On April 20th University College held an award ceremony to honor our faculty members. Congratulations!

Outstanding Part-Time Faculty—Nadia DeLeon
Award for Research/Creativity—Jim Fulkerson
Award for Teaching—Jan Brockman
Dr. Dennis George, Dean of University College
Award for Student Advisement—Tucker Davis

Our very own Dr. Dennis George, Dean, prepares to join the 2012 graduating class at WKU’s 171st Commencement Ceremony. He proudly wears his red, white, and blue cords that were given by Military Student Services to each veteran or active duty member of the military.

**Regional Mail**

University College is responsible for getting mail from the Bowling Green campus to the regional campuses. If you have an item that needs to go to South Campus, Elizabethtown, Ft. Knox, Radcliff, Glasgow or Owensboro campuses, you may call our office (745-4092) by 12:00 p.m. for same day pick-up. You may also drop off your mail at: Tate Page Hall, Room 201. Please CLEARLY label the mail with the person’s name, campus, building name, and room number. Also, please allow plenty of time—Plan ahead! Couriers do not run daily during the summer hours.

Where’s Big Red?

Big Red (JUST LIKE the image to the left) is hidden somewhere in this newsletter. Be the first to find him and you win a University College travel mug! Email wendi.kelley@wku.edu and tell us where you found him!

The newsletters are distributed in February, May, August and November. The deadline is the 11th of the month. However, feel free to submit items for the newsletter anytime. Email submissions to: wendi.kelley@wku.edu.
Commencement

Sunday, May 13th, Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Regional Campus held their very first commencement at the Hardin County Schools Performing Arts Center. There were a total of 55 graduates who walked and received their diploma from Dr. Dennis George. Former Hardin County Schools superintendent and WKU graduate Lois Gray delivered the ceremony’s keynote speech.

Jasmine Routon was chosen to deliver the Student Salutation. Routon is a Sociology major and Sexuality Studies minor student. During her tenure at WKU, Ms. Routon was recognized as the Outstanding Student in Sexuality Studies by the WKU Department of Sociology. She has presented a paper entitled, “The Gay Rights Movement in the United States” it was an analysis of social movement effectiveness at the annual meeting of the Anthropologists and Sociologists of KY. In July, she will present “Shedding Light on GLBT Fleeing from Rural Areas to Urban Settings” at the 75th meeting of the Rural Sociology Society in Chicago, Illinois.
WKU Graduate Takes Control of 3/1 Brigade

Lt. Col. Glenn Robert Bollinger III, a Special Forces officer and Radcliff native, took command of the Special Troops Battalion of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division. Bollinger graduated from North Hardin High School, obtained a Bachelors of Science degree from WKU and a Masters of Arts from the School of Advanced Military Studies. Bollinger’s sister Sara graduated from WKU with her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, she took classes at the Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Regional Center, and is now working at Woodland Elementary in Radcliff.

Lt. Col. Bollinger was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant in 1992. Bollinger takes over a battalion in transition as soldiers reorient to civilian life and the brigade stabilized after a yearlong deployment. Its expected at least 40 percent of the battalion to be new soldiers and he will be tasked with building them up from their foundation and preparing them for whatever the Army has next.

Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Resource Dedication

The new Elizabethtown Regional Center library opened in February, with a dedication ceremony on March 19th. The library features several laptop workstations for student use, reference books, course reserves, and a comfortable study space. The librarian, Laura DeLancey, is available for classroom research instruction sessions in all disciplines, as well as for individual and group research assistance. The new library also facilitates the delivery of books and DVDs from the main campus library for all Western students, faculty, and staff.
ELED Students Service Project

ELED Block Students completed a service project in collaboration with a participating Hardin County School, over and above the required 70 field hours for their coursework. The event for K-5 students and their parents provided planned activities, workshops, demonstrations and displays in the areas of Arts & Humanities. The event was a big success and will be a continued collaborative effort.

Gamma Beta Phi

Six new students were sworn into Gamma Beta Phi by Dr. Donielle Lovell. Pictured Corinda Hopinks, Jennifer Daniels, Rita Rowe, and Jena Holman with Dr. Stephens, Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Director. Not pictured Jose Ramirez and Crystal Townsend.

