



Communications & Marketing  
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[www.moreheadstate.edu](http://www.moreheadstate.edu)

**Nov. 7, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **MSU receives Kentucky Healthcare Workforce Collaborative grant**

To address the state's healthcare workforce shortage, the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) launched the Healthcare Workforce Collaborative (HWC) to distribute \$8 million in grants to Kentucky's public two-year and four-year colleges and universities. Morehead State University was among the universities that received grant funding for \$294,600.

The grants, funded by an appropriation from the General Assembly, will help the institutions expand their programs and provide student support to get more frontline healthcare workers trained and into the workforce.

"We are pleased to work with CPE on creating a stronger pipeline of healthcare graduates from Morehead State and we believe that this grant will assist significantly," said MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan.

Dr. Christopher Beckham, who works with special projects and strategic initiatives, said the plan revolves around four key areas:

- Expansion of clinical sites for healthcare students.
- Support for faculty acquisition and retention for key healthcare areas.
- Wrap-around support for faculty, staff, and students.
- Expansion of educational pipelines for secondary and post-secondary students to enter healthcare education programs.

"The HWC grant funds enable MSU to expand its capacity to educate healthcare graduates who can hit the ground running in various healthcare settings," Beckham said.

Currently, the state is operating 12-20% short of the needed nursing staff, with estimates of more than 16,000 additional nurses needed by 2024.

The HWC explicitly targets rural areas of Kentucky to develop training programs and will also prioritize training for other frontline healthcare professionals ranging from doctors and physicians' assistants to mental health practitioners and medical social workers.

Dr. Wayne Miller, dean of the College of Science, said MSU would use the funds to increase enrollment in the University's nursing and imaging sciences programs while building more clinical sites, which can decrease student travel and alleviate financial barriers to enrollment. There will also be collaborations with St. Claire HealthCare and the Area Health Education Center (AHEC).

"Within a short period of time, the next year, two, three years, four years, they will have our programs up and running at capacity, maintaining that capacity," Miller said. "We will have more students who graduated and have a stronger workforce."

For more information on [MSU's nursing programs](#), contact [nursingdept@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:nursingdept@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-2296.

To learn more about [imaging sciences programs](#) at MSU, contact [kh@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:kh@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-2180.

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### **MSU Student Government Association announces 2022-23 executive officers**

Morehead State University's Student Government Association (SGA) elected executive officers for the 2022-23 academic year.

Three separate interrelated bodies comprise SGA: the Executive Branch, the Legislative Branch and the Judicial Branch. The Executive Branch consists of six elected officers who serve on the Executive Board. Elections occur during the spring semester.

#### **CHLOE MARSTILLER - PRESIDENT**

Chloe Marstiller is a sociology major from Morgantown, West Virginia. She has previously served as an SGA at-large senator from 2020-21 and the vice president of finance from 2021-22. She is also a member of Gamma Phi Beta sorority, Student Alumni Ambassadors, MSU 4 Paws and works as a resident advisor.

#### **KELTON CRANK - EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT**

Kelton Crank is a healthcare management major from Pikeville. He previously served as an at-large senator, commuter senator and the chief of staff for the SGA. Crank is also a Kentucky Rural Health Association member and AHEC Scholar.

#### **CARMEN VAZQUEZ - VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS**

Carmen Vazquez is a double major in psychology and sociology from Nicholasville. She is a member of Delta Zeta Sorority. She served as an at-large senator for the SGA during the 2021-22 academic year.

#### **PRESLEY BOYER - VICE PRESIDENT FOR CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT**

Presley Boyer is a biomedical science major from Louisa. She has served as an SGA at-large senator from 2020-21 and the vice president of campus involvement from 2021-22. She is also currently a member of MSU 4 Paws, the Pre-Med Club and worked as a peer leader during the 2021-22 academic year.

#### **AUSTIN WAGNER - VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE**

Austin Wagner is an accounting major from Elliott County. He previously served SGA as the College of Business senator for the 2021-22 academic year. In addition to his time at SGA, Wagner also served as a pledge trainer for the service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega, an FYS peer leader for several classes. He has worked with Student Outreach Services to help facilitate the 2021 MSU Governor's Scholars and Upward Bound programs.

