



Murray State University celebrates commencement

Murray State University hosted in-person commencement ceremonies for May and August 2021 graduates as well as 2020 graduates on May 7 and 8 at the CFSB Center.

On May 7, the ceremony for master's, specialist and doctoral graduates took place while on May 8, three ceremonies were held for undergraduates.

A total of 1,464 degree applicants comprised this spring's graduating class from May and August, including doctoral, specialist, master's, baccalaureate and associate degrees. A total of 31 states and 22 countries were represented.

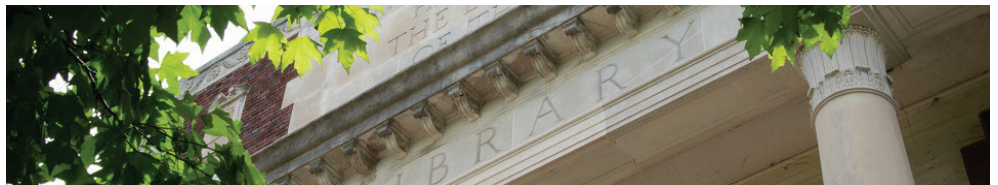
Engineering Physics students design and build electric all-terrain vehicle

The Engineering Physics program provides opportunities for senior engineering students to design a product or device as a part of their senior design class. This year, an Engineering Physics senior team designed and built an electric all-terrain vehicle (E-Vehicle). This is the first time that the engineering program has invested in designing and successfully building an E-Vehicle.

The E-Vehicle is a two-person off-road vehicle powered by a 17-horsepower electric motor with battery capacity of one hour of operation. The engineering students designed, fabricated and tested all vehicle systems, to include power transmission, suspension, steering, chassis and roll-cage structure.

See the video at

<https://youtu.be/J-0gYWJqpA8>.



Murray State University partners with The Quality Assurance Commons

Murray State University has announced an expanded partnership with The Quality Assurance Commons for Higher and Postsecondary Education (QA Commons), the first of its kind to certify programs in every academic college and school within an institution. The new certification process will involve seven academic programs to evaluate how well the University is preparing graduates to be ready for lifelong employability.

The certification process, which began earlier this year, is multidisciplinary with the following programs participating, including nearly 70 faculty members:

- **Public and Community Health**
(School of Nursing and Health Professions)
- **Music Business**
(College of Humanities and Fine Arts)
- **Animal Technology**
(Hutson School of Agriculture)
- **Agricultural Science**
(Hutson School of Agriculture)
- **Criminal Justice**
(College of Education and Human Services)
- **Organizational Communication and Leadership**
(Arthur J. Bauernfeind College of Business)
- **History/Social Studies**
(College of Humanities and Fine Arts)

Students receive national recognition in the Hearst Audio News and Television Feature competition

Two Murray State University journalism and mass communications students have been selected as winners in the radio and television categories of the prestigious Hearst Journalism Awards program this year.

Piper Cassetto, a senior television production major from Louisville, Kentucky, won fifth place in the Hearst TV 1 Competition, and Hannah Bullard, a senior journalism major, won sixth place

in the Hearst Audio News and Features Competition. The Hearst Journalism Awards recognize winners of monthly competitions in writing, photojournalism, television, audio and multimedia journalism. Participants from 103 accredited schools through the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication are eligible to enter the awards, which are among the top awards for student journalists.



Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders launches Early Childhood Program



Murray State University's Center for Autism Spectrum Disorders is preparing to launch a new Early Childhood Program for local children needing individualized intervention in an early childhood classroom environment. The primary goal of this initiative is to prepare young children with developmental disabilities to be successful in an educational setting by kindergarten. Eligible clients should be between the ages of two and six years old and have autism or other related needs.

The program is expected to begin in August and will be housed in John W. Carr Hall, located on Murray State's main campus. Participating children will receive customized support to address social skills, language, pre-academic skills, self-help skills, toilet training and feeding. While the center specializes in children with Autism Spectrum Disorders, services are available for all children who meet the criteria for developmental delay.

Murray State University and Kentucky League of Cities announce community and economic development partnership

Murray State University and the Kentucky League of Cities (KLC) are teaming up to provide Murray State's Center for Economic and Entrepreneurial Development training and informational services to elected city officials.

Additionally, KLC and the center will work together to identify and seek solutions to the challenges and issues facing elected city officials in the areas of community and economic development. This partnership will capitalize on Murray State's regional footprint and will aim to develop opportunities across the Commonwealth.

"We are very excited to partner with the Kentucky League of Cities as we advance economic development initiatives throughout the state," said Murray State University President Dr. Bob Jackson. "We have a tremendous responsibility to assist the Commonwealth in promoting high-quality, high-value educational and training programs through our Center for Economic and Entrepreneurial Development as well as other academic units as we further develop our economy and workforce."

Student scholars selected as Fulbright program finalists

A pair of Murray State University students have been selected as Fulbright program finalists, receiving the Fulbright English Teaching Assistant Award (ETA).

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the United States government. This program provides Murray State students with grants to study, teach and conduct research in more than 160 countries. Fulbright recipients are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement and a record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields.

The first finalist for the Fulbright

program for this academic school year is Elena Hammann, who will complete her ETA service in Colombia. A senior from St. Louis, Missouri, Hammann is majoring in engineering physics and Spanish with a minor in mathematics.

The second finalist for the Fulbright program for this academic school year is Dylan Glunt. Glunt is a December 2020 graduate from Paducah, Kentucky. During his time at Paducah Tilghman High School, he took interest in foreign languages and went on to pursue a degree in Spanish along with a teaching certification while studying Portuguese as well. Glunt is a teacher with Paducah Public Schools.

Scholar and athlete awarded the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship



Christopher Stahl, a senior defensive lineman for the Murray State football team, has been named one of 126 annual winners for the NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship award. This award is given to various student-athletes who go above and beyond in their undergraduate studies and in their sport. Stahl is a double major in psychology and biology from St. Louis, Missouri.

The NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship is a one-time, non-renewable award that is given annually. The NCAA awards, within each season, 21 scholarships for men and women for use in an accredited graduate program.