



Eastern Kentucky University Highlights & Achievements

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- A partnership between **Eastern Kentucky University** and **General Atomics** could provide the basis for a new and sustainable fuel production industry in Kentucky and ultimately have a global impact. With the establishment of the **Eastern Kentucky University Center for Renewable and Alternative Fuel Technologies (CRAFT)**, researchers will examine the potential for a cellulose-derived biodiesel industry in Kentucky.
- **The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching** has recognized Eastern for its strong commitment to community engagement. ECU, honored for both for its curricular engagement and its outreach and partnerships, is among 119 U.S. colleges and universities the Foundation selected for its 2008 Community Engagement Classification. These institutions join the 76 institutions identified in the 2006 selection process.
- The buzz about ECU's **beekeeping initiative** has reached the shores of Ireland. Irish filmmakers Ross McDonnell and Carter Gunn shot footage on the Eastern campus and at the Thunder Ridge surface mining site in Leslie County for possible inclusion in their documentary, "Colony."
- Students who participate in a Greek social fraternity or sorority at Eastern are helping themselves and the community, according to a recent study. According to an **Educational Benchmarking Inc. / Association of Fraternity Advisors fraternity/sorority assessment** and Greek annual reports, ECU's Greek community (approximately 1,000 Greeks in 27 fraternities and sororities) averaged 63,000 hours of community service over the past three years.
- Thirty-seven **Professional Education Fellows** from Eastern Kentucky University are working closely with teachers and administrators in various school systems in central and southeastern Kentucky, collaboratively addressing needs identified by school officials. Since the program was established in 2001 by ECU's **College of Education**, approximately 50 University educators from all academic colleges have shared their expertise in more than a dozen different school districts. Each participating ECU faculty member works with a school district for at least 40 hours on site over a three-year period.
- For many years, Eastern Kentucky University has routinely fielded more student panelists at the **National Collegiate Honors Conference** than any other institution. That was true again this year in San Antonio, Texas, where 30 students participated on panels and 22 more attended the conference.
- U.S. Forest Service Southern Research Station Fisheries Research Biologist Wendell Haag, Ph.D., a 1981 **EKU biology graduate from Lexington, has received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers from President Bush** during a ceremony in December at the White House. Haag was among the nearly 70 scientists and engineers receiving the award, which is the highest honor that a young scientist or engineer can receive in the United States.

January 2009

KSU Activity

The University has completed the first phase of the SACS reaffirmation process. The University sent in its Compliance Report in September for the off-site review.

The University is now moving into the second phase. This phase requires preparing a response to the preliminary review, in the format of what SACS calls a Focused Report.

The AuthorHouse has published Dr. Michael Kasongo's autobiography, *Born to be a Preacher and a Teacher: The Life Story of Michael O. Kasongo*. Dr. Kasongo is an Associate Professor in the Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences. He is also an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church. His previous publications include the *History of the Methodist Church in Congo*.

The Art Area sponsored an Art Festival on Saturday, December 6, 2008, in collaboration with local artists. Twenty-two visual artists participated and two local bands performed. Approximately 150 people were in attendance for this first event in Shauntee Hall as the new official Art Area facility.

Dr. Karah Stokes has been chosen as Vice President of the Kentucky Philological Association for 2009.

Dr. April Fallon's paper "Mutability and Paradox in the Poetry of Lorine Niedecker" has been accepted at the 2009 *Louisville Conference on Literature and Culture Since 1900*, and she has been asked to write the encyclopedia entry on Lorine Niedecker for *The Literary Encyclopedia*, sponsored by the University of East Anglia.

The Division of Literature, Languages and Philosophy's Journalism area successfully launched *KSU Reflections* on October 25. The weekly student-run talk radio show airs on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. *KSU Reflections* is produced by KSU Journalism and Mass Communications students. Students in public relations and advertising also sell advertising for the show under the supervision of Max Maxwell in the Division of External Relations and Development.

