Fall 2015

University College Connection Fall 2015

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** 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!

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** 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@wku.edu and tell us where you found him!
University College’s Assistant Dean, Michelle Hollis, was a guest speaker at the annual “Givin’ Back Sports Camp.”

The Givin’ Back sports camp recently finished up its 10th year in Russellville with its annual picnic celebration at Hampton Park. Speakers at this year’s picnic included Michelle Hollis, Assistant Dean at Western Kentucky University, Patrick Jones from General Motors auto division, and William Thomas Barlow, President of BGPA and BGAA.

The Givin’ Back program is an inspiring, educational and caring initiative brought about by founder Jae Allison. He and other volunteers providing a safe and nurturing place for kids to go every Saturday, keeping them off the streets and teaching them important lessons of life through sports and interaction.

In addition to the weekly sports camp, the organization hosts several other events throughout the year. One of the most popular events is when the Givin’ Back coaches play softball against local law enforcement. Each year Givin’ Back organizers host an Extravaganza where kids get to play basketball and win awards. This year was the fifth year Givin’ Back has held that event. Also, Givin’ Back does an event where barbers donate their time to give free back to school haircuts to children. There is also the He’s Worthy To Be Praised Extravaganza where awards are given out to local churches and choirs.

-By OJ Stapleton—ostapleton@newsdemocratleader.com

Complete article can be found here:
http://newsdemocratleader.com/news/1663/givin-back-wraps-up-10th-year
Were you recently engaged in a service-learning project?

If so, then mark your calendar for the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships Fall 2015 IMPACT EXPO. This fall's IMPACT EXPO will be held at Mass Media & Technology Hall in the auditorum on Tuesday, December 1st from 6:00 pm to 8:00pm. This end-of-semester service-learning showcase will include poster and other presentations from students across campus that have completed service-learning projects in 2015.

This is our fall call for proposals for all students interested in participating in this semester’s expo to submit a poster presentation proposal by Friday, November 20th that outlines the information about your project. Please see the attached call for proposals. Come share your passion for service-learning and the impact service-learning has on community with others! We look forward to reviewing your submissions. For more information, contact the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships at 270-782-0922 or via email at thds@wku.edu.

Click here https://www.wku.edu/alive/the100dollarsolution/impact-expo.php to submit a proposal.
THE IMPACT EXPO
December 1, 2015
6:00 PM
MMTH AUDITORIUM
A showcase of service-learning at Western Kentucky University
Brought to you by the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships
Poster session proposals are due November 20
Visit www.wku.edu/alive/the100dollarsolution
WKU Students Present at ASALH

This year’s centennial meeting and conference of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) included presentations by two WKU students. Andrea Denise and Marcus Stubbs presented on the topic of “Black Activism on College Campuses.” We are extremely proud to have been represented by these students at this historic conference.
Study Abroad in South Africa

Summer 2016 - June 6 – June 30 (tentative dates)

Expand your horizons - Broaden your perspectives - Increase your awareness
(3 to 6 hours of credit)

Are you ready for a unique experience that will shape your thoughts and allow you to dance to an African drumbeat? South Africa offers blazing orange sunsets, sandy-white beaches and thick, lush green forests where the spirits of past inhabitants still linger and where people with friendly smiles greet you and invite you to share in traditional South African culture.

South Africa is a “rainbow nation”, a melting pot of cultures that is just twenty years into a new democratic form of government. Xhosa, Afrikaans and English speakers work and socialize creating a fusion of experiences. We will study the challenges facing this developing nation as it struggles to overcome the vestiges of apartheid and strives to create a better life for all citizens.

For more information contact:
Dr. Sandra Curry Ardrey,
Political Science, (270) 745-4559, Saundra.ardrey@wku.edu
Dr. Saundra Starks,
Social Work, (270) 745-2592, Saundra.starks@wku.edu

Academic credit (3 to 6 hrs) available in:
African American Studies
Political Science
Social Work
Early Childhood Education

Other course credit may be available in consultation with your advisor.
No pre-requisites for courses other than a sense of adventure and an open heart.

