

MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY™

BOARD BRIEFS

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Improving Science and Mathematics Education in MSU's Service Region

The College of Science and Technology and the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences are engaged in on-going efforts to provide services to the K-12 schools and other institutions of higher learning in our service region to provide services, initiatives, training, and support for science and mathematics teachers and their students. Some of the more significant contributions are summarized below:

Eastern Kentucky PRISM Regional Network

Members of the academic and business communities of Eastern Kentucky have established the Eastern Kentucky PRISM Regional Network at MSU to sustain systemic change in science and mathematics reform, with the ultimate goal being to strengthen the quality of science and mathematics instruction in Kentucky K-12 classrooms. Various initiatives have created a cadre of Science Resource Specialists who can provide the basis for a network of mathematics and science teachers in the region. By the end of 1996, 72 primary, elementary, and middle school teachers had been trained. MSU has also provided faculty support for workshops and training in PRISM's Secondary Mathematics Initiatives. Faculty members within both colleges have contributed to these efforts, which directly impact science and mathematics teachers and their current and future students.

Eisenhower Programs

Faculty from both colleges have jointly brought teacher training and other services to the region through Eisenhower Grants. Projects have included the training of Science Resource Specialists, and the Science and Math Alliance, which provide specifically requested assistance and training within schools.

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Expanding Student Access to Financial Counseling

In the spring semester of 1996, the Office of Accounting and Budgetary Control developed a plan to offer on-location financial counseling to students who had deferred fees and who lived in residence halls. The program was designed to help students become more aware of actions that the students could take to fulfill financial obligations in a timely manner, meet with MSU administrative staff in the relaxed atmosphere of their residence halls, and, ultimately, increase retention of students who experience financial problems. The program continues to be well received.

Beginning with this spring semester, an electronic mail account has been established through which students may ask questions related to the financial aspects of their educational experience or seek financial counseling if they have incurred problems. The e-mail address can be accessed by several staff members, and care is exercised to insure that responses to inquiries are made in a timely manner. The e-mail address allows access to students without disruption to class schedules or other activities.

The e-mail address, "fees@morehead-st.edu", was distributed to all students during business days at the start of the semester by attaching bright yellow "business cards" to fees statements. The address has also been publicized in the Trail Blazer and will be listed in the upcoming Summer and Fall '97 Directory of Classes and other publications. The address is accessible from the University's home page on the World Wide Web.

The ISAAC Project

Faculty members from both colleges and the Caudill College of Humanities have collaborated on the ISAAC Project: Integrating Science Across All Curricula. The ISAAC Project is a multidisciplinary program to enhance the tenets of KERA and improve the science instruction of elementary and middle school teachers in Kentucky by providing modeling and practical experiences for teachers to integrate science with math, English, history, and other subjects.

Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences

In 1996 a major equipment grant funded by the National Science Foundation allowed for the upgrading of introductory classes in molecular biology, and equipment and curricular changes are now in place. Additional obligation of funds as part of the Lappin Hall renovation project is providing advanced equipment for areas such as animal physiology, genetics, and microbiology. This will enhance the learning of all individuals being trained in secondary science education who take basic biology courses.

The department continues to arrange for upper-level courses (BIOL 336, BIOL 553, BIOL 580) to be taught in off-campus locations, including Prestonsburg, Ashland, and Louisa. These courses can enhance the training of both teachers and health care professionals.

A significant collection of scientific journals was donated to the library of Lees College Campus of Hazard Community College to help provide reference materials for students in the area. An extensive collection of back issues of the botanical journal *Castanea* has been gathered for donation of the library of Alice Lloyd College.

Aggressive recruiting efforts are underway to add four new tenure track faculty in the department for the 1997-98 academic year, in the areas of Environmental Science, Plant Physiology, Human Physiology, and Vertebrate Zoology.

A PRISM grant is allowing for the evaluation of the basic curriculum in the Biology 110 course and lab that is required of all elementary education students. Anticipated changes include the development of a more hands-on and experimental approach in the teaching of science for elementary teacher candidates.

A new program folio for certification of teaching biological science grades 8-12 was completed and is now under review by the State Department of Education. The revision implements Kentucky's new teaching standards in the area of concentration for secondary school teacher candidates.

