

March 2, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Bertha Mills Booth Center for Entrepreneurship Endowment receives \$50,000 gift from Ferris estate

The Morehead State University Foundation has announced the Bertha Mills Booth Center for Entrepreneurship Endowment received a generous \$50,000 gift from the estate of L. Joyce Booth Ferris (68, 70) and Richard "Dick" Ferris.

Joyce, a native of Beauty, Kentucky, in Martin County, graduated from Morehead State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1968 and went on to receive a master's degree in business education in 1970. She was one of seven children. Of the siblings, five received degrees from MSU. Joyce began her business career at the Inez Deposit Bank in Inez, Kentucky. She went on to teach business education at Lancaster High School and The Ohio State University for several years.

Joyce and her husband Richard (Dick) moved to various areas of the country with Dick's career with the Aetna insurance company. Retirement from Aetna allowed the couple to settle in Williamsburg, Virginia, where Dick formed the law firm, Ferris & Associates, later becoming Carrell, Blanton, Ferris & Associates, PLC. Joyce served as the firm's office manager for nearly 15 years. The legal firm specialized in estate planning. The couple named MSU as a beneficiary of their estate in 2001 and joined MSU's Visionary Society. Joyce passed away in 2014 as she and Dick were nearing their 40th wedding anniversary. Dick passed away in 2020.

The Bertha Mills Booth Center for Entrepreneurship Endowment was created in 2000 by Joyce's brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Linda Booth, in memory of their mother/mother-in-law, Bertha Mills Booth. The endowment supports a wide variety of entrepreneurial initiatives including, but not limited to, regional entrepreneurship education, student participation in business plan competitions at the state, national and international levels, seed capital for student start-up businesses and a student business incubator.

"This endowment represents how our mother ran our household of seven children like a business. After our father became disabled, she managed the household through planning, organizing and setting goals. She did this with love, patience, energy, enthusiasm, encouragement and guidance," said Jim Booth. "Joyce was always proud to share that she was a graduate of MSU during her and Dick's travels, gatherings with friends, golf tournaments and other adventures. This gift from their estate is a wonderful tribute to her love for MSU and our mother."

For more information on this endowment, or to learn more about the Visionary Society, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu or visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu.

To learn about programs in entrepreneurship and business from the Elmer R. Smith College of Business and Technology at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/cbt.

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Morehead State University (MSU) is a comprehensive public university with robust undergraduate and graduate programs, emerging doctoral programs, and an emphasis on regional engagement. MSU aspires to be the best public regional university in the South through prioritizing student success; outcomes; academic excellence; and rankings, reputation and regional responsiveness.



March 3, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU faculty, alumnus receive KMEA honors

Morehead State University was well represented at the 2021 Kentucky Music Education Association's (KMEA) annual awards. MSU music education professor and director of choral studies Dr. Greg Detweiler, and Aaron Bowling (01, 05), music education specialist for Boyd County Public Schools and MSU music program alumnus, each received honors from KMEA.

Detweiler was recognized for his 40 years of service to the music education profession and Bowling was recognized as the 2021 KMEA State High School Teacher of the Year.

Detweiler held multiple positions as director of choral activities, including at Albertson College, Idaho State University, Southeastern Louisiana University and Mercer University before becoming the director of choral activities at MSU. He has taught at MSU for more than 13 years and his choirs have toured and presented concerts in Austria, Hungary, Germany, the Czech Republic, Costa Rica and Canada.

"Each year, I go to our Kentucky state music convention. Invariably, I see a former MSU student who stops me and tells me with tears in their eyes how the international tour they went on impacted them. I am so glad MSU has allowed me to pass on my treasured memories and give our students special moments to remember throughout their lives," Detweiler said. "It is hard to believe that after 40 years of teaching music, I am still excited about the next day of work, the next rehearsal and the next class. There is no greater joy for me than working with students on music. I keep learning and growing and passing on new ideas to those with which I am privileged to teach."

Aaron Bowling, a native of Hazard, graduated from MSU with a bachelor's degree in music education in 2001 and a Master of Music degree in 2005. He served as an elementary music teacher for Cattletsburg Elementary School from 2007 to 2016. In 2014, he took positions as director of choral activities and guitar at Boyd County High School since 2014, and has served as the choir director/worship leader at Wildwood Church of God since 2006.

Bowling said he sang in the MSU Concert Choir, MSU Chamber Singers, OperaWorks and University Chorus. He said Detweiler was a mentor and continues to give him guidance and support to this day.

"I was awarded the KMEA District 8 High School Teacher of the Year in September of 2020. Following that award, Dr. Detweiler nominated me for the State KMEA High School Teacher of the Year," Bowling said. "I hope those around me have seen my students as young people who value high expectations, high character and seek responsibility as part of their success. Not only do they desire to sing or play skillfully, but they wish to enrich the lives of everyone with which they come into contact."

To learn more about music programs at MSU, email mtd@moreheadstate.edu, 606-783-2473 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/music.

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March 4, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU announces inductees for 2021 Alumni Hall of Fame

The Morehead State University Alumni Association announces inductees for the 2021 Alumni Hall of Fame. These individuals will be honored as part of the 2021 Homecoming celebration in the fall.

"We are honored to recognize this elite class of MSU alumni," said Mindy Highley, assistant vice president for the Office of Alumni Relations and Development and executive vice president of the MSU Alumni Association. "We are proud of their successes and we look forward to sharing their stories as part of our Homecoming celebration."

The Alumni Hall of Fame provides recognition to those individuals who have achieved excellence in their profession, community service or education at the local, state or national level. Traditionally, the honor would not be given for a single achievement but rather for a collective impact in their profession or community. Alumni must have graduated from Morehead State University 10 years before nomination and must be responsible, respected citizens of good character in their communities and professions.

2021 Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees

- Tom Clay (83) of Flatwoods is the retired business manager with Kentucky State Resort Parks and investigator with the Kentucky Labor Cabinet. He was the Kentucky Outdoor Press Association president for 20 years and a statewide outdoor syndicated radio host for "This Week's Outdoor Adventures" for 25 years. Previous honors include being named Kentucky Water Conservationist of the Year from 1998-2000, an Ambassador to Kentucky in 2010 and being inducted to the Greenup County Kentucky Hall of Fame in 2019.
- Gary Kidwell (65, 73, 86) of Vanceburg is an accomplished educator, athletic director, coach, umpire, newspaper writer and sports announcer. During his time in Lewis County, he helped establish the county's little league baseball program and revived the Lewis County High School football program. In addition to receiving many honors at state and national levels, he was named to the Kentucky High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame in 2011 and to the National High School Athletic Coaches Hall of Fame in 2013.
- Ramona Justice Vikan (98) of Pikeville currently serves as a program and functional leadership director at TACG LLC, a premier consulting and professional services company supporting the public sector. She manages work with the United States Air Force and Department of the Navy. She was a graduate of the 2014 Leadership Dayton program in Dayton, Ohio, and was named one of Dayton Business Journal's "Forty Under

40" that year. Additionally, she received the inaugural Outstanding Community Board Service Award from the Dayton Chamber of Commerce in 2019 and served a four-year term on the board for Dayton Art Institute.

Alumni Hall of Fame inductees and recipients of other alumni awards will be recognized at Homecoming this fall. For more information, visit <u>alumni.moreheadstate.edu/awards</u> or call the Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033.



March 4, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU offers Table Top Tuesdays professional development for student teachers

MSU is offering a new way to provide professional development (PD) to student teachers this year.

The Office of Quality Assurance and Accreditation (QUAA) in the Ernst & Sara Lane Volgenau College of Education has developed Table Top Tuesdays as a new venue to provide ongoing, meaningful PD for aspiring educators. The project started last fall with student teachers who had to quickly learn how to effectively teach online. Students log on from home each week for a PD session. Limited to an hour, candidates voluntarily log in to an online meeting each Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Each session is designed to support student teachers in school placements, as well as introductory foundational knowledge that will help them as the start their careers. Candidates overwhelmingly encouraged the QUAA team to offer Table Top Tuesdays PD for the spring 2021 semester.

