Construction will begin this summer on an expansion to the Stratton Building. This 25,000 square foot annex will accommodate the growth of the College.

Faculty and staff worked with a team of architects to identify and examine the College’s current and future needs.

Several key goals for the space were identified through this process. The new space will include:

- 80- and 46-seat state-of-the-art classrooms
- A graduate seminar room
- Space for the Emergency Medical Care program, including a training lab
- A new “front door” for the College that will feature a centralized academic advising center, reception area, and offices that support student recruitment and retention
- A student activities “hub”
- Long-term growth capabilities for each department in the College

Construction is expected to be complete in the Fall of 2011.

SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

The College of Justice & Safety’s Office of Student and Alumni Services (SAS) hosted several events to support student success.

The College’s annual Career Day on April 8 gave students the opportunity to speak with recruiters who represented more than 40 agencies.

These professionals spoke with students about career opportunities within their respective agencies.

This year, SAS partnered with EKU’s Career Services Office to host a business etiquette dinner.

The goal for this program was to provide justice and safety students information to sharpen their skills and gain the competitive advantage in almost any situation.

In addition to learning the basics of which silverware to use, students saw a fashion show demonstrating the “do’s” and “don’ts” of what to wear to an interview.

Finally, the SAS office worked with the College’s various student organizations to sponsor field-specific career panel discussions.

Most recently, the SAS office worked with students from the Homeland Security and Assets Protection Leaders of Tomorrow group to host such a career panel.

Panelists were retired Naval Criminal Investigative Services Special Agent, Tim James, PAD ’76, Captain John Bradley, commander of the Intelligence Branch of the Kentucky State Police, Paul Sims, Resident Agent in Charge of the U.S. Secret Service office in Lexington, Ky., F.B.I. Special Agent, Kimberly Kidd, and Anthony Carter, an F.B.I. Intelligence Analyst.
FROM THE DEAN

The College of Justice & Safety has finished up another stellar year. Several College faculty were honored for their teaching excellence (pg. 4), and have reached out to our service region by providing their expertise on international policing (pg. 2), and planning communities that promote safety and reduce opportunities for crime (pg. 5).

Additionally, whether they are giving presentations on a national forum (pg. 4) or receiving a Fulbright Assistantship to teach English in Nepal (pg. 6), our students and alumni continue to do amazing things. You can read about all of these accomplishments and more in the pages of this newsletter.

The College of Justice & Safety has now served as a Program of Distinction (POD) for more than 10 years. Additional state and University funding, provided through this program, has allowed for increased support for research initiatives; provided extensive scholarship and graduate assistantship support; supported additional student and alumni services; acquired additional distance education equipment; and extended College academic and service offerings.

One clear measure of the effectiveness of our POD programs is the 67.5% increase in College of Justice & Safety enrollment over the last 10 years. Although the College receives additional funding through POD it still faces budget challenges felt by the entire Eastern Kentucky University community. Some important decisions and changes had to be made in the 2009-10 year to better strategically align the College’s assets.

One of these changes was combining the Department of Correctional & Juvenile Justice Studies with the Department of Criminal Justice & Police Studies to form the Department of Criminal Justice. Combining faculty and staff resources allowed the College to meet the University’s fiscal expectations while maintaining a culture of growth and productivity.

Additionally, as part of the realignment process, it was decided that our audiences would be best served by providing the Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees, and certificate programs in Correctional & Juvenile Justice Studies strictly via online learning.

This will continue to allow professionals working in the fields of adult corrections and juvenile justice to enhance their professional knowledge through a medium that best fits with their busy schedules.

Regardless of our internal structure, the College is committed to providing an environment that allows our students to thrive. In addition to the many programs we offer to facilitate student success, we have also increased our summer course offerings. More and more students are taking advantage of this opportunity to get ahead in their degree program. We have seen a 20% increase in summer enrollment at the graduate level and a 22% increase in summer enrollment at the undergraduate level.

Additionally, 51 students began the online Safety, Security and Emergency Management master’s program during the summer term. This is one of the largest cohorts of online students our program has ever had.

The increased enrollment numbers are a testament to the caliber and relevance of the degree programs the College of Justice & Safety offers. We continue to impact the fields of justice and safety through increased educational opportunities, and the preparation of our graduates as leaders in their professions.

