



Communications & Marketing
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P: 606-783-9328 | F: 606-783-5056
www.moreheadstate.edu

NEWS RELEASE

**Aug. 2, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

MSU extends support for those affected by floods in Eastern Kentucky

MOREHEAD, Ky. --- Our hearts are with our alumni, students and friends in Eastern Kentucky affected by recent flooding.

To assist Morehead State University students from counties the governor has identified as major disaster areas eligible for federal aid, MSU is offering early check-in. Any student planning to live in MSU residential housing this fall semester may contact MSU's Office of Student Housing and request early check-in if they need a place to stay. Check-in can begin Sunday, Aug. 7. This applies to MSU students from the following counties: Breathitt, Clay, Floyd, Johnson, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Owsley, Perry, Pike and Wolfe. Call 606-783-2060 or email housing@moreheadstate.edu for assistance.

"We want to do everything we can to support our students during this time. Providing them a place to reside early could be a benefit to some," said MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan.

Morehead State is collecting supplies through Friday, Aug. 5, to send to Alice Lloyd College, Big Sandy Community and Technical College, and Hazard Community and Technical Colleges. Donations may be dropped off at the Enrollment Services Building at 121 East Second Street (garage). Requested items include bottled water, canned food, cleaning supplies, diapers, linens, personal hygiene products, socks, towels, trash bags, T-shirts, underwear and work gloves.

MSU Dining Services is also holding a donation drive Aug. 1-10 and donations can be dropped off at The Rocky Adkins Dining Complex from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 4 to 7 p.m. Suggested donations include blankets, hygiene products, pillowcases, sheets, towels, sheets and school supplies.

Kentucky's Governor Andy Beshear has established the Team Eastern Kentucky Flood Relief Fund. Visit [TeamEKyFloodReliefFund.ky.gov](https://www.teameky.com) to donate.

MSU will continue to support our students and families in Eastern Kentucky and partner with our community organizations for assistance.

###

Morehead State University (MSU) is a comprehensive public university with robust undergraduate and graduate programs, emerging doctoral programs, and an emphasis on the region and beyond. 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.



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Board of Regents meets Aug. 4

The Morehead State University Board of Regents will hold its quarterly meeting on Thursday, Aug. 4, at 9:30 a.m. in room 329 of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

Prior to the meeting, the board will meet to renew their confidentiality agreements and other annual paperwork. Following the meeting, a campus tour and orientation will be held for new regents Student Government Association President Chloe Marstiller, Laura Russell and returning regent Craig Preece beginning at 12:30 p.m.

During the meeting, Marstiller, Russell and Preece will be administered the oath of office by Circuit Court Judge David Barber. The regents will also elect a chair, vice chair and secretary and will appoint a treasurer at the meeting.

The board will hear a report on university initiatives and recommendations for board action from MSU President, Dr. Jay Morgan, and will vote to approve state-funded asset preservation projects across campus. The regents will also hear a presentation about the 2023 employee health plan.

The regents will also enter an executive session to discuss the possible disposition of property and potential litigation involving the University. No action will be taken during or following the executive session on the matters discussed therein.

The board will also sign a resolution of appreciation for outgoing Regent Terri Walters.

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

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Alum Tyler Mullins credits hands-on experience for career success

When Tyler Mullins (Class of 2014) was growing up just outside of Butcher Holler in Johnson County, he didn't have dreams of eventually working for one of the biggest social media companies in the world as the user researcher for people systems at Twitter. He didn't have a social media account when he attended high school, but that was the least of his struggles.

"(I) didn't have a car in high school or job. Didn't have the internet," he said. "It posed a lot of challenges to do after-school activities or to participate in clubs or groups to build skills or to build my resume for college."

While Mullins didn't have as many opportunities as some of his classmates, he saw college as a step toward something better and decided to become an MSU Eagle.

"I grew up dirt-floor poor and MSU was an affordable college," he said. "I think I saw it as a launching point for what could be different in the future. It was the only option I had other than working."

Mullins knew he wanted to go to college, but it took him time to find a degree where his creative passions and practical career goals came together. He originally came to MSU for music before studying art and later computer science. He was switching his major as frequently as he was working jobs to pay for his college education but his interest in philosophy was one of the constants of his college experience.

"I always looked forward to my classes. It was the material I was most interested in," Mullins said. "The faculty served as the best mentors I had. They were the most empathetic, the most willing to listen, but they would also challenge me. They would poke and prod me and get how my mind works so I could grow in different ways."

While pursuing a bachelor's degree in philosophy, Mullins decided to double-major in philosophy and convergent media, a program where "the creativity and the technical side came together in a more commodified way." In addition to working as the editor of a documentary on Morehead's St. Claire Medical Center that aired on KET, he also gained practical experience interning with MSU's Office of Communications and Marketing in 2013 with Director of Digital and Brand Strategy Toni Hobbs (Class of 2002, 2009).

"I switched my major and had an opportunity and was able to capitalize on it to get credits I needed, and work experience I needed," he said. "When I actually did work for a client on campus, they were like, 'this is great.' I was like, 'I could do this.'"

