



David T. McFaddin
President

TO: Eastern Kentucky University Faculty Senate
FROM: President David T. McFaddin
DATE: April 1, 2024
RE: Faculty Senate April Report

Happy April 1st! As William Shakespeare wisely said, “April hath put a spirit of youth in everything.” I hope everyone gets out and enjoys the springtime energy of Spring on the Campus Beautiful. As we’re past our spring break and quickly approaching commencement, we’re now getting ready for a robust schedule of end-of-semester activities and events. I’m looking forward to the many upcoming opportunities to celebrate the success of our colleagues and students in the next few weeks.

Legislative Update

There are two working days left in the 2024 legislative session. The 10-day Veto Period began on March 29th and legislators will return to Frankfort on April 12 and 15 to override vetoes from Governor Beshear and potentially pass non-controversial bills.

The finalized state budget includes the following appropriations for ECU:

- Asset Preservation - \$25,910,000 annually (No Match Required)
- Model Lab Phase II Construction- \$59.1M (year 1)
- ECU Aviation Program - \$12.5M annually
- Fire/tornado insurance - \$3,125,500 annually
- Inflationary cost support on top of general fund appropriation - \$2,866,200 annually.
- Corbin Scholar House Childcare Center construction - \$5M
- Model Lab Mandated Program - \$4,571,900 annually
- ECU Manchester Endowed Scholarship Fund - \$200,000
- Pension Cost (KERS) Subsidy - \$6,236,800 (year 1) and \$5,345,800 (year 2)
- Debt Service - \$3,424,500 (year 1) and \$7,894,000 (year 2)
- Performance Funding: Total pool up \$29.2M to \$105M in FY25 & \$115M in FY26
- General Fund appropriation: \$60,842,300 annually

Here’s an update on bills of interest:

SB 1	Endowed university research	Delivered to Governor 3/28
SB 6	DEI prohibitions	Dead
HB 9	DEI prohibitions	Dead
HB228	Faculty Performance	Dead
HB288	Guns on campus	Dead
SJR170	CPE Doctoral study	Pending in House 3/28

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SJR179	KCTCS/Huron study	Pending in House 3/28
HCR112	DEI Funding study	Dead
SB191	Performance Funding	Pending in House 3/28

Giving Day

On April 17th we will have one of the most exciting days of the year when we embark on our 6th annual Giving Day event. The goal this year is to have 2324 donors to commemorate the historical academic year that we have had with record enrollment growth, record retention and new and innovative programs that create an undeniable momentum toward the best days ahead for EKU.

Mark your calendar for that night for Trivia Night. Join the Alumni Association for an evening of trivia, prizes, and purpose at *Giving Day Live! Trivia Night* on EKU's annual Giving Day. Head over to Dreaming Creek Brewery for a night of trivia and fun. Kyle's Kitchen food truck will be available beginning at 5:00PM and trivia will begin at 7:00PM. Teams are asked to arrive by 6:30PM. If you want to create a challenge, be an ambassador or get involved in some other way for EKU Giving Day contact our team at giving@eku.edu.

Spring 2024 Commencement

It was announced during the Fall semester that the Spring 2024 commencement will be held at Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY, due to construction occurring within Alumni Coliseum. Ceremonies are planned for Friday, May 10, 2024, at 9 a.m., 1:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Check go.eku.edu/Spring24 for the latest information.

I am excited to announce that this year's honorary doctorate was nominated by members of our Library team. Kim Michele Richardson, New York Times, Los Angeles Times, and USA Today bestselling author, has written five works of historical fiction, and a bestselling memoir. She is a bestseller with a readership in the millions. Her critically acclaimed novel, *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* is a recommended read by Dolly Parton and has earned a 2020 PBS Readers Choice, 2019 LibraryReads Best Book, Indie Next, SIBA, Forbes Best Historical Novel, Book-A-Million Best Fiction, and is an Oprah's Buzziest Books pick and a Women's National Book Association Great Group Reads selection. Kim Michele lives with her husband, Joe, an EKU alum in Kentucky. She is also the founder of Shy Rabbit-a writer's collaboration space. Learn more here: <https://www.kimmichelerichardson.com/about>.

