



Communications & Marketing  
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[www.moreheadstate.edu](http://www.moreheadstate.edu)

## NEWS RELEASE

**June 1, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **MSU alumna Sommai Purintun LeBron-Cooke creates scholarship endowment**

Sommai Purintun LeBron-Cooke (92) has a passion for philanthropy, education and economic and social justice. Through the creation of a scholarship endowment with the MSU Foundation, she can support these causes that are important to her.

Lebron-Cooke grew up in Morehead and graduated from Rowan County Senior High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minor in philosophy from MSU in 1992. She also holds a certification in sports philanthropy from The George Washington University School of Business. She now resides in the San Francisco Bay area. Lebron-Cooke has worked in the field of philanthropy for over a decade. In 2019, she founded IMPACT Sports Philanthropy. IMPACT assists athletes leveraging their platforms for social and environmental good. The company promotes philanthropy to advance economic, social and environmental justice for underserved communities.

Lebron-Cooke has been a loyal and generous alumna for several years. In 2014, she began funding an annual scholarship through the MSU Foundation. To ensure the scholarship would continue to be awarded for years to come, she contributed \$25,000 to endow the scholarship indefinitely.

“Morehead State University supported me through obstacles that could have been detrimental to obtaining a degree.” Lebron-Cooke said. “I am proud to establish this scholarship that will continue advancing equity in education for young women with diverse ethnic backgrounds who make a difference in their communities through service to others.”

Recipients of the Sommai Purintun LeBron-Cooke Scholarship must be residents of MSU's 22-county service region with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above. Priority will be given to female students from Rowan and Pike counties from underrepresented minority groups. Student's community service involvement will be taken into consideration during the selection process.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship, along with other privately funded scholarships managed by the MSU Foundation, should visit the online scholarship application at [moreheadstate.awardspring.com](http://moreheadstate.awardspring.com).

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email [giving@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:giving@moreheadstate.edu) or visit [alumni.moreheadstate.edu](http://alumni.moreheadstate.edu).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 3, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **MSU mourns the passing of retiree Dr. Earle Louder**

The Morehead State University community is mourning the loss of retiree and professor emeritus Dr. Earle Louder, who died Wednesday, May 26, at age 88.

Louder began his career at MSU in 1968 as a music professor, specializing in euphonium and tuba. In 1987, he was awarded the MSU Alumni Association's Distinguished Faculty Award and the Kentucky Music Education Association's Teacher of the Year Award, which he would win again the following year. In 1994, he was named a lifetime member of the International Tuba Euphonium Association (ITEA), of which he was a founding member.

Louder retired in 1996 and was given the title of professor emeritus. In 1999, he received the Tubist Universal Brotherhood Association (TUBA) Lifetime Achievement Award. Most recently, he was awarded the prestigious Edwin Franko Goldman Citation in 2019, presented by the American Bandmasters Association in March 2020.

Throughout his career and after his retirement, Louder performed with many groups, including the U. S. Navy Band, Symphonia, Keith Brion's New Sousa Band, the Danville Advocate Brass Band and the River City Brass Band, among others. He also served as conductor, adjudicator and judge for several concert band festivals and marching band competitions. He was a permanent faculty member at the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Michigan, where he spent more than 30 years as a euphonium instructor, soloist, conductor and annually adjudicated the International Euphonium Solo Competition for the Leonard Falcone International Euphonium/Tuba Festival.

Louder earned his undergraduate degree at Michigan State University, where he studied with the renowned euphonium artist Leonard Falcone. He earned his doctoral degree at Florida State University.

He attended Clearfield Baptist Church where he was a deacon and minister of music.

He is survived by his wife, Louise Twiford Louder; two sons, Joseph and Stephen Louder; three daughters, Mary Nixon, Kathy Norman, and Leslie O'Neal; dozens of grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

The family will announce a Celebration of Life Service at a later date.

Arrangements are under the direction of Northcutt and Son Home for Funerals in Morehead and a virtual guest book is available at [www.northcuttandson.com](http://www.northcuttandson.com).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 7, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Middleton documentary 'History of Sweetness: 100 Years of Ruth Hunt Candy' debuts on KET this month**

Steven Middleton (Class of 2004 and 2008) has spent most of his documentary film career capturing the unique stories, places and people of the Bluegrass State. Now, viewers will have the chance to see his latest film project on a Kentucky candy icon.

"History of Sweetness: 100 Years of Ruth Hunt Candy" will debut on the Kentucky Educational Television (KET) family of networks this month. It will premiere on KET at 2 p.m. Sunday, June 13. Subsequent airings will occur on KET 2 and KET KY throughout the summer.

Ruth Hunt Candies was founded in 1921 by Ruth Tharpe Hunt. With two company stores in Lexington and the original factory complex in Mt. Sterling, it creates over 70 varieties, including Woodford Reserve Bourbon Balls, pulled cream candy and its signature Blue Monday Bar.

Middleton said after the COVID-19 pandemic put a halt on potential filmmaking projects, he jumped at the chance when the owners of Ruth Hunt Candies reached out to him to make a documentary for the company's 100th anniversary.

"I was just honored to have a purpose again. I feel like I was needed," he said.

Middleton said the documentary captures the unique nature, history and success of Ruth Hunt Candies. These include Ruth Hunt being a female entrepreneur in the 1920s, the company's support of the Mt. Sterling arts community and, at one point, being the official candy of Churchill Downs.

"She was a single mother and ran and created this candy empire. That was amazing," he said.

Middleton earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication in 2004 and a Master of Arts in Applied Communication in 2008, both from MSU. As an instructor at MSU since 2008, he specializes in courses covering mass communication, documentary and video production, television production, and social media management.

Middleton can be reached at 606-783-9583 or [s.middleton@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:s.middleton@moreheadstate.edu).

To learn more about MSU's Department of Communication, Media and Languages programs, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/cml](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/cml), email [cml@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:cml@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2134.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 7, 2021**  
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**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Skyler Toy receives Stay the Course Grant from Wiley Publishing Company**

Morehead State graduate Skyler Toy from Salt Lick is the recipient of a Wiley Stay the Course Grant.