"Students like Tyler are why we work in higher education, and this is why I strongly advocate for education—it is life-changing," Hobbs said. "As a fellow Appalachian, it isn't always easy to realize our potential to impact our region and beyond positively. I couldn't be prouder of this Eagle."

After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Convergent Media and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 2014, Mullins got his first job as an AmeriCorps service member before he moved to Louisville to work for the Next Step Network as a marketing and communications assistant from 2016 to 2018. While he had his reasons for not pursuing a degree in computer science at MSU ("Calculus is not for me," he said), that knowledge, his convergent media classes and his learning to code with the help of the training program Code Louisville helped him land his next job at Humana in 2018. He worked as a software engineer before assuming roles as a senior employee experience designer and senior employee experience strategist.

"I would say a lot of the art and design skills and the media skills still came in handy," he said.

His role in ensuring Humana employees had optimal internal communication online, often referred to in human relations as "internal facing projects," gave him the experience he needed right as he stumbled across an interesting job opening at Twitter. Even though he felt he was a perfect fit for the job with his skillset, he tried not to get his hopes up too high.

"The position I was applying for was out of my league. I was punching above my weight class, I felt like. It was very aspirational," Mullins said. "I got a piece of advice earlier... 'You miss 100% of the shots you don't take.' I went for it, and... here I am."

Working remotely from Louisville since March 2022, Mullins researches and coordinates ways to make Twitter's employee digital experiences as beneficial and stress-free as possible within the company. Since he was a kid, he has always wanted to impact people's lives in a positive way. His position at Twitter has not only been a huge career milestone but has also allowed him to help people in a fulfilling and unexpected way.

"I call it the snowball effect. You start on small, incremental changes on one part of the experience...and it starts to build as it goes," Mullins said. "By the time it gets to the customer level, it's a lot bigger than it started. It makes it easier for them to do their jobs and do better quality work and we're all happier."

Mullins said he owes much of his current success to his decision to attend college at MSU. It was where he found a path out of the poverty of his childhood. It was a place to explore his early interests and discover new ones. It was where Mullins, who grew up "extremely queer" in Eastern Kentucky, was able to embrace his LGBTQ identity in an atmosphere where he felt safe and included. More than anything, Mullins said a college education provided Mullins with a place to propel him toward a promising future.

"College was like a set of doors. Every door is an opportunity, and it was a set of doors that were not available to me back home," he said. "It definitely opens doors that you don't know are there and those pathways lead to other opportunities that are hard to predict or are hard to see."

For more information on the philosophy program at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/philosophy or contact the Department of History, Philosophy, Politics, Global Studies and Legal Studies at hpql@moreheadstate.edu or 606-783-2655.

To learn more about MSU's convergent media program, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/communication or contact the Department of Communication, Media and Languages at cml@moreheadstate.edu or 606-783-2134.

College can change lives and communities. Higher educational attainment increases tax revenue, decreases unemployment and even improves health outcomes. Learn more from the KY Council on Postsecondary Education at kyhigheredmatters.org.

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MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

MSU's 2022 Fall Career and Internship Fair open for registration

Morehead State University's Office of Career Services invites employers and graduate programs to register for the 2022 Fall Career and Internship Fair. The in-person event takes place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28, at the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

The Career and Internship Fair is ideal for organizations wanting to connect with current MSU students and alumni. Attendees are looking for full-time and part-time jobs, internships, seasonal positions and graduate school opportunities. Participants are encouraged to bring copies of their resumes and dress professionally.

Employer registration is open through Friday, Sept. 16. Details and organization registration can be found online at <https://morehead-csm.symplicity.com/events/Fall2022CF>.

For more information about registering as an employer or graduate program, call the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education at 606-783-2233 or email careerservices@moreheadstate.edu.

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NEWS RELEASE

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Laura Russell appointed as new regent of MSU Board of Regents

Governor Andy Beshear has appointed Laura Prater Russell (Class of 1998) as the newest member of the Morehead State University Board of Regents.

Currently residing in Louisville, Russell serves as an attorney and partner at Eddins-Domine Law Group, PLLC, where she focuses her practice primarily on all aspects of family law, real estate and estate planning. She graduated magna cum laude from MSU with a Bachelor of Business Administration in 1998 and later earned a Juris Doctorate degree from the Louis D. Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville. A native of Eastern Kentucky, she is a third generation Eagle, as both her parents and grandmother graduated from MSU.

Prior to joining Eddins-Domine Law Group, Russell served as an associate at Frost Brown Todd, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet and as an assistant Jefferson County attorney. She is a member of the Kentucky Bar Association, the Louisville Bar Association, a former board member of the Jefferson County Women Lawyer's Association and the former president of the Younger Woman's Club of Louisville. She is married to her high school sweetheart and is the mother of a teenage daughter.

MSU's 11-member governing board includes eight citizens appointed by the governor and three elected representatives of the faculty, staff and students. Her term ends in 2028.

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

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Regent Craig Preece reappointed to MSU Board of Regents

Governor Andy Beshear has reappointed regent Craig Preece (Class of 1984) to serve a second term on the Morehead State University Board of Regents.

A native of Inez, Preece is the chief financial officer of Booth Energy. He received his Bachelor of Business Administration from MSU in 1984.