COLLEGE HELPS PREPARE AREA FOR WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

The College of Justice & Safety helped prepare law enforcement agencies for the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games, to be held in Lexington later this year.

Criminal Justice faculty delivered a curriculum on cultural competency for police and security officials at an all-day seminar/ workshop held at the Lexington Police Department Training Academy on Jan. 20.

“Any major international event poses a variety of challenges for local law enforcement,” said Dr. Carole Garrison, professor in EKU’s Department of Criminal Justice. “Cross-cultural sensitivity and enhanced communication with foreign visitors can reduce greatly problems arising from misunderstanding or stereotyping.”

EKU’s College of Justice & Safety has “a long and valued relationship” with the Lexington Police Department as well as the Kentucky Department of Criminal Justice Training, noted Garrison. “Many of their ranking officers are our graduates, and many of our faculty teach in their advanced programs.

Dr. Vic Kappeler, chair of the Department of Criminal Justice, tapped Dr. Gary Potter, who teaches and writes about police in society and police and multiculturalism, and Garrison, who teaches police ethics and has served with UN peacekeeping forces and worked in other countries, to develop the training materials.

Garrison also assumed the role of program organizer and liaison with Lexington Police Department Training Commander Mark Barnard and Alston Richardson from the U.S. Department of State.

Richardson provided training on diplomatic immunity and other legal protocol and inter-government issues that might arise at international events in the U.S.

The Equestrian Games are scheduled for Sept. 25-Oct. 10.
The College of Justice & Safety recognized several of its students for outstanding academics and service at the annual awards luncheon held April 29. Faculty, staff, students and their families gathered at Arlington to honor some exceptional students.

The Criminal Justice Outstanding Junior for Academic Achievement award was given to William Brent Sparks. Brent is originally from Maysville, Ky. and has worked as an intern for the Maysville Police Department during summer breaks.

His career goal is to enter federal law enforcement and specifically, if he can, a position with the Secret Service.

Emily Nelson received this year’s Outstanding Criminal Justice Junior for Service. Emily has been instrumental in organizing a bowl-a-thon and raising money for the Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation. She has also been selling Kentucky Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation coins and pins, and has raised a total of $420 for this cause. Emily is also the social chair of the Criminal Justice Association - Lambda Alpha Epsilon.

The recipient of this year’s Outstanding Criminal Justice Senior for Academic Excellence award was Clay Bishop. Clay grew up in Manchester, Ky. and has enjoyed his time at EKU very much. He says that he is very thankful for all his wonderful professors who have made learning exciting.

Sarah French was honored as the Outstanding Criminal Justice Senior for Service. Sarah is a member of the Criminal Justice Honor Society, Alpha Phi Sigma, the Criminal Justice Association - Lambda Alpha Epsilon, and the international honor society, Phi Theta Kappa.

She is very involved as a volunteer with the Rape Crisis Center and with other issues pertaining to violence against women. Sarah has also been a volunteer assistant lacrosse coach for a women’s high school team in Lexington. She is currently doing an unpaid internship with the ATF and maintaining a 3.75 GPA.

Kevin Steinmetz received the Outstanding Criminal Justice Graduate student award. Kevin earned his bachelor’s degree in Police Studies from EKU and is graduating with his master of science in Criminal Justice as a straight ‘A’ student.

Kevin has represented EKU by giving presentations and entering a poster session at two national conferences, the American Society of Criminology conference and the national Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences conference.

He was also an integral member of the highly successful Criminal Justice Graduate Student Association. He has recently been accepted into three leading PhD programs and has committed to attend Sam Houston State University.

This year’s outstanding Junior for Academic Excellence in the Department of Safety, Security and Emergency Management (SSEM) was Caleb Armbrust.

Caleb is an exceptional student with a 3.57 GPA. He is majoring in the Fire Protection Engineering Technology concentration of the Fire and Safety Engineering Technology bachelor’s program.

In addition to his scholarly work he is active in the Association of Fire Science Technicians. Also, the College is especially proud that Caleb was recently elected president of EKU’s Student Government Association for the 2010-2011 school year.

Abigail Boeing was honored as this year’s Outstanding SSEM Junior for Service. Abbie is a student who exemplifies the can-do attitude for improving educational opportunities at EKU.

She serves as the alumni coordinator for the Association of Fire Science Technicians and constantly encourages other students to engage in University activities.

