WKU named one of the top Fulbright student producers in the United States

WKU has been named among the Top Fulbright Producing Institutions by the Chronicle of Higher Education. With six grants for 2014-15, WKU is tied for third in the nation of Master’s institutions and the only college or university in Kentucky to be recognized as a Top Producer. WKU’s six grantees are conducting research and teaching English in five countries during the 2014-15 academic year.

“A Fulbright success rate of nearly 25 percent (25 applicants, six awards) is a great testament to the ability of WKU students and the mentoring of WKU faculty. Given the international dimension of the Fulbright awards, it is also a strong indication of WKU’s international reach,” WKU President Gary Ransdell said.

Comer welcomes WKU to Kentucky Proud Farm to Campus Program

Agriculture Commissioner James Comer officially inducted WKU as the 10th member of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture’s Farm to Campus Program in a ceremony March 16. Farm to Campus is the official state program for connecting Kentucky farmers and food producers with Kentucky higher education institutions.

Under the Farm to Campus program, the KDA helps participating institutions locate and purchase fresh Kentucky Proud products to serve in their food service systems and shelf-stable Kentucky Proud products to sell in their campus bookstores.

“By joining the Farm to Campus Program, Western Kentucky University has made a commitment to its campus community as well as the community at large,” said Commissioner Comer, who earned an agriculture degree from WKU. “You have committed to make fresh, local Kentucky Proud foods available to your students, faculty, and staff. At the same time, you have committed to support local farmers and small businesses.”

WKU Honors College highlighted in national guide

The Honors College at WKU is one of five Master’s Comprehensive public university honors colleges or programs in the United States profiled in the second edition of A Review of Fifty Public University Honors Programs.
WKU extends international reach to Iceland

In simultaneous ceremonies just over 60 miles from the Arctic Circle in Iceland and in Bowling Green, WKU, the University of Akureyri (UNAK) and the Icelandic Arctic Cooperation Network (IACN) signed an academic and research agreement March 23 that solidifies the North Atlantic Climate Change Collaboration (NAC3) project.

The NAC3 project aims to focus on academic exchange, course development and collaborative research in the areas of climate change, climate literacy, health and wellness, ocean dynamics, sustainability, informal public education, economic development, technology exchange, and water resources, among others. Additional information about the project is available at www.wku.edu/iceland.

WKU wins Hearst photojournalism title for 22nd time in 26 years

With two top-three finishers in the final photojournalism contest of the 2014-15 Hearst Journalism Awards Program, WKU has won the Hearst Intercollegiate Photojournalism Competition for the 22nd time in the past 26 years.

Austin Anthony, a 2014 graduate from Herndon, Virginia, placed second in the Photo Picture Story/Series Competition. Brittany Greeson, a senior from Owensboro, finished third. WKU students finished fourth and sixth in this year’s first photo competition, giving WKU the highest accumulated student points from the competitions.

WKU was followed by University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Syracuse University, Ohio University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Kent State University, San Francisco State University, University of Montana, University of Missouri and Indiana University.

WKU student lands State Department internship in Beijing

Jay Todd Richey, a Glasgow sophomore, landed a prestigious internship with the United States Embassy in Beijing. The U.S. State Department internship will be in the Public Affairs Section, one of the two most sought after and competitive tracks. State Department internships are highly competitive with Beijing having one of the highest application rates.

Roberts receives national award for impact on gifted education

Dr. Julia Link Roberts was recognized for her impact on gifted education with the 2015 Palmarium Award, presented by the Institute for the Development of Gifted Education. For more than 30 years, she has been an active advocate for gifted children at the state, national and international levels. She is the Mahurin Professor of Gifted Studies at WKU as well as the executive director of The Center for Gifted Studies and The Carol Martin Gatton Academy of Mathematics and Science in Kentucky.