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News from Western

WESTERN
KENTUCKY
UNIVERSITY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BOWLING GREEN, KY. -- Western Kentucky University began its second semester of 1970-71 with renewed vitality, the second year of leadership by its president, Dr. Dero G. Downing.

Western completes its 45th year of operation with commencement exercises on May 14, its first academic year under a revised calendar. Summer School begins Monday, June 7, with registration and concludes with graduation exercises on Friday, July 30.

Colleges at Western are the Bowling Green College of Commerce, College of Education, Potter College of Liberal Arts, Ogden College of Science and Technology, the College of Applied Arts and Health Programs, the Graduate College, and the Bowling Green Community College.

Western President Dero Downing says, "This University has given recognition to the importance of the individual student. Every plan and policy which has been developed on this hilltop campus has been accomplished with student welfare uppermost in our minds."

The enrollment increases of past years at Western have also been accompanied by a proportionate growth in the number of black students on campus. According to a report by the Kentucky Council on Public Higher Education, Western ranks second to Kentucky State College in the total number of black students enrolled.

Kappa Alpha Psi and Omega Psi Phi, predominantly black fraternities, established chapters on the Western campus in 1969. Alpha Kappa Alpha, a national sorority that is predominantly black, established a chapter on campus in 1968 and Delta Sigma Theta organized a chapter in the spring of 1970.

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All-American Jim McDaniels again is captain of the Hill-topper basketball team. Former football captain Romeo Crennel who as a player had the highest academic standing on the team, has been named assistant football coach for 1971-72.

Many other black students are serving in leadership roles as counselors in residence halls, as officers in service organizations, and in other responsible campus positions.

Dr. Raytha Yokley, an outstanding member of the faculty in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, continues to teach and to conduct research at Western. Dr. Yokley is active in community affairs, serving as member of the school board in the nearby community of Russellville, where he resides with his family.

Mr. J. E. Jones, instructor of sociology and an admissions counselor in recent years, has this academic year transferred to a new position with Western's new Center for Intercultural Studies, headed by Dr. Lynwood Montell, assistant dean of the Potter College of Liberal Arts.

Black students on the Western campus are planning a "Black Awareness Week" which is tentatively scheduled the first week in April. Cooperating and giving support to the venture is the Office of Student Affairs.

Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority is sponsoring the first "Miss Black Western" pageant on Sunday, Feb. 28, in the Ballroom of the Paul L. Garrett Student Center at Western. Each girl is to be judged for her presentation in formal gown, a talent contest, creative ability, and responses in a question and answer period.

Western now offers undergraduate work leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Music, and Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees, with two-year programs leading to the Associate of Arts, Associate of Science degrees, Associate of Applied Arts, and one-year programs leading to certificates. Academic work is offered in 35 departments through which 51 majors and more than 50 minors are available.

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At the graduate level, the University now offers the Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts for College Teachers, Master of Science for College Teachers, Master of Agriculture, Master of Business Administration, Master of Mathematics, Master of Music and Master of Public Service degrees.

The main campus which crowns the hill that gave Western's athletic teams their nickname, has been enlarged by 60 acres over the past 15 years. The University also operates, in conjunction with its agriculture program, a farm located just south of Bowling Green.