



GOLD RUSH

MARCH 2023

NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

GO FIGURE

MEN'S BASKETBALL DYNASTY

7

Years eligible for Division I championships

4

Horizon League Tournament Championships

3

NCAA Tournament Appearances

COLLEGE CORNER

The Chase College of Law's W. Bruce Lunsford Academy for Law, Business + Technology was named the top law school program in the United States for innovation and business, according to a new report by Bloomberg Law.

The survey evaluated law-school programs nationwide on a variety of pillars but noted the Lunsford Academy's creative and impactful programming for students. Runners-up in the same category include Harvard Law School, University of California College of Law, San Francisco and Fordham University College of Law.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/bdhjrcbz>



BONITA J. BROWN APPOINTED NKU INTERIM PRESIDENT

At its regularly scheduled meeting in January, the Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents announced the appointment of Bonita Brown as NKU's interim president, who will serve until the institution's seventh president is selected and begins their term.

Prior to her appointment, Brown served as NKU's Vice President and Chief Strategy Officer, where she drove the implementation and execution of NKU's strategic framework, *Success by Design*, which singularly focuses on student success and external partnerships and has resulted in the university reaching its highest graduation and retention rates. Brown has been at NKU since May 2019.

"On behalf of the Board of Regents and the whole university community, I offer deep and sincere thanks to Bonita for stepping into this crucial interim role during a period of transition for NKU," said Rich Boehne, chair of the NKU Board of Regents. "We're working quickly and aggressively to turn a period of economic challenge into a season of opportunity for our current and future students, and Bonita is the best leader to drive this effort."

Brown has agreed to serve as interim president until a search process is complete and the Board of Regents selects the next permanent president of NKU. In agreeing to serve as interim president, Brown is ineligible to become the university's next permanent president.

"I am deeply grateful to the Board for the opportunity to work in service to the university as we navigate this transitional period," shared Brown. "NKU has a strong reputation for supporting students in this region in reaching their academic goals and I look forward to collaborating with the NKU campus community to continue this important work."

Brown received her bachelor's degree in history from Wake Forest University and her juris doctor degree from Wake Forest University School of Law. She is married to Wesley Brown and has two children, Joshua Brown, a recent marketing graduate of Morgan State University and newly commissioned 2nd Lieutenant Infantry Officer, and Myliah Brown, who will study early child education.

The NKU Board of Regents laid the framework for selecting the university's next permanent president at its regularly scheduled meeting in March.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/mh2rp2a8>

REAL AMBITION
REAL SUCCESS



BLACK HOLE RESEARCH PERFORMED BY NKU PROFESSOR AND OTHER ACCEPTED INTO TWO ACADEMIC JOURNALS

Research conducted by Dr. Dirk Grupe, NKU associate professor and chair of the Department of Physics, Geology and Engineering Technology, and colleagues at the Max-Planck-Institute for Radio Astronomy in Germany, has been accepted in the Monthly Notices of The Royal Astronomical Society and the Astrophysical Journal. The research shows that one of the universe's most massive black holes, located at the center of galaxy OJ 287 nearly 5.1 billion light years away, is the size of 100 million solar masses instead of the previously believed 10 billion solar masses.

The results show that an exceptionally massive black hole exceeding 10 billion solar masses is no longer needed. Instead, the results favor models with a smaller black hole mass of 100 million solar masses. Several outstanding mysteries, including the apparent absence of the latest big outburst of OJ 287 (which has now been identified) and the much-discussed emission mechanism during the main outbursts, can be solved this way. Findings of this research have strong implications for the theoretical modeling of supermassive black hole binary systems and their evolution. There are also implications for understanding the physics of accretion and jet launching near supermassive black holes, for future pulsar timing vs. space-based gravitational wave detection from this system, and a direct spatial resolution of this system with the Event Horizon Telescope or the future SKA Observatory. The findings are presented in two papers published in MNRAS Letters and the Astrophysical Journal. **LEARN MORE:** <https://tinyurl.com/58hz6unm>



THE SCOREBOARD

NKU baseball infielder Liam McFadden-Ackman had a historic day at the plate in the Norse's Feb. 26 win over the Western Michigan Broncos at Friendship Field. In the first inning alone, McFadden-Ackman clubbed two grand slams, a feat rarely reached in the entire sport of baseball.

