On Tuesday, May 1, the Division of Student Affairs recognized staff members for their outstanding contributions to their jobs and the overall mission of the division. Recipients were selected from nominations in twelve categories and were presented their award by Dr. Robert Mock.

Members of Student Affairs were treated to a buffet breakfast provided by UK Catering at the awards ceremony honoring the winners.

Congratulations to the 2012 Division of Student Affairs Award Recipients!

Outstanding Exempt Professional Award
Michelle Ashcraft
Assistant Director of New Student and Parent Programs

Outstanding Exempt Professional Award
John Herbst
Director of Student Center

Outstanding Non-Exempt Professional Award
Joe Spencer
Custodial Supervisor, Student Center

Outstanding Non-Exempt Professional Award
Tony Downing
Custodial Supervisor, Student Center

Outstanding Corporate Contributor Award
Meijer

Faculty-Partner Award
Dr. Derek Lane
Associate Professor of Communications

Faculty-Partner Award
Dr. Buck Ryan
Associate Professor, School of Journalism and Telecommunications

Faculty-Partner Award
Dr. Stephen Voss
Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Department of Political Science

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award
Cameron Hamilton

Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award
Brittany Begley
Graduate Assistant in Student Center

Outstanding Graduate Assistant Award
Kaitlin Bromann
Graduate Assistant in Campus Recreation

Spirit of UK Award
Shelia Brothers
Staff Representative to UK Board of Trustees
Award photos by Grace Hahn
Assistant Director for Programming
Office of Student Involvement
Resident Life Changes & Challenges

Residence Life and the Housing Assignment Office are working together to improve services to students. Tony Ralph, Director, was asked to provide some insight to changes within the division as campus living is preparing for an outside management company to manage the residence halls.

Q: What services are included in Residence Life?
The Office of Residence Life is responsible for hiring, training, and supervising the staff members who live in the residence halls and some Greek houses. It is also responsible for the Housing Assignments Office, which distributes and collects housing applications, coordinates room assignments, coordinates charges related to housing and dining, and serves as a resource for all questions related to on-campus housing. The primary focus of the Residence Life program is to support the educational mission of the University by supporting students in their academic and personal goals. The department does this by providing service to students in four major areas:
1. Helping maintain safe and secure living environments,
2. Developing leadership and encouraging involvement both on and off campus,
3. Creating inclusive environments where all students feel supported and feel part of their community, and
4. Monitoring students’ academic progress and connecting them with out-of-classroom academic support and other resources.

Q: For 2012-13 Residence Life was to be responsible for making room assignments for students living on campus. Has this change happened or is it still in transition? Are the changes going smoothly?
Yes, we actually began our responsibility for Housing Assignments on January 1, 2012. The changes are going very smoothly. A committee had been meeting for over a year before that time to prepare for the transition and work through issues related to the move. Also, we had already been working very closely with the Housing Assignments Office and Auxiliary Services for a long time, so the working relationships were already there and we had a good knowledge of the processes in that office. I feel very good about how things are going.

Q: How has this change impacted your staff and division operation?
Our increased knowledge of the challenges faced by the Housing Assignments Office, and their increased knowledge of our operations, has helped us provide a more seamless experience for students and a more unified voice in communicating with them. This past spring was particularly challenging when it came to housing assignments. We have a very limited number of beds for such a large student population, so Housing Assignments has always faced a challenge making decisions about who receives a room assignment and who doesn’t. This challenge became even greater this year with the increase in UK’s undergraduate enrollment. Our ability to work together more closely on these decisions and communicate more consistently with students has been a real plus. Also, we have always worked closely on the assignment of students to our Living Learning Program. The process of placing these students is becoming more involved as the Living Learning Program grows, so having a greater knowledge of how each other’s offices work has been helpful in making this process better for students and for our academic partners.

Q: When is the new hall being built at Haggin Field scheduled to open? Do you have any details about the building that you want to share?
The new residence hall (currently being referred to as “New Central”) is scheduled to open in August 2013. It will actually consist of two separate buildings housing a total of 601 students (around 300 students in each building). Most of the rooms will be doubles that share a bathroom between them (i.e. “suite-style”). The President asked that this first new residence hall be an Honors Hall, so it will house many students in the Honors Program (in addition to students who are not in the Honors Program). It will also contain offices for many of the Honors Program staff. In addition, the hall will have three smart classrooms that can be used as multipurpose rooms and it will have study rooms on every floor.