After graduation, he joined the Walter P. Walters Insurance Agency. In 1986, Preece accepted an accounting position with Booth Energy. He started an insurance agency along with several partners in 1989. Preece serves as vice president at the company Elite Agency, which now has seven offices across central and east Kentucky.

In 1995, Preece became the chief financial officer of Booth Energy and its various retail enterprises. He was honored to receive the 2013 College of Business and Public Affairs Distinguished Alumni Award. Preece is currently a member of several boards, including the Roy F. Collier Community Center in Inez, Coal Operators Associates and Big Sandy Area Development. He is a former chairman of the Martin County School Board.

For more than 20 years, Preece has performed southern gospel, singing with the Journeymen and the Remnant. He and his wife, April, have three children: Whitney Paige Preece Schmitt, Sean-Craig and Cara Bell Preece, and recently became grandparents.

MSU's 11-member governing board includes eight citizens appointed by the governor and three elected representatives among MSU faculty, staff and students. Preece's term ends in 2028.

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MSU Board meets, approves health insurance for employees with no increase in cost

Three regents were sworn in during the Morehead State Board of Regents meeting held Thursday, Aug. 4, at the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

Student Government Association President Chloe Marstiller, Laura Prater Russell and Craig Preece were administered the oath of office by Circuit Court Judge David Barber. The regents elected Eric Howard as chair, Sanford Holbrook as vice chair, Jane Fitzpatrick as secretary and appointed Mary Fister-Tucker as treasurer.

The Board of Regents recognized MSU General Counsel Jane Fitzpatrick, Assistant Professor of Engineering and Technology Management Dr. Kouroush Jenab and student Zack Holbrook, a biomedical sciences major from Hazard.

The board heard a report on University Initiatives for 2022-23, including a variety of contracts and reports, revisions to the Police/Emergency Operations manual, a new Student Code of Conduct and tenure proposals. Approved projects include campus maintenance funding for network and Wi-Fi infrastructure replacements, a new roof for Mignon Tower and the replacement of exterior steps on Alumni Tower. The board also heard a presentation on 2023 Employee Health Insurance Plans including no increase in costs for employee premiums for the calendar year 2023.

The board also signed a resolution of appreciation for outgoing Regent Terri Walters.

The regents will meet Sept. 19-20 for the Council for Postsecondary Education's Trusteeship Conference and Council Meeting.

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

Photo, upper: New Regent Laura Prater Russell, Student Regent Chloe Marsteller and Regent Craig Preece were sworn in by Circuit Court Judge David Barber during Thursday's Board of Regents Meeting.

Photo, lower: The MSU Board of Regents recognized several individuals during its quarterly meeting Thursday, Aug. 4. Pictured from left to right are MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan, MSU General Counsel Jane Fitzpatrick, Assistant Professor of Engineering and Technology Management Dr. Kouroush Jenab and student Zack Holbrook, a biomedical sciences major from Hazard.

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MSU recognizes faculty and staff with 2022 Distinguished Service Awards

Morehead State faculty has announced the recipients of the 2022 Distinguished Service Awards, which recognize faculty and staff for their service to the campus community and their fields of study.

Craig Dennis, Eagle Success Program Coordinator, was awarded the Distinguished Staff Service Award. Dr. Robyn Moore, associate professor of photography, received the Distinguished Creative Productions Award. Dr. Janet Ratliff (Class of 1991, 1992), Elmer and Donna Smith Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship and Associate Professor of Management/Entrepreneurship, was honored with the Distinguished Faculty Service Award. Dr. Lisa Shannon, professor of social work, received the Distinguished Researcher Award.

A native of West Liberty, Dennis is a three-time graduate of MSU, holding a bachelor's degree in business management, a master's degree in adult and higher education with an emphasis in student services and an MBA. He is working on his doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Kentucky. Craig began his career at MSU in 1989 as a residence hall director and area coordinator in the Office of Student Housing. In 2000, Dennis became the first full-time professional academic advisor to advise MSU's then-named Department of Elementary, Reading, and Special Education in the College of Education. He took on his current role as the Eagle Success Program Coordinator in 2006. Dennis was elected to Staff Congress and served for 12 years, including two terms each as secretary, vice chair and chair. He was also elected and served one term as the MSU Staff Regent. A graduate of the President's Leadership Academy, he also worked with the MSU Foundation as a unit development officer and co-chair of the Campus Giving Campaign. Dennis has worked closely with several student groups on campus, including being the staff advisor for the MSU Residence Hall

Association for five years and campus advisor for Theta Chi Fraternity for 23 years. He is also an Eagle Ally and a mentor with the DREAMS program.

