

May 10 is Spring Commencement

Morehead State University's Spring Commencement is Saturday, May 10.

During the ceremony, that begins at 10:30 a.m. in the Academic-Athletic Center, President Wayne D. Andrews will confer degrees on more than 1,000 graduate and undergraduate students.

This student speaker will be Robert McWhorter of Georgetown. He is a candidate for a Bachelor of Business Administration degree from the College of Business. He will pursue a career in accounting and plans on taking the CPA exam shortly after graduation.

McWhorter is married to the former Heather Handshoe of Hueysville, a May 2007 graduate in business administration from MSU. He is the son of Ray and Cindy McWhorter of Georgetown.

For the commencement exercises, the grand marshal and mace bearer will be Dr. Phillip Prater, associate professor of veterinary technology, who received the 2008 Distinguished Teacher Award.

Faculty marshals will be Dr. Frances L. Helphinstine, professor of English, and Dr. Dora Ahmadi, chair of the Department of Mathematics and Computer Sciences.

Student marshals will be Joel Charles of Ashland and Bradley Galbreath of Morehead, Graduate Programs; Megan Sammons of Louisa and Savannah Slone of Pikeville, College of Science and Technology; Erica Belmont of Ft. Thomas and Nathan Mills of Pikeville, College of Business; Amber Hillerman of Pikeville and Scott Murphy of Morehead, College of Education; and Kimberly Gibson of Prestonsburg and Ryan Miller of New Carlisle, Ohio, Caudill College of Humanities.

Following the ceremony, the newest alumni will be inducted into the MSU Alumni

Summer festival celebrates folk art, music and more

The Clack Mountain Festival, formerly known as Bluegrass 'n More, is set for Saturday, June 7, in downtown Morehead.

CMF will feature numerous performances of Bluegrass, traditional, and acoustic music.

Most of the festival activities will be held at or near the Cora Wilson Stewart Moonlight School in the historic First Street Arts District.

This year's festival will feature: Ralph Stanley and the Clinch Mountain Boys, the Steeldrivers, the Carolina Chocolate Drops, and the Clack Mountain String Band, along with talent from a band contest.

In addition to music, various arts and heritage events will be held during the festival, including presentation of the Appalachian Treasure Award. A Day in the Country Folk Art Show and Sale, Bluegrass Biennial Art Exhibit, and the Appalachian Arts and Craft Fair are held in conjunction with the festival.

Pete Wernick's Jam Camp will be held June 3-5. The camp, scheduled for 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, is a combination of classroom and hands-on instruction by Wernick.

Admission to the festival is \$5. Children's games also will be available.

Primary sponsors of the event are Morehead Tomorrow, Morehead Tourism, Morehead State Public Radio, Kentucky Folk Art Center and Kentucky Center for Traditional Music.

Additional information: (800) 654-1944 or www.clackmountainfest.com.

Association Inc. by its president, Gary Adkins of Morehead.

Refreshments for graduates and their families, hosted by each college's dean and faculty, will be served immediately after the ceremony. The reception is co-sponsored by the Alumni Association.

Earlier in the day, the ROTC program will hold commissioning ceremonies at 8:30 a.m. in the Crager Room of the Adron Doran University Center.

MSU's Nursing Program will host a pinning reception Friday, May 9, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Reed Hall for those students who have completed degree requirements.

Additional information on Spring Commencement exercises is available by calling 783-2008.

Distinguished awards presented

MSU's annual Academic Awards Convocation honored achievements by outstanding students as well as the recipients of the distinguished faculty and staff awards.

The honorees are: Dr. Robert "Bob" Willenbrink, chair of the Department of Communication and Theatre, Distinguished Creative Production Award; Kim Jenkins, director of the Ashland's Small Business Development Center, Distinguished Staff Service Award; Dr. David Rudy, associate provost for engagement, Distinguished Faculty Service Award; Dr. Philip E. Prater, associate professor of veterinary technology, Distinguished Teacher Award; and Dr. Beverly McCauley Klecker, associate professor of education, Distinguished Researcher Award.

2008-09 PLA class named

Members of the 2008-09 class of the President's Leadership Academy at Morehead State University have been named.