Often overlooked as a resource for improving science education and environmental awareness are collections of plant and animal specimens that can

be used for both teaching, research, and reference studies for students at all levels and the public in general. The herbarium is expanding the collection of the region's flora. Public displays of animal collections have been redone and the study reference collections of the region's fauna are currently being re-catalogued. Just as the University library is a resource for the entire service area, the biological collections are a significant holding that is available to users.

Department of Physical Sciences

The NASA JOVE Research Grant provided activities that included at least three school visits each year to schools in Eastern Kentucky to provide presentations to students. These presentations primarily focused on planetary science but occasionally dealt with the idea of what astronomers do.

The staff of the Morehead State Astrophysical Observatory has begun providing some educational services for teachers and students in Eastern Kentucky. The observatory hosts 300-500 students per year in programs such as "star parties" as well as tours of the observatory. Teachers have often made special arrangements to have presentations on specific areas of astronomy including planetary science, seasons, and lunar phases.

Members of the department have provided inservice training programs on a variety of topics; have helped create exams taken by new teachers seeking certification; served as state finals director of the Kentucky Science Olympiad; participated in MPATE Day; taught science education courses via distance learning; and presented mini-classes and demonstrations to area elementary schools on a variety of physical sciences subjects, including geology and paleontology.

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Math Awareness Week was held April 21-25, providing exhibits, workshops, and contests for varying ages of students, illustrating the importance and presence of math in aspects of our everyday lives.

MSU is participating with Northern Kentucky University, Maysville Community College, and other community colleges in a grant sponsored by the National Science Foundation that allows for experimentation with the newest graphic calculator from TI in calculus-related courses. This will enable pre-service teachers to be exposed to this new teaching tool, hopefully better preparing them for the KERA classroom.

Department members have served on the State Planning/Training Team, operated through a National Science Foundation grant; presented workshops for high school students on preparing for the math ACT; presented papers to public school and higher education professionals; conducted inservice training for teachers; field-tested new mathematics materials; served as Teacher Educators for Kentucky Teacher Internship Program;

Banking Contract Proposals

In July 1992, the University conducted a competitive negotiation process to select a depository bank as required by KRS Chapters 41 and 164A. The resulting contract was awarded by the Board to the Citizens Bank of Morehead. The contract and optional extension periods contained within it runs through June 30, 1997.

A new contract will need to be awarded as of July 1, 1997. Fiscal Services staff generated specifications and requested proposals from the three local banks during the latter part of March. A committee was appointed to review and evaluate the proposals received. The results of the committee's analysis will be reported to the Board at its June 13, 1997, meeting, along with a recommendation for the award of the banking services contract.

MSU/SCMC Child Care Center

David Bolt, Vice President for Regional Network Development at St. Claire Medical Center has become Chair of the Advisory Board. Mr. Bolt replaces Porter Dailey, MSU Vice President for Administration and Fiscal Services, who had been Chair of the Advisory Board since the Center opened April 15, 1996.

Jacquelyn Scott, Non-Traditional and Commuter Coordinator at MSU, has been named Vice Chair of the Advisory Board.

The purpose of the Advisory Board is to review, recommend, and advise the Center partnership on operating policies and procedures in support of a quality child care facility and program for the children of Morehead State University faculty and staff, children of MSU students, and children of St. Claire Medical Center employees.

Good News—MSU's Graduation Rates

Postsecondary Education OPPORTUNITY has published the findings of its first study of institutional graduation rates in which 1,106 baccalaureate-granting colleges and universities have been ranked according to the difference between their actual and predicted 6-year graduation rates. The 6-year graduation rates reported were based on full-time, first-time baccalaureate-seeking freshmen entering college in fall 1989 who received baccalaureate degrees by August 1995. Based on these criteria, Morehead State University's six-year graduation rate was 40 percent.

Nineteen colleges and universities in Kentucky provided information for the study. Statewide, the weighted mean institutional graduation rate (difference between actual and predicted graduation rates) for these 19 institutions was -.061. The implication is that for this sample, 6.1% fewer freshmen persist to graduation within six years than would be predicted based on sample freshman SAT scores and other enrollment characteristics.