Middle Grades SkyTeach

Students in the Middle Grades SkyTeach Math program are pictured working on a measuring project; Dr. Stephens is examining their work.
Technology Day

ELED Block students from all locations came to the Elizabethtown Campus for their Technology Day. They spent half of their day in the computer lab working on their projects with the graphs and the other half doing teamwork activities. Monica Soard and Melinda Logsdon pictured are Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox students and have been selected to do their student teaching in Ecuador. Michellian Findley was also recognized at the Technology Day for being an outstanding student and a retired veteran.
Spring Fling
WKU Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Regional Campus participated at the ECTC Spring Fling. This is an opportunity for students to explore the different organizations and departments that they can utilize around campus. Pictured are Liza Ramirez and Erin Adams manning the WKU booth and speaking with students.

8th Grade Institute
A former WKU Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Elementary Education student, Terry Morgan, came to campus to volunteer for 8th Grade Institute. 8th Grade Institute is coordinated by ECTC’s Workforce Solutions. Local 8th graders come to campus and learn different degrees that ECTC & WKU have to offer.

Family Game Night
WKU Elizabethtown/Radcliff/Fort Knox Regional Campus Elementary Education Students coordinated a Game Night at Lincoln Trail Elementary School. They collaborated with the Lincoln Trail Family Recourse center to replenish their food stock and baby items. Each participant of the game night was to bring canned food and/or baby items as their fee of admission. Local businesses in the community were very generous and donated door prizes. It was a fun night for all.
Our Introduction to Literature classes were brimming with activity this semester. Instructor Jimmy Lowe portrayed former Kentucky Poet Laureate Jesse Stuart for a presentation about the Greenup County native’s life. Fellow former Kentucky Poet Laureate Joy Bale Boone was celebrated as well in Loretta Martin Murrey’s class with a visit from Boone’s son, Shelby Bale Jr., who read his mother’s poetry to the class. Students also watched the documentary, “A Woman Named Joy.” Murrey’s class also enjoyed a presentation (and free samples!) from Kenny Mattingly of Kenny’s Farmhouse Cheese, who spoke to the students about his family-owned farm in Barren County.

WKU-Glasgow hosted the Barren River Regional FFA Day on Wednesday, March 7, welcoming about 350 students from 14 local schools to our campus for a day of competitions including public and impromptu speaking, FFA quizzes, and contests on record-keeping and Parliamentary procedure. The day also included a welcome and meeting in the Barren County High School Auditorium, lunch served by the Barren County Cattlemen’s Association, and an afternoon awards ceremony. WKU-Glasgow agriculture instructor Kristie Guffey spearheaded the event, which in previous years was held on the main campus.

History students took a trip to Frankfort in April with associate professor Jennifer Walton-Hanley and instructor James Hamilton. The group toured the new Capitol and the old Capitol, and visited the Armory, History Center, and the Vietnam War Memorial.

WKU-Glasgow is proud to offer seven new programs for students in Fall 2012. New programs include bachelor’s degrees in: Organizational Leadership, Systems Management, Political Science, and Social Work; associate’s degrees in Paralegal Studies and Business Management; and a certificate in Leadership Studies.
WKU-Glasgow’s Spring 2012 Graduand Recognition Ceremony was held on Thursday, May 3, at the Plaza Theatre in downtown Glasgow. Graduands and their guests were joined by WKU-Glasgow faculty and staff, Barren County community leaders, and Bowling Green campus administrators as we celebrated their graduation. Three WKU-Glasgow students won awards for their accomplishments on our campus – Lori Sexton, Elementary Education, Scholarship Award; Ashley Latham, Elementary Education, Leadership Award; Nikita Read, Nursing, Juanita C. Bayless Award. Adjunct faculty member Ann Barry received the Part-Time Faculty Award for nearly three decades of excellence in teaching history on the Glasgow campus. Each graduating student received a red towel and congratulations from Provost Gordon Emslie, Glasgow campus Director Sally Ray, and University College Associate Dean Merrall Price. A video message from President Gary Ransdell, who was unable to attend, made the evening extra special.

Congratulations to all our graduates!

