two semesters. We wish her the best!

- WKU Aging celebrated Careers in Aging Week (April 6-12, 2014) by spotlighting some of our wonderful gerontology students. They represent a wide variety of interests and fields of study. You can visit the Gerontology Student Spotlight at http://www.wku.edu/aging/gerostudentsspotlight.php.

Be sure to visit the WKU Aging website at www.wku.edu.aging and like us on Facebook: http://www.facebook.org/wkuaging
Diversity and Community Studies — ICSR

by Laura Goodwin, ICSR Graduate Assistant

ICSR’s Public Achievement is alive and well on the hill. WKU undergraduate coaches recently celebrated the completion of another full year of coaching students at T.C. Cherry Elementary School and Bowling Green High School. Through group-led projects connecting civic and political concepts, each group identified an issue within its school, brainstormed possible solutions, and actively worked to improve the situation.

T.C. Cherry Elementary students decided to take up the ever-present topic of “bullying” by launching a campaign to discourage the behavior by raising awareness within the school. Participants created Power Point presentations, posters, and even filmed and aired an interview on the school’s weekly news broadcast educating students on the problem of bullying within the school and encouraging students to be kinder to one another.

The Bowling Green High School team, coached by WKU honors college student Emily Potter, decided to create an after school “club” where students could go to engage in a number of activities ranging from simply completing homework assignments to more creative activities such as an open-mic day or joining a writing club. By meeting with principal, Gary Fields, the students first obtained permission to pursue their goal and then surveyed the student body to assess the most important needs. The “club” is scheduled to be launched in the fall of 2014.

Public Achievement is designed to help students realize and achieve his/her own power and capabilities within the democratic process. It teaches students how to participate in civic dialogue and how to become co-creators of democracy rather than mere consumers. Public Achievement is currently recruiting coaches for the upcoming school year! Those interested in coaching should visit our website www.wku/icsr/programs/publicachievement.php or inquire at icsr@wku.edu.

From left to right: BIG RED, Emily Potter, Jason Duncan, Natalie Duncan, Abby Potter, Laura Goodwin, Marisa Williams, Ben Peterson, Elicia Tillis and Emily Lepping. These are students from BGHS and TC Cherry, the WKU PA Coordinator and three undergraduate coaches.
ICSR Students Attend Academic Conference

In March, four ICSR students, led by Terry Shoemaker, attended the Southeast Commission for the Study of Religion Conference (SECSOR) held in Atlanta, Georgia. The regional conference covered a broad range of topics related to religion in the United States, and particularly, religion in the American South. At the conference, Terry Shoemaker presented his paper, which was recently published in the *Journal of Religion Society*, titled “Revisiting Sacred Metaphors: A Religious Studies Pedagogical Response to the Rise of the Nones.”

The students, Marcus Hughes, Megan Maddern, Farrin Marlow, and Emily Potter have been working on their own collaborative research project. For the project, they have conducted several qualitative interviews with local religious adherents and analyzed the interview data investigating interfaith cooperation in the Bowling Green area. Ultimately, they anticipate submitting their research project to *The Journal of Inter-Religious Studies*. The conference was funded by University College and the Institute for Citizenship & Social Responsibility and gave the students insights into the methods utilized by scholars to construct papers and presentations within the field of religious studies.

By Terry Shoemaker
SPS Highlights from the 2013-14 Academic Year

The School of Professional Studies (SPS) began its journey in July 2013 and is finishing up its inaugural year under the leadership of Interim Director, Dr. Ken Kuehn. The SPS offers academic programs in business studies, interdisciplinary studies, leadership studies, paralegal studies, real estate, and computer technology and has more than 1,000 undergraduate and graduate majors. The SPS is also home to University Experience, WKU’s non-discipline specific course for first-year students.

The SPS hosted its First Annual Student Awards Ceremony on Thursday, May 8, in the Faculty House and recognized these students for their academic achievements:

101 SPS students were named to the Dean’s List (GPA 3.40-3.79) in 2013 and received certificates.
109 SPS students were named to the President’s List (GPA 3.80-4.00) in 2013 and received certificates.

OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS ($1,000 each) were presented to:
- Lisa Estes, Leadership Studies
- Chaquille Johnson, Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies
- Kelsey Luttrell, Paralegal Studies

CLYDE B. CATES SCHOLARSHIPS ($500 each) were presented to:
- Callie Fuqua, Business Management
- Haley Rinehart, Paralegal Studies

The GLORIA YOUNG HOVIOUS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP ($600) was presented to:
- Christina Muhlbaier, Paralegal Studies

The BG CHAPTER, INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS SCHOLARSHIP ($750) was presented to:
- Haley Rinehart, Paralegal Studies

First-year students Rosa Crisantos (instructor Jim Fulkerson) and Yazeed Alharbi (instructor Crystal Hardeman) were awarded a plaque and $100 as winners of the WKU Libraries and University Experience Research Awards in a special ceremony on May 2.

