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Lesa Harris, a ten-year veteran of Facilities Management, puts some finishing touches on a window frame in Cherry Hall. Various locations on campus are getting face lifts over the summer months in time for school to open Aug. 21. -Photo by James Glover

Moving to a new level

UPDATE

Dr. James R. Craig, Professor of Psychology, is chairperson for Moving to a New Level. In a memo to faculty and staff in June, Craig announced 33 New Level action items have been clustered into nine groups, and task forces of faculty and staff volunteers have been created to develop implementation strategies for the items in each cluster.

The intention is that the bulk of each task force’s work will be accomplished over the summer months so that the implementation strategies the task forces suggest will be ready early in the fall semester for review and comment by the campus community, and be ready later in the fall semester for review and action by the Board of Regents,” Craig said.

Task forces and their chairs are: Instruction, Dr. Fred Murphy; Faculty Evaluation, Dr. Joe Millichap; Academic Environment, Dr. Cam Collins; Student Access, Dr. Kyle Wallace; Faculty Enhancement, Dr. Vickie Stalton; Student Expectations, Dr. Carol Graham; Program Development, Dr. Judith Hoover; Administrative Enhancement, Marileen Murphy and Student Assessment, Dr. Joe Glaser.

At its April Board meeting, WKU Regents heard a report from President Thomas C. Meredith on the operational planning procedure for Moving To a New Level While Keeping Old Traditions. The timeline includes:

APRIL-JULY: PRESIDENT APPOINTS TEN TASK FORCES.

Each task force is chaired by a member of the Planning Steering Committee; each task force includes one member of the Budget Committee; and each task force studies assigned issues/topics and makes recommendations.

APRIL-AUGUST: PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT.

Steering Committee reviews recommendations from each task force; returns recommendations to task force for more study if necessary; analyzes all task force recommendations from an institutional perspective; makes recommendations to President on each topic.

OCTOBER: PRESIDENT MAKES RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOARD OF REGENTS.

President considers recommendations from Executive Officers/Administrative Council and prepares his recommendations of priorities, timetables, costs, etc. to Board.

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On Campus
Western Kentucky University
July 1995

WKUNet is up and running on campus!

By Bob Skipper

Campus connectivity will be the norm at Western Kentucky University as all classrooms, laboratories and offices become networked by the 1995 fall semester.

Western's campus-wide computer network, WKUNet, not only links faculty, student and staff computers all across campus, it also gives the world access to Western and Western access to the world via the Internet.

"We have the capability now to let people off campus, around the world, know what's going on at Western," said Baron Chandler of Western's Microcomputing Support Center.

In one month, more than 101,000 connections were made to Western's home page, the introductory page to Western Online, Chandler said, including "visits" from 45 countries. "It's going to do nothing but grow as more and more people find out about it and more and more things become available," he said.

While off-campus access is important, the success of the network is in what it can do for those on campus. Currently, there are approximately 900 on-campus users who have access to WKUNet, according to Dr. Charles Anderson, assistant vice president for Finance and Administration. This number will grow considerably as the wiring of all classrooms, offices and residence hall rooms is completed by the fall of 1995, he said.

In addition to offering users a connection to the Internet, commonly called the information superhighway, WKUNet provides users electronic mail and access to the University's mainframe computers, library holdings and PC applications.

"The key is what you deliver and how you can access those services," Dr. Anderson said. "We have aggregated those services in an easy-to-use graphical front end." That means that users can access most services by using a mouse to point to a graphic and click without having to type a long series of commands.

WKUNet is unique in that the system was designed in house from the ground up, said Kerry Moorman, senior programmer/analyst with Western's Computer and Informational Services. Moorman wrote the software that brought WKUNet to life.

"This is a very state-of-the-art and we are poised to jump into newer technology as it becomes available," he said.

WKUNet supports both Microsoft Windows and Macintosh platforms. Moorman said the interface programs were written at Western so they could be completely customized.