Kentucky author and winner of the 2012 Kentucky Literary Award Bobbie Ann Mason visited Glasgow in April to read selections from her new book, “The Girl in the Blue Beret.” Hosted by WKU-Glasgow and the Potter College Dean’s Office, the event was held in the Barren County High School Auditorium. Speaking to a full house, Mason read several chapters from the book and answered audience questions.
The second WKU-Owensboro commencement ceremony was held on May 13th at the Owensboro RiverPark Center. 87 students participated in the ceremony. The average age of the WKU-O graduates was 31, the oldest was 65, and the youngest was 19.

Whitney Fackler, a WKU-O graduate, was named the Scholar of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences.

WKU-O held a faculty appreciation dinner at Moonlite Bar-B-Q on April 20th. Leesa Moman was named WKU-O Faculty Member of the Year.

Big Red visited East View Elementary for an assembly about teamwork. The principal addressed the students and talked about WKU’s success in athletics. He emphasized that success in athletics is the result of everyone working as a team. The Texas Roadhouse dance team demonstrated teamwork through a dance routine and the Chick-Fil-A cow and DCHS panther were also in attendance.

WKU-O has had visitors from many schools over the past few months. 170 high school seniors took their Advanced Placement exams on May 11th and WKU-O hosted two Junior Achievement groups from College View Middle School and Owensboro Middle School on March 8th and 9th.
WKU-O’s Volunteerism in Progress organization has spent the spring semester fund-raising for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life event. The group has raised over $4,700 through a variety of fundraisers including a bake sale, yard sale, blood drive, silent auction, t-shirt sales, and purple toilet delivery. Dr. Gene Tice, WKU-O Director, is pictured with one of the purple toilets the students used for fundraising. For a $20 fee the students delivered a purple toilet to a person’s lawn for 24 hours.

WKU-O partnered with three other Owensboro colleges to sponsor Rooster Booster, the monthly Owensboro Chamber of Commerce breakfast. Brescia University, Kentucky Wesleyan University, Owensboro Community and Technical College, and WKU-O highlighted the educational opportunities in the Owensboro area.

Approximately 150 students have participated in the Dynamic Leadership Institute this school year. Students from WKU-O and Owensboro Community and Technical College are participating in the program in order to enhance their leadership skills.

WKU-O participated in Spring Fling events at Owensboro Community and Technical College and the Muhlenburg campus of Madisonville Community College in April.

The testing center at WKU-O proctored 176 exams during finals week. 111 of those exams were for Systems Management courses.
As part of her PhD course work at MTSU, Dawn Hall took a two week winter term CCSA study abroad class in London, England. Her course was a Special Topics in Popular Culture: Doctor Who. Besides a trip to the Doctor Who Experience exhibit, some of the events on the trip included a visit to Shakespeare’s Globe, the Tate and the Tate Modern, the National Portrait and Art Gallery, the Victoria and Albert Museum, a tour of the BBC London studios, a visit to Stonehenge and a trip to Cardiff, Wales where the show is produced.

From her research produced for the class, Dawn wrote and presented a paper titled, Doctor Who: Sexuality and Companionship, this March at the Catwoman to Katniss: Villainesses and Heroines of Fantasy and Science Fiction in Murfreesboro.
Sara McCaslin, Department of Interdisciplinary Studies Instructor and University Experience Coordinator, presented at the 31st Annual National Resource Center First-Year Experience and Students in Transition Conference held in San Antonio, Texas February 17-21, 2012. The National Resource Center for the First-Year Experience and Students in Transition serves as the trusted expert, internationally recognized leader, and clearinghouse for scholarship, policy, and best practice for all postsecondary student transitions. This national conference featured representatives and scholars in the field of First-Year Experience programs from across the United States and abroad. McCaslin’s presentation titled “Information Literacy and Critical Thinking: Applying Elements to Academic Research Practices in the First Year” focused on the implementation of the critical thinking model within the University Experience course and how this model can be applied to academic research conducted by first year students. The presentation also outlined the University Experience curriculum and the library skills/information literacy component of the course. McCaslin also presented data on the successful implementation of the Critical Thinking Model within the University Experience course at WKU. Approximately 30 conference participants attended McCaslin’s concurrent session and many commented on the unique approach related to critical thinking at WKU within the University Experience course.
Coalition for Gender & Racial Equality

The Coalition for Gender and Racial Equality is a three-year initiative to provide an opening to learn about race and gender issues in ways that lead to direct action. This year the Coalition kicked off with a panel discussion and dinner on February 7 that showcased three local speakers who shared challenges they have faced with being considered “different” in their fields. During the event, students were encouraged to develop projects that promote gender and racial equality. Hilary Harlan and Leah Riley created The Coalition Zine, and by the end of the year had published three issues. New issues should become available next school year.

