



# GOLD RUSH

DEC. 2019

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

## GO FIGURE

COMMENCEMENT

47<sup>TH</sup>

commencement

6

colleges participated

1,279

degrees conferred



### NKU BEATS ENROLLMENT PROJECTIONS

NKU beat its enrollment projections for the fall 2019 semester. Final enrollment figures for this semester increased to 15,687 students, which is a 6 percent increase compared to last year and an 8 percent increase from fall 2017.

NKU's *Success by Design* Strategic Framework guides the university with a singular focus on student success aligned with the needs of the region. Anticipating market changes, the university took proactive steps to become a student ready institution, and the investments are working.

NKU's graduate programs saw an increase and now make up 20 percent of total enrollment, driven by Accelerated Online Learning. These programs are completely online and offer the convenience and structure many students need. Another successful program, School-Based Scholars, allows high school students to earn college credits before they graduate.

"Our students are widely diverse and come from many different backgrounds and experiences. We were responsive to their needs and created degree paths with the flexibility to fit into their schedule and lives," said Provost Sue Ott Rowlands.

Last year, NKU invested in initiatives that address affordability, including the EDGE program that made tuition more affordable for out-of-state students and micro-grants that provide the "last dollar in" scholarships. With the increased support for students, NKU saw a 4 percent increase in retention and also closed achievement gaps.

**LEARN MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/vabcos2>

## COLLEGE CORNER

Salmon P. Chase College of Law partnered with the University of the Cumberlands to expand its early-enrollment program and reach more students in southern Kentucky who want to become an attorney.

The Chase 3+3 program—named for three years of undergraduate studies and three years of law school—allows eligible students to reduce their education costs by applying their first year of courses at Chase to both a bachelor's degree at their undergraduate college and a law degree.

**LEARN MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/yx7lnpjm>



## NKU HOSTS A HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS FOR THE CAMPUS COMMUNITY

FUEL NKU is hosting students for family style dinners while the university is on break. Since 2013, FUEL NKU has provided food and essentials to students, and this remains true even when the university is closed for holidays

FUEL NKU hosted a Souper Supper for students during winter break. With community partners La Soupe and Panera Bread, FUEL NKU provided a warm meal and a sense of community for more than 300 students. And over Thanksgiving break, FUEL NKU also hosted more than 200 students for a Thanksgiving celebration. Recognizing that students need consistent university support, Dr. Jessica Averitt Taylor, the founder of FUEL NKU, created these events for students to share a special meal together.

"The ability to host these events shows the commitment to supporting our students. We want everyone to feel welcomed, and we believe that a sense of community is absolutely crucial to our wellbeing as individuals and as a campus," said Dr. Taylor. **READ MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/ygyszwev>

## NKU NORSE THE SCOREBOARD

Northern Kentucky volleyball celebrated a historic season that included the team's first-ever Division I NCAA Women's Volleyball Championship appearance in program history. The Norse end their season at 19-13 after falling to No. 22 Michigan in the first round of the 2019 NCAA Division I Championship.

The Norse are the Horizon League Champions and earned the automatic bid into the 2019 NCAA Volleyball Championship. Laura Crawford was named the Horizon League tournament MVP, while Shelby Olsen and Abby Kanakry were also named to the all-tournament team.

## FACULTY FOCUS

### NKU CREATES SENIOR HEALTH CARE CLINIC FOR UNDERSERVED

NKU's Nurse Advocacy Center for the Underserved (NACU) unveils the Spotlight on Seniors program designed to bring health care to seniors living in Covington's Golden Tower. As the winner of the NKY Funders' Grant Competition 2019, NACU Director Jennifer Hunter received \$7,500 for Spotlight on Seniors, NACU's first senior clinic.

NACU, housed in the College of Health and Human Services, brings free health services directly into underserved communities, and this program serves an especially vulnerable group. Golden Tower residents can visit the clinic for any of their medical needs and attend health education classes. The clinic also provides NKU nursing students with a valuable hands-on experience.

**READ MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/t5h6nt9>

## BRIEFS

### STEM READY PROGRAM

A new National Science Foundation funded STEM Ready program looks to increase the number of successful STEM majors at NKU by strengthening students' math skills over the summer.

STEM Ready is free and uses an abbreviated timeframe with adaptive online testing program to bolster students' mathematical knowledge in preparation for their first semester. Studies show the most significant barrier to declaring a STEM major is mathematics preparation, and this disproportionately affects students from populations historically underrepresented in STEM fields.

**LEARN MORE:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/unb5pk4>

### THE PRINCETON REVIEW RANKS NKU

The Haile/US Bank College of Business continues to be nationally recognized as one of the best business schools, according to The Princeton Review. The Princeton Review compiled its Top On-Campus MBA Ranking list through institutional and student data about career outcomes, admissions and academics. NKU also received high remarks for its small class sizes, rigorous curriculum and its passionate and accessible faculty. Only 252 business schools were ranked, positioning NKU as a top-tier institution.

**LEARN MORE:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/tepbrok>

### COE RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

The College of Education was honored for its leadership and commitment to continuous improvement at the national Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation conference. NKU was one of 13 Educator Preparation Providers to receive the "Frank Murray Leadership Recognition for Continuous Improvement" award. "This honor represents our ongoing commitment to a continuous improvement process that identifies priorities to enhance programs and pursue innovations," said Dr. James Allen, interim dean.

**LEARN MORE:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/taprkqd>

### NKU HOSTS INAUGURAL CYBER CHALLENGE GIRL SCOUTS

NKU's College of Informatics, Girl Scouts of the USA and Raytheon hosted local Girl Scouts to launch the first-ever Girl Scout Cyber Challenge this fall. At these events, middle and high school girls learned crucial cybersecurity skills by completing challenges with the goal of preparing girls to pursue careers in computer science and cybersecurity. Nearly 250 Girl Scouts from grades 6-12 earned their Cybersecurity Badge by taking part in the Cyber Challenge Training day.

**LEARN MORE:**  
<https://tinyurl.com/w56nlo7>

## ALUMNI NEWS

### THE WRITE STUFF

Judi Ketteler ('96) wants to be honest about something: She's a liar. We all are.

That's the central idea of her new book, "Would I Lie to You? The Amazing Power of Being Honest in a World That Lies," out January 2020 on Kensington Books' Citadel Press imprint. A culmination of years of self-examination, the work represents not just a person asking herself hard questions but also a career of finding the right words for myriad situations.

But using words to publicly work out the tough stuff of modern living is old hat for Ketteler, an NKU English grad who has become a go-to resource for clients in need of a good story. She has built a freelance career writing for clients such as the New York Times and Better Homes & Gardens.

**LEARN MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/ukgymhc>