"I think that Tabletop Tuesdays are super helpful. They not only allow students to get professional development hours, but they also allow us to learn valuable information about different aspects of teaching," said Brooke Halsey, a junior elementary and special education candidate from Morehead.

A wide range of presenters have shared sessions at Table Top Tuesdays. Invited guest speakers provide information on everything from working with parents to trauma-based instruction. LeeAnn Flanagan from the Kentucky Education Association (KEA), Lori Dehart and Mandy Carter from the Kentucky Educational Development Corporation (KEDC), as well as MSU, Northern Kentucky University (NKU), and Georgetown College faculty presenters support the professional development initiative without cost.

The interactive sessions provide candidates an opportunity to ask questions and share experiences either through a chat feature or by talking directly with the presenter. Immediate feedback guides discussion on issues that students might not normally address in their internship.

"Table Top Tuesdays are beneficial to me because it allows me to hear and connect with real life teachers and professionals in the field that will help prepare us for our teaching positions," Dustin Blair, a senior grades 5-9 social studies and learning and behavioral disability (LBD) candidate from Paintsville. "Having Table Top Tuesdays online opens up more opportunity for students to attend that otherwise might not have been able to attend in person, especially for those traveling home in the evenings from their placement."

For more information on Table Top Tuesdays, contact MSU Associate Professor and Director of QUAA Dr. Kim Nettleton at <u>k.nettleton@moreheadstate.edu</u>.

For more information about MSU's Volgenau College of Education and its programs, call 606-783-2162 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education.

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March 5, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Annual Burley-Coal High School Art Exhibit to be held virtually

The Annual Burley-Coal Art Exhibition and Competition is accepting submissions through March 15.

The show, typically held on the MSU campus, features hundreds of works in all media by regional high school students. However, due to COID restrictions, the exhibit will be virtual this year. Dozens of schools from across the Commonwealth participate in the event each year, allowing many young artists to display their works for the first time. Melissa Yungbluth, director of Morehead State's Golding-Yang Art Gallery, said that even though the event will be virtual this year, students should still participate.

"The high school students should still participate in the COVID-19-planned version because they are still eligible for prizes and scholarships," Yungbluth said. "We will be reviewing portfolios as usual and awarding scholarships. As well, all students who place first or second will move on to the state competition in hopes of being submitted to the national round for more scholarship opportunities."

Awards are given in 13 different categories: ceramics, digital media, drawing, fashion design, fiber arts and textile design, graphic design, jewelry and metalsmithing, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture and video and film, as well as best in show 2-D and best in show 3-D. All first-place winners will move on to the all-state competition. The jurors are the faculty of the Department of Art and Design.

"I'm glad the Kentucky Arts Education Association has found a way to still have this exhibition so that students get their chances at scholarships. It took a lot of hard work on their end to figure this out and then organize it," Yungbluth said.

For more information about the Burley-Coal exhibition, contact Yungbluth at myungbluth@moreheadstat.edu or call 606-783-2766.

For information about programs in MSU's Department of Art and Design, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.edu/art</u>, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

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March 9, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU legal studies program receives Top 10 national ranking

Morehead State University's legal studies program continues to cement its academic reputation on a national level. Study.com has published its 2021 rankings and MSU's Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies is ranked 8th among the Best Bachelor's in Legal Studies Degrees.

A complete list of rankings is available at www.study.com/articles/Bachelors Degree in Legal Studies Program Info.html.

Study.com is an online resource to help research higher education institutions, degrees and careers. The site considered hundreds of universities nationwide and selected MSU based on the quality of education, academic and career sources, and faculty.

"We are honored that MSU's legal studies program earned the 8th ranking as the Best Legal Studies Bachelor's Degree program. This is the second top ten list our legal studies program has been named to during the past year," said Dr. Dianna Murphy, associate dean for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences.

"We have top attorney-professors who ensure students have the opportunity to learn in and outside of the classroom working in our legal clinics and internships, as well as traveling abroad in legal studies classes. Most years, 100% of program seniors are accepted to law school, with some receiving scholarship offers to top-tier law schools. Our graduates also are prepared to immediately enter the legal field as a paralegal where they find rewarding work in large and small law firms, as well as government agencies, and businesses. The success of our graduates demonstrates the success of our program."

Previously, MSU's Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies ranked 10th out of 27 programs by GreatValueCollege.net in 2020 and was also ranked 12th out of the top 25 legal studies programs by <u>TheBestSchools.org</u> in 2019.

To learn more about MSU's Bachelor of Arts in Legal Studies, contact the Department of History, Philosophy, Politics, Global Studies and Legal Studies at hpil@moreheadstate.edu, call 606-783-2655 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/legalstudies.

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March 9, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

W. Terry McBrayer Scholarship for Excellence established

The Morehead State University Foundation has announced the establishment of the W. Terry McBrayer Scholarship for Excellence, an endowed fund to assist students with unmet financial need from Greenup County who will be attending Morehead State University.

The scholarship's namesake is the late W. Terry McBrayer (59), a native of Greenup County, who became an attorney, legislator, community activist and public servant in Kentucky and was recognized nationally. He was a senior partner and lead lobbyist for the widely respected McBrayer Law Firm. He founded McBrayer PLLC and MML&K Government Solutions.

McBrayer earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from MSU in 1959 before graduating from the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville in 1963. He was elected to the MSU Alumni Hall of Fame in 1966 and was awarded an honorary doctoral degree in 1975.

In 2018, he created the W. Terry McBrayer Presidential Lecture Series in Government and Leadership to support his alma mater. Additionally, a prior contribution by McBrayer established the Presidential Scholarship Endowment within the MSU Foundation to address the priorities of recruitment, retention and degree completion.

McBrayer passed away in October 2020 at the age of 83. His obituary can be found here (https://www.moreheadstate.edu/News/2020/October/MSU-alum-Terry-McBrayer-dies-at-83).

The W. Terry McBrayer Scholarship for Excellence endowment is being created by his daughter, Sarah Savarie, who chose to make this contribution to fulfill her father's wishes and to honor her father's proud legacy as an MSU Eagle.

"My father was very proud of his roots in Greenup County, as well as the time he spent at MSU and felt very strongly about the importance of an education," said Savarie. "He wanted these scholarships to benefit students who might not otherwise be able to go to college due to unmet financial needs and I am simply finishing the process he started. His mother, Ethel Brown McBrayer, attended MSU in the early 30s and their legacy continues through Alex McBrayer, Dad's grandson, who is currently a student at MSU."

Two scholarship recipients will be awarded each year to MSU students who are residents of Greenup County who attended Greenup County Schools and are in good academic standing. Students interested in applying for this scholarship, along with other privately funded scholarships managed by the MSU Foundation, should visit the online scholarship application at <u>moreheadstate.awardspring.com</u>.

Those wishing to contribute to this fund to support worthy students from eastern Kentucky may do so at <u>alumni.moreheadstate.edu/mcbrayer</u>, or by mail at MSU Foundation, 121 East 2nd Street, Morehead, KY 40351.

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu.

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MSU imaging sciences programs earn Top 25 national ranking

Morehead State University's imaging sciences programs have several qualities that place them among the nation's best.

Best Value Schools (<u>BestValueSchools.org</u>) has named MSU to its list of the Best 25 X-Ray Tech Schools in 2021. MSU was ranked 13th and was the only Kentucky higher education institution to make the list. Among the programs highlighted are MSU's Associate of Applied Sciences in Radiologic Science, its Bachelor of Science in Imaging Sciences (BSIS) tracks in diagnostic medical sonography (DMS) and computed tomography/magnetic resonance (CTMR), and its BSIS track in leadership in medical imaging (LMI) offered exclusively online.

