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CHHS July E-Newsletter

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Interior Design Program Selected to Display Student Work

The Interior Design (ID) program in the Department of Family & Consumer Sciences was selected to display student work this year at NeoCon. 40,000 professionals had the opportunity to see the work created by the ID students.

NeoCon is North America's largest design exposition and conference for commercial interiors, providing over 40,000 architecture and design professionals with nearly 100 CEU-accredited seminars, association forums and top-notch keynote speakers. Those in attendance could discover thousands of innovative products and resources for corporate, hospitality, healthcare, retail, government, institutional and residential interiors from more than 700 showrooms and exhibitors.

NeoCon allowed participants to view the future of interior design from the next generation of designers from interior design and architecture schools. Projects included innovative environments from commercial to residential, hospitality to retail.

The schools that participated in the exposition were:
Anne Arundel Community College
California State University, Fresno
College of DuPage
Colorado State
Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg
Indiana University
Indiana Wesleyan University
Kansas State University
Kendall College
Kent State University
Marylhurst University
Mississippi College
New Jersey Institute of Technology
Purdue University
Ringling College of Art and Design
Savannah College of Art and Design
The George Washington University Interior Architecture and Design Program
Wayne State University
Western Kentucky University
WKU Health Sciences Complex Nearing Completion

*Original story ran in the Herald on June 4, 2013. Please click here to view original article.

Elliott Pratt

It has been nearly a year since the groundbreaking ceremony took place for the new WKU Health Sciences Complex at The Medical Center in Bowling Green.

The new building is nearing completion and will be ready to open for classes in August.

Kurt Neelly, academic coordinator of clinical education, said the building is about 80 percent done on the third floor, where the physical therapy classes and labs will be.

“They’re finishing the third floor first, and they’re going to work down with things as they go,” Neelly said. “With that end of July deadline, it’s going to take a couple of weeks to move stuff, which will be the most time consuming with all of us here.”

Dr. Mary Bennett, director of the school of nursing, says the new building will allow the nursing program to expand with a bigger facility.

“The classroom size went from 40 seats to 80 seats, so we’re going to be able to admit more students each semester,” Bennett said. “We were turning away half of the qualified applicants as
a result of limited space. All of our programs are busting at the seams. All of these programs have students that they have to turn away simply because there’s not enough room.”

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) program is brand new to WKU with the first ever class beginning this summer term. Neelly said the a physical therapy program wouldn’t be possible if there wasn’t a new building.

“We’re temporarily housed here in Tate Page (Hall), but there is no way that we would have the space needed to do our three year Doctorate of Physical Therapy program here,” Neelly said. “Certainly the demand for physical therapists is one of the reasons for establishing a program. Our program and the building of the medical center have kind of gone hand in hand.”

While the physical therapy program is kick starting, the nursing program continues to expand. Bennett said the new building will allow both students and faculty to learn new things that aren’t possible on the main campus.

“We are getting high definition mannequins, which will be new for us,” Bennett said. “We have hired a new simulation lab coordinator and one of our faculty members coming to us from another university has been a sim-lab coordinator, so these two people are going to help us get up to speed on how to use these really high tech essentials.”

Cadaver labs will give the physical therapy students an experience working with corpses that they have never had on the main campus. Neelly says the new cadaver labs will help eliminate common obstacles that naturally come with the tanks.

“We’re going to have a dedicated lab with special ventilation systems on the cadaver tanks that cycles the air away from the people working on it to minimize the fumes,” Neelly said. “Historically, cadavers have been a smelly and odorous ordeal, so with this new system, it’s really going to minimize all of that.”

WKU Health Sciences Complex in early June
Department of Social Work Co-Host First Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy

Western Kentucky University, Department of Social work in partnership with the Kentucky Cabinet for Justice and Public Safety and the Kentucky Crime Victim Compensation Board hosted the first Kentucky Victim Assistance Academy May 20-24, 2013. 53 victim advocates from across the state attended the week long training. Barren River State Park was the site of the event.

The focus of the academy is on assisting victims of crime including victim impact and after affects, victim assistance service provider skills, and the justice system. Topics such as trauma informed care, crisis management, and vicarious trauma were covered. Anne Seymour, a nationally known victim advocacy specialist, instructed at the conference along with multiple victim advocates from across the state of Kentucky.

Thanks to federal government grant funding, the Academy will be offering scholarships this year for the full cost of the week long training.