Toy was one of 200 students nationwide to receive the grant. Wiley's grant program provided \$100,000 in funding to support student persistence in completing college degrees. She earned a bachelor's degree in accounting at MSU this past May.

Faculty who use Wiley's digital resources in their courses nominated one student for a chance to win. Dr. Stephen Brigham, assistant professor of accounting, nominated Toy for the \$500 grant in March.

"The grants were intended to help meet some of the financial difficulties of vulnerable students," Brigham said. "Skyler's courageous persistence, positive attitude, and work ethic make her a wonderful role model for all students to achieve success."

Toy said the grant was extremely beneficial in helping her achieve her dream of earning a degree.

"Being a recipient of the Wiley Stay the Course Grant is much more than just an award to me," she said. "Wiley has assisted me in being able to achieve my lifelong educational goals that I never thought were possible. Being a full-time concurrent young mother and college student has been incredibly difficult; therefore, I'm grateful that Wiley is able to help support not only me but also others like me in chasing our dreams."

Wiley is an educational publishing company producing online scientific, technical, medical and scholarly journals, books, and other digital content.

For more information, read Wiley's recent article "Wiley Salutes Moms Who Stay the Course at School and Home," which features Skyler and two other young mothers and is available at [www.wiley.com/network/instructors-students/educational-inspiration/wiley-salutes-moms-who-stay-the-course-at-school-and-home](http://www.wiley.com/network/instructors-students/educational-inspiration/wiley-salutes-moms-who-stay-the-course-at-school-and-home).

To learn about programs in MSU's Elmer R. Smith College of Business and Technology, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/cbt](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/cbt), email [cbt@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:cbt@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2174.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 8, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Thomas Raymond Curtis Memorial Scholarship awarded**

In 1997, Thomas Raymond Curtis, an unassuming teacher of 30 years from Flat Gap, decided to do an extraordinary thing: He chose to leave a lasting legacy for the education of Johnson County students.

When he passed away, he left the largest bequest in the Morehead State University Foundation's history, \$1.3 million, to fund the Thomas Raymond Curtis Memorial Scholarship.

Each year, at least one Curtis Scholarship is awarded from the Johnson County High School (JCHS) graduating class. These scholars are awarded \$10,000 annually to be applied toward their studies at MSU.

The 2021 recipient of the scholarship is Katelyn Spence. Spence is a recent graduate of JCHS from Flat Gap. She is the daughter of Amy and Sammy Spence. She will be majoring in early elementary education.

Spence completed four years of early childhood education courses at JCHS and graduated with honors. In addition, she was a two-year member of the JCHS branch of the Unite Club and participated in the Johnson Central Rising Educators Tutoring Program at Flat Gap Elementary.

"I yearn to teach children the value of books and reading at a young age and how it can help them understand themselves and the world around them. All while instilling in them a love for learning," Spence said. "This scholarship will allow me to further my education to in turn make a greater impact on my community. It will help me reach my goals and I will work hard to help others reach theirs as well."

Students from JCHS who plan to further their education at MSU are eligible to apply for the award annually. Preference is given to students from Flat Gap who plan to pursue a

degree in education. The award is renewable for three years if academic eligibility requirements are maintained.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship, along with other privately funded scholarships managed by the MSU Foundation, should visit the online scholarship application at [moreheadstate.awardspring.com](https://moreheadstate.awardspring.com).

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email [giving@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:giving@moreheadstate.edu) or visit [alumni.moreheadstate.edu](https://alumni.moreheadstate.edu).

Photo, left to right: Thom Cochran, superintendent of Johnson County Schools, Katelyn Spence and Emma Jane Boggs, family member of the late Johnson County teacher Thomas Raymond Curtis. Spence is the 2021 recipient of the Thomas Raymond Curtis Memorial Scholarship.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 9, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Upward Bound returns to MSU campus for its 55<sup>th</sup> summer**

The Upward Bound (UB) program is returning to the Morehead State campus for its 55th year.

UB has two distinct programs, UB Classic and UB Math and Science, serving students from 18 schools in 17 Eastern Kentucky counties including Bath, Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Harrison, Johnson, Lawrence, Lewis, Magoffin, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Nicholas, Robertson and Rowan. The programs seek to engage low-income and potential first-generation college students and equip them with the skills to prepare them for college.

Samantha Bryant, assistant director of UB Math and Science, said the majority of students who participate go on to become college students.

“At Morehead State University, we are fortunate to house four grants. Each of these grants come with their own, individual rates of success. However, over the last five years all four grants have met objects with success,” Bryant said. “One of these objectives provides that 70% of Upward Bound participants will enroll in college in either the fall or spring semester following their high school graduation. Even in the Coronavirus pandemic of 2020, MSU Upward Bound alumni enrolled in postsecondary education at an astonishing rate of 93%.”

The programs offer instruction in math, laboratory sciences, composition, literature, financial literacy, college and career prep, and foreign languages. Participants also receive information on the college admissions process and scholarships and receive tutoring, counseling, mentoring, cultural enrichment trips, exposure to science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) and internships. Students who are involved in the program spend four weeks on MSU’s campus each summer for a residential summer academy where they attend classes, go on college visits, attend cultural events

and are exposed to college life.

“Students have the ability to learn why attending college is important and to preview what it’s like to attend ahead of time,” said Matt Hyden, associate director of UB. “Students who come to UB are prepared to be great college students and have a clear path to college from high school.”

Students moved into campus residence halls on Sunday, June 6. They will stay on campus until Friday, July 2. Students and staff will follow all MSU and state protocols on COVID-19.

In order to qualify for Upward Bound, students must apply to the program, write an admissions essay and be interviewed by UB staff. UB is funded through a Department of Education grant and is offered free of cost for students.

“The entire Upward Bound staff is elated to be given the opportunity to host students on campus once again,” Bryant said. “Seeing student faces in-person, even masked, is a reminder of their resilience and serves as a constant motivating force for the Upward Bound staff.”