* Explore Johannesburg, Cape Town, Soweto and Port Elizabeth
* Visit museums, monuments, government institutions and research centers
* Retrace the historic steps of Nelson Mandela’s long journey to social justice
* Experience South African culture as you complete a service project with local residents
* Walk on the wild side in search of “The Big Five” on safari
* Meet with diplomats, academics, artists and townpeople

African American Studies Program
1906 College Heights
Grise Hall Room 300
Bowling Green, KY 42101
Phone: 270-745-4559
Website: https://www.wku.edu/afam/
Atlanta Trip — October 2015

Thirty-seven students from across the campus joined in a fall break trip to Atlanta, GA. Stops included Centennial Olympic Park, Martin Luther King National Historic Site, World of Coca Cola, the Carter Presidential Center and, of course, restaurants and night entertainment. This is an annual trip sponsored by African American Studies and ESLI to promote and encourage intercultural and international interaction and understanding – and it is always fun.
Sponsored by African American Studies Program
& Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion

Kwanzaa Celebration
Ubuntu
“I Am Because We Are”

December 2, 2015
6:00pm to 8:00pm
Kentucky Museum
2nd Floor Gallery
Faculty News in the African American Studies Program

Dr. Saundra Curry Ardrey, Director of the African American Studies Program, presented “Quilting as a Political Act” on November 10, as part of “In the Year of South Africa.” Quilting, historically a storytelling tool, is an art form used for generations by women to tell their stories and represent their individuality. Dr. Ardrey led the audience in a discussion of how an explosion and exploration of memories and personal nostalgia combine pop culture and political references to make powerful statements about the political and social condition.

Professor Andrew Rosa has been invited to contribute an essay on the significance of St. Clair Drake's Black Metropolis to urban sociology. His essay will appear in Wiley-Blackwell's forthcoming Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies.

Also, Professor Rosa's invited review of Disappearing Mestizo: Configuring Difference in the Colonial New Kingdom of Grenada (Duke University Press, 2014) was published in the fall 2015 edition of the Journal for Anthropological Research.
WKU Aging Recognizes Karen Foley as Volunteer of the Year

Ms. Karen Foley, Neighborhood Services Coordinator for the City of Bowling Green, was recently honored by WKU Aging at the WKU Summit Awards. Karen is instrumental to the success of WKU Aging's Age Friendly Cities Initiative and works extensively to facilitate service and research partnerships for WKU students, Bowling Green elders and WKU faculty since 2012. In her leadership role, Karen has served as a member of the executive committee; Bowling Green Age Friendly Cities Coalition Facilitator; Bowling Green Community Conversations Director & Trainer; Over 50 Citizens Academy Host; International Gerontologists Site Visit Host, 2015. Congratulations, Karen!

Karen Foley (center) was presented the Volunteer of the Year award by Dr. Ransdell and Dr. Dana Bradley.

Student Hannah Ruggles Presents with National Aging Expert

Hannah Ruggles, a WKU senior majoring in Chemistry and minoring in Gerontology, was a panelist at the Aging Reconsidered Workshop at the University of Louisville addressing "Louisville's Aging Revolution: Becoming an Age-Friendly City." Hosted by the UofL Institute for Sustainable Health and Optimal Aging, the forum featured dialogue on age-friendly cities and focused on ways community members could challenge community leaders and stakeholders to take charge in making Louisville more supportive of aging. Hannah shared lessons learned from the Age-Friendly Cities Project in Bowling Green, one of the first of seven cities in the United States to join the WHO Age-Friendly Cities project in 2012.

The panel also included keynote speaker, Dr. Bill Thomas, world-renowned aging expert and innovator. Dr. Thomas is the founder of a global non-profit called The Eden Alternative, which works to improve care for older people through culture change. The panel also included Keith Knapp, President/CEO, Christian Care Communities; Keisha Deonarine, Economic Development Manager, Louisville Forward: Lifelong Wellness & Aging Care; and Barbara Gordon, Executive Director, KIPDA. According to Hannah, "It was a surreal experience to sit on a panel with such distinguished specialists in the field of aging. Meeting Dr. Thomas reinvigorated my passion to be both a geriatrician and an advocate for change to promote age-friendly and livable cities."
Regional Neighborhood Network Conference Promotes a Vision for Age Friendly Communities

In October, the City of Bowling Green hosted the Annual Regional Neighborhood Network Conference, a three-day event hosted each year by one of 22 Midwestern cities. This year’s conference brought over 200 volunteers, corporations, government officials and community leaders to Bowling Green to network and gain valuable ideas to help transform their own communities. A wide variety of workshops were featured, and Dr. Dana Bradley, Director of WKU Aging, presented on Building Community the Age Friendly Way, sharing how the Age Friendly Bowling Green initiative is engaging stakeholders in Bowling Green to create a city more inclusive of older adults and more sensitive to their needs. In addition, through a collaboration with WKU Aging and AARP Kentucky, the conference also featured national policy expert Dr. Rodney Harrell, the director of AARP Livable Communities. His keynote speech gave an overview of a new tool called the Livability Index which measures the quality of life in American Communities across several dimensions.
Dr. Judy Rohrer was granted an Honors Faculty Enhancement Grant this fall (HFEG) to bring guest speakers into her Introduction to Social Justice course. Since the course is intrinsically interdisciplinary, she is using the HFEG to give students the opportunity to hear from scholars who address social justice from different disciplinary backgrounds and life experience. By bringing in scholars from different disciplines, the students are introduced to multiple methodological tools and modes for presenting and using findings. In the broader context of exploring social justice, students are challenged to consider who benefits from different kinds of research, how scholars hold themselves accountable to multiple potential audiences (institutional, granting agencies, community partners, and so forth), and what their ultimate goals are.

