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BUILDING THE SPACE FOR DISCOVERY
SCIENCES BUILDING NEAR COMPLETION
Before the curtain rises on Aretha Franklin, Garrison Keillor and Wynton Marsalis at the EKU Center for the Arts, the Center’s gala opening on September 9, 2011, celebrated the local stars who first envisioned a Broadway-capable theater on the Eastern campus, whose perseverance, generosity and town-and-gown partnership, says President Doug Whitlock, created the 128,000-square-foot-facility that is “a gift to all Kentuckians.”

This opening night was a celebration of color and sound. It was red carpet, white limos, student ushers in elegant black, the sparkle of wine and conversation against the soft elegance of a three-piece combo. It was the drama of President Whitlock and Kentucky’s First Lady Jane Beshear cutting a giant ribbon across the stage, opening a thrilling display of the Grand Hall’s acoustics, lighting and technical capacities.

Here is a stage far removed from Shakespeare’s “bare boards.” The 62-foot ceiling will easily house spectacular shows like “Beauty and the Beast” or Mannheim Steamroller. Comfortable dressing rooms await Jane Monheit, the Temptations and Riverdance, all headlining the Center’s first season.

For tickets to the EKU Center for the Arts or information about valet parking, transportation from Boyle and Fayette counties, and special services, call the box office at 1-855-EKU-SHOW (358-7469) or visit www.ekucenter.com.
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Dear Alumni and Friends,

This issue of the magazine is chock-full of updates on happenings at Eastern. This past April, we held our annual Alumni Awards Banquet during Alumni Weekend. Beginning on page 10 you will read about this year’s award recipients. As always, we encourage you to nominate candidates for these awards. You can contact us in the Alumni Office or go online to www.eku.edu/alumni.

Within these pages you’ll also find updates on the new sciences building, math and English transition courses, Middle College, online education/e-learning and the Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel Studio for Academic Creativity.

Our Alumni Board met in September and one of the discussions was how to be more involved in student recruitment/retention. If you visit our website, you will see the schedule of Prospective Student Receptions. If there are any close by your area, encourage students to attend and take a look at all that Eastern has to offer. You can provide a great service as a spokesperson for Eastern by encouraging people you know to consider EKU’s excellent programs.

As we transition from fall to winter we are planning Alumni Weekend 2012, April 27-29. On Friday night, the weekend will kick off with the EKU Alumni Specks event at Acres of Land Winery. This year we will feature former members of the Maroons along with Gary Edwards. For more information on Specks Reunion events go to www.SpecksEKUAlumni.com.

In addition to class meetings, photos and induction of the 50th reunion class as Pioneers, Alumni Weekend will include our annual Alumni Awards Banquet. Following the banquet, there will be a concert at the EKU Center for the Arts featuring Aretha Franklin. Tickets for the concert may be ordered online to www.eku.edu/alumni.

As we transition from fall to winter we are planning Alumni Weekend 2012, April 27-29. On Friday night, the weekend will kick off with the EKU Alumni Speacks event at Acres of Land Winery. This year we will feature former members of the Maroons along with Gary Edwards. For more information on Specks Reunion events go to www.SpecksEKUAlumni.com.

As always, I love hearing from Eastern alumni and friends. You can reach me at jackie.collier@eku.edu or by calling (859) 622-1260.

This brings my best to you,

Jackie Collier
Director of Alumni Relations
Within a two week period a pair of remarkable facilities, one more than 120 years old, the other brand spanking new, changed the physical and cultural landscape of Eastern Kentucky University in profound, positive ways. They are Elmwood and the EKU Center for the Arts. Individually and collectively, their value to Eastern is immense.

All my life, I have been intrigued by the Elmwood Estate. This majestic property stretches opposite the campus down Lancaster Avenue from the Blanton House to the University Drive entrance. If you attended Eastern, you will remember the stately trees and the beautiful park-like vista the estate presents, enhancing the “front door” of Eastern.

Every Eastern president since Robert R. Martin expressed an interest in buying the property for the use and benefit of the University. There are some pithy stories—as far as I know apocryphal—about Emma Watts, who owned Elmwood until her death in 1970, making counter offers to buy Eastern. I know for a fact, from my own experience, that a couple of the efforts to acquire the property were serious until they came up against an unshakable provision in Miss Emma’s will: the property could not be sold.

There was no provision in her will that prevented it from being given as a gift.

Miss Emma’s fondest wish was for the house and estate built by her parents in 1887 to be maintained as closely as possible to the manner in which she kept it. Her nephew and the estate’s trustee concluded a few years ago that the best chance to perpetuate Miss Emma’s wishes would be for the University to hold the property. After several years of negotiations, the trust gave the property to the EKU Foundation, which reimbursed the trust for some recent improvements to the property, including a new roof.

We have made the following covenants regarding the property: We will maintain the vista along Lancaster Avenue—I cannot imagine Richmond without it. We will preserve the exterior appearance of the 9,000-square-foot mansion in keeping with National Register of Historic Places guidelines. We will use all the property in a manner consistent with the mission of the University and not for any commercial purpose. Any new construction will not be visible from Lancaster Avenue and will be architecturally consistent with the existing structures.

The mansion itself is a treasure trove of books, antiques, prints and memorabilia of two past centuries. The educational opportunities that will accrue to our students as we work to catalog and ultimately restore this jewel will be remarkable. Our ultimate use of the home is still undecided, but it would make a wonderful alumni-development center.

I hope our alumni and friends share the great sense of accomplishment I feel in securing this invaluable asset for Eastern.

The EKU Center for the Arts, on the south side of the bypass adjacent to the new College of Business & Technology building, is what I have described as a “game changer.” For the second time in as many years, we have opened a facility I truly believe has exceeded the anticipation around it. The first was the Ron and Sherrie Lou Noel Studio for Academic Creativity in the Library. As an aside, I predict the third will be New Sciences Building Phase I, in which we will first offer classes next semester. A facility worthy of our outstanding science faculty and programs, it will begin the process of making EKU an even more significant leader in Kentucky’s drive to increase the number of graduates in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) disciplines. When we successfully secure funding for Phase II of the project, that process will be complete.

The result of an innovative partnership between the University and the Richmond, Berea, and Madison County community, the Center for the Arts is a 2,100+ seat state-of-the-art facility for which the only adequate adjective is “magnificent.” In addition to the grand hall, it includes a 200-seat “black box” theater and wonderful pre-function areas.

We opened the Center with a September 9 gala program designed to showcase the capabilities of the hall. The first ticketed performance was on September 24, when Wynonna Judd graced the facility with her mix of a blues-like and country repertoire. The executive director of the Center, Debra Hoskins, a two-time Eastern graduate, has assembled a season worthy of any venue, anywhere.

What was originally conceived as a community project has quickly grown into a facility of regional, even statewide, importance. The cultural landscape has been dramatically changed at Eastern Kentucky University. The thousands of patrons who will flock to the Center for Arts will significantly broaden our outreach. The instructional, service, and economic development potential of this facility is going to prove to be game-changing.

These facilities—one old, the others new—will each make a significant contribution to the Essential Eastern. They all make me proud.

Charles D. Whitlock, ’65, ’66
President
Generations of Eastern students have rubbed the boot on Daniel Boone’s statue for good luck. Every Eastern president for the last half century may have brushed that boot, secretly wishing for the great fortune to witness acquisition of the magnificent 20-acre Elmwood Estate across from the campus on Lancaster Avenue. For decades this seemed impossible, for terms of the deceased owner’s will locked away the estate as tightly as the high wrought iron fence around it.
On August 31, 2011, President Doug Whitlock announced that trustees of the Elmwood Estate had deeded property and grounds to the EKU Foundation. The result, says Richmond statesman and retired Kentucky circuit judge James Chenault, ’49, will be “the finest addition to the campus since the act of legislature in 1906 creating Eastern.”

The Elmwood Estate, or simply “Elmwood,” has long been the stuff of Richmond dreams. Built in 1887, the 15-room, 9,000-square-foot home is Kentucky’s only extant Victorian in the “châteauesque” style outside of Louisville. The mansion boasts five bedrooms, kitchen, parlor, dining room, library, sitting rooms, servant quarters, attic and cellar. It is surrounded by a formal boxwood garden, ponds, bridges, lawns, stable, carriage house, smokehouse, barn and a caretaker’s cottage. Elmwood, not surprisingly, is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Emma Parkes Watts (1887-1970) was born at Elmwood, inherited it from her parents and cherished the estate all her life. She must have watched with dismay as grand Victorians and historical sites throughout the country were sacrificed to “progress” and old family estates broken up. In 1970, six months before her death, Emma Watts wrote a will stipulating that the trust fund managing the Elmwood estate had “no power or authority to sell or in any manner hypothecate any of my real estate located in Madison County, Kentucky . . . or other tangible personal property located in Elmwood.”

Further, the will stipulated that the house and grounds must be “kept and maintained in the same manner as I have done.” While some monies had been provided for maintenance, the needs of an essentially uninhabited, aging Victorian showcase and 20 acres of elaborately designed lawns and gardens were enormous and strained the trust’s resources. A large, nonprofit institution capable of providing the required upkeep increasingly seemed Elmwood’s best hope.

For some time, the estate’s trustee, trust attorney, Eastern President Doug Whitlock and Vice President for Advancement Joe Foster worked together to determine how this 124-year-old historical treasure might be maintained into the 21st century while honoring the intentions of its deceased owner. Gary Abney, ’70, chair of Eastern’s board of regents, took a deep interest in the project, which earned unqualified endorsement by the entire board of regents and EKII Foundation board. Whitlock praised the diligent, respectful work of those involved, noting that the trustee “has taken her responsibility seriously and I am very appreciative of the trust she has shown us.”

Honoring the terms of the will, the property and furnishings were gifted to the Foundation, which reimbursed the Elmwood trust for $400,000 spent on renovations and maintenance work. “We are committed to maintaining the name of Elmwood and the beautiful vista along Lancaster Avenue,” Whitlock said. “Further, we will use the property only for non-commercial purposes consistent with our mission.” According to the terms of the deed, there will be no new construction on the front of the house and any construction behind it will be no taller than two stories and consistent with the architecture of the home.

The EKU Foundation is considering various uses of Elmwood in keeping with its pledge that the house and property be “preserved in their natural and historic state.” President Whitlock has suggested that Elmwood “would be an outstanding alumni-development center.”

For now, says Abney, “many people in the future of Eastern and those who have been here in the past can take great pride in the ownership of this property.” If President Whitlock, like his predecessors, ever furtively wished on Boone’s boot, the wish has come true. The living history, the lush green space in the shadow of Elmwood’s Victorian splendor will be forever preserved in Campus Beautiful.
Work on Phase 1 of Eastern’s new sciences building is now substantially completed. In January 2012 the first classes will welcome students. With 174,195 square feet of classrooms, laboratories, storage, offices, informal meeting coves, a café and reception area, the building will house programs in astronomy & physics, chemistry, forensic science and science teaching, the Environmental Research Institute and Eastern’s division of natural areas. The $64 million structure is enhanced by $1.2 million in federal appropriations for new science equipment secured by Kentucky’s 6th District Congressman Ben Chandler. Funding for Phase 2 will add biological sciences, geography & geology and Eastern’s natural history collections. Costs of the two phases are approximately equal.

These bare sentences announce what President Doug Whitlock terms “a revolution in the way science is taught on this campus.” Professional instrumentation will enhance career preparation; “inquiry-based” instruction will accelerate a campus surge in hard-science enrollment; faculty and students will have abundant opportunities for collaboration and research, enhancing Eastern’s ability to attract and retain talent; future science teachers will know the contagious excitement of science learning. An environmentally-conscious showpiece tells the community, “Science is yours. Welcome, discover, connect.”
Targeted events for regional youth groups will inspire and challenge. Future K-12 educators will enter a vortex of excitement generated by science professionals; they’ll share with young people not just dry reports of what “scientists” do, but hands-on experience of inquiry and discovery. “If we can turn future teachers on to science—and we’ll have all the elements to do that,” declares biology professor Dr. Malcolm Frisbie, “think of the ripple effect!”

Already the facility is proving a powerful faculty recruitment tool. Gifted young scientists light up at the blueprints and walkthroughs. Potential science majors and parents touring the campus are visibly excited. Since all baccalaureate-seeking students take two science courses, even non-majors will be enticed by the welcoming space and hands-on teaching methodologies, relevant, engaging and thought provoking. This building, Frisbie says, explodes the illusion that science courses are “to be suffered through,” that science isn’t for “regular people.” In this light and airy space, the bustle of research is easily visible. An exterior wetlands and two-story atrium, amoeba-shaped café, comfortable lounge and meeting spaces invite future physicists, mathematicians and psychologists to share their passions. The lobby’s soaring greenery, grand staircase and flexible layout can host banquets and receptions, even Academy of Science functions, establishing Eastern as a regional force for research and instruction.

Dr. Jerry Cook, chair of the physics & astronomy department, reports recent “incredible growth” in enrollments, majors and graduates and is convinced the trend will accelerate in a facility purpose-designed for the inquiry-based teaching that is now the national norm. Instead of lectures on the laws of reflection, for instance, then lab-testing these laws days later, groups of students work with mirrors and light sources while the professor circulates, challenging them to create these laws, to discover physics. With ample access to professional equipment, students can test new hypotheses, exploring applications, following all the “what ifs” that make learning electric. Faculty and student research space foster collaborations that cross physics fields and link disciplines; grants will almost certainly grow. Graduates will boast an unprecedented cache of experience and expertise. Recruiters are watching Eastern, says Cook.

