NKU DEDICATES HEALTH INNOVATION CENTER

NKU officially dedicated the Health Innovation Center (HIC) on October 17, 2018.

The state-of-the-art technology and learning centers—including the St. Elizabeth Healthcare Simulation Center—make the HIC one of the largest and most comprehensive health professions buildings in the country.

“The Health Innovation Center transforms how we educate and train the next generation of health care professionals with an interdisciplinary approach to addressing our population health challenges. I see it as the nexus of talent, innovation and community development,” said President Ashish Vaidya.

The $105 million project is home to NKU’s College of Health Professions and the Institute for Health Innovation. The Kentucky General Assembly allocated $97 million for its construction, and St. Elizabeth Healthcare invested $8 million to construct and equip the two-story simulation center.

“This project represents a unique collaboration between NKU, the Commonwealth of Kentucky, St. Elizabeth Healthcare and other key regional partners. The Health Innovation Center will provide premier education and training opportunities for students, while strengthening Kentucky’s future workforce and positively impacting the health of our citizens,” said Gov. Matt Bevin.

The project took three years to complete and included building the HIC and renovating Founders Hall, the second-oldest academic building at NKU.

LEARN MORE: https://tinyurl.com/y8hkudv4
NKU’s Leo Calderon, director of Latino Programs and Services, received the Unsung Hero award. Calderon was nominated for his dedication and personal coaching to hundreds of Latino students at NKU and in the Cincinnati community. NKU’s Office of Latino Programs & Services was established in 2001. It is one of the few offices in the region dedicated to serving the growing Latino student population. The office sponsors and supports programs that provide students service learning opportunities in the local community and other countries. **READ MORE:** [https://tinyurl.com/yd9wa8xj](https://tinyurl.com/yd9wa8xj)

**FACULTY FOCUS**

**Dr. Jonathan S. Cullick Featured in Kentucky Reads: “All the King’s Men”**

The Kentucky Humanities project is a statewide effort for Kentuckians to revisit native Robert Penn Warren’s Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, “All the King’s Men.” NKU English Professor Dr. Jonathan S. Cullick, author of “A Reader’s Companion” to the book, toured the Commonwealth discussing contemporary populism, political discourse and their relationship to journalism.

“As a dedicated teacher of literature and writing, Robert Penn Warren would agree, I believe, that an education grounded in language, literature and rhetoric is a powerful instrument to ensure the continuing health of democracy,” said Dr. Cullick. “All the King’s Men’ demonstrates how seductive the power of politics and political language can be.”

**LEARN MORE:** [https://tinyurl.com/yago5cea](https://tinyurl.com/yago5cea)

**INTO THE FIRE**

Leaving the country to teach small villages about fire safety was out of Dave Moore’s comfort zone. But when Dave (’06, MAP) and his wife, Nancy (’00, BSW), landed in Nairobi, Kenya, his attitude began to change. “After just a few days, I saw how desperate the situation was. I realized there was a lot that could be done, not only to help fire services improve, but also to educate the population about basic safety,” he says. After he came home, Dave couldn’t shake the feeling that his work in African communities wasn’t done, so he and Nancy spent the next few months putting together a plan. Instead of working toward a one-time fix, they wanted to create sustainable fire departments. And so, in 2013, Africa Fire Mission (AFM) was born.

**LEARN MORE:** [https://tinyurl.com/y8ddlpbx](https://tinyurl.com/y8ddlpbx)

**BRIEFS**

**NKU RECEIVES NSF GRANT TO SUPPORT STEM STUDENTS**

NKU received a National Science Foundation grant to support underrepresented STEM students. The grant totals just over $1 million and will continue the College of Arts and Science’s Project SOAR, a program to recruit, retain and graduate talented students with a financial need.

Starting in fall 2019, the SOAR program will scale up to serve 36 incoming freshmen compared to 17 in previous years. This is NKU’s third NSF-S-STEM grant awarded to support SOAR.

**LEARN MORE:** [https://tinyurl.com/ybvs34p](https://tinyurl.com/ybvs34p)

**NKU’S GATEWAY TO CAMPUS IS TRANSFORMING**

St. Elizabeth, in partnership with NKU, broke ground on a new, 65,000-square-foot medical office building at the main entrance to the university.

The medical office building, set to open in 2020, is Phase I of the Town Center mixed-use project that will transform the entrance to NKU’s campus. Later phases will see development of restaurants, retail space, market-rate apartments, hotel, parking and new public gathering spaces.

**LEARN MORE:** [https://tinyurl.com/y9lz5fl2](https://tinyurl.com/y9lz5fl2)

**SCHNEIDER OBSERVATORY REOPENED**

NKU’s Schneider Observatory held a grand reopening event in coordination with NASA’s International Observe the Moon Night. The 1,000 square-foot observatory, located on the roof of Founders Hall, had been closed for two years during construction of the Health Innovation Center.

Founders’ rooftop is an ideal location for observing celestial bodies due to both the height of the five-story building and NKU’s location atop a hill. The observatory is named after NKU alumni Julie and David Schneider.

**LEARN MORE:** [https://tinyurl.com/y9uolt37](https://tinyurl.com/y9uolt37)

**SOAR, a program to recruit, retain and graduate talented students with a financial need.**

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**NKU WOMEN’S SOCCER enters Horizon League All-Academic Team. To be eligible, a student-athlete must have a minimum 3.20 GPA, complete one year at the institution and participate in at least 50 percent of the team’s contests during the season.**

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