Dr. Robyn Moore is a photo-media artist and filmmaker originally from Virginia. She joined MSU's Department of Art and Design in 2015. Her research interests include deep time, biosemiotics, geology, phenomenology, empathic imagining and how visibly material photographic practices can encourage new ways of seeing and sensing other beings and landscapes. Moore received a Bachelor of Arts in Art History from Virginia Tech; an MFA in photography and experimental film from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University; and a Ph.D. in Visual Arts (Photomedia) from Sydney College of the Arts, the University of Sydney in Sydney, Australia. Moore's artwork has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including at the South Australian Museum and the National Archives of Australia; the San Francisco International Film Festival; the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Harvard University; and the Houston Center for Photography. This past spring, a series of Dr. Moore's photopolymer gravure etchings was selected as a finalist for the René Carcan International Prize for Printmaking, held in Brussels, Belgium, and was the sole US resident to receive this honor. This fall, Moore's series of landscape etchings titled *Being in the Land* will be shown in a solo exhibition at the Remarque Print Workshop in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Dr. Janet Ratliff earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing in 1991 and a Master of Business Administration in 1992; she received her Ed.D. in Instruction and Administration from the University of Kentucky in 2008. She began her career at MSU in 1992 as an instructor in management before obtaining her current position as Elmer and Donna Smith Endowed Chair in Entrepreneurship and Associate Professor of Management/Entrepreneurship. Since coming to MSU, Ratliff took 111 students on education abroad experiences to 11 different countries. She was selected to serve on the Standards Business and Education Advisory Panel for Financial Literacy for the State of Kentucky to identify the fundamental content requirements for the mandated high school financial literacy standards. Ratliff designed and organized an annual on-campus business pitch competition and prepared students for state business pitch competitions. She has hosted entrepreneurial competitions throughout southeastern Kentucky for more than 5,000 middle and high school students, who created more than 1,753 student-run businesses. Ratliff has written, received and implemented grants totaling \$450,000 and published and presented at 20 national conferences. Last year, she received the Appalachian Teaching Project grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission, which she utilized to develop a Level UP course for MSU in partnership with Hazard High School.

Dr. Lisa Shannon graduated with a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Kentucky (UK) in 2000, later enrolling in UK's Master's in Social Work program. She earned her master's degree in social work in 2003 before earning a Ph.D. in Social Work from UK in 2007. Shannon gained extensive grant writing experience before coming to MSU in 2010 as a tenure-track assistant professor in social work. She is

currently a professor of social work, primarily at MSU Prestonsburg. Her current extramurally funded projects focus on evaluations of community-based substance abuse treatment programs. She is the evaluator for multiple Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) projects examining outcomes associated with community-based services like drug court and other specialty courts and Volunteers of America. The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) funded Shannon to conduct a statewide evaluation of all types of Kentucky specialty courts and multiple BJA-funded evaluations of specific specialty court sites using evidence-based or best practices. Shannon is also a member of the executive committee/board for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, an editorial board member for the "Advancing Justice and Drug Court Review" journals, and a reviewer for the National Institutes of Health.

For more information, contact the Division of Academic Affairs, at 606-783-2002 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/academic-affairs.

Photo, left to right: MSU awarded 2022 Distinguished Service Awards to faculty and staff at Fall Convocation on Wednesday, Aug. 10. Winners were Dr. Robyn Moore (Distinguished Creative Production), Craig Dennis (Distinguished Staff Service Award), Dr. Lisa Shannon (Distinguished Researcher Award) and Dr. Janet Ratliff (Distinguished Faculty Service Award).

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MSU Eagles begin classes on Aug. 15

New students will arrive on the Morehead State University campus ready to soar higher in the 2022-23 academic year on Thursday and Friday, Aug. 11 and 12. Classes at MSU begin Monday, Aug. 15.

Faculty, staff, student organizations, Greek life, athletic teams and the community will welcome new students. During Move-In Days, volunteers will assist students and families in finding their way and moving into their residence halls. For more information, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/move-in.

To support the success of our new students, New Student Days will kick off the fall 2022 semester, providing inspiration, encouragement and skills for college success. Find the New Student Days schedule at www.moreheadstate.edu/newstudentdays.

There is still time to apply for admission. If you are interested in becoming an MSU Eagle, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/apply.

First-year and returning students affected or displaced by the recent flooding in parts of Eastern Kentucky were granted early move-in privileges on Sunday, Aug. 7. MSU will continue to support our students and families in Eastern Kentucky and partner with our community organizations for assistance.

Emergency resources are available to students via the MSU Foundation thanks to the generous support of alumni and friends. The NEST Fund - Needs for Eagle Support in Trying Times - supports student emergency needs including food support, school supplies, transportation costs and more. If you know of an MSU student who could benefit from these programs, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/student-affairs/eagle-essentials.

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Aug. 11, 2022
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State's Veterinary Technology program ranked top in state, #8 in nation

Morehead State's veterinary technology bachelor's degree program has been named the top program in the state and #8 in the nation by BestColleges.com, a resource website for those considering attending college.

Each year, the BestColleges Ranking Team evaluates hundreds of programs to produce our annual Best bachelor's in Veterinary Technician ranking. In 2022, the team sourced the most recent data available from the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System and College Navigator, both of which are hosted by the National Center for Education Statistics. Each school is ranked based on a formula measuring academic factors (60%) and affordability (40%).

"I am so proud and honored to be a part of this program for the past 25 years. Many of the schools ranked ahead of us are major, land-grant universities with massive resources," said Dr. Philip Prater, Professor of Veterinary Technology. "Our MSU program maintains incredible integrity, success in retention and graduation, and boasts of a nearly 100% employment rate; all this without the unlimited resources of the larger schools. This is truly an outstanding accomplishment."

