ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP VALUES

1) STUDENT FOCUSED 2) PRACTICAL, SKILLS AND COMPETENCY-BASED CURRICULUM 3) FACULTY SUCCESS 4) TRANSPARENCY, HONESTY AND HARD WORK

OUR VISION

BASED ON OUR VALUES, ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP EXISTS TO CREATE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS FOR PEOPLE TO GAIN THE KNOWLEDGE AND EARN THE CREDENTIALS THEY NEED TO SUCCEED IN LIFE.

PROGRAM GROWTH

Four years ago, we had 17 undergraduate majors and 35 graduate students in the Organizational Leadership program. Today, at the start of the 2017 Fall semester, we have 150 undergraduate majors, 29 in the minor, and a whopping 294 graduate students enrolled – making our graduate program the largest graduate program at WKU, and earning us the 2017 College Choice award as one of the best Online Organizational Leadership programs in the country! We also have the largest Joint Undergraduate Master’s Program (JUMP) at WKU with 38 students enrolled. We are now managing 27 part-time faculty, all of whom are instrumental to the success of the Organizational Leadership department. Overall, there are 1026 students enrolled in Organizational Leadership classes for the fall term. We are very excited in this continued growth, and we are leading many new initiatives this fall, which will be detailed further in this newsletter. We want to welcome everyone, new and returning, to WKU for this fall semester; it is shaping up to be an exciting few months in the Organizational Leadership department!

To learn more, please visit our web page at www.wku.edu/leadership or visit us in person at Tate Page Hall 218.
We created four new courses for this semester and three program revisions planned for this year. These new courses are LEAD 465 – Leadership Coaching, LEAD 565 – Leader Coaching in Organizations, and LEAD 530 – Organizational Change, and LEAD 595 – Contemporary Issues in Leadership.

**LEAD 465**
**Leadership Coaching**

This new course will examine the fundamental leadership skills that improve the adjustment and performance of individuals in an organizational setting. This course will be activity heavy, with an emphasis on developing practical coaching skills.

**LEAD 565**
**Leader Coaching in Organizations**

This new course is designed to develop organizational leadership coaching skills. These skills will be useful for improving the performance of not only individuals, but also the productivity of an organization. This course includes an emphasis on experiential learning through coaching practice activities.

**LEAD 530**
**Organizational Change**

This new course is an advanced study of planned and unplanned change at the individual and group level, as well as the significance leadership plays in change. Various skills and methodologies of leadership theories will be discussed to better understand change through leadership.

**LEAD 595**
**Contemporary Issues in Leadership**

This new course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of Contemporary Issues in Leadership, including theory and application of leadership ideas, relationships, hazards, emotional intelligence, and conflict management with real-world readings.
FOUNDATION FOR GROWTH

We have established a Foundation account with WKU specifically for Organizational Leadership. The Foundation account will allow us to provide for graduation receptions, awards, and other related activities that will benefit our students that we cannot fund through our budget. If you would like to contribute to our students, program, and future please donate to the Organizational Leadership Foundation, visit www.wku.edu/makeagift and designate the gift for Organizational Leadership. Alternatively, you can make your check payable to WKU Foundation – Organizational Leadership and mail that to:

    WKU Foundation
    292 Alumni Drive
    Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

Our vision is that this foundation account will generate the necessary funds for scholarships for our students.

ALUMNI STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Eric Browning, BSN, RN, MA

Director, Clinical and Simulation Laboratory at WKU

Eric began his nursing career in 1996 after earning his Associate Degree in Nursing from Madisonville Community College. He then went on to complete a Baccalaureate in Nursing from the University of Southern Indiana 2004, and Master of Arts in Leadership Dynamics in 2012 from Western Kentucky University. During his 16 years with The Medical Center, he has worked in the Operating Room, Open Heart Surgery, Infection Control, and Employee Health Services. Eric served as staff development coordinator at Southern Kentucky Rehabilitation Hospital from 2007-2009, coordinating and organizing various competency-training programs for all SKY Rehab staff members. He eventually went on to work as a clinical staff nurse at Interventional Pain Specialists of Bowling Green from 2009-2013. In August 2013, Eric began in his new role as Director, Nursing Clinical and Simulation Laboratory with WKU SON. Congratulations Eric, and welcome back to WKU!

CONGRATULATIONS!

• 48 undergraduate and 99 graduate students earned their Organizational Leadership Degrees this past year.

• Dr. Kristie Guffey has been appointed to the state board for the Kentucky Partnership for Rural Families.

• Fallon Willoughby completed the Tier 1, Master Advisor Certificate in Spring 2017, and attended NACADA’s national conference in October.

Fall 2017, OL Newsletter
Organizational Leadership is offering a study abroad opportunity to China in Summer 2018. It will be led by our faculty, Dr. Kristie Guffey. It will count as credit for LEAD 450 - Global Leadership, a Connections Course, or LEAD 550 – Global Leadership.

During this seventeen-day trip in China, students will travel to Beijing, Chifeng, and Xi’an. Students will be working with the Beijing Normal University Leadership Institute to study and analyze the impact culture has on successful leadership; as well as developing personal skills of cultural intelligence and awareness. The cost is right at $3000, and includes airfare.

For more information, visit https://www.wku.edu/studyabroad/ or contact Dr. Kristie Guffey.

**Off Campus Developments**

We have recently entered into an agreement with U.S. Army Cadet Command to offer Organizational Leadership (LEAD 300) to ROTC instructors from across the US, which will be conducted at Fort Knox. Two courses are planned for this spring and we are anticipating that this venture will expand in the upcoming years.

We are also working with our WKU regional campuses to offer Organizational Leadership in a hybrid mode via Interactive Video Services (IVS). Our goal is to get both an Undergraduate and Master’s program up and running at the regional campuses.

**Internal Developments**

We have developed a new faculty and student handbook to introduce our programs to newcomers. These are designed to assist new faculty in the various options/modes of class delivery, and to assist students in learning what our program is, and to familiarize students with everything we offer.

We have also developed a new process of measuring the effectiveness of the Organizational Leadership program. Through a pre and post survey hosted by Qualtrics®, we can collect data from students in our classes and provide actual metrics of how effective a course is at achieving its learning objectives. With this data we can adjust our programs to ensure that we are achieving the learning outcomes we want. This new process is in its infant stage, but it is deploying in all Leadership classes for the Fall 2017 semester. After this semester, we will have our first batch of data to begin quantifying the effectiveness of our courses, and to begin the improvement process.
You and your guests are invited to the Fall Organizational Leadership Commencement Ceremony! This is a ceremony honoring our Organizational Leadership undergraduate and graduate students in the Class of 2017. During this ceremony, undergraduate students will be recognized and the graduate students will be hooded. Please bring your appropriate commencement attire – caps, gowns and hoods. Cake and refreshments will be served.

The ceremony will be on December 8th in Downing Student Union (DSU) room 3024. We will start at 6:00 pm. RSVP to Gabby Bradley by December 1st – gabrielle.bradley337@topper.wku.edu

As a note, this is not the official graduation ceremony. Both graduate and undergraduate commencements will be held at 9:30 am on Saturday December 9th in E.A. Diddle Arena.

For more information on the university commencement visit here.

As we look to the winter and the 2018-2019 school year, we want to express our sincere appreciation for the significant and important contributions each of you provide to our program and Western Kentucky University.

The Organizational Leadership Faculty,

John Baker and Kristie B. Guffey

Be sure to follow us on Social Media!

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