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Mixing Manpower & Mind Power Pays Off

A team of researchers and students at Western Kentucky University, led by Dr. George Vourvopoulos, has developed a way for power plants and coal producers to quickly analyze coal.

The on-line coal analyzer will allow producers and users to determine important characteristics of coal within two minutes, instead of waiting two days for a lab analysis, Vourvopoulos, a professor of physics and astronomy, said. The technique has sparked wide industry interest, he said, as federal pollution standards tighten.

The new regulations will require about 500 coal-fired power plants to reduce sulfur emissions. "About 55 percent have opted to control their sulfur emissions by using a blending technique—buying coal from various areas across the United States and blending them so that the amount of sulfur that it contains is under control," Vourvopoulos said. "We're talking about thousands of tons that they have to blend."

That can lead to other concerns, however. In addition to sulfur, coal has to be tested for heating value and ash, sodium and moisture content, he said.

Vourvopoulos said he began working on this technique in 1993 when he received two grants from the U.S. Department of Energy. These grants were used to establish the Applied Physics Institute at Western and conduct the research. The project received continuous funding and positive reviews, he said, which led to a grant from the National Science Foundation last year to develop the analyzer as a commercial product.

The grants have totaled more than $1 million.

The technique is non-intrusive, meaning the coal does not have to be touched. As it moves through the analyzer, the coal is bombarded by neutrons, which penetrate and interact with the coal's nuclei. The nuclei of the various elements, which include carbon, oxygen, sulfur and other elements, emit specific electromagnetic radiation similar to light waves, which are picked up and measured by a series of detectors.

"We have developed very elaborate computer codes that can go through this complicated spectrum and discern the information for each of these elements," he said.

Within two minutes, the operator begins receiving the information via computer, which will allow the proper blending of the coal.

Now that the prototype is operational, Vourvopoulos said his team will call producers and power-plant operators and invite them to bring samples for testing. They can compare these tests to a lab analysis, he said.

"We have already done extensive market research and we know there is a need for this type of equipment," he said. The patent for the process is pending and a plan for the analyzer's commercial development is being developed.

Vourvopoulos is especially proud that this has been an all-Western project.

"We started this at the ground and built it," he said. "We built the knowledge for it and we built the equipment for it, all using homegrown talent, students and faculty."

"This was built with Western manpower and Western mind power."

Business College Receives $2.6 Million Gift

A long-term commitment of more than $2.6 million will allow Western Kentucky University to establish four programs within the Bowling Green College of Business Administration. This is the largest gift the business college has received.

A lead trust will provide annual support for 20 years. The gift from an anonymous donor will be used to create a scholars program, a professor of entrepreneurship, a faculty scholar mentor and a recognition award for entrepreneurial and creative faculty leadership activities. Payments from the gift will initially be used to endow the scholars program, which encompasses the mentor and recognition programs. Payments will then be used to endow the professorship.

"The scholars program will attract students with an interest in the creation of a business venture or serving as an entrepreneurial leader of an existing business," said Robert Jefferson, dean of the College of Business Administration. Each scholarship will cover the costs of tuition, fees, learning materials and living expenses.

As a part of the program, each scholarship recipient will be assigned a business faculty mentor who will assist in the student's transition to college as well as provide social and professional interactions and enrichment. Also, the recognition award will honor faculty who initiate and demonstrate highly creative and entrepreneurial leadership contributions, Dr. Jefferson said.

The professor of entrepreneurship will attract and support quality faculty to provide quality instruction, promote the importance of business leadership, and creation of business ventures and the need for creativity and entrepreneurial behavior within business firms and organizations. "The endowment support for a high-quality and nationally-prominent faculty member is essential to preparing competent graduates and leaders for new and growing business firms and organizations," Dr. Jefferson said.

WKU President Gary Ransdell said gifts such as these "are absolutely essential" to Western.

"We cannot fulfill our mission as a comprehensive undergraduate institution without significant support from the private sector," Dr. Ransdell said. "As service industries and small businesses continue to grow in importance, the various elements, which include carbon, oxygen, sulfur and other elements, emit specific electromagnetic radiation similar to light waves, which are picked up and measured by a series of detectors.

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Faculty Award of Excellence Winners

Each year, Western Kentucky University presents three awards to faculty for excellence in the areas of teaching, public service and research/creativity. This year's winners are: Nancy Baird, University Libraries and Information Technology; Award for Public Service, Dr. Robert Holman, department of chemistry; Award for Research/Creativity, and Dr. Karen Lynn Westbrooks, Department of Educational Leadership Counseling Program; Award for Teaching.

NANCY BAIRD

It is the love for history that brings excitement to Nancy Baird. As her face lights up, she says, "I love history, and I find it fulfilling to help others find information relating to history."

Baird, winner of the University's Award for Public Service, is an historian who helps people relate to what happened a long time ago. Whether it's teaching in a classroom or giving presentations to help children understand what their grandmother's grandmother did, she is always creating energy. "I love getting others interested in history," she says.

Baird came to Western's Library in July 1975, and aside from all the research, she also teaches history classes. She says she loves educating people because she feels the more educated a person is about history, the more time he/she will take out to preserve the materials.

Some of Baird's historical research includes more than 190 presentations for civic and educational groups in the last decade. She has sat on the board of many state boards such as the Kentucky Historical Society Executive Board and the Kentucky Association of Teachers of History.