Dr. Patricia Desrosiers, LCSW, was the Project Manager. You can contact her at patricia.desrosiers@wku.edu or (270) 745-4557 for more information about this event for the future.

Anne Seymour, Victim Advocacy Specialist
School of Nursing DNP Student Chosen as a 2013 Nursing Scholarship Recipient

Samantha Port, MSN, MBA, RNC-OB, C-EMF, of Campbellsville, Kentucky, is pursuing a doctorate of nursing practice at Western Kentucky University. Her research focuses on the rates of cesarean deliveries in her home state of Kentucky, and how the rates both statewide and nationally have risen drastically. Ms. Port will examine possible nursing interventions to decrease these rates of cesarean deliveries in order to help more women have full term pregnancies and healthy babies. Ms. Port was one of four outstanding nurses that were recognized by the March of Dimes for dedication to maternal and infant health.

Qualified applicants for the March of Dimes graduate nursing scholarships are registered nurses currently enrolled in a graduate program in maternal-child nursing at the master’s or doctoral level. Applicants must be a member of the American College of Nurse-Midwives, the Association of Women’s Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, or the National Association of Neonatal Nurses. Applications for the 2014 scholarships will be available this fall on the March of Dimes website at marchofdimes.com/scholarship, or by calling the March of Dimes at (914) 997-4609. Applications are due January 15, 2014.

In 2013, the March of Dimes celebrates its 75th Anniversary and its ongoing work to help babies get a healthy start in life. Early research led to the Salk and Sabin polio vaccines that all babies still receive. Other breakthroughs include new treatments for premature infants and
children with birth defects. Nearly 4 million babies are born in the United States each year and for the past 75 years, the March of Dimes has helped each and every one of them through research, education, vaccines and breakthroughs.

The March of Dimes is the leading non-profit organization for pregnancy and baby health. With chapters nationwide and its premiere event, March for Babies®, the March of Dimes works to improve the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality. For the latest resources and information, visit marchofdimes.com or nacersano.org. Find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

**Doctorate of Physical Therapy Inaugural Class**

The DPT Program at WKU accepted their Inaugural DPT Class in **June of 2013**. They are working hard to develop a high quality DPT Program at WKU. Applications for the 2014 Summer cohort will be accepted by PTCAS beginning early July, 2013 through November 1, 2013. Application information for the Summer 2014 class is available at portal.ptcas.org. Picture below are photos of the DPT Class of 2016. For more information about the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program, please contact Virginia Pyzola, Office Associate for the Doctor of Physical Therapy Program at (270) 745-4071.
WKU Student Receives Scholarship from Tourism Cares

*Original story ran on wordpress.com. To read the article on the original site, please visit http://wkunews.wordpress.com/2013/06/26/tourismcares-scholarship/

Tourism Cares, the travel and tourism industry’s leading non-profit organization for preserving the travel industry for future generations, has awarded a $1,000 academic scholarship to Dylan Gordon of Crestwood, who is studying tourism and hospitality at WKU.

This scholarship is funded by members of National Tour Association. The Tourism Cares scholarship program annually awards 55 academic scholarships to students pursuing both undergraduate and graduate level travel, tourism and hospitality degrees at accredited colleges and universities.

Gordon was awarded the NTA Pat and Jim Host Scholarship.

“With the awarded scholarship I will continue to strive for excellence in the tourism industry,” Gordon said. “Challenging myself each day to become more than average and going above and beyond what is asked for the future of tourism. I dream of an industry that offers travelers
unforgettable experiences that will help bring world cultures together, while at the same time, helping each other to preserve nature.”

Scholarship recipients are also invited to attend the Tourism Cares Mentoring Program at the annual NTA/UMA Travel Exchange in February 2014 in Los Angeles. The program gives students the opportunity to shadow professional mentors, build their professional network and attend industry workshops.

“Tourism Cares is dedicated to building a strong workforce for the travel, tourism and hospitality industries. I congratulate the 55 academic scholarship recipients being awarded this year and feel confident our student programs will help cultivate their potential as future leaders of the industry,” said Bruce Beckham, executive director of Tourism Cares.

About Tourism Cares: Tourism Cares is an innovative nonprofit organization working to preserve the travel experience for future generations in three important ways: awarding grants to tourism sites around the world, hosting volunteer restoration projects designed specifically for travel professionals, and building the future tourism workforce through scholarship, mentoring and internship programs. For information about Tourism Cares, visit www.TourismCares.org.

Contact: Amanda D’Aiuto, (781) 821-5990 x 215.

Dylan Gordon