



# GOLD RUSH

JAN 2013 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY



## GO FIGURE

40%

Increase in NKU fall applications over the same time last year.

3.11

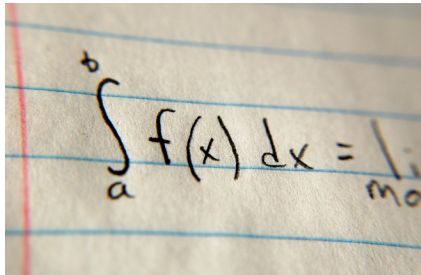
Cumulative GPA for NKU student-athletes last fall – highest in school history.

11%

Graduate students now make up more than 11 percent of NKU's enrollment.



## NKU PARTNERSHIP SEEKS TO IMPROVE KY HIGH SCHOOL MATH PERFORMANCE



NKU, AT&T and the Kentucky Center for Mathematics are partnering to improve Kentucky high school students' math skills.

AT&T has awarded KCM and NKU \$20,000 to create clubs in five high schools throughout Kentucky that will meet weekly and use the Charles A. Dana Center's Agile Mind Academic Youth Development Program curriculum to help struggling students.

Students will have access to online learning tools that help them better understand algebra, the fundamental math course in high school. Algebra

teaches students the basics for more advanced math courses such as geometry, trigonometry and calculus. Students without these essential skills cannot advance to higher math courses and have difficulty on state proficiency and college placement tests. By addressing their problems early, students have a better chance for success in mathematics in high school, college and adult life.

The math clubs are KCM's first major high school math initiative. The center works through its Primary Mathematics Intervention Program and Numeracy Project to increase elementary students' understanding of basic mathematics concepts. KCM provides teachers throughout Kentucky with strategies and resources to help struggling students. As a result, many of the students who receive help in first grade score proficient or distinguished on their fourth grade proficiency tests. KCM hopes to achieve similar results with this new program.

## COLLEGE CORNER

### HAILE/US BANK COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business has received a \$9,900 grant from the Procter & Gamble Higher Education Grant Program.

The grant is titled "Building Cross-Cultural Experience into the Human Resource and Marketing Curricula: A Focus on Diversity in Talent Management and Market Research Application in Bicultural Teams." It supports international exchange programs developed by NKU with the University of East London (UEL) and National University of Ireland Maynooth (NUIM).

"Northern Kentucky University is committed to providing its students with the tools to succeed in a competitive global business environment through a broad range of international experiences," said Francois LeRoy,

executive director of the NKU International Education Center. "The kind of cutting-edge initiative designed by the Haile/US Bank College of Business and funded by this P&G grant is certain to add great value to the students' education by allowing them to work with foreign peers on class projects in an enriching international perspective."

The two-phase project utilizes an innovative teaching approach that will virtually co-locate two business classes from three different countries. Students in Ireland, the UK and the US will attend their normal classes at their home universities; however, they will use low-cost technology and popular meeting and social media tools to complete course projects in teams comprised of students from different countries.



# NKU RANKED AMONG KENTUCKY'S SAFEST PUBLIC CAMPUSES

For the second straight year, NKU has been recognized as one of the safest college campuses in the commonwealth in the annual ranking of the safest colleges and universities in the United States compiled by StateUniversity.com.

The rankings are based on incidents of campus crime as reported by campus safety officials. StateUniversity.com analyzed crime statistics for 450 American colleges and universities and assigned a safety rating to each school. Safety ratings are determined based on the number of occurrences of aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, theft/larceny, motor vehicle theft, forcible rape and murder on campus. Scores are then weighed based on the probability of each incident happening to each student since naturally larger campuses would be expected to have a higher number of total incidents.

"The safety of our community is our top priority," said NKU Chief of Police Jason Willis. "Tragic incidents can happen anywhere at any time. So while we're proud of our safety record, we also understand the importance of remaining vigilant to make NKU a safe place to live, work and learn."