"It's an honor and a thrill to be acknowledged for what I've done. It's nice to be complimented by this award," Baird said. Helping people understand that history is the story of people's lives is what makes Baird take satisfaction in a job well done.

DR. ROBERT HOLMAN

Whether it's finding research in organic chemistry or spending time with his wife and three children, Dr. Robert Holman, winner of the 1998 Award for Excellence in Research/Creativity says he loves his profession. He says he feels providing students a practical hands-on forum for investigation will help play an important role in their futures.

About his honor, the modest chemistry professor said: "It's a nice award, and I appreciate the fact my peers showed support for my efforts. It's also nice to know my peers think my work has value."

Received the award to Holman is marked high on his list, but the research he does is what he feels has the biggest impact, he says. "Feel as a chemistry faculty member that I need to provide a research forum for students so that their training is complete. I measure success in research largely in terms of the students' experience," Holman said. He has given 43 students over the past ten years an opportunity to work with him on research projects. He enjoys the interchange with students because the work they do together is very intriguing in a sense that the results aren't always what you would expect, he explains.

Dr. Robert Holman, winner, 1998 University Award for Research

Photo by Stuart Burnell

DR. KAREN LYNN WESTBROOKS

Dr. Karen Lynn Westbrooks never saw herself as a teacher, but wanted to explore a lot of things while in college. She majored in chemistry and theology, and it wasn't until after school when she realized while working for a social services organization that she wanted to pursue the dream of being a teacher.

Her true drive for excellence and activating strengths in her students in addition to being challenged by them is what makes Westbrooks a perfect recipient of the 1998 WKU Award for Excellence in University Teaching.

Westbrooks feels this award means something to her on three different levels: student appreciation, professional achievement and deep personal/spiritual satisfaction.

"If it weren't for the students, nothing would have come to life," Westbrooks said.

On a professional basis, Westbrooks believes without her peers supporting her, she would not be recognized for this award. She compares the relationship between her and her peers much like a winning ball game. "After the game is over, the team carries the star on their shoulders," she says.

"The most important aspect is finding out what the award means to yourself. Teaching fulfills a purpose in my life."

Photo by Stuart Burnell
University and Community Address Safety

Representatives from Western Kentucky University, the Kentucky Department of Transportation, neighborhood and business associations surrounding the campus, and Bowling Green community leaders have collaboratively developed a proposal to address safety concerns related to University Boulevard.

New proposals from the Bureau of Highways will eliminate the need for WKU to accept deed to University Boulevard from the state as presented in an earlier proposal. The University has also elected not to pursue its requested change of Normal Drive to one-way traffic. The proposal increases pedestrian safety, enhances vehicular traffic flow, and maintains the residential atmosphere of areas adjoining the WKU campus.

"I am pleased we have been able to bring interested parties together for a constructive conversation on how to address safety issues of concern to Western, local residents and the community," said Harold Dexter, WKU’s community liaison for the project. "The proposal not only addresses the areas of concern, but provides enhancements in a number of related areas."

The proposal includes:
- placement of larger speed limit signs on University Boulevard;
- installation of crosswalk signage made of newly-approved reflective material making University Boulevard the first school crossing in Kentucky to use the new yellow-green material;
- removal of the rumble strips and the pedestrian crosswalk near the intersection of Creason Drive and University Boulevard;
- removal of the traffic median on Russellville Road as it approaches the intersection with University Boulevard;
- requiring traffic entering University Boulevard from Russellville Road to turn right on green light only;
- adding crosswalks and pedestrian-activated signals at all four paths of the intersection of University Boulevard, Russellville Road and Big Red Way;
- implementation of new traffic phasing signals at the intersection to increase the efficiency of traffic flow;
- reconfiguration of campus sidewalks to better align with crosswalks;
- Installation of decorative landscaping and appropriate deterrents on campus to minimize pedestrian access to non-crosswalk areas; and
- landscaping and installation of side-walks on University Boulevard and Creason Drive to provide access to WKU’s parking and recreational facilities.

"The primary change in traffic flow will involve Russellville Road," said Lance Meredith, traffic engineer for the State Department of Transportation. "With removal of the median, we will extend the traffic lanes for additional storage and change the lane assignments to one lane for left turns and two lanes for right turns. Our traffic counts indicate 61 percent of the movement at the intersection is a right turn.

The plan will also eliminate the right turn after yield from Russellville Road onto University Boulevard and restrict turns to green lights only.

"The improvements in traffic flow may actually reduce the current traffic flow through residential areas," said Meredith. "I'm pleased we have been able to address safety and traffic flow concerns, and increase the level of service."

"We have been able to accomplish our desired objectives to improve pedestrian and motor safety, maintain the safety of adjoining residential areas, and provide continued good access between Nashville Road and Russellville Road," said Deborah Williams of the Crestmore Southwest Neighborhood Group.

"The plan was developed with recognition of the potential increased traffic flow caused by the closing of Campbell Lane for the next 18-24 months."

"We offer our thanks to the Department of Transportation, local residents and community leaders who have worked diligently to present this solution to a community-recognized issue," said WKU President Gary Ransdell. "The solutions set forth in this plan will well serve all interested parties and provide added efficiency and aesthetic enhancements to be shared by the university and the community."

Details of the plan are to be completed in the near future and a timeline for implementation will be developed.

Local and business residents had an opportunity to view the conceptual plan during meetings in October.