Dr. Ken Andries, chair of the Department of Agricultural Sciences, says the ranking proves the commitment of MSU's faculty.

"These achievements would not be possible without the commitment and dedication of all the faculty and staff in the program. They continue to attract qualified students to the program, which has helped to build the program and the success it is seeing," Andries said.

Prater said the greatest metric for measuring the program's success is its graduates' success.

"MSU Veterinary Technology graduates can be found in almost every corner of the U.S. They not only perform well in private practice situations, but many of them hold supervisory positions in industry, diagnostic laboratories, colleges of veterinary medicine, and government regulatory practice," he said. "Most notable is the fact that many MSU Vet Tech grads are now faculty in other veterinary technology programs around the country, paying it forward for the exceptional education that they received at Morehead State University."

Last year, the vet tech program achieved a 100% passage rate on the Veterinary Technology National Exam (VTNE), a required test to obtain a veterinary technology license.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) projects that vet tech jobs will grow by 15% from 2020-2030.

For more information, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/vettech, email agsi@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2662.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 15, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State University hosts Teach Meet 2022

Morehead State University hosted the Eastern Kentucky region's annual Teach Meet on Tuesday, July 19, at the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC). The event drew over 200 participants from school districts, including Rowan County, Johnson County, Newport Independent, Ashland Independent and Russell Independent.

Teach Meet is a free professional development opportunity for K-12 teachers to learn about innovative technologies to incorporate into their daily instruction and to network with colleagues from across the region. Event organizers were Pamela Rowland (Class of 1993), digital learning coach for Rowan County Schools; Laura Raganas, digital learning coach at the Kentucky Department of Education; Greta Casto (Class of 1994), Russell Independent; Lisa Salyer (Class of 1996), Johnson County Schools; Andrew Castle (Class of 2002, 2003), Johnson County Schools; and MSU Professor of Education Dr. Kimberlee Sharp.

Teach Meet featured short, demonstration-focused and interactive sessions. Attendees could choose from more than 56 sessions throughout the day, and teachers utilized their laptops, tablets and cell phones to access applications and share ideas for classroom usage.

Alumni from Morehead State University's education programs presented their technology and teaching ideas at Teach Meet, including Andrea Kenney (Class of 2018), McBrayer Elementary; Maria White (Class of 2013), Clearfield Elementary; Stacie May (Class of 2009, 2018), Rowan County Middle School; Bethanie Henry (Class of 2007, 2013, 2018), Clearfield Elementary; Briana Cook (Class of 2014, 2020), Newport Independent High School; Cindy Combs (Class of 1998, 2008), Rowan County Middle School; Tara Montgomery (Class of 2004, 2008), Magoffin County High School; and Tessa Collins (Class of 2020, 2021), Rowan County Senior High School.

For information about how you can attend Teach Meet in 2023, contact any of the following educators:

Andrew Castle: andrew.castle@johnson.kyschools.us

Greta Casto: greta.casto@russell.kyschools.us

Laura Raganas: laura.raganas@education.ky.gov

Pamela Rowland: pamela.rowland@rowan.kyschools.us

Lisa Salyer: lisa.salyer@johnson.kyschools.us

Kimberlee Sharp: k.sharp@moreheadstate.edu

To learn more about MSU's Ernst and Sara Lane Volgenau College of Education and its programs, call 606-783-2162 or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/education.

Photo, right: Cindy Combs from Rowan County Middle School, Andrea Kenney from McBrayer Elementary School and Maria White from Clearfield Elementary attended the Teach Meet event at MSU.

Photo, left: Laura Raganas from the Kentucky Department of Education and Pamela Rowland from Rowan County Schools were among attendees from the Eastern Kentucky region who attended Teach Meet.

Photo, lower right (left to right): Ashley Branham and Jasmine Banks were among the Teach Meet 2022 attendees from Johnson County Schools.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 18, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Morehead State's Lunar IceCube to launch Aug. 29 aboard Artemis I

A satellite built by students and faculty at Morehead State is scheduled to head into space Monday, Aug. 29, aboard the most powerful spacecraft ever made as part of a NASA mission to the moon.

The satellite, Lunar IceCube, passed environmental testing last summer and was delivered to NASA's Kennedy Space Center to be installed as a secondary payload on the Artemis I mission. The satellite will use a plasma drive propulsion system to take it on a circuitous route to the moon. It will orbit and investigate the transportation physics of water ice on the lunar surface to support a lunar outpost that NASA plans to develop. NASA hopes that there is enough water on the moon to support future human and robotic solar system exploration.

The Lunar IceCube team includes several faculty and staff members of the Space Science Center and more than 50 students at Morehead State, in addition to a small number of scientists and engineers from NASA Goddard Spaceflight Center, the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the NASA Independent Verification and Validation Center and the Busek Space Propulsion company.

Lunar IceCube's mission will last approximately 18 months and the spacecraft will perform hundreds of orbits of the moon. The Mission Operations Center (MOC) in the Space Science Center at Morehead State University will operate the mission. The team will use NASA's Deep Space Network and Morehead State University's own 21-meter ground station antenna to send commands to the spacecraft and downlink data and telemetry.

