‘Nationally Prominent’ Hughes Named Interim President

Dr. Eugene M. Hughes of Flagstaff, Ariz., has been named interim president at EKU.

President emeritus at both Northern Arizona University and Wichita State University, Hughes will serve as EKU’s chief executive officer during the University’s search for a successor to Dr. Bob Kustra.

Kustra resigned in February and left the EKU presidency June 30. The University’s Board of Regents has hired the A.T. Kearney executive search firm and appointed a committee representing students, faculty, staff, alumni and the local community to assist with the search process. A new president is expected to be named this fall.

“Dr. Hughes is a nationally prominent educator with a long, distinguished record as a university administrator,” said C. Fred Rice of Naples, Fla., EKU Board of Regents chair. “He comes to us highly recommended by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU), and we are pleased that he joins the Eastern Family to provide leadership during this time of transition.”

Hughes said he looks forward to working with the University’s various constituency groups, especially faculty, staff and students.

“I have great respect for Eastern Kentucky University,” he said. “This University has a reputation for strong, innovative programs and a proud record of service to its students, the state of Kentucky and the nation. I am eager to get to work to help EKU continue to move forward during the next several months.”

Hughes, 67, is a native of Scottsbluff, Neb. A mathematician, he graduated from Nebraska Western College, and he holds a bachelor’s degree from Chadron (Neb.) State College, master’s degree from Kansas State University, and doctoral degree from George Peabody College of Vanderbilt University.

Professor Hughes served as president of Northern Arizona University from 1979 to 1993, where he retired after a total of 23 years of service. Working with faculty and staff, he helped establish NAU as the state’s premier undergraduate residential university. During his presidency, unique and nationally recognized programs were developed, enrollment grew by 56 percent and nearly 35,000 students were graduated. The University’s state operating budget increased over 200 percent and significant improvements were made to the physical plant.

In 1995, Hughes moved to Wichita, Kan., to become president of Wichita State University, a position he held until retiring in 1998. There he helped establish three off-campus centers.

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Donor Support Tops $6.5 Million

Gifts Enhance Academic Programs, Scholarships

EKU received $6.5 million from more than 13,000 donors during the 2000-2001 academic year.

Last year, EKU received $4.5 million in private gifts. “The growth of our private giving program is a direct result of the tremendous support we have received from the University community,” said Vern Snyder, vice president for university advancement. “Donors are impressed that those who know Eastern best – our faculty and staff – are supporting the University with their gifts.”

Snyder said he also was pleased with the “pleasantly aggressive” approach to reengaging graduates with Eastern and seeking private support by a “new, young and talented” development staff. Generally, a new development staff works 3-5 years before significant progress is noted, he said.

EKU’s chief advancement officer said that EKU’s tenth president, expected to be named this fall, will play a “pivotal role” in attracting new private support for the University. He added that the University Advancement staff is developing a plan to introduce the new president to all constituency groups.

Nine-tenths of per cent of gifts, or $6,000,023, was given to support academic programs and fund scholarships. The EKU National Alumni Association received 5.3 percent, or $350,000, to support programs and services. EKU athletics received 3.4 percent, or $225,000.

Foundations gave 53 percent of the total, or $3,478,066. Corporations gave 27 percent, or $1,798,777, and individuals provided 20 percent, or $1,322,629.
Collaboration Leads To Richmond Live! Series

The Richmond Chamber of Commerce, EKU, the Richmond Area Arts Council and Pops at the Park have joined forces to establish Richmond Live! 2001, an exciting new performance and speaker series that incorporates some community cultural favorites with new events.

By combining existing community attractions such as Pops at the Park and the Arts Gala at Elwoodin with a couple of EKU music events and a distinguished business and technology speaker into one discounted ticket package, officials hope that even more local residents will participate.

“Passport tickets are on sale for $44 each, $10 less than what the events would cost separately. They are available at the Richmond Arts Center, 399 W. Water St.; the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, 201 E. Main St.; or the Goates Building Cashier’s Window at EKU through Aug. 16 and also will be sold at the gate at Pops at the Park Saturday, Aug. 18,” said Dr. Robert Rogow, dean of EKU’s College of Business & Technology, and Betsy Bohannon, associate director of the University’s Division of Judicial Affairs and Services for the Disabled, are co-chairs of the Richmond Live! subcommittee of the EKU/Community Committee of the Chamber. “I think it will capture the imagination of the entire community when they see the quality of programs that make up this series,” Rogow said.