Dr. Steven Gale, Endowed Chair for the Humanities, was featured on "Think Tank with Ben Wattenberg," a television program, where Gale discussed the works of 20th century humorist S.J. Perelman, the award-winning writer for *The New Yorker* and other publications. Dr. Gale is an authority on Perelman, having published three books and several articles about his writing.

The Division of Aquaculture just completed its third video-based online course, *Fish Reproduction and Spawning Techniques*, and its fourth internet course. This course will be offered in the fall 2009 semester. To date, students in 36 states and 15 countries have taken KSU Aquaculture online courses.

Dr. Miles Lange, Frankfort native and KSU Aquaculture's first graduate student to earn a Ph.D., returned to campus to speak with KSU students about his dissertation research on immunology. Dr. Lange received his doctorate from the University of Mississippi Medical School and has accepted a position at the University of Nebraska where he will work and pursue post-doctoral studies.

Dr. Myna Panemangalore, Principal Investigator for the nutrition and health research program, has been appointed formally as a reviewer for the online *Journal of Biotech Research* by the editor-in-chief of the journal.

Dr. John Sedlacek, Principal Investigator of Entomology, and Dr. Robert Barney, Associate Research Director and Principal Investigator in the Community Research Service, attended the 56th Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America in November. Dr. Sedlacek presented a research poster co-authored by Karen Friley, Co-Investigator of Entomology, titled "Populations of Beneficial Insects in Organically Grown Sweet Corn Using PredaLure Insect Attractant." Dr. Barney presented a paper titled "Darwin's Evolution as a Coleopterist."

Dr. George Antonious of the KSU Land Grant Program, in collaboration with Western Kentucky University through the statewide Kentucky Mesonet Consortium Project grant, has completed the installation of a new weather station at the KSU Research Farm. The new weather station connects the KSU Research Farm to a series of weather stations in Kentucky to ensure short- and long-term monitoring for various natural and man-made hazardous conditions. Kentucky Mesonet is a network of automated weather and climate monitoring stations in different locations throughout Kentucky. It was developed by the Kentucky Climate Center at WKU to serve researchers and students monitoring environmental quality as well as to serve the diverse needs in communities across the Commonwealth.

Dr. Kirk Pomper, Principal Investigator of Horticulture in the Community Research Service, recently had a journal article published in the *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, "Loss of Ripening Capacity of Pawpaw Fruit with Extended Cold Storage." The article was the result of a collaborative research project with Drs. Federica Galli and Douglas Archbold, who are researchers in the Department of Horticulture at the University of Kentucky.

Dr. Michael Bomford of KSU's Land Grant Program was one of 20 world "visionaries" invited to present at a two-day summit on rooftop farming in Berkeley last week. The summit was featured in Friday's *New York Times* article, "[Visionaries Work to Get Rooftop and Vertical Farming Off the Ground.](#)" Dr. Bomford's presentation on greenhouse energy use will be posted at <http://www.skyvegetables.com>.

The KSU Marching Band has been invited to participate in the Honda All Stars "Battle of the Bands" in Atlanta, Ga.

KCTCS Online to Offer 24/7, Affordable and Accredited Higher Education to Working Adults

This spring, The Kentucky Community and Technical College System, the leading provider of online education in the state of Kentucky, will launch KCTCS Online, a virtual learning initiative designed to attract more adult learners to online education.

In 2006, KCTCS realized a need for KCTCS Online after conducting an extensive statewide market research study among prospective students that indicated the state could triple the number of adults interested in pursuing higher education by offering online college degrees in a format more conducive to working adults.

Additionally, dialogues with CEOs across the state revealed the need among businesses and industries for modular on-line course offerings that would allow employees to take classes anytime, anyplace and anywhere.

As a result of these studies, KCTCS Online will provide students with a college experience that does not require them to physically open the door of any of our 16 colleges and provides additional, flexible program options targeted to the working adult.

