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UA3/8/6 WKU Creed

WKU President's Office - Meredith

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CREED

Creed Legend

In the Fall of 1993, President Thomas C. Meredith appointed a committee of faculty, staff, and students to develop a statement of values--a creed--for Western Kentucky University. Dean Howard Bailey, Mr. Joseph Boggs, Ms. Kathy Kanz, Ms. Patricia Lockett, Dr. John Long, Dr. Jim Wayne Miller (Poet Laureate for the Commonwealth of Kentucky), Dr. David W. Parrott, and Ms. Holland Saltzman worked for several months to create a rough draft of the creed statement. The primary resources used by the committee were: *Western Kentucky University*, by Dr. Lowell Harrison; pertinent literature by leading scholars in higher education; and the feelings and memories of the committee members. A rough draft was presented to a number of student focus groups and refined to its final form.

The creed is intended to capture the traditions, history, and uniqueness of the university in a cohesive statement while simultaneously describing the core set of values that are the focus of the educational experience at Western Kentucky University. The creed emphasizes individual responsibility; takes into account personal and group rights, responsibilities, and freedoms; and closes with the goals and aspirations articulated by Western's first president, Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry. These values are woven into the tapestry of everyday life in the university community.

The components of the creed are significant and intentional. The content of the creed represents the traditions, history, and values of the university. The seal of the university is included to reemphasize the last stanza of the creed and to represent the recent past. The new Western logo represents the newest of traditions at the university. Together these three components symbolize the cohesion of history, tradition, values, and customs at Western Kentucky University.

The creed monument is dedicated to Western Kentucky University students, faculty and staff--past, present and future.

Western Creed Monument Dedication



May 8, 1997

2:30 pm

Dedication Program

Welcome	Dr. David W. Parrott <i>Director of Residence Life</i>
Invocation	Mr. Bryant Rudolph <i>Baptist Campus Minister</i>
Greetings	Dr. Thomas C. Meredith <i>President</i>
Special Remarks	Ms. Kristen Miller <i>SGA President</i>
Special Remarks	Ms. Karla Roy <i>RHA President</i>
Explanation of Creed	Ms. LaVette Burnette
Dedication	Ms. Shauna Hale
Presentation and Closing	Dr. David W. Parrott

Contributors:

Corporate

Container World	MCI
First American National Bank	Sears Roebuck and Co.
Greetings S & R Enterprises	Service One Credit Union
Hungry Howie's Pizza	

Individual

Michael and Lesley Gillilan	Charles Macke
Kathy Kanz	David W. Parrott
Brian W. Kuster	Teresa Zabik

Student Organizations

Association of Resident Assistants
Residence Hall Association

Student Donations

M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan Participants 1995 and 1996

THE WESTERN CREED

Western Kentucky University is a community dedicated to learning,
where ideas are offered, examined, and discussed.



As a member of this community, I have both a personal
and shared responsibility to participate actively
in university life by:



Practicing personal and academic integrity;



Seeking unity by respecting the
dignity of all persons;



Celebrating and embracing diversity;



Encouraging freedom of expression;



Acting in accordance with basic
principles of citizenship;



Preserving and appreciating the
natural beauty of the campus;



Enriching all aspects of life through
the educational process;
and by



Embracing the ideals expressed on the university seal:
"Life More Life" and "The Spirit Makes the Master",
by pursuing personal growth and a life of excellence.



Creed

*Western Kentucky University
and the
Department of Residence Life
cordially invite you to the
Western Creed Monument Dedication
Thursday, May 8, 1997 at 2:30pm,
in front of Garrett Conference Center,
next to the bridge.
Reception following*

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5-1-91

Monument reflects 'meaning of Western'

BY SHANNON BACK

Words of yesterday were set in stone last week.

The creed that stands for "the meaning of Western" was carved on a monument for the first time, said Resident Life Director Dave Parrott.

President Thomas Meredith appointed a committee in fall 1993 to develop a statement of Western's values. The committee of faculty, staff and students came up with what is now known as the Western Creed.

Since then, students have been introduced to the creed at MASTER Plan, an annual freshman orientation. The creed is also printed in the student handbook, student convocations and the Hilltopics manual.

While these things help familiarize students with the creed, the committee wanted to develop a monument. The location and design of the monument has been "in the works" ever since, Parrott said.

Money was an issue.

Parrott said the \$10,000 monument took four years to design and build because of lack of funds.

Parrott said there are 12 sponsors — the Association of Resident Assistants, the Student Government Association, three

individual donors and seven corporations.

"We couldn't have done this without the sponsors," Parrott said.

Location was an issue.

Meredith appointed another committee last semester to consider possible locations and make a final decision.

"A group of us walked around the campus and looked for a place students would see it the most," said McLean Hall Director Ashley Means, who is on the 10-member committee. "We choose the top of the Hill because it is a beautiful area and you can look around and see Western."

The committee choose to build the monument next to the bridge and walkway behind Van Meter Hall.

Design was an issue.

"We didn't actually design it. The architect did," said Means, who graduated from Western with an art degree. "But we kept it in mind when we decided

where to put it. The bricks and all the colors were carefully thought out."

Meredith said the design fits in with the other designs on campus.

