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College of Education and Behavioral Sciences

In collaboration with the Green River Regional Cooperative (GRREC), a second round of funding of $1.6 million dollars from the U.S. Department of Education has been awarded to fund the Transition to Teaching grant. This will enable the Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education to increase enrollment of quality students, and will enable WKU to continue to lead the state in graduating middle level, high school, and special education teacher via an Alternate Route to Teacher Certification.

Dr. Terry Wilson has been named the North American Association for Environmental Education's representative on a national teacher education board. Dr. Wilson was also recently appointed to a three-year term on the board of governors of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

Information Technology

Terry Reagan accepted a “Special Achievement in Membership” award that was given to WKYU-PBS, at the PBS Development Conference in San Antonio, for Outstanding Membership Efforts during the Sunbelt Conference Tournament last March.

The Kentucky Psychiatric Association awarded its 2002 Barry Bingham Memorial Media Award to Dan Modlin, news director at the Public Radio Service of Western Kentucky University.

College of Health and Human Services

Members of the Public Health faculty recently reported the results of a survey of hospital preparedness to respond to weapons of mass destruction (WMD) events to the Kentucky Hospital Association and officials from the Cabinet for Health Services. This information will be used for regional planning and for distributing $1.8 million in planning funds to state hospitals. In a similar project, faculty are working with the State Department of Health to survey Emergency Medical Service preparedness for WMD events. This data will also be used for regional planning and resource allocation.

The Kentucky Board of Dentistry has adopted the course for Local Anesthesia developed by Dr. Douglas Schutte to be the model for the state (as well as the Medical Emergencies Course required for generalized supervision). Dr. Schutte is also serving on a committee appointed by the Kentucky Board of Dentistry to develop regulations regarding the practice of dental hygiene.

The BSN and MSN programs have received accreditation from the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE). The CCNE Board determined that our programs met all accreditation standards.

Dr. Matt Green recently received the Health Fitness Instructor Certification from the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM).

Dr. Randy Deere will be receiving a Distinguished Service Award from the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) at its annual conference.
University Libraries

The Far Away Places series is cosponsored by WKU Libraries, Barnes and Noble, and Coca Cola. Dr. Michael Trapasso thrilled a packed house at Barnes and Noble bookstore in the Kentucky Alive series, with a talk on Bowling Green's role in the Civil War. Another packed house at Barnes and Noble bookstore (mostly community members, but also students and faculty) listened to Dr. David Keeling about Argentina, including social development, tourism, tango, and urban design in this fascinating country.

A photographic exhibit entitled “New York: A City Searching for Hope” prepared by photojournalism students opened in September, in the Kentucky Museum, Galleries K & L.

Interdisciplinary

The four year degree program in Construction Management has been revised and sent to the ACCE (American Council for Construction Education) for initial review. The accreditation agency was pleased with Western's program and soon the program will move to candidate status. The program is a collaborative baccalaureate degree between Architecture and Manufacturing Sciences, Civil Engineering and the Management Program in the Gordon Ford College of Business.

The student chapter of ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineers) has been named the student chapter of the year in Kentucky for the second consecutive year.

Undergraduate student Buddy Lagani will be speaking at the Kentucky Academy of Sciences meeting presenting research on counting the number of topologies on a set which he is pursuing under the direction of Dr. Tom Richmond.

The Materials Characterization Center has been certified as only one of five laboratories in the country to be able to monitor mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. National recognition and collaboration with Vanderbilt University to model coal-fired chemistry and emissions has resulted.

A cooperative program between Western Kentucky University and Mammoth Cave National Park is breaking new ground in studies of the growth and development of cave systems and their biology. As part of the program, Mammoth Cave purchased a state-of-the-art Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction machine for Western’s Biotechnology Center. Dr. Chris Groves, Director of Western’s Hoffman Environmental Research Institute, Rick Fowler, and other scientists involved in the DNA research project will be among several presenters at Mammoth Cave’s Ninth Annual Science Conference, scheduled to take place Thursday and Friday at the park. Other Western faculty members making presentations at the conference will be Dr. Albert Meier, Dr. Shivendra Sahi, Dr. Scott Grubbs and Dr. Phil Leinisch in biology; Dr. Cathleen Webb in chemistry; and Dr. Jonathan Jernigan in mathematics. Six Western graduate students and two undergraduates also will make presentations at the conference.

The Southern Appalachian Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit (SA-CESU) has unanimously approved WKU as a Partner institution. The SA-CESU endeavors to provide research, technical assistance and education to Federal agencies within the network as well as promote collaboration with partner universities/institutes. The strong record of association that representatives of WKU have with these entities was a key factor in becoming a Partner.

Geosciences graduate student, Rhonda Pfaff, was the only Kentucky student to attend the annual ESRI GIS conference in San Diego in July. ESRI invited her back for a job interview as a result of her participation in the conference.