"Lunar IceCube is one of the first of a generation of higher capability CubeSat

spacecraft that represents a transition of the technology from Low Earth Orbiting (LEO) satellites to Interplanetary missions," said Nathan Fite, MSU space systems engineer and Lunar ICECube program manager. "The Artemis 1 missions bridge the gap between LEO CubeSats and larger interplanetary space missions."

The aerospace industry continues to be a growing sector of Kentucky's economy, creating more than 4,000 jobs and generating \$2.7 billion in investment between 2014 and 2020, according to the 2021 Kentucky Economic Development Guide. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects the industry will experience continued growth through 2030.

The launch is scheduled to take place between 8:30 and 10:30 a.m., and a watch party for the event is planned for students, faculty and staff at the Start Theater. Watch live at <https://www.nasa.gov/nasalive> or <https://www.youtube.com/c/NASA>.

For more information about Lunar IceCube and the Artemis I mission, visit <https://go.nasa.gov/3wqwjVO>.

To explore programs in MSU's Department of Physics, Earth Science and Space Systems Engineering, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/phes, email phes@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2381.

Photo caption: Dr. Ben Malphrus, executive director of MSU's Space Science Center, holds a model of the Lunar IceCube that will be launched on Artemis I.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 22, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU alum Ben Hawkins went from French language enthusiast to Kentucky's French Teacher of the Year

Before Ben Hawkins (Class of 2005, 2009) made a career out of teaching French in the classroom, he initially planned to learn the language to make one of his dream travel destinations much more enriching.

"I began to dream of going to France one day to Paris and visiting all of the well-known monuments and sites that captivate the passions of so many world travelers. You know, like the Eiffel Tower, of course, or the Louvre or Notre Dame, all of the reasons why Paris is still the number one most visited city in the world. And I always said to myself that if I ever got to go there, I would want to be able to communicate with the native speakers that I would inevitably encounter on such a trip," Hawkins said. "I wanted to be able to have authentic and multifaceted conversations with real native speakers and not stick out like a sore thumb like a stereotypical tourist in trying to go to these amazing places."

What started as a French middle school class for fun became a passion that kept growing along with his education, eventually leading to graduating with a bachelor's degree in French from Morehead State University and later a position as the French teacher at East Carter High School in Grayson. Now, Hawkins is being recognized for his abilities as an instructor as this year's French Teacher of the Year for Kentucky by the American Association of Teachers of French – Kentucky Chapter.

"I am beyond humbled, honored and appreciative to my colleagues for choosing me to be this year's recipient of this award, and I will be forever grateful to all of my teachers, mentors, students (both current and former), their parents and colleagues who have all been such huge blessings in my life and allowed me to do what I love, who have each helped me to become the teacher I am today," Hawkins said.

Hawkins grew up in Erlanger and after initially gravitating toward French in middle school, he studied it more extensively in high school and traveled to France for the first time the summer after his senior year. He decided to come to MSU after a trip to campus his junior year for a one-day drama workshop cemented his decision due to the beautiful campus and the quality of theatrical performance put on by the students. He was initially undecided on his major but took French 101 during the fall semester of his first year under the instruction of the late and long-time Professor of French Mary Jo Netherton (Class of 1966).

"When Mary Jo introduced herself to us, that she had been teaching at MSU for 35 years, I thought to myself, 'I wonder if she taught my high school French teacher?' I couldn't wait to ask her after class, to which she replied, 'Oh yes, I remember Doris (Strilka, Class of 1965)! She was my first student-teacher during my first year at MSU,'" Hawkins recalled. "Mary Jo always called herself my 'grandmother in French,' something I will cherish always."

While Hawkins was taking every French class possible at MSU, he still decided to declare himself an art major and wasn't sure how he could parlay his French language knowledge into a job. One time when Netherton was out of town for meetings and conferences with the Kentucky Institute for International Studies, she tapped Hawkins to substitute-teach some of her French 101 classes.

"There I was, passing out papers Mary Jo had left for her students to work on, beginning class that day, just following Mary Jo's lesson plan like I was supposed to, and then suddenly, I just stared at the back wall of the classroom for a couple of moments that felt like several minutes. I was having an epiphany," Hawkins said. "I was thinking to myself, 'I could do this for a career. And I would enjoy it!' I snapped out of the epiphany, ecstatic, and couldn't wait to tell Mary Jo that I was going to change majors to French education."

Hawkins graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in French in 2005 and landed his first job as a French teacher for Fleming County Schools that same year. He later became a middle school teacher at Rowan County Christian Academy from 2006 to 2007 before returning to MSU to earn a Master of Arts in Secondary Education, 8-12 in 2009. It was a degree he earned while starting his current job as the French Teacher for East Carter High School in 2007, a position he has held for 15 years.

In his classroom, Hawkins prides himself on immersing his students in the French language and culture while prioritizing his relationships with students and making the material as engaging and entertaining as possible. He believes having the ability to speak a second language, French or otherwise, is only going to benefit students in the long run.

