



GOLD RUSH

APRIL 2019

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

GO FIGURE

NKU RANKED AS
MILITARY FRIENDLY

9TH

Straight Year

400

Service Members Supported



PRESIDENT VAIDYA INSTALLED AS NKU'S SIXTH PRESIDENT

NKU President Dr. Ashish Vaidya took the oath to serve as the university's sixth president on March 29. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members gathered in BB&T Arena for the installation ceremony, which centered on the theme of Empowering the Future.

"I'm humbled by the opportunity to lead this great institution and honored to take the oath as NKU's sixth president. Together, we have a tremendous opportunity to redefine and reclaim the narrative about the significance of a 21st century public institution and the value of an NKU education," said President Vaidya. "Our campus is home to diverse learners, and we must meet their needs—no matter what age or stage they are at in their life. It is my belief that if we accept a student at this university, we have the moral obligation to ensure they receive every opportunity to meet their educational goals."

During the formal installation into office, NKU Board of Regents Chair Lee Scheben and Vice Chair André Ward presented the president's medallion to President Vaidya, and the Honorable Michelle M. Keller, Kentucky Supreme Court Justice and Chase College of Law alumna, administered the oath of office.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/yyknvkwx>

COLLEGE CORNER

NKU STUDENT PRESENTS RESEARCH AT NATIONAL SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY MEETING

NKU student Yvonne Sene has been honored with the Society of Toxicology's (SOT) highest award for undergraduate research. Sene, an environmental science major, was among 17 students presented with the 2019 Pfizer Undergraduate Student Travel Award to attend the SOT's Annual Meeting in Baltimore, Maryland. Sene's work was an extension of an Honors Thesis by Rachel Conaway that involved neurobehavioral testing of a novel mouse model developed by NKU's Dr. Patrick Schultheis.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/y67cf3br>



FUEL NKU ZERO HUNGER | ZERO WASTE FOOD PANTRY EXPANSION

NKU and The Kroger Co. celebrated the opening of the new FUEL NKU Zero Hunger | Zero Waste Food Pantry in February.

The 2,300 square-foot pantry is the result of a partnership between Kroger and NKU to fight hunger on campus. FUEL NKU provides food and essentials to students in a compassionate, confidential and safe environment. Visits to FUEL NKU have grown by 83 percent over the last few years. Last year, it served more than 1,000 students.

The food pantry is more than seven times larger than the old location. The new suite has refrigerated and freezer storage for healthier food options, and expanded areas for students to visit and relax after getting supplies.

Dr. Taylor created FUEL NKU in 2013, when she noticed students in her classes struggling with hunger. The pantry started out of Dr. Taylor's office and then moved to a 300-square-foot former mailroom in the University Center. Over the past six years, FUEL NKU has created a campus community committed to fighting hunger.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/y5bjf6s>



NKU men's basketball team continued their success on the court, reaching postseason play for the third time in as many tries. NKU claimed the 2019 Horizon League Tournament Championship and clinched a spot in the NCAA Tournament by defeating Wright State. The Norse fell to Texas Tech in the opening round in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

FACULTY FOCUS

NKU Unveils Rockwell Automation & CBT Company Mechatronics Lab

NKU, in partnership with Rockwell Automation and CBT Company, unveiled a new lab designed to meet the needs of industry and give students hands-on learning in mechatronics engineering.

The Rockwell Automation & CBT Company Mechatronics Lab, housed in the Business Academic Center, celebrated its official ribbon cutting on March 26.

"Our students will work with both fixed automation and flexible automation in the lab. With this skill set, they will be able to learn and grow with the technologies of the future," said Dr. Morteza Sadat-Hossieny, program director and professor of Mechatronics.

NKU created the mechatronics degree program in 2017 because of direct feedback from the industry.

READ MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/y69ueudb>

BRIEFS

NKU CEE CREATES FINANCIAL LITERACY MICRO-CREDENTIAL

NKU's Center for Economic Education (CEE) offers an Economics and Financial Literacy Education Micro-Credential to address a new requirement passed by the Kentucky legislature. House Bill 132 set financial literacy standards as a requirement for graduation starting with students entering ninth grade in 2020.

CEE's new micro-credential will provide educators with the content and methods required to teach economics and personal finance to K-12 students—something currently not offered anywhere else within the state of Kentucky.

LEARN MORE:
<http://tinyurl.com/y2zharu9>

UNIVERSITY POLICE RECEIVES "HEALTHCARE FOR K9 HEROES" GRANT

NKU's Police Department has been awarded a grant to cover health insurance for its K9 officer, Arrit. Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. awarded its 2019 "Healthcare for K9 Heroes" medical insurance program to departments that have previously received a protective vest through them. The annual medical reimbursement insurance policy covers illnesses, injuries—including those sustained in the line of duty—diagnostic testing and therapies.

LEARN MORE:
<http://tinyurl.com/yyr559r7>

NKU CYBER DEFENSE TEAM ROLLS TO REGIONALS

NKU students continue to dominate the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition, winning for the second straight year. The Cyber Defense team came in first place in the state competition. It was more than just a victory in Kentucky; NKU outscored all teams competing from Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin and Missouri as well.

Collegiate Cyber Defense Competitions stage multiple challenges that students must navigate, including "hackers" attempting to breach the systems and take them offline.

LEARN MORE:
<http://tinyurl.com/y2cvscgg>

NKU RANKS AS A TOP CAMPUS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

NKU has been ranked as a top campus for students with physical disabilities, according to College Magazine. NKU ranked tenth for students with disabilities on College Magazine's Top 10 Campuses for Students with Physical Disabilities. College Magazine compiled their list based off accessible dorms, classrooms and transportation, and the student body advocating for awareness and inclusion for students with physical disabilities.

LEARN MORE:
<https://tinyurl.com/y53gc7u8>

ALUMNI NEWS

IMPROV IS LIFE

They say that laughter is the best medicine, but is this really true? Elizabeth "E.B." Byland thinks so—and she's sharing her own love of humor with people she believes could use an extra chuckle or two.

The 2008 graduate of Northern Kentucky University's Theatre & Dance program has worked with kids, adults, stroke survivors and individuals with special needs. She's currently the director of improv at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Virginia, and she's teamed up with the university's gerontology department to teach improv to local senior citizens.

LEARN MORE: <http://tinyurl.com/y323w2hm>