#### TESS RUEHRMUND - VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION

Tess Ruehrmund is a nursing and Spanish double-major from Cardington, Ohio. She is a Gamma Phi Beta sorority member and has previously served as an at-large senator for the SGA during the 2021-22 academic year.

Marstiller said SGA outlined several broad goals for how to best serve the MSU campus student community for the 2022-23 academic year:

- Contribute to the increase of general campus involvement through hosting events such as Fall Festival and Student Choice Awards, continuing and improving our Student Organization Funding system, and helping other organizations put on/promote their events.
- Contribute to health, academic and environmental resources by putting more money into the Student Health Fund, creating a new environmental initiative, finding a needed academic resource to provide for students and spreading awareness about mental health resources.
- Promote diversity and inclusion (D&I) by collaborating with the Eagle Diversity Education Center, utilizing our D&I Committee to address issues on campus and hosting at least one related initiative per semester.
- Expand partnerships with local businesses and MSU entities to provide students with discounts and keep the list of locations in Morehead that provide students with discounts updated regularly.
- Advocate through taking select members to the annual Rally for Higher Ed at the Capitol in Frankfort in February and providing students with regular updates from the Kentucky Board of Student Body Presidents and the Kentucky Council for Post-Secondary Education.
- Improve internal and external relations by doing more things to increase SGA awareness through tabling, social media and events while creating an open senate application for vacancies, maintaining regular office hours throughout the year to make ourselves more widely available and increasing our general social media outreach.

"Being a part of SGA is a very rewarding experience. From things as big as getting bells in the Little Bell Tower to as small as showing students where their classes are, we are all so happy to help out however we can," Marstiller said. "I've been a member for three years now and every year, this organization has helped me grow so much as a person. I wouldn't be the person I am today if I never took the jump of running for the student senate my freshman year, and I'm positive the rest of our Executive Board can say the same."

To learn more about [SGA](#), contact [sga@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:sga@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-2071.

Photo: MSU's Student Government Association elected executive officers for the 2022-23 academic year.

Front row, left to right: Presley Boyer, Vice President for Campus Involvement; Carmen Vazquez, Vice President for Public Relations; Tess Ruehrmond, Vice President for Administration.

Back row, left to right: Chloe Marstiller, President; Kelton Crank, Executive Vice President; Austin Wagner, Vice President for Finance.

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**Nov. 8, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Veterans Day Program to be held Nov. 11**

Morehead State's Department of Military Science is sponsoring a program to commemorate Veterans Day Friday, Nov. 11, at noon in Ballroom A of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

The event will feature student performances and prize giveaways and will feature a keynote address from Scott Barker, a retired supervising special agent with the FBI and president of the Rowan County Veterans Foundation.

Refreshments will be available, and the event is free, but those wishing to attend should RSVP no later than 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 8. To register, email [vetresourcecenter@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:vetresourcecenter@moreheadstate.edu).

To learn more about resources for veterans at MSU, email [veterans@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:veterans@moreheadstate.edu) or call [606-783-2878](tel:606-783-2878).

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**Nov. 8, 2022**  
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## **Undergraduate Engagement Fellowship recipient announced**

Morehead State University's Office of Service Learning announced Lindsey Stidham as the Fall 2022 semester recipient of the Undergraduate Engagement Fellowship.

Stidham is a 2021 graduate of Rowan County Senior High School and a junior legal studies major from Morehead. She will complete her Engagement Fellowship through a partnership with Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and the Pro Se Divorce Clinic. Through the clinic, supervised students assist indigent clients with filling out the necessary paperwork to represent themselves and obtain a divorce. Without the clinic's help, most clients would not be able to afford the cost of a divorce. This project anticipates the implementation of protocols developed in the past year to provide clinics to the region at total capacity.