"Monolingualism is one of America's defining characteristics, sadly, with approximately only 20% of the population being able to communicate in more than one language. Even if you wouldn't use a world language a majority of the time while working in your

current field, having the skill to communicate in other languages brings a multitude of benefits, not the least of these having enhanced and advanced communication skills in your first language," he said. "It's a proven fact that studying another language and using it often reinforces your own communication skills and abilities, no matter what language you are speaking at any given point in time."

From being inspired by the language of a country an ocean away to being recognized as one of the best French teachers in the country, Hawkins admits the journey from a childhood interest to a fulfilling career was made possible by becoming an Eagle.

"MSU connected me to so many new people, new experiences, new places, new knowledge, skills and even wisdom that enriched my life to heights and levels I had never expected," he said. "I am who I am today because of MSU. There's no separating my current status and quality of life from the influence and impact that MSU has had on me."

To learn more about foreign language programs at MSU, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/study/languages or contact the Department of Communication, Media and Languages at 606-783-2134 or cml@moreheadstate.edu.

College can change lives and communities. Higher educational attainment increases tax revenue, decreases unemployment and even improves health outcomes. Learn more from the KY Council on Postsecondary Education at kyhigheredmatters.org.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 22, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU Golf program organizes golf outing fundraiser

Morehead State University's Men's and Women's Golf teams hosted a benefit golf outing at the Greenbrier Golf & Country Club on July 18 in Lexington, Kentucky. The event allowed MSU supporters in central Kentucky to show their pride in MSU's golf program. Over 21 teams played the championship 18-hole golf course and showed their support.

"We are extremely grateful to everyone that supports our men's and women's golf programs. Thank you to all 21 teams for spending their day with us," said MSU Men's Golf Coach Matthew Martin (Class of 2012). "The staff at Greenbrier is incredible, and we are fortunate to have their golf course for this special day as it allows us to engage with supporters and friends in the Lexington area who might not be able to visit Morehead often. Through the funds raised today and throughout the year, we can provide our student-athletes with everything they need to compete for championships and make some memories along the way."

The golf event winners were Greg Turcotte of Alpha Financial Partners and his team, including Brad Borough, Willa Borough and Mallory Trudeau, who scored 54. The support of this team and the other participants has allowed the MSU Golf program to prepare for competition in the coming year.

Stay up to date with MSU Athletics by visiting our website www.msueagles.com.

For more information about supporting the MSU Golf program or becoming involved in the annual benefit event, contact Coach Matthew Martin at wmmartin2@moreheadstate.edu or Coach Stephanie Barker at sm.barker@moreheadstate.edu. If you're interested in supporting the golf programs by making a gift, visit <https://alumni.moreheadstate.edu/give> or call the Office of Alumni Relations & Development at 606-783-2033.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 26, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU receives Kentucky Reading Project Grant

Morehead State University received a grant to provide learning for teachers in the area.

The funding allowed MSU to host the Kentucky Reading Project (KRP), a professional development initiative for public school elementary teachers (P-5) that prioritizes increased student achievement and family involvement in literacy.

The week-long workshop took place at Ginger Hall from July 18-22. Seven teachers from within MSU's service region attended. The focus was on the Science of Reading, including content centered on one of the following areas: phonological awareness, phonics, fluency and comprehension. Participants connected these areas to Scarborough's Reading Rope. During this summer institute, the National Center for Families Learning facilitated an all-day workshop on engaging families in reading.

The week-long workshop is part of a yearlong, graduate-level literacy course that also includes follow-up sessions during the year and a coaching visit for each teacher. Participants benefit by receiving three graduate-level credit hours from MSU after the course's completion in 2023 and a stipend, books and professional resources.

To learn more about the Kentucky Reading Project or to apply, go to <https://kentuckyliteracy.org>. You can also contact Rebecca Roach at r.roach@moreheadstate.edu.

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

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 29, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Poet e. Nina Jay visits campus Sept. 1

Poet e. Nina Jay will visit Morehead State on Thursday, Sept. 1, for a workshop, reading and speak-out event.

The poetry workshop is from 2-4 p.m. in the 3rd Floor open space of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC.)

A poetry reading and speak-out titled “Keep Your Hands Off My Body!” will be held at CoffeeTree Books, 159 E Main St., from 7 to 9 p.m.

“Gender Studies is excited to host poet and activist e. nina jay at MSU Sept. 1,” said Dr. Bernadette Barton, professor of sociology and director of gender studies. “jay will help hold space for University and community members to process the rage and pain of intimate partner violence and the recent retraction of reproductive rights.”

The event is sponsored by MSU’s Gender Studies program, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and the School of English, Communications, Media and Languages. Learn more at www.moreheadstate.edu/genderstudies.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact Barton at b.barton@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2710.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 29, 2022
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Faculty art exhibit opens Aug. 31

The annual Morehead State Department of Art and Design Faculty Exhibition opens Wednesday, Aug. 31, with a reception from 4 to 6 p.m. The exhibit runs through Sept. 21. The opening reception is open to the public. Refreshments will be served and there will be live music.

The exhibit features the works of full-time, adjunct and emeritus faculty. Most often faculty members exhibit their work elsewhere in the US and internationally. This show is a chance to display their current work locally; to students and community members.