The Coalition also hosted a daylong conference on April 28, which featured Victor Lewis, a nationally recognized social justice educator, trainer, and activist, in the morning, and three workshops in the afternoon that involved storytelling, interviews and a sun printing art project. Next year the Coalition plans to split the conference into two events, one in mid-October and the other in March or early April. Dr. Jane Olmsted will also teach a 1-hour ICSR course in the fall on coalition and diversity; students will discuss relevant articles and work in groups on artistic, political or research projects.

The Coalition was funded by the Provost’s Initiatives for Excellence, Potter College of Arts & Letters, Gordon Ford College of Business, Ogden College of Science & Engineering, and University College.

Help us in keeping this three-year initiative active by participating in any of the upcoming events!
Study Abroad in Belize
Over Spring break 2012, four Gender & Women’s Studies graduate certificate seekers, Leigh Gaskin, Brandi Button, James Miller, and Emily Gillespie, went on a study abroad to Gales Point, Belize, with faculty member Dr. Molly Kerby. Leigh, Brandi, and Emily are students in the Social Responsibility and Sustainable Communities master’s program. The students conducted research about community-based issues; they interviewed residents of the village, visited a wildlife sanctuary, and observed national elections. The students used their experience and community research to complete projects for their Sustainable Communities Research course and/or master’s thesis. The topics ranged from brain drain, a phenomenon in developing countries where natives receive secondary education and leave their homes for employment outside the country, village craft trade from a post-colonial feminist lens, and Kriol food culture, which included creating a cookbook.

Girls in Science
This year’s Girls in Science Day was a success with 150 girls in attendance. It was a day-long event on April 14, offering girls in the 4th through 7th grades in Warren and surrounding counties the chance to sign up for three special science classes. This year we offered 14 different classes for the girls to choose from, with titles like “Root Beer Rag,” “Magneto Motor,” and “Hanging Around with Centripetal Forces,” among many others. Aside from the fun and exciting classes, Girls in Science Day offers young girls a positive experience with higher education and encourages them in the fields of math and science in which women are traditionally underrepresented. Dr. Rachel Campbell of Physics and Astronomy, the coordinator of the event, has also expressed strong interest in starting a Boys in Science Day to occur in the fall.

Gender & Women’s Studies is a long-time co-sponsor of the event. Meghan Kennedy, the GWS student assistant, has been the assistant coordinator for two years. We in Gender & Women’s Studies wear many hats. Here’s in her “science” hat:
Gerontology Students Honored During Annual Scholar’s Reception
Celebrating our first year with University College, students in the academic programs in aging and invited guests gathered in the Kentucky Room on May 9th. It’s been a busy year for our Gerontology Minor’s program. Students volunteered with the

Sigma Phi Omega (SPO): Leah Beyer, Amy Correll, Samira Fejzic, Karly Kasten, Meghan Kieta, Lindsey McCrory, Paige Montgomery and Alison Pare were inducted into the Kappa Upsilon Chapter, Sigma Phi Omega. SPO is the Gerontology and Geriatrics Honor Society that recognizes outstanding academic and leadership contributions. Undergraduates must have at least a 3.3 GPA and have reached “advanced standing” status to be invited to join.