"This plan is a case study example of what can be accomplished through the collective efforts of people working together to solve community issues," said Dexter. "I know we all take pride in developing a workable solution."
ART
Kimberly Boyd Vickrey, assistant professor, was a panelist on To Draw or Not to Draw at the Mid-America College Art Association meeting in Lexington, Ky., in October.

COMMUNICATION & BROADCASTING:
The following made presentations at the 84th annual meeting of the National Communication Association in New York City this month:
Carl Kell, The Anatomy of Rhetorical Scholarship
Terrence D. Likes, The Relationship of Television Network Affiliation Switches to Station Shares and Audience Viewing Habits
George W. Musambirwa, How and Why Private Voluntary Organizations Communicate with Other Organizations and
Scott Richter, How and Why Private Voluntary Organizations Communicate with Other Organizations.

COMPUTER SCIENCE
Carol Wilson has had Concerns of Instructors Delivering Distance Learning via the WWW published in the Fall 1998 issue of Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration. She prepared Prepare for the Future: Distance Learning Delivered via the WWW at the ACM mid-southeast chapter conference this month.

ECONOMICS AND MARKETING
Dr. Brian Geff's article, coauthored with Drs. William F. Shughart II and Robert D. Tollison, University of Mississippi, Moral Hazard & The Effects of The Designated Hitter Rule Revised, was published in the October 1998 issue of Economic Inquiry, pp. 688-692.

Dr. Lou Turley's and Dr. Dawn Bolton's article, Measuring the Affective Evaluations of Retail Service Environments, has been accepted for publication by the Journal of Professional Services Marketing.

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
Dr. Susan H. James and Aaron W. Hughery presented Accountability: A Survey of Kentucky School Counselors at the 41st annual Kentucky Counseling Association Conference in Louisville.

Dr. Hughery presented Graduate Study: Your Key to a Successful Career in Student Affairs at the 75th meeting of the Kentucky Association of College Registrars and Admissions Officers in October.

Dr. Cynthia Palmer Mason presented Enhancing Relationships: Increase Student Achievement and Decrease School Violence, and Dr. Bill Greenwald presented Counseling Families on their own Turf at the 41st annual Kentucky Counseling Association conference in October in Louisville.

ENGLISH

Deborah Logan presented Harriet Martineau’s Paradox of Liberalism at the Victorian Institute Conference in Morgantown, W. Va., and First and Greatest of Women Journalists at the American Journalism Historians Conference in Louisville, Ky., both in October.

Dr. Logan has had The Poetry of Minella Bate Smedley published in the Dictionary of Literary Biography: Victorian Women Poets Vol. 195, Fall 1998.


LIBRARY PUBLIC SERVICES

Yuan and Linda Alexander presented Designing and Delivering an Online Course at the Kentucky Higher Education Computing Conference at Lake Barkley State Resort last month; The two presented Library Skill Instruction: A Comparison of Students in a Web-Based Course Versus a Traditional Instruction Course at the fifth annual conference of the Association of American Teaching & Curriculum in Orlando, Fl., in October and Yuan and other Kentucky university colleagues conducted a panel discussion on Managing the Internet: Concerns and Solutions at the KLA/ KSMA Joint Conference in Louisville in October.

MATHEMATICS


PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION

Western's Public Radio Service Completes Successful Membership Campaign

The WKU Public Radio Service successfully completed the on-air portion of the 1998 Fall Membership Campaign with pledges of financial support totaling more than $110,000 to help offset programming costs.

"A successful membership campaign is essential," said David Dzikowski, assistant director of Public Broadband -- Radio. "In addition to helping pay for the cost of programs currently on the air, this success means that we can count on the continued annual contributions necessary to continue popular programs." Membership dollars go directly toward the purchase of programs, supplies and equipment necessary to maintain a program service that includes the popular news programs Morning Edition and All Things Considered from National Public Radio. Memberships also support programs of classical, jazz and folk music; regional news and public affairs; and cultural programming favorites, such as Car Talk, St. Paul Sunday and Marian McPartland’s Piano Jazz.

"Thanks to the many new and returning members who help pay for the programming this year, we can continue and add to our programs of quality," Dzikowski said.

The fall membership season continues through the end of the calendar year, and through this successful on-air campaign, Western’s Public Radio now has reached 92 percent of the fall membership goal of $120,000. Plans are already underway for the spring membership season.

Members receive the monthly program guide, Choice. To make a pledge or to request more information about membership, call Western’s Public Radio at 1-800-599-WKYU.

The Public Radio Service of Western Kentucky University is WKYU-FM, 88.9 in Bowling Green, WDCM-FM, 89.7 and 103.3 in Somerset, WKPB-FM, 89.5 in Henderson/Owensboro, and WKUE-FM, 90.9 in Elizabethtown.

Wheat First Union Establishes Scholarships
First Union Foundation, on behalf of Wheat First Union, has contributed $25,000 to Western Kentucky University’s College Heights Foundation to establish the James C. Wheat Jr. Scholar and the Wheat First Union Leaders First Funds Scholarship.

John Ridley, senior vice president and investment officer of Wheat First Union, made the presentation to H. Alexander Downing, treasurer of the CHF.
College Heights Herald Wins Journalism Award

The College Heights Herald, W.K.U. student newspaper, has been recognized as one of the top college newspapers in the country, receiving a national Pacemaker Award from Associated Collegiate Press and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation.

The award, the newspaper's sixth since 1981, was presented at the National College Media Convention in Kansas City, Mo.