"I am thankful to have been accepted as an Engagement Fellow. This opportunity will help me to gain real-world experience tackling access to justice issues in the community," Stidham said. "I will be able to use the skills I've gained through the legal studies program to help people complete the paperwork to represent themselves in their divorce."

Laken Albrink, J.D., assistant professor of legal studies, is Stidham's mentor. Albrink received her Juris Doctor (J.D.) at the University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law. Her research focuses on child welfare law and sexual violence. She also coordinates the program's divorce clinic, which allows students to engage with real clients who would not be able to afford a divorce otherwise.

"I am excited to continue the work of Dr. Kelly Collinsworth (former associate professor of legal studies at MSU), who began the clinic," Albrink said. "Having Ms. Stidham as an undergraduate research fellow allows the clinic to serve many more individuals in Rowan and surrounding counties."

The Undergraduate Engagement Fellowship is available to students through the Office of Service Learning. Students are encouraged to apply regardless of their academic discipline. Projects can involve community building, health and wellness, civic engagement, etc. Applications will be reviewed and accepted semesterly, but all

recipients are required to participate in the Celebration of Student Scholarship. A stipend and additional support will help recipients to help them complete their project of choice.

Students interested in becoming an Engagement Fellow and completing a paid, service-learning project can [apply online](#).

The Office of Service Learning is part of the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education. To learn more about [the Center for Career Development and Experiential Education](#), contact [careerservices@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:careerservices@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-2033.

For more information on MSU's [legal studies program](#), contact the Department of History, Philosophy, Political Science, Global Studies & Legal Studies at [hgpl@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:hgpl@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-2655.

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**Nov. 9, 2022**  
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**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **MSU Mountain Music Ambassadors to perform at Industrial Strength Bluegrass Festival**

Students with Morehead State University's Kentucky Center for Traditional Music (KCTM) will get a showcase on a stage featuring national touring bluegrass acts this weekend.

The touring group of student musicians known as the Mountain Music Ambassadors performs at the Industrial Strength Bluegrass Festival, Thursday through Saturday, Nov. 10-12, at the Roberts Convention Center in Wilmington, Ohio. The festival's headliners include The Del McCoury Band, The Grascals, Junior Sisk, the Dan Tyminski Band, and the Kody Morris Show. The Mountain Music Ambassadors perform at noon on Saturday, Nov. 12.

"The Industrial Strength Bluegrass Festival received the Event of the Year award from the International Bluegrass Music Association. To be invited to present at one of the industry's top festivals can make a difference in our student's future and exemplifies the experiences and education students receive at the KCTM," said Daxson Lewis, director of KCTM.

The Mountain Music Ambassadors is KCTM's flagship touring ensemble featuring some students majoring in Traditional Music. The fall 2022 group includes Tommy Cole (guitar) of Prestonsburg, Izaac Daniels (banjo) of Ashland, Hayley King (fiddle) of Ridgeway, South Carolina, and Tom Lyngklip (mandolin) of Rockford, Michigan. All band members perform lead and harmony vocals. Lewis and Ruth McLain Smith direct the Mountain Music Ambassadors.

"The Mountain Music Ambassadors provide a dynamic blend of bluegrass, old-time and country music. Audience members can expect to hear a wide range of material, including fast-paced fiddle tunes, intimate vocal numbers and twin fiddle and banjo harmonies," Lewis said.

The Mountain Music Ambassadors sharing the stage with some of bluegrass music's most notable artists is one of several opportunities that make the KCTM unique and beneficial to students.

"The Ambassadors have entertained audiences regionally, nationally and internationally, appreciating every opportunity to represent Morehead State University, the traditional music program and our region's musical heritage," Lewis said. "This opportunity to share inspiration and information can bring awareness of the traditional music program to potential students and donors while also giving our students first-hand, real-world experience as touring performing musicians."

For information about tickets to the Industrial Strength Bluegrass Festival, visit [www.industrialstrengthbluegrass.com](http://www.industrialstrengthbluegrass.com) or call 800-965-9324.

To learn more about programs with MSU's Kentucky Center for Traditional Music, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/kctm](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/kctm) or contact [kctm@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:kctm@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-9001.

