

May 1, 2017: Ogden College Hall as seen from 14th Street



Empower.Connect.Serve

## STEMnews

News from Ogden College at Western Kentucky University

### A Word With The Dean...

**New** is the best word to describe the first few months of 2017. We said “farewell” to three staff members, and “welcome” to our **newest** team members. Construction on the **new** Ogden College Hall continues to be on time and on budget. The Ogden College web site is getting a **new** format. Our departments are implementing technology-forward connections like crowdfunding and enhanced social media presence to bring new information to you as it happens.

**New** is exciting, and my goal is to integrate **new** with our commitment to Empower.Connect.Serve our students, alumni, faculty, and staff.

As always, I look forward to hearing what is **new** with you, and I encourage you to connect with me via Twitter or email!

**OgdenDean on Twitter:** [@CherylStevens03](https://twitter.com/CherylStevens03)

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*Cheryl Stevens*

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### Ogden College Hall Construction Continues “On Time and On Budget”

The 36 laboratories for the departments of Chemistry, Physics, and Biology, 300-seat auditorium, student success center, student lounge areas, and OCSE Dean’s Suite are on-track to be completed by the end of 2017.

Find more photos on our Facebook photo galleries:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1548973581803293](https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1548973581803293)

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1495116973855621](https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1495116973855621)

For real-time views from the WKU Construction WebCam:

<http://www.wku.edu/webcams/>



### Ogden Social Media



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[@WKUOgdenCollege](https://www.facebook.com/WKUOgdenCollege)



Instagram:

[WKUOgdenCollege](https://www.instagram.com/WKUOgdenCollege)



Twitter:

[@WKUOgden](https://twitter.com/WKUOgden)

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## New Faces in the Dean's Office



**Melanie H. Redden** joined the Dean's Office staff in January as Office Associate. She comes to us from the Biology department with a background in marketing, communications, and event planning.

**Lynnita Glass** joined the OCSE Dean's Office staff in April as Pre-Professional Health Advisor. She is a 20 year WKU veteran, having taught and advised most recently in the School of Nursing.



**Paige N. Spear** began work in January as Industrial Liaison & Internship Coordinator for Ogden College. Paige is a WKU alum (BS '14 Sociology/Criminology) and has several years' experience in higher education.



With a June start date, **Tori Hampton** is the newest Academic Advisor in our office. Tori is a WKU alum (BS '15 Meteorology) and was previously a Residential Counselor for the Gatton Academy.



After 3+ years in WKU red, advisor **Chris Crutchfield** now wears UK blue in his new job as Academic Advisor, Pre-Health Professions in Lexington, KY. He



started this new job in January.

**Monica Bean** completed her student teaching assignment and earned her Master's Degree from WKU this spring. She plans to teach marketing/business to high school students.



## Farewell to These Folks

**Pam Pierce** moved to Florida and is now an advisor at Keiser University's Melbourne (FL) campus. She served as one of our Academic Advisors for two years.



## Women in Science & Engineering (WISE) Living Community

### More about WISELiving:



Facebook: [@WKUWISELiving](https://www.facebook.com/WKUWISELiving)

Twitter: [@WKUWISELiving](https://twitter.com/WKUWISELiving)



Web: [wku.edu/ogden/WISELiving/](http://wku.edu/ogden/WISELiving/)

Email: [WISELiving@wku.edu](mailto:WISELiving@wku.edu)



Download the WISELiving application here:

<http://www.wku.edu/ogden/wiseliving.php>

Kicking off its first year, WISELiving brings together **24 first-year female students** who plan to **major in one of 10 Departments within WKU's Ogden College of Science & Engineering (OCSE)**. This community is designed to create an **immediate support network** of new WISE friends, who will **learn and grow together**. Housed on-campus in Gilbert Hall, participants share a dorm room with another WISELiving member and participate in a variety of **academic, service, and social activities** created specifically for the group. WISELiving is sponsored by the OCSE Dean's Office, in partnership with the WISE Faculty Group and WKU Housing & Residence Life.





## STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE

The 47th Annual WKU Student Research Conference took place on March 25th at the Downing Student Union. About 400 WKU graduate and undergraduate students from 43 schools, departments, programs, and institutes in all colleges at WKU across the main and regional campuses participated. The conference was organized into 59 sessions of talks, presentations, posters, and performances. The Conference Keynote Sigma Xi Distinguished Lecture, "Science in the Public Interest" was presented by Dr. Karen Oates.