“These are some very fine events available to the community that enrich all our lives.”

Rob Rumpke, executive director of the Richmond Chamber of Commerce, termed the collaboration between the Chamber, SAGE, EKU’s College of Business & Technology and EKU’s Department of Music “truly historic. Never before have these groups worked together so extensively on a common goal. It’s a win-win win for everyone, and the beneficiary is the community.”

Richmond Live! 2001 events are:

- Saturday, Aug. 18, Pops at the Park with the Eastern Kentucky University Orchestra, White Hall State Historic Site, sponsored by Bank One.
- Friday, Sept. 14, Richmond Area Arts Council Arts Gala, Elwood Estate, Lancaster Avenue, an evening of live music, artist exhibits, silent auction, house tours and a variety of foods and beverages, sponsored by Madison Bank.
- Tuesday, Oct. 2, Distinguished Speaker in Business and Technology, EKU graduate and Carter County native Dustan McCoy, president of the Boat Group, Brunswick Corporation, 9:30-10:15 a.m., Brock Auditorium (complimentary with passport ticket).
- Tuesday, Nov. 15, World Music Program, sponsored by EKU Department of Music, steel drum band, African drumming, dance ensemble and special guest artists, 8 p.m., Brock Auditorium.
- Sunday, Dec. 9, Holiday Music Celebration, EKU Concert Choir and University Singers, traditional and contemporary selections, 3 p.m., Brock Auditorium.

New Student Days Aug. 12-18

The University community will roll out the maroon carpet Aug. 12-18 when it celebrates New Student Days. The activities will begin after the students start moving into residence halls as early as 8 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 12. They include educational sessions to accclimate them to campus life, concerts, plenty of free food, social events, a comedian, a movie at Roy Kidd Stadium and much more.

Also, at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 15, James McBride, author of “The Color of Water,” will address the students in a convocation in Brock Auditorium. All the students were given a copy of the book during Summer Orientation and will participate in small group discussions during New Student Days.

Financial Rating Sound

EKU’s strong financial reputation on Wall Street has earned an “AA” rating from Moody’s Investor’s Services and a favorable interest rate on a new series of revenue bonds.

Sam Conner of Hilliard Lyons, Inc., Louisville, EKU’s financial adviser for the sale of the bonds, said that Moody’s Investor’s Services has praised the University’s excellent credit rating and strong financial position on Wall Street.

“Eastern Kentucky University’s excellent credit rating reflects strong financial condition, management commitment, strength of university programs and services and established regional market position and student demand,” Conner said.

Proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used to fund the final phase of a three-year project to install sprinkler systems in high-rise residence halls.

Site Spotlights Artisan Heritage

The Kentucky Artisan Heritage Trails (KAHT) Project, launched this spring at EKU, will do more than lead travelers to the top artists and craftsmen and other cultural heritage attractions in Madison, Toll, Jackson and Rockcastle counties. Believed to be the first on-line project of its type, it may spark a national trend in the promotion of cultural heritage tourism, organizers believe.

The KAHT Project Web site, www.kah.net, is designed to attract visitors, enhance community and economic development and create jobs by showcasing various interactive on-line maps of the area’s natural scenery; craft shops, galleries and artist studios; historic sites, homes and businesses; bed and breakfast operations; regional restaurants; events, festivals and community celebrations, and other potential tourist attractions.

The pilot project was developed by the Center for Economic Development, Entrepreneurship and Technology (CEDET) at EKU through a $64,643 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission, and doubled by an additional $570,705 in matching funds and in-kind contributions from a variety of public and private sources. Several academic departments and offices of the University collaborated with each other and with numerous state and regional agencies.

Football Game Times Changed

The starting times for two EKU home football games, including Homecoming, have been changed to accommodate a telecast by Fox Sports Net South.

The Sept. 22 game with Eastern Illinois has been moved to noon, and the Homecoming game on Oct. 20 against Tennessee Tech has been switched to 4 p.m.