The national Pacemaker Awards are considered the college equivalent of Pulitzer Prizes for commercial newspapers. The Herald editor has been selected as one of 41 Pacemaker Finalists from almost 200 schools that entered the competition. Twenty of the finalists were non-daily papers and 10 national Pacemaker Awards were presented in that category. The other newspaper Pacemaker categories are two-year papers and dailies.

The final judging was done by the Kansas City Star.

Lori Becker Hayes, a December 1997 graduate from Bowling Green who is a reporter at the Lexington Herald-Leader, was the fall 1997 Herald editor and Kristina Goetz, an 1997 graduate from Bowling Green and dailies.

The Herald last won a National Pacemaker Award in 1992. Previously, the paper won in 1981, 1982, 1984 and 1986. It has been a finalist six times in the past eight years and 13 times in the past 17 years.

Herald Adviser Bob Adams said winning a national Pacemaker is a tribute to the students who work hard to produce a quality paper for its readers. "It's a credit to everyone who has helped the Herald establish a tradition of excellence," he said.

Also honored at the convention was Jerry Brewer, a junior from Paducah, who was named honorable mention in the national Reporter of the Year competition sponsored by ACP and Tribune Media Services.

Three Herald photographers were cited for their work in the Picture of the Year competition. Jason Clark, a 1997 graduate, placed second in sports. Nicholas Fedyk, a senior from Lawrenceville, Ga., was second in news and Jason Behnke, a senior from Richmond, Va., was third in features.

The Best of Collegiate Design category also was recognized at the convention. Sponsored by College Media Advisers and College Media Review, the competition recognizes excellence in newspaper, magazine, yearbook and online publications.

In the Photojournalism category for all publications, the Herald won first, second and third places, representing work by Carrie Pratt (Lexington senior), Hayes, Kurt Fattic (1998 graduate from Riverside, Calif.), Clinton Lewis (Bowling Green junior) and Clark.

Women's Clubs Give to College Heights Foundation

The Bowling Green Woman's Club has given $1,500 to Western Kentucky University's College Heights Foundation, increasing the corpus of the club's Four-Year Scholarship Fund established in 1984.

Colleen Mendel, club president, presented the gift to H. Alexander Downing, CHF treasurer. Also present was Betty Jo Shirley, state president of the Kentucky Federation of Women's Clubs and local Education Committee member.

Program Receives Barry Bingham Award

Western Kentucky University's Public Radio Service is the winner of the 1998 Barry Bingham Award for radio talk shows. The Kentucky Psychiatric Association presented the award at its fall convention in Louisville.

The winning entry, which aired June 25, was a round-table discussion about counseling services available to troubled high school students. WKUY-FM News Director Dan Molin produced and hosted the program.

Guests for the round-table discussion included Dr. Dale Smith of Western's Social Work Department, Dr. Karl Laves of Western's Counseling Services Center, and John Fielding, an out-patient counselor at Rivendell Behavioral Health Services.

A panel of judges determines the winners of the competition for the Kentucky Psychiatric Association. The group says the Barry Bingham Award is presented to those reporters and programs which represent "exceptional efforts" to bring information on mental illness to the people of Kentucky.

Western's Public Radio Service is WKUY-FM in Bowling Green; WXCL-FM in Somerset; WKUE-FM in Elizabethtown and WKPI-FM in Henderson/Owensboro.

Smoke: A Student's Nightmare

It's a college student's nightmare: waking up to the sound of the fire alarm to find the room full of smoke. This is confusion and little or no visibility.

Western students had the chance to experience this first-hand in October through a program by the Bowling Green Fire Department.

Fire training officers used an artificial smoke in West Hall Cellar and take students, faculty and staff through a training exercise on how to evacuate a smoke-filled room. In addition, the department and Western's Environmental Health and Safety Office had displays in the Downing University Center with literature, fire extinguisher demonstrations and fire safety video presentations.

"Recent events [such as the dormitory fire at Murray State University] have heightened the awareness of the potential for fire disasters on campus," said Charlotte Reeder, Environmental Health and Safety director. "Through the cooperation of the fire department, we hope this training and demonstration will help those in the Western community be better prepared should such a disaster happen on our campus."

Sprinkler systems will be installed in all campus dorms, with revenue to come from student fees.

President Gary Ransdell and Bowling Green Fire Chief Gerry Brown leave a "smoke room" during a fire safety exercise. West Hall Cellar was filled with non-toxic smoke to give students, faculty and staff an idea of what it is like to wake up in a smoke-filled room. The smoke room and other displays were sponsored by the BODF and the Environmental Health and Safety Department. Photo by Bob Skipper.
Grants and Contracts

Barnaby, Jerry. Educational TV and Radio Services. $352,616 from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for FY99 Television Community Service Grant.

Bolton, Dawn. Community College. $14,179 from the Kentucky Real Estate Commission for Real Estate Education Grant FY99.

Clements, Sandra. Physics/Astronomy. $8,000 from the NASA/KY Space Grant Consortium for Teacher Workshop on Astronomy and Space Science.

Crawford, Nick. Geography and Geology. $125,000 from the Kentucky Department of Parks for Lost River Cave Construction Grant.

Dotson, Pete. Agriculture. $45,000 from the City of Bowling Green for Leaf Composting FY99.


Dzikowski, David. Educational TV and Radio Services. $84,231 from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for FY99 Radio Community Service Grant.

Fiene, Jeanne. Educational Leadership. $18,604 from the Kentucky Department of Education for 1998-1999 Lead Trainers KY Internship Program.