A complete list of rankings can be found at www.bestvalueschools.org/xray-tech-schools.

Best Value Schools is an online resource that assesses the nation's colleges and universities to inform visitors of the best learning experiences at the best possible prices.

"The imaging sciences programs have a near 100% pass rate on their respective credentialing exams, 100% job placement, and we have the only BSIS programs in the state," said Dr. Manuel Probst, department chair for the Department of Kinesiology, Health, and Imaging Sciences. "The recognition of the imaging sciences programs is a tribute to the quality and dedication of our students and faculty."

For more information on MSU imaging sciences programs, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.edu/imagingsciences</u>, email <u>imaging@moreheadstate.edu</u> or call 606-783-2646.

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March 9, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Former Kentucky Lieutenant Governor to speak for Women's History Month Event

Morehead State's Office of Military Initiatives is commemorating Women's History Month with an online program featuring remarks from former Kentucky Lieutenant Governor Jenean Hampton on Thursday, March 11, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. via WebEx. She will share lessons from her life about leadership in and out of the military and hold a question-and-answer session after her remarks.

Hampton served as Lt. Governor of Kentucky from 2015 to 2019 under Gov. Matt Bevin, and was the first African-American to hold a statewide office. Hampton served in the U.S. Air Force for seven years as a computer systems officer, earning captain's rank. A combat veteran, she served in Saudia Arabia during Operation Desert Storm.

"Students will gain insight on how to successfully traverse through different professions personally and develop an awareness of how others from all backgrounds persevered through challenges and changes," said Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives. "She will speak to women's history, but her professionalism and wisdom will benefit all."

In addition to Hampton's remarks, the presentation will include performances from the MSU Dance Ensemble, Chamber Singers, Black Gospel Ensemble, the Jazz Ensemble, and a presentation from the Kentucky Folk Art Center.

The event will also include prize giveaways for participants. Session said that the presentation is open to everyone, not just veterans.

"Our events are not just for military-related students or women. Anyone and everyone can grow and glow from the information presented," Session said.

To attend the event, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.webex.com/join/ssession</u>. For information about the presentation, email Session at ssession@moreheadstate.edu.

Session said an event to show appreciation to Vietnam Veterans is being planned for March 29, and said any groups interested in participating should contact him at ssession@moreheadstate.edu or by calling 606-783-9416.

To learn more about MSU's Office of Military Initiatives, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans, email veterans@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-9416.

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March 10, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU continues Virtual Career and Internship Fairs this month

Morehead State University's Office of Career Services is hosting a series of major and industry-specific career and internship fairs for spring 2021 for our students and alumni. Students first capitalized on this opportunity with the Healthcare Career & Internship Fair held last month, and an additional six virtual career and internship fairs will take place in March.

"The virtual environment has allowed us to offer smaller, more focused career and internship fairs organized by career clusters. This approach allows students, employers and graduate schools to connect and explore opportunities that are a better match to one's specific interests," said Megan Boone, director of the Office of Career Services. "That said, many of these organizations consider students of all majors, so don't necessarily limit yourself to one fair. We hope you will take advantage."

Upcoming Virtual Career & Internship Fairs

- Social Services, Legal, Government and Nonprofit Career and Internship Fair: 10 a.m.-noon Monday, March 15 - This fair is for students and alumni interested in social work, criminology, legal, government, nonprofit and other related fields. Sign up at https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Spring2021Social.
- Engineering and Science Career and Internship Fair: 2-4 p.m. Monday, March 15 This fair is geared toward students and alumni interested in engineering, space science, biology, mathematics, chemistry, physics and other science fields. Sign up at https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Spring2021EnScCF.
- Business and Sports Management Career and Internship Fair: 1-3 p.m. Tuesday, March 16 This fair is focused on students and alumni interested in business, sports management, accounting, finance, marketing, and other related fields. Sign up at https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Spring2021BusCF.
- Communications and Creative Career and Internship Fair: 10 a.m.-noon Wednesday, March 17 This fair is for students and alumni interested in communications, art, music, theatre, graphic
 design and other creative fields. Sign up at https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Spring2021ComsCF.
- Agriculture Career and Internship Fair: 10 a.m.-noon Thursday, March 18 This fair is geared toward students and alumni exploring careers in the agricultural fields, including veterinary tech, animal science, equine science and other agriculture-related majors. Sign up at https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Spring2021AgCF.
- Virtual Education Career Fair: 3:30-6 p.m. Tuesday, March 23 This fair is for students and alumni pursuing teaching and administrative careers with K-12 school districts. This fair is cohosted by MSU, University of Kentucky and Eastern Kentucky University, and will take place on

Handshake rather than Eagle CareerNet. Sign up at https://app.joinhandshake.com/career-fairs/21379.

Students and alumni interested in exploring jobs, internships, clinicals, externships, fellowships and graduate programs in healthcare can sign up to attend "As a Job Seeker" at https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Spring2021HEACF. Attendees will be able to meet with representatives via individual or group video chats.

After signing up to attend, students are encouraged to update their chat profiles, upload their resumes, and view participating organizations by clicking on "See Who's Coming." Let Career Services review your resume before the fair by sending it to <u>careerservices@moreheadstate.edu</u>. For additional tips and advice on how to excel at the fair, refer to the student instructions sheet and tip sheet.

Learn about upcoming events by visiting www.moreheadstate.edu/career.

For more information on MSU's Office of Career Services, call 606-783-2233 or email careerservices@moreheadstate.edu.

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March 12, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU graduate education programs top national ranking list

Morehead State University has its foundations as an institution that prioritizes training teachers, and its teaching programs are no strangers to national rankings. Now, a graduate-level education program at MSU has been ranked the best in the nation.

Intelligent.com has ranked MSU's Master of Arts in Teaching program the top program in its Top 50 Master's in K-12 Education Degree Programs. The website evaluated these programs on faculty, cost, flexibility and reputation. To compile this list, Intelligent.com evaluated 179 colleges and universities and a total of 299 education programs to assemble this Top 50 list.

View complete ranking: www.intelligent.com/best-masters-in-k-12-education-degree-programs.

Students who have earned a bachelor's degree and are looking for a change in career can earn a teaching certificate through MSU's Ernst & Sara Lane Volgenau College of Education via the Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program. Completion of the MAT program results in a master's degree and a Kentucky teaching certification. The programs are designed for individuals who have earned an undergraduate degree in a certification content area or closely related field.

You can complete MAT Certification in:

- Middle Grades (5-9)
- Secondary Education (8-12)
- Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education (Birth-Kindergarten)

MSU is discounting graduate tuition on all 600-level courses within the Volgenau College of Education until May 2025. The rate is the same as the University's undergraduate tuition rate, which is currently \$374 per credit hour.

Find out more about MAT programs at MSU by visiting www.moreheadstste.edu/mat.

To learn more details on the reduced tuition, as well as information on graduate and certification programs offered by the Volgenau College of Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/kyeducators.

For more information about MSU's Volgenau College of Education and its programs, call 606-783-2162 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education.

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March 12, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Luke Birkes Scholarship established

The MSU Foundation has announced the establishment of the Luke Birkes Scholarship, a fund to provide scholarships to students with disabilities. An anonymous donor created the scholarship in honor of recent graduate Luke Birkes (20).

During his time as a student, Birkes excelled in the classroom by making the Dean's List each semester. He was also actively involved in several student organizations, including the Campus Activities Board (CAB) and the Student Government Association (SGA). His volunteer efforts with the CAB landed him a work-study position within the Office of Student Affairs.

As a person with epilepsy, Birkes is an ongoing advocate for the illness. During his time as a student, he worked tirelessly, alongside his twin brother Colby, to make MSU the first Seizure Smart University in the country.