Gero 485 Seminar: Four students were honored for outstanding work with their Gerontology Capstone projects. These projects require either research or active engagement with older adults and their communities and take the entire semester to complete.
Sretta Clark: “Abuse and Neglect in the Long Term Care Setting: The Use of Sensitivity Training as a Tool for Education and Change”
Sherria Hawkins: “Green House Model: Better Outcome for Elders”
Lorie Marsh: “Proper Placement for Alzheimer’s Patients”
Lindsay McCrory: “Social Work Careers and Aging”

Senior Scholar Collaboration: We celebrated the many contributions made by older adults in a year-long project bringing together Senior Scholars from Village Manor and students in the Honors Gerontology 100 class. In this unique partnership, Gerontology students take the class to the Manor where they learn about aging from the real experts - older adults themselves. Topics are as diverse as planning for, and living in retirement; end of life issues and political advocacy. This project is made possible by the generous support of Christian Care Communities, Inc.
WKU Aging and the Southern Gerontological Society Annual Meeting
WKU Scholars played an important role in the success of the annual research meeting of the Southern Gerontological Society (SGS). This is the only regional association in the United States which brings together researchers and applied gerontologists. The opening session was led by SGS President, Dana Burr Bradley and featured a life history and performance by internationally acclaimed mandolin player, Roland Smith and his wife, Diane Bachus. One of the wonderful things about the conference was the visible presence of WKU Honors College students at the conference. Made possible through funding from the Honors Development Board, students had a chance to meet some of the preeminent researchers in aging. Several faculty and students also presented their research during this four day event in Nashville. Presentations included:

- Disparities in Nursing Home Care: The Significance of Race and Place
  Kathleen Abrahamson, PhD, Heather Davila, BA, University of Minnesota and Jenna Gillette, BA

- Age Friendly Cities Initiative: Collaborations, Connections, and Communities
  Kelly Fitzgerald, PhD, Western Kentucky University & World Health Organization; Dana Burr Bradley, PhD and Urmila Tokekar, BAMS

- Community-University Partnership: Engaging Schools Serving Rural Custodial Grandparents (Track: Getting the Word Out)

News From FUSE

Congratulations to Amy Correll for winning a Faculty-Undergraduate Student Engagement grant for her proposal Understanding Stroke: a study on patient/caregiver stress and coping following a stroke in Broca's area (speech production) or Wernicke’s area (speech comprehension). Amy will be working with Dr. Dana Burr Bradley and Dr. Kara Dassel to identify model “best practice” programs that use speech scientists in post diagnosis care.

Summer Professional Development

Dr. Tina Peterson will be attending the 2012 Summer Workshop on African American Aging at the University of Michigan where she be working with faculty on her research agenda.

Dr. Kelly Fitzgerald will be attending the 2012 Gerontology Education Workshop at the Aging Policy Institute of Syracuse University.

New Research Project Launched

April 16, 2012 --- Bowling Green officially becomes part of the World Health Organization (WHO) Age Friendly Cities and Communities Initiative. This collaborative international project is based on the realization that great communities are AGE Friendly Communities. City of Bowling Green’s Mayor Bruce Wilkerson applied to the WHO to be awarded membership in the network and in conjunction with WKU has agreed to work over a multiple year time frame to identify and build an Age Friendly City. WKU (It’s Center and Academic Programs in Aging,) the City of Bowling Green (Neighborhood Division) and AARP Kentucky are convening organizations for the first step of this process called “ASK BOWLING GREEN.” The organizations are hosting conversations between now and November around one question -- What kind of community do you want to live in?” Supporting this effort will be the work of students in GERO 495 – Age Friendly BG led by Dr. Kelly Fitzgerald this fall. Students, working with older adults in our community will be generating research questions and gathering data to produce a baseline analysis of BG Age Friendliness. In addition, the City of Bowling Green will be training “50 over 50” senior interns who will act as advisors to this four year long research project. Please contact the Center (aging@wku.edu) if you would like to host a conversation or learn about ways to be involved.
Center for Leadership Excellence

Our ninth annual Leadership Banquet was held March 19, 2012 at the Carroll Knicely Center. We honored 49 students nominated by their deans and department heads as outstanding student leaders in their areas. President Gary Ransdell presented each nominated student with a certificate.

This spring Dr. Phillip Coleman and two of his LEAD 500 students (Rhonda Walker and Lincoln Lawrence) had an article published in the Research in Higher Education Journal. In March, Dr. Coleman presented their findings at the conference in San Antonio, TX.

Marie Yager and her husband, Dr. Ed Yager, will return to WKU this fall after spending a year at Harlaxton in England. Marie will be returning to teach two of our LEAD 200 classes and Dr. Yager to his position in Political Science. Welcome back, Marie…we missed you!