Specific product highlights include:

- With KCTCS Online, students will never need to physically visit a KCTCS campus. They can access KCTCS Online courses and support services 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year. Enrollment, academic advising, technical assistance, textbooks and library resources are all available to students via online or by phone.
- KCTCS Online classes are divided into modularized courses completed in timeframes of 3-8 weeks. Students can enroll in the number of modules that is right for their schedule. The modules build toward credits, and credits build toward certificates and degrees.
- If employers need to provide training in a specific skill, they can enroll their employees in the module needed to complete that skill –wasting zero time and money on unneeded training.
- KCTCS Online will offer the same, low tuition as regular KCTCS course offerings. Plus, the modular approach breaks tuition into even smaller increments.



- KCTCS Online courses are offered through our KCTCS colleges and are fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
- Students may be eligible to receive credit for prior knowledge on KCTCS Online course modules.

The KCTCS Online product launch will begin with a soft rollout in late January and a public launch in late March. The initial offerings will include an associate degree in business administration, an

associate degree in information technology, and certificates that address specific workforce needs. In total, 241 modules will be offered this spring, and additional modules in Nursing and Industrial Maintenance Technology will be added during 2009.

The KCTCS online learning initiative is designed to give thousands of working Kentuckians the opportunity to pursue a flexible, accredited, and affordable higher education.



“Good News” Report from Morehead State University

- Dr. Emma Gillespie Perkins, associate professor of art, was named 2008 Kentucky Art Educator of the Year during the Fall 2008 KyAEA State Conference. The Kentucky Art Educator is presented by the Kentucky Art Education Association (KyAEA) to individuals who significantly contribute to the organization, the discipline of art education, and to art education in Kentucky.
- Dr. Charles Patrick, assistant to the provost/SACS director, received the Exemplary Service Award from the National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT) during its banquet in Nashville on November 21. The NAIT Exemplary Service Award was established in 1988 and was renamed the Dr. Alvin Rudisill Exemplary Service Award in 2002 in honor of Al Rudisill who served as NAIT's executive director for more than 20 years before his retirement in 2002.
- MSU was named the 2008 Kentucky Horse Council Educational Partner of the Year. The award was announced at the KHC annual conference. According to the KHC, the “Educational Partner Award” is designed to recognize a learning institution that acknowledges and values the importance of quality achievement through community involvement and outreach. MSU is such a school. The faculty and staff of the equine program are professional, caring, and overwhelmingly willing to share their knowledge with others. The faculty and staff support community education and students also are encouraged to be part of the educational outreach process.
- Tony Nash, spirit coordinator, has been named a head coach of the USA Cheer national team. The USA Federation for Sport Cheerleading, also known as USA Cheer, has begun the process of selecting two national teams to represent the United States at the International Cheer Union’s 2009 World Cup. Sixty top cheerleaders will be chosen to form an all-girl team and a coed team.
- Andrea Marks, Morehead State University graduate in agriculture from Lewisburg, Ohio, recently received the prestigious Ken Noah Award for Outstanding University co-op/intern student for 2008. The award is given annually by the Kentucky Association of Colleges and Employers (KACE).
- Several students recently received awards at the Kentucky Music Teachers National Association Chamber Music Competition. The MSU group Iris was named winner of the Saxophone Quartet competition. Members of the Iris Saxophone Quartet are Elena Pederson of Lake Mary, Florida; Josh Bradley of Morehead; Trevin Little of Pikeville; and Harrison Atzinger of Louisville.
- Students and faculty from the Department of Art’s ceramic lab have crafted more than 500 bowls that will be contributed to a project to fight hunger. MSU students and faculty donated their work to Empty Bowls, an international movement comprised of independent community events joined together to fight hunger. Empty Bowls was started

by potters to encourage the nexus of ceramic production and community involvement. Each event is organized locally and raises money that goes to feed the hungry in that region.