CONGRATULATIONS!
Jessica Hadorn, a Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies student, will carry the American flag during the University College and Potter College commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 17. Jessica is one of our many stellar students and an excellent representative for the BIS degree. She has a 3.2 GPA and has studied abroad at Korea Yonsei University. Jessica plans to teach English as a second language to students in Korea and other countries and specifically chose the BIS degree to prepare her for this career path.

SPS Faculty Notes:

Congratulations to Mark Baum, JD, (Paralegal Studies) and Dr. George Kontos (Computer Technology) who received their WKU Master Advisor Certificates on May 1. They joined Leisha Carr (BIS Academic Advisor), Jim Fulkerson (Interdisciplinary Studies), Sara McCaslin (University Experience), and Paula Trafton (University Experience) bringing the total of this elite advising group to six within the School of Professional Studies.

Additional congrats to Jim Fulkerson (Interdisciplinary Studies) who was named “Best Professor at WKU” in the College Heights Herald’s, Best of the Hill 2014!

Dr. Said Ghezal (Business Studies) was promoted to Assistant Professor.

Aaron Peters (Computer Technology) was welcomed to WKU’s 25 Year Club and Freda Mays (Professional Studies) was honored for her 36 years of service at a special dinner event on May 6. Freda will continue in the transitional retirement program.

Dr. Sara Northerner (Interdisciplinary Studies) will spend the month of June in and around Belfast, Northern Ireland. Her goals are to meet with representatives from Arts Council of Northern Ireland, establish the foundation for a Study Abroad opportunity, and develop interdisciplinary courses on Social Conflict and Cultural Identity. While there, Dr. Northerner will participate in a professional development seminar through the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) and Queens College on “Cultural Identity and Conflict.” Her activities are sponsored by WKU’s International Education Advisory Council (IEAC) and the Office of International Programs (OIP).

Drs. John Baker and Michail Trivizadakis (Leadership Studies) will lead a 3-week, Study Abroad course this summer to Greece and Crete titled, “From Antiquity to the Present: Greek Leadership.” Their objectives are to examine concepts of ethnocentrism, stereotyping, world view, cultural symbolism, belief and values systems and recognize the roles that culture plays in leadership.

Saying Goodbye:

Fully retiring from WKU on June 30 are SPS faculty Linda Todd (Professional Studies) after 20 years of service; Paula Trafton (University Experience) after 17 years of service; and Dr. Ken Kuehn (Interim Director) after 30 years of service. We wish them good luck and bon voyage as their journeys continue.
Military Student Services would like to introduce Joshua Smith as our new Military Student Consultant. Josh will be assisting students with a variety of programs and services and will be the point of contact for the Textbooks For Troops program. Josh comes to us from Community Education where he served as the Enrichment and Volunteer Coordinator and performed various other vital roles in that organization over the past 6.5 years.

Welcome Aboard Josh!!

Tonya Archey, Director of Military Student Services, was invited to Camp Zama, Kinnick High School and Yokosuka Middle School, all located in Japan, to speak to students about WKU and the programs and opportunities we have to offer. She traveled from March 24th—April 2nd. WKU was only one of three stateside schools that were represented. She was able to speak to hundreds of students, parents and active duty member between classroom visits and the college fair. Tonya’s talks were so well received that she was getting follow up emails from students requesting more information about WKU while she was still traveling!
WKU’s Student Veterans Alliance has been busy this semester recruiting new members, helping veterans link up with perspective employers, and applying for grants that will enable them to assist student veterans on the Hill with a variety of needs. Their partnerships with Military Student Services and Veterans Upward Bound at WKU is instrumental in meeting the needs of military students on campus. To learn more about the Student Veterans Alliance visit their website and Facebook page: www.wku.edu/sva and https://www.facebook.com/WKUSVA.

WKU Glasgow student and GSBA Vice President Natalie Raymer spearheaded a donation drive for the Textbooks For Troops program during finals week. Her tireless efforts over the past two semesters have resulted in 242 textbooks being donated to the program. CanDoo would like to send a hearty thank you out to all the students, faculty, and staff of the WKU Glasgow regional center for supporting this amazing program.

The Textbooks For Troops program is a lending library of textbooks for eligible military students (active duty, reserves, National Guard, veterans, and military dependents) taking classes at WKU. We have numerous military students stationed abroad taking online and on-demand courses. We are now offering free textbook loans to military dependents taking Dual Credit courses at WKU. Students can get a jumpstart on college by taking advantage of this opportunity. To learn more about the Dual Credit program, visit their website at http://www.wku.edu/dualcredit/ Tonya Archey recently visited military bases in Japan to speak to students about opportunities available to them at WKU. Students from Camp Zama, Yokota Air Base, Naval Air Facility Atsugi, and Fleet Activities Yokosuka learned about the many programs and services available to them on the Hill.