Excitement mounts in the chemistry department. A centralized, professional instrument room will enhance quantitative analysis and forensic science. The health science teaching lab is designed for biomedically-related experiments at all course levels. Individual faculty labs will promote research, with students supported for independent studies, honors projects and grant-funded collaborations. Dr. Lori Wilson sees the department’s new liquid chromatography-mass spectrometer advancing organic synthesis, biofuels and toxicology. While a low resolution nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer is in place, Wilson dreams of advanced research options if further funding allows a high resolution NMR spectrometer—“moving from a
moped to an automobile.” A new era begins, concludes Wilson, and we are “better equipping students for success in wide-ranging chemistry professions, forensic science, pharmacy and medical school.”

Obviously, building what one professor describes as “seventh heaven” demands an exceptional process. James Street, associate vice president for capital planning and facilities management, characterizes Eastern faculty involvement as “absolutely, by a large multiplier, beyond the norm.” Dr. Frisbie, the “project shepherd,” is universally respected by faculty, administrators, design and construction teams. Science faculty gladly attended 200+ meetings, Street says, working out instrument specifications and placement, lab configurations, outlets and data ports, office furniture and the impact of structural vibration on nanotechnologies. They strategically set informal meeting places to stimulate the sharing of perspectives and passions which feeds science. Years of teaching expertise dictated classroom sight lines and even desk placements to let faculty navigate between backpacks.

Most university buildings, Street reports, have a 50 year life span. The new sciences building, fruit of broad collaboration, with planned flexibility for new technologies, student trends and program growth, should push out that window as Phase 1 offers the entire campus and community the thrill of those “eureka moments” when the air is charged with the exhilaration of scientific inquiry and discovery.

THE SCIENCE OF GREEN

Scientific facilities have notoriously high energy costs. Instruments and computers gobble power. Temperatures and air exchanges must be controlled. The design team balanced environmental and economic responsibility, teaching and research needs to create a responsive, welcoming space for a broad community of users:

- Sunlight penetrates to the building core, following LEED* standards, reducing electrical costs and heat by-product. Window positioning captures maximum sunlight in winter months.

- Since cooling is more energy-intensive than heating, “low-E” coated windows and additional treatment of southern and western exposures reduces summer heat gain. Light-colored polished roofing also deflects heat.

- Low-maintenance, recyclable brick and zinc panel siding consume minimal energy in fabrication.

- Recycled wood creates the monumental staircase; polished concrete floors are attractive, durable, low maintenance and less toxic than tiling and carpet processes.

- A two-story lobby atrium helps cleanse interior air. Sophisticated fume hoods respond in real time to energy needs for evacuating fumes and odors.

- Rainwater run-off is purified in a dry stream bed, then feeds a wetland area with native species, creating a potent learning tool—and an attractive campus feature.

- Additional funding may allow solar panels, wind-power devices and real time panels displaying energy draw and power creation.

* The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building System™ is certified by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Advancing science @ Eastern
To discuss giving and naming options, please contact the office of development at (859) 622-1583.
JACK BARBER, ’72

Jack Barber is not just a great golf pro. He’s a teacher and mentor, season after season helping young golfers transform passion for the sport into a satisfying profession.

Now in his 26th season at Meridian Hills Country Club in Indianapolis, Ind., Barber keeps teaching. He created a program for nearby Butler University to introduce business students to golf as a career support. Deeply committed to uniform professional standards in his field, Barber developed a widely used procedures manual for golf shops and a national PGA business school on golf shop operations.

In high school, young Jack Barber couldn’t afford lessons. So he created his own swing and practiced his putt under car lights at night. Self-taught skill and passionate determination earned him a golf scholarship at Eastern. After graduation he received a job offer through former Eastern business professor and PGA pro John Dunham. When, at age 27, Barber was promoted to head pro at Lexington Country Club, a member complained, saying, “They hired a kid to do a man’s job.” A year later, after watching “the kid” work, the member apologized. Today, he and Barber are close friends.

Having won awards in Kentucky and Indiana as PGA Golf Professional of the Year, nabbing the 2002 Indiana Senior PGA Championship, 2009 National PGA Golf Professional of the Year and regularly serving in executive positions in the PGA, Barber has developed a trademark “hat talk,” whipping out the hats which represent the many roles of a golf pro: teacher, player, merchandiser, businessperson, rules official and accountant. Yet Barber’s most important role has no hat. It’s being the “good human being” that mentors students. “We need to get out from behind the counter,” Barber tells his staff, “and take care of golfers who have come to enjoy our facilities and our game. We can have such a tremendous influence on people’s lives.”

CYNTHIA BOHN, ’80, ’80, ’81

Cynthia Bohn grew up with seven siblings working the family tobacco farm in Hart County, Ky. Once at Eastern, her trajectory pointed far from farming. Between 1980 and 1981, she earned three degrees: an associate in broadcast engineering, a bachelor’s in speech and theater, and a master’s in industrial technology. Soon after came a fourth: a doctorate in educational technology from the University of Kentucky. It’s no wonder that IBM snapped up this “triple-type A” achiever. Bohn traveled the world managing IT projects. Meanwhile, she gave back to Eastern, serving on the alumni board and receiving a Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Business & Technology, grateful for the “rich environment of learning opportunities” that had launched her 30-year career with IBM.

Then came a business course at Harvard with a case study of California’s Mondavi wines. While analyzing spreadsheets, Bohn recalled the rich Kentucky soils, the hard but satisfying work of her youth and the warmth of farm communities. Why not a fine Kentucky vineyard, she thought, and why can’t I be its wine maker? Bohn studied the wine craft and industry while working full time for IBM. Her hard work paid off when Equus Run opened near Midway in 1998.
While vintners joke that, yes, one can make a small fortune in winemaking . . . just start with a large one, Equus Run is thriving thanks to Bohn’s formidable, varied talents, work ethic, family and local support. Annual sales exceed $1 million. Equus Run wines rack up awards and are proudly poured in the Churchill Downs Commemorative Derby. The gorgeous manicured grounds draw tours, concerts, weddings, theatrical performances and streams of charity events. Equus Run was named one of the 16 Best Hidden Treasures of the United States by CNN and a “must tour” location for Southern Living. Bohn’s remarkable mid-career shift is actually a return to roots, a calling that uses the full range of Eastern-honed skills and training. And she’s back in “family farming”: the close, hard-working team of three driving this thriving winery and agri-tourism business are Cynthia Bohn, her brother and sister.

JUDITH MONROE, ’76
Dr. Judith Monroe came to Eastern as a first-generation student, unsure if she could succeed in college. “But I was privileged to have terrific professors who were encouraging and dedicated,” she recalls. She has applied their advice—“manage your time” and “get the concept”—to an astonishing career in public health. Following a medical residency at the University of Cincinnati, she practiced in rural Tennessee before teaching family medicine at Indiana University and then directing the Family Medicine Residence Program and Primary Care Center at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Indianapolis.

Monroe became the Indiana State Health Commissioner in 2005. Under her administration, cigarette consumption dropped nearly 25 percent; smoking among high school students dropped 21 percent and by 46 percent in middle schools. Obesity prevalence dropped by 14.7 percent in youth and 3 percent in adults. Colon cancer screening increased 34.5 percent; cancer incidence and heart disease all decreased significantly. She implemented the state’s first medical errors reporting system and led a coordinated statewide response to the H1N1 flu pandemic.

Monroe’s achievements in motivating partnerships for public health and strategizing solutions brought wide recognition. She was named a 2009 Woman of Influence by the Indianapolis Business Journal and received the 2009 Merit Award from the Indiana Hospital Association for leadership as health commissioner. She received the MVP Award presented by Peyton Manning on behalf of the Peyton Manning Children’s Hospital for her work to improve the health of children, the 2010 McGovern Award and the Governor’s Distinguished Service Medal from Governor Mitch Daniels.

When Monroe was named Deputy Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and director of the Office of State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support (OSTLTS), a distinguished colleague, Dr. Douglas Scutchfield, ’63, director of the Center for Public Health Systems and Services Research at the University of Kentucky, reported, “To say I’m delighted is an understatement.” In her new role, Monroe will provide critical leadership for improving and supporting the public health system.

Throughout her career, Monroe has heeded the advice of her Eastern professors to “manage your time” and “get the concept” as she expanded her family practice to manage public health systems that serve thousands upon thousands of families. “I had so many wonderful teachers,” Monroe said recently. “I hope they realize the impact they have on their students.” Through this once shy, first-generation student, thousands of people now lead healthier lives. That’s a powerful impact.

JEFF NEWTON, ’97
Jeff Newton came from Louisville, Kentucky’s Atherton High School with some interest in writing, but admits, “I was a terrible student.” Mentored by Dr. Elizabeth Hansen, Marilyn Bailey, Dr. Ron Wolfe and Dr. Libby Fraas (retired), Newton began seeing Eastern as a “beautiful place of possibility.” Working for the Eastern Progress, he experienced a “calling to journalism,” crafting what Hansen called a
"gut-wrenching" piece on drunk driving and producing coverage of the first Gulf War with a tenacity that soon became legendary among Eastern student journalists.

Now an Emmy Award-winning producer for CBS 60 Minutes, Newton has worked in nearly 70 countries, been shot at and endured the deprivations of embedded troops and devastation of disaster zones. His career is dedicated, he says, to "shedding light on the wrongs of this world." A pioneer of "backpack journalism," Newton uses lightweight equipment to capture human stories in rugged situations. His work has won a News and Documentary Emmy, an Edward R. Murrow Award and a David Kaplan Award for overseas war reporting.

Jeff Newton’s journey from the Eastern Progress to 60 Minutes is testament to persistence and passion. A few credits shy of his bachelor’s degree, Newton took a fellowship with a national university magazine in California but soon became restless. He opted for a 90 percent pay cut that came with international experience at the current Czech Republic’s first English language newspaper, “living on bread and beer, but watching the world change in front of me” as he covered the war in ex-Yugoslavia and the creation of post-Communist Eastern Europe.

Back stateside at the Elizabethtown News-Enterprise (Ky.) and the Fayetteville Observer (N.C.), he learned the discipline of detail, won praise for an investigative series on fraud, waste and abuse at Fort Bragg and finished his Eastern degree.

Teaching himself videography and editing, Newton worked in Afghanistan, creating pieces for ABC, CBS and NBC before going on staff for 60 Minutes. Today, Jeff Newton produces five stories a year for 60 Minutes (see Eastern Magazine, Summer 2010 issue for his work in Haiti) as well as other news segments for CBS. Exactly as his Eastern mentors predicted, Jeff Newton has “made something of himself” as he relentlessly pursues his “calling to journalism."

JAMES RAINEY, ’87
Col. James Rainey came to Eastern on an athletic scholarship and earned his degree in police administration. But two commitments forged at Eastern profoundly shaped the rest of Rainey’s life: his marriage to Tracy Shroud Rainey, ’88, and ROTC training. Upon graduation, Rainey was commissioned as an infantry officer in the U.S. Army, leading to 24 years of illustrious active service.

He built on his ROTC skills with badges for Expert Infantry, Combat Infantryman, Senior Parachutist and the Army Ranger Tab. Meanwhile, his leadership experience grew as he rose from platoon leader to commander of the Long Range Surveillance Detachment in the 3rd U.S. Infantry before interning for the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. Rainey also has advanced degrees from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, the School of Advanced Military Studies and Troy State. Rainey’s awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Presidential Unit Citation.

In addition to working at high level military strategy as Chief of Global War on Terror Plans for the U.S. European Command, Rainey took key combat roles in Operation Iraq Freedom/New Dawn and saw action at the Battle of Fallujah. As commander of the 3rd Brigade Combat team, Fourth Infantry Division, Rainey is a sought-after commentator for such major news sources as Washington Post, Newsday, Nightline with Ted Koppel, and MSNBC’s Hardball.

Rainey has now brought his 3,800 troops back from Iraq, where they spent 54 of 96 months. At home in Colorado Springs, Col., where Tracy is an occupational therapist, Rainey speaks to local civic groups, urging continuous support of the military: “Keep pouring it on. Keep taking care of our soldiers and their families.” He helps develop new programs to identify and treat Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, family issues and physical problems. He readies his command for challenges ranging from counterinsurgency missions and tank battles to hurricane relief. He is confident of success. “The best soldiers our country has ever produced are the men and women fighting today,” he says.

Tested in combat, trusted at the highest military levels, deeply committed to his troops and their families, and an articulate national spokesperson, Col. James Rainey looks back with gratitude to his experience at Eastern, which he calls “the turning point” of his life.
KATIE YANCOSEK, ’03

Major Katie Yancosek is a national leader in a tragically growing field: occupational therapy for traumatic upper body amputation. While improved body armor saves lives of our troops, 6 percent of combat injuries in Iraq and Afghanistan now involve amputation. Katie Yancosek helps wounded warriors learn “a new normal,” mastering “real life stuff” like dressing, cooking, driving, using a computer, finding career options, meeting social challenges and navigating treatment options.

