Spring 2016

University College Connection Spring 2016

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From the Dean’s Office

University College held our student/faculty recognition on Tuesday, May 10th, 2016, at the Faculty House on WKU’s main campus. We enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship and had a marvelous turnout. We appreciate all the family members of those recognized, faculty and staff who came out and celebrated with us!

-Photos courtesy of Bryan Lemon

University College Outstanding Faculty Awards

Molly Kerby—Public Service
Julie Shadoan—Teaching
Dawn Hall—Research and Creativity
John Baker—Student Advisement

Where’s Big Red?
Big Red (JUST LIKE the image to the left) is hidden somewhere in this newsletter. Be the first to find him and you win a University College travel mug!
Email wendi.kelley@wku.edu and tell us where you found him!
Tim Brotherton was recognized for his dedication, and service to students and colleagues at South Campus. He has served in various leadership roles from 2007-2016.

Representing Gerontology, Dana Bradley presents Louise Barr with the Graduate Certificate in Aging Studies.

School of Professional Studies
Outstanding Student Awards

- Business—Donald Wiggington
  By Said Ghezal

- Interdisciplinary Studies—Stephen Wood
  By Cort Basham

- Org Lead—Undergraduate
  Kathleen Duvall by John Baker

- Org Lead—Graduate
  Azin Erfani by John Baker

- Paralegal—Associate of Arts
  Rachel Chatman by Julie Shadoan

- Paralegal—Bachelor of Arts
  Constance Locke by Julie Shadoan

Representing Diversity and Community Studies, Jane Olmsted recognizes the students receiving the Ella Baker Scholarship, Destinee Greer and Natalie Turner.
Jim Fulkerson, with School of Professional Studies, took a moment to recognize his Peer Mentor students, Alexis Galvan, Chloe Lawson, Lucas Martin, and Skyler Wilson.

Kirstie Gallagher is given the Gloria Young Hovious Memorial Scholarship by Jeff Butterfield.

Top Paralegal Scholars—presented by Jenn Brinkley

Jeff Butterfield presents Allison Lincoln and Ami Wagner with the Clyde B. Cates Scholarship.

Tim Brotherton presents LaManda Foster with the writing contest awards for Essays and Research Paper categories.

Kirstie Gallagher is given the Gloria Young Hovious Memorial Scholarship by Jeff Butterfield.

Michael Nichols was given the award for Best of Letters in the Poetry category.
The WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships would like to congratulate its graduates for the spring 2016: Kene Anyigbo, Jamye Hardy, Keira Martin, and Omega Buckner. Kene graduated with a Masters in Kinesiology, Recreation, and Sport, and he served with The $100 Solution™ program. Jamye graduated with a Master of Social Work degree, and she served as the Bonner Leader program coordinator. Omega Buckner graduated with a Master of Social Work, and she served with the WKU Hill House. Last, Keira graduated with a Master of Arts in Education in Student Affairs, and she served with the WKU Hill House program.
Diversity and Community Studies — ICSR

WKU INSTITUTE FOR CITIZENSHIP & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

- 250% GROWTH
  Increased number of Citizenship & Social Justice minors

- 67%
  Third Tuesday Tea attendance

- 737+ Facebook followers
- 440+ Twitter followers
- 155+ Instagram followers
- 3,400+ people reached in one month
- 36,746 people reached with one post

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WKU Named a “Top 100 Military Spouse Friendly School for 2016” by Victory Media

The 2016 Military Spouse Friendly Schools list honors the top U.S. colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America’s military spouses as students, and to dedicate resources to ensure their success both in the classroom and after graduation. WKU is one of only three schools in Kentucky earning this recognition.

The complete list of Military Spouse Friendly Schools is available online at: https://militaryfriendly.com/militaryspouseschools/ with links to school profiles. The list is also published in the April issue of Military Spouse magazine.

Victory Media is a veteran-owned business with various related publications, including G.I. Jobs, Military Spouse, Vetrepreneur and STEM Jobs magazines. The group also annually rates the nation’s “Military Friendly Employers,” “Military Spouse Friendly Employers,” “STEM Friendly Schools” and “Best Corporations for Veteran-Owned Businesses.”

M.S.S. with WKU Fort Knox attended the 2016 Mid South ACME Symposium at Fort Campbell

The third annual Mid South Advisory Council on Military Education (ACME) took place on April 27—28. This year’s theme was “Education for our Forces Now for the Future.”
One hundred women veterans attended the first Western Kentucky Women Veterans Regional Conference in Bowling Green on April 30. Lt. Gov. Jenean Hampton, herself a veteran, gave the keynote speech, drawing a connection between military service and public service and urging women veterans to seek public service.

Image of Navy Veterans in attendance: Krystol Stinson of VUB also pictured

Tonya attended the Veteran Resource Fair in Glasgow on April 13

Student Veterans Alliance partners with WKU’s Public Relations Student Society of America for “Vets on the Hill” and “Flags for Freedom

The partnership served as an awareness campaign to help bring awareness to the SVA. During the two day event, 1350 flags were placed in the ground at Centennial Mall and Tate Page Hall in honor of a veteran.
On April 28, 2016, Paralegal Studies Pedagogical Assistant Professor Jennifer Brinkley participated in HR’s 2016 Take Our Daughters & Sons To Work Day. She, along with the help of several WKU paralegal students and one political science student, presented “Law & Order: The American Court System and Due Process Freedoms.” Thirteen 2nd-5th graders learned about the court system and why the law exists. The WKU students also put on a mock trial for the elementary students, with one of the elementary students serving as a defendant and one as a bailiff. After the “jury” of the remaining elementary students returned with a not guilty verdict for the defendant, the students made marshmallow gavels out of pretzels, jumbo marshmallows, chocolate sauce, and sprinkles. Justice was served...and it was sweet in Tate Page Hall!
On March 19, 2016, Paralegal Studies Pedagogical Assistant Professor Jennifer Brinkley presented a fifty minute presentation and PowerPoint on "The Notorious RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg and Her Impact on Women's Rights" at the WKU Sixth Annual Gender & Communications Conference in DSU. Professor Brinkley is also currently working on a research article examining Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s dissent history after having traveled to Washington, D.C. during the January term to conduct research on this project. While in D.C., Professor Brinkley was also able to attend oral arguments at the United States Supreme Court.