The Luke Birkes Scholarship will support Kentucky students who utilize the Office of Student Disability Services at MSU. Recipients must have a GPA of 2.0 or above.

Birkes hopes the scholarship can help a student with disabilities feel a vote of confidence that someone believes in them on the path to college graduation.

"I hope that this scholarship will give them that type of uplift emotionally because it's hard enough going to college away from your family when you have a disability," Birkes said.

Those wishing to contribute to this fund in honor of Birkes may do so by visiting <u>alumni.moreheadstate.edu/lukebirkes</u>, or by mail at MSU Foundation, 121 East 2nd Street, Morehead, KY 40351.

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu.

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March 16, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU helps bring luck to students with 24-Hour Giving Day on St. Patrick's Day

Nearly every year since 2013, Morehead State University has hosted an annual 24-Hour Giving Day to raise donors and dollars for University needs. The eighth annual event will take place this year on St. Patrick's Day (Wednesday, March 17).

With a goal of 500 gifts in 24 hours, this annual day of philanthropy is an opportunity for Eagles across the country to give what they can to make a difference for current and future Eagles. The event raises funds for student scholarships and supports student programs and projects. It is open to all MSU alumni and friends, and gifts to all funds are welcome. All gift amounts, from \$5 to \$500, will help make this annual challenge a success.

"We are especially excited for this year's giving day. While the last year has been unusual, it's been an exciting 2021 for MSU so far," said Jessi Ferguson, Alumni & Digital Engagement Manager. "We know there are Eagles showing their pride across the country and we hope that will carry over into tomorrow. There's a lot for Eagles to be proud of right now!"

To participate in the giving day, visit <u>alumni.moreheadstate.edu/24</u> to learn more and make your gift online via credit card or PayPal. Follow along with our progress by connecting with MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development on social media through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

For more information on scholarships, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu or visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu.

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March 18, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State alum Dr. Leah Simpson keeps KCTCS students online and on track for success

Dr. Leah Simpson (16) didn't always envision her career would center around educational technology, but that didn't mean she didn't realize its potential early on in her career.

"I started teaching in 1998 and it was a luxury to have even one computer in my classroom that was available for student use," she said. "I would say, however, that I was always one of the first of my peers to incorporate new technologies in my classes. Much of the time, failed to get it just right, but after several attempts, I got better at designing activities and assessments that were enhanced by technology rather than dominated by it."

Considering Simpson currently serves as executive director for online learning at the Kentucky Community and Technical College System (KCTCS), she has come a long way from that single shared computer in her first years of teaching. The road to her role was possible thanks to making the decision to continue her education at Morehead State University.

After earning a bachelor's degree in English from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in 1998 and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Kentucky in 2004, Simpson taught high school students before changing course to spend the majority of her career working in higher education. She served as associate dean of ITT Technical Institute from 2008 to 2009 before returning to her second college alma mater, serving as an assessment specialist and later director of assessment and curriculum development for the UK College of Pharmacy between 2009 and 2018. During that time, she increasingly realized that she wanted to pursue a doctorate in education, both to advance in her career and because she said she "found her 'why.""

"While working at the Office of Assessment at the University of Kentucky, I noticed there was a disconnect in the way our office offered training and development and the desire to participate. We offered a lot of hand-on workshops to faculty, but the hours didn't always work for our audience. So, I started to seek ways to teach around their schedules. Online learning and small trainings through video and job aids were the answer," she said. "Online programs are what make it possible for students like me to continue their education and achieve their dreams. I wanted to be a part of something that is so vital and necessary for so many students in our country."

In order to make positive change in the realm of online education, she wanted to find an online program to earn her doctorate and found it at MSU. She said the reason she was able to earn an Ed.D. in Educational Technology and Leadership from MSU in 2016 was because it was a program designed for graduate students, it fit her lifestyle, and had faculty and leadership who gave her the freedom to choose her own path. She said her passion for advancing online education and serving KCTCS has been made possible thanks to her education at MSU.

"Working in higher education makes having 'Dr.' in front of my name very important. Working in higher education also makes me very aware of how many doctoral programs are designed without student success as a primary focus," Simpson said. "I know that having this degree opened more doors for me than would have been possible without it. So being part of a program that was intentionally designed with my success in mind was a major component to achieving my career goals."

To learn more about the Doctor of Education (Ed.D) program visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/edd, or contact Dr. Lee Nabb at www.moreheadstate.edu/study/edd, or contact Dr. Lee Nabb at www.nabb@moreheadstate.edu or 606-783-2168.

For more information about MSU's Volgenau College of Education and its programs, call 606-783-2162 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education.

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Morehead State University (MSU) is a comprehensive public university with robust undergraduate and graduate programs, emerging doctoral programs, and an emphasis on regional engagement. MSU aspires to be the best public regional university in the South through prioritizing student success; outcomes; academic excellence; and rankings, reputation and regional responsiveness.



March 22, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Ed.D. student Karol Johansen gives college students career guidance

Karol Johansen's career path didn't take her far from her hometown of Lakewood, California. The University of California, Irvine (UCI) alumna currently works at that alma mater as the associate director of career development and has spent more than 25 years dedicating her life to addressing the career needs of college students.

Johansen's graduate-level academic career led her to explore educational options to maximize the impact she can have in her profession. While she earned a bachelor's degree in education from UCI and a master's degree in counseling from Los Angeles-based Loyola Marymount University, her desire to earn a doctorate led her to Morehead State University's online Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Adult and Higher Education program.

"As a Californian, there is no shortage of availability in terms of graduate and professional programs," she said. "I decided to embark on a national search for a doctoral program that was closely aligned with my scholarly interests, professional goals, work schedule, and personal budget. After an extensive amount of research, I discovered Morehead State University, and it has been the perfect choice."

Johansen said she had parents who grew up during the Great Depression and emphasized having a strong work ethic and getting an education. She considers herself a lifelong learner. She worked in financial services but found it lacking in meaning and she randomly applied for an administrative job in career services.

"The field was perfectly aligned with my skills, interests, personality and value," she said.

Before her current position as associate director of career education, Johansen served as senior counseling manager for pre-professional services at the UCLA Career Center. When continuing her education, she said MSU's program in Adult and Higher Education allowed her to "check off every box on my list."

"I was seeking an affordable predominantly online program with distinguished faculty, which offered me the flexibility to pursue my research interests while choosing from an array of higher education specialization areas," she said.

Johansen is currently in her second year in MSU's doctoral program. Even though she hasn't completed the program, she has already successfully integrated her experience in her current role with UCI.

"Through my Ed.D. program, I have examined measures that reflect institutional effectiveness along with databased planning and decision-making in higher education environments that demand accountability and transparency," she said. "Within a philosophical framework of higher education, there has been a full integration of leadership and management skills in the program along with a strong student learning and outcome-driven curriculum that has further facilitated and refined my development as a leader in higher education."

Johansen said her education at MSU has equipped her to continue her passion and make a difference in her students' lives.

"As a career education team leader and student advocate, I encourage University of California students to explore career pathways they care deeply about along with those which they have never fully imagined or remotely considered," she said. "I encourage my students to take inventory of their dreams, passions, and aspirations. Witnessing my students fulfilling their dreams is the best feeling."

The deadline to apply for the Ed.D. program is Thursday, April 1. To learn more about the Ed.D. degree program, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/edd, email Dr. Lee Nabb, associate professor of adult and higher education, at lw.nabb@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2168.

For more information about MSU's Volgenau College of Education and its programs, call 606-783-2162 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education.

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March 22, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Vet Tech program ranked second in the nation by Intelligent.com

Morehead State's Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology program has been named the nation's best associate program and the second-best program overall by intelligent.com.

Intelligent.com, a resource for online degree rankings and higher education planning, has announced the Top 47 Veterinary Degree Programs for 2021. The comprehensive research guide is based on an assessment of 196 accredited colleges and universities. Programs are evaluated based on curriculum quality, graduation rate, reputation, and post-graduate employment.