Photo, left to right: MSU's Mountain Music Ambassadors perform at the Industrial Strength Bluegrass Festival on Nov. 12. Performers include Tommy Cole, Hayley King, KCTM director Daxson Lewis, KCTM faculty member Ruth McLain Smith, Izaac Daniels and Tom Lyngklip.

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# NEWS RELEASE

November 11, 2022

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **MSU Board to hold meeting Nov. 15**

The Executive Committee of Morehead State University's Board of Regents will hold a special called meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 9 a.m. in room 321 of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

The agenda for the Special Called Executive Committee meeting is as follows:

- I. Call to Order Special Called Meeting
- II. Roll Call
- III. Closed Session

The closed session is called pursuant to KRS 61.810(1)(f) discussions which might lead to the appointments, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee. The Executive Committee of the Board of Regents will take no action while in Closed Executive Session.

- IV. Return to Open Session and, if required, Action by the Executive Committee
- V. Special Called Meeting Adjournment

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*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



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**Nov. 16, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Amber Sergent named 2023 Kentucky High School Teacher of the Year**

Morehead State University began as a teacher's college and has prepared educators to make an impact in Kentucky and beyond for the last 135 years. The state recently awarded an MSU education alumna one of its highest honors.

Dr. Amber Sergent (Class of 2001, 2014), a social studies teacher at Woodford County High School, was named Kentucky High School Teacher of the Year for 2023.

"I will be honest; I have struggled at times with the accolades that have been given to me. There are so many others in our building and in this professional career who deserve such awards," Sergent said. "I have done my best to walk humbly with the attention. Because I do what I do because of not what I receive, but who I am."

Sergent initially saw herself making an impact in the courtroom instead of the classroom. Originally from Falmouth, Sergent came to MSU and found a place where she enjoyed the scenic surroundings of the Daniel Boone National Forest almost as much as the people who impacted her during her academic journey.

"I appreciated and respected the attitude and the passion of its professors. They knew and cared for their students. Though they had impressive resumes of academic distinctions, professors at MSU strove to understand and know the students, meeting them and walking alongside them in the learning process of higher education," Sergent said. "I loved my Greek family of sisters (as a member of Gamma Phi Beta), and I still remain in contact with professors, sisters and friends from my MSU days."

Sergent earned a bachelor's degree in history and government from MSU in 2001 and planned to attend law school. She took a long-term teaching job at an elementary school near her hometown in northern Kentucky. She realized she wanted to pursue a history degree, earning her master's and doctorate degrees in American history from the University of Kentucky (UK).

Sergent's history education led to her serving as a teaching assistant at UK before becoming an adjunct professor at Northern Kentucky University and Gateway Community and Technical College in Florence. She was also an associate producer for

a documentary film for Kentucky Educational Television (KET) on the history of Kentucky.

Despite her experience primarily in higher education, Sergent said some of that experience drew her back to high school and, eventually, to MSU.

"I was given the opportunity to teach dual-credit courses through Northern Kentucky University, and I realized how much I enjoyed teaching high school students," she said. "At that time, the state didn't recognize a Ph.D. in content because it's a terminal degree. For public education certification and I needed a master's in secondary education. So, I returned to my alma mater, and I received a master's in secondary education through Morehead State's Option 6 program."

Earning her master's degree from MSU in 2014, she returned to her home county to teach social studies at Pendelton County High School that same year before taking her current position at Woodford County High School in 2017. In addition to serving as a social studies teacher, she is the high school's ESS coordinator and academic advisor for the high school football team.

Sergent said many of the contributions she strives to make with her students are just a reflection of the investment MSU professors made in her as an undergraduate and graduate student.