For more information about Upward Bound at MSU, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/ub](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/ub), email [upwardbound@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:upwardbound@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-9300.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 10, 2021**  
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**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morrison publishes new book 'Thomas Hardy: A Companion of the Novels'**

Dr. Ronald D. Morrison, professor of English at Morehead State University, has published a new book "Thomas Hardy: A Companion to the Novels." The volume appears in the McFarland Companions to 19th Century Literature series, published by McFarland & Company.

Thomas Hardy is best known for his realistic portrayal of English rural life in the later part of the 19th century in works like "Far from the Madding Crowd" and "Tess of the d'Urbervilles." Hardy also wrote 14 novels, including an early detective novel, a historical romance and an experimental satirical fable.

The book is a reference source for advanced students, scholars and general readers. Individual entries in the book focus on the people, cultural forces, literary forms and movements that influenced Hardy's novels. Morrison's book contains entries on all of Hardy's novels and includes suggestions for original readings of each novel, as well as recommendations for further reading.

"This project was something of a labor of love," Morrison said. "I have spent much of my adult life studying the works of Thomas Hardy, and the Companion allows me to provide a resource to current and future students. I have always believed that research and teaching are complementary activities, and this project offers an excellent example."

Morrison is a Victorian literature specialist and has published extensively on Hardy and other Victorian authors. At MSU, he has taught courses in Victorian and Romantic literature, including specialized classes on Hardy at the graduate and undergraduate levels. He is also the recipient of the 2004 MSU Distinguished Researcher Award.

Dr. Ronald Morrison can be reached at [r.morris@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:r.morris@moreheadstate.edu).

For more information on MSU's Department of English, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/english](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/english).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 10, 2021**  
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**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State Art and Design students pain mural at Greenhill Park**

A group of five recent graduates from Morehead State's Department of Art and Design recently painted a mural at the City of Morehead Don Greenhill Park.

Students who worked on the mural were Madison Anderson from Hagerhill, Abby Caines from Ashland, Nancy Lewis from West Liberty, Sam Neal from Morehead, and Kaylee Thornsberry from West Liberty. All of the student artists graduated in May.

The mural, "Winged Animals of Kentucky," depicts the wings of animals indigenous to Kentucky, including a butterfly, honeybee, eagle, cardinal and brown bat. It is painted on the wall at Peggy's Place in Greenhill Park. Melissa Yungbluth, instructor of art and director of MSU's Golding-Yang Gallery, said the students chosen for the project were highly skilled artists.

"These five students were seniors, have top-notch painting and drawing skills and are students that I have worked closely with on other projects, so I knew they would do well with this," she said.

Visitors to the part can stand in front of the wings to take photos. Those who take pictures in front of the mural are encouraged to share them on social media using the hashtag #moreheadwings.

Yungbluth said Morehead Mayor Laura White-Brown and the City Council approached her to have students create the mural.

"City Park seemed the kind of place where an interactive mural would do well. I have seen other ones in the past that were butterfly, bird and faerie wings. Animals of Kentucky popped in my head and it seemed like a good spin on the wings concept," Yungbluth said.

Paint for the project was donated by Big 4 Lumber in Morehead.

To learn more about MSU's Department of Art and Design programs, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/art](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/art), email [arde@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:arde@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2766.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 15, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Board of Regents, Audit Committee to meet June 17**

The Morehead State University Board of Regents will meet Thursday, June 17, at 9:15 a.m., in room 329 of the Adron Doran University Center (ADUC), following an audit committee meeting, which begins at 9 a.m.

During the audit committee meeting, members will vote to approve the March 25, 2021, audit committee meeting minutes and vote to accept the 2019-20 single audit report. Members will also discuss proposed amendments to the University debt policy.

After the audit committee meeting adjourns, the board meeting will begin. Items on the meeting's agenda include:

- Approval of March 25, 2021, quarterly meeting minutes
- Ratification of Spring 2021 graduates
- Ratification of personnel actions
- Approval of the 2021-22 University Organizational Chart
- Approval of promotion for faculty
- Approval of revisions to student media board charter
- Approval of amendments to Student Government Association constitution and bylaws
- Approval of revisions to the University police standard operating procedures manual
- Approval of naming spaces in ADUC
- Acceptance of 2019-20 Single Audit Report

In addition, the regents will vote to accept the third quarter financial report and ratify the amended operating budget and approve the 2021-22 University operating budget, tuition and fee schedule and personnel roster. They will also vote to approve an employee compensation plan, the extension of athletic coaching contracts, and

demolition of real property.

The board will hold a closed executive session as is allowed under KRS 61.810. Once the session is adjourned and the regular meeting is called back to order, the board will take action based on discussion during the executive session.

The board will also:

- Hear reports on personal service contracts, University fundraising, strategic branding and the Student Government Association.
- Conduct its annual evaluation and review of MSU President, Dr. Jay Morgan and its annual self-evaluation.
- Recognize outgoing Staff Regent Craig Dennis for his years of service to the University.

For more information, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/bor](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/bor).

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# NEWS RELEASE

June 15, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOREHEAD, Ky.---

## **MSU at Prestonsburg hosts Social Work Open House event**

Morehead State University is hosting an open house for prospective students to learn about the social work program at the MSU at Prestonsburg regional campus. The MSU Prestonsburg Social Work Open House takes place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Wednesday, June 23 at MSU at Prestonsburg, Room 131 at 6 Bert Combs Drive in Prestonsburg. Social work program representatives, graduates and admissions specialists will be available at the event to answer any questions. Deirdra Robinson, the social work program facilitator at MSU at Prestonsburg, said a degree in social work from MSU affords various opportunities to help people in many ways.

“Obtaining a social work degree is a great decision,” she said. “Our profession works with individuals, families, groups and communities to maximize their potential and improve their lives. You can find social workers in schools, nursing homes, drug treatment programs, employee assistance programs and even in politics.”

Only 30 slots are available in MSU’s Bachelor of Social Work program.