Fiene, Jeanne. Educational Leadership. $71,000 from the Kentucky Department of Education for Superintendent Assessment and Training Centers FY99.


Greer, Richard. Counseling Services Center. $24,600 from the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs for Case Management and Related Services.

Groves, Chris. Geography and Geology. $10,000 from the U. S. Fish & Wildlife for Water Quality Threats to Aquatic Ecosystem.

Groves, Chris. Geography and Geology. $10,000 from National Park Service Land Use and Water Quality of Ground Water.

Johnson, Ray. Agriculture. $200,000 from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture for Agriculture Maintenance project at WKU, FY99.


Mendel, Colleen. Training and Technical Assistance Services. $1,711,000 from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families for Quality Improvement Center Region IV A.

Mendel, Colleen. Training and Technical Assistance Services. $50,000 from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services Quality Improvement Center Region IV A.

Mendel, Colleen. Training and Technical Assistance Services. $144,032 from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families for Head Start Quality Improvement Center Region IV A Supplement.

Pan, Wei Ping. Chemistry. $30,000 from the Tennessee Valley Authority for Co-Firing Refuse-Derived Fuels with High Sulfur Coals.

Ruff, Ann. Teacher Education. $50,000 from the U. S. Department of Education for Kentucky Readers Network.


Mendel Elected His Third Term

Dr. Raymond M. Mendel, professor of psychology, has been re-elected to a three-year term as the faculty representative on the University’s Board of Regents.

Mendel was elected to his third term with 146 votes. Nursing professor Donna Blackburn received 50 votes and physics professor Web van der Meer finished with 36 votes.

Mendel will be sworn in during the board’s January meeting.

A native of London, Mendel joined the faculty in 1972. He received his bachelor’s degree from Grinnell College and master’s degree and doctorate from Iowa State University. He was first elected faculty regent in 1992 and re-elected in 1995.
Two Former College Presidents Mount A Convincing Defense of Affirmative Action

By Aaron W. Hughey

As an ardent supporter of affirmative action, I am very excited about the publication of a new book by Derek Bok and William G. Bowen, The Shape of the River: Long-Term Consequences of Considering Race in College and University Admission. Bok is the former president of Harvard University and Bowen is the former president of Princeton. I am particularly encouraged by their attempt to inject a little empirical data into the current national debate on this divisive issue.

Bowen and Bok examined the standardized test scores, grades, and other relevant data on over 90,000 students of all races at 34 so-called elite colleges and universities, primarily between 1976 and 1989. After an exhausting and statistically-thorough analysis of these empirical data, they conclude that much of the conservative rhetoric against affirmative action policies and practices, which has been so fashionable of late, is just that — rhetoric. Moreover, they argue convincingly that affirmative action has been an advantageous for non-minorities as it has for minorities — by almost any criteria considered.

It is hardly a secret that affirmative action has become extremely controversial in recent years. Changing social and political attitudes, combined with increasing demands that higher education become more financially self-sufficient, have had an irrefutable impact on the perceived need to increase minority enrollments. At the same time, however, it is interesting to note that most colleges and universities are still actively struggling to boost those enrollments. Hopefully, this new study will help lend some much-needed credibility to their efforts.

The present quandary has its roots in a combination of factors. The enrollment increases precipitated by the baby boom generation began to subside during the 1980s. Unfortunately, this occurred at precisely the same time the Reagan Administration launched a fullscale assault on domestic spending. One of the most conspicuous casualties of that assault was student financial aid. Together, these events triggered tuition increases that consistently outpaced inflation.

The general shift from grants to loans as the principal source of student financial aid has also contributed to the changing attitudes toward affirmative action. With costs escalating exponentially, many families have found themselves unable to assume the enormous debt associated with obtaining a college degree. Moreover, since 85 percent of African-American students receive some form of financial aid, they tend to be disproportionately affected by any reduction in available funds.

Another reason for the decline in minority enrollments has been a failure by the public schools to adequately prepare students for the immense challenges of college life. Success in college is directly related to adequate preparation at the secondary level. The fact that many institutions continue to raise their admissions standards in a misguided attempt to enhance quality only exacerbates the problem for minorities.

Furthermore, college administrators do not always provide minorities with an accurate picture of how receptive the academic community will be to their presence. Even if they are successful at getting in, minority students are often not provided with the support structures and special programs they need in order to successfully negotiate the college environment. After being extensively recruited, African-American students often feel neglected once they actually arrive on campus. These considerations also help to explain the resurgence of racial incidents at many colleges and universities over the last few years.

So what should we do?

One logical implication of the study by Bowen and Bok is that colleges and universities need to rethink their admissions requirements. Particular attention should be focused on how standardized tests are employed in the decision-making process. Although African-Americans are scoring higher on college entrance exams, as a group they continue to score slightly below their white counterparts on tests such as the ACT and SAT. Obviously, these instruments tend to adversely affect minorities more than non-minorities when used as the primary criteria for determining college eligibility. I.e., they precipitate an artificial deficiency in the pool of “qualified” minorities.

As a conscientious faculty member who sees his role as encompassing more than mere scholarship, I am also deeply offended by the comments of critics such as Shelby Steele, who argues that academics who can’t quite cut it in their respective disciplines ‘compensate’ for it by heightened involvement in community and other social-service activities. It is my understanding that American higher education has long been about research, teaching and service. I know at Western, faculty are expected to be actively engaged in all three areas.