Thompson Named Dean Of Graduate Studies

Dr. Bankole Thompson has been named dean of graduate studies at EKU. Thompson, a professor of criminal justice, joined the EKU faculty in 1995 and most recently served as acting director of the Criminal Justice Graduate Program. From 1998 to 2000, he had served as acting chair of the Department of Criminal Justice and Police Studies. He taught previously at Kent State University (1987-95), University of Akron School of Law and the University of Sierra Leone in his native country.

“Dr. Thompson brings to the position a rich and varied formal education, strong scholarly credentials, professional experience as a prosecutor and judge and extensive undergraduate and graduate teaching experience at both Kent State University and Eastern Kentucky University,” said Dr. Michael Marsden, provost and vice president for academic affairs. “I am looking forward to his leadership in strengthening and expanding graduate studies here at Eastern Kentucky University.”

Prior to coming to the U.S., Thompson served as a principal state attorney in Sierra Leone. He then served as legal officer for the Mano River Union, a West African economic group comprised of Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea, and was appointed judge of the High Court of Sierra Leone.

Thompson earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from the University of Durham in Sierra Leone and M.A. LL.B and Ph.D degrees from the University of Cambridge in England.
Leadership, Problem-Solving Skills

State-of-the-Art Facility Will Help Build Leadership, Problem-Solving Skills

The long-standing partnership between EKU and the state Department of Criminal Justice Training (DOCJT) has led to the establishment of the Commonwealth’s “premier” challenge course on the Eastern campus.

The state-of-the-art ropes course, located behind the Funderburk Building, home of the DOCJT, will serve the DOCJT, Kentucky Police Corps and the University. The facility is reserved four days each week for EKU students, student organizations, Army ROTC and outside organizations, through the University’s Division of Community and Workforce Education.

“The elements of the course provide a multitude of groups and individual exercises that develop leadership skills, team building, problem solving and self-confidence,” said Fran Root, executive staff advisor for the Police Corps.

Designed by EKU graduate Todd Domeck’s firm, Experimental Resources Inc., Bloomington, Ind., the course features 16 low elements, 12 high elements and a six-sided “tango tower.”

“This is the premiere challenge course in Kentucky,” said Dr. Charles Everett, assistant professor of leisure studies, “because of the number of elements and because the size of the course will enable us to handle numerous groups at one time.”

Everett said he and Lt. Col. Brett Morris, chair of EKU’s Department of Military Science, initiated discussions about the feasibility of a challenge course, but, “It wasn’t until DOCJT and the Police Corps got involved (and provided the funding) that the project shifted into the next phase.”

“Ultimately,” Everett said, “this is the best deal for the University and a real good example of cooperation and interdependence. This is an outdoor laboratory that can be used in a variety of academic disciplines and for student groups.”

Cari Wallace, director of First Year Programs and Academic Testing, said the course “will be a great outdoor teaching tool for instructors to encourage students to get to know each other, learn more about their leadership style and develop problem-solving skills.”

She plans on incorporating the course into First Year orientation courses and use it to train Student Orientation and New Student Days leaders.

The Division of Community and Workforce Education will integrate the course into “as many activities as possible,” said Director Lucie Nelson. “Local companies and businesses will see the course as an opportunity to enhance their employee development plan and performance. Churches and teams will also see the growth potential for their youth and players.”

Challenge Course coordinator Rick Lewis can be reached at 622-1224.

New Challenge Course Will Benefit Students, University

Beal, Donald and Dobson, Keith. “The Cognitive-Behavioral Therapies,” World Congress of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, July 2001, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Beal also has been appointed an Associate Editor of the journal Revista Mexicana de Psicologia.


New Health Center Serves Hispanic Farm Workers

Imagine getting sick and going to a medical office, only to find that no one speaks your language.

For the 8,000-plus Hispanic migratory and seasonal farm laborers in central Kentucky and just as many family members, that’s a common occurrence. But language and cultural barriers will no longer be an obstacle to primary health care, thanks to the Bluegrass Farmworkers Health Center, opened July 2 by EKU at 509 Brockton, site of the former child care center. Funded by a two-year, $600,000 federal grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration to EKU’s College of Health Sciences, it is the only such federally-funded center nationwide operated by a college or university.