"To this day, I attribute much of my style and approach to the classroom to Dr. Yvonne Baldwin (Class of 1981), a history professor and department chair of history at MSU. Dr. Baldwin's actions in the classroom were imbued with high expectations, a love of learning, and an unwavering confidence in her students," she said. "When I returned to MSU for my master's in secondary education, I learned more from Duane Lambert (MAT coordinator, Class of 1975) and Marian Sims (MAT assistant program coordinator) than I could ever hope to glean from education textbooks. Their years of experience in the public classroom guided our classroom discussions. To this day, I utilize the strategies that Mr. Lambert and Mrs. Sims taught because they were insistent about constantly thinking about my role in the high school classroom, serving as a guide and urging my students to embark on their own journeys in American history."

While this recognition was a pleasant surprise, Sergent said it isn't nearly as rewarding as conveying her passion for history to students while showing them care and encouragement.

"'Kids these days' may forget the content of my history courses, but they will never forget how we make them feel," she said. "If I have achieved any success as an effective educator, it's because my inspiration and my love come from those resilient and compassionate 'kids these days' who embrace vulnerability and practice courage every day."

To learn more about programs in the Ernst and Sara Lane Volgenau College of Education, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/academics/colleges/education](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/academics/colleges/education) or contact [ad.miller@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:ad.miller@moreheadstate.edu) or 606-783-2162.

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**Nov. 18, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **MSU's Lunar IceCube launches aboard NASA's Artemis I moon mission**

A piece of Morehead State arrived in outer space with the launch of the Space Launch System (SLS) rocket and Orion spacecraft as part of NASA's Artemis I mission in the early hours of Wednesday, Nov. 16.

NASA launched the SLS, the most powerful rocket ever built, at 1:47 a.m. EST from the agency's Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. The spacecraft is expected to travel 40,000 miles beyond the Moon before returning back to Earth.

Artemis I deployed Lunar IceCube, a nanosat designed, constructed and tested by more than 50 Morehead State students and faculty and staff at MSU's Space Science Center, as a secondary payload. Scientists and engineers from NASA's Goddard Spaceflight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland, NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California, NASA's Katherine Johnson Independent Verification and Validation Facility in Fairmont, West Virginia and the Busek Space Propulsion company also contributed to Lunar Ice Cube.

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 inform NASA's future human and robotic exploration plans.

Lunar IceCube's mission will last approximately 18 months. The Mission Operations Center (MOC) in MSU's Space Science Center 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.

To track Orion on its mission, visit <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/track-nasa-s-artemis-i-mission-in-real-time>.

To explore programs in MSU's Department of [Physics, Earth Science and Space Systems Engineering](#), email [phes@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:phes@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2381.

Photo Credit: NASA

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**Nov. 21, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Dr. Heidi Neal leads with passion and purpose to increase enrollment at MSU**

This summer, Morehead State University named Dr. Heidi Neal (Class of 2005) the assistant vice president of enrollment management for the Office of Enrollment Management.

Neal graduated from MSU with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and IRAPP (Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy) in 2005 and earned a Master of Arts in Sociology from East Tennessee State University in 2007 and a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Organizational Development from the University of Louisville in 2020.

Neal spent the past 17 years of her career in higher education, in academic affairs and student affairs. She's spent time at large four-year institutions, private nonprofit universities, community colleges and R1 research universities.

Most recently, she spent nearly a decade at the University of Louisville (UofL), serving in various roles. She oversaw the J.B. Speed School of Engineering admissions, retention, advising, outreach and career services office with a focus on a student-focused vision, diversity & inclusion and office morale. This resulted in record admissions numbers, increased retention rates and the highest number of degrees awarded. Additionally, K-12 outreach was expanded, serving over 7,500 students annually. Under Neal's leadership, the office saw an increase in staff retention, a record number of donations and the implementation of a nationally recognized at-risk bridge program for STEM students.

Neal received recognition on the local and national level for her work in higher education and community engagement, being named to the 20 Under 40 list in 2016 by Southern Indiana Business Source, earning the 2020 Education Senior Leader Award from Today's Woman Magazine and being named 2022 Volunteer of the Year from the Commission on the Status of Women at UofL.

Neal said she is proud to take on this new leadership role for MSU as a proud Eagle alumna.