In his paper, George Kontos describes a collaborative project done in his undergraduate class on web design. In this project, his students contacted local community non-profit organizations to create websites (collections of web pages) to benefit these organizations. The two phases of creating a website, planning and implementation, are an integral part of the project and are explained in this paper. The project, suitable for both online and face-to-face instruction, required that students keep a journal. The instructor did a follow-up investigation to assure that the resulting websites were indeed what the non-profits wanted.

George is originally from Athens, Greece. He is at WKU's School of Professional Studies and has been at WKU since 2002.
School of Professional Studies/University Experience instructor, Sara McCaslin, was invited to give two presentations at the Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (SAEOPP) 44th annual conference in Orlando, Florida, February 14-17, 2016. The first presentation centered on Information Literacy and WKU’s new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) theme of Evidence and Argument. This presentation provided attendees insight into the University Experience information literacy component and the incorporation of the Evidence and Argument theme into academic research practices. The second presentation offered attendees information on the partnership between University Experience and Student Support Services at WKU. Sara McCaslin and Imari Hazelwood, Student Support Services Counselor and University Experience instructor, discussed the UC 175 courses offered specifically to first-generation, at-risk students and how these sections foster persistence and student success.

WKU students receive undergraduate library research awards

Western Kentucky University students Hannah Garrett (Henderson, Kentucky) and Benjamin Watson (Frankfort, Kentucky) received undergraduate research awards at a recognition ceremony in Cravens Library on Monday May 5, 2016. WKU Libraries and WKU University Experience faculty offer the awards in an effort to recognize the important role of good undergraduate research in college academic success.

“We look forward to honoring students for these research awards each semester,” said Sara McCaslin, University Experience Coordinator. “It’s a pleasure to spotlight students who have shown exceptional information literacy and research skills through their class projects. This critical skills set will aid them throughout their college careers as well as in life.”

Watson is finishing his first year at WKU and is a student in the CIT program. He received his award for his annotated resource list project on a Ted Talk. His instructor was Jim Fulkerson from the main campus University Experience class.

Garrett, a first-year student interested in WKU’s nursing program, received her award for the best career exploration paper. Her instructor was Anne Heintzman from the South Campus University Experience class.

Students received a monetary gift along with a plaque honoring their achievements. The winning documents, along with those of past recipients, are posted on TopSCHOLAR—WKU’s research and creative database—at: digitalcommons.wku.edu/ueul_award/
The School of Professional Studies and University Experience offered the second dual credit UC 175 course during the spring 2016 semester. This course was again offered at South Warren High School and featured a course team-taught by Sara McCaslin and the University Experience graduate assistants Madelyn Frost and Katie Bush. Frost and Bush examined the UC 175 curriculum and enhanced the coursework to provide South Warren students a course that would prepare them for the rigors of academic and social life at Western Kentucky University. Students explored critical thinking, information literacy, academic and career planning as well as strategies for academic success. The students enjoyed a WKU campus visit on April 22, 2016. During this visit, the students experienced a Spirit Master guided tour of campus and lunch at Fresh Food, Inc. WKU Admissions and Enrollment Management representatives also spoke with the students. The School of Professional Studies and University Experience are working with DELO representatives to offer dual credit UC 175 courses in the future.
The 2nd annual M.A.K.E. Faire was held on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 in the lobby of WKU’s South Campus. Organized by Dr. Anne Heintzman and Patricia Jaggers, the annual event embraced South Campus’s theme of “Making Academic Knowledge and Excellence” by celebrating opportunities to create. This year’s event featured traditional makerspace activities such as Lego, Sphero robotics, LittleBits, balloon animals and origami, and contests for paper airplane distance and helium balloon lifting, while Ms. Jaggers invited participants to create poetry on the spot at her poetry/writing table. Highlights of the faire included demonstrations of wax welding techniques by the League of Sculptors, an Art department student group sponsored by David Marquez, and presentations of a genealogy blog and wiki by Suellyn Lathrop, WKU Archivist. Students learned to operate a button-making machine to create M.A.K.E. 2016 buttons for everyone who filled out a survey.

This year’s M.A.K.E. faire is part an ongoing IRB-approved research project by Dr. Anne Heintzman, who was awarded a Qtag grant to establish a mobile makerspace on South Campus for free maker time for students, co-curricular workshops, and a possible permanent space. Surveys collected as part of that project revealed that 91% of participants spent more than 30 minutes at the faire and 96% “would be likely to spend free time in an on-campus space like this.” While initial makerspace funding is limited, generous donations of materials from the First Lego League and the old BRIMS facility have provided rich resources that have extended the budget. Existing research suggests that makerspaces can draw students into learning through play, where they can (1) develop familiarity with the tools necessary for STEAM course work, (2) build community, (3) develop skills in diverse communication, (4) promote creativity, and (5) increase belonging/success. The goal of the South Campus makerspaces is to bring people together so that they can encourage each other. Dr. Heintzman is seeking additional funding, and has submitted a proposal for concurrent roundtable and workshop CCCC 2017. Watch for further developments and announcements beginning Fall 2016. And, of course, watch for the 3rd annual M.A.K.E. Faire in Spring 2017!