"It looks good and has the right

message," he said. "It's a wonderful idea. It gives us something to refer to that reinforces our values — students and faculty."

Dedication for the monument is scheduled for May 8.

"We hope that it will be completely finished by then, but if it's not, we're going to do it anyway."

Parrott said. "The whole purpose is so the students can see it."

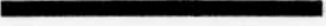
Lexington graduate student Clint Haynes said improving awareness of the creed is a good idea, but the location might not be.

"I haven't even seen it yet," he said. "I rarely walk that way. If they want the creed well known they should put it where people will see it. I'm not sure where that is, but most people walk between Wetherby (Administration Building) and Potter a lot."

Howard Bailey, dean of Student Life and a member of the committee that wrote the creed, said the committee is glad to see the monument finally in place.

"The creed was written to become a living guideline for students to use as they develop into more productive citizens while they're at Western," Bailey said.

"Ultimately those that came together on the committee would like to see it as well-known and understood as the campus knows the song 'College Heights' and the statements on the school seal. That doesn't happen overnight, but the monument being in place moves us one step closer to making that happen."



"The creed was written to become a living guideline for students to use as they develop into more productive citizens while they're at Western."

**— Howard Bailey
dean of Student Life**



CREED



WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

**Department of Residence Life
McCormack Hall, Suite #100
Bowling Green, KY 42101
(502) 745-2037**

TO: Dr. Thomas C. Meredith
President

FROM: David W. Parrott
Director of Residence Life
Chair, WKU Creed Committee

DATE: June 22, 1993

SUBJECT: WKU Creed

From

DKW

*To (over only)
and
those below
7/19/93*

*Good job!
Thanks!*

Please find attached the final draft of the WKU Creed. The committee incorporated your suggestion by including a statement about the natural beauty of the campus. Additionally, they felt that the last phrase ". . . pursuing personal growth and a life of excellence" addressed the issue of a personal commitment to excellence.

We will be including the Creed as a part of several Residence Life publications. Additionally, we would like to pursue the possibility of making this an official Western Kentucky University Document.

I would like to recognize the creativity and hard work of the WKU Creed Committee members listed below:

Mr. Howard E. Bailey
Dean, Student Life

Dr. John Long
Professor, Philosophy and Religion

Mr. Joseph Boggs
Professor, English Department

Dr. Jim Wayne Miller
Professor, Modern Languages and
Intercultural Studies

Ms. Kathy Kanz
Area Coordinator, Residence Life

Ms. Holland Saltsman
Graduate Student, Student Affairs

Ms. Patricia Lockett
Professor, Social Work

/ba

cc: Dr. Jerry Wilder
Howard Bailey

Attachment

The Western Creed

Western Kentucky University is a community dedicated to learning,
where ideas are offered, examined, and discussed.



As a member of this community, I have both a personal
and shared responsibility to participate actively
in university life by:



Practicing personal and academic integrity;



Seeking unity by respecting the
dignity of all persons;



Celebrating and embracing diversity;



Encouraging freedom of expression;



Acting in accordance with basic
principles of citizenship;



Preserving and appreciating the
natural beauty of the campus;



Enriching all aspects of life through
the educational process;
and by



Embracing the ideals expressed on the university seal:
"Life More Life" and "The Spirit Makes the Master",
by pursuing personal growth and a life of excellence.



APR 30 1993

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

Department of Residence Life
McCormack Hall, Suite #100
Bowling Green, KY 42101
(502) 745-2037

TO: Dr. Thomas C. Meredith
President

Handwritten arrow pointing to TO: with the word 'from' written above it.

FROM: David W. Parrott
Director of Residence Life
Chair, WKU Creed Committee

Handwritten signature 'DWP' over the name David W. Parrott.

Handwritten arrow pointing to FROM: with the word 'to' written above it.

Handwritten note: 'what about - doing my very best? respecting the physical beauty of WKU? Any discussion?'

Handwritten note: 'cc Wilder!'

DATE: April 30, 1993

SUBJECT: Final Draft of the Western Kentucky University Creed

Please find attached the final draft of the Western Kentucky University Creed. This is the result of several committee meetings. Our goal was to represent the values of Western Kentucky University in a concise, attractive format. Additionally, we chose to connect this new document with the history of our university.

I'm sending you this final draft for your review. It is our hope that this document can become an official university document. Perhaps sometime in the near future we may seek your assistance in receiving approval by the Board of Regents.

I wish to commend the committee members for their creativity and hard work. Those committee members are:

Mr. Howard E. Bailey
Dean, Student Life

Dr. John Long
Professor, Philosophy and Religion

Mr. Joseph Boggs
Professor, English Department

Dr. Jim Wayne Miller
Professor, Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies

Ms. Kathy Kanz
Area Coordinator, Residence Life

Ms. Holland Saltsman
Graduate Student, Student Affairs

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/ba

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Acting in accordance with university standards of conduct;



Celebrating and embracing diversity;



Seeking unity by respecting the dignity of all persons;



Encouraging freedom of expression; and



Enriching all aspects of life through the educational process.



I will embrace the ideals expressed on the university seal, "Life More Life" and "The Spirit Makes the Master" by pursuing personal growth and a life of excellence.