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ON CAMPUS

Western Kentucky University

February 6, 1984

WKU Education Dean Does National Teacher Assessment Report

College of Education Dean J.T. Sandefur says Kentucky is on target with pending legislation to require competency testing and a one-year internship for new teachers.

Senate Bill 19, just recently approved, moves Kentucky closer to a number of states which are requiring entry level testing, plus an internship or beginning teacher year with appropriate assessment before initial certification can be awarded.

In 1983, 30 states reported some type of teacher assessment program, a movement which started in 1977, and according to a report prepared by Dean Sandefur for the American Association of Colleges of Teacher Education, the 12 remaining states can be expected to join the movement within the next two years.

Dr. Sandefur annually prepares a report on the progress of competency assessment of teachers for AACTE, and his is the only nationally-known study of this type currently being done.

His 1983 report is already available through the Educational Research Information Center (ERIC) System based in Washington, D.C., and AACTE plans to publish his report before March in AACTE Briefs.

If SB 19 is enacted, Kentucky will be second in the nation behind South Carolina which has initiated more measures to assure competency through testing at various levels of teachers' training than any of its counterparts to date.

Dean Sandefur's report says the concentration of activity in the area of competency assessment of teachers has occurred in the southern half of the United States, and the movement grew out of an earlier one to test the competency of elementary and secondary students.

"Teachers should be tested to assure their competency and, hopefully, assure their safe practice with clients," WKU's dean says.

(Over)

Contact: Sheila Conway, Editor

Service Aimed for Students 'Apt' To Have Study Woes

It's called "Automated Peer Tutoring Service" (APTS), an innovative way for the Office of the Dean of Student Affairs to provide an academic service to students living in campus residence halls.

Anne Murray, assistant dean for student affairs, is administering APTS this semester, which is a computerized matching of students on campus with tutors who live in their residence halls.

"A student's academic development deserves support from the residence hall system just as one's social development," Murray says, thus the tutoring service, which is also a cooperative effort of Academic Computing Services, "with a lot of support from the students living in the residence halls."

The idea for the program came from a former WKU graduate student, Ted Fraebel, who was an assistant director of Pearce-Ford Tower. On a return visit to the campus as a Ph.D. candidate at Texas Tech, he shared what his residence life division there was doing.

And speaking of sharing, Murray's freshman assistance program is in demand by more than 70 schools who have contacted her for a copy of WKU's "Freshman Assistance Handbook."

Hall staff and peer counselors at WKU helped reduced the drop-out rate for freshmen 12 percent in four years, and other institutions are impressed.

Murray's been in demand for speaking engagements about WKU's efforts, and next month she'll co-present a program with Dr. Frank Julian, Murray State University's vice president for student development, on "Selling Your Skills: What Employers are Looking For," designed for entry-level professionals in student affairs.

Stay 'Tuned' For the Winter Olympics

Through a grant from Wendy's Restaurants, WKYU-FM will provide live reports each day from the 1984 Winter Olympics in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia.

The Associated Press Network Sports Team will report live each day through Feb. 19, and WKYU will provide broadcasts weekdays at 6:06 a.m., 8:06 a.m., 10:06 a.m., and 3:06 p.m., Saturdays at 8:06 a.m., 9:06 a.m. and 10:06 a.m., and Sundays at 7:06 a.m., 8:06 a.m. and 9:06 a.m.

(More)

Former Weatherman Coaches TV Forecasters

"Ninety-nine percent of weather people on television today don't actually have meteorology degrees," says retired geography and geology professor Willard Cockrill. "They must rely heavily on what the National Weather Service tells them," he says.

Cockrill is teaching the weather staff of a Nashville television station to better understand the forecasts they give the public each day.

Classes are designed to give weather staffs the "basic fundamentals" of meteorology and climatology necessary to forecast the weather.

"They have the practical experience already, and these classes will help them to understand what they're talking about," Cockrill says.

The classes began during the fall semester with WSMV-TV (Ch. 4) in Nashville, and Cockrill says he expects three or four of the people taking the class to pursue meteorology degrees from Western. Persons are receiving college credit for the courses he teaches.

Cockrill said there are only three or four meteorologists in television weather in the Louisville, Nashville and Bowling Green areas.

For 32 years, Cockrill was WKU's meteorologist and provided forecasts to area media daily. He retired in 1980.

Small Businesses Get 'Micro-Seminar' From WKU

Word processing, data management and inventory control are topics to be covered at a micro-seminar on computer applications for small businesses tomorrow and Wednesday.