"This is a tool for connectivity," he said. "This allows you to connect to so many computer resources all over the world just by clicking on buttons."

On-campus users can use the WKUNet as a jumping-off point to "surf" the Internet, gaining access to its world-wide computer resources. They can also access, with the proper clearances, data stored on Western's mainframe computers, such as budget information and student records. Electronic mail, or e-mail, allows users to communicate with others on campus as well as anyone in the world with an e-mail address.

Other services available on the WKUNet include event calendars, class schedule bulletins, the College Heights Herald student newspaper, telephone directories, a campus tour, television weather forecasts and other campus information.

WKUNet allows Western faculty and staff to analyze on their personal computers information stored in the large mainframe computers instead of having to order printouts of the information from Computer and Informational Systems, Moorman said.

Faculty, staff and students with a computer connection in their offices or residence hall rooms can now plug their computers into WKUNet. Western provides the necessary software and network connection.

Fourteen of 18 residence halls are already networked. More than half of all buildings are wired and the remainder will be completed by this fall.

Dr. Anderson said the creation of the WKUNet was a team effort and the convergence of several initiatives, including the project to put a computer on every faculty member's desk and a student computing fee that supports student computer labs.

While the WKUNet is the heart of the system, individual offices, labs and residence hall rooms need to be wired to allow personal computer access. Much of the wiring in the residence halls was installed at the same time as wiring for cable television, making the project more cost effective, Dr. Anderson said.

Most of the work for computer connectivity has been accomplished with existing financial resources, he said.

WKU President Thomas C. Meredith, an avid user of the system's e-mail feature, praised the initiative of those involved in bringing WKUNet on line.

"The things that they have done, many institutions just go out and hire that to be done and spend billions of dollars to get it all done for them," he said. "Our folks just do it and it saves a dramatic amount of money."

WKU President Thomas C. Meredith looks forward to daily logging onto WKUNet, the campus-wide computer network which plans to be campus-wide this fall.

"Photo by Bob Skipper
Regents approve 5 percent raises

The Western Kentucky University Board of Regents at its June meeting approved a $119.5 million budget for 1995-96 that includes a 5 percent salary pool for faculty and staff raises.

The 1995-96 budget is $5.2 million more than the 1994-95 budget and includes increases of $2.3 million in restricted grants and contracts; $1.4 million in state appropriations; $1.1 million in tuition and $400,000 in fees, parking and revenue accounts.

WKU President Thomas C. Meredith said the budget represents a significant amount of restructuring. The budget includes $2.9 million in salary and fringe benefit increases with only $2.5 million in discretionary funding increases.

"We're making tremendous progress," Dr. Meredith said, "but all of that is not without cost."

Dr. Meredith said the budget meets a series of goals set by the Board, including increasing funding for instruction, research and libraries; enhancing faculty and staff salaries; increasing funding to enhance student retention and minority recruitment; begin funding Dr. Meredith's "Moving to a New Level" proposal for Western's future and enhancing operations and maintenance.

"We would like to have done more," he said.

In other business, the Board:
• Approved the biennial capital budget request. The request lists capital construction projects, such as major renovations and equipment purchases of more than $200,000. The list will be submitted to the Council on Higher Education before going to Gov. Brereton Jones and the General Assembly;
• Approved a resolution reaffirming the University's commitment to affirmative action policies and to Title IX, which mandates equal opportunities for men and women student athletes. Western is developing a plan of program expansion and facility enhancements to address Title IX compliance; and
• Approved a resolution of support for the continued use of performance measures to determine state funding increases for higher education.

Westerners everywhere are navigating the internet

Western Kentucky University alumni, friends and off-campus students in Barren, Daviess, Hardin and Warren counties will soon be able to navigate the Internet by subscribing to a new service that MCI Communications will offer.

Through the high-speed dial-up service, Western OnLine, subscribers will navigate the vast Internet to thousands of information destinations such as the city of Paris, NASA, the Library of Congress, the White House and WKU. The service will begin during the summer and will expand to several other counties as MCI establishes facilities in those locations.