Certainly, there are no easy answers to the current imbroglio. Yet it is increasingly clear that colleges and universities must continue to develop and apply admissions criteria that are sensitive to the comprehensive abilities of all potential students. And there is nothing inherently wrong with taking race into consideration when making such decisions. As Bok and Bowen suggest, it is probably more imprudent not to consider it in most instances.

Dr. Hughey is Associate Professor of Educational Leadership at Western Kentucky University and a regular contributor to ON Campus. If you have a topic you’d like to write about, send your piece to Sheila Eison, Editor, On Campus, Van Meter Hall, Room 204. Include your name, address and phone number. If your article is chosen for publication, we will contact you to send copy to us on a disk.
Congratulations to this year’s recipients of 25-Year Service Awards!

Linda Allan, Library
Edward Bohlander, Sociology
Cheryl Chambliss, Enrollment Management
Lucy Daniels, Library
Rose Davis, Library
Joyce Dunn, Student Health Services
Robert Eversole, Industrial Technology
John Faine, Sociology
Thomas Foster, Educational Television Services
Dorsey Greer, Psychology
Susie Harter, Journalism
Joe Helson, Facilities Management
James Highland, Journalism
James Hood, Facilities Management
Stephen Lile, Economics and Marketing
John Long, Philosophy and Religion
Colleen Mendel, Training and Technical Assistance Services
John Osborne, Campus Services and Facilities
George Roberts, Industrial Technology
Emmett Robey, Administrative and Computing Services
John Russell, Engineering Technology
Barbara Schiend, Financial Assistance
Robert Smith, Integrative Studies in Teacher Education
John Smith, College of Science, Technology and Health
Al Smith, Administrative Computing Services
Cherry Tarter, College Heights Bookstore
Joyce Thors, Center for Instructional Technology
Linda Tweedy, Student Affairs
Linda Vincent, Telephone Communications
Patricia Vincent, Physical Education and Recreation
Larry Winn, Communication and Broadcasting

Appointments

Agriculture
Becky A. Gilliflen, Instructor
Chemistry
Amanda Jo Ayer Brooks, Instructor
Communication and Broadcasting
Charlotte A. Stickel, Visiting Instructor
Community College
Quentin Marcio Hollis, Instructor
Economics and Marketing
Martin D. Kennedy, Instructor
Educational Leadership
Rose M. Newton, Visiting Assistant Professor
Engineering Technology
Donald M. Mayer, Visiting Assistant Professor
Geography and Geology
Frederick D. Siewers, Assistant Professor
Integrative Studies/Teacher Ed
Pamela M. Jones, Assistant Professor
James E. Lobdell, Assistant Professor
Theron D. Thompson, Assistant Professor
Management & Information Systems
Raju Bhattharya, Assistant Professor
Mathematics
Jane C. Branley, Instructor
Jean H. Griffin, Instructor
Modern Languages & Interdisciplinary Studies
Julian H. Gerstain, Visiting Assistant Professor
Music
Michael Robert Sokol, Visiting Assistant Professor
Nursing
Linda White Clark, Assistant Professor
PE & Recreation
Bethany K. Fullkeren, Visiting Instructor
Physics & Astronomy
Thomas J. Bohuski, Visiting Assistant Professor
Margaret Ann St. Peters
Diagnostic Center
Debra Myers, School Psychologist
Educational Leadership
Malindi Miller Jungst, Clerical/Secretarial
Sue Lynn Payne, Clerical/Secretarial
Sherry Ann Wood, Clerical/Secretarial
Physics & Astronomy
Parshottam A. Dohale, Research Associate
Training & Tech Assistance Servs.
Angela H. Sigman, Administrative Coordinator
WKU Police
Jeffrey L. Welsh, Officer
Academic Advising
Diana M. Neises
Administrative Computing
John W. Gregory, Computer Operator
Admissions & Academic Services
John C. Fleming, Counseling
Agriculture
Jenks Swann Britt, Department Head
Athletics
Carla F. Behannon, Office Assistant

Biography
John M. Anderslund, Electron Microscopy Tech
Building Services
Bonita S. Fellin, Attendant
Jamie L. Haman, Attendant
Dwayne A. Holloway, Attendant
Kimberly D. Lohden, Attendant
Loretta S. McNtrey, Attendant
Helen Roseann Proctor, Attendant
Dorothy E. Ramsey, Attendant
Grace Mona Turner, Attendant
Campus Services
Dale Robert Smith, Groundskeeper
Chemistry
Wei Xia, Laboratory Technician
Community College
Barbara Jean Johnston, Coordinator, Emil Spec/Popdulation
Tammy Rizzo, Service/Maintenance
Continuing Education
Karen Michelle Woodward, Program Coordinator
Counseling & Testing Ctr./Psychology
Debra A. Crisp, Staff Psychologist
Development
Gerta Anne R. Greene, Clerical/Secretarial
Housing & Residence Life
Dana E. Boyd, Asst. Hall Director
Heather M. Crawford, Asst. Hall Director
Heather L. Dykes, Asst. Hall Director
Camille Joy Johnson, Complex Director
Rebecca Julius, Asst. Hall Director
Amy E. Beniger, Asst. Hall Director
Library Automation & Tech Servs.
Janice May Haley, Sr. Serials Asst.
Jack Gilbert Montgomery, Coord., Acquisitions
Library Public Services
Catherine L. Cline, Security Officer
Library Special Collections
Nancy Marshall, Assistant
Maintenance Services
Leon H. Sewell, HVAC Tech
Wilbur Shoemaker, Elevator Mechanic
Nursing
Jdee K. Richardson, Department Head
Sponsored Programs
Regina K. Allen, Assistant
Sports Information
Christopher E. Masters, Coordinator
Student Health Service
Maria Eve Mahn, Nurse Practitioner
WKU Police
Anthony B. Purcell, Officer
Lisa L. Grigsby, Officer