Students in MSU's veterinary technology programs learn real-world skills by working with live animals at the University's Small Animal Teaching Hospital and the Equine Health and Education Center, located at the Derrickson Agricultural Complex. Dr. Philip Prater, professor of veterinary science at MSU, said the program's experienced and knowledgeable faculty, combined with hands-on learning opportunities, makes the program stand out from other similar programs across the country.

"The clinics at the Derrickson Agricultural Complex are state-of-the-art facilities, and in some respects, are unmatched by any other vet tech program in the country. The numbers of large and small animal cases that our students are involved with are dramatically higher than most any other program in the U.S.," he said.

The program boasts high passage rates for the Veterinary Technician National Exam, with more than 75% of MSU students passing the certification exam. Prater also said the program has maintained a 100% job placement rate for several years.

"Our Vet Tech students are distributed to all the major areas of our profession, such as private practice, university veterinary school hospitals, diagnostic laboratories, state and federal regulatory agencies, and the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries," Prater said, adding there are approximately five job openings for every vet tech student that graduates, and many students find work before they complete their degrees.

"This is, indeed, an honor for our program to be nationally ranked. And, although we humbly accept such an honor, we also know that MSU Veterinary Technology has been one of the premier programs in the U.S. for over forty years," he said. "There is no way that we could achieve the success that we have seen with the program without the tremendous support from our department, college, and university administration. They have provided outstanding financial, curricular, and facilities support to elevate our program to this level of distinction."

To view the complete ranking, visit www.intelligent.com/best-veterinary-degree-programs/.

For information on MSU's veterinary technology programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/vettech, email agsi@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2662.

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March 22, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Chen and Frye publish article on athletics and social media

Morehead State Professor of Sport Management Dr. Steve Chen and Athletics Media Staff Assistant Ryan Frye (17) (18) (20) recently published an article exploring how social media marketing affects sporting event attendance.

The article, "Content Analysis of a Collegiate Athletic Twitter Account: Practical Applications for Promotion and Attendance Increase," was published in the Applied Research in Coaching and Athletics Annual. Dr. Ken Henderson, retired professor of marketing, co-authored the article. Chen and Frye's study explored different types of Twitter messages sent by a collegiate athletic department. It analyzed the impact of these messages on attendance at home athletic events during the NCAA football season. The data examined five message categories: interactivity, content, promotional, information sharing and noise. Results suggested that while noise was prevalent, messages about the studied sports were impactful. The types of messages sent by a college athletic department could impact attendance at the institution's home athletic events.

Frye said he was interested in studying social media's impact on game attendance after reading an article discussing social media use by WNBA franchises and how the franchises represented themselves to their fan base through Twitter.

"I wanted to figure out how to apply those classifications to my position as an Athletic Media Relations Graduate Assistant while also deducing the best way to utilize the social media postings that I was helping craft for the Morehead State Athletics' accounts," Frye said. "With Dr. Chen's previous experience researching attendance and fan bases, especially looking at fan bases and attendance at small, regional, NCAA Division I institutions, the decision to tie the categorization of tweet types to attendance was a natural connection."

Chen said the work he and Frye did benefits MSU athletics programs directly.

"It was my pleasure to collaborate with Ryan for this project," said Chen. "His work has helped our athletic program to value the advantages and use of various social media platforms. It also helped him earn the honor of top paper in sport marketing track for the Association of Marketing Theory & Practice (AMTP) annual conference."

Frye said he is honored by the recognition.

"Seeing the article presented in an academic journal wasn't something I was expecting when the research began but it's very rewarding knowing the time that went into the research. I truly hope that through its publication, the findings of the research will be able to help others in the field," he said.

For more information about athletics at MSU, visit www.msueagles.com.

To learn more about sport management programs at MSU, <u>visit www.moreheadstate.edu/business</u>, email cbt@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2090.

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March 23, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Regents and Audit Committee to meet March 25

Morehead State's Board of Regents and the Audit Committee will meet Thursday, March 25, at MSU at Mt. Sterling.

The MSU Audit Committee will meet at 9 a.m. The committee will vote on an auditing firm's appointment and price and approve the minimum scope of the annual audit to end June 30, 2021. They will also vote to accept the 2019-20 NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures Report and WMKY-FM audit. The committee will hear a status report on internal audits from Internal Auditor Cynthia Hunt.

The full Board of Regents will meet at 9:30 a.m. The board will vote to approve the Audit Committee's decisions on the auditing firm and price, the minimum scope of the annual audit, the NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures Report and the WMKY-FM audit. They will also vote to approve tenure and tenure with promotions, approve sabbatical leave, and approve 2021-22 housing rates.

The board will also:

- Vote to accept the quarterly financial report and ratify the amended operating budget.
- Vote to approve faculty and staff compensation plans.
- Vote to approve the 2022-28 six-year operating plan.
- Hear updates from MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan on education-related legislative action and the current fiscal year's finances.

All guests are asked to wear a mask and follow proper safety protocols. Disposable masks will be provided for those that need them.

For more information or to view the full meeting agenda, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/bor.

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March 24, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Academic Honors Program provides students with extraordinary learning opportunities

As an institution, Morehead State University is nationally ranked as a top 20 university due to its emphasis on the academic experience and unique learning opportunities. One of the places where these qualities are most evident is the experience academically exceptional students get both in and out of the classroom through the George M. Luckey Jr. Academic Honors Program.

Students accepted into the Academic Honors Program receive the Honors Scholarship, which covers tuition, housing and a one-time study abroad experience.

"The scholarship covers tuition and housing so that the students can focus on their studies and not worry about having to take on a job for the sole purpose of paying their way through," said Skyler Cantrell (18), program specialist with the Academic Honors Program. "The number of students in the program remains relatively small (about 20 per graduating class), and that is by design to ensure that each one is given the attention to successfully transition to college life and flourish."

The program's curriculum challenges these students' academic capabilities while providing opportunities to accelerate and broaden their personal development. This is done through more participation-based classes, undergraduate research and international experiences.

"I think that their experiences in the program open their eyes to a much larger world and the time they spend in the program around other exceptional students helps them socialize in a way that gives them the networking skills necessary to succeed after graduation," Cantrell said.

Gabe O'Hara, a senior biomedical sciences major/pre-med major from Georgetown, Ohio, said during his time in the Academic Honors Program, he has served on the program's student executive board in multiple leadership positions, including as president for the past two years. He has also spent three weeks backpacking across Europe with other honors students and another four-week stint in a small town in Uganda, Africa, volunteering and shadowing at a local hospital. This is all in addition to the program's undergraduate research requirement, which led to him presenting at an honors conference in Louisville.

"The opportunities presented by the program are near limitless," O'Hara said. "and the connections you develop through these experiences are long-lasting and significant."

Dr. Philip Krummrich, director of the Academic Honors Program, said that O'Hara's experiences are what the program is all about.

"There's a lot more to learning than getting 'A's,' We're more interested in learning experiences than specific classes," Krummrich said. "Our goal is to create an environment in which they can thrive."

MSU's Academic Honors Program is currently accepting applications this fall for the 2021-22 academic year. For more information, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/honors, email honors@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2205.

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March 24, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU alumnus Dr. Shaw Wan makes generous donation to Department of Biology and Chemistry

Dr. Shaw Wan (77) has gone from achieving success to making a generous donation to his alma mater so future Morehead State University students can do the same. The urologist based in Norwood, North Carolina, not only returned to MSU for the first time in 42 years in 2020, but he also made a generous donation of \$100,000 to the Department of Biology and Chemistry to assist with the purchase of new equipment.

"I am very grateful for the scholarship I received that allowed me to attend MSU," Wan said. "I am so thankful for all of my professors in the College of Science. I was provided me with a great education that allowed me to be very competitive in my professional programs."