"I loved my time here as a student at MSU. It was the best four years of my life, and it gave me the tools to be the person I am today," she said. "Being able to share that

experience with future Eagles is by far the most exciting aspect of this position. There is nothing more exciting than giving back to your alma mater that gave you so much."

Neal outlined three main goals she wants to focus on in her new leadership role:

- Sharing the one-of-a-kind experience every type of student will receive while at MSU.
- Highlighting MSU as the top choice for every student within our service region while working to diversify recruitment pipelines.
- Working to ensure MSU staff are valued, enjoy coming to work and are empowered to grow personally and professionally.

"Higher education is facing a lot of uphill battles from justifying its worth to low high school graduation rates in the upcoming year," Neal said. "With that in mind, I'm excited to work hand-in-hand with our team at MSU and partners within the region and across the bluegrass to share the top-tier educational experiences that individuals, whether graduating high school or making a career change, can receive at Morehead State University. I'm excited to be a part of ensuring MSU is around for another 100 years."

Dr. Heidi Neal can be reached at [h.neal@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:h.neal@moreheadstate.edu).

To learn more about MSU's [Office of Enrollment Services](#), contact [admissions@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:admissions@moreheadstate.edu) or [606-783-2000](tel:606-783-2000).

See for yourself why MSU is a top-ranked university. Schedule a campus visit or bring a group for a tour by signing up online at [moreheadstate.edu/visit](https://moreheadstate.edu/visit).

###

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Communications & Marketing  
200 Earle Clements Ln. | Alumni Tower East  
Morehead, KY 40351  
P: 606-783-9328 | F: 606-783-5056  
[www.moreheadstate.edu](http://www.moreheadstate.edu)

**Nov. 22, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State Closed Nov. 23-25 for Thanksgiving Break**

Morehead State will be closed Nov. 23-25 for the Thanksgiving holiday. Administrative offices are closed, and classes will not meet.

The Camden-Carroll Library, University Store, University Post Office and the Recreation and Wellness Center will all be closed for the duration of the break.

The University Police Department will be staffed 24-7 during the break. They can be reached at [606-783-2035](tel:606-783-2035) or via the Live Safe app on your smartphone.

The University will reopen with normal operating hours on Monday, Nov. 28.

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**Nov. 22, 2022**  
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### **ARC grant provides learning opportunities for business students**

Students taking Business Plan Development (BBA 350) have gained real-world experience this semester thanks to a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC).

The \$5,000 Appalachian Teaching Project (ATP) grant paid for the service-learning component of the course, qualifying it as a Level-UP course. Level UP: Experience Your Future is a campus-wide program developed to help students improve specific student learning and student success outcomes. The program also helps students prepare for their future by using hands-on experiences to foster critical career skills, including:

- Written and oral communication skills
- Teamwork skills
- Professionalism skills
- Critical thinking

"These skills can be used regardless of the degree, discipline, or career students are pursuing. In addition, through those same hands-on experiences, students will learn compelling strategies for convincing potential employers or graduate/professional schools of their skill mastery," said Dr. Janet Ratliff (Class of 1991, 1992), associate professor of management and entrepreneurship and endowed professor of entrepreneurship, who teaches BBA 350.

For the project, students provided Downtown Morehead Inc. with four alternative research-based business plans that are appropriate and well-suited to the vacant spaces in the downtown area. A public relations campaign highlighting the value of shopping locally and supporting small businesses was also launched by students as part of the course. Some of the ideas Ratliff's students came up with included a UPS Store, a breakfast and bakery company, a Fresh Start restaurant franchise and an outdoor recreation business. Ratliff and several students will present the project at the 22nd Annual Appalachian Teaching Project National Conference, Dec. 2-3, in Washington, D.C.

"I wanted to provide students in my business plan development course an opportunity to do something that was realistic. Downtown Morehead, Inc. has goals that my course can support in their respective efforts. This allows my business students to be exposed to real opportunities in our local community," Ratliff said. "By providing entrepreneurial education in an applied way, college students have a more meaningful experience knowing that they are investing in entrepreneurial and business development strategies that will strengthen their local economy and Appalachia's economy."