Only two of seven Kentucky public institutions represented had positive residual (actual minus predicted) graduation rates—Murray State University (.002) and Morehead State University (.001)—whereas 8 of 12 Kentucky private institutions in the sample apparently do better than expected with the freshmen they enroll.

and participated in focus groups sponsored by the East Kentucky Center for Science, Math, and Technology.

The Clearinghouse for School Services

The Clearinghouse for School Services is actively involved in providing the following direct and/or indirect services related to enhancing math and science initiatives:

- submit letters of support for grant applications
- conduct inservices/workshops both on and off campus
- provide resource connections for MSU faculty and local districts suggesting exemplary school teachers for observation purposes
- facilitate planning endeavors for integrated learning lab
- promote University networking in providing local districts with professional development
- serve as a University supervisor for intern (first-year) teachers
- videotape KET Math/Science Professional Development for use by pre-service teachers
- secure the services of math/science consultants
- attend math portfolio training sessions to keep abreast of KERA updates
- and more, including providing publications and attending professional meetings and conferences.

Department of Elementary, Reading, and Special Education

Faculty members have supervised public school teaching field experience for math methods students; provided occasional technical consultation and support for area public school teachers involved in educational technology; served as computer facilitators; provided training for inservice teachers; provided instructional computer software workshops for primary students; and provided various workshops for teachers and elementary students.

Department of Leadership and Secondary Education

Members of this department have collaborated with faculty for the College of Science and Technology on projects previously described.

The Aspiring Principal's Fast Track Program began this semester, sponsored by the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation. The Leadership program is also collaborating with EKV and UK on a new design for the principal certification program embedded within the master's degree. The specifics of this program will be published as soon as the framework and details have been processed. □

1996-2002 Six-Year Capital Plan

Pursuant to KRS 7A.120(3), Morehead State University must submit a Six-Year Capital Plan in each odd-numbered year. This plan is to include each planned capital construction project with a cost of \$400,000 or more and each planned equipment item with a cost of \$100,000 or more.

As recommended in the Statewide Capital Improvements Plan, university capital plans will be submitted directly to the Capital Planning Advisory Board (CPAB). Thus, the Council on Higher Education will no longer prepare a systemwide higher education plan (composed of all university projects), but will make recommendations on specific projects to the CPAB.

Our 1996-2002 Six-Year Capital Plan has been reviewed by the University Planning Committee and was submitted to the CPAB on April 15, 1997. MSU's state appropriation request for the 1998-2000 biennium, to be submitted in November, will include a request for funding authorization to actually implement the projects in the Capital Plan.

The University's highest priority will again be the renovation of Breckinridge Hall. This instructional facility requires major renovation due to substandard classrooms, inaccessibility to physically challenged persons, and other deficiencies. The renovated structure will serve as the University's primary technological outreach facility through the installation of additional distance learning classrooms.

Our 1998-2000 state appropriation request will include a request to fund this \$14 million renovation project with state bonds. The debt service payments on these bonds would be made directly by the state from designated appropriations. A report on the 1996-2002 Six-Year Capital Plan will be presented at the June 13, 1997, Board of Regents meeting.

Food Service Company Changes Name

Professional Food Service Management, Inc. (PFM), the University's food service contractor since 1989, was acquired by the Compass Group in August 1996. The Compass Group was founded in 1987 and has strong market positions in the United Kingdom, continental Europe, and the United States. Combined with emerging markets in South America and Asia, the company operates in more than 40 countries worldwide, with revenues of approximately \$5 billion. The British-based company's U.S. headquarters are in Charlotte, North Carolina.

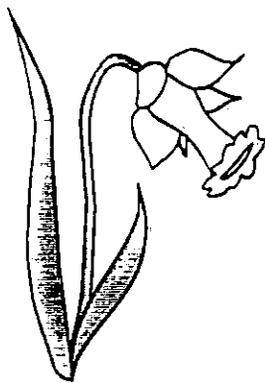
The Compass Group's acquisition of PFM marked the entry of the international food service organization into the higher educational food service market. Operating with the resources of the Compass Group has enabled PFM to sign major accounts, including a \$10.5 million contract with Louisiana State University.