To cap off the incredible game, McFadden-Ackman also hit a single, double and triple. Combined with the home runs, the junior Mason, Ohio native successfully hit for the cycle, leading NKU to a thrilling 27-4 win over the Broncos.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/lyzz69246>

BRIEFS

NKU STUDENT CHRISULA STONE NAMED RECIPIENT OF SOCIETY OF TOXICOLOGY AWARD

NKU student Chrisula Stone was named the 2022 recipient of the Society of Toxicology's Undergraduate Research Award, the organization's most prestigious award for undergraduate researchers.

This award is given to an undergraduate student based on the research they have conducted within the field of toxicology. Stone's research project closely examines the feasibility of using feathers collected from nestling tree swallows (a species of native, cavity-nesting songbird) during banding as long-range bioindicators of organismal mercury uptake.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/2p8yfwth>

CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES DONATION FROM WATERS CORPORATION

The NKU Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry is celebrating a generous donation of three high-precision measuring instruments worth \$350,000 from the Waters Corporation.

The equipment and installation were donated as part of a partnership with Waters Corporation, an analytical laboratory instrument and software company. The new instrumentation allows better separation and detection of chemicals in liquid mixtures under a variety of conditions. The instruments will also be incorporated into laboratory courses so that more students have a chance to use the state-of-the-art instrumentation.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/5n8xph78>

FACULTY FOCUS

NKU announced that Zac Strobl will be the next director of the NKU Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Strobl takes over for Dr. David Schneider, who is stepping down to serve as the entrepreneur in residence at the CIE, as well as continuing as a professor of practice in the Haile College of Business.

Strobl currently serves as assistant director of the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, which ignites students' entrepreneurial mindsets, fuels desires with the resources and education to make their dream a reality and fosters innovation across campus and across the region. Strobl is also a lecturer in the Haile College of Business, teaching classes in entrepreneurship.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/stjceasa>

NEW REPORT RANKS NKU'S MBA PROGRAM AMONG NATION'S BEST

NKU's Master of Business Administration (MBA) program has been ranked among the best in the United States, according to a new report by U.S. News and World Report.

This is the fourth consecutive year that the online MBA program appears in this ranking. The program achieved its goal of a Top-100 ranking in the United States by 2023, reaching No. 99. NKU's online MBA program was also ranked as one of the best for veterans, ranking No. 65 in the country, up from No. 88 in the 2022 rankings.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/yc7rhne8>

CINSAM RECEIVES GRANT FROM NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION TO FUND SCHOLARSHIP

The NKU Center for Integrative Natural Science and Mathematics (CINSAM) received a grant from the National Science Foundation that will fund a scholarship for students from racial/ethnic backgrounds and transfer students enrolled in the TRUE ACCESS fellowship. The program supports access and career development for students that are underrepresented in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields. Those in the program will benefit from co-mentoring with a faculty member, participation in STEM research, social events with fellow STEM students and career development opportunities.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/42ujx39v>

ALUMNI NEWS



DR. NEISHA WILEY'S RECOGNIZED FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE

In December 2022, Dr. Neisha Wiley won two awards for outstanding service to the National Association of Social Workers (NASW). Wiley chaired the NASW's committee for associate degree student engagement.

At NKU, where she is an assistant professor and alumna, Wiley helped expand NKU's Help a Norse initiative, a program established to refer students in need to proper channels of support. Partnering with the Northern Kentucky Community Action Commission (NCAC), Wiley was able to expand Help a Norse beyond the University's scope of services, connecting students with emergency financial assistance, housing assistance and health benefit enrollment. Her current research interests include women's self-care, access for marginalized populations and preventing burnout within the field of social work.

LEARN MORE: <https://tinyurl.com/5e3uvu27>