**47th Annual  
Student Research Conference**

**WKU REACH 2017**

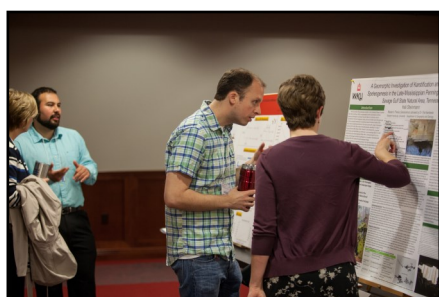
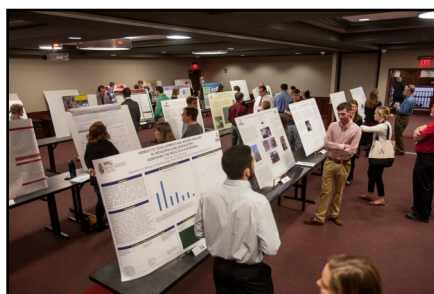
Research Experiences and Creative Heights  
400+ WKU students present original scholarly work

**Saturday, March 25, 2017  
Downing Student Union  
7:00 a.m. – 3:10 p.m.**



The WKU Student Research Conference showcases scholarly activities of graduate and undergraduate students of diverse disciplines from across the main and regional campuses. The conference is planned each year by the university's Student Research Council in partnership with the Office of Research & Creative Activity, which provides both administrative and financial support for the conference.

Additional information can be found here: <https://www.wku.edu/studentresearch/conference.php>



### Connect with the Office of Research & Creative Activities:

**Office Location:** 301 Wetherby Administration Building (WAB)

**Associate Provost:** Cheryl Davis, PhD

**Office Staff:** Ryanne Gregory

**Phone:** 270.745.6733

[research@wku.edu](mailto:research@wku.edu)



[@WKUResearch](https://twitter.com/WKUResearch)



[www.wku.edu/research](http://www.wku.edu/research)



### Connect with the WKU Student Research Council:

[research@wku.edu](mailto:research@wku.edu)

[www.wku.edu/studentresearch](http://www.wku.edu/studentresearch)

[@WKU\\_SRC](https://twitter.com/WKU_SRC)



### Connect with the WKU Research Foundation:

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Cheryl Stevens, PhD

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[info@wkurf.org](mailto:info@wkurf.org)

[www.WKURF.org](http://www.WKURF.org)

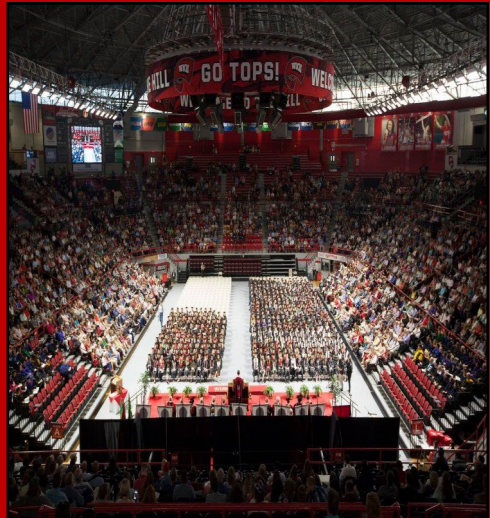
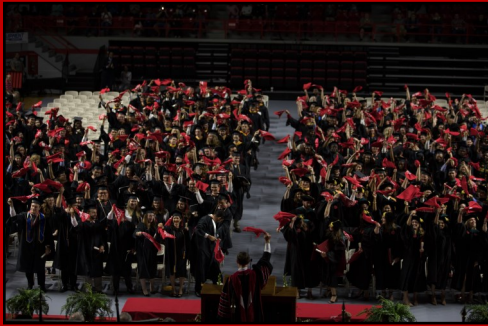




OCSE Dean Cheryl Stevens conferred degrees to 500+ Ogden College students during 2 graduation ceremonies on Friday, May 12th and Saturday, May 13th.