With a bachelor’s in occupational therapy and an Army commission through the ROTC of Gannon University, Yancosek chose Eastern’s nationally-esteemed program for her master’s, where Dr. Colleen Schneck recognized “a natural leader, a good thinker and writer, knowledgeable and positive.” At Eastern, Yancosek learned to be proactive in public policy and advocacy, pushing development of lighter, more responsive and durable prostheses.

From 2003-2007, Yancosek served at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., as a Certified Hand Specialist and chief of the amputee care section. Named Professional of the Year by the Amputee Coalition of America and earning the Army Medical Specialist Corps Award of Excellence, she won research grants, wrote textbook chapters and cowrote Handwriting for Heroes: Learn to Write With Your Non-Dominant Hand in Six Weeks, an adult-focused workbook now used nationwide for stroke and accident victims and well as those with upper body amputations.

Now deputy division chief of the Military Performance Division at the U.S. Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine, with a doctorate in rehabilitation science from the University of Kentucky, Major Yancosek continues her mission to heal wounded warriors, “to engage people in normalcy.”

HARRY MOBERLY, JR., ’74

As a 29-year-old lawyer, Harry Moberly, Jr., challenged a powerful state legislature incumbent and won. For 30 years, he served Richmond and much of Madison County, Ky., as the 81st District state representative. As Eastern’s director of judicial affairs and then executive vice president for administration, he gave, in President Doug Whitlock’s words, “exemplary service to the university community.” Called “a reluctant campaigner,” he worked for his constituents with passionate focus, earning each re-election through steady dedication to their interests. Moberly worked hard to protect Kentucky’s injury victims from predatory practices and crafted legislation which was adapted by many states. Politically astute, with an encyclopedic knowledge of budgeting practices, Moberly used his formidable influence in driving the Kentucky Education Reform Act. As chair of the House Appropriations and Revenue Committee and an active member of the House Education Committee, he championed K-12 education. In addition to innovative higher education projects across the Commonwealth, Moberly was an early, passionate supporter of Eastern’s Sciences Building and the Center for the Arts. “I don’t think anyone in Kentucky has done as much to advance education in the state,” declared Whitlock.

Former Speaker of the House Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, declared, “Harry Moberly is one of the great legislators of the last half century.” He was hailed as “the Lion of the House” by the Capitol press corps and ranked one of the five most effective legislators by the Kentucky Center for Public Issues.
His father, Harry Moberly, Sr., brilliantly quarterbacked Eastern football from 1931-34 and was a lifelong Eastern friend and supporter. With his wife, Kerrie Moberly, ’81, executive assistant to the dean of the College of Justice & Safety, Harry Moberly, Jr., shares deep Eastern roots and a wide network of friends. Now in retirement, he can look back on a long career of service to his university, his state and his constituents, making a difference and making things right.

ED WORLEY, ’78

James Edwin “Ed” Worley left Eastern “more broad-minded, trained with practical and academic skills to pursue a career in government and politics. . . Eastern changed my life.” Elected Richmond (Ky.) City Manager in 1979—one of the nation’s youngest city managers—he served Richmond for a total of 13 years. Downtown improvements came rapidly in the Worley years, including the popular inter-generational Lake Reba Recreational Complex.

Moving on to the Kentucky State Senate, Worley quickly rose to Minority Floor Leader, serving on the Appropriations and Revenue; Program Review; Rules; and Education committees and the Education Accountability and Assessment subcommittee. In addition, Worley was active in almost every statutory committee in the Senate, as well as co-chairing the Budget Review Subcommittee on Education until his retirement in 2010.

Recognizing the profound role of education in the welfare of the state and grateful to Eastern for having made him “a more broad-minded person, trained with practical skills to pursue a career in government and politics,” Worley helped secure funds for Eastern’s Center for Business & Technology, computers for the Model Laboratory School, as well as support and funding for the Center for the Arts that “truly represents a change in lifestyle here in Richmond.”

Meanwhile, Worley’s local service includes Little League, the county ambulance board of directors, the TelfordYMCA board of directors and the Richmond Industrial Corporation board of directors. In private life, he is a successful general contractor, married to Jamie Worley, ’72, a guidance counselor at Eastern’s Model Laboratory High School.

As a political science major, Worley’s career has abundantly fulfilled the mission of that department: to help students “become involved in activities and causes that are meaningful to you” and to “find a career that will help you to make a difference.” Fresh out of college, Ed Worley began making a difference and never stopped.

HEATHER ADAMS-BLAIR, ’96

Student comments on associate professor Dr. Heather Adams-Blair of the department of exercise & sport science epitomize Eastern teaching at its finest: “She gives A LOT of work …Her tests are really, really hard…She’s awesome, a great teacher…She really helped me out a lot.” This combination of academic rigor and commitment to student success spurred selection of Adams-Blair for the 2010 Golden Apple Award given by Eastern’s university housing department.

Adams-Blair received her bachelor’s at Transylvania University in 1995 in human movement, her master’s at Eastern and, in 2000, her Doctor of Education from the University of Kentucky in kinesiology and health promotion. In addition to teaching a full course load, she coordinates general education for her department and is graduate advisor for 85 students.

In a time of widespread cutbacks in K-12 physical education programs, Adams-Blair finds economical ways to get children, youth and women active. She’s key in the Heave H.O.E. program funded by Eastern’s education department which taught 30 school teachers how to build low-cost community disc golf (aka Frisbee) courses. Her grants from the Kentucky
DOUG WHITLOCK, ’65, ’66

At a time when university presidents change posts with alacrity, Dr. Doug Whitlock’s commitment to Eastern represents passionate, lifelong vocation. A Richmond native and first-generation student, Whitlock received his bachelor’s degree in history and social science, and his master’s in history from Eastern, U.S. Army training as an air defense missile officer, and doctorate in education from the University of Kentucky. This broad background has informed 40+ years of service to the university he loves. A faculty member in journalism and computer science and administrator in ascending key roles, retiring as vice president for administrative affairs in 2003, Whitlock was called back to Eastern in 2007 as her president.

Since 2007, President Whitlock has “connected dots,” a modest description of his achievements in shaping “the Essential Eastern,” a comprehensive university dedicated to student success and regional stewardship. While supporting academic programs and a campus community that offer a “liberating education to live a meaningful life,” President Whitlock has strengthened Eastern’s nationally ranked programs in business and technology, chemistry, computer science, justice and safety, and physical therapy.

In a challenging economic environment, President Whitlock’s administration has attracted public and private support for Eastern’s Center for Renewable and Alternative Fuel Technologies and major capital funding for the Noel Studio for Academic Creativity, a performing arts center and new sciences building, which, he says, “will revolutionize the way science is taught on this campus.” Eastern’s unique educational extension agents program is boosting college readiness in the region. Student success initiatives, real career training and undergraduate research are redefining Eastern’s identity as a “school of opportunity” in a new century.

Eastern is now the only college or university to claim all six “Points of Pride”; accolades from Forbes, U.S. News & World Report, The Chronicle of Higher Education, the Carnegie Foundation, G.I. Jobs, and a vote of “Best for Vets” nationally by Military Times EDGE magazine. It’s no surprise that accolades mark Whitlock’s administration. With a full slate of leadership roles in local, state, national and international education and town-gown initiatives, Whitlock is ceaselessly engaged, enhancing the “Power of Maroon” through attracting and retaining high quality faculty, staff and students, and supporting them with programs and facilities for success. President Doug Whitlock brings to this work a unique combination of adroit administrative skill, steady vision, deep commitment, and one final, fundamental ingredient: “I love Eastern!”

Department of Education, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Women’s Sports Foundation and other foundations fund multiple local and regional wellness programs. A steady stream of publications and presentations engage audiences in issues of obesity control, nutrition, core stability, self-esteem, low-cost fitness options, and women’s health issues. “Throw Like a Girl,” one presentation demands. Regionally and nationally, Dr. Heather Adams-Blair is getting girls and others on the move, improving their lives and engaging with their communities.

LISA DAY-LINDSEY

Dr. Lisa Day-Lindsey began her academic journey at Western Kentucky University where she earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees, then went to Southern Illinois University for her doctorate, joining Eastern’s English department in 2001. Yet Day-Lindsey’s professional work celebrates far longer journeys and celebrates writers from many cultures. This year she helped edit and produce The Journal of Military Experience, a moving and diverse compilation of stories, poetry and art from 19 Eastern student-veterans. Working with fellow Eastern English professor Dr. Salome Nnoromele, she edited Journeys Home: An Anthology of Contemporary African Diaspora Experience. The anthology gives voice to writers from Ethiopia, Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Sudan, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Zimbabwe who can sometimes only dream of their “journeys home.”

Day-Lindsey publishes widely on Appalachian literature, American folk songs, slave narratives, multicultural studies, gender issues and new strategies for reading and writing curricula. On campus, besides teaching in African/African-American Studies and the Women and Gender Studies programs, Day-Lindsey is an active mentor to a broad spectrum of students: graduate students and those preparing for English graduate programs; honors students; nontraditional and military students. She is the interim director of the Women and Gender Studies Program for the 2011-2012 academic year, supporting another generation of students in their journeys of discovery and achievement.
Every year in the United States, more than two million students enter college unable to pass into credit-bearing mathematics, writing and reading classes. They must take non-credit developmental skills courses, increasing tuition costs and the semesters required for graduation. A more effective approach, Eastern faculty and administrators believe, is to bolster basic skills before students reach college.
High enrollments in developmental courses absorb faculty time and campus resources. They impact retention rates, reports Dr. Bill Phillips, dean of Eastern’s College of Education. “The number one indicator of college success is the ability to pass college algebra without remediation,” he explains. Donna Lovell of Berea Independent Schools sees far too many students enter college “below ground level and have to climb their way up to where postsecondary institutions have set appropriate standards. This is often discouraging, frustrating and, without necessary support, can be an insurmountable obstacle to college success.”

Since the fall of 2009, innovative Eastern regional stewardship has been increasing the number of entering students who have mastered critical math skills for college work. Working closely with Eastern, Madison Central, Madison Southern and Berea Community high schools offered a pilot transition course to 253 high school students whose ACT scores would have required developmental math courses. Many of these students suffered an additional handicap: the crippling conviction that they were simply “no good in math.” To deliver college-level competence and confidence, Eastern mathematics and education faculty worked closely with the Kentucky Department of Education to create core curricula aligned with Eastern developmental mathematics courses. High school teachers then adapted unique instructional plans to suit their schools’ and students’ needs.

The pilot succeeded with 84 percent of participants having entered credit-bearing college math and 64 percent having qualified for college algebra. Their families will save approximately $284,000 in developmental course tuition. This success was sourced by “exemplary cooperation and selfless efforts” by university, local and state partners, says Dr. Robert Thomas, assistant professor in Eastern’s department of mathematics and statistics. “Helping students has been the driving force behind pulling together the diverse groups with very challenging time constraints and deadlines,” Thomas explains.

Meanwhile, Eastern’s English department faculty worked with local high school teachers to develop courses teaching fundamental reading and writing skills, time management, work ethics, use of new learning technologies and critical thinking and reading—all major factors in college success. The team’s model is clearly attractive. In 2010-2011, the program’s first year, 179 students from Madison Southern, Madison Central, Somerset and Berea Independent Schools enrolled in English transition courses. Thirteen new schools joined for the 2011-2012 year from Boyle, Corbin, Estill, Harlan, Laurel, Knox, McCreary, Mercer, Pulaski, Rochester, and Whitley counties. Early estimates suggest that 800 to 1,000 students will be served this year, predicts Kim Creech of Eastern’s English department.

High schools throughout Kentucky are eager to develop similar math, reading and writing transition programs. Fielding these requests and helping schools in Eastern’s 22-county service area set up their own transitional courses will be a unique new breed of Eastern outreach professionals: seven part-time educational extension agents. Modeled after the century-old, highly respected agricultural extension agent program, the educational extension agents “connect the dots, sharing campus resources with our communities,” explains Dr. Jack Herlihy of the educational leadership faculty and director of the initiative. Funded with a grant from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, Eastern’s program is unique in Kentucky, says Herlihy, and possibly in the country.

Dr. Carol Gabbard, professor of education and Eastern’s first educational extension agent, remembers early conversations with Madison and Berea school administrators and faculty about the need for a math transition course: “I’ll never forget those wonderful moments when we realized that together we can do this!” The agents’ charge is to multiply those wonderful moments throughout the 22-county service area.

Sourced by the collaborative energy and expertise of Eastern faculty, promoted by educational extension agents and welcomed by high schools, the innovative transition programs will help new generations of students begin their college careers in credit-bearing courses, reduce their families’ tuition costs and exemplify Eastern’s bond of stewardship to our region.

THE HIGH COST OF LOW MATH SKILLS
The National Center for Education Statistics reports that lack of college-level mathematics skills may have serious personal and social impacts:

• Insufficient skepticism in evaluating media reports and statistics
• Accepting false or ambiguous claims of mathematical certainty
• Financial mismanagement and poor budgeting skills
• Consumer debt through misunderstanding of compound interest
• Difficulty in calculating costs, time and quantities for myriad life activities
• Poor capacity for risk assessment
• Limited job prospects

Eastern’s educational extension agents can help . . .