The service will be competitively priced with a substantial discount to Western's alumni and off-campus students, according to MCI Representative John O'Brien. MCI will underwrite the entire cost of establishing the service, provide subscribers the necessary software and a support line. Subscribers must furnish their own modem (14.4 kbps or greater) and will need to have a windows-based PC or Macintosh.

As Western On-Line is established, the University's own destination on the Internet's World Wide Web, the popular graphical-based service, will substantially expand to include access to the University's library catalog, information about most departments from academics to athletics, schedule bulletins, the University catalog, an event calendar, a virtual tour and many other services.

"There were more than 100,000 visits to our existing home page in March," said Margaret Cline, director of the Microcomputing Support Center. "We anticipate a substantial increase as the service expands."

"Western is also planning an Internet Information Warehouse in partnership with numerous public and governmental agencies in the region," said Dr. Charles Anderson, assistant vice president for Finance and Administration. "We will provide technical and design assistance to help in the establishment of a presence for this region on the World Wide Web. We view the Internet as an increasingly valuable educational and information resource with economic development and promotional value as well. It provides an excellent means of delivering information to the University's constituencies."

For more information, contact Dr. Charles Anderson at WKU at (502) 745-2243 or John O'Brien at MCI at (800) 289-5624.
**New Level**  
*Continued from page one*

**OCTOBER:**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS SETS PRIORITIES.**

Board of Regents establishes four-year priorities and assigns the priorities for the following year (1996-97).

**NOVEMBER:**  
**PRESIDENT GIVES ANNUAL PRIORITIES TO EXECUTIVE OFFICERS.**

President assigns BOR-established priorities to administrative areas for unit planning activity.

**NOVEMBER:**  
**PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE COORDINATES UNIT PLANNING ACTIVITY.**

**NOVEMBER-JANUARY 1996:**  
**UNIT PLANNING ACTIVITY.**

All university units develop plans for four years and for the following year (1996-97) which they believe will help fulfill established BOR goals for specific time period.

**JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1996:**  
**UNIT BUDGET REQUESTS.**

All units prepare budget requests based on approved unit plans.

**FEBRUARY-MARCH 1996:**  
**BUDGET REQUESTS TO BUDGET COMMITTEE.**

Vice presidents present 1996-97 budget requests from their areas to the Budget Committee.

**APRIL 1996:**  
**BUDGET COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS 1996-97 BUDGET TO PRESIDENT.**

Budget Committee recommends the budget which reflected new goals and objectives to President for presentation to Board of Regents.

**JUNE 1996:**  
**BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVES 1996-97 BUDGET.**

Approved budget includes implementation of Board of Regents-established priorities for 1996-97.

**PERIODICALLY:**  
**PLANNING STEERING COMMITTEE CONSIDERS IMPLEMENTATION.**

Periodically, Steering Committee evaluates process and begins the task again.

**About You** includes professional activities such as presentations, awards, and elections to office in professional organizations.

**Hensley named interim Vice President, Institutional Advancement**

Fred Hensley, Director of University Relations, has been appointed by President Thomas C. Meredith to assume the responsibility of Interim Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

Hensley, who has been at Western since 1980, will serve until a permanent replacement for Robert M. Rutledge III is in place. Rutledge resigned this month to become President of the Siskin Foundation in Chattanooga, Tenn., a private foundation which provides educational, rehabilitative, habilitative and support services to persons with disabilities.

**Struss named to head Campus Operations**

Mark Struss of the Marriott Corporation became Director of Campus Operations at WKU July 10. Following approval by the Board of Regents, Marriott has assumed operation of the University’s Facilities Management Department.

Vice President for Finance and Administration James R. Ramsey said, "This contract with Marriott represents the procurement of management services and expertise; our staff in Facilities Management will continue to be Western Kentucky University employees."

Struss has experience at other schools as the Director of Facilities Management Operations, Ramsey said.

**DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND FAMILY SCIENCES**

Dr. Joyce Rasdall presented Public Policy Issues at the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences 86th annual meeting and exposition in New Orleans last month. Dr. Rasdall’s presentation focused on advocacy of critical family and child issues in Kentucky.

**DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

At the annual meeting of the Association of American Geographers, held in Chicago, the following presented papers:

- Dr. Conrad Moore, Zonal Drought Equilibrium in the Contiguous United States, 1895-1994;
- Dr. Stuart Foster and coauthor, A Reverse Spatial Adaptive Filter for Modeling Local Instabilities;
- Mary Prante and others, An Alternative Hypothesis for the Evolution of the Quaternary Landscape of Kansas.

**DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY PUBLIC SERVICES**

Cindy Etkin has been elected Assistant Coordinator/Coordinator-elect of the American Library Association’s Federal Documents Task Force of the Government Documents Roundtable.

**DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

Jonathan Jeffrey delivered a paper, Kentucky’s Silk Road: Sericulture in the Commonwealth, 1830-1900 at the Kentucky/Tennessee American Studies Association meeting at Pleasant Hill, Ky.

**Send items for the August issue by August 1 to:**  
Sheila Eison, Editor,  
Office of University Relations

**Day/Evening classes begin Monday, Aug. 21**
About a ‘Long’ love affair with learning

By Sheila Eison

Ask Professor of Religious Studies, Dr. John Long what he really likes about his work and he’ll say it’s “To hold a historical manuscript in my hands and study it. “I can’t explain it, but I feel a surge of excitement just handling historical documents,” he said on a recent afternoon following a full morning of classes.

It’s probably the subject matter he deals with — religious stories, often Biblical — but it also has to do with Long’s impressive presence (he’s tall, not necessarily big), that the tune, He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands kept coming to mind during that interview.

Or perhaps it’s because, when he talks, Long’s enthusiasm shows in through his hands, which he has a habit of opening in a wide gesturing motion, while he smiles equally wide. He speaks in a reverent tone, obviously acquired from years deep into his studies.

For the past 22 years in WKU’s Philosophy and Religion Department, Long has been teaching and researching, and he has traveled worldwide on his haunts of libraries looking for rare manuscripts.

His educational background includes a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Temple University, a B.C. from the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Episcopal Church, a master’s degree in New Testament from Westminster Theological Seminary and master’s and doctoral degrees in Mediterranean studies from Brandeis University. He is an ordained minister as well.

And he loves it all, the scholarship, all a part of his life’s tapestry that’s woven from a childhood of loving to read, hang­ ing out at libraries, and teaching Sunday School, where he said he first knew he liked teaching.

John Long was a first-generation college student who grew up in Philadelphia. He “always wanted to go to school, and my parents supported my desire to learn more than they had been able to achieve,” he said.

“Once again, I can’t explain it, but I became attached to books and reading at an early age and have never stopped. I have always loved libraries.

“When I was just a youngster, our teacher took us on a field trip to the local public library to get our first library cards. It was a walkable distance from our home, and I started spending a lot of time there, just reading everything,” he recalls.

“For some unexplained reason also, I became hooked on religion. I remember reading once about the religion of the Australian Aborigines. It fascinated me,” he says, amused. “I’d read anything and everything I could get my hands on.

“When I grew older, I went to the main branch of the library downtown where they had an incredible collection of books and things. I remember reading a classic ethnographic work, a two-volume work and I read that whole thing, as a high school student!”

His research has taken Long across continents as well. In 1972, he received a Ford Foundation Advanced Study Fellowship and a North African Center for Arabic Studies Fellowship to study Arabic in Tunisia. Since then, he has researched in Egypt, Europe and the Netherlands, France, England and Spain.

A most exciting discovery on that last trip was a chance to see an oldest dated set of manuscripts at the El Escorial Monastery, and to bring a photocopy of it home, and to study some documents that compel a trip perhaps to Morocco next.

