

Dear University Community:

With the Virginia Tech tragedy still fresh on our minds, I shared with our Board of Regents on Monday, April 23, measures we have taken and will take to enhance the safety of the entire Eastern Kentucky University community.

I want to take this opportunity to do the same with you, expanding on the information I shared via campus-wide e-mail shortly after the events in Blacksburg.

The University has been completing its review and revisions to its Emergency Operations Plan, now known as the Campus Emergency Response Plan, which is intended to provide general guidelines in the event of a crisis situation.

Among the key components of this plan are a campus emergency response team comprised of key university personnel and a response command center to coordinate efforts to manage a campus emergency.

In addition, emergency plans for our extended campuses have been developed or revised recently. These efforts were conducted in cooperation with local, state and federal emergency operations personnel, as well as the University's Risk Management Committee.

The ECU Police Department is a full-service, 24-7 law enforcement agency with 26 sworn and armed officers. Each officer receives 720 hours of law enforcement academy training and a minimum of 40 hours of annual in-service training.

Our ECU Police also maintains a community policing philosophy that includes ongoing bicycle, cruiser and foot patrols across campus 24-7.

Also, ECU Police can call upon the Kentucky State Police, Richmond Police, the local sheriff's office and the Lexington-Fayette County Police Department to assist if needed.

In addition, we enhance campus safety by maintaining landscaping, lighting, shuttle bus services and emergency phones at various locations.

The university has many resources to contribute to campus safety, or to respond to and manage a crisis. In addition to ECU Police, these include many policies, procedures and protocols designed to enhance safety and respond to emergency situations; physical security features such as the card access entry system for our residence halls; and a very valuable resource in the University's Counseling Center.

In addition to its regular counseling services during the day, our Counseling Center designates time each day to address any urgent situations with students, parents, faculty and staff.

The Center provides consultation to the University community regarding student mental health issues and ongoing crisis intervention services, routinely provides workshops for faculty, staff and other students on detecting troubled students, and works closely with campus police in referral to hospital settings for emergency evaluations of high-risk students.

The center's professional staff includes the director and six psychologists, and the staff is supplemented through formal agreements with the University of Kentucky's Chandler Medical Center to provide a senior-level psychologist to serve one or two days a week and with a local psychologist to serve a day or two a week as well.

In addition, the Chandler Medical Center provides a fully licensed third-year resident in psychiatry one day a week and a licensed psychiatrist to supervise the

psychiatric resident. Services to students include effective psychopharmacological interventions and appropriately selected and conducted psychotherapy.

One of the questions presented by the Virginia Tech tragedy is that of how to communicate more effectively a campus emergency alert. Currently, notifications can be provided through the ECU home page, e-mail bulletins, electronic newsletters, telephone hotlines, a campus-wide t-v information channel, WEKU-FM, and other local and regional media outlets.

Also, all campus police vehicles are equipped with loudspeaker public address systems and officers are equipped with hand-held public address systems. Each University building has an assigned building coordinator and a communications system in place, through e-mail and phone, to quickly provide emergency information.

Also, while we are in the process of securing a nationally respected crisis and emergency preparedness communications consultant to provide us with a critical review and recommendations for improving our communications plan, we plan to take several pro-active steps as soon as possible.

These include: collaboration with the Madison County Emergency Operations Center to enable the University to issue an emergency alert via siren and PA system on campus, text messaging, cable t-v emergency messaging, an asterisk system to use for voice messaging all campus phones, a procedure for voice messaging off-campus phones through a third-party vendor, and reverse 911 for use as notification to the emergency response team and a limited contact list of administrators.

We are continuing to explore additional ways to alert those en route to any of our campuses of an emergency so that they may take appropriate action.

Additionally, we will be making as soon as possible numerous enhancements to our physical security, such as an enhanced emergency call box system and an improved camera system.

As all these proposals are developed, issues involving access and notification of the visually and hearing impaired will be addressed.

In addition to these safety measures, guidelines are in place for faculty and staff in dealing with disruptive student behavior in academic settings.

I might point out that in the event a student presents a clear and present danger to the university community, upon the recommendation of appropriate University personnel, the president may impose any necessary measures to protect the student, the University community, University property, and/or the ongoing activities of the University.

Many other pro-active measures are in place, including counseling and educational programs in our residence halls and elsewhere. Supervisory training by the employee assistance program is available for recognizing the warning signs of violent behaviors and actions to take to avoid or minimize such situations.