For more information and to register, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/study/socialwork](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/study/socialwork) or contact Robinson at 606-783-9226 or [d.robinson@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:d.robinson@moreheadstate.edu).

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# NEWS RELEASE

June 16, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOREHEAD, Ky.---

## **MSU mourns the death of professor Adam Yungbluth**

Adam Nicholas Yungbluth, 39, of Vernon Circle, Morehead, Kentucky, husband of Melissa Lee Yungbluth, passed away Saturday afternoon, June 12, 2021, at home.

Born Nov. 8, 1981, in Mason, Ohio, he is the son of William John Yungbluth Jr. and Joy “Cookie” Schell Yungbluth; brother of Amanda Hatter; brother-in-law of Adam Hatter, all of Mason, Ohio; and son-in-law of Tommy and Pamela Lee of Mineral Bluff, Georgia.

Yungbluth received a Master of Fine Arts in Ceramics from the University of Mississippi and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Ceramics and Sculpture from Miami University in Ohio. He was former co-owner of St. Petersburg Clay Company in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Adam and Melissa met at Ole Miss while pursuing graduate degrees and moved to Morehead five years ago.

Yungbluth was a visiting assistant professor of ceramics at Morehead State University since August 2016. A longtime member of the National Council on the Education for the Ceramic Arts (NCECA), He was a nationally recognized ceramic artist. He participated in numerous juried, invitational and solo exhibitions across the county. He believed exhibitions taught him lessons he could pass on to students—lessons that could not be learned from a textbook or lecture. After more than twenty years of working with clay, he continued his passion for learning, staying relevant, teaching and mentoring.

In addition to being immersed in the art world, Adam and Melissa enjoyed cooking and entertaining friends and spoiling their favorite canine children, Sonar and Jet.

A memorial service may be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family will be setting up an MSU scholarship in his name to benefit art students. Announcement forthcoming.

Northcutt & Son Home for Funerals, 400 Fraley Drive, Morehead, KY 40351, is caring for arrangements. Send condolences or sign the guestbook at [www.northcuttandson.com](http://www.northcuttandson.com).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 17, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Craft Academy alumna Maddy McCloud named Fulbright Scholar**

Maddy McCloud, a 2017 graduate of the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics at Morehead State, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study abroad in Taiwan during the 2021-22 academic year.

McCloud graduated magna cum laude with honors from the University of Louisville this spring and has been accepted to the macro neurobiology Ph.D. program at the University of California (UCLA) Berkeley. McCloud will study in Taiwan before heading to Berkeley.

"I tell everyone that going to Craft was the life-changing decision that led to this moment and her many academic successes," said Tonja McCloud, Maddy's mother.

Led by the U.S. government in partnership with more than 160 countries worldwide, the Fulbright Program offers international educational and cultural exchange programs for passionate and accomplished students, scholars, artists, teachers, and professionals of all backgrounds to study, teach, or pursue meaningful research and professional projects.

The Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics is a dual-credit academy for academically exceptional Kentucky students. Craft Academy provides students with a postsecondary residential experience to complete their junior and senior years of high school by enrolling in college courses. The Craft Academy's purpose is to meet the unique educational needs of academically gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors in the Commonwealth. The academic rigor of the Craft Academy challenges students to excel at their highest level through project-based STEM+X courses and hands-on learning experiences, with emphasis on innovation, design and creativity, and civic and regional engagement.

For more information about the Craft Academy, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/craft-academy](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/craft-academy), email [craftacademy@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:craftacademy@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2093.

###

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 18, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **MSU Board of Regents holds quarterly meeting**

The Morehead State University Board of Regents held its quarterly meeting on Thursday, June 17, 2021, in the Adron Doran University Center.

The board voted to officially approve the 2021-22 University Operating Budget of \$145,500,000, a Tuition & Fee Schedule, and Personnel Roster. The Tuition & Fee Schedule approval includes:

- 1.25% increase to undergraduate tuition for the next academic year
- Freeze on graduate tuition
- Freeze on housing rates
- A facility fee increase of \$2.50 per credit hour

In other action, the Board also approved a Faculty Compensation Plan to assist in alleviating salary inversion between tenure track faculty ranks, Athletic Coach Employment Extensions and the demolition of two single-family residents located at 419 East Main Street. After demolition, the sites will be graded out to drain and sowed with grass to create green space. The Audit Committee met and approved the Single Audit Report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, as presented by Dean Dorton Allen Ford, PLLC.

The board also reviewed reports and presentations on Personal Service Contracts, University Fundraising, Strategic Branding and a report on Student Government Association activities from Regent Emily Wiley.

President Jay Morgan and the board recognized Dr. Craig Dennis (Class of 1989, 1991, 1994) for service over the past three years as Staff Regent. Other years of service recognitions included faculty member Dr. Shari Kidwell, and MSU staff member Shannon Colvin.

The board also acknowledged the generosity of Fred Ross and Adrian Swain for their financial contributions to the Soar to New Heights Scholarship Campaign.

For more information, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/bor](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/bor).

Photo, top right (left to right): Associate Director of Student Activities Shannon Colvin (Class of 1989, 2003), Associate Professor of Psychology Dr. Shari Kidwell and MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan.

Photo, center left (left to right): MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan, Dr. Craig Dennis (Class of 1989, 1991, 1994) and chair of the Board of Regents Eric E. Howard (Class of 1981).

Photo, bottom right (left to right): Fred Ross (Class of 1967), Adrian Swain (Class of 1998, 2006) and MSU President Dr. Jay Morgan.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 21, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State Eagle Black Male Mentorship presents ‘The Huddle: Juneteenth Edition’**

Morehead State University’s Eagle Black Male Mentorship will present “The Huddle – Juneteenth Edition,” featuring Joseph McGill Jr. from 1:45 to 3 p.m. Tuesday, June 22. This virtual presentation is free and open to the public.

View the event at

<https://moreheadstate.webex.com/moreheadstate/j.php?MTID=m675878ff0e237aa5f5f4072461ed8bad>.