“My whole life has been reading and learning,” he says. As an example, currently he’s translating and analyzing a set of stories that circulated in Africa, finding that they may possibly be related to a set of stories that he learned about in Algeria. He will be speaking in the fall about his discovery, as well as writing papers on the subject.

And because his work is focused upon historical documents, a great deal of his time still is spent in libraries, a reason University Libraries chose him as the annual award recipient this year.

“Just recently I was visiting the Archives in Frankfurt, and I looked up and saw Libraries Change Lines,” Long said, adding: “I can tell you for a fact that is true.”
NCAA certifies WKU’s athletics programs with conditions

Western Kentucky University's intercollegiate athletic program has been certified with conditions by the NCAA Committee on Athletics Certification.

A designation of certified with conditions means that a college or university generally operates its athletic program in substantial conformity with the Division I operating principles but issues were identified that delayed full certification until those issues have been resolved.

To achieve a designation of certified, WKU must complete comprehensive plans for addressing gender equity and minority opportunities in its intercollegiate athletics program.

"We requested to be included in the early cycle of institutions being considered for certification," said WKU President Thomas C. Meredith. "This process will assist us in our planning efforts in athletics. Our gender equity plan is now being developed and our timeline is to have both plans finished well ahead of the schedule requested by the NCAA."

Legislation mandating athletics certification was adopted by a vote of the Division I members at the 1993 NCAA Annual Convention as a key part of the NCAA's reform agenda.

The program's purpose is to ensure integrity in the institution's athletics operations.

The decision on Western's athletic certification follows an 18-month institutional self-study process and last fall's peer-review team visit. The self-study involved members of WKU's faculty and staff, in addition to athletics department personnel, on the committee and subcommittees responsible for the self-study. It also provided an opportunity for other members of the campus community to learn more about and to evaluate the athletics program.

Certification examines the athletics department's academic and financial integrity, governance and commitment to rules compliance, and commitment to equity. WKU submitted its self-study report to the NCAA in October and a peer group of administrators from other NCAA member institutions visited the campus in November to hear from the institution's self-study committee and others. The peer group reported it findings and recommendations to the NCAA Committee on Athletics Certification, which rendered the final decision.

"A lot of people here at Western worked long and hard to prepare for this certification review and I want to commend them for a job well done," WKU Athletics Director Lewis Mills said. "We're very aware of areas within our department that need work. Before this process began, the University and the athletics department were already at work, developing plans to address these and other concerns."

WKU must submit both the gender equity and minority opportunities plans to the NCAA certification committee following a process that reflects broad-based campus participation. The reports must include intended end results, names of individuals or offices that will be responsible for taking specific actions, and the specific timetable for completing the work. The reports must be submitted to the NCAA no later than March 31, 1996. After the plans are submitted, the certification committee will consider whether to grant the institution full certification.

All 302 NCAA Division I members will undergo the certification process within the next five years. Twenty-five institutions have now completed the process.

Members of WKU’s Athletic Certification Steering Committee included: Fred Hensley, director of university relations, chair; Dr. James Appleberry, President of AASCU.

Barry Brickman, associate director of athletics; Freida Eggleton, university registrar; Robert D. Evans, president of the Student Government Association and student regent; Jimmy Feix, assistant professor of physical education and recreation; Pam Herriford, associate director of athletics; Dr. Biff Kummer, faculty athletics representative; Jim Richards, former director of athletics; Robert M. Rutledge III, vice president for institutional advancement; Dr. Betsy Shoemaker, professor of psychology; Dr. Kyle Wallace, director of academic advising; and Dr. Steve White, associate professor of accounting.
The Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education is a volunteer citizens' group composed of business and civic leaders working to assure that our post-secondary schools are adequately supported in order to provide meaningful employment for all Kentuckians. Norma Boster Adams of Somerset is currently Chair.

