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UA42/3/2 Commencement Program

WKU Glasgow

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WKU GLASGOW GRADUAND CEREMONY

Thursday, December 1, 2016
6:30 p.m. Plaza Theatre
Glasgow, KY



Order of Program

WKU Glasgow Graduand Ceremony

Thursday, December 1, 2016

Processional	Mr. Jeff Manning Bagpipes
Presentation of Colors	WKU Army ROTC
National Anthem/ My Old Kentucky Home	WKU Redshirts
Welcome	Dr. Sally Ray Regional Chancellor, WKU Glasgow
Greetings from the December Class of 2016	Melissa R. Hastings WKU December Class of 2016
Keynote Address	Dr. Gary Ransdell WKU President
Presentation of Awards	Mr. Henry Royse Glasgow, KY
Graduand Recognition	Dr. David Lee Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Greetings from the WKU Alumni Association	Dr. Anthony McAdoo Executive Director, WKU Alumni Association
Closing Remarks	Dr. Dennis George Associate Provost for Regional Higher Education
WKU Alma Mater	WKU Redshirts <i>College Heights</i>

Dr. Gary Ransdell

WKU President



Dr. Gary A. Ransdell was named the ninth president of Western Kentucky University on September 12, 1997. Dr. Ransdell, 65, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from WKU in 1973 in Mass Communications, a Master of Public Service degree in Public Administration in 1974, and a Doctor of Education degree from Indiana University in 1978.

Dr. Ransdell re-joined WKU as President after serving four years as Vice President for Administration and Advancement and seven years as Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Clemson University in Clemson, South Carolina.

His previous professional experiences at WKU also include service as a field representative in the Office of University School Relations from 1974 to 1976 and as Associate Director of Alumni Affairs from 1978 to 1981.

Dr. Ransdell became Director of Alumni Relations at Southern Methodist University in 1981, a position he held until 1987 when he was named as a Vice President at Clemson. Dr. Ransdell and the WKU Board of Regents are leading the campus through a dramatic transformation from a university of regional importance to a leading American university with international reach. Since 1997, WKU enrollment has swelled from 14,500 to 21,000, and annual graduation numbers have grown from 2,500 to 4,200. The applicant pool has doubled to over 14,000 and student retention has grown from 67 percent to 75 percent.

A key element in the transformation of WKU is growth in private support. WKU completed its first capital campaign on June 30, 2003, with \$102 million in gifts and pledges. A second campaign was completed on June 30, 2012, with \$202 million in new gifts and pledges. Another priority is a complete rebuilding of the WKU campus. Some \$800 million in campus construction has been completed since 1998, with \$75 million currently under way in 2016, and \$185 million on the drawing board.

Other measures of progress include a dramatic push in sponsored research, the growth of degree programs in electrical, mechanical, and civil engineering; four new doctoral degree programs in Education, Nursing, Physical Therapy, and Psychology; a new emphasis on the commercialization of intellectual property and the transfer of WKU technology to the Kentucky workplace; growth of the three WKU regional campuses in Glasgow, Owensboro, and Elizabethtown/Ft. Knox; the creation of the Gatton Academy of Math and Science, which is ranked by Newsweek as the No. 1 high school in America three years in a row; Kentucky's only independent Honors College with enrollment of 1,400 high achieving students; expanded study abroad programs; and the state's first Confucius Institute and only Chinese flagship program. True to its plan, WKU has the largest number of distance-learning courses and the largest distance-learning enrollment among Kentucky's eight universities.

Student Awards

Dr. Ransdell and his wife Julie have been particularly engaged with students learning in other countries. They have traveled with students taking course credit in England, France, Italy, China, Ecuador, Africa, Scandinavia, and Iceland.

During Dr. Ransdell's tenure, WKU's athletic programs have won over 120 Conference Championships. He served as President of the Sun Belt Conference in 2000, and completed in 2013 a four-year term on the BCS Presidents' Oversight Committee. Dr. Ransdell successfully negotiated a move to Conference USA in 2014. In 2014/15, WKU set a C-USA record with eight conference championships. WKU Football has won two consecutive bowl games and ended the 2015 season ranked #24 in the final AP poll.

Dr. Ransdell has chaired the Board of Directors of the Louisville Branch of the St. Louis Eighth District Federal Reserve Bank, has served on the Board for the Bowling Green Area Chamber of Commerce, the Board for the Inter-modal Transportation Authority of South Central Kentucky, and has chaired the Warren County United Way Campaign. Dr. Ransdell currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the Institute for Shipboard Education (ISE) which operates the global Semester at Sea (SAS) program.

