

NKU GOLD RUSH

SEPTEMBER 2015 NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

GO FIGURE

24

The median ACT score of NKU's incoming freshman class.

1,000

The number of high school students who will take dual-credit courses at NKU this fall through the School-Based Scholars Program.

3,000+

The number of degrees and certificates conferred by NKU in the 2014-15 academic year, an all-time high.



NKU WELCOMES MOST ACADEMICALLY-QUALIFIED FRESHMAN CLASS IN HISTORY

Northern Kentucky University's incoming freshman class of more than 2,000 students arrives with a median ACT score of 24 points, making it the most academically-qualified class in NKU history.

The University also welcomed its largest-ever residential community this fall, with nearly 2,000 students residing on campus.

New and returning students, faculty, and staff will see a number of changes this year, including an expanded and renovated Campus Recreation Center. The \$48 million project added state-of-the-art equipment and offerings and doubled the size of the facility to 169,314 square feet. The project was completed with zero taxpayer dollars by leveraging agency bonds repaid with a student-approved fee.

Later this fall, NKU will also break ground on a \$97 million health innovation center that will bring programs from across campus together to study the future of health care in new ways. The center will also allow NKU to significantly expand its academic offerings to help meet the growing need for new health care workers. The project was funded in the state budget during the 2014 General Assembly.

NKU has also added several new academic programs and created the School of the Arts, which brings the University's nationally-renowned theatre, dance, music, and visual arts programs together under one roof to enhance the student experience and engage the community in new ways.

The academic year also brings a new conference for NKU's Division I athletics teams, the Horizon League, as well as a new name for the University's sports arena, BB&T Arena.

COLLEGE CORNER

CHASE COLLEGE OF LAW

NKU's Chase College of Law is now the only law school in Kentucky to offer a Master of Legal Studies (M.L.S.) degree. Launched in July, the degree is designed for students who want a thorough understanding of the legal system and a range of law-related topics, but do not wish to pursue a Juris Doctor. The program is ideal for working professionals whose careers require some legal knowledge, such as human resources or compliance work.

READ MORE: http://www.nku.edu/news/_071315chaseMLSdegree.html

NKU LAUNCHES NEW SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

SOTA SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

Northern Kentucky University's fine arts programs are already known across the Commonwealth and the nation as among the most comprehensive and innovative of their kind – but the new School of the Arts aims to take that to the next level.

The School of the Arts brings the theatre, dance, music, and visual arts under one roof in order to encourage cross-program collaborations that will prepare students to not only be professionals in their art, but also to use art in their professions. The school is led by Ken Jones, longtime chair of NKU's theatre department.

Other programs "train professionals in the art. We add the second part," said SOTA Director Ken Jones. "There's nothing like us right now."

NKU's fine arts programs serve 1,000 NKU students and draw 32,000 visitors to campus each year. Fine arts outreach programs reach 35,000 schoolchildren each year.



THE SCOREBOARD

NKU student-athletes continue to excel both on the court and in the classroom. For the eighth consecutive semester, they collectively eclipsed the 3.0 GPA mark. Fourteen of NKU's 17 programs sported GPAs above 3.00 this spring, with volleyball's 3.668 team GPA narrowly edging out men's tennis (3.660). In addition, 70 percent of NKU's 238 student athletes posted individual GPAs of 3.0 or higher. Twenty-two student athletes earned perfect 4.0 GPAs, earning recognition on the President's Honors List.

FACULTY FOCUS

Dr. Dale Scalise-Smith has joined NKU as dean of the College of Health Professions. She will lead the fast-growing college and play an important role in the development of NKU's new health innovation center. "Dale brings a depth of experience that will provide the leadership and vision to take our College of Health Professions to a new level," said Sue Ott Rowlands, provost and executive vice president for academic affairs. Scalise-Smith joins NKU from Utica (N.Y.) College, where she was a vice president, dean, department chair and longtime professor in the Department of Physical Therapy. She holds a Doctor of Physical Therapy; a Ph.D. in Education; a M.S. in Physical Therapy; and a B.S. in Physical Therapy.

READ MORE: http://nku.edu/news/_150420dean.html

BRIEFS

FORBES AGAIN NAMES NKU AMONG 'AMERICA'S TOP COLLEGES'

NKU is once again ranked among the nation's top higher education institutions by Forbes Magazine. For the seventh year, NKU is included in its "America's Top Colleges" rankings, an elite list of 650 public and private universities across the nation. The rankings focus on student outcomes in five categories: student satisfaction, post-graduate success, student debt, graduation rate, and academic success.

"Student success is at the center of all that we do, and we are pleased that the efforts of our dedicated faculty and staff have been recognized," said NKU President Geoffrey S. Means.

READ MORE:

http://www.nku.edu/news/_150803forbes.html

NKU EXPANDS OFFERINGS FOR NEW, VETERAN EDUCATORS

Northern Kentucky University has expanded the continuum of education it offers to teachers at all stages of their careers.

The new Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education degree provides specialized training to aspiring high school teachers by allowing them to pursue two degrees concurrently: a secondary education degree as well as a degree in a specialized content area.

The new Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in Teaching and Leading is designed for veteran teachers who wish to mentor and lead the next generation of educators. It is open to those who have obtained a master's degree and Rank II status.

READ MORE:

http://www.nku.edu/news/_1508011edprograms.html

NKU BUSINESS STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS

NKU students are among the top future business leaders in the nation.

Four students earned top-five finishes this summer at the Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda (PBL) National Leadership Conference, where they competed against 1,600 students from across the nation in categories such as business decision making and organizational leadership. The chapter has won 16 national awards in the past three years. It is housed in NKU's Haile/US Bank College of Business, but open to all students.

READ MORE:

http://www.nku.edu/news/_150715pblawards.html

NKU STUDENTS WIN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH AWARDS

What effects are herbicides having upon Kentucky's trees and waterways? Are local wetlands effectively protecting the environment?

NKU students are conducting research on those topics, and their work has been judged among the best in Kentucky and Tennessee. Two undergraduate students received awards at the KY/TN Water Professionals Conference this summer; Physics major Sarah Stryffeler of Boone County won second place for her Kentucky River research, and Computer Science major Corey Shrader of Cincinnati took third place for his wetlands research.

READ MORE:

http://www.nku.edu/news/_150805research.html

ALUMNI NEWS



Adam Caswell, a NKU graduate and Bourbon County native, has been named to lead NKU's advocacy and business engagement efforts. As assistant vice president for government, corporate and foundation engagement, he will serve as the primary liaison to city, county, regional, state, and federal government agencies, as well as to corporations and foundations. He was previously vice president for public affairs at the Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. He also worked in the Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and in the Office of Gov. Steve Beshear. Caswell received a B.A. in Criminal Justice from NKU in 2009.

READ MORE: [HTTP://WWW.NKU.EDU/NEWS/_150806CASWELL.HTML](http://www.nku.edu/news/_150806CASWELL.HTML)