Promotions

Development
Lucinda F. Anderson, Director, Donor Relations
Library Public Services
Haiwanag Yuan, Coord./WebSite/virt/1 Lib
Maintenance Services
Bonnie Charlotte Billingsley, Coordinator, Facility Services
David Edward Williams, Boiler Operator

Public Affairs
Sheila C. Ellison, Director of Communications
Thomas S. Meacham, Director of Publications
Robert A. Skipper, Director of Media Relations
Jeffrey A. Younglove, Director of Special Events
Psychology
Katrina Phelps, Assistant Professor
Student Life
Howard E. Bailey, Associate Vice Pres. & Dean
In Memory
Joana Richardson, Office Assistant, Integrative Studies/Teacher Education

Calendar of Events

The Kentucky Museum

NOVEMBER
10  Slide program by Dr. Ward Hellstrom, 11:30 a.m., Ky. Bldg. (502) 745-6082.
10 FirstSearch WWW Workshop, 2:30 p.m., Helm Library 108. (502) 745-6115.
11 InfoTrac SearchBank WWW Workshop, 3:30 p.m., Helm Library 108. (502) 745-6115.
19 BellSouth Community Internet Workshop, "China on the Web," 7 p.m., South Campus. Reservations required. (502) 745-6150 for web.reference@wku.edu

DECEMBER
3 BellSouth Community Internet Workshop, "Environmentalism on the Web." 7 p.m., South Campus. Reservations required. (502) 745-6115 or web.reference@wku.edu
Special Lincoln Sculpture Makes Stop At The Kentucky Museum

A shining bronze sculpture of Kentucky native and sixteenth United States president, Abraham Lincoln, will be exhibited at The Kentucky Museum through Dec. 11, 1998.

The bronze bust, measuring 21" high and 12" wide, was created by internationally acclaimed sculptor Robert Berks for placement within the Kentucky History Center, a $26 million history museum and research library currently under construction in Frankfort. Until the center opens in spring 1999, the sculpture, titled "Meet Mr. Lincoln," is traveling across the state.

"Meet Mr. Lincoln" is among more than 300 sculptures and monuments created by Berks, whose previous works include a monument to physicist Albert Einstein at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C., and an eight-foot head of President John F. Kennedy, situated within the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, also in the nation's capital. Berks has been acclaimed by The New York Times as the "Capital's Michelangelo" for his twelve works on view within Washington, D.C. Other sculptures include subjects ranging from Martin Luther King Jr. and Franklin D. Roosevelt to Johnny Carson and Frank Sinatra.

Commenting about his creation, Berks said, "In this sculpture, I have given the human side of Lincoln as well as his greatness. With its texture you get the feeling of the man's heat, his complexity, that special subtle quality. He looks a little incredulous in this bust, with a slightly humorous quality about him."

In addition to Berks bust of Lincoln, a number of items, primarily from the Kentucky Library's collections, are also on display. They include prints, photographs, broadsides, sheet music, stamps and first-day cancellations, diary excerpts and more.

And, Rosalyn Stamps, a long-time supporter of the Kentucky Library and Museum, has also loaned a small bust of Lincoln to be included in the exhibit.

"Meet Mr. Lincoln" may be viewed during museum hours: 9:30 - 4:00 Tues. - Sat., 1:00 - 4:00 Sun.

For more information, call (502) 745-5263 or e-mail: earlene.cheff@wkau.edu

Children and Childhood in the 19th Century

"Children and Childhood in the 19th Century," an exhibit of 53 photographs from England and the United States that examine many different aspects of childhood in the last century, will be exhibited at The Kentucky Museum until Dec. 13.

Photographic documentation of the difficulties and harsh realities of life for many 19th century children makes this exhibit an excellent complement to the museum's "Growing Up Victorian: A Kentucky Childhood" exhibit, which depicts middle-class life.

Education materials to accompany "Children and Childhood" include a videotape with images and narration from both exhibits that compare the two sides of 19th century childhood; a folder containing twelve 8" x 10" "Children and Childhood" and "Growing Up Victorian" photographs with suggested activities for "reading," them to uncover historic information; and "Great-Grandmother's Trunk," containing authentic 19th-century clothing, a family album of historic photographs and a set of suggested activities for using the items to gain a better understanding of Victorian life.

All of these materials will be made available to regional public school teachers for classroom use. Area students will also be invited to come to the museum to see both exhibits and make their own comparisons. A catalog/bibliography, developed by WKU English professor Dr. Ward Hellstrom, as a part of the original exhibit, will be available to interested visitors at no charge.

The "Children and Childhood" photographs are part of a larger collection developed in 1985 by Hellstrom with a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The exhibit toured extensively in the late 1980s. In 1997, Hellstrom gave the exhibit to The Kentucky Museum to become a part of its permanent collection. Tuesday, Nov. 10, at 11:30 a.m., Hellstrom will present a slide program about the complete collection.

"Children and Childhood in the 19th Century" is sponsored at The Kentucky Museum by Greenview Regional Hospital Women's and Children's Services and National City Bank, with additional support from Fruit of the Loom and Morgan Keegan Company.
Look who came to Fall Brunch! Crabby Road's Maxine, center, joined Judy Zibart, left, Building Services, and Rose Roberts, right, Shuttle Driver.