Two of our graduate assistants: Derrick Lottes and Meghan Purdy are graduating this spring. Derrick and Meghan have significantly contributed to the Leadership Studies Program the past two years, and they will be greatly missed. Both Derrick and Meghan have weddings this coming June. We wish them and their new spouses much happiness.
Dr. Sarah Chace will be joining our faculty this fall. Sarah is ABD with her Ph.D. in Leadership from Columbia University. We look forward to getting to know Sarah and hope that you will welcome her to University College.

We recently had a visit from Ms. Elena Pak (our first graduate assistant in Leadership Studies) and her fiancé who visited with us after attending a United Way Conference in Nashville, TN. Elena graduated from WKU seven years ago with a Master’s in Communication. She has worked in Washington, DC and New York and is currently working as VP for Individual Giving for United Way of New York City. She and her fiancé Paul will marry in Sidney, Australia this July.

New for fall 2012

This fall we are offering for the first time a minor in Leadership Studies. Complementing most majors, the 21 credit hour program will provide an understanding of leadership and how to apply it in personal and professional roles. For more information, visit our website: http://www.wku.edu/leadership/leadership_minor/index.php

To enroll, please contact us at (270) 745-8973 or email to: lead.stu@wku.edu

Dr. Cecile Garmon wearing her ‘peacockery’ as she prepares for WKU’s 171st Commencement Ceremony.
Summer Workshop Series

The Summer Workshop Series is an opportunity for community members and organizations to develop some of their services. The Center offers up to four workshops each summer that are open to the public. The workshops are interactive and provide helpful information from professionals in the area. Registration is $10, and all workshops can be paid in advance or at the door. Checks and money orders can be made payable to the WKU ALIVE Center. Participants wanting to attend all four workshops may receive a discounted rate of $30 for four workshops. For information on registration payment, contact Brittany Ryan at 270-782-0082 or brittany.ryan@wku.edu.

Finding Funds that Fit
Presenter: Johna Rodgers
Date: Wednesday, May 16th
Time: 9:00am-12:00pm
Location: ALIVE Center
Register at www.wku.edu/alive

Planning a Special Event and Fundraiser
Presenter: Mandy Baker
Date: Wednesday, June 13th
Time: 9:00am-11:00am
Location: ALIVE Center
Register at www.wku.edu/alive

Cultural Sensitivity Training/ Working with Diverse Communities
Speaker: Nadia De Leon and Jennifer Bell
Date: Wednesday, July 11th
Time: 9:00am-11:00am
Register at www.wku.edu/alive

Starting a Nonprofit, What's Involved?
Speaker: Larry Howlett, CPA
Date: Wednesday, August 15th
Time: 9:00am-12:00pm
Register at www.wku.edu/alive

The $100 Solution
Students implemented $100 Solution projects in 13 classes, which amounted to 44 projects total. There were at least 23 community partners who are working with these students to make this work successful. Some of the projects addressed issues, such as violence against women, refugee driving instruction, navigating western medicine, youth reading problems, and much more.

Public Scholarship Network
The ALIVE Center held the first meeting of the Public Scholarship Network. The goal of the network is to bring together faculty who conduct applied or community-based research, utilize service-learning in their courses, or are engaged in other forms of public scholarship that address societal challenges and real world issues.
Kentucky Engagement Conference

KENTUCKY ENGAGEMENT CONFERENCE
NOVEMBER 8-9, 2012

Join us November 8-9, 2012 for the Kentucky Engagement Conference. This year's conference is hosted at Western Kentucky University. The Kentucky Engagement Conference is planned each year by the host school with the assistance of the state-wide planning committee consisting of representatives from the eight universities across the state of Kentucky (WKU, EKU, NKU, Murray, Morehead, Louisville, UK, and KSU), Ky Campus Compact, the Council on Postsecondary Education, and the Kentucky's Secretary of State's office. The conference is held to bring together academic administrators, faculty, and students to share best practices and learn about trending ideas related to community engagement, service learning, civic health, community-based research, and related topics. Learn more about the conference at www.wku.edu/kec.

We will be accepting proposals for regular sessions and poster sessions until May 31st. The theme of this year's conference is a New Era of Engagement.

Call for Proposals
Deadline: May 31, 2012
Download call for proposals at www.wku.edu/kec.
Please direct any questions to terry.shoemaker@wku.edu.

