German Teacher Honored

VFTH

3/6/14

A German teacher who lends her expertise to WKU's International Student teaching program is honored for her commitment.

Amy Bingham explains how WKU benefits from this unique partnership in this week's View from the Hill.

English teacher Heike Armbrust  is prepping these ten WKU student teachers for their upcoming international student teaching experience in Germany.

"The students need to be prepared.  It's not just sending them to us.  They need to know about the cultural differences."

For the past six years Armbrust has been involved in german exchange programs at three Warren County High Schools.  Last year, she took the next step by facilitating WKU's International Student Teaching in her native country.

"She takes these kids and treats them like they are her own kids and that's the beauty of the program."

Brian Campbell was part of Heike's student teaching group last year.  He can vouch for all the planning she put into providing students a comprehensive German experience.

""Not every group had a Heike.  We had the advantage.  Other groups had a great experience but we had the best one."

In a surprise ceremony,  WKU President Gary Ransdell honored Armbrust with a Kentucky Colonel and resolution to declare her an honorary alumni.

"I did not expect anything.  Totally surprised."

Program director Fred  Carter says it's well deserved because of the extra effort and level of comfort  she provides.

"It's very reassuring to them once they get off the plane that they see someone they recognize from having spent a weekend here prior to their trip."

Armbrust says she developed a love for America at the age of six so it’s the perfect job for her.

"For me, it's my American dream come true, I love it."

With this week's View from the HIll, I'm Amy Bingham.

Next month, a total of  57 WKU student teachers will travel to eight locations around the world to complete their international student teaching assignment.

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