• Obtain funds for after-school programs
• Conduct need-based parenting programs
• Promote nutrition education and food safety programs
• Develop entrepreneurship and civic engagement
• Strengthen child and adult literacy programs
• Bridge K-12 educational gaps through remediation
• Strategize to improve high school graduation rates
• Increase dual credit offerings
• Help Eastern tap into community resources
• Increase the roles of P-16 councils
• Help communities create problem-solving partnerships.

To learn more about Eastern’s educational extension agent program, see www.education.eku.edu/CERA/EduExtAgents.
A growing community of graduates has never sat in a bricks and mortar classroom on any campus. A number of these EKU Online students, many from states other than Kentucky, enroll in Eastern’s nationally esteemed online bachelor’s and master’s degree programs with the College of Justice & Safety (CJS), which precisely mirror those followed by on-campus students. Actually, insists EKU Online student ReBecca Frakes, “studying online can be two or three times the workload of a campus class,” but she finds curriculum quality, faculty attention and student interaction well worth the investment. Besides, as a working mother whose husband also balances school and work, an EKU Online program is simply the only practical way she can further her education.

EKU Online courses offer adult learners, working professionals, military students, stay-at-home parents and those in remote locations the flexibility to “attend” fully accredited courses ranging from general education required courses to eight complete online bachelor’s and master’s degree programs in justice & safety. Meanwhile, the College of Arts & Sciences now offers online programs in psychology and paralegal studies; the College of Education has a program in library science.

Dr. Scotty Dunlap of CJS cites the multiple interactive technologies harnessed for EKU Online courses: e-journals, virtual offices, Blackboard™ software, email, online discussion boards, web seminars, video lectures and “community portals” where students post information about themselves, forging personal and professional bonds. Students connect by computer and smart phones, manage complex group projects and apply classwork to workplace issues; many study at night while their children sleep.

Students like Julie Rogers, a safety professional in Arizona, considered only online programs from an accredited, bricks and mortar institution, “not one of those for-profit places.” Eastern’s national reputation in justice and safety clinched her choice. Mike Norman of Illinois had a solid position at a utility company but wanted a higher level of career challenge. Family responsibilities forced him to think carefully before investing in a personal dream. “It was a teachable moment for my kids,” he says, as they watched him exhaustively research Eastern’s programs and faculty before enrolling, master new learning technologies and, at 47, lug books to a Florida vacation. Last December, Norman traveled to Eastern’s graduation ceremony to personally thank faculty members and celebrate his new master’s, a dream fulfilled.

Before beginning his master’s in safety, security and emergency management (SSEM), Vince Romero, an Air Force technical sergeant, says: “I really thought I knew safety. I learned aspects of the field I’d never contemplated.” With a graduate certificate in occupational safety, he’ll return for another in ergonomics and emergency management. Romero tells colleagues, “If you want to learn safety, go to Eastern, but expect to be challenged.”

ReBecca Frakes reports that when “I just couldn’t get my head around advanced statistics,” Dr. James Wells, director of Eastern’s Center for Criminal Justice Education and Research, sent supplemental material, quickly answered her emails, engaged and encouraged Frakes “until I got to really love statistics.” A first generation student nearing graduation, she sees her daughters, age eight, five and two, already planning their college careers.
Tim Matthews, executive director of Eastern’s e-campus, points to a circle of EKU Online benefits: Eastern’s reputation attracts a high quality, dedicated, diverse student body which in turn enhances the program. Students from Eastern’s service area, other states and overseas bring experience in oil and power industries, merchandizing and military operations. Online discussions may include a corporate vice president of safety, a large city’s emergency manager or corrections professional from California. A student of juvenile justice shares the impact of having her first child at age 15. She’s dedicating her career to helping young people at a crossroads in their lives. These interactions, says Matthews, create “constructivist learning” in which new knowledge is created through community learning.

With support from professors like Wells and a caring online community of student-peers, Matthews cites an 85 percent retention rate for students who have completed three courses, substantially above national averages. Student and alumni networks create high quality internship options, while CJS graduates are finding that Eastern’s reputation for both “bricks and mortar” and Online programs opens doors for employment and promotion. Steven Ramirez, ’10, wrote an open letter to his faculty: “I recently got a job at Georgetown University in emergency management. This would not have been possible without the knowledge gained through your classes.” Criminal justice professional Tanya Crick, ’08, of Hopkinsville has been promoted twice thanks to her new degree and still keeps in grateful contact with her professors.

As Eastern strives to extend learning opportunity to wider populations, Dr. Dunlap praises EKU Online’s inherent democratization of the education process. Women entering traditionally male-dominated fields, minority or mature students, those with health or handicap issues learn as peers with EKU Online. Timid students who may withdraw in a typical classroom often blossom in spirited, moderated online discussion formats.

These results are the fruit of careful program development. In 2005, says Matthews, CJS began analyzing outstanding national models for Online programs that could be infused with the essential Eastern blend of academic integrity, real career focus and student support. Eastern faculty, staff, and instructional design professionals re-visionsed course material for dynamic online delivery using a suite of learning tools and modalities. Dr. Allen Ault, dean of CJS, places student service at the core of each program: “If you can’t come to us,” he tells prospective students, “we’ll bring high quality educational opportunities to you.”
Unlike some programs which entrust their courses to contractors, instructors of record are Eastern faculty members, always accessible (as Ms. Frakes’s experience demonstrates) and supported by trained facilitators. Faculty give students their office and cell phone numbers. “EKU Online means a 24/7 teaching commitment,” says Matthews. Supplemental pay acknowledges this commitment, but faculty point to the excitement of a vibrant online learning community and the inspiration of adult learners as the sustaining rewards of this unique teaching environment.

“While we remain strongly rooted to our fundamental identity as a residential campus,” insists Provost Janna Vice, EKU Online programs have benefited all students and the university as a whole:

- Expanding regional stewardship: Students in the service area who are unable to participate in on-campus programs can further their education.
- Growing diversity: A wide range of students and adult learners enrich EKU Online classes, adding their wealth of personal and cultural experience.
- Expanded internship and employment opportunities: Working professionals from across the nation strengthen the alumni network.
- Attracting quality students: EKU Online attracts high-achieving students from throughout the nation and the world.
- Improving academic instruction: Faculty apply EKU Online learning technologies and instructional design models to their on-campus classes.
- Improving student services: Student success initiatives designed for EKU Online students extend to all students, helping increase retention and graduation rates university-wide.
- Enhancing Eastern’s visibility and reputation: EKU Online programs promote regional, national and international reputation.
- Increased enrollment: EKU Online programs attract students who would otherwise not attend.
- Increased revenue: Larger student populations support the academic and university infrastructure.

As Eastern carefully develops new EKU Online programs, the reward for major investments in program design, for faculty on call 24/7, and students pulling long nights over the kitchen table will be letters like this from recent EKU Online graduate Bill Parrott: “I learned more at EKU than I thought possible, thanks to the excellent Blackboard discussions, class objectives and contents and because each of you were the difference between my just getting a degree and really learning something useful. I use that knowledge every day in my safety job. Thanks for two great years, but more importantly, thanks for sharing your vast knowledge with me. I am certainly a better man for learning under your tutelage.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT EKU ONLINE, call (859) 622-7441 or visit www.eku.edu/online-degrees
At Madison County High School, Michaela Short wanted a medical career, but “I saw other students not trying hard, so I didn’t either.” She was drifting despite academic potential, clear career goals and strong family support. This semester Michaela and about 60 other carefully selected Madison County juniors will finish their high school curriculum while earning up to 18 college credits tuition-free on the Eastern campus. They’re part of the new Middle College program, the proudly shared product of Eastern Kentucky University, Madison County Schools and the Kentucky Department of Education.

In 2009 state legislators called for broad-based partnerships to create more college-ready students. Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) president Dr. Robert King applauds Eastern’s commitment to help K-12 students be successful, enter and graduate college and bring their skills to the regional marketplace. Middle College, one such effort, “has been launched in Madison County to address the needs of a critical population: high potential, underperforming high school students.

Middle College Principal John A. Fields, working with high school teachers and guidance counselors, has created an enriched academic environment where engaged mentors, university resources and independent work excite students like Michaela. Eastern provides “truly amazing” support through classroom space, mentors and tuition-free general education classes. High school level classes are taught by experienced high school faculty. With 17 years in education, Fields calls this “the most exciting program I’ve ever been part of. We’re changing the future of these children.”

The middle college concept was developed in the ‘70s by a group of New York City educators for selected at-risk youth with college potential. Since then, the Middle College National Consortium has reported significant increases in college achievement for its dual enrollment programs. Modeled on a successful program at Tennessee’s Austin Peay State University, Eastern’s is the first middle college in Kentucky partnered with a four-year university.

President Doug Whitlock cites Middle College as one of several Eastern responses to “our primary missions of student success, regional stewardship and college preparedness.” For example, the EKU NOW! program offers up to two tuition-free college classes per semester to high school students in the service area with a 3.0 GPA, reducing overall college tuition costs and time-to-graduation. High schools without Advanced Placement classes are better serving their advanced students, many of whom will enroll full time at Eastern.

Meanwhile, Eastern’s pioneering high school math and English “transition classes” build critical skills so that entering students can enroll immediately in credit-bearing college courses. These courses address a critical regional need. Kentucky’s CPE estimates that 63 percent of high school graduates entering community or technical colleges and 27 percent of those entering public universities need remedial courses in math or English. However, these courses increase tuition costs and time-to-graduation. The new transition programs are helping more students succeed in college, graduate more quickly and bring their skills to the regional workplace. This semester Eastern was able to offer fewer remedial courses as a direct result of the program.

Throughout Eastern’s service area, these new partnerships are giving gifted students tuition-free college credit and shoring up critical skills for at-risk students. Meanwhile on the Richmond campus, young people like Michaela Short in the Middle College are jump-starting dreams in a challenging, welcoming academic environment that realizes their full potential.

Michaela Short
Do you remember staring at page one (blank) of a college composition, wondering where to start or how to weave a tangle of notes into a compelling essay? Would you have welcomed help in making polished class presentations, drawing multiple disciplines and media into major projects, or trying ingenious high and low tech tools to facilitate highly effective communications? This year, Eastern students have a stunning new communications resource that’s already gaining national attention: the Noel Studio for Academic Creativity. “The Studio,” in student shorthand, is a “space of innovation, conveying energy, confidence and possibility, an interdisciplinary, collaborative resource,” says director Dr. Russell Carpenter.

Housed outside the Crabbe Library’s Grand Reading Room, this 10,000 sq. ft., $2.8 million renovation anchored by a major gift from Ron, ’64, and Sherrie Lou Noel, is nothing like austere, traditional “writing centers.” It’s a vibrant student magnet, strengthening the academic fabric of Eastern. Faculty constantly discover new applications for the facilities, and Studio representatives visit classrooms to broadcast programs and services. The best ambassadors, though, are enthusiastic students showing off Studio facilities to classmates and friends.

Students may work on their own or schedule individual or group consultations with skilled graduate and undergraduate consultants, selecting quiet areas, collaborative or “invention spaces.” In practice rooms, future professionals prepare speeches and presentations, then videotape, critique and refine their work. Conferencing facilities allow local and remote collaborations. The Studio’s “toolbox” includes a CopyCam system, touch screen computers and monitors, an I-Rover for mobile digital displays and HoloDisplay to project videos and images in multiple settings. FlipCams record digital compositions while netbooks and tablets promote learning. Other strategies are pre-digital. Carpenter reports stunning breakthroughs when students learn to explore, mind-map or organize projects with low-cost “manipulatives” like Post-its, Legos, color markers, Play-Doh and white boards.

Even before the official Fall 2010 opening, workshops were helping students with classic challenges like “writing effective introductions and conclusions.” Carpenter recalls a first year student who came to the Studio frustrated and already defeated by a composition assignment. The consultant quickly saw why: the topic was too huge and unfocused for any successful outcome. In less than an hour of coaching with Post-its and a white board the student generated a viable focus, thesis and structure. She left inspired and excited by her own capacity to communicate. Consider the impact of this experience at the beginning of an academic career. “We’re not here to tell students what to write,” Carpenter insists, “but to help them develop lifelong communication skills that transfer to any career.” Faculty members like history professor Dr. David Coleman already see the Studio’s power. Students in his 19th Century industrial history course used Studio resources for standard term papers as well as crafting creative presentations on fashion and fabric, music, mathematics and marketing.

As the Studio engenders energy and excitement, merging ideas and disciplines, inspiring creativity and confidence, art is a natural ally. Thus, the Noel Studio prominently displays the creative mastery of Kentucky artists, says Kari Martin, director of advancement for EKU Libraries. Working with LexArt, Lexington’s cultural development and arts advocacy organization, the Kentucky Guild of Artists and Craftsmen, and Eastern’s department of art and design, a campus selection committee identified masterworks in glass, fabric, wood, metal, welded steel, acrylic, oil, digital and fiber, looking particularly for spectacular work by artists with an Eastern, Richmond or Madison County connection. Sponsors generously underwrote purchase of these works for permanent placement in the Studio; many gifts honor someone special in their lives. Nameplates on the works identify the artist, sponsor and person being honored.