A native of Louisville, Wan graduated from MSU in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry. He later graduated from the University of Louisville School of Medicine and completed his residency at the Tripler Army Medical Center in 1983. Wan earned the rank of colonel in the United States Army and is a veteran of the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and Operation Desert Shield. He has served as chief of urology for U.S. Army Hospitals. Wan was also a clinical associate professor for the University of Missouri at Columbia. He has been in practice for more than 20 years.

Wan's gift will allow the department to purchase two needed pieces of equipment: the new High-Pressure Liquid Chromatography Unit (HPLC) used to separate a mixture of compounds in the fields of analytical and organic chemistry, biochemistry, drug discovery and other industrial applications, and an Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (AA), which has multiple uses in different areas of chemistry such as clinical analysis of metals in biological fluids and tissues such as whole blood, plasma, urine, saliva, brain tissue, liver, hair, and muscle tissue as well as pharmaceuticals and the food/beverage industries.

"We are grateful that Dr. Wan's generous contribution enabled us to purchase these necessary instruments for both cutting-edge research and teaching," said Dr. Wayne D. Miller, dean of the MSU College of Science. "This equipment will ensure our students are well prepared and highly competitive for future employment."

For more information about Morehead State's College of Science programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/science, email dsci@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2158.

For more information about private giving, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email giving@moreheadstate.edu.

Photo, left to right: Urologist Dr. Shaw P. Wan (77) and John Harris (72) returned to their alma mater for a campus tour. Wan donated \$100,000 to the Department of Biology and Chemistry to assist with the purchase of new equipment.

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 $\label{eq:MSU} MSU \ is \ an \ affirmative \ action, \ equal \ opportunity, \ educational \ institution.$



March 25, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Regents and Audit Committee hold meetings

Morehead State's Board of Regents and the Audit Committee met Thursday, March 25, at MSU at Mt. Sterling.

The MSU Audit Committee approved the minimum scope of the annual audit to end June 30, 2021, to be conducted by Dean Dorton Allen Ford PLLC. Additionally, they accepted the 2019-20 NCAA Agreed Upon Procedures Report and WMKY-FM audit.

The full Board of Regents later approved the Audit Committee's recommendations, accepted the quarterly financial report, and ratified the amended operating budget. They also approved the 2022-28 six-year operating plan.

Additionally, they approved tenure and tenure with promotion, sabbatical leaves, faculty and staff compensation plans, and 2021-22 housing rates. MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan provided an update on education-related legislative action and the current fiscal year's finances.

For more information, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/bor.

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March 25, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU faculty, alumni honored with Appalachian Arts and Entertainment Awards

The 2021 Appalachian Arts and Entertainment Awards honors some of the most talented and dedicated artists, musicians, personalities, performers, venues and educators ranging from locally successful to nationally known. This year, several Morehead State University faculty and alumni were among the award recipients.

MSU faculty and alumni award winners include:

- Best Music Educator Dr. Roosevelt Escalante, associate music professor and assistant director of choral activities
- Best Drama, Speech, Acting Educator Octavia Biggs (87), director of The Little Company
- Best Keyboardist Chase Lewis (alumnus), keyboardist for Tyler Childers and the Food Stamps
- Best Strings (Non-Guitar/Bass) Megan Bryant (10)
- Best Rock Magnolia Boulevard (featuring keyboardist Ryan Allen, 14)
- Best Television Personality Amber Philpott (03), news anchor with WKYT in Lexington
- Best Bassist JT Cure (03), bass player for Chris Stapleton
- Best Middle School Band Edythe J. Hayes Middle School, Lexington, Kentucky (assistant band director Kevin R. Bowling, 99)
- Best High School Band Pike County Central High School Band (band director Matt Moon, 03 and 09)

"It was an honor to receive the Appalachian Arts and Entertainment Award for best music educator. My purpose has always been to transform lives through the power of music, and to be recognized in this way feels great," Escalante said. "The number of MSU winners did not go unnoticed by me, and I believe it speaks to the culture of excellence and creativity that pervades the Department of Music, Theater, and Dance, as well as MSU community at large."

For a complete list of award winners, visit www.facebook.com/theappyawards.

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March 26, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Craft Academy at Morehead State earns Cognia STEM Certification

The Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics at Morehead State University has been recommended for CogniaTM STEM Certification for its high quality, rigorous commitment to STEM education.

The Craft Academy was recognized by the review team as a "model program." Cognia, the leading provider of accreditation and certification, assessment and improvement services, aims to help parents, community leaders, and stakeholders identify quality STEM schools and programs that:

- Promote scientific inquiry and design thinking.
- Develop skill sets that transfer across career sectors.
- Bolster students' capacity for critical thinking and perseverance through complex tasks.
- Engage students deeply in their local community in ways that connect learning to the real world.

"We welcomed external feedback from a well-respected education organization such as Cognia," said Dr. Carol Christian, director of the Craft Academy. "Cognia visits programs and schools across the nation and internationally. When they recognize the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics as a high quality and model program, it validates that we are in fact building a premier STEM program. We are proud to be the first program in Kentucky to receive their STEM Certification."

"Morehead State University is proud to be home to the Craft Academy. This certification is one more recognition of the outstanding academic quality and experience MSU provides and why we are moving up among the ranks of the top universities in the South," added MSU President Jay Morgan.

In order to earn Cognia STEM Certification, institutions must demonstrate a learner centric environment, and experienced evaluators look for STEM learning opportunities that are well integrated in all content areas and multiple environments.

"Cognia STEM certification is designed to differentiate organizations that simply identify themselves as STEM on their buildings, materials and marketing, and those that meet high standards," said Scott Davidson, senior director, certification services at Cognia.

"The certification process involves several stages of rigorous review and assessment of performance against standards focused on contributions to the STEM education pipeline, STEM learning, connections to real-world applications, and program efficacy."

The Craft Academy's purpose is to meet the unique educational needs of academically gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors in the Commonwealth. The academic rigor of the Craft Academy challenges students to excel at their highest level through project-based STEM+X courses and hands-on learning experiences, with emphasis on innovation, design and creativity, and civic and regional engagement.

For more information about the Craft Academy, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/craft-academy, email craftacademy@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2093.

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March 26, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Senior art exhibit 'Everything Considered: 2021 MSU Senior Juried Art & Design Exhibition' opens March 31

Morehead State's annual senior art exhibit, "Everything Considered: MSU Senior Juried Art and Design Exhibition," will be on display March 31-April 16 at the Golding-Yang Gallery in Morehead State's Claypool-Young Art Building.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be no opening reception for the event, but it will be open to the public Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The exhibit will feature the work of 29 senior art and design students who will be graduating in May or December.

For this year's exhibition, jurors will be Adam Yungbluth, MSU visiting assistant professor of art and design, and Melissa Yungbluth, director of the Golding-Yang Gallery and instructor of art and design. Awards will be given for first, second, and third place and best in show. Several honorable mentions will also be awarded.

Melissa Yungbluth will announce the winners Wednesday, March 31, at 7 p.m. via WebEx. She will also provide a walking tour of the exhibit. She said viewing the exhibition will allow people to see emerging artists' work at a pivotal point in their careers.

"It's the culmination of what they've accomplished in their years here at MSU, but it's also the art right before they enter the professional world, or some may go on to graduate school," Yungbluth said. "This is the one time in their careers as artists that this work will be viewed, most likely. They're going to begin changing again after they graduate and move to the next phase in life."

For more information about the exhibit and access to the awards announcement, email Yungbluth at myungbluth@moreheadstate.edu.

To learn about MSU's Department of Art and Design programs, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.edu/art</u>, email arde@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2766.

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March 26, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU presents recital highlighting female composers for Women's History Month

The Morehead State University School of Creative Arts and the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance will present "A Recital of Women Composers" in honor of Women's History Month. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 31, and will be available to view virtually on the Music at Morehead State University Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MoreheadStateMusic.