- Dr. Kimberly Peterson, assistant professor of veterinary technology, and Dr. Mattie Decker, associate professor of education, have been recognized for their work with a special project. Their project, “Another Chance at Life and Learning: Department of Juvenile Justice Greyhound Program,” won the prestigious Kentucky Animal Hall of Fame award. This award is a yearly recognition presented at the annual Kentucky Veterinary Medical Association business luncheon during the Mid-America Conference.
- A husband-and-wife team of faculty members with a total of 82 years of service to Morehead State University were awarded honorary doctoral degrees at MSU’s Winter Commencement, Saturday, December 13. Dr. George M. (Mac) Luckey Jr., professor emeritus of philosophy, and Dr. Sue Y. Luckey, professor emerita of business, each received the degree of Doctor of Public Service for their distinguished academic careers.
- MSU recognized an MSU alumnus who earned America’s highest award for wartime heroism. A memorial marker was dedicated near the Little Bell Tower in honor of the late William E. Barber. Barber, then a captain, received the Medal of Honor for heroically leading his Marine rifle company in a desperate five-day defense of a frozen mountain pass vital to the 1st Marine Division's breakout to the sea in December 1950 in the Chosin Reservoir campaign of the Korean War. He received the medal in 1952 from President Harry Truman.

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Fostering excellence
Creating community
Building partnerships



Fulbright Scholars

MSU faculty Dr. Stephanie Rea, associate professor in music; Dr. Patricia Trites, associate professor in English; and Dr. William Mulligan, professor in history, were awarded Fulbright Scholars grants for the 2008-09 academic year. The U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board sponsor the awards. Rea will teach music courses in flute and conduct research at the Hochschule fuer Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Frankfurt, Germany, from March through August 2009. Trites is already conducting her teacher training as part of the Fulbright Yilan Project in Yilan, Taiwan. Mulligan is lecturing and conducting research on the migration from the Beara Peninsula to the U.S. during the years 1840-1920 at University College Cork-National University of Ireland from January through May 2009.

THE CHRONICLE

of Higher Education

Dr. Michael Basile, director of Institute for International Studies, contributed to an article the *Chronicle* ran recently on foreign student growth in the United States. MSU foreign-student enrollments overall are up nearly 30 percent this fall from last year and support the largest ESL program in Kentucky.

Sports spotlight

Senior Amber Guffey became the first Murray State women's basketball player to be named to the Naismith Trophy Watch List, awarded to the top women's basketball player in the nation. The Naismith Trophy watch list consists of 50 NCAA Division I women's basketball players from across the country. Selection criteria is based on player performances from the previous year and expectations for the 2008-09 season. The Naismith Trophy will be awarded at the 2009 NCAA Women's Final Four in St. Louis, Mo.

Holiday tradition

Murray State University's fifth annual *The Holidays at Murray State University 2008: The Sights, The Sounds, The Season*, produced for KET television, has expanded to its largest audience ever, reaching approximately 25 million homes across the United States. *Holidays at Murray State* is a unique offering of musical groups filmed around campus and the region.



Rated Top 100



Kiplinger has recognized MSU for the fourth consecutive year as one of the top 100 best values among public universities across the nation on *Kiplinger's 100 Best Values in Public Colleges for 2008-09*. Murray State is the only public university in Kentucky included in the rankings, which feature schools that excel at combining first-class academics with an affordable price tag.

10-year commitment

BB&T Foundation has made a \$1 million commitment to Murray State University. The gift, payable over 10 years, will fund the BB&T Center for Free Enterprise and Organizational Democracy in the college of business and public affairs. The gift will support faculty research and student scholarship, including an annual student research competition and graduate research assistantships.



Honored faculty



The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) have named Dr. Ricky Cox, chemistry professor at MSU, the 2008 Kentucky Professor of the Year. Cox was selected from nearly 300 top professors in the United States.



NKU Taking Major Steps to Graduate Students Faster: *Reduction of Minimum Credit Hours, Departmental Roadmap Development*

Northern Kentucky University is taking major steps toward reducing the time it takes undergraduate students to graduate.