Abbie is a double-major in Fire Administration and American Sign Language. She has also served an internship with the Richmond Fire Department’s fire prevention bureau.

This year’s Outstanding Safety, Security and Emergency Management Senior for Academic Excellence was awarded to Kelsey James Boyer. James is originally from Chicago and is double-majoring in Emergency Medical Care and Fire Administration with a 3.72 GPA.

He is an excellent student who works to learn more than what is required.

Joshua Reichert received the Outstanding SSEM Senior for Service award. Josh is majoring in the Fire Protection Engineering Technology concentration of the Fire and Safety Engineering Technology degree program.

He served an internship with the National Institute of Standards and Technology learning about fire protection issues in the United States. Josh has also served as Vice President of the Association of Fire Science Technicians and is often found coordinating activities for the organization.

Alexandria, or Allie, Mumford was this year’s recipient of the Outstanding SSEM Graduate Student award.

In addition to maintaining excellent scores in her coursework, Allie shows leadership and professionalism through the quality class projects she produces.

Her high-level of participation in class demonstrates her understanding and enthusiasm for the material. Consequently, her presence enhances the classroom learning environment for everyone from her fellow students to her instructors.

Students who were honored at the University’s Scholar’s Assembly earlier in the month were also recognized at the College’s luncheon.

Criminal Justice student, Jennifer Wheatley, received the Dean’s award, Kevin Ruark was named the Outstanding Criminal Justice Senior and Nacer Merdaci was honored with the Outstanding Safety, Security and Emergency Management Senior award.
Faculty Member Recognized for Teaching Excellence

Criminal Justice faculty member, Stephen Kappeler, received the Award for Teaching Excellence from EKU’s International Alumni Association. Kappeler is an instructor at EKU’s Corbin and regional campuses. He also serves as advisor to the Corbin campus’ chapters of the criminal justice honor society, Alpha Phi Sigma, and Criminal Justice Association – Lambda Alpha Epsilon.

In addition to the Award for Teaching Excellence, Kappeler has received both the Distinguished Educational Leader and Service Outside the Classroom Awards twice, as well as the Excellence in Leadership Award.

Student Honored as Co-Op Student of the Year

Criminal Justice student, Travis Milburn, was honored as EKU’s Outstanding Co-op Student of the year. Travis completed a co-op with the U.S. Secret Service.

Faculty and Students Participate in National Conferences

Several Criminal Justice students and faculty member, Dr. Tom Reed, had papers accepted for presentation at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in February 2010. Dr. Reed chaired a discussion on Framing Domestic and International Crime Dynamics within Human Rights Parameters. The discussion featured papers by Dr. Reed as well as students Tina Al-Kabandi, Kevin Steinmetz and Jonathan Thomas.

Additionally, a number of criminal justice faculty and students attended and presented at the American Society of Criminology (ASC) annual conference in Philadelphia. This was one of the largest ASC conferences in recent years and the department made a very strong showing.

The following faculty and students presented papers and posters:
• John Brent
  □ Moving Beyond Monomethod Research: The Case for Mixed Methods – Paper with Dr. Peter Kraska
  □ Tapping into “Tap-out”: The Barbaric Spectacle of Underground Fighting – Paper with Dr. Peter Kraska
• Eddy Green
  □ Crime and Climate: Criminal Justice Can’t Afford to Wait on the Cause of Climate Change – Paper with Dr. Peter Kraska
• Dr. Robin Haar
  □ Policewomen Moving Up in Rank: Changing Approaches to Negotiating Gender, Race and Ethnicity – Paper
• Suicidality Among Battered Women in Tajikistan – Paper
• Dr. Peter Kraska
  □ Crime and Climate: Criminal Justice Can’t Afford to Wait on the Cause of Climate Change – with recent EKU graduate Eddy Green
• Felony Disenfranchisement: Re-Negotiating Racial Divisions – with recent EKU graduate Brian Schaefer
• Moving Beyond Monomethod Research: The Case for Mixed Methods – with recent EKU graduate John Brent
• Tapping into “Tap-out”: The Barbaric Spectacle of Underground Fighting – with recent EKU graduate John Brent
• Dr. Ellen Leichtman
  □ The Protest Music of Phil Ochs - Paper
• Dr. Derek Paulsen
  □ Analyzing Spatial Patterns of Persistent and New Foreclosures - Poster
• Brian Schaefer
  □ Felony Disenfranchisement: Re-Negotiating Racial Divisions – Paper with Dr. Peter Kraska
• Kevin Steinmetz
  □ Corporate and Government Reactions to Internet Piracy - Poster

Former Faculty Member Honored as “Most Outstanding”

SSEM associate professor, Ron Dotson, received a Distinguished Educational Leader award for his performance during the Fall 2009 semester.

