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DOERS & DEEDS

Academic Excellence at WKU



“Back of the deed was the doer, back of the doer, the dream.” – H.H. Cherry, Founding President

President Gary A. Ransdell has signed a consortium agreement as part of the North American Mobility Program. The grant, submitted by Gordon Ford College of Business and the Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, is one of only nine programs supported by the mobility program in the 2008 fiscal year. The project, Alliance to Enhance Entrepreneurial Impact to Stimulate Economic Growth Among Underserved Groups in North America, provides opportunity for student and faculty mobility, along with curricular development in the area of entrepreneurship. Primary among the goals is to develop a relationship

between the students and faculty of the partner schools and underserved populations associated with each partner school.

Dana Bradley, Director of the Center for Gerontology, participated in a family caregiver workshop in February. The workshop, sponsored by the Kentucky and Southern Indiana chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, was designed for non-professional caregivers. Bradley discussed why dementias are increasing and offered best practices for caregivers based on cutting edge dementia research.

Kevin Briley, a former student in the Department of Music, has been awarded the best music teacher in Kentucky. For the past 18 years, Briley has dedicated his career to teaching all the band classes throughout Bowling Green's sixth through 12th grades. During his recognition for his achievement he was with his band performing at the Kentucky Music Educators conference in Louisville so the awarding body of Kentucky Music Educators Association officials at the conference brought it to him during the performance.



The US Bank Celebration of the Arts exhibit opened Sunday March 1, 2009 at the Kentucky Library & Museum. The exhibit, which runs through April 4, is the largest art exhibit in South Central Kentucky. According to Timothy Mullin, close to 400 entries were accepted in seven different categories including painting, watercolor, works on paper, fiber arts, ceramics, sculpture, and photography.



Betsy Shoenfelt

BETSY SHOENFELT, Professor of Psychology, received the 2008 Kentucky Psychological Association Outstanding Graduate Mentor Award for her role over the past 25 years advising and mentoring graduate students in the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Graduate Program at WKU. The award was presented at the 2008 KPA Annual Academic Conference in Louisville. Shoenfelt was selected from faculty nominees from the 30 Psychology Departments in colleges and universities across the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Teresa Rerras, a senior photojournalism student from Norfolk, VA, received another award for her efforts to tell the stories of women and children in war-torn countries. Rerras is one of three winners of the 8th annual Women's Achievement Awards, presented by the Zonta Club of Hampton Roads, VA. The award is given in recognition of the contribution these women have made to improve the status of women through leadership, advocacy and service. Rerras is the founder of the Learning Through Photography Foundation in Norfolk, which teaches literacy through photography to children from war-torn countries. The award was presented on March 11th in Norfolk.

Chris Groves, Professor of Geography and Geology, attended the United Nations Educational, Cultural, and Scientific Organization (UNESCO) meeting in Paris in February to report on ongoing international efforts to study and protect karst water resources. While at UNESCO, Groves also met with officials of the World Heritage Program to discuss ongoing efforts to develop beneficial relationships between WKU, Mammoth Cave National Park and other World Heritage sites in China and Europe.

Brian Bloss, a senior in the Political Science Department from Coppell, Texas, was chosen to be the alternate to debate in The Irish Debates on March 27 in Stockton, CA.

Lieutenant Governor Daniel Mongiardo spoke to business students at WKU about the importance of communication and the state of the Commonwealth on February 27th.

Becky Ann Baker, a 1975 graduate, has been shooting for the new NBC show, "Kings". She plays Jessie, a mother of seven sons. Currently, Baker plays the opinionated Sue Bayliss alongside John Lithgow and Katie Holmes in Arthur Miller's "All My Sons" on Broadway.

Edric V. Thompson, a '98, '00 WKU graduate, received the 2008 Thomas Jefferson Award for excellence in print and broadcast journalism among military and civilian employees across the Department of Defense. Thompson, who works in the U.S. Army Communication-Electronic Research, Development and Engineering Center, was recognized in the category of Feature Article Contributed by a Contractor or a Stringer for an article on the dangers of gambling addiction called "Aces High".

A grant from the J. Graham Brown Foundation to the Prichard Committee will fund a special Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership (CIPL) focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. This institute will be implemented in partnership with the Carol Martin Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science and The Center for Gifted Studies at WKU.

MICHAEL KALLSTROM'S (Professor in the Department of Music) composition for brass quintet, WHITE WATER, was performed by the Smoky Mountain Brass Quintet for the American Composers Concert at Western Carolina University on February 10, 2009. The quintet will perform the piece on its tour of the Southwest this spring.



Michael Kallstrom

The Gordon Ford College of Business hosted the annual conference for all Kentucky and Tennessee Business schools on February 27th at the Carroll Knically Conference Center. The focus on the KEN-TENN Business School Conference is "Best Practices in Business Education".

The Corporation for National and Community Service honored Western Kentucky University with a place on the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for exemplary service efforts and service to America's communities.

Bryan Anselm of Carmel, IN and **Thomas Simonetti** of Bowling Green, both Photojournalism students, have received awards in the second of three photojournalism competitions in the 2008-09 Hearst Journalism Awards Program. Anselm placed fourth in the News and Sports category, Simonetti placed fifth. WKU is in first place after the two competitions in the Intercollegiate Photojournalism Competition and is followed by University of Florida; University of Minnesota; and University of Kentucky among others. The final winners will be announced in April.

WKU's Imagewest students won several awards at the eighth annual Professional Marketing Association Markie Awards. This year's awards featured 13 categories and received a record number of 85 entries. Imagewest's students won six of the 13 categories. Imagewest is the only full-service, revenue generating, student-run advertising and public relations agency in the nation. Students work with clients within WKU, the Bowling Green community and surrounding areas including Nashville and Louisville.



WKU's chapter of Habitat for Humanity has been honored among the top five in the 20-year history of the group's Collegiate Challenge. Habitat for Humanity began the Collegiate Challenge program in 1989 and "they wanted to do something special to recognize the chapters that had gone above and beyond" said Bryan Reaka, co-advisor and Assistant Professor in Department of Architectural and Manufacturing Sciences.





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Shivendra V. Sahi, Professor of Biology, was honored recently by the American Society of Agronomy Southern Branch with the 2009 Career Professional Award-Research. The award, presented during the group's annual meeting in Atlanta recognizes outstanding scientists with at least 10 years of professional service in agronomy, crop science, soil science, environmental science or a closely related discipline.

Bronson Murphy, a 2008 WKU Department of Music graduate, is premiering the new version of KING DAVID, an oratorio by Alan Menken and Tim Rice. KING DAVID features a cast of 20, backed by a 25-voice choir and a 65-piece orchestra culled from the undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students of the Department of Music and Performing Arts Professions at New York University's Steinhardt School where Bronson is pursuing a graduate degree.



Bronson Murphy