Dr. Ransdell and Julie met, dated, and were married while at WKU pursuing their undergraduate degrees. They have two sons—Patrick, who graduated from WKU in 2002; and Matthew, who graduated from WKU in 2006. Both Patrick and Matthew were lettermen with the WKU baseball team.

Patrick and Brooke (WKU '04) were married in August 2004, and are the parents of Walker and Collins Ransdell, WKU classes of 2029 and 2033! Matthew and Sandra were married in April 2014, and both practice law in Florida.

Further evidence that Gary and Julie are "all in" for WKU is Spirit and Diddle, their yellow lab and English cocker spaniel!

WKU Glasgow Scholar Award

The Scholar Award is presented to a student who has demonstrated exceptional scholarship while at WKU Glasgow. In addition to possessing a 3.5 GPA or above, the student will have engaged in scholarly activity above and beyond that expected in the classroom.

The December 2016 recipient of the WKU Glasgow Scholar Award is Melissa R. Hastings.

Mrs. Laura Houchens, Instructor of English and Coordinator of WKU Glasgow START Center, will be presenting the WKU Glasgow Scholar Award.

WKU Glasgow Spirit Award

The Spirit Award recognizes a student whose vision and goals successfully mobilize his or her fellow students to action. An exceptional student leader maintains his or her academic achievement while leading efforts to promote the best interests and spirit of the WKU Glasgow and surrounding community.

The December 2016 recipient for the WKU Glasgow Spirit Award is Andrew D. Lee.

Mrs. Anne Patterson, Instructor of Elementary Education, will be presenting the WKU Glasgow Spirit Award.

Dr. Juanita C. Bayless Award

Dr. Juanita Bayless (1939-2010), former director of WKU Glasgow, was dedicated to the improvement of educational opportunities for students and the people of Barren and surrounding counties. In honor of her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life for students, the WKU Glasgow faculty and staff present the Dr. Juanita C. Bayless Award to recognize a student who has overcome obstacles and defied the odds to earn a degree.

The December 2016 recipient of the Dr. Juanita C. Bayless Award is Kevin L. Riley.

Mrs. Phyllis Reed, Lead Academic Advisor, will be presenting the Dr. Juanita C. Bayless Award.

WKU Glasgow Graduands

December 2016

Associate of Interdisciplinary Studies

Courtney R. Arnold, Cave City
Emily P. Campbell, Columbia
Coretta Y. Crenshaw, Glasgow
Jessica B. Davis, Cave City
Dustin L. McDowell, Munfordville
Kelsey B. Myers, Scottsville
Kevin L. Riley, Glasgow
Miranda L. Turner, Mount Hermon
Erica M. Williams, Glasgow

Associate of Science

Agricultural Technology and Management

Maggie M. Anderson, Glasgow

Nursing

Kelly M. Carver, Munfordville
Perri T. Collier, Glasgow
Melissa A. Harper, Cave City
April R. Hendren, Cub Run
Angela C. Hood, Bowling Green
Donna J. London, Glasgow
Latasha L. Moles, Albany
Christopher T. Mosher,
Bowling Green
Kelli A. Pennycuff, Glasgow
Katherine R. Sidebottom, Glasgow
Shannon R. Upchurch, Glasgow

Bachelor of Arts

Accounting

Ryan S. Harris, Edmonton
Natasha A. Holt, Columbia

Communication

Brittany N. Holley, Horse Cave

English

Nicholas A. Cotton, Glasgow

History

Michael T. Jones, Smiths Grove

Psychology

Kara E. Copas, Tompkinsville
Aspen N. Pennington,
Tompkinsville

Social Studies

Robert C. Bunch, Edmonton

Sociology

Alexandria E. Goldsmith,
Horse Cave
Garrett D. Smith, Tompkinsville
Benjamin D. Turner, Austin

Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies

Briana J. Dale, Glasgow
Matthew L. Ethridge, Tompkinsville
Whitney P. Hagan, Campbellsville

Samantha J. Hammer, Edmonton
Dakota A. Harlow, Burkesville
Melissa R. Hastings, Cave City
Shauna R. Jessie, Bowling Green
Ashley E. Johnson, Bowling Green
Aimee E. Kidd, Richmond
Rachel M. Kinsolving-McDonald,
Glasgow
Stephanie A. Logsdon, Glasgow
Sarah E. Smith, Bowling Green
Keila K. Sullivan, Russell Springs
Toby J. Turner, Tompkinsville
Elizabeth J. Wood, Summer Shade