In the “creation space” of the Studio, students are inspired by art like Dan Neil Barnes’ glass and metal Stargate II and Arturo Alonzo Sandoval’s fiber/mixed media/microfilm Pattern Fusion No. 4. From alumnus Lennon Michalski, ’04, ’06, comes an oil and resin on canvas, Plane on the Seabed. Linking past and present, a commissioned work by renowned Richmond fused glass artist Stacey Street honors the late Dr. Marcia Myers, director of EKU Libraries (1992-1999), incorporating into the final piece original 1935 Depression glass uncovered in the Grand Reading Room during the creation of the Studio.

For the entire Eastern community, the Noel Studio is a true “creation space,” inspiring skill, confidence and mastery in the great and fundamental art of communication.
Athletics Hall of Fame Inducts New Members

On November 11, nine stellar Colonels in six sports were inducted into Eastern’s Athletics Hall of Fame 2011 at a reception, dinner and ceremony held at the historic Keen Johnson Building. In the class are Peggy Gay-Moore (women’s basketball, 1975-79); Ray Giltner (baseball, 1946-49); Joe Harper (men’s basketball, 1947-51); Ernie House (football, 1974-77); Tim Lester (football, 1988-91); Dr. John Meisenheimer (swimming, 1975-79); Frank Nassida (football, 1953-54); Joe Richard (football, 1976-79); and Sue Schaefer-Morgan (women’s cross-country/track & field, 1977-81).

As Simon Gray, senior associate athletics director, noted, the induction ceremonies are always moving, “There have been tears; there’s been laughter; all of that wrapped into one fantastic evening each year.” Created in 2006, the mission of the Athletics Hall of Fame is to honor former student-athletes and others whose achievement and character have reflected positively on Eastern and its athletics department. Nominations are accepted in four categories: 1) student-athlete, manager, athletics trainer; 2) university and athletics personnel; 3) distinguished students in sports field; and 4) team of distinction. In the inaugural ceremony, 25 extraordinary individuals who had been recognized during the 1974 Centennial Athletic Awards Banquet were named The Founders of the Hall of Fame, with student-athletes as far back as baseball star Charles W. Bryant, ’38, and outstanding football player Roy L. King, ’38.

To nominate a candidate to the Eastern Athletics Hall of Fame, watch previous induction ceremonies or to read the list of those who have figured so largely in Colonels history, see www.ekusports.com or call Karl Park, executive director, at (859) 622-8941.

Accolades Flow to Eastern

Eastern continues to garner national recognition for academic excellence, outreach, and organizational health and inclusiveness. Both U.S. News & World Report and Forbes rank Eastern one of “America’s Best Colleges.” Other points of pride include “Military-Friendly School” by G.I. Jobs; Carnegie Foundation praise for curricular engagement, outreach and partnerships; “Best for Vets” rating by The Military Times EDGE magazine; and a new citation from the Washington Post for “Contributions to the Public Good.”

For the second year, Eastern is in the honor roll of The Chronicle of Higher Education Great Colleges to Work For® program, one of ten large institutions nationally, Kentucky’s only large university to achieve this distinction and one of only three rated “A-plus” for career development. President Doug Whitlock points to the true significance of this award: “Faculty and staff satisfaction ultimately results in a great educational experience for our students.”

Eastern Manages Madison Airport

Eastern’s aviation program is Madison Airport’s largest user and EKU now manages the facility. The airport is jointly owned by the governments of Richmond, Berea and Madison County. The airport operation is expected to be self-supporting.

Jason Bonham, ’99, will oversee daily operations, bringing national experience as a corporate pilot and local background as aviation manager for a Lexington company. More corporate jets can now use the Madison Airport facility, he notes, thanks to recent improvements, such as a full taxiway and a 5,000-foot runway. Bonham will use his contacts in corporate aviation to attract more business as he increases repeat business through improved customer service.

Majors in Eastern’s aviation program have nearly quadrupled since 2009. Ralph Gibbs, the new chief flight instructor, brings extensive military and teaching experience to what he calls “the number one aviation education job in the country.”
1950s
Alma Reed Bennett, ’51, doesn’t seem to know the word “retire.” After teaching for 29 years in Southwestern City Schools of Grove City, Ohio, she served as Jackson Township’s fiscal officer for 16 years. When her successor died in office, Ms. Bennett was called back and still serves, having recently celebrated her 80th birthday. She has received a commendation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks. Al Austin, ’56, ’64, is recently retired from 38 years of coaching and teaching, 30 of which were at Clinton High School in Clinton, Ill., where he was inducted into the school’s Hall of Fame. He received a Bronze Star and two awards in recognition of his service and achievement award, from the Commanding General, III Corps and Ft. Hood. James McFarland, ’65, is active in the West Knox Lions Club and was district governor from 2008-2009. He and his wife, Sharon, live in Knoxville, Tenn.

1960s
Joslyn (Jos) V. Portmann, ’62, a retired U.S. Army colonel, was selected in March as the Texas Volunteer Ombudsman for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) at the group’s March convention. He was awarded the ESGR and the Presidential Volunteer service awards in recognition of his more than 750 hours logged on behalf of group members. In September 2010, Portmann received the Order of St. Maurice, a prestigious Infantry
service and achievement award, from the Commanding General, III Corps and Ft. Hood. James McFarland, ’65, is active in the West Knox Lions Club and was district governor from 2008-2009. He and his wife, Sharon, live in Knoxville, Tenn.

Class Acts Winter 2011

Elizabeth Points McNees, ’57, and Paul R. McNees, ’56, are retired and living in a condo in Frankfort, Ky. Two of their four children passed away, one in 2008 and one in 2009. They keep busy with four grandchildren, one great-grandson and volunteering in their church. Joy (Martha Joyce) May Hager, ’59, retired from Berea College in June 2010 after 49 years of teaching in the physical education department. She and Paul Hager, ’64, ’62, live in Berea.

Michael Rachford, ’65, and his wife, Bonnie, of Ft. Thomas, Ky., have two young grandsons: Michael and Luke. A book by Betty Barger Pace, ’66, Donna’s Christmas Birthday, was featured on a CNN Living post about “Christmas babies.” The book is available at www.bettypace.com. Betty and Donald Pace, ’62, live in Winchester, Ky. Dorothy M. Causey Oglesby, ’68, and her husband, Robert, have retired to their mountain home in Cullowhee, N.C., but still spend family time in Florida. “In addition to children Jeff, Lori, Bruce, Matt, and spouses, we now have three great-grandchildren added to our 11 grans. We are blessed!” Judith Roberts Spegal, ’68, is excited to publish her first children’s book, Happiness is a Place Called Home: A Fancy Dog Story, available through Tickle My Fancy Press. Retired from Kenton County schools as a teacher and library media specialist, she lives in Independence, Ky.

1970s
Ellen Gutmuecht, ’71, of Franksville, Wis., retired last year from her career as an art teacher.

For the Record

Don’t forget to keep us up-to-date with your latest news items—family additions, job changes, relocations, promotions—anything you’d like us to know! Include your photographs†, too.

Full Name________________________ EKU Class

Spouse’s Full Name_________________ EKU Class

Children ________________________________________________

Current Address ____________________________________________

City __________________________ State_ Zip____________________

E-mail* __________________________ Tel* (______)_________ Cell* (______)_________

News Item _____________________________________________________________________

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Richmond, KY 40475-3102

All submissions to Class Acts are edited for style and brevity.

†Computer printouts cannot be accepted; please include a SASE for photo return. *Please include; this information will not be published.
vibrant leader in the child welfare system and nonprofit community.” Reed and Charlyce Ritchie Kimbrough, ’77, live in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dan Mason (Masden), ’73, president and CEO of CBS Radio, was presented with the Ralph Gabbard Distinguished Kentuckian Award. Mason oversees CBS Radio’s 130 stations, as well as the day-to-day operations of the division. He returned to CBS Radio in April 2007 after serving as an adviser and consultant to CBS and other domestic and international broadcast radio companies. As president of CBS Radio from 1995-2007, Mason successfully integrated the original CBS, Group W, Infinity Radio and American Radio Systems stations, among the most venerable radio broadcasting groups in the country, merging operations, blending business styles and increasing profitability. A native of Louisville, Mason graduated from Eastern with a degree in broadcasting and received an honorary doctorate of humanities in 2006. Radio Ink magazine named Mason the Most Powerful Person in Radio (2008). He was later included on the 2009 Mediaweek 50 list of leaders in the media industry. Nancy Hawkins Cheville, ’74, lives in Solomons, Md., with her husband, Donald, and is an information specialist for Calvert County, a pet sitter, dog walker and caregiver. Kathryn Hughelett Wilson, ’74, of Lexington graduated in May 2010 from Lexington Theological Seminary with her M.Div. and was ordained into ministry in June 2010. Michael Embry, ’75, has just published his fifth novel, Shooting Star, a young adult story of a high school basketball player trying to fit in. Embry lives in Frankfort, Ky. Marilyn Henderson Neumann, ’75, formerly an attorney with AppalRed Legal Aid of Columbia, Ky., has now opened a private practice in Campbellsville, Ky., where she lives with her husband, Brian. Robert Sanderson, ’76, ’79, has been recognized by the Texas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance with the 2010 Honor Award for “leadership, achieving excellence and being an outstanding representative of the teaching profession.” He lives in Abilene, Texas, with his wife, Carol Berberich Sanderson, ’82. Grant Bowling, ’76, and his wife, Kathryn, of Bedford, Ky., collaborated on a book about growing up in the hills of Eastern Kentucky. Mules and Wildcat Heads recounts the life of a “small kid who worked for his grandfather for twenty-five cents an hour, attended a one room school second through seventh grade, went on to a small rural high school, then worked his way through college by everything from sawmills to construction to pumping gas and many things in between, finally finishing his career as an educator.” The book is available through Amazon.com. Robert W. Haralson, ’76, is now chief financial officer at Breckinridge Health, Inc., of Hardinsburg, Ky., where he lives with his wife, Yvette, and children Kevin and Allison. Christine Elaine Walker, ’77, ’80, is a substitute teacher for Berea Community School. Brent Barton, ’78, was honored as the Kentucky Music Educators Association High School Teacher of the Year at the 2011 KMEA In-Service Conference. He and Cheryl Parks Barton, ’76, live in Richmond, Ky. Frances “Fran” Dorsey Snowdon, ’78, owns Ravenna Florist & Greenhouses in Ravenna, Ky. She and her husband, Richard Snowdon, ’75, live in Irvine.

Anthony “Tony” Armes, ’78, recently retired after 30 years of federal service: three years at U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., and 27 years at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Armes earned a commission as a second lieutenant through Eastern’s ROTC program then served as a civilian contracting officer, acquiring major weapon systems for the Air Force. Tony and his wife, Nancy Hilgeman Armes, ’79, live in Centerville, Ohio, but are enjoying extensive travel while exploring their next career opportunity. Frances Gail Ciecorka, ’79, is principal of St. Ann Interparochial School in Morganfield, Ky. Matthew R. Ciecorka, ’80, retired from public education but still works as a part-time algebra teacher and adjunct mathematics faculty at the University of Southern Indiana. Their daughter Jennifer attends Eastern.

Ray D. House, ’79, ’80, of Lawrenceburg, Ky., has retired after 30 years of high school teaching and coaching in Indiana. His life goal is carrying on the memory of Eastern Swim Coach Tim Cahill. Besides being a full-time “proud grandpa,” House is an independent sales representative for Kast-A-Way Swimwear. Geraldine Eloise Walker, ’79, is a member of the Women’s Industrial in Berea, Ky., where she lives.

1980s

Rev. Kevin Cosby, ’80, spoke on “Faith Origins in Philanthropy” at The Community Foundation of Louisville, Ky. He is pastor of St. Stephen Church, which has grown from 500 to 10,000 members. He is president of Simmons College in Louisville and is on the University of Louisville’s board of trustees. He and Barnetta Turner Cosby, ’80, live in Louisville.

Michael Trimpe, ’80, a graduate of Eastern’s forensic science program and supervisor of the Hamilton County (Ohio) crime lab, received the prestigious 2011 Mary A. Cowan Outstanding Service Award of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. Trimpe has broad expertise in arson analysis, drug identification, serology, trace sections, explosives, and particle comparisons and identification. He also coaches the high school golf team, winning the Ohio High School Athletic Coaches Award for Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity. He credits his instructors at EKU with setting the tone for hard work, professional involvement in forensic organizations and the commitment to learn from his peers. Trimpe lives in Cincinnati with his wife, Joanne.

Sheila Bolin, ’81, CEO of The Regal Swan® Foundation, Inc., was named “Scientist of the Month” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the world’s oldest and largest international environmental network. Bolin works with veterinarians, educational specialists, science professionals and avian enthusiasts to ensure swan survival, especially in captive settings; to reach a better understanding of all swan species and to apply this knowledge for conservation practices. Regal Swan researchers have gained international attention for their work in identifying a bacteria causing swans to turn pink; they pioneered vaccines to mitigate swan deaths from botulism and West Nile Virus and were the first to use DNA sequencing to identify a protozoan which causes eye and nasal cysts in humans and swans. Based in Orlando, Fla., their products include veterinary medical slings, nesting platforms and temporary indoor holding pens. Their website is www.theregalswan.com. Sheila Bolin played tennis at Eastern for Dr. Martha Mullins from 1980-1981. She lives in Kissimmee, Fla.

