



Western Kentucky University  
American Sign Language Studies

# FROM OUR HANDS TO YOURS

College of Health and Human Sciences

October 2015



*"I've fallen in love with ASL, and I'm so glad that I now have the opportunity to work in the lab and help others spark their passion for sign language."*

-Austin Rutland, Lab worker, Marketing Co-Chair, Peer Mentor, and PAH Executive Staff



## Meet the NEW Lab Worker

The ASLS Lab has welcomed a new worker, Austin Rutland! We are all very excited to have him as a part of our team! If you would like more information on the Lab Workers, please visit <https://www.wku.edu/asls/lab/workers/>.

## Community Spotlight

There are many people who have never had the pleasure of meeting and interacting with someone who is deaf. Here in the ASLS Lab, there is a student worker, Joshua Huffman, who is Deaf. Joshua starting working in the ASL Lab last semester and I have been given the pleasure of getting to know him.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Joshua Huffman and his wife, Crystal Huffman



From left to right: Mariah Armstrong, Jessica Witt  
Photos by Weston Kenney, ASL 1 Student

*"The Back to School Bash Picnic was a perfect way to start the DCE's this semester! It was awesome to see all of the students together communicating with one another, whether it was through corn hole, asking questions about new signs, or just simply meeting someone new. This really began the growth of the ASL family."*

-Stevi Cook, Head Peer Mentor and Marketing Chair

## Deaf Culture Events

The Welcome Back Bash Picnic was a wonderful beginning to the new school year. Students enjoyed their time by playing games, meeting new people, and learning new signs! Also, the first ever ASL Bingo night here on campus was a blast!



From left to right: Kelsey Humpart and Rachel Peavler

Check out the Events portion on page 2 for more information on DCE's.

# The Anderson Twins



## ASL Immersion Weekend

This year's annual PAH (Preparing ASL Hearts) event is going to be on October 9th-11th. PAH is a great opportunity for students to immerse themselves into Deaf Culture and ASL. The hope is to come together in a relaxed, "out of classroom" setting to enhance our signing skills and learn from experts in the field, make new friends and have fun signing. There will be different workshops throughout the weekend, a special surprise activity, and a performance by The Anderson Twins! For those of you attending PAH, check out [www.preparingASLhearts.com](http://www.preparingASLhearts.com) for information on what to bring. We will be posting pictures and updates all weekend! So if you're unable to go, keep up with us by following the weekend on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!



From left to right: Kelly Offutt, Sara Glover, Kelsey Simpson, Luke Akridge, Kinya Embry, Megan Steele, Holly Bean, Amanda Ray, Roxxi McClean, Abby Dupree, Zach "Sassy" Sizemore, Katelyn Dotson, Ashely Fox, Rachel McClean, Adam Almon, Miranda Kittinger, Katie Decoursey, Lauren Tucker, and Stevi Cook.

*"You know those moments when everything falls together and the world makes sense? That's PAH. It's three days out of the year where hearing or Deaf, beginner or advanced, student or adult, it makes no difference. It's truly about building, creating and striving for ASL hearts."*

-Holly Bean, PAH Staff Advisor

## October Events

### 9th-11th: PAH Immersion Weekend

*All day*

### 14th: Stakz Frozen Yogurt

*6:00pm - 8:00pm*

### 19th: ASLO meeting

*8:00pm*

### 29th: Game Night

*6:00pm - 8:00pm*

Check out <http://orgs.wku.edu/aslo/calendar/?view=month> for more information on upcoming events.



From left to right: Eshe Austin, Kelly Offutt, Zach "Sassy" Sizemore, Rachel McClean, Amanda Ray and Adam Almon.

Learn to sign!

G-A-M-E





After high school, Joshua had no idea what he wanted from his life and he began to realize how hard it is to find a job being deaf. He found a job as a stocker, but this never made him happy. After some time, he decided that he wanted to be a welder. He began school toward his welding license, but he could not continue because of a heart condition. This lead him to begin a computer information technology degree here at WKU.

*Did you know there is difference between Deaf and deaf? The word Deaf with a capital “D” refers to people that identify with the Deaf Community and prefers to use ASL. The word deaf with a lower case “d” refers to someone who identifies with hearing culture, and also to the medical term of hearing loss.*



H-A-P-P-Y H-A-L-L-O-W-E-E-N



The first ever ASLO retreat went so well! It was a great experience to make new friends and learn more about signing and Deaf Culture. All of the students had such a great time playing games and interacting with each other. An ASLO member and ASL 1 student, Amber Lamastus, said “Before I began ASL, I was a little apprehensive, but now I love it! The ASLO retreat was a great way to meet new people who are eager to teach and help all skill levels! I had so much fun and I can’t wait until next year!”



From left to right: (Top row) Samantha Coyle, Alex Johnson, Ashley Hickman, Maggie Smith, Amanda Ray, Mercedes Duncan, Morgan Moore, Pennie Chaney, Allison Russell, Craig Clark (second row) Amber Lamastus, Taylor Yarbrough, Brittany Green, Kathleen Kerr, Rachel McClean, Kaitlyn Bachus, Leslie Revels, Roxi McClean, (third row) Stevi Cook, Sierra Fields, Kelly Offutt, Kelsey Humpert, Austin Rutland, Eshe Austin, Lauren Tucker, Molly Dawson and (bottom row) Miranda Kittinger.

For more information on events and updates follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram! Or check out our website at <https://www.wku.edu/asls/>



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