At its September 2008 meeting, the NKU Board of Regents approved a reduction of the minimum total number of credit hours required to graduate from 128 to 120. This reduction received the unanimous support of the Faculty Senate and was also approved by the provost and NKU President James C. Votruba. NKU's general education hours are also currently being examined for reduction.

"Reducing the minimum number of credit hours required to graduate will make it possible for more students to graduate within their preferred time frame," Votruba said. "As important, it will allow students to focus more deliberately on those courses which are directly applicable to their careers after graduation."

In addition, all NKU academic departments are currently developing road maps to four-year degree completion. Academic guides will give students the information and the tools they need to be successful and efficient as they work toward degree completion.

These guides will show students how to complete individual academic programs in 120 hours. They will include example schedules that demonstrate how students can meet all graduation requirements - not just those for their major - in four years. This will include details such as how often required courses will be offered and whether they will be offered in the daytime, evening or both in a given semester.

"Without this information, students can find it extremely difficult to balance work and class schedules," Votruba said. "This should make that juggling much easier."

NKU Center for Economic Analysis and Development Filling Critical Regional Economic Niche

The NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business recently launched the Center for Economic Analysis and Development (CEAD) in the NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business.

"As an institution, NKU is committed to regional stewardship and economic development," said John Beehler, associate provost for economic initiatives and dean of the Haile/US Bank College of Business. "As part of our comprehensive economic initiatives plan, the Center for Economic Analysis and Development will play a key role in conducting high-quality, objective economic analysis and business research for the benefit of organizations in our region."

Janet Harrah is senior director of CEAD. Harrah came to NKU after 21 years of experience as an applied economist, including 10 years as director of a similar center at Wichita State University.

"When it comes to future economic development and analysis in the Northern Kentucky region, the CEAD will play a major - if not indispensable - role," said Dr. Gary Clayton, chair of NKU's Department of Economics and Finance.

"A key ingredient to good decision making is quality information, research and analysis," Harrah said. "One of the primary roles of the CEAD will be the collection, analysis and dissemination of economic and business information and trends for the region."

CEAD began sending out monthly *By the Numbers* newsletters to local business leaders, media and economic experts in the fall.

The December 2008 newsletter featured topics such as unemployment, population trends and a current economic conditions index. The publication has already become a critical regional economic tool.

NKU Closes Parking Lots, Turns Down Thermostat - Savings Projected at \$40,000

NKU implemented a number of energy-saving measures during the recent winter break, resulting in a projected savings for the university of about \$40,000.

As part of the plan, many parking lots and all of its parking garages were closed (no lighting, no snow removal) from Dec. 23 through Jan. 11.

In addition, all but a few campus buildings were closed from Dec. 23 until Jan. 5. Temperatures in closed buildings were set at near 55 degrees, most elevators were shut down and interior lighting and other physical plant systems were turned off.

Similar measures were enacted during the four-day Thanksgiving break at NKU, resulting in a savings of over \$7,000 in electric cost and approximately 113,000 kilowatt hours of electricity.



Campus Success

- The University of Kentucky will build an \$18.6 million building to house high-technology research on visualization, computer science, and electrical and computer engineering as part of a “Digital Village” complex in the Maxwell Street-Rose Street vicinity. The building will be funded through \$9.3 million from private donors. The University will request matching funds from the state’s Research Capital Match Program when those funds become available. The Marksbury Family Foundation, created recently by Davis and Beverly Marksbury, is contributing \$6 million for the project, which will be named the Davis Marksbury Building.
- Terry Anderson, the American journalist held hostage for seven years in Lebanon, has joined the UK faculty. Mr. Anderson will serve as a faculty member in the School of Journalism and Telecommunications, as well as assist the Provost’s office with international outreach. He also will work with UK’s Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues and the Scripps Howard First Amendment Center.
- Dr. Jay A. Perman, Dean of the UK College of Medicine and Vice President for Clinical Affairs, is the 2008 recipient of the Murray Davidson Award presented by the American Academy of Pediatrics. This award recognizes an outstanding clinician, educator, and scientist who has made significant contributions to the field of pediatric gastroenterology and nutrition. **Dr.** Perman is an active and continuing force in the practice of pediatric medicine in addition to his administrative duties.