Michael Breeding, ’81, is producing a 90-minute documentary on the Kentucky emancipationist Cassius Marcellus Clay (1810-1903). “The Audacious American” was funded in part by the Kentucky Educational Television Fund for Independent Production with additional support from Berea College and the Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc. Breeding has actor Mel Hankla use the older Clay’s words to tell the story of a man whose “relentlessness in fighting slavery was found in every other aspect of his life.” Breeding produced The Keeneland Legacy and the Our Lincoln DVD for the Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc. He lives in Lexington. Gary D. Dotson, ’81, retired in 2008 as fire chief for the Prestonburg (Ky.) Fire Department and is now serving as training officer for the Middle Creek Volunteer Fire Department. Casey J. McClendon, ’81, retired in August 2010 from the Hickory,...
N.C., police department after 30 years of service, including 10 years as a patrol sergeant. He and his wife, Terri, live in Hickory, N.C., and have two children, Holly and Lacey.

Bruce Miller, ’81, recently retired from 25 years with the National Park Service as the fire management officer for New River Gorge National River in Glen Jean, W. Va. He also served at the Tetlin National Wildlife Refuge in Tok, Alaska, and Dinosaur National Monument in Dinosaur, Colo. Miller’s 40 years of firefighting experience began at age 16 with the Cheshire, Conn., Volunteer Fire Department. While at Eastern, he interned in Colorado with the Grand Junction Fire Department and the Mesa County Building Department. Miller has confronted forest fires from north of the Arctic Circle to the Florida Keys, including service with the elite National Park Service Alpine Hotshot Crew during the Yellowstone Fires of 1988. He’s now an independent contractor on the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and responds to wild land fire incidents throughout the United States. Bruce and his wife, Vanessa, live in Coal City, W. Va., and would love to hear from friends at bmiller1@hotmail.com.

Kevin J. Nally, ’81, of Silver Springs, Md., was recently promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Marine Corps. At Eastern he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. Rick Roberts, ’81, is the associate producer of Dawn, a western movie being shot on location in Paintsville and West Liberty, Ky. He lives in Paintsville with his wife, Lisa, and their child, Kennedy.

Robyn Pater Boettcher, ’82, has been named vice president of chapter and community partnerships for the National Parkinson Foundation in Miami, following 12 years of leadership as national field director for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and executive director for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, both in North Carolina.

She spent more than 16 years in the media and communications field, including a decade as an Associated Press reporter in Louisville, Ky., and Raleigh, N.C. Boettcher and her husband, Grant, now live in Aventura, Fla. Daughters Hayley, 24, and Hannah, 21, live in North Carolina.

Dr. Donna Burggraf, ’82, ’83, of Chillicothe, Ohio, is now dean of the Chillicothe campus of Ohio University, serving as chief academic and administrative officer for more than 2,300 students.

Michael Hayes, ’85, was named the 2010 Kentucky Boys Recreation Coach of the Year and the 2010 U.S. Youth Soccer Region II Boys Recreation Coach of the Year. Since the early 1980s, Hayes has coached in Richmond, Woodford County and Lexington. Since 2007, he has been an instructor for the Lexington Youth Soccer Player Development Camps, focusing on soccer skills, positive work ethics, discipline and respect for self and others. His 2009 and 2010 teams advanced to the Kohl’s American Cup elimination rounds. At Eastern, Hayes was the ’80-’82 Division State Champion in soccer and was voted “Mr. EKU Soccer” in 1983. Michael and Abigail Hayes live in Midway, Ky.

1990s

Delisa Brooks, ’94, ’99, a teacher in the Homewood City Schools, Ala., has achieved National Board Certification in school counseling, following a rigorous assessment program. The National Research Council has found that students taught by certified teachers make higher gains on achievement tests than students taught by non-certified teachers. Delisa and James Brooks, ’87, live in Gardendale, Ala.

Lt. Janette Balkcom Arencibia, ’95, was recently named the Joint Chiefs of Staff Medical Service Corps Director Under Instruction Director’s Training at the Pentagon. Arencibia is a planning, operations and medical intelligence officer, whose primary responsibility is medical logistical support during and after a disaster or crisis. “I am thrilled about this opportunity,” said Arencibia. “This is a great way to demonstrate our community’s excellent mentorship.” She is currently assigned to Continuing Promise 2010. While stationed in Kabul, Afghanistan, in 2006, she visited schools and worked with officers of the Afghan National Army in a project called Defiant Gardens, commenting, “My job as a gardener is to share my passion with the other wonderful individuals who have already made Afghanistan more beautiful.” Tonya Tarvin Crum, ’95, and Ron Griffin, ’03, received the National Coalition for Literacy’s 2010 Literacy Leadership Award on behalf of Kentucky Educational Television (KET). The Coalition cited the extraordinary contributions of KET’s Workplace Essential Skills and GED Connection series. The GED program is now available to 87% of American households. Crum lives in Nicholasville, Ky., with her husband, John Crum, ’95. Griffin lives in Lexington with his wife, Debra Locker Griffin, ’94. Tracy Michelle Carmicle Tunstil, ’96, began working for the Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Revenue Office of Audit in February 2011. She lives with her husband, Duane, and children Ashlin Nicole, Jacob Logan and Reade Davis in Franklin. Melody Stacy, ’97, ’02, advanced placement statistics teacher at Scott County (Ky.) High School, is featured in an advertisement touting ExxonMobil’s sponsorship of the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI). NMSI is a public-private partnership dedicated to strengthening math and science education in the U.S. See Stacy’s story at www.mynmsistory.com. Angela Tarter Harrison, ’98, of Mt. Sterling, Ky., was certified in December 2010 as a registered microbiologist in pharmaceutical and medical device microbiology by the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. Earning this credential requires meeting rigorous educational and experiential eligibility requirements and passing a comprehensive written examination. Michelle Richter, ’99, received her doctorate in December 2010 from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, with a dissertation examining police response to persons with mental illness. She lives in Austin, Texas.

2000s

Whitney Barnes, ’01, was International Mrs. Kentucky Tourism 2010. A rapid response nurse with the University of Kentucky Hospital, she is enrolled in a master’s program in nursing and plans to work with her husband, Wesley Witt, in their own consulting firm. During her reign, she traveled widely, promoting Kentucky’s attractions and resources while addressing her platform: “Stop Bullying.” She sees bullying as a social issue affecting children, adolescents and adults. Chris
Girdler, ’02, has returned to the staff of U.S. Congressman Harold Rogers (R-Ky.) as deputy district director. Girdler was a field representative for Rogers from 2007-10. Most recently he was a member of the Southern Petroleum sales and public relations staff. Girdler, his wife, Courtney, and their daughter, Charleston, live in Somerset, Ky.

Andrew Harvey, ’03, opened HarveyEye in 2009, a solo optometry practice in the east end of Louisville, Ky., providing eye care to the area, fitting contact lenses, treating ocular diseases and selling frames.

Kelly Soda Pittman, ’03, who reigned as Mrs. Georgia Globe, was crowned Mrs. U.S. Globe for 2010. She lives in Suwanee, Ga., with her husband, Brett. She was a speech communication major at Eastern and member of Alpha Delta Pi. “It’s all very exciting,” she said. “I am so pumped about the things I am working on as a result of the title.” A mother of three, Pittman is the national spokesmodel for W.I.N. Foundation. She has dedicated her year to the Right Living Program.

Joshua Powell, ’03, Union County, Ky., school superintendent, presented “Turnaround Schools: Achieving Extraordinary Academic Gains” at the 2011 National Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development conference in San Francisco, Calif. Powell’s session was among the most sought-after, with an audience that exceeded room capacity and spilled into the hallway. In December 2010 Brandy Johnson Nelson, ’04, of Louisville, Ky., became a registered specialist microbiologist in biological safety microbiology in the National Registry of Certified Microbiologists. Earning this credential requires meeting rigorous educational and experiential eligibility requirements and passing a comprehensive written examination. Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Kenneth Cundiff, ’05, of Liberty, Ky., recently completed a 60-day patrol while assigned to the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Seneca (WMEC-906) home ported in Boston, Mass. During patrol, Cundiff’s team completed 10 law enforcement boardings of fishing vessels, conducted helicopter operations with a U.S. Coast Guard Air Station, and rescued a disabled fishing vessel, towling it 180 miles. Wesley Sheeley, ’05, ’07, has completed his Ph.D. in psychology at the University of Cincinnati. After completing a fellowship at the Boys Town Center for Behavioral Health, he will begin his next fellowship in the Child and Family Therapy Clinic of the Kennedy Krieger Institute in Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. André Raiston, ’06, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training in Great Lakes, Il., culminating in “Battle Stations,” a rigorous exercise of basic Navy skills. Blake Townley, ’06, of Monticello, Ky., has been promoted to assistant vice president of BB&T in the Somerset main office after joining the bank in 2005. Amelia Adkisson, ’07, lives in Brandenburg, Ky., where she is a special education teacher with the Meade County Board of Education. Emily Dunn Fessler, ’07, and Timothy Ryan Fessler, ’08, are living in Independence, Ky. Randall Hopkins, ’09, of Downers Grove, Ill., completed U.S. Navy basic training in Great Lakes, Ill. Trevor Sherman, ’09, of Corbin, Ky., reports that he and Lindsey Wilson-Sherman, ’10, will soon celebrate their second wedding anniversary. The couple met while students at Eastern.

Pamela Perry Bogie, ’92, joined the U.S. Navy in 1990 and served in Great Lakes, Illinois, on the U.S. Navy cutter Seneca (WMEC-906). Mr. Bogie was commissioned in 2000 as a Department of Defense Civilians and currently resides in San Antonio, Texas. In 2010, Mr. Bogie completed her master’s degree in human resources management from the University of Texas in the San Antonio area.

Sarah Freese, ’09, to Kevin Haugh, ’09, both of Loveland, Ohio, on October 23, 2010.

Pamela Perry Bogie, ’92, to Keith Gadd on October 8, 2010. With children Jared, Hailey and Tyler Gadd, the family lives in Lexington, Ky.

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Narrclyweds

Newlyweds

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Story of Ralph Conlee: A life of surprises. He chronicles his youth in Clay City, Ky., service in the U.S. Navy during World War II and role in the Battle of Midway, coaching experiences in Hazord, work for the Kentucky Department of Revenue and engineering work in Knoxville, Tenn. Conlee has also designed and patented a unique lap desk. Chapters on his years at Eastern Kentucky State College cover his work to beautify the campus during President Robert Martin’s administration, interactions with the unofficial campus mascot Mozart, imaginative handling of student pranks and witness to the “monumental task of transforming a small college into [a] major university.”

Junior Alumni

Emmett to John E. Kaiser, ‘97, and Erin Kaiser on August 19, 2010, joining big sister Katherine. The family lives in Middletown, N.J., where John is a lieutenant in the Middletown Police Department and Erin teaches with the Keansburg Board of Education.


Kenneth “Marty” Case, ’99, and Sara Case of Loveland, Ohio, had a baby girl.

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Former Faculty and Staff

Ralph Conlee, former director of buildings and grounds at Eastern, has written The Life of Ralph Conlee: A life of surprises. He chronicles his youth in Clay City, Ky., service in the U.S. Navy during World War II and role in the Battle of Midway, coaching experiences in Hazord, work for the Kentucky Department of Revenue and engineering work in Knoxville, Tenn. Conlee has also designed and patented a unique lap desk. Chapters on his years at Eastern Kentucky State College cover his work to beautify the campus during President Robert Martin’s administration, interactions with the unofficial campus mascot Mozart, imaginative handling of student pranks and witness to the “monumental task of transforming a small college into [a] major university.”

Non-degreed Alumni or Alumni of Unknown Class Year

Linda Rainville lives in Tampa, Fla., and produces her own videos and CDs.

Gabriela Mae to Melinda Allen Amos, ’02, and Matthew Amos, ’03, on August 18, 2010, joining big brother Michael. “Gabriella will be our future EKU cheerleader!” her parents report. The family lives in Louisville, Ky.

Gretchen Wyatt to Jessica Fisher Johnston, ’03, and Andy Johnstone, ’02, of Durham, N.C.


Adelyn Marie to Jessica Trammel Leggette, ’04, and Jay Leggette, joining big brother Hunter in their Raymond, Miss., home.

Calista Lily Kate to Jason Nichols, ’06, and Laura Nichols on May 10, 2010.

Twins Blake and Andra to Amanda Morgan Brumfield, ’00, and John Brumfield, ’97, on February 15, 2011.

Emmy Lee to Ashley MastersCrowe, ’00, and Carl Edwards Crowe of Mt. Sterling, Ky., joining big brother Brady Edward.

Wendy Nicole Feltner, ’00, of Hazard, Ky., welcomed a child.

Calista Lily Kate to Jason Nichols, ’06, and Laura Nichols on May 10, 2010.


