



News from the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities November 2011

2012 Teachers of the Year all have AIKCU ties

It was an all-AIKCU affair when the awards for Kentucky Teacher of the Year were presented in the Capitol Rotunda. The **2012 Kentucky Teacher of the Year** is **Kimberly Pangburn Shearer (center)**, an English teacher at Boone County High School. Shearer is a 2001 *summa cum laude* graduate of **Georgetown**



College who also holds master's degrees from Northern Kentucky University and Western Kentucky University. **Elizabeth Ann Fuller (left)** is the **2012 Elementary School Teacher of the Year**. She is a third-grade reading and writing teacher at Jefferson County's J.B. Atkinson Academy and obtained her bachelor's degree at **Bellarmino University**. The **2012 Middle School Teacher of the Year** is **Jenni Lou Jackson (right)**, an eighth grade teacher at Corbin Middle School. Jackson holds a master's and teaching certification from **Union College**.

Berea College names 9th president

The Berea College Board of Trustees has named Lyle D. Roelofs the ninth president of the college. He will succeed current Berea president Larry Shinn, who previously announced he will retire on June 30, 2012.

Dr. Roelofs comes to Berea with more than 35 years experience in higher education. He currently serves as provost and dean of the faculty (on leave), and professor of physics at Colgate University. Read the full announcement at <http://bcnow.berea.edu/2011/10/berea-college-names-ninth-president/>



Thomas More College announces 3-year bachelor's degree

Thomas More College has launched a new three-year degree program that enables motivated undergraduate students in pursuit of a bachelor's degree a traditional college experience and an extra year of earning power. TMC3 is a new and innovative program that allows qualified students to save both time and money by completing a traditional four-year bachelor's degree in just three years.

The three-year degree is completed during the course of eight semesters. While TMC3 compresses the time frame for degree attainment by an entire year, the classes themselves are not accelerated. The structure of TMC3 is year-round, with students taking 18 hours in the fall and spring semesters and 12 hours in two summer terms. Learn more:

http://thomasmore.edu/about/news.cfm?news_id=2857

Kentucky Christian receives \$1 million for new biology pre-professional program

Kentucky Christian University recently announced that it has received a \$500,000 grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation and an anonymous matching gift to help build the healthcare workforce in its region. The grant and matching gift are making it possible for KCU to launch a pre-professional biology program. KCU plans to remodel a 2,000-square foot building that once housed the library and nursing school for the new program. KCU hopes that a biology degree designed specifically to help prepare undergraduates to enter medical, dental, pharmacy, veterinary, and other professional schools will encourage those graduates to eventually return to the medically underserved region.

AIKCU Delegation travels to China

Eleven AIKCU representatives traveled to China and Hong Kong at the end of October to meet with secondary school and university officials there and with prospective students and families. The goal of the trip is to develop relationships that may lead to cultural exchange opportunities and to promote Kentucky as a higher education destination. Making the trip were the presidents of Thomas More College and Lindsey Wilson College, along with administrators from Georgetown College, Midway College, St. Catharine College, Transylvania University, the University of Pikeville, and AIKCU. The trip is an outgrowth of AIKCU's collaborative Chinese Student Recruitment Initiative and was developed in cooperation with the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development.