Housing professional and paraprofessional staff receives extensive training on safety and security initiatives, including crisis response and management. Human Resources and EEO staff will receive training as soon as possible from public safety on actions to take if confronted with potentially violent individuals, and Human Resources will assist public safety and the counseling center in coordinating and scheduling training for all employees.

Human Resources will also schedule the employee assistance program to provide supervisory training related to these issues.

Also, the Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board, through its connection with our Counseling Center, is available to provide professional development and staff training for any ECU department on issues related to crisis and disaster response.

In addition, we enhance campus safety by maintaining landscaping, lighting, shuttle bus services, walking patrols and emergency phones at various locations.

In the wake of last week's events at Virginia Tech, administrators from all segments of campus have been meeting to review our safety-related policies and procedures, and this review will be ongoing. The safety of our students, faculty and staff has always been a paramount concern, but I do believe we can all learn from the Virginia Tech tragedy.

Certainly, we will continue to explore any and all ways we can enhance campus safety.

Board Actions

At its Monday meeting, Regents took action on several items of interest to the University community. The Board:

- Suspended the University Writing Requirement (UWR) for all students who enrolled at ECU in Summer 2006 or thereafter, citing four new initiatives emphasizing writing and assessment that are imbedded in the curriculum.
- Gave the go-ahead for a doctorate degree program in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies. The program is designed to focus on educational leadership in rural areas, and is to be developed, administered and delivered solely by ECU. The University will now move forward to seek approval of the program from the Council on Postsecondary Education.
- Extended the time limit for completing master's degree programs from seven to 10 years for programs greater than 40 hours.
- Approved a policy change to allow graduate students who encounter academic difficulties at some point in their graduate studies to pursue graduate degrees in other programs while remaining in good academic standing. The new policy mirrors that of our current policy for undergraduates.
- Approved a revision of University policy regarding "incomplete" grades. The new policy requires a signed agreement between the faculty member and student that clearly defines all conditions and deadlines the student must meet to not receive an "I" grade.
- Modified the University vacation policy to include an additional accrual of vacation at the 10th-year service mark. Under the new, revised policy, employees with 1-4 years of service will continue to accrue 10 vacation days per year. Employees with 5-9 years of service will accrue 15 days per year; those with 10-14 years of service will now accrue 20 days a year, and employees with 15-plus years will now accrue 22 days per year.
- Adopted a University bereavement leave policy to provide employees with up to three days paid time off to attend to matters relating to the death of an immediate relative, including a mother or father, a sibling or half-

brother or sister or stepbrother or sister, a spouse, a child or step-child, grandparent or grandchild, in-laws of the same kind, or other persons with whom the employee had an “in loco parentis” relationship (day-to-day responsibilities for the care or financial support of a child or persons who had such responsibility for the employee when the employee was a child).

- Approved a modification to the University’s Long-Term Disability Plan. Coverage under the current Plan is redundant with the coverage provided under the state retirement plan for ECU employees vested in that plan. Since the University has been paying for a benefit employees vested in the state retirement plan will not be able to use, the Board approved modifying the Plan to provide coverage for those employees with less than 5 years of service (not vested in the state retirement plan) and those employees who participate in one of the Optional Retirement Plan.
- Approved honorary degrees for former President Jimmy Carter, Nick Clooney, Lt. Gen. Robert Yerks, Craig Williams and William S. Daugherty and authorized the President’s Office to determine a commencement where degrees can be accepted.
- Approved naming the tennis courts adjacent to Martin Hall for former ECU Tennis Coach J. Thomas Higgins.
- Authorized the sale of up to \$15 million in ECU General Receipts Bonds for the purpose of renovating Clay Hall and refinancing outstanding Housing System Bonds Series J, K, M, N and O at an appropriate time to be determined later.
- Approved Deloitte & Touche to perform the University’s external audit. The firm has performed the audit the past three fiscal years.
- Approved a resolution commending Dr. Pam Schlomann for her five years of service as Faculty Regent. Dr. Malcolm Frisbie was sworn in as Faculty Regent on Monday.
- Approved Faculty Emeritus status for Dr. Alan Beeler, Joyce Begley, Diana Brashear, Dr. Terry Busson, Dr. Terry Culross, Dr. Gayle Denham, Dr. Steven Falkenberg, Dr. Virginia Falkenberg, Dr. Dominick Hart, Dr. Gary Janicke, Betsy Kurzinger, and Carolyn Yang.