Undergraduate student Brandon Bratcher, majoring in climatology and meteorology in the Geography program, received a $1,000 scholarship from the Radio and Television News Directors Foundation in July.

Ogden College of Science and Engineering
Potter College of Arts and Humanities

Dr. Kelly Reames, from the English Department, presented her paper "So You Wanna Be a Cannibal? Desire and Interpretation in Ravenous" and chaired a session entitled: "When Things Fall Apart: National Identity in Turmoil," at the Popular Culture Association in the South & American Culture Association in the South Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Brent Oglesbee from the Art department, had a solo exhibit of his work at the University of Memphis Museum of Art.

George Taylor, an undergraduate student, is the winner of the 2002 Face of America Student Competition. Wolf Trap received 28 entries for this annual competition. Five finalists were initially selected - all of whom are from Western Kentucky University.

Dr. Ted Hove, from English and the Center for Teaching and Learning, presented with Dawn Hall of WKU’s Centers for Teaching and Learning "Online Workshops: Involving Faculty in Student Diversity and Retention" at the October 2002 Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education annual meeting in Atlanta.

Dr. Ron Eckard, Professor of English, presented the paper "Why We Need to Internationalize the Teacher Education Curriculum" at the fall conference of Kentucky Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) in Lexington on October 19.

Jooyong Ahn taught at the Pennsylvania Governor’s School for the Arts this past summer. He conducted three concerts including the first act of Mozart's opera Cosi fan tutte with orchestra and stage set. He has also been chosen to conduct the Washington Korean Symphony Orchestra's Inaugural Concert at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.

Dr. Deborah Logan from the English department presented "England and Her Soldiers: the Martineau/Nightingale Collaboration on Military Hygiene Reform" at The Citadel in Charleston, SC at Victorians Institute Conference.

John Cipolla recently won an audition to perform with The Nashville Symphony Orchestra as an "extra" player. Mr. Cipolla will also be performing in the Radio City Christmas Spectacular. He has been the principal clarinetist with the Radio City Music Hall Orchestra since 1985.

Brandon Jones, a junior from Bremen, KY, won the second place award in the International Tuba/Euphonium Conference in the summer of 2002. In the summer of 2001, Brandon won third place position in this same competition, competing against musicians from around the world.

Michael Kallstrom’s electronic ballet score, Frankenstein, was premiered on Sept. 27-28 by the Fort Wayne Ballet Company in Fort Wayne, Ind. Stephen Stone and Lees Hummel of the Department of Theatre and Dance are the choreographers for the ballet.

Community College

The Community College was awarded $159,118 through the Perkins Grant for the 2002-2003 academic year. Programs which are benefiting from these funds include: Meteorological Technology which received funding to completely update their computer lab; the 2 Yr. RN Program which received funding to purchase "Sim-Man", a robotic "patient" for the Nursing laboratory on South Campus; Early Childhood Education which received over $8,000.00 for faculty professional development; Healthcare Information Systems which received over $2,000.00 for faculty professional development; the WKU Career Center which received money to fund the "Career Choices" software for utilization by all WKU/BGCC students; and all BGCC programs which received funding for installation of Microsoft Office software on the "wireless" lab which was purchased last year through the Perkins Grant.

The RN Nursing Program was able to increase the number of students admitted to the program by 40% due to a partnership with Commonwealth Health Corporation. As the 2 Yr. RN Program had 240 applications for Fall 2002, students as well as the community are benefiting tremendously from this partnership with CHC.
Dr. Hak Youn Kim has been asked by the economics department at the University of Kentucky to present his paper “Implications of the Low U.S. Saving Rate” at a seminar for their faculty and Ph.D. students in December. They invite professors from around the U.S. to make presentations.

The Gordon Ford College of Business was awarded a two year Title VI B BIE Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Dr. Zubair Mohamed and Professor Bill Parsons will be co-directing the activities under this grant. The main focus of the grant is to internationalize business curriculum along with international experiences for our students and faculty. The grant also includes outreach activities, and an International Business Ethics Forum will be offered in January as a part of the grant activities. The Forum will be in C-Span format with presenters and a moderator. The presenters will be top experts in the field and will be coming from Miami, Quebec and other locations.

Beta Gamma Sigma, the national honor society for AACSB accredited business schools, recognized the Western Kentucky Chapter in the Gordon Ford College as a "premier" chapter at the recent Mid-continent East AACSB Conference in Chicago. Western Kentucky University was one of the five universities recognized from among more than 60 universities located in the state region of Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Kentucky and Indiana. Criteria included an acceptance rate of 85 percent or higher for eligible students. Student eligibility includes academic performance in the top 7 percent of the junior class; top 10 percent of the senior class; and top 20 percent of the MBA (graduate) program.

Faculty advisors for Beta Gamma Sigma are Dr. Cathy Carey, Associate Professor of Economics and Ms. Sherry Henson, Instructor of Accounting.