Bachelor of Science

Agriculture

Amy K. Barnett, Oakland

Elementary Education

Alisha S. Cope, Burkesville
Joseph B. Gassaway, Glasgow
Andrew D. Lee, Cave City
Trace H. McGuire, Glasgow
Maeghann A. Morrison, Glasgow
Deanna S. Payne, Cave City

Exercise Science

Meghann L. McIntyre, Edmonton

Family and Consumer Sciences

Courtney R. Meador, Cave City
Brittany J. Thomas, Burkesville
Elizabeth Ann Torrence,
Brownsville

Industrial (Vocational, Career and Technical) Education

Karen L. Compton, Greensburg

Management

Victoria E. Woods, Scottsville

Marketing

Bowdy W. Mahaney, Scottsville

Nursing

Janel L. Carter, Gallatin, TN
Wesley T. Childress, Horse Cave
Victoria M. Corder, Bonnieville
Teresa A. Firkins, Edmonton
Joyce O. Gecheo, Columbia
Morgan E. Glidewell, Burkesville
Diana R. Leszczewicz, Bowling
Green
Holi B. Moody, Munfordville
Patrick N. Pitcock, Bowling Green
Tiffany M. Saltsman, Hardyville
Paula J. Wing, Glasgow

Organizational Leadership

Laura E. Claywell, Glasgow
Kenneth E. Minor, Cave City
Xelpha L. Pierce, Speedway, IN

Systems Management

Melissa G. Taylor, Glasgow

WKU Alma Mater

WKU's alma mater, "College Heights," was originally written by 16-year old schoolgirl Mary Frances Bradley as a poem to be entered in a contest on the campus in 1924.

Miss Bradley combined her poignant words with a beautiful melody composed by her father, Ben J. Bradley, an accomplished songwriter and musician from nearby Franklin, Kentucky.

On March 12, 1925, "College Heights" was first performed at chapel assembly in Van Meter Auditorium by Miss Bradley and our alma mater was born.

The music was subsequently published and then copyrighted by WKU in 1930. On the music is the notation that the song is dedicated to WKU's first president, Dr. Henry Hardin Cherry.

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

Francis Scott Key, 1931

Oh, say can you see, by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME

Stephen Foster, 1852

The sun shines bright in My Old Kentucky Home,
 'Tis summer, the people are gay;
The corn-top's ripe and the meadow's in the bloom
 While the birds make music all the day.
The young folks roll on the little cabin floor,
 All merry, all happy and bright;
By 'n' by hard times comes a knocking at the door,
 Then My Old Kentucky Home, good night!

Weep no more my lady
Oh weep no more today;
 We will sing one song
 For My Old Kentucky Home
For My Old Kentucky Home, far away.

"College Heights"

College Heights, on hilltop fair,
 With beauty all thine own,
 Lovely jewel far more rare
 Than graces any throne!
College Heights, we hail thee;
 We shall never fail thee
 Falter never, live forever,
 Hail! Hail! Hail!
College Heights with living soul
And purpose strong and true,
 Service ever is thy goal
 Thy spirit ever new.
College Heights, we hail thee;
 We shall never fail thee
 Falter never, live forever,
 Hail! Hail! Hail!
College Heights thy noble life,
 Shall e'er our pattern be,
Teaching us through joy and strife
 To love humanity.
College Heights we hail thee,
 We shall never fail thee,
 Falter never, live forever,
 Hail! Hail! Hail!

History of Western Kentucky University

The roots of Western Kentucky University go back to 1875 with the founding of the privately owned Glasgow Normal School in Glasgow, Kentucky. On March 21, 1906, the Kentucky General Assembly approved legislation to establish two teacher-training institutions, or "normal schools," in the state. A locating commission chose Bowling Green to be the site of one, and the Western Kentucky State Normal School was created.

The new state-supported school took over the building and student body of the privately owned Southern Normal School. The owner of the Southern Normal School, Henry Hardin Cherry, had been actively involved in the campaign to establish teacher training schools and became the first president. Classes began on January 22, 1907.

On February 4, 1911, the school moved to its present site on "the Hill," approximately 125 feet above downtown Bowling Green and formerly the site of The Pleasant J. Potter College. Over the next decade, the curriculum focused on teacher training and certification. Students received practical experience at the Training School, and a model one-room Rural School was opened on campus in 1924. In 1922, the state renamed the institution Western Kentucky State Normal School and Teachers College and authorized it to grant four-year degrees. The first such degrees were awarded in 1924.