Ashlyn Cynthia to Angie Hutchinson Hatterick, ’01, and Joe Brett Hatterick, ’01, of Richmond, Ky., on August 4, 2009.
Caleb Dell to Leslie Clayton Sams, '04, on March 8, 2010. He received open heart surgery at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital, and Sams’ “little miracle” recovered “with flying colors.” Sams expects Caleb to join a long line of Colonels: Sams’ parents and grandparents graduated from Eastern, as did her brother and two cousins. Another brother and two cousins are attending. “Eastern is our family school.” The Sams live in Independence, Ky.

A daughter to Victoria “Tia” Juliano, ’08, of Mechanicsville, Va.


Losses in the Eastern Family

Joseph Alsip, ’34, of Frankfort, Ky., on June 2, 2010. Maude McLaughlin Bates, ’35, on January 29, 2011. She worked for the County Farm Agent and the Emergency Feed and Loan Association in Richmond, Ky. In 1942 she became chief clerk of the Rationing Board in Richmond and was a cashier at Eastern from 1945 to 1950. She moved to Columbus, Ohio, and rose to become vice president of the loan department for City National Bank (now Chase Bank), the first female bank officer in the city. She was elected chairman of the Board of Governors of the American Institute of Banking in Columbus, Ohio, served in the Credit Women Association, and was president of the International Credit Women’s Association and member of Consumer Credit International and the National Association of Bank Women. After retirement, she and her husband, James, moved to Punta Gorda, Fla., in 1976, where she became president of Harbor Lights, the women’s division of the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club. In 1998 she and her husband returned to Richmond. Jean Young Houston, ’39, on January 28, 2009, in Florence, Ky.

Minnie Lee Brooks, ’40, on February 21, 2011. A native of Maysville, Ky., she was a member of First United Methodist Church in Mt. Sterling and Christ Church United Methodist in Louisville.

Rosemary Bruner Turpin Burrrs, ’41, on March 14, 2011, in Richmond, Ky. She was married to Billy Joe Turpin, ’52, for 31 years until his death. She loved children and retired as a Richmond school teacher after more than 30 years of service. She was a member of the Women’s Club of Richmond and a volunteer at Open Concern. Burrrs was an avid fan of Colonel football and basketball and an original member of the EKU Colonel Club. Elizabeth Trapp Danner, ’41, of Newport, Ky., on October 5, 2008. Oscar Swafford, ’41, on March 21, 2010. Having worked his way through college, graduating in mathematics, Swafford began teaching at a one room schoolhouse in Stinking Creek, Ky. Studying and teaching, he progressed to principal of Harlan High School, and he earned a master’s and a doctoral degree. A beloved, demanding teacher, in 1962 Swafford was one of the first to bring calculus into the high school curriculum. He was an enthusiastic and competitive sportsman with a perfect bowling game, two holes in one at golf, a big vegetable garden and year-round fishing hobby. He lived in Bakersfield, Calif.

Martha Cooper Sudduth, ’42, on March 14, 2011. Retired from the University of Kentucky, Sudduth held a master’s degree from UK, a doctorate in mathematics education from Indiana University, and an honorary doctor of letters from Eastern. She received honors from the Kentucky and National Councils of Teachers of Mathematics. She was a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Delta Kappa Gamma Society, a professional honorary society of women educators. She lived in Winchester, Ky.

Callie Gritton Crossfield, ’45, on December 24, 2010. “Ms. Callie,” as she was affectionately known, began her teaching career in Louisville, Ky., and taught in one room Champion School in Anderson County. Later she taught second grade at Saffell Street Elementary until her retirement in 1976. Ms. Callie never missed a meeting of the Anderson County Retired Teachers Association.

Nina Mayfield Kalmye, ’45, on February 6, 2011. Known for her kind manner, diligence, willingness to help others and extraordinary intellect, Kalmye served her family, church and community. After graduating from Eastern summa cum laude with a double major in English and history, she taught mathematics for the Jefferson County Board of Education at Southern Junior High and then worked with the Kentucky Holstein Association, helping to plan a National Holstein Convention.
Ted Benedett, ’47, of Wheeling, W. Va., on July 22, 2010. He is survived by his wife, Virginia.

Dr. William H. Cox, ’48, on February 2, 2011. Cox attended Model Laboratory High in Richmond, Ky., and transferred to Kentucky Military Institute in Louisville, from which he graduated. He entered the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant, serving in the Pacific in World War II. After the war, he completed his bachelor’s degree at Eastern, medical school at the University of Louisville School of Medicine and residency at Good Samaritan Hospital in Lexington. After establishing his practice in Paris, Ky., in 1952, he was a primary care physician until retirement, meanwhile serving as board chairman of the National Bank of Paris, on the board of Stoner Creek Country Club and as an active member of the Lions Club. Cox was described as “a gentleman farmer, an avid hunter, fisherman and football fan.” He was the father of Alice Cox Putnam, ’72. Wilkie Burns Gooch Sizemore, ’48, ’49, on December 31, 2010, after a long illness. She lived in Paint Lick, Ky., and taught in Ohio before returning to Kentucky, where she taught for several years in Eastern’s English department.

Helen Bevins Ratliff, ’49, of Pikeville, Ky., on February 6, 2010. A retired teacher, she was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and a 52-year member of Coal Run Church of Christ. She was preceded in death by her husband, Herman Ratliff, ’49. Laidley L. G. Bevins, Jr., ’50, of Pikeville, Ky., on February 2, 2009. A retired grade school teacher, he was a Kentucky Colonel, a member of the Family Coaches Association and the Big Sandy Road Runners. Logan Adams, ’51, of Smilax, Ky., on May 30, 2010. He was a rifleman in World War II, a Kentucky Colonel, school teacher and founding member of the Cutshin Volunteer Fire Department and the Cutshin Fish and Game Club. Charmaine Brice, ’51, of Surgoinsville, Tenn., on May 23, 2010. Ervin Caudill, ’51, of Manchester, Ky., on February 24, 2010. Charles Edwin Purkey, ’51, on January 22, 2011. A Korean War veteran, he was a past president of the Berea (Ky.) Chamber of Commerce, member of the Berea Lions Club, director of the Berea National Bank and active volunteer for Meals on Wheels.

Christine Prather Spoonamore, ’53, on January 28, 2011. She was a retired school teacher and lived in Mt. Sterling, Ky. Cleda E. Southard, ’55, on February 12, 2011. She taught school in Rockcastle County, Ky., for 38 years and was a Kentucky Colonel.

Richard Burton Damron, ’56, on March 14, 2011. Damron was a retired tax accountant with Ashland Oil and a WWII veteran, serving in the U.S. Army Corps. He lived in Lexington, Ky., where he was a member of North Lexington Church of Christ. Jeannette Evans Ingram, ’56, of London, Ky., on June 18, 2010. She was a school teacher in Laurel County, Ky. Effie Judd Kelley, ’56, on January 1, 2001. She lived in Mckee, Ky. Lucille Norfleet, ’56, of Nancy, Ky., on October 2, 2010.

Clarence Tilman “Tony” Collins, ’57, on January 13, 2011. Born in Greenup, Ky., he received his master’s from the University of Kentucky and Ph.D. from the Union Graduate School in Ohio, served in the Navy during the Korean War and was a college administrator. He is survived by his wife, Ruby Holbrook Collins, ’57, of Lexington, Ky. Peggy Bonny Garrett, ’58, ’62, of Irvine, Ky. Edith Fay Knight, ’57, on September 28, 2010. Knight taught for 18 years in the Huntington Local District and for five years in the Waverly City School System in Ohio. She was a member of the Ani TsaLagi Cherokee Indian Tribe. Ruth Scott, ’57, of Fairfield, Ohio, on August 11, 2010. Tommy Herald, ’58, of Booneville, Ky., on April 30, 2011. Rev. Franklin Milby, ’58, of La Grange, Ky., on April 2, 2011. He pastored several churches in Kentucky and served as a missionary in Zimbabwe with the International Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for 25 years. He then returned to Antioch Baptist Church in Trimble and was also active in the Young-At-Heart group of Shelbyville First Baptist Church. Paul Sumner, ’58, on October 2, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Nesba Moore Sumner, ’82, of Louisville, Ky. Dr. Ronald Crosbie, ’59, ’61, of Huntington, W. Va., on September 9, 2010. Crosbie was a retired health, physical education and recreations professor at Marshall University. After earning his bachelor’s and master’s degrees at Eastern, he studied at Temple, Indiana and West Virginia universities, receiving a doctoral degree. He was named a Distinguished West Virginian by Gov. Jay Rockefeller for his dedication and work with special needs children. Retired from the U.S. Army as a captain, he went to sea on the USS Carrier Coral Sea and was involved with ROTC at Marshall University.

Earl Knight, Jr., ’59, on November 9, 2010. Born in Waverly, Ohio, Knight, also known as “Ox,” “Tiny,” and “Junior,” was a three-sport athlete at Waverly High School and in Korea was an Army tank driver. At Eastern, he played football and was four-time OVC champion in shot put, never placing less than first in every meet. As a pro wrestler, he and his brother performed throughout Ohio as the Jolly Green Giants from 1965-1971. Knight played semi pro for the Columbus Colts in the early ’60s. He taught and coached at Huntington High School in Chillicothe, Ohio, and at Western High School in Latham, Ohio. He was well known for his lapidary work in retirement and was chief of the Ani TsaLagi tribe. Kenneth “Bart” Barton Twymen, ’59, on October 29, 2010. He was a graduate of Valley High School in Louisville, Ky., and while at Eastern was a member of Sigma Nu fraternity. A member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, he spent 36 years in the telecommunications industry, working with South Central Bell, AT&T, Lucent Technologies and CommScope Corporation. He is survived by his wife of 37 years, Connie Black Twymen, ’73, of Louisville. William Brashear, ’61, of Winchester, Ky., on August 21, 2008. Leslie Dur, ’61, of Harrodsburg, Ky., on November 5, 2010. Russell Gilereath, ’61, of Whitley City, Ky., in June 2008. Robert Holcomb, ’61, in London, Ky., on May 19, 2005. John McCorkney, ’61, of Dayton, Ohio, on February 27, 2011. Edward Turpin, ’61, of Winter Garden, Fla., on January 26, 2009. Robert “Butch” Warren, ’61, of Owenton, Ky., on December 12, 2010.

George Gilman Bigelow Dopp, ’62, on February 9, 2011. From Eastern’s ROTC program, he entered the Army as a second lieutenant, later graduating from the Ranger and Airborne schools in Germany with the 24th Infantry Division, he was a platoon leader in G3 operations staff and special weapons. Reassigned to the 4th Infantry out of Fort Lewis, Wash., he served in Vietnam, earning the Bronze Star. After retirement, Dopp’s career with Allstate Insurance brought him and his family to Arizona in 1974 as the state sales manager. He then worked for Sentry Insurance, from which he retired and became an independent insurance broker. Dopp is survived by Joan Dawson Dopp, ’56. Orene White Lawson, ’63, of Columbus, Ohio, on November 30, 2004. Her husband, Richard Lawson, ’49, passed away on July 15, 1996. Paul Maggard, ’64, of Franklin, Ky., on April 19, 2011. He was retired from the Department of Revenue. William H. Reed, ’66, on March 19, 2011. He was a retired band director and lived in Versailles, Ky. Niana Vanover McIntyre, ’68, on April 19, 2011. She was a retired school teacher for the Fayette County (Ky.) Board of Education, a member of the Fayette County Teachers Association and the Kentucky Teachers Association. William F. Brockman, ’69, on January 18, 2011. He lived in Lexington, Ky.

James Wilcox, ’69, on January 25, 2011, at his home in Mt. Sterling, Ky. A native of Madison County, Wilcox was a retired U.S. Air Force veteran, a Kroger
employee and member of the First Baptist Church. Ophelia Ruth Witt, ’69, of McKee, Ky., on April 13, 2011. She was a retired teacher and is survived by seven children, 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. James Paul Foster, ’70, on March 19, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Dee, and lived in Lexington, Ky. Harry Blue, ’71, of Hopkinsville, Ky., on January 22, 2011. He served in the National Guard and was a senior food technologist for Tom’s Foods and the Ralcorp/Brenner Food Group. Carol Wilcox Feyes, ’71, of Grove City, Ohio, on October 30, 2010. Deborah Campbell Hume, ’71, on March 2, 2011, after a 21-year battle with cancer and leukemia. She was a real estate agent with a wide circle of friends and family in Dayton, Ohio. Pamela Frederick Johnson, ’71, of Winchester, Ky., on November 25, 2009. James T. Snapp, ’75, on March 26, 2011. He was retired from the Clark County (Ky.) School System, after which he pursued his passion for the arts by performing with the Studio Players in Lexington. He organized several athletic leagues while working for the Winchester Parks Department. Donald L. Garling, Jr., ’72, in September 2010. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Kristine Ritzert Garling, ’72, of Okemos, Mich. Garling was a retired fisheries and wildlife professor for Michigan State University, active in the Great Lansing Orchid Society, an avid sportsman, woodworker and daylily enthusiast. His wife, Kristine, writes, “It was a special day in May of 1972 when Don received his M.S. from EKU and I earned my B.S. in education from MSU . . . We had been married almost two years then, and both of our families were present.” Dallas Hall, ’73, of Winchester, Ky., on May 2, 2011. He was a retired Fayette County school teacher. Arnold Witt, ’73, of Irvine, Ky., on March 30, 2011. Martin H. Lucas, ’74, on February 11, 2011. He lived in Beattyville, Ky., and is survived by two sons. Steven Michael Age, ’75, on March 25, 2011. An active member of Sigma Nu at Eastern, he had recently retired from Abbott Laboratories, where he was a pharmaceutical sales specialist. Age was an avid world traveler, beach lover, supporter of many charities and passionate gardener. He lived in Louisville, Ky., and is survived by a large circle of family and friends.