OCSE Graduates by the numbers:

- Master's Degrees: 112
- Bachelor's Degrees: 418
- Associate's Degrees: 5



More photos from Commencement can be found here:

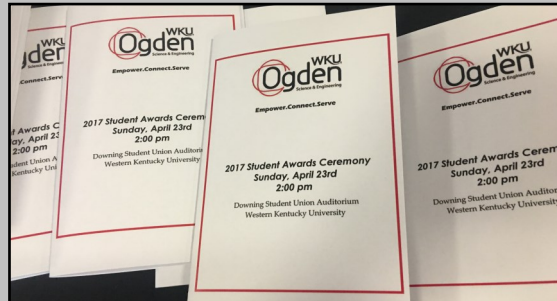
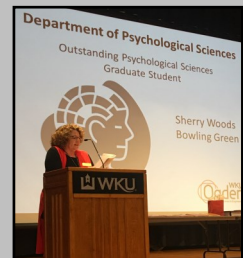
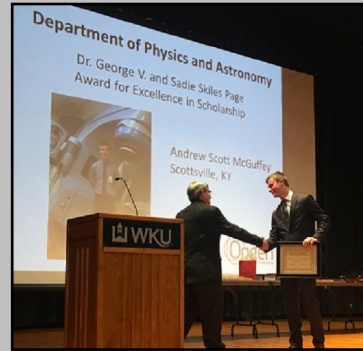
<https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2017/05/15/weekinphotos-may2017-2/>

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/WKUNews/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=10155079998011351](https://www.facebook.com/pg/WKUNews/photos/?tab=album&album_id=10155079998011351)



## Student Awards Ceremony

WKU's Ogden College of Science & Engineering presented its annual awards April 23rd at the Downing Student Union Auditorium. Hosted by Dr. Ken Crawford, 82 students from all 10 OCSE departments were recognized for their academic achievements at the ceremony and celebrated by over 250 family members, friends, faculty, staff and WKU mascot Big Red at the reception immediately following!



A complete list of honorees can be found here: <http://www.wku.edu/ogden/>

View more photos on the Ogden College Facebook page:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1530183593682292](https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1530183593682292)



# Honors and Awards

## 2016 International Science & Technology Cooperation Award recipient

University Distinguished Professor of Hydrology Dr. **Chris Groves** meets with Dr. Gary Ransdell after returning from China, where he was 1 of 6 foreign scientists to receive this top award for his two decades of research on water resources in the karst systems of southwest China. Read the full story here:

<https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2017/01/09/groves-china-award/>



## Gilman Scholarship Winners

Of 6 WKU students honored with Gilman Scholarships, 2 are OCSE majors. **Bryan Anders** (Biology major) will study in Japan this summer with the KY Institute for International Studies. **Rachel Fisher** (Biology major) plans to study public health in Tanzania this summer. Both hope to attend medical school after graduation.



Read more here:

<https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2017/02/28/gilman-summer-2017/>

## Goldwater Program Honorees

**Andrew Davis** (majors: Math & Physics) has been named a Goldwater Scholar and **Ayush Prasad** (major: Biology) an Honorable Mention by the Barry M.



Goldwater Scholarship program, the premier award for undergrads pursuing careers in science/math/engineering. Read more here:

<https://www.wku.edu/news/?view=article&articleid=4914>

## WKU Faculty Mentoring Awards

Dr. **Rodney King** (Dept of Biology) and Dr. **Mike Stokes** (Dept of Biology) received WKU Faculty Mentoring Awards. Pictured at left is recipient Dr. King, who was nominated by Dr. Mike Stokes; and pictured at right is recipient Dr. Mike Stokes, who was nominated by Dr. **Kerrie McDaniel** and Dr. **Carl Dick**. Biology Dept Head Dr. **Bruce Schulte** and Provost Dr. **David Lee**, who presented the awards, are also pictured in both.



## OCSE Faculty Awards

Officially honored at a university-wide reception on April 12th at the WKU Faculty House, the following OCSE

Faculty members have been selected for outstanding contributions in the areas of Teaching, Student Advisement, Public Service, and Research/Creativity.



- **Teaching Award:** Dr. **Nancy Rice**/Biology
- **Student Advisement:** Dr. **Paul Woosley**/Agriculture
- **Public Service Award:** Dr. **Jason Polk**/Geography & Geology
- **Research/Creativity:** \*Dr. **Amy Brausch**/Psychological Sciences

\*Dr. Brausch will be honored at the Fall 2017 Convocation as the University-level Research/Creativity Award recipient.

**Noah Ashley**, PhD (Dept of Biology) received the Outstanding Junior Faculty Achievement Award for Research & Creative Activity and **Shahnazi Aly**, MArch (Dept of AMS) received the Outstanding Junior Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching. OCSE Associate Dean Ken Crawford presented both awards at the January 2017 Ogden College Opening Meeting.



## Junior Faculty Awards

## Women in Science Award

Congratulations to Dr. **Nahid Gani** (Dept of Geography & Geology) for receiving the 2017 Ogden College Women in Science & Engineering Award. OCSE Dean Cheryl Stevens presented the award to Dr. Gani at the January Ogden College Opening Meeting.