Hill House

The four graduate assistants at the WKU Hill House continued community development work this spring with homelessness. They coordinated the first homelessness simulation for WKU students, and 12 students from different academic areas participated. In addition, the students completed research with the topics of remoteness in Kentucky, assessing service-learning, client data at HOTEL INC, and Bosnian refugees.

Introduction to Service-Learning

Community Engagement Coordinator Nadia De Leon presented the annual Service-Learning workshop through FaCSET. The workshop provided information on discipline-specific service-learning, collaborative service-learning, community development through service-learning, and much more.
Volunteer Service

The ALIVE Center's Student Advisory Board created the Random Acts of Service monthly project which began in February. In addition, the Center recognized 72 campus and community members along with four groups during the reception for the President's Volunteer Service Award reception. Then, the Center ended the year with National Volunteer Week, a partnership with WKU Student Activities. Service activities were held each day. The groups partnered with Habitat for Humanity to kick off their A Brush with Kindness program.

Congratulations!

Nadia De Leon for winning the University College Part-time Faculty Award
Brittany Ryan for winning the Women of Achievement Award for Business

Spring 2012 Community Partnership Funds Awardees

Ashley Fitzsimons and her professor, Dr. Holli Drummond, of the Department of Sociology, were awarded funds for the project "Measuring Empowerment: A program evaluation of the Sal y Luz Youth Organization in Medellin, Columbia". This project provides a tangible program evaluation to Sal y Luz so that they might better understand the impact of one of their projects and the role of the youth within the organization. The project will include exploring through photography what it is that young participants perceive as empowerment.

Nadia De Leon, part-time faculty at the Department of Folk Studies & Anthropology and doctoral student in the Educational Leadership program, was awarded funds for her dissertation: The Impact on Student's Multicultural Competence from Participation in Intensive Multicultural Service-Learning through The $100 Solution Model. This study will measure compare students enrolled in a Cultural Diversity class who complete a service-learning project with immigrant and refugee families, to students who complete the course but do not participate in the service-learning project.

Amanda Ervin, who will be teaching an Honors course in the Fall, received funding for the courses' service-learning component: "The Space Between: The Process of Presenting Scientific Information to the Public." This project will provide students with a hands-on experience that highlights the challenges faced when important but often controversial scientific information is packaged for a non-scientific public by planning and reflection on an exhibit or outreach program for Barren River Imaginative Museum of Science.

Martha Sales, of the WKU Trio Programs, received funding for her project "Community In Crisis." The central aim of the project is to empower African American young men with the necessary skills to succeed as well as, educate the Bowling Green-Warren County communities of the African American male student population’s academic and behavioral plight and require accountability to assist in eliminating this crisis. The CNC-100 Project will incorporate Why Try, a successful nationally known mentoring program that teaches African American males different ways to learn, incorporating music, arts and culturally related methods of teaching and service. The students will also visit a Historically Black College.
Inaugural Graduates of Certificate of Citizenship & Social Responsibility

The Institute for Citizenship & Social Responsibility is pleased to announce the first four graduates of the Certificate in Citizenship & Social Responsibility. The certificate is an interdisciplinary program fusing academic studies and civic duties. The certificate focuses on contemporary issues that prepare students to be effective citizens.

The students were Bianca Brown (Philosophy/English), Rebecca Katz (Religious Studies), Sara Moody (Social Work/Asian Religions and Cultures), and Loretta Zocklein (Interdisciplinary Studies). Each student was recently recognized at a celebration held at the ICSR.

When asked about the ICSR, Rebecca Katz, who was also an ICSR student worker, answered, “The ICSR is the most valuable asset to my academic career. As I was growing and learning about the world, the ICSR was an outlet for me to explore my passions and refine my skills to accomplish things. This space, and the people in this space, have given me the tools to do anything I want to. Most importantly, I am empowered. I understand how we are all connected in the world. I know how to make a difference. I am a problem-solver and there's no turning back.”

Sara Moody also commented on the importance of the ICSR courses for her future: “My time with the ICSR was an invaluable experience that I will carry with me in my professional career. The resources and courses at the ICSR allowed me to develop experience and skills to work collaboratively with community members to make tangible differences. The most valuable idea that I learned in the ICSR was my own capacity to create change within my community.”