## BRIEFS

### PROCESS UNDERWAY TO DEVELOP 5-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

President Geoffrey S. Mearns announced at a special spring convocation on Jan. 11 that the university has begun a strategic planning process that will guide NKU through its 2018 50th Anniversary. Mearns told a packed Greaves Concert Hall that the year-long process will be led by a committee which he will chair. It will include input from faculty, staff, students, alumni and community leaders. A final draft of the five-year plan is expected in November.

**MORE:** <http://president.nku.edu/convocations/springconvo13.html>

### NKU CAMPUS TO BECOME TOBACCO-FREE

The NKU Board of Regents has voted to direct the adoption of a tobacco-free campus policy. The board's action authorized NKU to develop the details of the policy and to appoint a Tobacco-Free Campus Task Force to develop recommendations for the transition and the policy's implementation. The transition process will include students, faculty, staff and visitors, and could take up to 18 months. NKU will join the University of Kentucky and Morehead State University as completely tobacco-free campuses.

**MORE:** [http://nku.edu/news/\\_130109tobacco.html](http://nku.edu/news/_130109tobacco.html)

### STUDENT PHILANTHROPY CLASSES A WIN-WIN

Ten local nonprofit agencies have received grants totaling over \$12,000 awarded by five NKU classes as part of a program designed to teach community stewardship. NKU's student philanthropy classes generally work with \$2,000 that they may award to one nonprofit or divide between two nonprofits. Each class evaluates community needs, determines which nonprofits are most effectively meeting those needs and, in the end, decides as a class which nonprofits will make the most effective use of the funds.

**MORE:** [www.nku.edu/news/\\_121129mayerson.html](http://www.nku.edu/news/_121129mayerson.html)

### ADVANCEMENT WINS 31 CASE-K AWARDS

University Advancement won 31 awards at the Council for Advancement and Support of Education - Kentucky conference. NKU won more overall awards and Grand Awards than any other school. Grand Awards were won for Dreamers Welcome (publications); Alumni Programs (alumni relations); Votruba Retirement Dinner (special event); NKU Parent Calendar (publication); Northern Magazine (alumni magazine); NKU.edu homepage (home page design); Social Media Program (social media); Gold Rush (electronic newsletter); and Free Hug (photography).

**MORE:** [www.nku.edu/news/\\_121211case.html](http://www.nku.edu/news/_121211case.html)



## THE

# SCOREBOARD

The NKU men's and women's basketball teams are deep into Atlantic Sun Conference play. The men's team opened the season on a brutal 10-game, 11,000-mile road trip that included then-No. 4 Ohio State. The men (4-11, 2-5 A-Sun) are led by Eshaunte Jones' 13.8 points per game. The women, led by Kayla Thacker (10.8 ppg), have won three of their last five games and sit at 6-10, 3-4 in the A-Sun.

## FACULTY FOCUS

NKU music professor Dr. Brant Karrick has been named the College-University Teacher of the Year by the Kentucky Music Educators Association. He is the fourth member of the NKU music faculty to receive the honor. The award is given annually to one Kentucky professor who has shown excellence in his or her profession as a teacher of undergraduate and graduate music students. Dr. Karrick oversees the entire band program including the symphonic winds, the concert band and the Norse pep band. He also teaches classes in conducting, music education and marching band techniques, while also assisting with student teacher supervision.

## ALUMNI NEWS



Matt Langford ('12) has had a hand in crafting some of the world's most recognizable toys. On a larger scale, he brings historical figures to life through his iconic statues that are scattered throughout Northern Kentucky.

Langford discovered sculpting at NKU 30 years ago. Today, his toy creations rank as some of the most popular the world has known, including Star Wars and Harry Potter figurines. "If you are under the age of 35," he says, "you have probably played with something I made."

He worked with Douwe Blumberg to create the statue of a modern American soldier on horseback unveiled at Ground Zero on the 10th anniversary of September 11. He also produced the life-size sculpture of Abraham Lincoln on NKU's campus as well as sculptures at the Kenton County Public Library, Covington Arts District and Covington Latin School.