The small business development center in the College of Business Administration is sponsoring the seminar in Room 335 of Grise Hall.

Dr. Robert W. Otto and Dr. Marvin Albin, associate professors of finance and quantitative business analysis, are faculty for the seminar.

The Small Business Development Center has a contract with the U.S. Small Business Administration to conduct 16 seminars for small business owners each year. The WKU center serves counties in the Barren River Area Development District.

Chemistry Department Receives Funds for More Coal Research

The department of chemistry has received \$500 from the Peabody Coal Company to be used for continuing research in the university's coal chemistry program.

James Addington, director of analytical services at Peabody, who is also a member of WKU's Coal Chemistry Advisory Committee, made the award to Dr. Laurence Boucher, head of WKU's chemistry department.

In a letter to Boucher, Addington said in addition to assisting WKU's research efforts, the award will also "help alleviate the environmental concerns of marketing and using high sulfur coals, particularly in western Kentucky."

"Western is pleased to have the kind of support Peabody Coal Company has given us," says Boucher. "These are the things that really help WKU's work in the coal studies area."

Air Force ROTC Is Born Again On Campus

Air Force ROTC has returned to WKU's campus, and is the realization of a dream of Air Force Lt. Col. Dwight R. Pounds, professor of music, who's been working on initiating a contract with the Air Force for a campus program for the past 13 years--"ever since I've been at Western," he says.

Air Force ROTC left WKU in the mid-fifties "when there was a levy of 17 officers per semester," says Dr. Pounds.

"That was a lot of students, and we just couldn't meet the quota, but the interesting thing is that for years we were even able to carry a program with an enrollment of only 1500 students," he says.

Air Force Area Commandant Arnee Ellermets, representatives of Tennessee State University, and WKU officials signed an agreement last week to provide AFROTC to WKU students, with scholarships available for the fall 1984 semester, according to Dr. James L. Davis, vice president for academic affairs.

"The first two years are strictly voluntary. Students have no obligation to complete the program," says Col. Ellermets. Cadets become committed to the program their junior year and serve active duty from four to six years, depending upon the branch of service they choose. They may also pursue full careers in the Air Force.

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Who Was 'Really' Abe Lincoln's Valentine?

February being heart month and time for valentines and talk of love, also is the month Kentuckians focus on one of our heroes, Abraham Lincoln, who's soon to have a birthday.

Helen Crocker, associate professor of history, has a timely talk about Lincoln and valentines that she'll share with local Kiwanians Wednesday.

Crocker will discuss the Lincoln forgeries, a set of letters apparently forged by Wilma Frances Minor and her mother in 1928, that were alleged to be correspondence with the "love of Lincoln's life," Ann Rutledge, a young redhead who was romanticized as his "only love" instead of Lincoln's wife, Mary Todd of Lexington.

"There are a lot of theories on how the two did the forgery," Crocker says, and she concludes the two had professional help. "The two were caught on minor details, things like mention of Kansas before there was a Kansas," Crocker says.

She also compares this story to last year's media hype about Hitler's diaries.

Crocker's an expert in Kentucky history, and assisted by media services, has produced a film on Lincoln's Kentucky that's being distributed to schools.

About You

CONNIE FOSTER, technical services librarian, has an article appearing in the most recent issue of The Journal of Educational Media and Library Science on "The Shattered Stereotype: The Academic Library in Technical Transition." The publication is a bilingual journal originating at Tamkang University in Taiwan.

JUANITA HIRE AND VIRGINIA MUTCHLER, associate professors of teacher education, presented a paper last month at the national meeting of the Association of Teacher Educators in New Orleans. Mutchler presided at two thematic sessions at the meeting.

AARON WILSON HUGHEY, director of Barnes-Campbell Hall, has had an article concerning housing arrangements and their potential effects on the stress levels and self-perceptions of students published in "Psychological Reports."

Hughey, a candidate for the specialist in education degree, will also co-present a program with Anne Murray, assistant dean of student affairs, about WKU's freshman assistance program at a meeting of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators in Louisville.

Both Hughey and ALECIA REYNOLDS ROGERS, director of Gilbert Hall, will present a program at the 1984 meeting of the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers in Nashville on "Special Challenges Facing Married Residence Hall Personnel."

OWEN LAWSON JR., administrator of physical plant and facilities management, and a member of the Association of Physical Plant Administrators, attended the organization's Board meeting in San Diego, Cal. last month. The APPA is composed of 2,500 administrators representing colleges and universities world-wide.