He was recognized as “Most Outstanding” at the Student Government Association’s spring banquet.

Ron is the faculty advisor of EKU’s student chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, in addition to teaching in the areas of safety resource management, leadership and homeland security.

FSET Program Receives Steel from World Trade Center Tower

Two Fire & Safety Engineering Technology students recently traveled to New York to pick up a piece of column from the North Tower of the World Trade Center.

The piece was originally above where the plane hit and was removed from the rubble following 9/11.

The students spent 18 months working to get approval for the College of Justice & Safety to receive this piece to add to its planned 9/11 memorial.

Former DEPARTMENT CHAIR RETIRES

Former Criminal Justice & Police Studies Department Chair, Dr. Carole Garrison, retired at the end of the Spring 2010 semester.

Dr. Garrison served as chair of EKU’s Department of Criminal Justice & Police Studies from 2000 to 2008.

Before leaving EKU she was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the EKU Women and Gender Studies Department for her contributions to the field of Women and Gender Studies (WGS).

Prior to joining EKU she served as the director of the Women’s Studies program at the University of Akron for six years.

She had also been the long-term faculty advisor for the Feminists for Change student group.

WGS selected Dr. Garrison for her leadership, activism and service to create multicultural awareness and address the intersectionality of women’s issues across global boundaries.

Additionally, the Department of Criminal Justice felt that the most fitting gift it could give Dr. Garrison upon her retirement was to establish a scholarship fund in her name.

The Carole Garrison Criminal Justice Endowed Research and Scholarship Fund will be available to female undergraduate or graduate criminal justice students with a dependent child. Applicants will be required to write an essay as part of the application process.

Dr. Garrison’s retirement from EKU will be felt on many levels. Her energy and passion will be missed.
FACULTY MEMBER DISCUSSES CRIME AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Dr. Derek Paulsen is an associate professor in the Criminal Justice Department and the director of the EKU Center for Crime and the Built Environment (CABE). Paulsen, who joined the EKU faculty in 2002, holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Florida State University, a master’s degree in police studies from EKU and a Ph.D. in criminal justice from Sam Houston State University. He regularly teaches undergraduate courses in crime mapping, crime and the “built environment,” cybercrime, and terrorism and technology, as well as graduate courses about data analysis, urbanization, crime and urban planning, communities and crime, and urban growth and crime. Dr. Paulsen recently discussed CABE’s mission and the idea of social sustainability.

**What is meant by “Built Environment”***?

Built Environment is a phrase that is commonly used to refer to the man-made aspects of our environment that provide the setting for human interaction.

The built environment ranges in scale from small rural homes to large urban developments and covers a range of items including roads, housing, retail developments and even parks and pedestrian trails. The importance of the built environment is its impact on basic human activity and interaction, including criminal activity and crime patterns.

Traditionally, the built environment has been the sole domain of architects, urban designers, and urban planners, but recently its study and design is increasingly being influenced by geographers, public health specialists and criminologists.

**What is the Center’s mission and how does it plan to achieve it?**

The Center focuses on promoting design and planning of buildings, neighborhoods and communities that reduce opportunities for crime, promote safety, and are socially sustainable.

In addition, the Center seeks to increase and improve the use of spatial analysis by police agencies as a problem analysis tool. In meeting its goal, the center focuses on research, evaluation and assistance in the design and planning of buildings, neighborhoods, and communities that promote livability and social sustainability.

Finally, the Center provides crime mapping assistance to police agencies and is the research and advisory partner for the Safe by Design program. Some of the major focal points of the Center include:

- Evaluations of new and innovative design and planning techniques as they relate to reducing opportunities for crime and promoting safety.
- Research on the planning, design and creation of socially sustainable affordable housing. In particular, to provide research on new and innovative methods to provide safe and socially sustainable affordable market rate and public housing.
- Research on current issues in planning and urban design as they relate to safety and social sustainability. Particular areas of interest include New Urbanism, Transit Oriented Design, Sprawl, and Gentrification.
- Continued research and promotion of the Safe by Design program.
- Promotion of innovative crime analysis and crime mapping techniques in local and state police agencies.

