View From The Hill
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**Visiting Scholar Residences**

A quiet little community tucked away in the middle of WKU’s campus has been given a new lease on life.

Amy Bingham explains how it will extend WKU’S International reach in this week’s “View from the Hill.”

Colonial Court off Normal Drive will soon be renamed “International Scholars Village” and will be a home away from home for professors from around the world.

“Colonial Court is almost an unknown, hidden area here on campus.  It was built in 1934 by Henry Hardin Cherry.”

For the past year, WKU has purchased the homes from various owners and restored them to today’s standards.

“We completely renovated all six houses by stripping them down to studs, literally foundation, floor, studs and roof was all that was left.”
Today  these six unique homes are mostly complete except for some last minute furnishings.

“I may be the town’s leading expert on what’s in consignment stores right now…I’ve been to all of them.”

Dr. Larry Calliouett is the coordinator of WKU’S Visiting Scholar Program and has overseen the renovation.  He says the village provides perfect short-term living arrangements for visiting professors.

“Not only can our visitors walk to lab, classes and libraries…whatever they need…it also makes it easier for our visitors and local people to have a place to interact and for that interaction to happen.”

Houda Al Hosni from the Middle East and Wende Mponzi from East Africa are Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants.  They moved into one of the completed homes in August and will be here through May.

“The place where the house is very good one I mean it’s like near the Mass Media…I mean we are in the middle.”

“It’s a nice place, we have a good time.  We enjoy tv and everything.”

“We are literally a stones throw from campus that makes life so much easier for everybody.’

WKU has also purchased three four-plexes in the Colonial Court Area.  Renovations to one of them begins next week to refurbish the apartments.

The other two will eventually be torn down to make way for an office complex for international programs.
With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.