Q. How will the changes being proposed for outsourcing housing impact Residence Life?
The changes will not impact the role we play but they will impact the partners with whom we work. The
Residence Life function will stay with the University and all Residence Life staff will continue to be University employees. This means we will continue to hire, train, and supervise the live-in staff members, and we will continue our functions related to safety and security, leadership development, inclusion, and academic support. However, the new private developer (Education Realty Trust, or EdR) will take over responsibility for things such as maintenance, custodial, and other facilities-related operations. We have already begun to develop our working relationships with the EdR staff and we are starting to discuss all of the different ways in which we will work together on things such as marketing the facilities, responding to student concerns, and general upkeep of what I’m sure will be beautiful new places for students to live and learn. I’m looking forward to a very positive relationship.

Dining News & Notes

**Dining News & Notes**

**Fusion**

UK Dining Services’ Bluegrass Café is a dining location at the Bluegrass Community and Technical College.

The location offers breakfast and lunch options including a selection of hot items, made-to-order salads, carry out, and items made to be quickly heated in a microwave. Visit the location from 9 am - 1 pm Monday thru Thursday during the summer.

To see the menu and other details about this location visit [http://www.uky.edu/Dining Services/bluegrass](http://www.uky.edu/Dining Services/bluegrass)

Fusion, defined as a combination of different cooking styles and tastes, is the name of the Dining Services’ restaurant in Erikson Hall. The second floor location is popular with students and faculty who enjoy the quiet atmosphere of a private dining area.

The location offers the campus community a rotating menu of international items including Thai, southwestern, Italian, and more. Breakfast, grab n’ go, carry out, and made-to-order options are available on weekdays.

The conveniently located central campus restaurant will re-open on Monday, June 18 for the campus community to enjoy. For more information visit [http://www.uky.edu/Dining Services/fusion](http://www.uky.edu/Dining Services/fusion)
VIP = Activities with a Cause

The VIP Center coordinated Take Back the Night for the Lexington area in partnership with many campus and community organizations during Sexual Assault Awareness Month in March. The theme was “We Unite. We March. We Declare.” This event featured a march, special guest speakers, live music, a speak out, candlelight vigil, photo exhibit, and tabling by several organizations. Many thanks to all the students, staff, faculty, and community members who participated!

In April, VIP hosted a Day of Action during which students helped out at the Bluegrass Domestic Violence Program Watershed Farm. This event was coordinated with the UK Panhellenic Council and the Center for Community Outreach Helping Hands.

Also in April, College Football Hall of Famer Don McPherson shared his experiences and challenged men to take on a more proactive role in confronting power-based personal violence. This event was hosted by the VIP Center, The Martin Luther King, Jr. Cultural Center, Athletics Department, Office of Institutional Diversity, Office of Residence Life, and the Division of Student Affairs.

(left) Shantel Taylor ‘12, VIP Center intern, spoke on March 28, 2012 in downtown Lexington during the Take Back the Night event. (bottom left) the Take Back the Night photo campaign picture featuring VIP Center staff members - Row 1 - Billy Korinko, Men’s Programming Specialist; Leah Godlaski, Graphic Designer; Rhonda Henry, Intervention Program Coordinator - Row 2 - Melanie Matson, Director; Amanda Nicksic, Outreach and Programming Specialist; and Sally Evans, Prevention Program Coordinator (below) the promotional artwork for McPhersons’ lecture.

New Living Learning Community

Healthcare

The Office of Residence Life is excited to welcome our newest academic partners to the Living Learning Program family. The Healthcare Residential College will welcome its first group of students to Holmes Hall in August 2012.

The HealthCare Residential College is a residential experience designed to assist students who are pursuing careers and majors in the healthcare professions. This new partnership includes the College of Health Sciences and the College of Nursing. The UK Center for Interprofessional Healthcare Education, Research, and Practice will also be providing programming support.

In the Healthcare Residential College students will have the opportunity to live and learn with likeminded individuals. As a member of the Healthcare Residential College, students will receive informal advising, healthcare presentations, and mentoring with faculty associated with the College of HealthCare.

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Student Affairs Photo Album
Student Affairs Photo Album
Celebrating 50 Years

K Lair celebrated 50 years on September 23 following a $40,000 renovation to mark the occasion. In addition to a new logo design the location received new wooden floors, a complete paint job in contemporary colors, brighter lights, pleasing artwork, new countertops, easy-to-read menu boards, and inviting tables and chairs. The menu also received some updates with lighter food, updated salads, fresh vegetables, chicken sandwiches, and turkey burgers being served along with traditional grill favorites and daily specials.

“Students can come to our restaurants and socialize with their friends, make new friends, and work on their homework,” said Scott Henry, executive director of Dining Services. “We want our restaurants to be a destination, a place to go besides the residence hall or library. We do what we can to make all our locations inviting for our campus community, students, and employees.”

DID YOU KNOW?

Diet soda has not been proven to aid weight loss. In fact, it has been shown to increase hunger.