Project Update

In his Project Update to the Board, James Street, executive director of capital planning and facilities management, said meetings with faculty to finalize lab layouts and equipment needs are continuing. Phase 1 project drawings that will construct utility connections to the site should be advertised for bid on April 27, and Phase 2 site demolition drawings will follow shortly behind the Phase 1 bid. The project continues on schedule to allow bidding on the primary construction package in February, 2008.

Clay Hall renovations will begin July 1. Hazardous material abatement will begin on Monday, May 14, to include the removal of floor tile, pipe insulation, light ballasts and some paint. All renovations should be complete and the building re-occupied in August, 2008.

Bidding for Phase 2 of the Business and Technology Center is scheduled for August, 2007, Street said.

The Intramural Field Renovation Project will be phased so field work can begin as soon as possible with the intention of completing the work so play can begin by Fall 2008, according to Street. A separate phase will address the architectural component of the project: a building with concessions, classroom, operations, storage, etc.

The Manchester Postsecondary Education Center will be bid on April 26, with completion anticipated in late 2008.

Other News

- The Capital Campaign has passed the \$18 million mark toward its goal of \$25 million. Annual Fund efforts, including the Phonathon, direct mail and reunion class giving, continue to go well, also.
- New freshman applications for Fall 2007 are running slightly ahead of last year's pace. A more significant increase is seen in transfer applications, which continues to be a special focus for the University.
- Alumni Weekend is April 27-29. At the Alumni Awards Banquet Saturday night, ECU will induct nine into its Hall of Distinguished Alumni: Brig. Gen. Norman Arflack, Dr. Skip Daugherty, Dennis Doggett, Debbie Dyer, George Floyd, Timothy James, Dr. James Murphy, Bill White and Robert Zweigart. Also, former accounting professor, Regent and Foundation Board member Dr. Daisy French will receive the Presidential Award of Merit; Brian Corcoran will receive the Young Alumni Award; and Dr. David May in Correctional and Juvenile Justice and Kathleen Halcomb in Associate Degree Nursing will receive the National Alumni Association's Award for Teaching Excellence.
- Spring Commencement exercises will be held Saturday, May 12. The morning speaker will be Thomas Logsdon, an ECU graduate who served 30 years as a senior aerospace engineer with Rockwell International and who has delivered more than a thousand lectures on six continents. The 10 a.m. ceremony will recognize degree candidates from the Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Business & Technology. The afternoon speaker will be another ECU graduate, Craig Morrison, president and chief executive officer of Borden Chemical. The 3 p.m. ceremony will honor graduates from the Colleges of Education, Health Sciences and Justice & Safety.

News & Accomplishments

January-April 2007

- Dr. Steven Konkel, professor in the Department of Environmental Health Science, is ECU's latest Fulbright Scholar. Dr. Konkel will teach and research at the Dublin Institute of Technology for nine months, beginning this summer. He is the second faculty member in three years from the Department of Environmental Health Science to be named a Fulbright Scholar, joining department chair Dr. Darryl Barnett.
- Dr. Aaron Thompson has co-authored a new book, "Thriving in College and Beyond: Research-Based Strategies for Academic Success and Personal Development." This is the first book of its kind to focus on academic strategies and critical and creative thinking throughout the first year of college.
- Rich Boyle, Associate Dean of Continuing Education and Outreach, has been selected to participate in Leadership Kentucky.
- Harry Brown, ECU Foundation Professor Emeritus, has received a Kentucky Arts Council Professional Assistance Award, which recognizes the outstanding work of Kentucky writers, composers and choreographers. Brown has taught creative writing and American literature since 1970 at ECU.
- Dr. Robin Haarr, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Police Studies, was recently honored by the American Society of Criminology with the CoraMae Richey Mann "Inconvenient Woman of the Year" Award. The award recognizes scholars and activists who have promoted the ideals of gender equality and women's rights throughout society, particularly as it relates to gender and crime issues.
- Seventeen ECU students joined students from colleges and universities throughout Kentucky at the second annual Black Student Leadership Caucus, held at Eastern March 24.
- A paper proposal from Dr. Gay Sweely, Assistant Professor in the Department of Art and Design, was accepted by the International Conference of the Society of Architectural Historians of Australia and New Zealand. Dr. Sweely formerly taught in the two countries.
- ECU's College of Education has established a Diversity Education Council, and a Spring Retreat was held earlier this month. The Council will study the issues and challenges associated with increasing diversity in the College and will direct efforts to coordinate, initiate and design programs to increase the participation and involvement of ethnic, gender and underrepresented populations within the College.