**What academic disciplines might the Center encompass?**

Because of the goals and mission of the Center, it is by nature interdisciplinary. Our hope is that as the Center grows and matures, we will involve faculty from across the campus in research and service projects.

Disciplines that are natural for partnership are Geography, Construction Management, Environmental Health Sciences, and Safety, Security and Emergency Management.

In addition, we are hoping to create partnerships with academic units outside the University. One such partnership that we are already working on is with the College of Design at the University of Kentucky, with whom we recently co-sponsored a conference on Sustainable Communities in Lexington.

**What does it mean for a community to be socially sustainable?**

Socially sustainable communities are communities that succeed now, economically, socially and environmentally, and respect the needs of future generations. They are well-designed places where people feel safe and secure; where crime and disorder, or the fear of crime, doesn’t undermine quality of life or community cohesion. Importantly, for a long time urban planning and urban design has ignored this human component when designing communities.

**Why is it important that a community become socially sustainable?**

Social sustainability is important because, if communities are not designed to be livable and address basic human needs they cannot be sustainable from an environmental standpoint. In particular, a community can be designed to be as “green” as possible from an architectural, planning and urban design standpoint, but if it is not livable and safe, the community will decline and ultimately fail.

Importantly, while there has been a lot of focus recently on green building through LEED standards and Energy Star ratings, there has been little to no thought about ensuring the social sustainability of the built environment.

**How can the design of neighborhoods promote and enhance health behaviors and safety?**

As researchers from a wide variety of disciplines are increasingly discovering, the built environment can influence a wide variety of human actions and functions.

Specifically, urban design has been linked to obesity and chronic health issues, traffic congestion, social isolation and concentrated poverty. Importantly, from a crime perspective, poor urban design can facilitate opportunities for criminal victimization and contribute to neighborhood decline and urban blight.

**Going forward, what are your hopes and dreams for the Center?**

As the Center moves forward we hope to accomplish several goals both in the short term and long term.

In the short term, we hope to increase the amount of interdisciplinary research we are doing and create more partnerships with researchers and practitioners both at EKU and in Kentucky in general. We also hope to get more involved in service projects, with a particular focus on involving undergraduate students in research and policy analysis as it relates to urban planning, urban design and crime.

In the long term, we hope to build the reputation of the Center nationally and internationally as a source of sound research, evaluation and policy analysis for socially sustainable communities. Finally, we hope to build the Safe by Design program into a more national program as it is in England, where it has been in existence for over 20 years and has been quite successful.
1970s
Bonnie Campbell Moore, PAD ’79, has been working as a Medical Investigator for the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure since 2002. She plans to retire in 2011 after 27 years of various law enforcement positions with the Kentucky State Government. She also recently remarried in February 2010. Bmoore338@gmail.com

Barbara (Badgett) Papademetriou, LEN ’76, retired as an Assistant United States Attorney, United States Attorney’s Office, Asset Forfeiture Division in Miami, Fla. after a distinguished 30-year career with the Department of Justice and the Administrative Office of the Courts.

Kevin B. Sutton, LEN ’76, was selected as the Paris, Ky. Police Chief in February 2010. He was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic achievement. Later, he served as Commander of Military Police at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., a post from which he retired in 1964 with the rank of Major.

Following his military career, Bill earned a Master’s Degree from Northern Arizona University. Soon thereafter, he returned to his beloved Kentucky to teach at the College of Law Enforcement at Eastern Kentucky University.

Bill combined his lifelong love of horses with his professional pursuits by spending his 1983 sabbatical leave studying the uses of horses in police work. His treatise on that subject was requested by and submitted to the U.S. Supreme Court for its library. That year he also founded the National Mounted Police Colloquium which continues to convene annually at the Kentucky Horse Park.

Bill’s life was characterized by diligence, tolerance, loyalty and a keen sense of humor. But at its center was his love of family.

Professor Bill Nixon shared an office with Bill and remembers him fondly. He says that in addition to being an avid horseman, he was also an avid historian, mostly of military matters. He was also widely read and had a particular interest in the classics, Plato among his favorites.