Joseph McGill Jr. is a historian, historical re-enactor, consultant for the Magnolia Plantation in Charleston, South Carolina, and founder of the Slave Dwelling Project ([www.slavedwellingproject.org](http://www.slavedwellingproject.org)). The Slave Dwelling Project helps preserve African American slave dwellings while providing an enriching historical experience through a mix of living history programs, talks and presentations, and overnight stays in slave dwellings for participants.

Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives, is also an advisor for Eagle Black Male Mentorship, a student organization created to provide community while increasing recruitment, retention and graduation rates for Black male students. Session collaborated with McGill as a young child during a historical re-enactment of the Civil War’s Battle at Fort Wagner, which inspired the 1989 film “Glory.” He said McGill’s extensive research, coupled with his numerous treks to the physical sites where history happened gives him that much more knowledge to share around the Juneteenth holiday.

Juneteenth commemorates the date of June 19, 1865, a time when Union soldiers brought news of freedom to enslaved Black people in Galveston, Texas, approximately two-and-a-half years after the Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in the Southern

States. On June 17, 2021, President Joe Biden signed a bill into law declaring Juneteenth a national holiday.

“I think from an educational perspective, the way to put that together is very, very good. Experiential learning mixed with history,” Session said. “He likes to really inform. He does this around the country. I was thankful to really get him and to do this piece for us.”

For more information on this event, contact Session at [ssession@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:ssession@moreheadstate.edu) or 254-319-2050.

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# NEWS RELEASE

**June 22, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **Morehead State welcomes Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program**

Morehead State University will continue serving as a host campus for the Kentucky Governor's Scholars Program in 2021.

MSU first welcomed GSP in 2006 and this will be the ninth year the University has hosted GSP. Of the three universities that serve GSP students (others include Bellarmine University and Centre College), MSU is the only public university to host the program.

The 345 scholars arrive on campus Saturday, June 26, with numerous activities planned throughout their five-week stay. The students will be served by 40 faculty and staff. GSP will conclude with a closing ceremony on Friday, July 30.

Established in 1983, the Governor's Scholars Program is a residential summer program for outstanding Kentucky students who have completed their junior year in high school. GSP provides academic and personal growth in a challenging, nontraditional environment that balances a solid liberal arts program with a full co-curricular and residential life experience. Students who attend GSP must complete an application and compete with others from across the state. Those selected attend the program free of charge.

For more information on the Governor's Scholars Program, email [gsp@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:gsp@moreheadstate.edu) or visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/gsp](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/gsp).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 23, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Norma Hogge leaves MSU Foundation a planned gift in memory of her children**

The couple had two children who preceded them in death at a young age. Their daughter, Tina Leslie Hogge, passed away in 1960. Their son, Elijah Monroe Francis Hogge Jr., passed away in 1966. To honor them, they committed to support the educational needs of other Rowan County students. The couple supported the University in various ways throughout the years. They gifted property to MSU and provided annual contributions.

The couple was actively involved in the community serving various philanthropic causes. Elijah served as a treasurer and board member of the Northeast Kentucky Hospital Foundation, which established St. Claire Regional Medical Center (now St. Claire HealthCare) and was on the board of directors for the Citizens Bank of Morehead.

In December 1995, Elijah was awarded an honorary Doctor of Public Service from MSU. He passed away in 1996 and then-MSU President Dr. Adron Doran officiated his funeral. Norma continued to live happily and independently for 24 years pursuing her many interests of arts, garden clubs, Chi Omega Alumnae, golf, tennis and dancing competitively with Fred Astaire Studio of Sarasota, Florida, which took her to Italy, France, Spain and Cuba. Norma passed away in April 2020 at the age of 100.

Upon her passing, the MSU Foundation was the trustee of the Norma Hogge Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust. Through this annuity, the Elijah M. Hogge Jr. and Tina Leslie Hogge Scholarship Endowment was fully funded. This endowment, now valued at nearly \$600,000, will support scholarships for generations to come. Recipients of the scholarship must be graduates from Rowan County High School with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA.

Students interested in applying to this scholarship, along with other privately funded scholarships managed by the MSU Foundation, should visit the online scholarship application at [moreheadstate.awardspring.com](https://moreheadstate.awardspring.com).

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU's Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email [giving@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:giving@moreheadstate.edu) or visit [alumni.moreheadstate.edu](https://alumni.moreheadstate.edu).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 23, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Morehead State Alum Leann Lewis is the 2021 KEA Teacher of the Year**

Leann Lewis (Class of 2001), a ninth-grade English teacher at Simon Kenton High School in Kenton County, is the 2021 Kentucky Education Association (KEA) Teacher of the Year.

The Teacher of the Year Award is presented to the KEA educator who excels in five critical areas of teaching: advocacy for the profession, professional practice, community engagement, attention to diversity and leadership in professional development. The award was announced in April 2021 and awarded virtually at the annual KEA Delegate Assembly.

“It has been truly a humbling experience,” Lewis said. “None of this would be possible without so many family members, students, teachers, co-workers and colleagues who have been there to teach, listen, encourage and challenge me throughout my career.”

Growing up in Loveland, Ohio, Lewis' mother was a pre-school teacher at church and an instructional assistant for more than 30 years in Loveland City Schools. She enrolled at MSU because it wasn't too far from home, and she heard about its reputation as an excellent school for training teachers.

As a teacher, Lewis is dedicated to serving diverse and underserved communities while fostering a community of learners. She is also prioritizing development of a reading curriculum that touches on social justice issues, improving a program for freshman success and college readiness, and providing students with proper social and emotional skills to maximize their potential for success. She serves in other roles at Simon Kenton High School, including on the site-based decision-making council, leading professional development workshops and serving as the current local education association president.

“When I first started teaching, I thought my job was to teach reading and writing...now teaching is so much more than content,” Lewis said. “Teachers today are teaching

students content, multitude of soft skills, social/emotional learning skills, technology and preparing them for the future.”