Lawson is a member of the board of directors representing the Southeastern Region of Physical Plant Administrators and is currently chairman of the Education Committee.

MARVIN LEAVY, reference service supervisor, Helm-Cravens Library, attended the mid-winter meetings of the American Library Association in Washington, D.C. last month. He is secretary of the anthropology and sociology section of the Association of College and Research Libraries within ALA and a member of a subcommittee within ALA's reference and adult services division working on training standards for online database searchers.

(More)

DR. RONALD NASH, head of the department of philosophy and religion, has published his 11th book, "Christian Faith and Historical Understanding," a study of the interrelationship between Christianity and its history, published by Zondervan Publishing House in Grand Rapids, Mich.

One of Dr. Nash's earlier books, "Social Justice and the Christian Church," is a January selection of the Conservative Book Club.

CAP CENTER staff have published the following during the 1983-84 academic year:

FREIDA EGGLETON and JUDY OWEN, "Orientation, Advisement, and Registration at Western Kentucky University," KACRAO Journal, 1983, Vol. 11, No. 1, 24-29.

ROBERT SOMERS and JERRY R. WILDER, "A Recurring Dilemma: Open Vs. Selective Admissions," Contemporary Education, Fall 1983, Vol. 55, No. 1, 9-12 and "A National Survey of Student Affairs Administrators Regarding Programs of Career Planning and Placement and Co-op," The Guidance Clinic.

JERRY R. WILDER, "Retention in Higher Education," Psychology - A Journal of Human Behavior, Fall 1983, Vol. 20, No. 2, 4-9 and "The Status of Programs of Admissions, Orientation, Academic Advising, and Records and Registration Throughout Selected American Institutions of Higher Education," Journal of Human Behavior and Learning, Vol. 1, No. 1.

JERRY R. WILDER and JOHNNY WOLFE, "The Need for Organizational Change Among Programs of Student Personnel Services Throughout Higher Education," Psychology - A Journal of Human Behavior.

Coming Up

- Monday, Feb. 6 6 p.m. "George Orwell: A Radio Biography," a six-part series broadcast on WKYU-FM through Feb. 10.
- 7 p.m. "Appalachian Clogging." Mondays. Four sessions at 1-1/2 hours each. Diddle Arena 146. For more information call the Office of Independent Study at 4158.
- Feb. 7 - Feb. 8 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. A Micro-Seminar on Computer Applications for Small Business. Conference Room 335 of Grise Hall. Co-sponsored by WKU and U.S. Small Business Administration.
- Tuesday, Feb. 7 7 p.m. Introduction to Investments. Tuesdays. Six sessions at two hours each. Hilliard and Lyons office. For more information call 4158.
- Feb. 7 - Feb. 19 WKYU-FM will be providing live reports each day from the 1984 Winter Olympics. See page 2 for details.
- Thursday, Feb. 9 3:20 p.m. Faculty Senate. Garrett Conference Center Ballroom.
- Friday, Feb. 10 8 a.m. Shakespeare Festival. Sponsored by the WKU English Department and the Capitol Arts Center. Call 782-2787 for more information.
- 8 p.m. Senior recital. Debra Breeding, soprano. Recital Hall of the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center. Free admission.
- Monday, Feb. 13 7:30 p.m. - 9 p.m. Square dancing to live music. Garrett Ballroom. Public is invited. Free admission. Also Feb. 20 and 27. For more information, call Victoria Middleswarth of the Kentucky Museum at 2592.
- Tuesday, Feb. 14 8 p.m. Junior recital. Amy Tate, piano and Teresa Saylor, soprano. Recital hall of the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center. Free admission.
- Feb. 14 - Feb. 29 "Neil Peterie: Sabbatical Exhibition." WKU Gallery in the Ivan Wilson Fine Arts Center. Gallery hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays.
- Wednesday, Feb. 15 5 p.m. "Writing Workshop: A Basic English Skills Review." Wednesdays. Six sessions at 1-1/2 hours each. Cherry Hall 124. For more information call 4158.
- Thursday, Feb. 16 7:30 p.m. "Hats: A Tribute to Harriet Tubman." Capitol Arts Center. Co-sponsored by the University Center Board and the Capitol Arts Center. Tickets are \$2 for WKU students and can be purchased in Room 230 of the Downing University Center from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. beginning Feb. 1.
- Feb. 16 - Feb. 18 8 p.m. "Oliver," by Lionel Bart. Van Meter Auditorium. Also showing Sunday, Feb. 19 at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for the general public and \$2 for students and senior citizens. Sponsored by the department of communication and theatre.