Photos by Bob Skipper
November

15
Sylvia Kersenbaum Concert, Chopin Series
3:00 p.m.
Van Meter Hall
Department of Music, 502/745-3751

16
NITC Training Class
5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Drawing University Center
Campus Crusade for Christ, [502] 782-3466

17
Juniors’ Day Luncheon and Fashion Show
TBA
University Plaza Hotel
Hilltopper Athletic Foundation, (502) 745-5221
Jazz Band Concert
7:30 p.m.
Garrett Conference Center Ballroom
Music Dept. (502) 745-3751

18
1998 Holiday Craft Show
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Drawing University Center - 3rd Floor
Eugenia Scott, (502) 745-2458

Women’s Alliance Fall Workshop “Year 2000 Completion: Computer Consequences for the New Millennium”
11:45 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Drawing University Center Room 226
Women Studies, (502) 745-6477

Interior Design Open House
6:00 p.m.
Academic Complex
Marilyn Castle (502/745-4352)

Jackie Faulker-Kerstetter, Horn Faculty Recital
7:00 p.m.
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall
Music Dept. (502) 745-3751

19
Great American Snokeout
Student Health Services, (502) 745-5641

Allen County Primary Center
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Diddle and Drawing University Center
Jane Lobero, 502-637-4061

Lady Topper Basketball Vs. Austin Peay
7:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

WWW Electronic Research Workshop-China on the Web
7:00 p.m.
Institute for Economic Development
502/745-6115

20
Chamber of Commerce Coffee Hour
7:00 a.m.
L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center
Colored Robert Spiller (502)563-9934
Marching Band Extravaganza
7:30 p.m.
Van Meter Auditorium
Music Dept. (502) 745-3751
Delta Sigma Theta Dance

10:00 p.m.
Garrett Conference Center Ballroom
Student Activities(502) 745-5793
Math Symposium
All Day Friday, Until 1:00 p.m. Saturday Thompson Complex Central Wing
Wanda Weidemann, 502/745-6111

21
WKU Swipe Team Vs. Ball State University
1:00 p.m.
Prentice Health and Activities Center
Coach Powell (502) 745-6075
Sigma Gamma Rho
10:00 p.m.
Garrett Conference Center Ballroom
Student Activities (502) 745-5793

22
SKPTA Penning
1:00 p.m.
L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center
Albert Haley, (502) 782-0511

Symphonic Band Concert
TBA
Van Meter Hall Auditorium
John Carmichael, (502) 745-5895

25-27
Thanksgiving Holiday. University is closed.

25
Hilltopper Basketball Vs. Akron
6:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information

29
Lady Topper Basketball Vs. Middle Tennessee
2:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

30
Hilltopper Basketball Vs. Belmont
7:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

December

1
Percussion Ensemble
7:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall
Music Dept. (502) 745-3751

2
Lady Topper Basketball Vs. Tennessee Tech
7:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

3
WWW Electronic Research Workshop “Environment of the Web”
7:00 p.m.
Institute for Economic Development
502/745-6115
Bowling Green Western Symphony Orchestra
7:30 p.m.
Capitol Arts
Music Dept. (502) 745-3751

4
American Theatre “Phoebus”
10 am and 12:15 p.m.
Van Meter Hall
Special Events, (502)745-2497
KY Limousine Breeders Assc. Fall Sale
1:00 p.m.
L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center
Greg Bleday, 606-846-5169

5
Hilltopper Basketball Vs. Alabama at Birmingham
7:00 p.m.
E.A.Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

6
SKPTA Team Penning
1:00 p.m.
L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center
Albert Haley, (502) 782-0511

University Choir/Chamber Singers
3:00 p.m.
Van Meter Auditorium
Music Dept. (502) 745-3751

Symphonic Band Concert
3:00 p.m.
Van Meter Hall Auditorium
John Carmichael, (502) 745-5895

Christmas Open House
3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
President’s Home

11
WKU Final Examinations
10:00 a.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Registrar’s Office, (502) 745-3351

Lady Topper Basketball Vs. Southern California
2:30 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

23
Hilltopper Basketball Vs. Southern Illinois
8:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

Lucinda Anderson, (502)745-5309

9
WKU Public Night Astronomy Observatory
6:00 p.m.
Thompson Complex Central Wing
Physics and Astronomy (502) 745-4357

Stress Break/Mini Massage
Student Health Services, (502) 745-5641

10
Lady Topper Basketball Vs. Wisconsin
7:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

Voice Faculty Recital
7:30 p.m.
Fine Arts Center Recital Hall
Music Dept. (502)745-3751

11-17
WKU Final Examinations
Academic Services, (502) 745-4242

Golden Harvest Spinal Cord Show
1:00 p.m.
L.D. Brown Ag Expo Center
Randy Uphage, 502-525-4930

19
WKU Commencement Ceremony
10:00 a.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Registrar’s Office, (502) 745-3351

20
Lady Topper Basketball Vs. Southern California
2:30 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

22
Hilltopper Basketball Vs. Wisconsin
8:00 p.m.
E.A. Diddle Arena
Sports Information, (502) 745-4298

Happy Thanksgiving
Dr. George Vouropoulos, professor of Physics and Astronomy, led researchers of WKU in a patent-pending project that will help coal producers and users analyze their product. The full story is on page one.