Lewis earned a Bachelor of Arts with an area of concentration in English education and a teacher Certificate in 2001. She completed a Master of Arts in Education from Indiana Wesleyan University in 2008. She received the 2020 Kenton County Public School’s “Be Like Mr. Rogers” Award and was named a Top 20 educator in Cincinnati Magazine in 2019. She was the Northern Kentucky Education’s Teacher of the Year in 2016.

For more information about MSU’s Volgenau College of Education and its programs, call 606-783-2162 or visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/education](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/education).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 24, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Craft Academy student Roxy Lockard to serve on KDE Commissioner's Student Advisory Council**

Roxy Lockard, a senior at the Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics, has been selected to serve on the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) Commissioner's Student Advisory Council for the 2021-22 academic year.

Lockard, a native of Georgetown, said she learned of the opportunity to serve on the council from Rachel Rogers, Craft Academy QEP director. She said she was immediately interested in applying for the council.

"I am someone who has always been heavily driven by education and learning - evident by my choice to attend college at 16," Lockard said. "Moreover, I am the child of two educators, so I was raised with an immersive view into the education industry and its inner functions. Serving on this council will allow me to advocate for an industry that I support and immerse myself in and create concrete changes for my fellow peers and teachers."

Lockard is one of 18 students chosen from a pool of more than 400 statewide applicants for the council. To apply, she completed a written application and was interviewed by KDE administrators. She says one issue she plans to tackle as a council member is making sure students with physical and mental health issues receive the academic accommodations they need to excel.

"As a student who juggles both a physical disability and mental illness, I know firsthand the heavy impact this can have on educational performance. I would really like to focus on awareness regarding disability in the school system and work on implementing structures that ensure all students have equity in their learning." Lockard added she will also focus on increasing awareness and support for gifted and talented programs

across the state.

Lockard says it's important for the Academy to be represented on the council because of its position as an elite STEM school in Kentucky.

"Craft Academy, alongside Gatton, holds a strong position in Kentucky. It is a program filled with bright pupils with an intent focus on STEM, leadership and guiding the new world. The council needs people like these, and Craft deserves to have a voice, ensuring that its students receive proper accommodation as well," Lockard said.

The Craft Academy for Excellence in Science and Mathematics is a dual-credit postsecondary program for academically exceptional Kentucky students. Craft Academy provides students with a postsecondary residential experience to complete their junior and senior years of high school by enrolling in college courses. The Craft Academy's purpose is to meet the unique educational needs of academically gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors in the Commonwealth.

To learn more about the Academy, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/craft-academy](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/craft-academy), email [craftacademy@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:craftacademy@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2093.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 24, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **CubeSat built at Morehead State passes testing for a mission to the moon**

Lunar IceCube, a small satellite built at Morehead State University's Space Science Center, has passed environmental testing at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, putting the device one step closer to the moon.

Students and space systems engineering faculty at MSU designed and built the Lunar IceCube, which will fly aboard the upcoming Artemis I mission to the moon as a secondary payload to investigate the amount and distribution of water ice on the moon. The mission's goal is to collect data to explore the feasibility of establishing a sustained human presence on the moon. Scientists hope doing so will allow for human exploration of Mars and other bodies in the solar system.

Lunar IceCube's testing included a thermal vacuum, which replicates the vacuum of space and exposes the spacecraft to extreme hot and cold temperatures. Engineers also conducted instrument testing and calibration for the Broadband InfraRed Compact High-Resolution Exploration Spectrometer (BIRCHES), which will help map the distribution and dynamics of water on the moon's surface.

Lunar IceCube will come home to MSU for additional testing, then will be sent to NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida for integration into the Artemis I mission.

"This is a major milestone for this seven-year, \$24 million mission," said Dr. Ben Malphrus, executive director of MSU's Space Science Center and professor of space science. "We have a few more hurdles: pre-ship review, flight readiness review, delivery to NASA KSC and operational readiness review. It will be a busy summer, but this is a major milestone."

For more information about Lunar IceCube and the Artemis I mission, visit <https://go.nasa.gov/3wgwJVO>.

To explore programs in MSU's Department of Physics, Earth Science and Space Systems Engineering, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/phes](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/phes), email [phes@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:phes@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2381.

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# NEWS RELEASE

**June 25, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **MSPR News Team earns Kentucky Broadcast Association Awards**

Morehead State Public Radio (WMKY, 90.3FM) staff and students received numerous awards in the 2021 Kentucky Broadcasters Association (KBA) Impact Broadcast Awards.

The radio station, located in Breckinridge Hall, earned a total of 13 awards in the professional and college divisions, including three first-place finishes.

### Radio College Division:

- 1st Place – Best Newscast, Kennealy Roberts and Sarah Meade ("Mountain Edition News")
- 1st Place – Best Website, Morehead State University ("wmky.org")
- 2nd Place – Best Radio Reporter, Sarah Meade
- 3rd Place – Best Radio Reporter, Kennealy Roberts
- 3rd Place – Best Feature Story, Kennealy Roberts ("The Ritual of Food in Appalachia")
- 3rd Place – Best Sports Coverage, Johnathan Burton ("Rush Off-Road")
- 3rd Place – Best News Story, Michael Green ("Kentucky Court System Pandemic Changes")

Burton is a junior convergent media major from Hillsboro; Meade is a senior convergent media major from Paintsville; and Roberts is a junior convergent media major from Morehead. Green, a native of Grayson, earned his bachelor's degree in convergent media in May 2020.

### Radio Professional Division:

- 1st Place – Best Long Newscast, Leeann Akers ("Mountain Edition News")

- 2nd Place – Overall Excellence, WMKY
- 2nd Place – Best Short Newscast, Tanner Boyd ("WMKY News")
- 2nd Place – Best Sports Reporting, Leeann Akers and Tanner Boyd ("WMKY Sports")
- 2nd Place – Best Investigative Reporting, Tanner Boyd ("Church Sex Scandal")
- 3rd Place – Best Digital Coverage, Leeann Akers, Tanner Boyd and Kennealy Roberts

"MSPR is dedicated to providing quality educational opportunities to our many student work-studies, volunteers and interns," said Paul Hitchcock, general manager of MSPR. "An important part of our mission is preserving and promoting this region's cultural heritage with programming that is educational, informative and entertaining. Providing local news is a major part of preserving our heritage. I'm extremely proud of our news staff, including a great team of student work-studies. They work long hours to provide in-depth, fair and accurate news to our listeners. Their dedication and commitment to MSPR's listeners is outstanding."

