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# MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD BRIEFS

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Issue No. 3

January 1995

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## PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

It is hard to believe that it is 1995 and the spring semester is well underway! Certainly, the weather has cooperated with above normal temperatures especially when one considers the subzero degree weather we experienced last year.

Our third issue of *Board Briefs* includes an Update on Capital Projects, the Delta Dental Self-Insurance Program, and Land Acquisitions. Also, Sharon Jackson, director of MSU's "GED ON TV," has provided the following report on the success of her program.

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

### *KET "GED ON TV" Program*

Kentucky Educational Television has funded Morehead State University for the past nine years to manage the statewide GED ON TV program. The program is designed to allow high school dropouts who are 18 years of age or older to participate in a

GED preparation course of study at home.

Morehead State University's KET Student Services Office develops and maintains the support system for each GED ON TV enrollee. Extensive promotions are conducted and adults call for information on four 800 phone lines. Potential students are interviewed, screened, and advised on an academic course of study based on their current skills. After students are pretested and

enrolled, they study with 43 instructional GED programs, complete lessons in three accompanying workbooks, and receive encouragement and frequent individualized follow up from the MSU program staff.

The MSU office now offers five sessions per year and enrolls between 1,100 and 1,800 adults in GED study. In addition, 3,000-5,000 adults are referred to local adult education programs each year. In 1992,

### UPCOMING EVENTS-SPRING SEMESTER 1995

- February 10-Board of Regents Meeting
- March 2-6-OVC Basketball Tournament in Nashville
- March 13-17-Spring Break
- March 30-MSU Scholarship Pageant
- April 7-Founders Day
- April 29-Spring Gala
- May 12-Board of Regents Meeting
- May 13-Spring Commencement

the office also added an additional "Basic Skills" support service and enrollment program. This serves the students whose skills are just shy of being able to function in the GED level materials.

Since the statewide program began, there have been over 60,300 individual callers yielding 42,000 adults referred, 18,300 adults enrolled in GED, and over 600 enrolled in Basic Skills. Currently, we have record of over 6,100 GED graduates. The GED exam passing percentage for GED ON TV students is above the percentage in the state and the nation overall. Since the GED, these graduates are putting an additional average of \$30,381,416 annually into Kentucky's economy (\$4,980.56 each more than high school dropouts; figures from the US Department of Commerce).

The program support provides a service to those adults who could not attend traditional GED or literacy classes or learning centers because of transportation, child care problems, work schedules, or a need for privacy. Many adults desire to continue their education but do not have access to the needed information, the means, or the chance to achieve their educational goal. Kentucky has over 1,000,000 adults without high school diplomas and the existing adult education programs are serving around 3 - 4 percent of these

adults each year. The GED ON TV program is a complement and a supplement to the existing adult education programs. It is succeeding with efforts in improving the educational level of Kentucky's adults and has tremendous growth potential in Kentucky and across the nation. This innovative system of adult education delivery and service serves as a model to more than 25 states that are using the KET GED ON TV program series.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FISCAL SERVICES

### *Update on Capital Projects*

The Heating Plant Improvement Project has been completed. The project improved the external appearance of the facility, and also replaced important internal operating components such as the coal conveyor system and water softeners. (State Life Safety Funds).

Underground Petroleum Equipment Company, Inc. was awarded the project for the replacement of underground storage tanks at a contract amount of \$60,341. This work is scheduled for completion by April 1995. (Interest Income from State Life Safety Funds).

Plans and specifications have been completed on the Kentucky Folk Art Museum Project. The agreement between the State Department of Transportation, the US Department of Transportation

and the University regarding the oversight and management of the project and the use of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) grant funds has been signed. The project cost, initially estimated at \$678,000, is now \$974,500. The University has requested and has been advised by the state that additional ISTEA grant funds will be made available. The University has an eighty percent (80%) matching requirement. (Federal Funds and MSU Agency Funds matching, 80/20).

Bids were opened January 24, 1995, on the Lappin Hall Renovation - Phase II. The low bid of \$4.3 million was received from D. W. Wilburn, Inc., Lexington. It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded in February 1995. Completion of the unfinished work from the Phase I renovation in Lappin Hall Section C and minor renovation work in Lappin Hall Section B is scheduled for completion by August 15, 1995. The completion of Lappin Hall Section A renovation is scheduled for July 1996. (MSU Bonds supported by state appropriated general funds).

Design work by architects/engineers is continuing on the Wellness Center Facility (MSU Agency Funds), Mechanical/HVAC Improvements (MSU Agency Funds), and Elevator Modernization projects (State Life/Safety Funds).

### *Delta Dental Self Insurance*

On January 1, 1995, MSU began a self insurance arrangement with Delta Dental. There were no changes in the current Delta Dental benefit design plan. Although there are financial risks, the dental program is much smaller in scope than the health insurance program the University self-insured in January 1994. The University and its employees contribute approximately \$215,000/year in premiums to the plan. The University is significantly protected by the \$1,000/year claims cap per contract. As a result of this cap, there is not a necessity to purchase stop-loss insurance as we do under the medical insurance plan. Administrative fees are also lower by 1.3 percent. Under the fully insured plan, Delta Dental retained all excess premiums in good claim years. Under the self-insurance program, MSU will retain the excess premiums and pass savings of the program to employees.

### *Land Acquisitions*

The University acquired an approximate .5 acre tract within the Campus Master Plan on December 22. The property contained four (4) small frame rental houses that will continue, in the near future, to be utilized as rental properties. The property was purchased from the Morehead State University Foundation, Inc., for \$198,000. The Foundation acquired the

property from the Helen Holbrook estate in November for \$216,500. Following the appropriate approvals from the Council on Higher Education staff and the Finance and Administration Cabinet, the University finalized the acquisition of the property from the Foundation.

The University continues to pursue other properties within the Master Plan as they become available from willing sellers.

## **BRIEF ON CAPITAL PROJECTS**

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*To Carol Johnson  
a potential article  
for Board Briefs*

**KET "GED ON TV" PROGRAM  
at Morehead State University**

*J. H. H. H.  
11-18-94*

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