The Center will initially consist of two facilities – one on the EKU campus and another that is scheduled to open Aug. 1 at the Cardinal Valley Center, 1916 Oxford Circle, Lexington – to serve migrant and seasonal farm workers in Madison, Fayette, Garrard, Jessamine, Woodford, Bourbon, Clark and Scott counties. A third location will be added in Lexington later this year.

“We want to provide quality primary health care in a culturally competent manner with language support,” said Dr. Susan Fister, program director and an associate professor of baccalaureate and graduate nursing at EKU. “I see this as a comfortable, embracing environment for them to receive medical care, a place where they know they’ll encounter people who speak their language.”

All Center staff members – currently including two from Venezuela, one from Mexico and one from Puerto Rico – are bilingual. According to Fister, about 70 percent of the migrant farm laborers speak no English, and only about 15 percent speak it well.

The Center will be staffed by a nurse practitioner, an outreach supervisor, two outreach workers and a program assistant. In addition, Berea physician Dr. Jon Strauss, Richmond dentist Dr. James Ney and Richmond pharmacist Charles Kluhser have volunteered their services as medical director, dental director and pharmacy director, respectively.

Because the Center’s prospective clients are not covered by Medicaid/Medicare, the maximum charge for those seen by a nurse practitioner will be a $10 co-payment. The fee will be waived for those clients unable to pay.

Migrant farm workers won’t be the only beneficiaries of the Center. Because of its campus location, it also is expected to serve as a focal point for student and faculty involvement from a variety of academic disciplines. For example, nursing and health education students will assist with health screenings and health education. Occupational therapy students can provide services related to their field, Spanish students can help with translating and interpreting and family and consumer science students can facilitate parenting classes. “The possibilities seem endless,” Fister said.

For more information about the Center, or to volunteer services, call 622-2524.

Golfer Morris Named Academic All-American

EKU golfer Brad Morris, a senior pre-med/chemistry major from Stanton, has been named to the 2001 First-Team Verizon Men’s Spring Sports At-Large Academic All-America Team.

Morris is a two-time first-team Verizon Academic All-District selection and was named to the third-team Verizon Academic All-America team last season.

“Brad is the personification of the term ‘student-athlete,’” said EKU men’s golf coach Pat Stephens. “He is a team captain, led us in stroke average this past year and continues to maintain his 4.0 average in school. Brad is a perfect example of what you can do if you apply and dedicate yourself to be the best you can be.”

Morris was a 2001 First-Team All-Ohio Valley Conference selection and tied for 12th with a three-over-par 219 at the OVC Tournament in April.

He led EKU and was tied for ninth in the conference in stroke average at 7.9 per 18 holes. He also finished among the top 10 in four tournaments this past year.

For more information, contact the EKU Office of Communications and Marketing, 622-1228.
Employees Recognized at Picnic for Years of Service


15 YEARS – Front row, left to right, Denise Conner, Janie Dean, Sharon Smith and Connie Howe; back row, Harold Rose and John Young. Honorees not included in the photo are Sue Begley, Eddie Brock, Mildred Hubbard Burkhart, Nettie Bultly, Dudley Commom, Ricky Cox, Ricky Denny, Renee Derringer, Linda Hensley, Monroe Hisel, Betty Howe, Rande Jones, Teresa Long, Janice Marcum, Daniel Richmond, Bennett Rowe, Mark Smith, Brenda Speller, Charlotte Tanara, Sherry Thomas, Suzanne Tipton, Darlane Ward and Jo Ann Weaver.

20 YEARS – Front row, left to right, Julie Mattox, Margaret Pitcher, Ella McGuire and Sandra Bingham; back row, Limual Oliver, Becky Wells, Doris Hammitt and Kenneth Shouse. Not pictured are Donna Allen, David Alligier, Judith Cahill, Bonnie Campbell, William Carter, Judith Foster, John Gibson, Anna Goggins, Evelyn Hall, Linda Hill, Pamela Hisle, Ramona Keene, Lucie Nelson, Sun Chul Richards, Carol Rogers, Charles Townsend, Johanna Wilham and Otha Wolfinbarger.


30 YEARS – Left to right, Connie Beazley, Glen Newton and Karl Park.