Meade said she's acquired a range of skills working at the radio station that is preparing her for her future career.

"Some of the skills that I've learned in those roles has been producing and editing daily news and sports reports, editing audio packages with digital editing software, curating content, and preventing inappropriate airings to maintain station compliance with federal regulations, setting up and running equipment in diverse conditions at on-site interviews and completing accurate, engaging and fact-checked stories," Meade said. "The best part about working at the radio station is that no day is the same. Every day you're working on new stories and learning new information."

Roberts said she appreciates the mentorship she receives from the radio station's professional staff.

"I love everyone I work with, and all of my superiors at the station are so helpful and kind. Working at MSPR gives a sense of preparedness that I wouldn't have gotten otherwise," she said. "My favorite part of working at MSPR is being able to gain experience that I'll need going forward in a very safe and welcoming environment. Since having all the hands-on experience we get as work studies at MSPR, I won't be going into the workforce blind. I'll be very well prepared for the world of professional journalism since I'll have already been technically working as a journalist my entire college career."

The Board of Regents governs Morehead State Public Radio (MSPR) at Morehead State University (MSU) in Morehead, Kentucky. MSPR is operated at 50,000 watts (50,000 kW) by its flagship station, WMKY, at 90.3FM. WMKY can also operate for unlimited operation at 5,000 watts (5kW) using an auxiliary transmitter and non-directional antenna. Since 1965, WMKY has served the communities in more than twenty counties throughout eastern Kentucky, southern Ohio and western West Virginia. MSPR's mission is to provide regional programming that is educational, informative and



entertaining. Through the work provided by a staff consisting of four full-time directors, several part-time personnel, Morehead State University student work-studies and community volunteers, MSPR offers regional news, public affairs and documentary programming, and a variety of music programs consisting of classical, jazz and Americana.

To learn more about MSPR, visit [www.wmky.org](http://www.wmky.org), email Hitchcock at [p.hitchc@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:p.hitchc@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2001.

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# NEWS RELEASE

**June 25, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

## **MSU ranked in Best For Vets: Colleges 2021 rankings**

Morehead State University supports veterans and military students and offers what they need to be successful. Once again, MSU is receiving national recognition for these efforts.

MSU is recognized among the best four-year colleges for veterans in the country in Military Times' Best for Vets: Colleges 2021 rankings released June 16.

"It is great to achieve once again the Best for Vets recognition," said Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives. "As we continue to enhance comprehensive-cross campus support to military-related students, the impact will first be realized by the students with the associated byproduct of this and other achievements. Our essential focus will always be helping them and all students soar higher."

Military Times Best for Vets: Colleges ranking is a top resource for veterans to help with their education decisions. This year's rankings now include an individual web page for each school. It provides detailed information about their program that will help veterans make important decisions about their career planning and how to use the education benefits they earned through military service.

To view the full rankings, visit [colleges.militarytimes.com](http://colleges.militarytimes.com).

Military Times' annual Best for Vets survey asks colleges and universities to disclose academic outcome and input data, describe many aspects of veteran culture on campus and meticulously document a wide array of services, particular policies, accommodations and financial incentives offered to students with military ties. Military Times also factors in data from the Veterans Affairs and Defense departments and three Education Department sources: the IPEDS Data Center, College Scorecard data, and the Cohort Default Rate Database.

MSU is also recognized as a military/veteran-friendly university by GI Jobs magazine, Military Advanced Education journal, the Military Times, the U.S. News & World Report and Veterans National Honor Society.

MSU's Lt. Col. Alan R. Baldwin Veterans Resource Center builds on the University's continued efforts to provide MSU's military and veteran students with the service, support and assistance they have earned. The center aims to eliminate obstacles and ensure that our veterans transition to college with greater ease.

Other ways MSU assists our military and veteran students include:

- Application fee waived
- Priority registration
- Credit for military training and service
- No academic penalty upon documented deployment
- Participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program
- Student Veteran Association

Veterans, National Guardsmen and Reservists, and military families may learn more by contacting Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives, at 606-783-9416 or [ssession@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:ssession@moreheadstate.edu).

For a complete listing of military-related services, including enrollment, support services and benefits information, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans).

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Military Times' annual Best for Vets survey asks colleges and universities to disclose academic outcome and input data, describe many aspects of veteran culture on campus and meticulously document a wide array of services, particular policies, accommodations and financial incentives offered to students with military ties. Military Times also factors in data from the Veterans Affairs and Defense departments and three Education Department sources: the IPEDS Data Center, College Scorecard data, and the Cohort Default Rate Database.

MSU is also recognized as a military/veteran-friendly university by GI Jobs magazine, Military Advanced Education journal, the Military Times, the U.S. News & World Report and Veterans National Honor Society.

MSU's Lt. Col. Alan R. Baldwin Veterans Resource Center builds on the University's continued efforts to provide MSU's military and veteran students with the service, support and assistance they have earned. The center aims to eliminate obstacles and ensure that our veterans transition to college with greater ease.

Other ways MSU assists our military and veteran students include:

- Application fee waived
- Priority registration
- Credit for military training and service
- No academic penalty upon documented deployment
- Participation in the Yellow Ribbon Program
- Student Veteran Association

Veterans, National Guardsmen and Reservists, and military families may learn more by contacting Dr. Silas Session, director of military initiatives, at 606-783-9416 or [ssession@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:ssession@moreheadstate.edu).

For a complete listing of military-related services, including enrollment, support services and benefits information, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/veterans).

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*MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity, educational institution.*



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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 29, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Tresia Swain Memorial Scholarship established, first recipient announced**

The Morehead State University Foundation has announced the establishment of the Tresia Swain Memorial Scholarship Fund, a fund to benefit Morehead State University students.