The program is a collaboration between MSU faculty accompanist William A. Murphy, who is also the concert organizer, and faculty and students from the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance. Featured musicians include:

- Dr. Stacy Baker, Professor of Music Tuba/Euphonium
- Noah Scott Bruce, Senior Voice Performance Student Vocals
- Derek Easterling, Graduate Music Student Euphonium
- Dr. Nathan Mensink, Visiting Assistant Professor of Music Saxophone

Murphy said he wanted to create a concert in honor of Women's History Month unlike any presented at MSU. He made female composers the central theme since female composers' work hasn't been recognized as much compared to their male counterparts. Composers featured in this concert include Amy Beach, Cecile Chaminade, Paule Maurice, Florence Price and Barbara York.

"I wanted there to be variety in the music and I wanted to cite works and composers from the early 20th century up until now," Murphy said. "The thought to recognize the female composer is quite new and more research is being done to shed light on these women for their musical intellect."

Information on the concert and virtual access can also be found at www.williamamurphy.com. Once on the home page, click "click here to watch" or hover over "concerts" in the menu and click "A Recital of Women Composers," which will be available the day of the virtual launch.

To learn more about music programs at MSU, email mtd@moreheadstate.edu, 606-783-2473 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/music.

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March 26, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State's Engineering Technology program uses augmented and virtual reality to improve advanced manufacturing training

Faculty and students in Morehead State's Department of Engineering and Technology Management are developing augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) programs to improve advanced manufacturing training programs.

Last year, Dr. Kouroush Jenab and Dr. Jorge Ortega-Moody, both assistant professors of engineering and technology management at MSU, received \$500,000 from a collaborative grant from the Kentucky National Science Foundation's (NSF) Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) initiative's Kentucky Advanced Partnership for Enhanced Robotics and Structures. The funds are being used to develop MSU's laboratory for training in condition-based maintenance (CBM), sustainable advanced manufacturing (SAM) and industrial controls. The laboratory is housed in the 21st Century Center for Manufacturing Systems at MSU.

The research team includes one post-doctorate candidate, two graduate assistants and two Undergraduate Research Fellows. They are developing algorithms for failure prediction and condition-based maintenance data and the augmented virtual and physical laboratories (AVRL) for workforce training in advanced condition-based maintenance, robotics, and industrial infrastructure control.

"The main focus of using AR and VR, first of all, is safety," Ortega-Moody said in a video produced by KyEPSCoR. "A lot of jobs, for example, welding and automation, or driving, like forklift driving, have a lot of safety issues and we can reduce those issues." He added using AR and VR in the lab allows them to stretch limited resources and reduce maintenance costs.

The researchers have created virtual reality and augmented reality programs designed to train workers in automation training, welding, farming and more. Students are also researching using artificial intelligence vision systems for quality control and incorporating other senses into virtual and augmented reality environments using a scent generator. Students learn mechanical and electrical design skills and programming through creating AR and VR scenarios. Ortega-Moody said the lab would one day provide automation training for regional businesses, which will create even more career opportunities for graduates.

"They have the need to train people in automation, especially the companies that are small. They want to do automation to produce more. And the people that have a lot of automation want even more automation, so it's a field that's going to keep growing and growing."

For information about MSU's engineering and technology management programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/etm, email etm@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2418.

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Morehead State University (MSU) is a comprehensive public university with robust undergraduate and graduate programs, emerging doctoral programs, and an emphasis on regional engagement. MSU aspires to be the best public regional university in the South through prioritizing student success; outcomes; academic excellence; and rankings, reputation and regional responsiveness.



March 29, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU accounting program ranked among top 5 in the nation

Morehead State University's Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting program has been named one of the Top 50 Accounting Degree Programs in 2021 by Intelligent.com.

Intelligent.com, a resource for online degree rankings and higher education planning, ranked MSU at No. 5, noting that it was best for returning students. Programs are evaluated based on flexibility, course strength, faculty, reputation and cost.

"I am happy to be teaching accounting in a student-focused program," said Dr. Stephen Brigham, assistant professor of accounting. "Keeping the costs of education low not only benefits students but also benefits MSU's program in such rankings."

Morehead State's Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting prepares students for a career as an accountant in a wide range of career fields, including tax, auditing, controllership and more. The program offers courses in taxation, governmental, auditing, accounting information systems and more. There is also an online completer option for students pursuing degrees in accounting. Upper-level courses are offered online for students who have already completed the pre-business core requirements. The online option allows students to finish the last two years of classes online.

"We are honored to have our accounting program recognized in this way by Intelligent.com. Our students benefit from small class sizes, the opportunity to learn from faculty skilled in both online and face-to-face instruction, and from learning from the professional and academic experience that our professors bring to their classes," said Dr. Johnathan Nelson, associate professor of management and dean of the Elmer R. Smith College of Business and Technology. "We are proud to deliver a strong program that students can complete in both face-to-face and online formats depending upon their unique needs."

To view the complete ranking, visit www.intelligent.com/best-accounting-degree-programs.

For more information on MSU's accounting program, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/accounting, or contact the School of Business Administration at cbt@moreheadstate.edu or 606-783-5025.

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March 29, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Vietnam veterans appreciation event to be held March 29

Morehead State's Office of Military Initiatives is planning a virtual event Monday, March 29, 5-6:30 p.m., to recognize Vietnam Veterans Day.

Guest speakers at the event will be Dr. Yvonne Baldwin and Dr. Sean J. McLaughlin.

Baldwin is a retired MSU history professor, Vietnam War historian and author who was the spouse of a Vietnam veteran, the late LTC Alan R. Baldwin, the namesake of MSU's Veterans Resource Center. She taught at MSU for 24 years, serving in several roles, including as chair of the Department of Geography, Government, History and Paralegal Studies. She has published numerous books and scholarly articles on topics including the Moonlight Schools and the anti-Vietnam war movement in Louisville.

McLaughlin is an author, historian, and member of the Kentucky Humanities Council. He currently serves as the archives/museum director at Murray State. McLaughlin also has a long-standing interest in cross-border military service thanks to his paternal grandfather, a WWII Canadian Forces veteran who, after his discharge, crossed the St. Clair River and broke Canadian law to enlist in the US Army after the Pearl Harbor attack for a second tour in a different uniform.

Students from MSU's music program will perform the national anthem, and the Mountain Music Ambassadors of the Kentucky Center for Traditional Music will also perform. The Kentucky Folk Art Center will present an art piece and Pastor Anthony Mullins from Chi Alpha Campus Ministries will offer a prayer for the event. Those who attend the event will also have a chance to win prizes, including a Fujifilm Instax Mini 11 camera with Fuji instant film (20 Sheets) with an accessories bundle and gift cards.

Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives at MSU, said it's important to recognize Vietnam veterans' service because what they did often goes unrecognized.

"Many people may not know or remember that they received no hero's welcome when they returned," Session said.

The event is open to the entire community and the public is welcome.

The event will be held via WebEx and will also be streamed on Facebook Live. To join the WebEx meeting, visit www.moreheadstate.webex.com/ssession. To view the event on Facebook, visit www.facebook.com/MoreheadStateEagleVets. For more information, email Session at ssession@moreheadstate.edu.

For more information about MSU's Office of Military Initiatives, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans</u>, email veterans@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-9416.

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March 29, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Education students help flood-stricken areas in Eastern Kentucky

Student teachers from Morehead State's Ernst and Sara Lane Volgenau College of Education are going the extra mile to help their communities recover from recent flooding.

Dr. Antony Norman, dean of the Volgenau College of Education, said students have been working hard this semester to teach in virtual and in-person classrooms simultaneously. Many have also been donating their time to provide help to their communities in the wake of flooding in the region.

