

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Spring 2018 Newsletter



OUR VALUES

- STUDENT FOCUSED
- PRACTICAL, SKILLS AND COMPETENCY-BASED CURRICULUM
- FACULTY SUCCESS
- 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.

THE FUTURE OF ORG LEAD

A lot of changes are happening at Western Kentucky University, and the Organizational Leadership department is no exception. As you may have heard, the University College is dissolving, and Organizational Leadership will be finding a new home in the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences (CEBS) this summer. Please do not worry - the Organizational Leadership program is still growing, and there will be many new and exciting opportunities available to our Organizational Leadership Students as we become part of CEBS.

Program Growth

Currently, we have over 200 Undergraduate Students Majors and over 300 Graduate Students Majors in the Organizational Leadership Program. We are the largest Graduate Program at WKU and growing! We also have 30 Joint Undergraduate Master's Program (JUMP) students taking advantage of the great benefits the JUMP program offers. We are very excited about this continued growth and hope to continue growing in the CEBS.

To learn more about Organizational Leadership, please visit our web page at www.wku.edu/leadership or visit us in person at Tate Page Hall.

NEW COURSE – LEAD 595

We are excited to announce a new course that will be offered starting the Fall 2018 term. LEAD 595: Contemporary Issues in Leadership is a course designed to provide students with an understanding of contemporary issues from a Leadership perspective. Specifically, students will apply leadership theories, models, and approaches to contemporary issues to analyze the issue's impact on organizations. This class will be a great opportunity for our students to improve their leadership skills and apply it to real-world, current issues.



Master's Programs Guide ranked us as one of the top 50 best Online Master's Organizational Leadership Degree Programs in 2018.

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.



STUDY ABROAD

In 2019, Organizational Leadership is taking a Study Abroad trip to China! This Faculty-Led trip will count as credit for LEAD 450 – Global Leadership, a connections course, or LEAD 550 – Global Leadership. Stay tuned this summer for more details regarding the trip. Visit <https://www.wku.edu/studyabroad/> for more information, or contact Dr. Kristie Guffey.

MASTER EDUCATOR COURSE (MEC)

The Master Educator Course is a new initiative we have started in ORG LEAD. It is an opportunity we have to work with the United States Army to offer courses in Leadership to Cadet Command ROTC Instructors. Going through this program awards a certificate in Organizational Leadership. LEAD 300: Leadership Theory and Practice and LEAD 400: Practicum in Leadership are taken as classes, and 6 credit hours of LEAD credit is awarded from the soldier's Joint Service Transcript (JST).

This winter, we launched our first MEC courses. We had three sections, with sixteen senior Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) in each section. At Fort Knox, Dr. John Baker, Dr. Wren Mills, and Dr. Kristie Guffey taught an intensive six-day course of LEAD 300. The LEAD 300 class occurred from January 8th – 17th of 2018 with the LEAD 400 Practicum conducted during the spring term. In May, the NCOs will graduate the program with a LEAD certificate from WKU. We are excited to announce that our next MEC course is scheduled in late July 2018, and our partnership with the US Army will continue for the foreseeable future.

CONGRATULATIONS!

We want to give congratulations to our Outstanding Graduate Student and Outstanding Undergraduate Student in Organizational Leadership:

Bionca Washington – Outstanding Graduate Student

Bionca has been chosen as our Outstanding Graduate Student for her hard work, her passion and leadership in the WKU community, and her perseverance. Bionca, a first generation college student will be graduating this May with a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership, and a certificate in Human Resources. She has maintained an impressive 4.0 GPA throughout her time at WKU. She has achieved this while working two jobs and taking classes. She has spent the past three years with WKU's Upward Bound program working with prospective first generation college students while they are in High School. Bionca's exemplary leadership is seen through her work with these young adults, as she recognizes their potential, inspires confidence, and provides them with new opportunities for success. Congratulations Bionca!



Suzanne Moore – Outstanding Undergraduate Student

Suzanne has been chosen as our Outstanding Undergraduate Student for her impressive leadership and involvement in several organizations across WKU's campus, as well as her drive for personal growth. Suzanne will be graduating in May with a Bachelor's degree in Organizational Leadership and a minor in Music with an impressive 3.8 GPA. Her extensive involvement in the WKU community includes being a leading member of the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority where she organized many philanthropic events with national charities like the Juvenile Arthritis Foundation. Suzanne is also a member of the WKU Honors College, the Golden Key International Honors Society, The National Society for Leadership and Success, and the Rho Lambda Panhellenic Leadership Society. Suzanne is committed to developing herself as a person and a leader. She values constant self-growth that will continue beyond graduation as she looks to the future. Congratulations Suzanne!



We are very proud of both of our Outstanding Students, as well as the rest of the Organizational Leadership Graduating Class of 2018!

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP GRADUATION RECEPTION

**CLASS OF
2018**

You and your guests are invited to the Spring 2018 Organizational Leadership Commencement Ceremony. This ceremony honors our Class of 2018 Organizational Leadership undergraduate and graduate students. 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. Cupcakes and refreshments will be served.

The ceremony will be on Friday May 11th in Downing Student Union (DSU) room 3020. We will start at 2 pm. RSVP to Gabby Bradley by May 1st - gabrielle.bradley337@topper.wku.edu

As a note, this is not the official graduation ceremony. The official graduation ceremonies will be as follows:

- The Topper Walk will begin at 5:00 pm on Friday May 11th at the Kentucky Museum. Graduates are encouraged to start lining up at 4:00 pm.
- The Commencement Ceremony will begin at 6:00 pm on Friday May 11th at the Houchens Industries-L.T. Smith Stadium.
- The Big Red Bash will be at 7:00 pm on Friday May 11th at WKU's South Lawn.
- The University College Recognition Ceremony will begin at 10:00 am on Saturday May 12th in E. A. Diddle Arena.

For more information on the Official WKU Commencement ceremonies visit:

<https://www.wku.edu/commencement/index.php>

As we look to the summer 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 and Staff,

John Baker, Kristie B. Guffey, and Fallon Willoughby

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WKU SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

2018

CLASS OF

Spring Graduation and Hooding Ceremony

MAY 11TH, 2018

2 P.M.

DOWNING STUDENT UNION

ROOM 3020

Cupcakes and refreshments will be served. Please bring your proper commencement attire (caps, gowns, hoods).

RSVP to Gabby Bradley by May 1st
at gabrielle.bradley337@topper.wku.edu