Swain (Class of 1980 and 1986) grew up in Fleming County. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art, certification in remedial reading and a Master of Arts in K-12 Education, from Morehead State. Swain spent 27 years as an educator, first serving as a teacher and then principal of Rowan County Middle School for 15 years. She was the leading force in the inspired design of a new middle school facility that opened in 2011, six months before her retirement.

As an educator, she was known for her supportive nature and her inspirational leadership. Swain believed that every child should be provided all the resources necessary to thrive in a compassionate and uplifting educational environment. Education was her lifelong passion and a responsibility she carried with her every day. She touched thousands of lives during her days as an educator.

Swain passed away on July 18, 2020, at the age of 68. Her husband, Adrian, established the Tresia Swain Memorial Scholarship through the MSU Foundation to remember her and support future students at MSU. He has personally committed more than \$26,000 and thanks to the contribution of several family and friends, the endowment will be valued at \$30,000.

“I am thankful to be able to create this endowment in Tresia’s memory,” Adrian said. “She was passionate about education and a scholarship endowment will allow her passion to live on through the lives of the students it helps along the way.”

The scholarship will be awarded annually to juniors or seniors majoring in elementary or middle grades education with preference given to students from Rowan County.

Jessica Purdy is the first recipient of the scholarship. Purdy is a junior from Morehead majoring in early elementary education.

“This scholarship will allow me to reach not only my educational goals but achieve my future career goals as well,” Purdy said. “I hope to be the elementary school teacher who remains optimistic and passionate towards what I do every day. I hope to inspire kids to be the best that they can be.”

Students interested in applying to this scholarship, along with other privately funded scholarships managed by the MSU Foundation, should visit the online scholarship application at [moreheadstate.awardspring.com](https://moreheadstate.awardspring.com).

For more information on this scholarship, or to establish your own, contact MSU’s Office of Alumni Relations and Development at 606-783-2033, email [giving@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:giving@moreheadstate.edu) or visit [alumni.moreheadstate.edu](https://alumni.moreheadstate.edu).

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 29, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Professor Steve Chan and graduate student Michael Simmons publish article in 'Future Focus'**

Dr. Steve Chen, Morehead State professor of sport management, and sport management graduate student, Michael Simmons of Arlington, Virginia, just published an article in the journal, "Future Focus."

The article, "A recreation department's response, and resolution to COVID-19 pandemic," addresses how recreation and fitness sectors were impacted by the outbreak of COVID-19 and described how the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) department of Alexandria, Virginia, operated its facility with proper emergency responses and best practice. Simmons is the park operation manager for the Alexandria RCPA.

"Mr. Simmons was very happy about being able to share his expertise and knowledge with recreation/wellness professionals and offer the best practices to serve clients during the COVID pandemic. Honestly, we are a little surprised about some reviewers' skepticism about our emphasis on the effectiveness of social distance and mask-wearing," Chen said. "However, the chief editor and the majority of the reviewers were able to value our insights and agree to publish our work. I think the main contribution of our article is to precisely document the exact operational process of a recreational center under a public health crisis."

View the article at [www.ohahperd.org/assets/FFsp2021-web.pdf](http://www.ohahperd.org/assets/FFsp2021-web.pdf).

For more information about MSU's sport management master's program, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/study/MA-sportmgmt](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/study/MA-sportmgmt), email [jhypes@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:jhypes@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2176.

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## NEWS RELEASE

**June 30, 2021**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MOREHEAD, Ky.---**

### **Jason Radford named superintendent of Oldham County Schools**

Growing up on a dairy farm in Cumberland County, Jason Radford (Class of 2015) grew up around family members who worked in education and developed a passion for helping people and working with students. Thanks to his dedication and career experience Radford has been named the superintendent of Oldham County Schools.

Radford's desire to be a superintendent led him to enroll in MSU's Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program after a meeting with then-education faculty member Dr. David Barnett.

"I was sold, and it was a great experience. I was blessed to have Dr. Barnett serve as the chair of my committee. I learned a lot and met some outstanding educators," Radford said.

On his way to earning an Ed.D. with a specialization in P-12 administrative leadership in 2015, Radford received more than just a classroom education.

"I was very blessed to have several coaches and teachers teach us about life. They taught me about grit, perseverance, self-reliance, and how important it was to stay positive," Radford said. "They always stressed the importance of being the best person you can be to serve and help others."

Radford began his college education by earning a Bachelor of Science in Health and Fitness in 1998 at Campbellsville University, he realized he wanted to shift his career focus to teaching. He then earned a master's degree in secondary education and teaching from Georgetown College in 2004 and a Rank I in general educational leadership and administration from Eastern Kentucky University (EKU) in 2006.

At the start of his career, he was hired as assistant principal for Scott County High School from 2004 to 2007 before serving as principal in Scott County Public Schools from 2007 to 2011, first serving as principal for Scott County Ninth Grade School and later becoming an educational recovery leader.

As he continued his career in education, Radford later served for the Kentucky Department of Education's (KDE) Division for Student Success from 2011 to 2016 in roles as the manager of District 180 and acting director for Title I. Following his time with the KDE, he took on the role for two years as a national school leadership coach for the National Institute for School Leadership (NISL) and the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents (KASS).

After his years with Boone County Schools as both the director of process and performance and assistant superintendent, Radford said he is up for the challenge and hopes to use his knowledge, experience and passion to lead Oldham County Schools and its students.

"This had been a career goal for quite some time," Radford said. "After working 23 years in public education, I feel very prepared because of the tremendous educators I had the opportunity to work with along the way. I feel very blessed to be part of such an outstanding district like Oldham County and very excited about getting started."

For more information on MSU's Ed.D. program, visit

[www.moreheadstate.edu/study/edd](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/study/edd).

To learn more about MSU's Department of Foundational and Graduate Studies in Education, visit [www.moreheadstate.edu/fgse](http://www.moreheadstate.edu/fgse), email [fgse@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:fgse@moreheadstate.edu) or call 606-783-2261.

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