Professor Nixon said that students loved Bill because he was knowledgeable about so many things. “He was very animated in the classroom and gave many examples from his own experiences,” Nixon said.

1980s
Charles (Steve) Ferrell, PAD ’80, began his career as a part-time dispatcher with Fayette County School Security from 1976 to 1980. He was then promoted to officer and stayed in that position for six years before joining the Lexington Police Department. He retired from the Lexington Police Department in 2009 and is currently employed as a Court Security Officer in Federal Bankruptcy Court. Ret21558@yahoo.com

1990s
Scott Harvey, PAD ’97, was recently promoted to Sergeant of the Community Services Division of the Nicholasville Police Department.

2000s
David Gregory, PLS ’09, was appointed Chief of the Berea Police Department. He has more than 10 years of law enforcement experience and joined the Berea Police Department in 1998.

Robert Mortensen, CRJ ’04, was recently promoted to third grade Detective with the New York Police Department’s Organized Crime Control Bureau. He is “loving” his post and lists his ’06 Mustang GT as his pride and joy.

ALUMNUS RECEIVES FULBRIGHT TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP

A recent Justice & Safety graduate will be heading to Nepal this fall on a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship. Alban Holyoke, a December 2009 graduate will teach English approximately 20 hours each week during his 10-month stay as well as learn Nepali and teach fire safety courses. He may also volunteer for a local fire department if time allows.

Holyoke said he’s excited about the opportunity to work in the Himalayan nation. “When I was applying for the grant, I spoke with half a dozen exchange students from Nepal studying at Eastern,” Holyoke said, “and they are some of the nicest people I’ve ever met. I’m incredibly excited to meet more people from Nepal, learn the language, and experience a culture vastly different from my own. It will help me career-wise by developing me as a more rounded person with world experience and a better sense of who I am, and what my values are.” Holyoke earned a perfect 4.0 GPA while completing his bachelor’s degree in fire protection engineering technology. He was active in the Student Government Association, the Association of Fire Science Technicians and the University’s nationally prestigious Honors Program.

Holyoke credited several “influential” professors and program directors at EKU: Dr. Larry Collins, Jim Pharr, and EKU President Doug Whitlock, “who took time out of his incredibly busy schedule to meet with and mentor me.”
HEW ARE YOU?

In 1970 eight students were admitted to EKU on a U.S. Department of Health, Education and Wellness (HEW) Fellowship.

The HEW Fellows Program began in 1970 as a way to open governmental processes to fresh ideas and new perspectives, advance the community service and management skills of the participants, and to help HEW promote public understanding of its program and problems.

John Sura, PAD ’73, was one of the HEW Fellowship recipients.

Eventually John went on to retire as the State Fire Marshal for the state of Michigan.

John and the College of Justice & Safety are wondering where EKU’s other HEW Fellowship recipients are now.

Unfortunately, there is no way to identify who the participants were.

If you are one of the eight people who were involved in this program, please contact College of Justice & Safety Alumni and Events Manager, Pauline Lively at 859.622.8244 or Pauline.Lively@eku.edu.

We’d love to find out where you are and what you’ve been up to.

COLOR OF JUSTICE & SAFETY PROGRAM EXPANDS TO LOUISVILLE

The College of Justice & Safety hosted two Color of Justice & Safety programs this spring. The first was held March 4 on EKU’s campus and the second on March 18 at the St. Anthony Community Outreach Center in Louisville.

This program is designed to introduce students of color to a variety of professional careers within the fields of justice and safety. The programs included a panel presentation by current College of Justice & Safety students and presentations by College alumni who have excelled in their fields.

Students also talked with College alumni during lunch about the justice and safety fields, college and career plans.

This year was the first time that the event was held in Louisville as well as in Richmond. In the past, high school students in Louisville were unable to attend the Color of Justice & Safety on EKU’s campus due to time constraints. Bringing the program to Louisville gave more students the opportunity to learn about justice and safety professions.

Approximately 100 students from Madison Central High School and Tates Creek High School attended the program in Richmond, and approximately 75 students from Central High School attended the program in Louisville.

ALUMNA HONORED AS DISTINGUISHED LEADER

Becky Ritchey, MS CJ ’93, was recently awarded the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Leadership Madison County Class of 2010.