- EKU has developed a new math and science summer program for rising high school juniors and seniors that will allow students to explore and expand their interests in those subjects. The week-long EKU Mathematics and Science Academy in June is designed for students who have earned at least a “B” average in high school math and science courses and have a composite score of 25 or higher on their ACT.
- EKU’s Pi Omega Pi chapter, an honor society for business education students, received second place in the National Top Ten Competition recently in New York City. Eastern beat out such schools as Mississippi State University, Kansas State University and Indiana State University. This is the fifth consecutive year that EKU has placed among the top ten chapters nationally.
- A groundbreaking ceremony was held earlier this month for the Colonel Foot Path, a collaboration between the Student Government Association and Richmond City Hall. The path between downtown and campus will enhance the safety of our students and make it more convenient for students to patronize downtown businesses.
- Facilities Services has received a grant to renovate the three Model Laboratory School playgrounds and replace wooden mulch chips with crumb rubber chips.
- Community Education & Outreach hosted the Bluegrass Workforce Summit, “From Cutting Edge to the Bottom Line,” on March 29. The conference highlighted innovative programs and initiatives that have the potential to positively affect a firm’s bottom line. Guest speakers included President Glasser; Deb Moessner, President and General Manager of Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kentucky; Charnley Conway, Vice President of Human Resources, UPS Airlines; State. Rep. Harry Moberly; and State Sen. Ed Worley.
- “Red Clay on My Boots: Encounters with the Khe-Sanh,” Dr. Robert Topmiller’s personal account of serving as a medic in the Vietnam conflict, has been published by Kirk House Publishers.
- At the regional conference of the history honors society, Phi Alpha Theta, EKU students won two of the three prizes for best research papers. Daniel Weddington won the top prize for his re-examination of the 1930s Harlan County mine strikes, and Whitley Fooks took third for her account of Cincinnati vaudeville in the early 20th century.
- Dr. David Zurick, Professor of Geography, was invited to speak at the Himalayan Film Festival in Amsterdam in February. Dr. Zurick is one of the world’s foremost scholars on the Himalaya.
- Dr. Peter Kraska, Professor of Criminal Justice and Police Studies, was named Outstanding Alumnus for 2007 by Sam Houston State University.

- Lexington Police Chief Anthony Beatty, an ECU graduate, received the College of Justice & Safety's Distinguished Professional Award for 2007.
- A project supported by the College of Justice & Safety's International Justice and Safety Institute reopened human rights dialogue with law enforcement agencies in Uzbekistan.
- Staff members from ECU's Small Business Development Center and Community & Workforce Education now occupy an Outreach Office in a city-owned building in downtown Richmond. The office was established as part of an effort to establish a stronger working relationship with the City to boost economic development.
- The Department of Athletics has recognized 63 Presidential Scholars and six OVC Medal of Honor recipients, the latter awarded to student-athletes who earned a 4.0 GPA during the past year.
- Men's golf earned a perfect 1,000 in the Academic Progress Rate (APR) report for the third consecutive year. Several sports are expected to be among the leaders, both in Kentucky and the OVC, when the rankings are announced later this month.
- Freshman Adam Leonard earned OVC Co-Freshman of the Year honors in men's basketball.

Extended Campuses Taskforce Committee Report
Bullet Points

- Appoint a University level standing committee on extended campuses for coordination and communication.
- Appoint an Associate Academic Dean of Extended Campuses to coordinate curricular concerns and work under the directions of the Dean of CEO
- Ask the faculty senate to amend the faculty handbook to support teaching on the extended campuses as part of the regular workload.
- Create revenue sharing for departments that participate in delivering courses to extended campuses and centers to fund faculty incentives.
- Empower deans and department chairs to use a variety of incentives to motivate faculty to provide instruction at the extended campuses.
- Establish clear protocols and lines of communication and reporting for academic coordination between the extended campus administration, extended campus faculty, academic deans, general education, the transfer center, and home departments.
- Create articulation agreements with community colleges; create new facilities and 2+2 degree programs.
- Create flexible scheduling of classes and terms to meet the needs of non-traditional students.
- Invest in distance education infrastructure to expand capacity and upgrade ITV.
- Provide new faculty lines for business, criminal justice, education, nursing, and social work to provide undergraduate and graduate degrees at a distance.
- Deliver full degree programs and general education courses, graduate and undergraduate, at extended campuses.