## Ogden 2017 Spring Semester Opening Meeting



Math Department Head **Bruce Kessler** opened the event with a performance of his original musical composition, "Science Don't Care What You Think" before project manager **Sarah Lamere** of RossTarrant Architects, and mechanical engineer **Tracy Steward** from CMTA Consulting Engineers give the assembled faculty and staff members a thorough update on the construction progress. Department Heads introduced new faculty and staff members, Associate Dean **Ken Crawford** recognized our Junior Faculty Award honorees and Dean **Cheryl Stevens** honored the Women in Science winner.



Dr. Kessler's musical performance is on YouTube:

[https://youtu.be/90a\\_Y3ysbks](https://youtu.be/90a_Y3ysbks)

### March For Science

Rain did not deter marchers who gathered at WKU's Thompson Complex Central Wing on Saturday, April 22nd to

show their support for science and funding as a part of the international March for Science movement.

Read the complete story here:

[http://wkuherald.com/news/marchers-join-national-campaign-to-support-science/article\\_1faaa870-3798-5c93-877c-31a298940845.html](http://wkuherald.com/news/marchers-join-national-campaign-to-support-science/article_1faaa870-3798-5c93-877c-31a298940845.html)



Watch **Bruce Kessler's** command performance of "Science Don't Care What You Think" here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z89KWpNsf1U&feature=youtu.be>



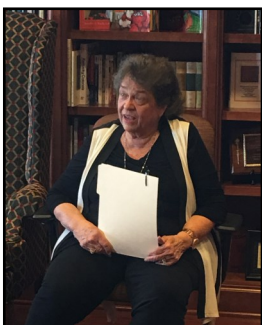
## WISE Tea



The Women in Science and Engineering faculty group gathered to hear WKU Faculty Regent and Provost Emeritus Dr. **Barbara Burch** talk about "Navigating the Faculty Workplace—Tales from the Front Line" in March.

Photo Gallery can be viewed here:

[https://www.wku.edu/ogden/web\\_pages/](https://www.wku.edu/ogden/web_pages/)



## International Women's Day





## Science Olympiad State Tournament

For more pictures from the KY Science Olympiad, click here:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1569900733043911](https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1569900733043911)



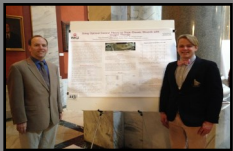
## 22nd Annual Bridge Building Competition

More pics here:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1569927949707856](https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1569927949707856)

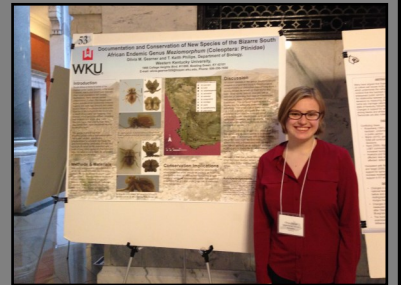
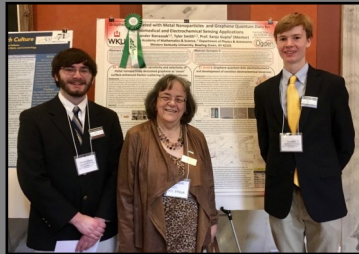
More info here:

<https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2017/02/28/bridge-building-2017/>



## P@C: Posters at the Capitol

This one-day annual event held in Frankfort seeks to educate the KY State Legislators of the importance of undergraduate research and scholarly work.



## 22nd Annual KY Bluegrass LEGO Robotics Competition



View more photos here:

[https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album\\_id=1465213370179315](https://www.facebook.com/pg/wkuogdencollege/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1465213370179315)

For info about the event, click here:

<https://wkunews.wordpress.com/2017/02/21/lego-robotics-2017/>



## Agriculture

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**Twitter:** [@WKUAgriculture](#)

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Jessica Dunnegan, Storm Dutton

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**Instagram:** [@wkubiology](#)

**Snapchat:** [wku\\_biology](#)

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**Twitter:** [@WKUChemistry](#)

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**Facebook:** [@WKUComputerScienceDept](#)

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**Twitter:** [@WKUEngineering](#)

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**Facebook:** [@WKUGeo](#)

**Twitter:** [@WKUGeo](#)

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**Twitter:** [@WKUMath](#)

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## Psychological Sciences

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**Facebook:** [@PsychologicalSciencesatWKU](#)

**Twitter:** [@PsySciencesWKU](#)

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[OgdenDean @CherylStevens03](#)

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