Morehead State is the only school in Kentucky to be awarded an ATP grant this year.

To learn more about [Level UP](#), call [606-783-2003](tel:606-783-2003) or email [levelup@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:levelup@moreheadstate.edu).

To explore MSU's [Elmer R. Smith College of Business & Technology](#) programs, call [606-783-2090](tel:606-783-2090) or email [cbt@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:cbt@moreheadstate.edu).

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**Nov. 22, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Collick receives USDA research grant**

Dr. Amy Collick, assistant professor of precision agriculture/agricitech at Morehead State, has been awarded a research grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Collick has received a three-year research award of \$74,694 for her research into phosphorus build-up on agricultural sites. The grant will pay for a work-study and software for the project, which is expected to last for three years. Collick explained that high levels of phosphorus in soil can pollute nearby waterways, causing a dense growth of plant life and death of animal life from lack of oxygen.

"My part in this research focuses on watershed modeling and investigating ways to simulate phosphorus transport in streams and rivers across the United States," Collick said. "The watershed model that we will be using to simulate the hydrology and nutrient transport in different watersheds across the US is the Soil and Water Assessment Tool Plus (SWAT+). I have worked several years with this model with collaborators at the USDA-ARS, Virginia Tech, Chesapeake Bay Program, and Cornell University."

Collick added she'll be working with a team at the USDA Grassland Soil and Water Research Laboratory in Temple, Texas, on the project and she'll also be looking for a student work-study study to assist her with the research in the spring.

For more information about the project, contact Collick at [a.collick@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:a.collick@moreheadstate.edu).

To learn more about programs in agriculture or agritech, contact the [Department of Agricultural Sciences](#) at [606-783-2662](tel:606-783-2662).

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**Nov. 29, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Board of Regents to meet Dec. 1**

The Morehead State University Board of Regents will meet Thursday, Dec. 1, at 10:30 a.m., in room 329 of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

Before the meeting, an audit committee meeting will be held at 10 a.m.

The board will elect a secretary and will vote on items on the agenda, which include:

Ratifying fall 2022 graduates and personnel actions.

Adopting police manual updates.

Approving asset preservation projects, matches for endowed scholarships and professorship, the fall 2023 housing deposit, and facility naming.

In addition, the board will:

Accept the 2021-22 audit report.

Ratify the 2021-22 amended operating budget.

Accept and ratify the first quarter financial report.

Approve an increase in the scope of the Alumni Tower ground floor renovation project and the scope of the modernization/renovation of Cooper Hall.

Approve a Resolution recognizing retiree Jane Fitzpatrick for her years of service as MSU's general counsel.

The board will also enter into a closed executive session to discuss the appointment, discipline or dismissal of an individual employee. The board will take no action while in closed executive session. Any action taken will occur after the return to open session.

To learn more about the MSU Board of Regents, visit [moreheadstate.edu/about-msu/leadership/bor/index](http://moreheadstate.edu/about-msu/leadership/bor/index), call [606-783-2053](tel:606-783-2053) or email [j.stigall@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:j.stigall@moreheadstate.edu).

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**Nov. 30, 2022**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **Morehead State will replace diplomas for graduates affected by natural disasters**

Morehead State is helping students and graduates affected by natural disasters by offering free replacement of diplomas.

MSU will replace paper diplomas for any graduate impacted by the flooding that occurred earlier this year in the following 13 counties:

- Breathitt
- Clay
- Floyd
- Johnson
- Knott
- Leslie
- Letcher
- Magoffin
- Martin
- Owsley
- Perry
- Pike
- Wolfe

Diplomas will be limited to one copy per graduate, and replacements must be requested by March 2023.

Applications for replacement diplomas can be found at [www.moreheadstate.edu/academics/academic-affairs/registrar/diplomas](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/academics/academic-affairs/registrar/diplomas). For more information, contact Rachel McGlone, assistant registrar for graduation and student services, at [606-783-5244](tel:606-783-5244) or email [r.mcglone@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:r.mcglone@moreheadstate.edu).

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