Student Success

- Students from UK’s Gatton College of Business and Economics excelled in their first-ever opportunity to compete in the prestigious *Wall Street Journal* National Biz Quiz at Ohio State University in November. Sophomore Jeffrey Howard of Louisville, a Gatton Global Scholar majoring in accounting and minoring in international business, captured first place in the individual competition among 72 participants representing 24 undergraduate colleges and universities from across the U.S. Gatton’s three-student team of Howard, finance and management senior Mark Spurlin of Danville, and Ryan Hayes, a senior from Frankfort majoring in decision science and information systems, placed fourth out of the 24 teams, beating out squads from schools such as Carnegie Mellon, Cornell, Emory, Michigan, North Carolina, and Notre Dame.

Research and Outreach Success

- UK’s Center for Applied Energy Research (CAER) has opened an office modeled on the Cooperative Extension Service to provide information about energy to eastern Kentuckians. The office is housed in Morehead State University’s Regional Enterprise Center in West Liberty. Heading the effort is Greg Copley, who has nearly 30 years of experience dealing with environmental issues including air pollution, hazardous material spills, asbestos abatement, and compliance assistance to small businesses. With energy news at the forefront of everyday life in America, CAER’s staff provides a unique opportunity for citizens with concerns and ideas to reach an expert who can answer their questions.
- Sales of highly sought-after tickets to this year’s internationally-known Barnstable Brown Gala will leave a lasting impact on Kentucky and beyond for decades to come. Patricia Barnstable Brown and her family have pledged funding to develop the Barnstable Brown Kentucky Diabetes and Obesity Center at UK. For the first time this year, the gala’s charitable focus will develop a large-scale center at UK that officials say will bring together the University’s breadth and depth of researchers, educators, and clinicians focused on diabetes and organize them to attack the problem collaboratively.



Community Engagement

The University of Louisville entered 2009 with a new rating as one of the nation's top "community engagement" schools from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. UofL was one of only 119 schools in the United States and three in Kentucky to earn top marks in two areas, curricular engagement and outreach and partnerships. The foundation developed the rating to recognize colleges and universities that are deeply involved with their communities. In that spirit of involvement, UofL announced in early January that it would promote free public use of its libraries on Sundays to help offset a planned cut-back in hours at Louisville Metro Government's 17 public libraries. In another development, Kent School of Social Work reported that its students contributed 32,000 hours of service to community causes last fiscal year, joining more than 5,400 UofL faculty, staff and students who volunteer annually.

KEEPing Energy Costs Down

Schools across Kentucky spent \$160 million on energy in Fiscal Year 2006–07. But by doing a few simple things, such as switching to energy-efficient light bulbs, they could trim millions off that bill.

The Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center in UofL's Speed School of Engineering is working with schools districts throughout the state to help them reduce energy costs in a program called the Kentucky Energy Efficiency Program for Schools. In a pilot project last fall, KEEPS helped five school districts and three colleges and universities save more than \$1 million—a reduction of nearly 10 percent—by being more energy efficient.

The program is now being expanded and state law will require all Kentucky schools to participate by the start of 2010.

Cancer research gets \$20 million boost Cancer research at UofL received a big boost near the end of 2008 when UofL's James Graham Brown Cancer Center received a \$20 million gift from the James Graham Brown Foundation. The gift, the largest single private donation in the university's history, will be used to fund studies in adult stem cell biology, anti-cancer vaccines and non-toxic cancer therapies. Research funding at the Brown Cancer Center has grown to more than \$51 million since 1999 and more than 90 new doctors and researchers have joined the facility.