Leadership class members are: Donna Baker, coordinator of special collections at Camden-Carroll Library; Amanda Baldwin, staff writer communications and marketing; Farrah Baldwin, educational services coordinator; Krista Barton, instructor of education; Dr. Royal Berglee, associate professor of geography; Dr. Verdine Craig, assistant professor of geography; Dr. Darrin DeMoss, professor of biology; Michael Dobranski, assistant professor of math; Toni Hobbs, creative director; Dr. Jaby Mohammed, assistant professor of industrial technology; Keith Moore, MBA program director; Dr. David Olson, associate professor of psychology; Joel Pace, director MSU at Ashland; Janet Ratliff, director center for economic education; Terri Roberts, student activities coordinator; Lisa Shemwell, speech team coach; and Sharon Williams, director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

The PLA provides quality professional development, mentorship and internships to selected faculty and staff who show potential to become more effective leaders.

Additional information is available by calling Dr. Michael Seelig, dean of the Caudill College of Humanities and chair of the President's Leadership Academy steering committee, at 783-2650, or online at www.moreheadstate.edu/pla.

MSU students not affected by loan problems

Incoming and returning students at MSU are not affected by the student loan problems which have been receiving statewide and national attention, according to MSU's chief financial aid officer.

Jeffrey Liles, assistant vice president for enrollment services, says that federal loans will continue to be available to the 95 percent of MSU's students currently holding them. The five percent with loans from the Kentucky Higher Education Student Loan Corporation (The Student Loan People) can replace those loans, if necessary, with federal direct loans.

"Our students and their families should have no worries about student loans," Liles said. "As a direct lender, we are processing loans each day and can accommodate all eligible students."

For the 2007-2008 school year, Morehead State has 5,197 students and families with federal loans totaling nearly \$30 million. Of that number, 264 students have loans totaling nearly \$2 million through KHESLC, the loan agency of the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority (KHEAA).

"We believe the direct lending program works best for those we have served historically and that position is even stronger today," said Liles. "We encourage our students and families not to borrow unless absolutely necessary but, if those extra resources are needed, we stand ready to help today as a direct lender of federal loans."

MSU, UK and Kentucky State are the state's only public higher education institutions in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program where loans are processed through each institution with funds provided by the U. S. Department of Education. Students at other institutions rely on loans administered by outside lenders which, in turn, are affected by national economic conditions and the resulting impact on credit availability in the financial marketplace.

Most federal student loans, regardless of funding source, are handled through the Stafford Loan Program. Parents can utilize the PLUS (Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students) loan program. The Perkins Loan program, also federally-funded, is also available. Perkins loans have forgiveness provisions for students who enter certain professions such as teaching.

More information about student loans at MSU is available at 783-2000.

People in the News

Gary Adkins, assistant commonwealth attorney, received the Southeastern Association of Educational Program Personnel's (SAEOPP) TRiO Achiever Award.

Adkins is an alumnus of MSU's Upward Bound program. The TRiO Achiever Award is designed to recognize and honor former TRiO participants who have demonstrated exemplary accomplishments in their profession and for whom TRiO played a fundamental role in educational achievement.

Dr. Julia Ann Hypes, assistant professor HPES, has been elected president-elect of the American Association for Physical Activity and Recreation (AAPAR). At the national conference, she assumed the role, beginning a two-year term that includes responsibilities as AAPAR convention planner and chair of the AAPAR cabinet.

Vet Tech program accredited

MSU's Veterinary Technology Program has received continuation of full accreditation by the American Veterinary Medical Association, Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (AVMA – CVTEA).

The AVMA conducts a complete program review and on-site visit every six years. Following a December 2007 site visit and subsequent deliberations, the AVMA CVTEA issued the re-accreditation announcement in April.

The program was originally accredited in 1977 and has been continuously accredited during the 30 years since then.

"I am very proud of the program faculty and students for their diligent work, uncompromising standards, and outstanding team work in achieving this outcome," said Dr. Scott Rundell, program coordinator.

Graduates are in high demand and able to find excellent positions in all areas of the veterinary profession including: clinical practice, zoological parks, colleges of veterinary medicine, government agencies, and the pharmaceutical industry. Many program graduates also have gone on to obtain advanced degrees in related fields.

Additional information about the program is available by contacting Dr. Rundell at 783-2326.

CPE searching for new president

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education is looking for a president to replace Bradford Cowgill, who resigned this week in the face of opposition from Gov. Steve Beshear.

