



GOLD RUSH

JUNE 2014 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY



GO FIGURE



3,051

Preliminary estimate for degrees and credentials conferred in 2013-14 – an all-time high for NKU.

\$22,000

Amount awarded to 18 local nonprofits through the NKU Mayerson Student Philanthropy Project this spring.

12

Number of students nationwide to receive the inaugural Dream Award scholarship from Katie Couric on national television. NKU freshman Luis Loza was one of them.



NKU DATA SCIENCE IS SOLE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM ON NERDSCHOLAR'S FAVORITES LIST

The NKU B.S. in Data Science program has been recognized by NerdScholar among a handful of what the website calls its favorite data science programs in the country. It is the only undergraduate program that made the exclusive list.

The transdisciplinary degree is housed in the College of Informatics and uses faculty from three different academic departments – computer science, statistics, and business informatics – located within two colleges.

Dr. Kevin Kirby, dean of the College of Informatics, said this multidimensional approach to data science is what separates the program from most undergraduate and graduate computer science degrees. "This is something a bachelor's program can do better than a narrower master's program," Dr. Kirby said. "It can be in transdisciplinarity in its very foundations. It can also bring in experiential learning through analytics projects for industry through the Center for Applied Informatics and elsewhere."

The program builds on a core of computer science, information systems, statistics, and mathematics and focuses on foundations of data science, statistical modeling, data mining, business analytics, and scientific visualization.

"We feel that our unique cross-college approach to data science education that emphasizes experiential learning at the undergraduate level is a uniquely NKU way to address one of the great challenges of the 21st century," said Dr. James McGuffee, chair of NKU computer science. **READ MORE:** http://nku.edu/news/_140505data.html

COLLEGE CORNER

Three NKU students and one alumna were recognized for research excellence in the field of neuroscience at meetings during the spring.

Adam Fritz, a senior psychological science major, placed in the top 10 percent of the undergraduate research category at the 2014 annual meeting of the Bluegrass Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience held at the University of Kentucky. Fritz's presentation described a collaborative project conducted by research teams at NKU and UK. Their studies examined the effects of early-life anti-psychotic drug administration on the later-life expression of brain proteins involved in dopamine neurotransmission.

At the 2014 Annual Neuroscience Day Symposium hosted by the University of Louisville, two NKU students and an NKU graduate swept the top three awards in the undergraduate research category.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Bobbie Lee Stubbeman, a senior psychological science major, was awarded first place for her work to determine if behavioral sensitivity to psycho-stimulants was increased in adult rats that received anti-psychotics early in development. Cliff Brown, a 2013 NKU graduate, was awarded second place.

His study found that early-life antipsychotic treatment more profoundly affects adult behavior if administration occurs earlier in development. Josephine Brown, a senior biological sciences major, was awarded third place. Her research assessed working memory in adult mice exposed to polychlorinated biphenyls during gestation and lactation.

READ MORE: http://nku.edu/news/_140602neuroscience.html

NKU CHASE COLLEGE OF LAW LAUNCHES REGIONAL PLACEMENT PROGRAM



The NKU Chase College of Law recently announced the launch of its Regional Placement Program. The program will identify students who have a connection to, or an interest in, practicing in small cities and rural communities in the region and offer them individualized career counseling and personalized networking support.

"At Chase we are committed to facilitating meaningful connections between our students and the small cities and rural communities throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky and our greater region," said Dean Jeffrey Standen.

One of the goals of the program is to identify potential attorney mentors to help students learn about the benefits and challenges of serving small-town and rural clients. The program will also encourage students to take advantage of networking opportunities, business plan development, and law management practice resources.

READ MORE: http://nku.edu/news/_140501chase.html



THE SCOREBOARD

Three NKU track & field athletes were named to the Academic All-Atlantic Sun Conference team following the outdoor track season. Sophomore Brady Holmer earned his third such honor of the year, having also received the recognition following the cross country and indoor track and field seasons; senior Brad Fortuna posted a 4.00 GPA as a graduate student; and senior education major Josh Miller posted a 3.48 GPA.

FACULTY FOCUS

The American Association of Law Libraries has announced that Carol Bredemeyer, assistant director for faculty services at NKU Chase College of Law, is a member of the 2014 AALL Hall of Fame. "I am honored to be named a 2014 AALL Hall of Fame award recipient," Bredemeyer said. "I am proud to be in the company of my fellow nominees. I plan to continue my activity in AALL – and assist the organization in promoting the value law librarians provide to the institutions they serve."

The Hall of Fame award was established in 2009 to recognize AALL members who have made significant, substantial, and long-standing contributions to the legal information management profession.

READ MORE: http://www.nku.edu/news/_140528aall.html

BRIEFS

NKU COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AMONG NATION'S BEST

The NKU Haile/US Bank College of Business is again one of the nation's most outstanding business schools, according to The Princeton Review. "It's an honor to be included again in The Princeton Review's best business schools," said Dr. Rick Kolbe, dean college.

The book profiles schools with write-ups on their academics, student life, and admissions. In the profile, the editors reported, "Overall, students find NKU to be a place where 'The student is the top priority.'" Students also say that NKU's greatest strength is the course work itself. "NKU is very challenging and very strict with academics," the report concluded.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/JuneGRmba>

INKUBATOR ALUM WINS 5 ACROSS PITCH COMPETITION

A team from the inaugural class of the NKU INKUBATOR won the 5 Across business pitch competition held in Lexington last month.

Gary Darna ('12) and Jamie Rump ('14) won for their presentation of CompleteSet, the company they co-founded in 2012. CompleteSet is a web and mobile app that helps collectors find the items they want most by providing a collector-curated archive of collectibles from fans' favorite brands.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/JuneGRcs>

NKU AND GATEWAY PARTNER FOR REVERSE TRANSFER PROGRAM

A new reverse transfer program between NKU and Gateway Community and Technical College will offer students the option of obtaining an associate's degree even after transferring from Gateway to NKU.

The agreement recognizes students' achievements with an associate's degree after they have transferred to NKU and have accumulated the credits needed to fulfill the two-year degree program requirements. It also recognizes the degree completion for Gateway, which receives no credit for the degree through current measurement.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/JuneGRreverse>

NKU MATH FACULTY SPARK CHANGES TO KENTUCKY, ACT CALCULATOR POLICIES

An experiment conducted by three NKU faculty members has led to changes in Kentucky and ACT calculator policies for the ACT Compass math exam. Their work focused on whether calculators equipped with particular algebra software artificially inflate scores on the math portion of the ACT Compass exam. After they reported their findings to the Kentucky Department of Education, it banned all Zoom-Math-equipped calculators on ACT Compass exams in Kentucky. Ten days later, the ACT followed suit, banning such devices nationwide.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/JuneGRmath>

ALUMNI NEWS



Andrea Paul ('12) had no idea what was in store for her when she enrolled at NKU. No one else in her immediate family had ever gone to college, so she was facing the future on her own. After graduating with a degree in organizational leadership, Paul found a way to help other first-generation college students by starting an online magazine that serves as an educational and entrepreneurial resource for minority young adults. The name of the magazine is "B.O.S.S.," an acronym for the motto that Paul adopted: Be your Own Success Story. Paul, now in Atlanta, quickly grew the online magazine. When one issue drew more than 300,000 page views, she decided to publish the first print edition in April.

READ MORE: <http://www.nku.edu/features/2014/may/bossmagazine.html>