Surgeons implant HeartWare device UofL surgeons at Jewish Hospital have successfully implanted a HeartWare ventricular assist system into the chest of a 49-year-old man with heart failure, becoming the second in the nation and the first in Kentucky to do so. The device, designed to be a "bridge" to a heart transplant, helps patients avoid the abdominal surgery usually required in implants. Mark Slaughter, chief of UofL's Division of Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery, performed the procedure in November. The HeartWare device has been tested at five centers in Europe and Australia and is now being tested in the United States.

Scientist earns top honor Roberto Bolli, a cardiovascular scientist and one of the first UofL researchers hired through Kentucky's Bucks for Brains program, recently was named a 2008 American Heart Association Distinguished Scientist. He joins a notable group that includes several Nobel Prize winners. The award honors those who have made major contributions to cardiovascular and stroke research. Bolli studies how the heart can protect itself from tissue damage, work that is paving the way for genetic therapies and other groundbreaking heart disease treatments. He also directs UofL's Institute of Molecular Cardiology and its Division of Cardiology.

Project to improve campus safety The Kentucky Transportation Cabinet has awarded \$1.6 million to UofL to build a pedestrian crosswalk through Freedom Park at the west edge of Belknap Campus in a project designed to highlight the state's role in the evolution of civil rights. The UofL Foundation is providing a 20 percent match for the project, increasing its total amount to \$2 million. Other improvements at the site will include landscaping and lighting, expanded bike pathways, pedestrian "cardiopath" and traffic improvement measures at nearby Stansbury Park.



A LEADING AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WITH INTERNATIONAL REACH

THREE WKU STUDENTS RECEIVE GILMAN SCHOLARSHIPS

Three WKU students have received prestigious Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarships for the spring 2009 semester. Recipients of the study abroad scholarships are: Abbie Hutchison, a senior economics major from Hardinsburg, who received a \$3,500 award to participate in a project in Ecuador; Jessica Jenkins, a sophomore biology major from Woodburn, who received a \$4,000 award for the Buenos Aires, Argentina, Study Abroad Semester; and Joshua Smith, a senior political science and religious studies major from Bowling Green, who received a \$4,500 award to study Arabic as a Foreign Language at Yarmouk University in Jordan.

WKU PRESENTS HONORARY DOCTORATE TO LARNELLE HARRIS

Gospel recording artist Larnelle Harris received an honorary doctorate of fine arts from WKU. WKU President Gary Ransdell, Registrar Freida Eggleton and Board of Regents member Jim Johnson made the presentation at the sold-out “A Larnelle Harris Christmas” concert with the Bowling Green Chamber Orchestra. Harris, a 1969 WKU graduate, has received five Grammy Awards, 11 Dove Awards and has had 19 No. 1 songs and numerous top 10 hits. His latest recording, “I Want to Be a Star,” has earned three top 20 national radio singles.

ON TARGET FOR 2008 GOALS, MESONET STAFF READY FOR BUSY 2009

The Kentucky Mesonet is on target to reach a goal of having 20 sites operational by the end of 2008, according to Dr. Stuart Foster, director of the Mesonet and the Kentucky Climate Center at WKU. The Mesonet is a statewide automated environmental monitoring network. Five new stations – Knox, Christian, Franklin, Hopkins and Jackson counties – are in operation bringing the network’s total to 17 that provide data on temperature, precipitation, humidity, solar radiation, wind speed and direction. Five more sites – Barren, Breathitt, Carroll, Lincoln and Owen counties – are ready for equipment installation with site work ready to begin at five additional sites in Breckinridge, Crittenden, McLean, Morgan and Union counties. Data from the Mesonet stations is available online at <http://www.kymesonet.org/>.

KELL NAMED ‘SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR’ BY NCA

Dr. Carl Kell, a WKU communication professor, has been named “2008 Scholar of the Year” by the States Advisory Council of the National Communication Association.

For more WKU news, go to <http://www.wku.edu/news/index.html> or <http://wkunews.wordpress.com/>.