The recipient of this award is an individual who has actively participated in the Leadership Madison County monthly programs, demonstrated strong principles and dedication to the concept of community service, and embodies the spirit of Leadership Madison County by having a keen understanding of community dynamics and public issues.

Becky is a 17-year employee of EKU and has worked on a variety of projects and activities involving at-risk & delinquent youth.

She was also recently elected as the Chair of the Advisory Board of the Richmond Teen Center, which serves at-risk youth in a safe, secure and fun after-school setting.

She has assisted this organization with building its capacity and sustainability by obtaining grant funds, donations, establishing the organization as a Kentucky non-profit agency, and applying for federal 501(c)3 non-profit status.

Leadership Madison County is a program designed to develop the leadership potential existing in the Madison county community.

The three major focuses of Leadership Madison County are to help the participants improve leadership skills, gain community knowledge and inspire community service.

KEEP US UP-TO-DATE

Send us your news—weddings, family additions, organization affiliations, job changes or promotions. All submissions to Alumni News are edited for style and brevity.

Name _______________________________ Major ___________________ Graduation year __________

E-mail address (will be published) ___________________________________________________________

News ____________________________________________________________________________________

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GRADUATE STUDENT RECEIVES $20,000 SCHOLARSHIP FROM U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Sara Murphy is definitely not a traditional student and the road to where she is now would not be described as easy. That she will graduate from Eastern Kentucky University next year with a master’s degree in Safety, Security & Emergency Management is a testament to her dedication. That dedication also helped her earn the U.S. Department of Education’s Erma Byrd Scholarship.

The program provides scholarships to individuals pursuing a course of study that will lead to a career in industrial health and safety occupations. Murphy will receive $10,000 per year for up to two years through the scholarship program.

It’s not a path many would have predicted for her. The youngest of 13 children, Murphy hated school but stuck with it because of the importance her father placed on getting an education. Having completed only the third grade himself, he wanted better opportunities for his children. Her father, however, passed away when Murphy was 15 and with her motivation for staying in school gone, she dropped out.

Three years later Murphy’s brother challenged her to earn her GED. So of course, she did. Over the next 19 years Murphy got married, had two children, cared for her mother before her death in 2000, worked various jobs, got divorced, moved to Kentucky, survived abusive relationships, and began her career at EKU.

While her road to EKU was bumpy she says that her experiences have made her who she is today.

“All the things that have happened have contributed to the person I am,” Murphy said, “and I’m proud of who I am.”

Murphy graduated from EKU after four years with a 3.48 GPA, earning her bachelor’s degree in Police Studies with minors in Criminal Justice and Assets Protection and Security. While an undergraduate student at Eastern she was involved in the non-traditional student organization, Older, Wiser Learners (OWLS), and the American Criminal Justice Association – LAE and completed internships with the Richmond Police Department, U.S. Probation and Parole, and the Berea Police Department, all while working two jobs and taking 21 credit hours per semester.

Originally she had planned a career in law enforcement after completing her degree. However, a car accident the summer before she graduated led to memory loss and post-traumatic stress disorder. It was during her internship with the Berea Police Department that she realized the PTSD she suffered from would be a hindrance to her success as a police officer and her focus shifted to private security.

This switch in career focus led her to Dr. Norman Spain, coordinator of the Assets Protection and Security program in the Department of Safety, Security and Emergency Management. He suggested Murphy pursue a master’s degree in Safety, Security and Emergency Management as a way to increase her marketability and learn more about the various aspects of the safety field.

Murphy began the SSEM master’s program in Fall 2009 and has maintained a 4.0 GPA. She was encouraged by her SSEM professors to apply for the Erma Byrd Scholarship. As a recipient of the Byrd scholarship, she is required to be employed in a career position directly related to industrial health and safety for one year after finishing her degree. But down the road, Murphy would like to work in retail loss prevention and is considering pursuing her Ph.D.

Murphy’s path is much smoother now. She has been married for three years to a “wonderful man.” Her son is a current EKU student. Her daughter will graduate high school in 2011 and hopes to also attend EKU.

Murphy noted that the scholarship helps lift the burden of finding ways to pay for her education, especially difficult with two college-aged children.

But “the best part about getting this scholarship,” she explained, “is that after all the negative things in my life, someone, somewhere decided that I deserved this.”