The campus expanded in 1927, when it merged with Ogden College, a private young men's school located on the east side of the Hill. The name was shortened to Western Kentucky State Teachers College in 1930, and the following year the Master of Arts degree was first offered. President Cherry died in 1937 and was succeeded by Dr. Paul Garrett.

As the College's mission broadened, its name was shortened in 1948 to Western Kentucky State College. Dr. Garrett died in 1955, and Kelly Thompson became the third president. In the early 1960's, Dr. John D. Minton became the first graduate dean.

Under Thompson, both the curriculum and the campus underwent major reorganization and expansion. In June 1963, the college merged with the Bowling Green College of Commerce, formerly the Bowling Green Business University. Along with the Graduate School, the Bowling Green College of Commerce became a separate college within the administrative structure. In 1965, the Board of Regents approved the formation of three more colleges: the Potter College of Liberal Arts, the College of Education, and the Ogden College of Science and Technology.

On June 16, 1966, Western Kentucky State College became Western Kentucky University.

The University's colleges are now:

- College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
- College of Health and Human Services
- Gordon Ford College of Business
- Ogden College of Science and Engineering
- Potter College of Arts & Letters
- University College

Since 1969, Dero G. Downing, John D. Minton, Donald W. Zacharias, Kern Alexander, and Thomas C. Meredith have served as WKU's presidents. Our current president, Gary A. Ransdell, was inaugurated on September 12, 1997.

WKU Glasgow officially opened on February 7, 1988, in the former Liberty Street Elementary School, where it operated until January 2002, when the Glasgow Regional Center on Hilltopper Way welcomed its first classes. The largest of WKU's three regional campuses, WKU Glasgow serves more than 2500 students and employs more than 100 full-time and part-time faculty and staff.

A century of growth has made WKU a respected center of learning where qualified students may receive general and specialized higher education at the undergraduate and graduate level.

History of Western Kentucky University, Glasgow

The story of Western Kentucky University and Glasgow reaches back to the 1800s when the long-held dream of an institution of higher education became a reality for Glasgow and Barren County.

The story began when 19-year old A.W. Mell arrived in Glasgow from Ohio and opened the Glasgow Normal School on February 9, 1875 using educational methods never before seen in southern Kentucky. Mell adopted a new mode of education when he began teaching men and women in the same classroom – a move that met resistance in traditional Victorian mindsets.

Professor Mell and his teaching partner, J. Tom Williams, sought to expand their institution, but when the generous residents of nearby Bowling Green pledged \$3,000 in financial support, the duo convinced their faculty and students to follow them to a Warren County hilltop where they opened the Southern Normal School and Business College. As years passed, Barren County faithfully encouraged her youth to continue their education in an effort to develop a better-educated population and expand their horizons.

One such student was Nettie B.C. Depp, a young school teacher from

the Eighty-Eight community who was convinced she could be a better teacher by learning progressive methods while earning a degree. Nettie became the first of thousands of Barren County students to complete the course of study and earn a degree in Education. Equipped for success and armed with experience, the young teacher sought to do more by becoming the first woman to seek public office in Barren County in 1913. She won the election and served admirably as the county's Superintendent of Public Instruction some seven years before the passage of the 19th amendment guaranteed women the right to vote.

Over the past 138 years, the Glasgow and Barren County community has produced some of WKU's most outstanding students. They have served the world through a variety of professions and contributions. The middle of the 20th century saw notables such as Russell Dougherty, the Commander of the Strategic Air Command, world-renowned bandleader Billy

WKU Glasgow Tartan Stole

The Glasgow City Tartan stole, worn around the neck at commencement ceremonies in Bowling Green, signifies the graduates' affiliation with WKU's Glasgow Campus.

Most directly connected with Scotland, the origins of tartan can

Vaughn, NBC president Julian Goodman, Governor Louie B. Nunn. Countless others from Barren County emerge from WKU's hallowed halls to make lasting differences that continue to influence our lives.

Later in the 20th century, Glasgow and Barren County's forward-looking leaders recognized the immense value of having higher education opportunities within the local community. The journey took those visionaries through uncharted territories for more than two decades before their dream became a reality in 1988.