On March 3, Compass announced that the new higher educational food service division created by the acquisition of PFM will operate under the name of Chartwells. The Chartwells name has been used in the United Kingdom since 1992, and the decision to adopt that name for U.S. operations was made after extensive market research. The name change was effective March 17, 1997.

Physical Plant Hosts Annual Meeting of KAPPA

Morehead State University's Office of Physical Plant will host the 1997 annual meeting of the Kentucky Association of Physical Plant Administrators (KAPPA) on May 20 and 21. The event will draw facility managers and maintenance personnel from across the state to the campus. The program will include seminars on such topics as performance contracting, hardwood floor care, safety/bloodborne pathogens, steam trap innovations, grounds care, recycling, and zone maintenance. Exhibits will be provided by Kenway Distributors, ECOLAB, Hydrotex, Steamsphere, Perry & Derrick Paint, Unisource, Inc., Rowan County Tourism, MSU Physical Plant (CADD and Homepage), Infinet, Appalachian Environmental Products, and others that demonstrate new technologies and improved methods of maintaining a safe, clean campus.

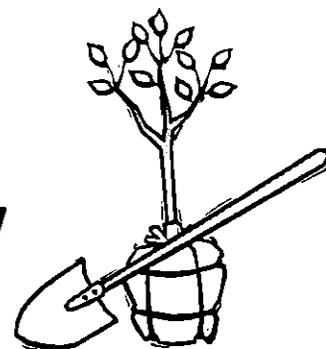
The noon luncheon on May 21 will feature John R. Duncan as speaker. Everyone is invited to attend.



SPRING 1997

Morehead State University

...IN A NUTSHELL...



Fall 1996 to Spring 1997 Retention* Rate Patterns By CHE Classifications

	Fall 1996	Spring 1997	% retained
Freshman (all)	2,144	1,733	81%
FTFR	1,294	1,099	85%
Sophomore	1,299	1,144	88%
Junior	1,256	1,120	89%
Senior	1,916	1,447	92%
	-315*		
Grad Degree	767	487	66%
	-29*		
UG Nondegree	166	102	61%
Auditor	8	5	63%
Special (HS)	41	15	36%
Grad Nondegree	747	410	55%
TOTAL	8,344	6,463	81%

*degrees 96/01

Note: Retention rate for seniors, graduate students and total adjusted for students who received degrees and left.

Source: Fall enrollment reports to CHE

Spring 1997 Off-Campus Enrollment

Center	Number of Classes		Unduplicated Headcount	FTE
	On-Site	Dist. Lrng.		
Ashland	26	15	313	99
Big Sandy	47	15	630	216
Licking Valley	24	4	327	98
Pikeville	8	9	174	49
Jackson	6	6	94	35
Whitesburg	0	3	7	2
Mt. Sterling	4	9	113	26
Maysville	2	7	55	13
Salysville	0	3	15	3
Hi Hat	0	4	20	
Flemingsburg	0	5	11	2
Louisa	1	2	17	4
Owingsville	0	4	17	3
Raceland	0	5	16	4
Vanceburg	0	2	7	1
TOTAL	118	93	1816	555

Source: Office of Graduate and Extended Campus Programs



Spring 1997 Enrollment by Traditional Classification

	Full-time	Part-time	Total
Freshman	1,548	360	1,908
FTFR	94	20	114
Sophomore	1,095	110	1,205
Junior	1,059	186	1,245
Senior	1,564	308	1,872
Graduate	301	1,217	1,518
Total	5,567	2,181	7,748

Graduation Rates 1990 First-time Freshman (Entered 1,069)

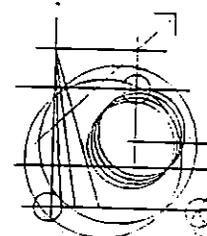
1993-94 (4 yr. rate)	185 of 1069	17%
1994-95 (5 yr. rate)	368 of 1069	34%
1995-96 (6 yr. rate)	429 of 1069	40%



**ABOUT 450 FACULTY
ARE TEACHING 1,997
COURSES**



* full-time, part-time and adjunct



Spring 1997 data is preliminary
as of March 13, 1997

Institutional Planning,
Research & Effectiver