Our first speaker Oct 15 was Dr. LaToya Eaves from Middle Tennessee State University. Dr. Eaves is a native of Shelby, North Carolina and earned her Ph.D. in Geography through the Department of Global and Sociocultural Studies at Florida International University in Miami. Her small town, Southern upbringing informs her research, which centralizes black geographies and women of color feminism. The students were particularly interested to hear her analysis of complex, dynamic relationships between race and space and what she identified as “the discursive formation of the U.S. South.” They also appreciated her conversational, easy-going teaching style and that she invited them to follow her on Twitter!

Andrew Salman recently joined University College as the Programs Support Specialist for the Institute for Citizenship and Social Responsibility (ICSR). His duties include administrative and financial coordination for the program and ICSR programming and development.

Andrew graduated from WKU in 2014 with Honors degrees in Political Science and Biology, as well as a certificate from the ICSR. His academic and professional interests include pursuing environmental justice for vulnerable and oppressed people. In his time at WKU he worked closely with the Office of Sustainability, served as President of Student Identity Outreach, and was a founding member of the Campus Pride Index Committee.

Andrew is excited to be part of the Diversity and Community Studies Department and to be on the team at the ICSR. He hopes to serve the ICSR program, WKU and local community through the ICSR’s motto of “Think Critically. Serve Generously. Act Responsibly.”
For the sixth straight year, WKU has earned national recognition in Military Times’ Best for Vets rankings.

For the seventh consecutive year, WKU has been designated a Military Friendly® School by Victory Media, the leader in successfully connecting the military and civilian worlds, and publisher of G.I. Jobs®, STEM Jobs® and Military Spouse.

WKU also has been recognized by Best Colleges among the top 10 schools in the 2016 Best Colleges for Veterans and the 2016 Best Online Colleges for Veterans and by U.S. News and World Report as one of the Best Colleges for Veterans of Regional Universities in the South.
Textbooks For Troops

As we close out the Fall semester there are some important dates for the program to be aware of...

FALL TERM 2015: Textbooks MUST be returned by Friday, December 11
WINTER TERM 2016: Requests must be received by Friday, December 4, 2015 at 4 p.m.
SPRING TERM 2016: Requests must be received by Friday, January 8, 2016 at 4 p.m.

Follow this link to submit the form online: https://www.cognitoforms.com/WKUMilitaryStudentServices/TextbooksForTroopsRequestForm

To help the program continue to grow you can,
1. Donate your new and/or gently used current textbooks to Tate Page Hall 408 or at one of our book drops located in Cherry Hall and Mass Media and Technology Hall.
2. Monetary, tax-deductible donations are also accepted. In person, you can drop off a donation at our office by annotating on the “memo line” that your donation is for Military Student Services - Textbooks for Troops. Online donations can be made from our website at http://www.wku.edu/veterans/textbooksfortroops

Student Veterans Alliance raising money for 2016 SVA NatCon in Orlando, Florida

The WKU Student Veterans Alliance is raising money to send some of its members to the Student Veterans of America National Conference. The conference will be held in Orlando, FL January 7-10, 2016.

Ways to Help: You can assist them by making a donation at the SVA's Gofundme account. Just follow this link: https://www.gofundme.com/4j67te9s.
Stop by Tate Page Hall, Room 408 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to purchase a $1.00 sweepstakes ticket until Friday, December 8 for a chance to win an iPad mini.
Please Advise: Military Students called to duty...

Many of our WKU military students are called to duty with little or no notice. Please work with our military students to ensure they are not falling behind and if they have to miss a test/quiz or critical assignment due to circumstances that are beyond their control. Their classes are very important to them, but their military duty must always come first. They don’t have a choice and for them failure to report to duty is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Also, when duty calls they generally do not have internet connectivity.

Our military student population is growing exponentially. We are serving active duty, reserve, and National Guard units from all over the country and globally. As this population continues to grow our military flexibility must be enhanced. We are currently designated as a “BEST For Vets” school and as a “Military Friendly” school in the Nation because YOU are serving them so well. Please continue to look for ways to help them overcome last minute, duty related, interruptions to their classes.