The balance of this century promises to be a pivotal era for American higher education. After more than a decade of being in the shadow of other priorities, recognition of higher education's value to society appears to be reemerging. This certainly appears to be the case in the South, where the Southern Region Education Board (SREB), of which Kentucky is a member, has recently released a report entitled, Changing States: Higher Education and the Public Good."

The report concludes:

- Higher education is a major asset, but its value in an uncertain world is not sufficiently understood;
- The declining priority of higher education in state budgets poses real problems for our future;
- Higher education must change in important, fundamental ways;
- There needs to be a new and better balance in higher education, especially between teaching and research;
- Colleges and universities need to rethink what they teach and the ways in which they deliver instruction;
- Constantly rising and high tuition is a serious threat to access and imperils both the individual student and all of us;
- Better connections must exist among our schools, colleges and businesses;
- Increases in funding would be used to offset inflation and fixed costs, improve faculty/staff salaries, enhance quality, recognize performance, and address equity within the system. Institutions would be expected to use the increased resources for enhancement of quality consistent with their missions, the strategic plan, and the advancement of the commonwealth's economy. Performance will be evaluated through the established accountability processes. Equity should be addressed so that each component of the system, universities and community colleges, is funded appropriately when compared to peer institutions in neighboring states.
- State-funded student financial assistance programs should be increased at the same percentage level as tuition increases in order to help ensure access to higher education.

The Kentucky Advocates for Higher Education continue to promote the cause of higher education because we remain convinced that our ability as a state to provide meaningful employment opportunities for our people largely depends upon our system of higher education. We feel strongly that the current trend of diminishing state support is a shortsighted strategy that erodes the quality of our institutions and undermines the ability of higher education to contribute to Kentucky's economic progress. We ask you to join us to ensure that higher education receives the resources it needs to build a better future for our state.
COMING UP

July

Hilltopper Dinner Theatre continues with a choice of three productions through the end of this month. Evenings are 6:30 and Sundays are 12:30 p.m. Call the Ticket Office, E.A. Diddle Arena for reservations at 745-5222 or 1-800-555-1616.

16
The Heartland Alumni Club (Elizabethtown) will attend Hilltopper Dinner Theatre on campus. Contact Amos Gott, Alumni Affairs, 745-4395.

August

14
3 p.m. Clerical Staff meeting. Room 103 Garrett Conference Center.

15
8 a.m. New faculty benefits orientation. Kentucky Building.

9 a.m. Fall meeting of Facilities Management, Marriott and Public Safety, Downing University Center Theatre.

16
8 a.m. Departmental meetings.

10 a.m. College meetings.

2 p.m. Faculty and Administrative Staff Meeting. Van Meter Auditorium. Speaker: Dr. James Appleberry, President, American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

17
8 a.m. New faculty orientation. Kentucky Building.

OAR. Fall '95 freshmen, transfers and readmissions. All colleges.

Fall registration.

18
New faculty workshops, walk-in advisement and registration for fall semester.

21
Day and evening classes begin.

'St's been a hard day's work' may be what these happy guys are saying as they drive off from doing maintenance/yard work at Pearce Ford Tower. Students working for Facilities Management this summer are: waving with his back to the camera, Tao He; seated, left to right: Sriharsha Siddaveere, Keith Stewart and Brian Hall. -Photo by James Glover

Summer office hours for the University will be from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. through Aug. 11. Closing time of 4:30 p.m. will resume Monday, Aug. 14.

The following remaining holidays to be observed during the 1995-96 fiscal year period are:

Labor Day, Monday, Sept. 4
Thanksgiving (2 days) Thursday and Friday, Nov. 23 and 24
Christmas Break (9 days) Tuesday, Dec. 19 through Friday, Dec. 29

New Year's Day Monday, Jan. 1, 1996
Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Monday, Jan. 15, 1996
Memorial Day (observed) Monday May 27, 1996

Fall '95 freshmen, transfers and readmissions. All colleges.

OAR. Fall '95 freshmen, transfers and readmissions. All colleges.

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