The faculty forum will be held Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m., in the Golding-Yang Art Gallery. The exhibiting faculty members will be present to give brief talks about the artworks that they have presented. Audience members are encouraged to ask questions and interact with the faculty.

The Golding-Yang Art Gallery, located within the Claypool-Young Art Building, is a pivotal educational and cultural component of the Department of Art & Design, the Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, the MSU campus and the community at large.

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

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 31, 2022
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

Andrew Sexton named MSU's Coordinator of Service Learning

Morehead State University's Center for Career Development and Experiential Education is pleased to announce the addition of Andrew Sexton (Class of 2020, 2022) as the coordinator of service learning.

"I am so excited to return to my alma mater to use my knowledge, skills and experience in a meaningful way," Sexton said. "I believe that this position will allow me to support the needs of MSU faculty, staff and students while connecting them with relevant community stakeholders to pursue mutual goals."

Service Learning is the integration of classroom instruction with a community service project, and Sexton will provide support for students and faculty interested in incorporating service-learning projects into the classroom. Through the Level UP: Experience your Future initiative, he will further support students to ensure that they develop and can articulate critical career skills like oral communication, critical thinking and professionalism as part of their service-learning experience.

"We are fortunate to have Andrew joining our team. MSU has a long tradition of service learning evidenced by our recognition as a Carnegie Foundation Community Engaged Institution," said Megan Boone, director of the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education. "We look forward to seeing him continue to grow the service learning program."

Sexton is a Morehead native who earned a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Spanish in 2020 and a Master of Public Administration in 2022. He comes to the center with a background in community service and service learning through his participation in the AmeriCorps VISTA program. This experience allowed him to work closely with community agencies and strategic partners to meet critical needs in the region, focusing his work with Gateway's Homeless Coalition. He has a network of community partners

he plans to utilize to build and cultivate relationships to engage faculty and students more fully in projects that make an impact on MSU's 22-county service region.

Sexton brings a rich knowledge of campus life and student activities through his previous roles as vice president for campus involvement for the Student Government Association (SGA) and coordinator of weekend programming in the Campus Activities Board (CAB). He is currently a graduate student at Morehead State University in the Adult and Higher Education program, where he will eventually earn a Master of Arts in Adult and Higher Education.

To learn more about the Level UP Program at MSU, email levelup@moreheadstate.edu or visit www.moreheadstate.edu/levelup.

For more information on the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education, visit www.moreheadstate.edu/career, email careerservices@moreheadstate.edu or call 606-783-2233.

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NEWS RELEASE

Aug. 31, 2022
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MOREHEAD, Ky.---

MSU geology program celebrates reunion and nearly \$1 million in privately funded endowments

MSU's geology program has now raised almost \$1 million in privately funded endowments.

Nearly 100 alumni gathered this summer to connect and celebrate the program's success, as well as hear an update on the generous funding provided by alumni and friends to support the program. MSU Professor Emeritus Charlie Mason (Class of 1975) coordinated the reunion with the MSU Alumni Association and alumni traveled from as far as Colorado and Texas to attend. Many group members participated in field research led by MSU alumni Tim Lewis (Class of 1980), Mason and current Professor of Geology Dr. Jen O'Keefe. The attendees also attended a reception and dinner in the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

During the dinner, alumni remembered former professor Dr. John Philley. MSU hired Philley as its first full-time geology and physical sciences instructor in 1960. He had a successful 40-year career at MSU, advancing through the ranks and serving as chair, dean and provost. Philley passed away in 2021. Proceeds from the geology alumni reunion supported the Dr. John and Betty Philley Endowment Fund, a fund valued at over \$11,000 with additional commitments to grow the fund to the \$25,000 endowment level.

In addition to the Philley Endowment, the MSU Foundation manages eight additional funds that support the Geology program. These funds include:

- Edwin Paul Lyon III Endowment Fund
- Frank Michael Baldrige Scholarship Endowment
- Geoscience Endowment
- Richard A. Walls Geological Research Endowment

- Richard A. Walls Scholarship Fund
- Robert Thomas Lierman Memorial Scholarship Endowment
- Sam Williams Geology Enrichment Endowment
- Toney Nelson Phillips Geology Scholarship

Combined, the value of these endowments is nearly \$937,000.

"It is amazing to see how loyal this alumni group is to their program," said Allison Caudill (Class of 1993), executive director for the Office of Alumni Relations and Development. "Charlie Mason does a phenomenal job staying connected with Geology alumni. He strives to ensure they remain loyal supporters of MSU and the next generation of Geology students. This commitment is evident through the number of privately funded endowments that benefit the program."

MSU is inviting geology alumni to save the date for the next reunion on June 21, 2025.

At Morehead State University, about 95% of our students receive some form of financial aid. The MSU Foundation is instrumental in assisting with scholarship support. The Foundation's endowment, valued at over \$70 million, manages nearly 600 funds to support MSU students. As we celebrate 100 years as a public institution, the MSU Foundation is on a mission to grow the endowment to \$100 million.

If you are interested in making a gift to a current fund, establishing a new scholarship or making a planned gift commitment, 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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