John Leach, ’75, on July 1, 2010, at his home in Greenland, N.H. After earning his B.S. from Eastern, he received his M.D. from the University of Kentucky, became staff anesthesiologist for the U.S. Navy at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and was on the surgical team aboard the USS Guam in the Grenada and Beirut conflicts. He retired as lieutenant commander in 1985 and was staff anesthesiologist at Portsmouth Regional Hospital until 2002. Following a lifelong interest in design, he received his M.A. in architecture from Boston Architectural College in 2009. Leach was active in the Porsche Club of America and enjoyed boating, skiing, hockey and “everything that was esthetically pleasing.” He is survived by his wife, Janet. Hershel Miller, ’75, of Acworth, Ga., on January 16, 2011. A member of Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity and the Eastern track team, he is survived by his wife, Gail Kimball Miller, ’74, Sarah F. Stallard Hughlett, ’76, in January 2011. She taught for 35 years in the Fayette County (Ky.) Public School System, first in elementary education and then as a substitute teacher. A former student wrote, “Ms. Hughlett, you will be greatly missed by many, including myself. Words cannot express what a great influence you had on my life.” Edgar Wesley Monroe, ’76, on January 3, 2011. He served as a military policeman in the U.S. Army and then for 21 years in the Jefferson County (Ky.) Police Department, where he was instrumental in developing a canine unit, retiring as a sergeant in the EMT unit. Monroe is survived by his wife, Pat, of Taylorsville. Larry Ogle, ’76, of Louisville, Ky., on April 15, 2005. Samuel King, ’77, of Burnside, Ky., on April 3, 2011. He was a firefighter and engineer with the C&O Railroad, a Kentucky state trooper, and served as a motor vehicle dealer administrator for the Motor Vehicle Commission in Frankfort. King and his late wife owned King’s Drive-In of Burnside for many years. John “Zip” Paul Bari teau, ’81, on August 31, 2009. He is survived by his wife, Lisa McClain Barritteau, ’80, and a large extended family. He spent several years of his youth in the Panama Canal Zone, became an Eagle Scout and played on Eastern’s soccer team. In 1981, Zip began his 28-year career with Cabell County Schools in W. Va., where he taught shop and coached basketball, football, volleyball, soccer, track and wrestling. He had a small construction company and loved fishing and NASCAR races. Timothy Porritt, ’83, of Frankfort, Ky., on June 12, 2010. Tammy Lynne Shaw, ’84, on December 8, 2010, in Santa Margarita, Calif. Rebecca Drake Shelby Kingsley, ’85, of Lexington, Ky., on April 2, 2011. She was a member of the Kentucky Occupational Therapy Association and is survived by her husband, Edwin, three daughters and four grandchildren.

Col. Brent Andrew Norris, ’86, on February 1, 2011. Norris served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 25 years. Thomas “Elzo” Poore, ’91, on March 18, 2011. A teacher at Horace Maynard Middle School in Maynardville, Tenn., he was an avid sportsman and hunter and was loved by his family, friends and neighbors in Sharps Chapel, Tenn. Larry W. Gilliam, ’92, on January 7, 2011. A U.S. Army veteran, he received his law degree from the Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville, Fla., was a self-employed attorney in London, Ky., and a member of the Kentucky and Florida Bar Associations. Sharon Wooten Stevenson, ’93, of Nancy, Ky., on January 22, 2011. She was a registered nurse with a talent for music and poetry, flowers and antiques. Pamela Eileen Singleton, ’94, on March 13, 2011. She taught music at Deep Springs Elementary School in Fayette County, Ky., and was a financial officer for the First Baptist Church. Clayton Edward Spencer, ’99, on March 19, 2011, after a battle with cancer. Deputy coroner for Lee County, Ky., he had served many years in law enforcement, beginning as a police officer. He lived in Beattyville, Ky., and is survived by his wife, Phyllis.

Christopher Crowe, ’05, on March 30, 2011. He was a legislative assistant for Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, D-Texas. Crowe’s death caused an outpouring of grief among colleagues who loved his easy sense of humor and “huge personality.” Kat Skiles, communications director for the LGBT Congressional Staff Association, of which Crowe was president, said, “He lit up the room and he made everybody feel like a million bucks.” A native of Gamaliel, Ky., Crowe went to Washington after earning a political science degree from Eastern and interned for the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund and then for Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., while earning an M.A. in government and global securities from Johns Hopkins University. Through his final illness, Crowe continued supporting others, including volunteering with an elderly heart patient.

Jennifer Lynn Rogers, ’05, of Lexington, Ky., on April 30, 2011. She was a day student at Tiffin University and loved camping, bungee jumping, street bikes and animals.

Non-degrees Alumni or Alumni of Unknown Class Year

James E. "Jim" Baechtold, ’52, NBA first-round draft pick, Eastern men’s basketball player, coach and professor, on August 29, 2011. Serving in Japan with the U.S. Army after World War II, he played every sport with a ball "that rolls or bounces." Offered a basketball scholarship to the University of Alabama, he stopped on the way to visit a friend at Eastern and changed plans, helping drive his new team to a 1950 OVC championship. He was, said Eastern’s Coach Paul McClary, “the best all-around player I have seen in my 22 years of coaching.” Baechtold earned both All-American honors and local fame: he and his future wife, Shirley Spire, were junior prom king and queen. After a successful but injury-shortened NBA career with the Baltimore Bullets and New York Knicks, Baechtold returned to Eastern, assisting Coach McClary, then taking over as head coach in 1962. His teams earned a 70-57 record, the 1964-65 conference title, and a trip to the NCAA tournament. Honored in the EKU Athletics Hall of Fame and the EKU All-Century Basketball Team, Baechtold was deeply proud to have welcomed Eastern’s first African-American players to his teams. After coaching, he joined the faculty of the department of recreation and parks administration, retiring as professor emeritus in 1993. President Whitlock was an Eastern undergraduate when he first met Coach Baechtold: “a true gentleman in every sense of the word. He won with class and grace and, while he hated to lose as much as anyone I have ever known, he lost with dignity.” Jim Baechtold leaves his wife, Shirley, two sons, a close family, and many grateful Eastern players and students.

Landis D. Baker, on June 10, 2011, after a long, courageous battle with Parkinson’s Disease. He was preceded by his wife, of more than 50 years, Elizabeth K. Baker, Eastern’s music librarian for more than 30 years and namesake of the music library. After serving in both the U.S. Army and Navy during the Korean War, Landis Baker joined the piano/music faculty at Eastern, where he gave numerous solo piano recitals, played with the EKU Symphony Orchestra and collaborated with distinguished colleagues. His students were regular winners of the EKU student soloist competition. One of the joys of his life was accompanying his wife on the organ as she sang for Richmond’s First Christian Church. He was an avid runner, walker (once walked to Lexington on a whim), punter, lover of word games, woodworker, voracious reader, amateur astronomer and gardener. His passing leaves a great void in his large circle of family and friends.

Rey. Dixon Barr on October 15, 2009. Rev. Barr was the dean of Eastern’s College of Education from 1965 to 1990. President Doug Whitlock writes that Barr’s “23-year tenure as dean was marked by explosive growth in the college, which emerged as a statewide leader in teacher education, preparing more classroom teachers, counselors and administrators than any other university in the Commonwealth.” He was the first chairperson of the Kentucky Council on Teacher Education, the first president of the Kentucky Association Colleges of Teacher Education and among the first honored on the EKU College of Education Wall of Honor. After retirement from Eastern, he became an Episcopalian priest, serving as canon of Christ Church Cathedral of Lexington, director of the Diocesan School of Ministry and assistant priest of St. Hubert’s Episcopal Church.

Dr. John M. Deck, Sr., on March 22, 2011. Deck served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War and was head football coach of the Air Force’s Texas-based team in the 1950s. A professor emeritus at Eastern, Deck was chairman of the department of health, physical education & recreation until his retirement in 1991, helping to bring his department to national prominence. He served in the Southern District Association for Health, Physical Education & Recreation and the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education & Recreation. He was a pioneer in the area of sports psychology. While he excelled in many sports, Deck’s favorite pastime was fishing, which brought him success at many tournaments. Known for his integrity, strong character, compassion, keen wit and patriotism, he was president of the Sons of the American Revolution in the late 1970s and a proud member of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars. He is survived by his wife, Deborah, his children, grandchildren and many friends.

Dr. Landon Crocker Peoples on March 5, 2011 in Lexington, Ky. Peoples taught in Eastern’s psychology department from 1972 until his retirement in 1986. He was an active member of the Kentucky Psychological Association and operated Peoples & Peoples Psychological Services in Berea until 2000. He is survived by his wife, Joan Blakely Peoples, ’73. Dr. Roger Wayne Prewitt, ’62, of Richmond, Ky., on March 3, 2011. Prewitt taught education in Eastern for 33 years. He served on several educational associations and was a proud Kentucky Colonel. Dr. Harold Edward Richardson, ’52, ’54, of Louisville, Ky., on December 6, 2008. He taught English at Eastern from 1963 to 1968. Richardson wrote six books, including biographies of Jessie Stuart and Cassius M. Clay. He was an Eagle Scout, a Kentucky Colonel and member of Crescent Hill Baptist Church.

Dr. Harry M. Smiley, ’55, ’58, Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky, and taught at Eastern from 1967-1998, retiring as chairman of the chemistry department. In 1998, Smiley graduated from Eastern’s school of nursing and became a registered nurse at Clark Regional Medical Center in Winchester as well as a volunteer nurse at the Health Now Clinic of Richmond and Christian Flights International. He volunteered with Richmond’s Home Meals Delivery and helped organize and run the Sports Physical Clinic at the First United Methodist Church of Richmond. Smiley was an avid colonel, attending more than 600 basketball games and 200 football games. He leaves his wife, Claudia W. Smiley, ’71, of Richmond.

Dr. Richard Shuntich on June 21, 2011. A retired professor of psychology, Shuntich came to Eastern in 1972 and was known for his kind, generous spirit, even in the face of his own medical adversity as a long-term cancer survivor.
Almost all photographs taken in the first half of the 20th century used forms of acetate safety film, often stored as photographic negatives. These national, regional and personal treasures are steadily deteriorating in archives, libraries and museums, and in our homes. The chemical processes which create a photographic image never cease, warns Dr. George Landon, assistant professor of computer science. With humidity and time, the acetate film base pulls away from the image-bearing emulsion, causing bubbling, grooves or “channeling,” steadily distorting and degrading the image. Scrupulous—and costly—climate control only slows this process.

Museum conservators use sophisticated techniques to restore high-value artifacts, but the National Science Foundation is looking hopefully to Landon’s research at Eastern and recently awarded a major grant to fund development of his low-cost, rapid and high-quality alternative to digitize and virtually restore acetate-based negatives. Simple enough for use at home or in a community library, this technology comes in the nick of time for many priceless image collections.

Landon’s technique requires only an LCD monitor, digital video camera and light stand. The camera captures data from the rear-illuminated negative, calculates both chemically-induced and physical distortions (bends, cracks, channels or crumpling), then models and stores a “corrected” image.

An enthusiastic teacher who delights in “giving students complicated problems” and then working together to solve them, Landon will apply part of the grant to funding collaborative projects. One student will use five megapixel cameras to analyze and restore images from exceptionally contorted surfaces. Students are working on high resolution medical displays and on chemical studies of paper stocks and ink types, determining how a document might have been damaged or whether notations were added at different times or by different hands. Others are designing yet more user-friendly interfaces.

Landon acknowledges the stunning progress in digitizing text material—Google Book Search, for instance, has already digitized seven million books. But he dreams of broad digital access to the vast human knowledge in manuscripts, scrolls, codices, deteriorated film, ancient inscriptions and even rock art. There are limitless options, he says, for creative interaction with rare material once locked away in archives. For instance, Landon was recently called to Florence, Italy, to prepare a geo-tagged walking tour linked to a recently digitized 16th century journal of a plague outbreak. Users can now “see” places the writer described 500 years ago. With his students, Dr. George Landon is creating cost-effective preservation, restoration and access to all our precious heritage: rare parchments, old maps, boxes of negatives in historical societies, family photographs and even long-folded love letters.

To find out more about Dr. George Landon’s research, visit www.people.eku.edu/landong/research.html.
Eastern’s new Merit Scholarship Program offers automatic financial support to students who have earned a high school GPA of at least 3.50 and an ACT composite score of 23 or above.

There are no forms to fill out, no essays to write. We believe that students who’ve worked hard and shown their capacity in high school deserve our support. So here’s the new process: apply, get accepted, get your scholarship.

New and transfer students from in-state or out-of-state ARE eligible.

Nobody knows Eastern's opportunities better than our alumni and friends. In your daily life, in your community, at Prospective Student Receptions, help us spread the word:

With the NEW Merit Scholarship Program… good students get support at Eastern, automatically!