Senior Brooke Halsey, an elementary and special education, learning and behavioral disorders major who is student teaching in Carter County, has traveled home to Breathitt County on weekends to help clean-up efforts. Working with family members, Halsey helped her neighbors clean their homes and sort through their belongings. She also collected and donated clothing and shoes, getting her university supervisor, Malinda Fitch, involved in collecting donations. Halsey also donated time to help her church clean and distribute food boxes to the community.

"My subdivision, along with others in the area, had to be evacuated due to the quick-rising waters. Fortunately, my home was spared. Many others, however, were not so lucky," Halsey said.

Dustin Blair of Paintsville, a middle grades education and special education, learning and behavioral disorders major, and his cooperating teacher, Jackie Meade of Johnson County Middle School, converted their daily attendance into a virtual check-in with students. As students reported in, the pair relayed students' flood relief needs to the school's Family Resource Center, which coordinated relief efforts. Blair later followed up with students to check on their progress.

After spending his weekends since the flood working to clear mud and muck from the Little League baseball field and buildings, Paintsville Independent student-teacher Jordan Ray, a senior middle grades education and special education, learning and behavioral disorders major from Prestonsburg, summed up the reasons behind their active participation.

"I played ball on that field when I was a kid," Ray said. "It's my way of giving back."

"To me, serving and empowering our surrounding region and its rural communities remains the heart of Morehead State and Volgenau College. And I am so proud of how our students stepped up to support their home communities in a time of great need," said Norman. "They are keeping Morehead State's heart alive and healthy through their actions, and I like to think that if we keep our heart strong, our hands will be able to reach, and our feet will be able to go, farther."

To learn more about MSU's Volgenau College of Education programs, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.edu/education</u>, email Norman at adnorman@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2162.

Flooding photo: Residents in parts of Jackson in Breathitt County were forced to evacuate their homes following flooding there in March. Photo submitted by Brooke Halsey.

Classroom photo: MSU senior Dustin Blair, right, and his Cooperative Teacher, Jackie Meade of Johnson County Middle School, coordinated with their school's family resource center to help students affected by recent flooding in the region.

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March 30, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Graduate School to hold online open house April 6

Morehead State's Graduate School will hold an online open house Tuesday, April 6, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

The event will provide participants with the opportunity to learn about graduate degree and certification options, admission, application process and deadlines. Those who attend will receive a promo code to waive the \$30 application fee.

"The Graduate School Online open house is an opportunity for potential students to discuss career goals and employment progression," Dr. Susan Maxey, Graduate School director said. "Graduate School staff will be available to answer application, program requirement and general questions, and the online modality allows potential students to make contact at a time that is convenient for them."

To join the open house, visit https://samba.live/live/ww/grspring21.

MSU is discounting graduate tuition on all 600-level courses within the Volgenau College of Education until May 2025. The rate is the same as the University's undergraduate tuition rate, which is currently \$374 per credit hour.

For more information about MSU's Graduate School, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/gradschool, email graduate@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2039.

March 30, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Late MSU alumnus, veteran continues to serve with Col. William E. Barber Scholarship

For decades, the late Col. William E. Barber (64) served his country proudly and honorably in significant roles during multiple military campaigns like World War II and the Korean War. In 1995, a group of veterans from Morgan County, organized by Resvie Wheeler, established the Col. William E. Barber Scholarship with the MSU Foundation to honor his service. Now, thanks to a generous gift from his daughter, Sharon Barber, the Col. William E. Barber Scholarship will be endowed at the \$25,000 level. The proceeds from this endowment will benefit future generations of MSU students from Eastern Kentucky and further cement his legacy of service.

Born Nov. 30, 1919, in Dehart, Kentucky, Barber grew up on a farm. He was a graduate of Morgan County High School in West Liberty and attended Morehead State University for two years before joining the Marine Corps. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1940.

When the U.S. joined World War II, he was sent to the Pacific, serving in the Battle of Iwo Jima and earning the Silver Star and Purple Heart Medals. Serving in the Korean War, he reached the rank of captain and was the commanding officer of Company F, 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines in the 1st Marine Division. Barber was one of the "Chosin Few" who served in the hard-fought Battle of Chosin Reservoir and was one of 17 men who earned the Medal of Honor for his actions at Chosin. On Aug. 20, 1952, Barber, then a major, received the honor from President Harry S. Truman in a ceremony in the White House Rose Garden. The National Museum of the Marine Corps erected a Chosin Few Battle Monument to honor those who fought there. Barber later returned to MSU to complete his degree and graduated in 1964. He went on to serve as a psychological operations officer in Vietnam before retiring as a colonel in 1970. After he died on April 19, 2002, at his home in Irvine, California, he was buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery.

In 2019, Sharon Barber reached out to the MSU Foundation and pledged her support to further fund the scholarship to endowment level. She wanted to ensure the scholarship fund would remain a resource to MSU students for years to come and indefinitely honor of her father. "As many places as he lived in his life, Kentucky was always home to my dad," Sharon said. "It is fitting that there is an ongoing scholarship in his name in an area that was so important to him and the large extended Barber family."

School who have maintained a cumulative high school GPA of 3.0 or above and a minimum ACT composite score of 20 or higher. The scholarship is a one-time, nonrenewable award and a new award is presented annually to a member of the Morgan County High School graduating class.

A selection committee comprised of three Morgan County residents including a representative of the public school system, a representative of Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a representative who is actively involved in community and civic organizations in the Morgan County area selects the recipient each year. The MSU Foundation works with representatives from Morgan County High School to organize the committee annually.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship, along with other privately funded scholarships managed by the MSU Foundation, should visit the online scholarship application at <u>moreheadstate.awardspring.com</u>.

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email <u>giving@moreheadstate.edu</u> or visit alumni.moreheadstate.edu.

To learn more about Col. Barber's military service,

visit www.defense.gov/Explore/Features/story/Article/2029253/medal-of-honor-monday-marine-corps-col-william-e-barber/.



March 31, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Advance Registration begins April 5

Morehead State University's advance registration for Maymester, Summer and Fall 2021 will open for students beginning April 5 and last through April 9.

You will register for classes using Student Planning Self-Service, which is accessed from my.moreheadstate.edu.

Students should meet with their academic advisors before advance registration. For questions about academic advising, contact your academic department or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/advising.

When looking for your registration time, please note that credit hours earned do not include the hours you have in progress this semester. Holds must be cleared before you can register for classes. Please check "My Alerts" at my.moreheadstate.edu for any hold notifications.

View the schedule for advance registration at www.moreheadstate.edu/advregistration.

For more information, including a tutorial on registering for classes, visit <u>www.moreheadstate.edu/self-service</u>, call the Office of the Registrar at 606-783-2008 or email <u>registrar@moreheadstate.edu</u>.

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March 31, 2021 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU recognized nationally for adult degree programs

Morehead State University is an institution that provides a high-quality academic experience for students of any age, and this is being recognized on a national level. MSU has been named to Abound's 2021 Top Adult Degree Programs list.

Abound (Abound.com), an online resource for degree-seeking adults, gave MSU this distinction for how it caters to adult students' needs. Schools that made this national list emphasized flexible class schedules, various quality programs, affordability and degrees that helped students advance in their chosen field.

A complete directory is available at https://abound.college/finishcollege/top-adult-degree-programs.

"It is an incredible honor to be ranked as one of Abound's 2021 Top Adult Degree Programs," said Jen Timmerman, director of transition services in MSU's Office of Enrollment Services. "Adult students are a vital part of our University community as their varied life experiences add to the rich landscape of our organization and enrich the lives of other students. Morehead State University understands that each student has unique needs, and we strive to provide convenient course schedules, student-centered instruction, in-demand regional campus and online completer programs and credit for prior learning opportunities."

For more information on enrolling as an adult student at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/adult, email Timmermann@moreheadstate.edu or call 800-585-6781.

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