If you need verification of their temporary duty assignments, or need assistance with a military student, please don’t hesitate to contact our office at 270 745-5837 or 270 745-4163.
Veterans Day was first celebrated on November 11, 1954 to honor American veterans of all wars. The purpose of Veterans Day: a celebration to honor America’s veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

Military Student Services, to show their support of all our military students, participated in a number of celebrations from Saturday, November 7 to Wednesday, November 11.

Tonya Archey, Retired US Navy, walked in the Glasgow Veterans Day Parade and spoke at the Glasgow Kiwanis Club’s weekly breakfast meeting.

Kent Johnson, US Marine Corps, served as a speaker at Oakland Elementary for their Veterans Day Recognition Ceremony.

Student Veterans Alliance along with Veterans Upward Bound walked in the Bowling Green Veterans Day Parade.
What is Greenlight a Vet?

America’s veterans are some of our nation’s bravest, hardest-working men and women. However, it’s hard to show them the appreciation they deserve when, back home and out of uniform, they’re more camouflaged than ever. Greenlight A Vet is a campaign to establish visible national support for our veterans by changing one light to green.

Military Student Services and the Student Veterans Alliance attended the ROTC’s Annual Veterans Day Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Guthrie Bell Tower.
Sara McCaslin, SPS Instructor and University Experience Coordinator, received the Class of 2019 Award for Engagement. This award is sponsored by the M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan Program and the Department of Housing and Residence Life. This award recognizes one faculty member in each academic college for his or her commitment to the retention of first-year and transfer students. The award winners demonstrate unparalleled commitment to ensuring student success through their involvement in student life, support of institutional retention efforts, and interactions with students. Winners from each academic college were introduced and recognized during the 2015 M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan Convocation Ceremony on August 16, 2015.

Katie Bush and Madelyn Frost
SPS/University Experience Graduate Teaching Assistants

The School of Professional Studies and University Experience welcomed two new Graduate Teaching Assistants at the beginning of the fall 2015 semester. Madelyn Frost and Kathleen Bush are working with Sara McCaslin and the University Experience program. Madelyn and Katie are conducting the Library Skills Workshops for UC 175 courses, maintaining the Library Skills Blackboard course site, and grading the UC 175 student research projects. They will also participate in several recruitment events this semester including Discover WKU and Head to the Hill. Madelyn and Katie are pursuing graduate degrees in Counseling and Student Affairs.
WKU Student Government Association & Hilltopper Organization of Latin America Students (HOLAS) invited Dr. Johana Lopez ('06 WKU Alumna) as keynote speaker for a Leadership Seminar, as part of WKU MyCampusToo initiative during Hispanic Heritage Month. Dr. Lopez inspired students to maximize their leadership experience and optimize their leadership involvement in the Latino Community. She stressed the importance of participatory leadership as a purposeful, collaborative, values-based process that results in positive social change.

On Thursday, 29 October 2015, School of Professional Studies Associate Professor Ron Mitchell was inducted into the Switzerland County High School, Vevay, IN Athletic Hall of Fame. Ron attended Patriot High School and during his time in high school set several records, which remain unbroken. Ron established the record for most points scored in a season, the highest average points per game record in a season, and the most points scored in a high school career.

Ron was a four year starter on the basketball team and baseball team. He was a three year member of the varsity track team and two year varsity member of the cross country team. Ron was selected to the county wide all-star baseball team his Junior and Senior year.

While serving in the Marine Corps Ron was selected to the All-Marine fast-pitch softball team and competed in the Inter-service and AAU National Championships on three separate occasions. Ron was a member of the Hickam Air Force Flyers Basketball team and competed against nationally ranked college teams and played in the Maui Invitational Tournament.

Ron was an instructor at the Golf Academy of the Carolinas and an Assistant Golf Professional at the Man-O-War golf course in Myrtle Beach, SC.
Organizational Leadership Now Second Largest Graduate Program at WKU

The Organizational Leadership master’s program in the School of Professional Studies is now the second largest graduate program at WKU. Last year the program had 32 students enrolled and was ranked outside the top 10 programs. This year the program has 225 students enrolled for the fall term, an increase of 375 percent.

The program’s popularity is a result of a total customer-focused mentality when advertising, advising, and developing the curriculum. Unlike most graduate programs that focus on a theoretical approach, the curriculum in Organizational Leadership blends theory with application and a deliberate effort to make classes practical and applied. Most of the faculty teaching LEAD courses are part-time and bring in a wealth of experience to their courses enriching a student’s experience. The oversight by full-time faculty provides continuity that allows the program to offer numerous sections of each LEAD class to accommodate student demand.