Congratulations to these four students. For more information regarding the Certificate of Citizenship & Social Responsibility, visit http://www.wku.edu/icsr/certificate/.

From Left to Right are Loretta Zocklein, Bianca Brown, Rebecca Katz, & Sara Moody
Military Student Services is proud to be in the spotlight lately as WKU was recently named #16 in the nation as a BEST for Vets College by Military Times Edge Magazine.

WKU hosts the only Veterans Upward Bound and Acquired Brain Injury Resource program in the commonwealth.

Donate your textbooks for a great cause: Textbooks for Troops

WKU’s military students are one of the most financially burdened student populations on campus. They do not receive the financial support from their parents that traditional students have. National Guard and Reserve troops are returning home to a record high unemployment rate. Our Textbooks for Troops Program is a lending library of textbooks available for military students who are not receiving a book stipend. National Guard, Reserve, and Active Duty soldiers are benefitting greatly from this program. Students check out their texts for an entire semester, and then return them for another student to use the following semester. Once the book is phased out of a class, we donate the book to a charity that will send it overseas to be used again. It’s the ultimate recycling program! Please consider donating your textbooks to this program. Contact Kent Johnson, TPH 201.
Kent.johnson@wku.edu
Sgt. Bryan Anderson delivers a keynote address to WKU students

Motivational speaker and Iraq war veteran Sgt. Bryan Anderson delivered a keynote address at Western Kentucky University on April 3 at the Downing University Center (DUC) Auditorium. Bryan was serving his second tour of duty in Iraq in 2005 when his convoy was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED). Bryan lost both of his legs and his left hand – making him one of the few triple amputees to have survived his injuries. Since that attack, Bryan has chosen to live life to the fullest. He has launched a successful career as an actor, landing roles in *CSI: NY*, *All My Children*, and the Golden Globe winning movie *The Wrestler*. And only having one full limb hasn’t stopped Bryan from doing the things he loves – including snowboarding and rock climbing. His story has been featured in *Esquire Magazine*, the *New York Times*, and other major newspapers. He recently launched his new inspirational book, ‘No Turning Back’ and discussed experiences contained in the book during the keynote. His speech was both inspiring and therapeutic for the military students attending the event. Legendary singer/songwriter John Parr performed prior to Sgt. Anderson taking the stage. “The military are ordinary people that are trained to do extraordinary things,” Parr said. “But then they must come back and be ordinary people again.” John Parr will tour military bases, hospitals and USO centers throughout North America in 2012 and feels that playing for the military and their families is his way of giving back to America, his second and most favorite home. Parr’s new album *The Mission* is due out this summer and is dedicated to military service members.

Although his military commitments prevented him from attending the graduation ceremony, CW4 Thomas Mangrum's photo was displayed on the Jumbo Trons in E.A. Diddle Arena on Saturday May 12th.

Dr. Ransdell recognized Chief Warrant Officer Thomas Mangrum who is serving on active duty with the U.S. Army at Ft. Gordon, Ga. Mangrum, who began his college education in 1983 and has served in Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, graduated with a degree in interdisciplinary studies with an emphasis in social and behavioral science.

Members of WKU’s Class of 2012 who have served in the military wore red, white and blue honor cords. All veterans and those serving in the military were recognized at each ceremony. "We proudly salute all of the students, faculty, staff and guests who have previously served or are currently serving in the armed forces," Dr. Ransdell said.
Chonda White and Tim Benningfield presented at the Campus Advising Network session in March about Adult Learner Services Offered at WKU and tips for Advising Non-Traditional Students.

WKU REAL hosted a reception on May 9th to show gratitude to individuals who go the extra mile in assisting Adult Learners by presenting the first ever “REAL Friend Awards” to Jennifer Anderson of Ogden College and LaBrisha McKinney from the Office of Admissions.

Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2012 Adult Learner Summer Scholarship:

Kyla Byard
Melissa Moss
Janie Embry
Ying Pendley

Jody Hester
Jonathan Spiegl
Tammy Hodges
David Terry
Valerie Isby

Carmen Wells
Lauren Moore
Kathy Wilson
Miky Wright