Over the past quarter-century, WKU Glasgow has evolved from a modest regional campus with limited course offerings to the vibrant center of learning we proudly offer to the region today. With more than 2,700 students enrolled in over 7,000 courses leading to degrees in more than 33 subjects, WKU Glasgow not only has accomplished great things, it stands at the threshold of an exciting future.

be traced back to the British Isles. For centuries, the tartan has been used to set apart various Scottish clans and families. Indeed, the design is Glasgow tartan and is associated with the Scottish heritage of Glasgow, Kentucky.

WKU Alumni Association

Congratulations to the Class of 2016 and welcome to the WKU Alumni Family! The WKU Alumni Association encourages alumni to develop strong ties with each other and the University through an engaging mix of programs and activities. Currently, more than 100,000 WKU alumni live around the globe. Although they come from different areas and backgrounds, all share the deep bond of the WKU experience. Chartered in 1913, the Alumni Association exists to "enhance and strengthen the WKU Spirit." The continued vitality of the Alumni Association depends on the commitment of time, energy, and resources from alumni like you.

Membership Privileges

- WKU Alumni Association Decal
- 10% Discount on select Continuing Education Programs through DELO wku.edu/delo
- WKU Libraries Privileges
- 20% Discount on all regular priced WKU Apparel and Gift items at the WKU Store
- Discount Admission to Select Alumni Association Events
- Pride in providing support that makes all the programs and services of the Alumni Association

Affinity Partners

- Credit Card
- Life and Health Insurance
- Hotel Partners
- Class Rings
- Auto and Homeowners Insurance

Programs

- Alumni Chapter Network
- Homecoming
- Coming Home

- Golden Anniversary Club Reunion
- Special Reunions
- Student Alumni Association
- Summit Awards
- Society of African American
- Hall of Distinguished Alumni
- Parent's Association
- Alumni Leadership Scholars
- Graduation Fair
- Alumni College
- Topper Travelers
- Faculty Awards
- Growing Up Red Legacy Program

Volunteer opportunities

- Alumni Chapters
- Alumni Association Board of Directors
- Annual Fund Advisory Council
- WKU Wisdom Alumni Mentoring Program
- Targeting Our Prospective Students (TOPS)
- Parent's Advisory Council

Top 10 Ways to Help WKU

1. Keep us updated on your address, family and career.
2. Wear and display WKU merchandise.
3. Attend WKU events.
4. Make a gift to WKU.
5. Recruit a student for WKU.
6. Leave WKU as a beneficiary in your estate plan
7. Serve as a mentor to a current student.
8. Lobby legislators about higher education issues.
9. Read WKU SPIRIT magazine and get involved.

10. Become a member of the WKU Alumni Association.

Services

- Big Red Space Online Community
- WKU SPIRIT Magazine
- Newsletters
- Alumni Grant
- Scholarships
- WKU Welcome Wagon
- Career Services
- Alumni Record Updates
- Toll Free Number
- E-mail for Life
- twitter.com/wkualumni
- facebook.com/wkualumni

www.alumni.wku.edu

Special Thanks

WKU Alumni Association
WKU Army ROTC
Mr. Henry Royse
Glasgow Electric Plant Board
Greer's Florist
WKU Glasgow Graduand Committee
WKU Publications
WKU Department of Music
Highlanders
WKU Glasgow Faculty and Staff

Recognition of Academic Achievement

Summa Cum Laude

The honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate studies with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.80-4.00 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned in residence.

Magna Cum Laude

The honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate studies with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.60-3.79 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned in residence.

Cum Laude

The honor given to students who have completed their baccalaureate

studies with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.40-3.59 and a minimum of 45 semester hours earned in residence.

With High Distinction

The honor given to students who have completed their associate degree with both cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.7-4.0.

With Distinction

The honor given to students who have completed their associate degrees with cumulative overall and cumulative WKU grade point averages of 3.40-3.69 and a minimum of 27 semester hours earned in residence.

Summa Cum Laude

Robert C. Bunch
Melissa R. Hastings
Xelpha L. Pierce

Cum Laude

Amy K. Barnett
Nicholas A. Cotton
Joyce O. Gecheo
Ryan S. Harris
Rachel M. Kinsolving-McDonald
Andrew D. Lee
Diana R. Leszczewicz
Trace H. McGuire
Maeghann A. Morrison
Aspen N. Pennington
Patrick N. Pitcock
Paula J. Wing

With Distinction

Maggie M. Anderson
Perri T. Collier
Kelli A. Pennycuff



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