Cowgill had served as interim president since last September and had been appointed to the job permanently, effective May 1, before his selection was challenged by the governor. State Attorney General Jack Conway issued an opinion that the CPE was required to conduct a national search for the position and hire someone with recognized credentials in postsecondary education.

MSU President Wayne D. Andrews issued the following statement in response to Cowgill's resignation:

"We are very grateful to Brad Cowgill for the service he provided to the Council on Postsecondary Education at a very challenging time. We are confident the CPE will move forward to find the most qualified person available for this important position."

WKU President Gary Ransdell will represent the universities and KCTCS on the search committee. By law, the CPE president is the senior official of Kentucky's public postsecondary education system and must be paid more than any institutional president.

Job vacancies

EXTERNAL

Assistant Professor of Animal Science, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences. Closing date is May 11.

Building Services Technician, Office of Facilities Management. Closing date is Dec. 31.

Clinical Director, University Counseling Center, Office of Counseling and Health Services. Review of new applications will begin March 3, and will continue until the position is filled.

Assistant Professor of Education, Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Closing date is May 21. Review of applicant materials will begin April 21; however, applications will continue to be accepted until position is filled.

Instructor of Spanish, Department of English, Foreign Languages and Philosophy. Closing date is May 11.

Assistant Professor of Nursing, Department of Nursing. Review of applications will begin May 18, and will continue until the positions are filled.

Assistant Vice President for Technology, Division of Planning, Budgets and Technology. Review of applications will begin May 25, and will continue until the position is filled.

YouthBuild Educational and Counseling Assistant, Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy. Closing date is May 20.

Assistant Professor of Space Science/Astronautical Engineer, Space Science Center. Closing date is May 18.

Aquatics Assistant Director, McClure Pool. Review of applications will begin May 22, and will continue until the position is filled.

Data Entry Specialist II, Office of Accounting & Budgetary Control. To ensure consideration, apply by May 22.

Internal applicants should obtain a copy of the job opportunity posting from the OHR indicating the application materials required for each position. Official transcripts are required for administrative positions. MSU is an EO/AA educator and employer with a strong commitment to community engagement.

Seminar is May 8

MSU's Department of Nursing will present an informational seminar on Thursday, May 8, from 3 to 7 p.m. in 312 of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC).

Participants are asked to bring their transcripts as academic advisers will be present for an evaluation. There will be free parking and door prizes.

Nursing programs at MSU include: associate degree nursing program (ADNP); and bachelor degree nursing program (BNP).

Additional information: Misty Lilley, regional academic counseling coordinator, at 783-2639 or by e-mail to m.lilley@moreheadstate.edu.

Happenings

Wednesday, May

Rites of Passage ceremony, for graduates, Crager Room, Adron Doran University Center, 6 p.m., reservations necessary, free. Additional information: 783-2668.

Thursday, May 8

Board of Regents meeting, Riggle Room, Adron Doran University Center, 9 a.m. Additional information: 783-2030.

Friday, May 9

Associate and baccalaureate degree nursing pinning reception, Reed Hall, 2 p.m. Additional information: 783-2296.

Saturday, May 10

ROTC commissioning ceremony, Crager Room, 8:30 a.m. Additional information: 783-2050.

Spring Commencement, Academic-Athletic Center, 10:30 a.m.,

Monday, June 2

Summer I term begins. Additional information: 783-2008.

Friday, June 6

Exhibition: "Myths & Legends," Kentucky Folk Art Center. Opening reception: 5-7 p.m. Exhibition runs through Sept. 7. Additional information: 783-2204.

Saturday, June 7

Clack Mountain Festival, includes A Day in the Country Folk Art Show & Sale, Appalachian arts and crafts, live music, kids games, and more. Additional information: (800) 654-1944 or www.clackmountainfest.com.

Bluegrass Biennial Art Show, a juried exhibition of Kentucky artists. Opening reception: June 7, 3-5 p.m. at Claypool-Young Art Gallery, through Aug. 1. Additional information: 783-5446.

Monday, July 7

Summer II begins. Additional information: 783-2008

Wednesday, Aug. 13

Campus-wide Convocation. Additional information: 783-2002.

Monday, Aug. 18

Fall classes begin. Additional information: 783-2008.

Update is published weekly during each academic term by the Office of Communications and Marketing, 14 Allie Young Hall, 783-2030.

Update will not be published during the summer. For updates on MSU news and events, visit the MSU Today Web site at www.moreheadstate.edu/today.



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