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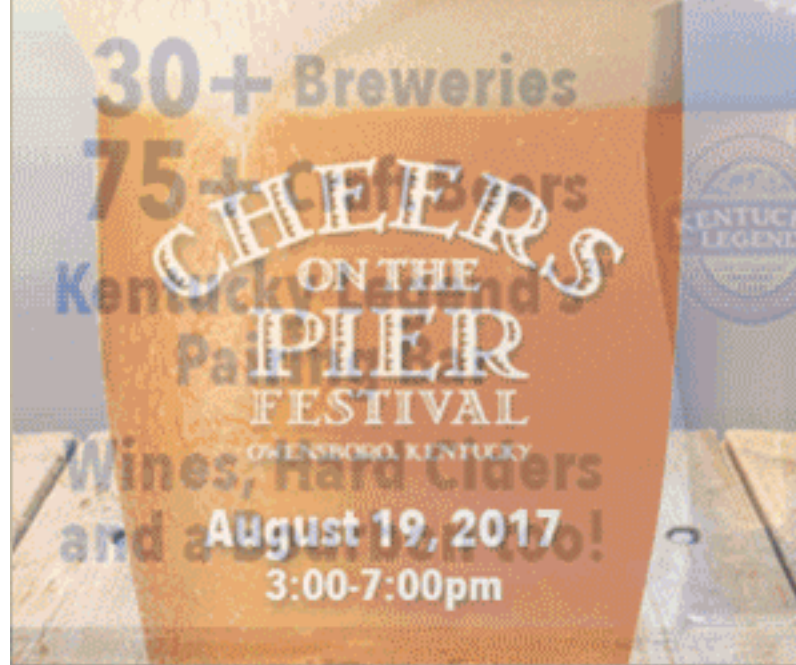
KWC announces partnership with WKU business college

By Bobbie Hayse Messenger-Inquirer 8 hrs ago

Kentucky Wesleyan College has partnered with the Gordon Ford College of Business at Western Kentucky University in an effort to better accommodate students in their pursuits of post-secondary education and beyond.

Bob Hatfield, associate dean for graduate studies and research with GFCB, said Monday this collaboration will allow students access to the Gordon Ford advising staff and faculty.

This will be beneficial particularly for freshmen and incoming freshmen, Hatfield said, because it will enable students to earlier align their career goals and options.



Even if students can't pursue a master, law or medical degree at KWC, there are options for students to make a seamless transition through the use of the GFCB resources.

"Going from a small college to a big university can be disorienting," he said, adding that this partnership will help KWC students feel like WKU students as well.

He said the real advantage is that a freshman or high school student considering Kentucky Wesleyan will be able to see they are not limited.

"We have an identified relationship here," he said. "A student (will be) able to see that entire value chain of education easily available to them."

Additionally, according to a press release sent by KWC, both schools have created the WKU-Kentucky Wesleyan College Scholars program that will allow GFCB to provide at least two graduate assistantships to Kentucky Wesleyan

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graduates enrolled in graduate school. As a preferred partner program, the release said, KWC will "activity promote GFCB graduate programs on its campus."

Having these opportunities available for underclassmen can be beneficial for early planning, Hatfield said, because "they will know what they need to do" to get graduate assistantships.

"You're not lost out there," he said. "You actually have a relationship with people at WKU."

Hatfield said KWC President Barton Darrell is "showing real vision" with this endeavor in that he is taking an early undergraduate viewpoint.

Darrel said that the GFCB programs are "highly regarded," and that Kentucky Wesleyan students will add to the prestige.

Students will have the opportunity to apply for graduate programs through the partnership in the spring of 2018.

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