President's Excellence Awards

I was pleased to recognize the work of so many of our colleagues named finalists for the 2024 President's Excellence Awards. Award recipients will be announced at a ceremony on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at the Center for the Arts.

Emerging Leader Award

Lauren Keeler – Office of University Counsel
 Nicholas Moore – Communications and Brand Management
 Jasmine Nettles – Housing and Residence Life

Excellence in Community and Belonging

Laurel Addison – Slate
 Karen Edwards – Model Laboratory School
 Allison McCann – Campus Recreation

Excellence in Engagement and Hospitality

Heather Brent – Student Success
 Dr. Kelly Cogar – Center for Student Accessibility Services
 Carrie Foster – University Development

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Excellence in Innovation

David Fifer – College of Justice, Safety, and Military Science

Tiffany Hampton - Slate

Dr. Matt Schumacher – Student Success

Excellence in Leadership

Dr. Brooke Bentley – College of Health Sciences

Dr. Bryan Makinen – Facilities and Safety

Jeremy Steele – Information Technology

Johnna Thomas – University Development

March In The News:

- EKU and SCC Partnership - Social Work Degree
 - https://www.richmondregister.com/news/scc-partners-with-eku-to-offer-social-work-degree-through-transfer-agreement/article_2712f59b-2a63-5fc9-844d-e7e678be6351.html
 - https://www.somerset-kentucky.com/news/scc-partners-with-eku-to-offer-social-work-degree-through-transfer-agreement/article_ddce21b6-eb95-11ee-99be-a39cfec3e46c.html
- Manufacturing Engineering
 - <https://www.lanereport.com/172193/2024/03/students-choose-eku-for-manufacturing-engineering/>
 - https://www.richmondregister.com/community/students-choose-eku-for-manufacturing-engineering/article_b24e6bd4-e85e-11ee-87bd-b318cc96e25f.html
- COM
 - <https://spectrumnews1.com/ky/louisville/news/2024/03/21/eku-osteopathic-medicine-program>
- Baptist Health Arena at Alumni Coliseum Update
 - <https://www.lanereport.com/172101/2024/03/eku-begins-renovation-of-baptist-health-arena-at-alumni-coliseum/>
 - <https://www.weku.org/the-commonwealth/2024-03-19/major-renovation-work-at-ekus-alumni-coliseum-underway>
- Emergency Responders Feature - David Fifer
 - <https://fox56news.com/video/eastern-kentucky-university-training-the-next-generation-of-rescuers/9527606/>
- COM letters to the Editor
 - https://www.richmondregister.com/opinion/enthusiastic-support-for-osteopathic-medicine-at-eku/article_866dfbea-e2d4-11ee-87c6-47908473414a.html
 - https://www.somerset-kentucky.com/opinion/a-need-for-college-of-osteopathic-medicine-at-eku/article_839ebb04-dd82-11ee-a7bd-872921c34fc0.html
- Fall 2023 Graduation List
 - https://www.floydct.com/news/eastern-kentucky-university-announces-fall-2023-graduate-list/article_89c5c50a-e0b0-11ee-8634-d7f182df7f7a.html
 - https://www.paintsvilleherald.com/news/eastern-kentucky-university-announces-fall-2023-graduate-list/article_6b8ecd72-e0a9-11ee-92cb-4b2e6c49ba7d.html
 - https://www.thenewsenterprise.com/features/neighbors/eastern-kentucky-university-announces-fall-grads/article_fd636cd8-d268-5c44-ab6f-c3e8109684e0.html
 - https://www.state-journal.com/education/local-students-graduate-from-eastern-kentucky-university/article_16319942-dc10-11ee-81c0-fbcefb938c5a.html
 - https://www.pmg-ky1.com/test/the_anderson_news/anderson-county-students-excel-in-college/article_8b2f4a60-a7fb-52d1-8fc7-0372c1ba960a.html#tncms-source=article-nav-prev

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- Fall 2023 Dean's and President's Lists
 - https://www.thenewsenterprise.com/features/neighbors/eku-announces-recipients-of-dean-s-award/article_27d82d47-388d-5318-81d5-867850eeb19b.html
 - https://www.thenewsenterprise.com/features/neighbors/area-students-earn-eku-president-s-award/article_f77e1577-06db-54bb-9b8e-799341ee0ecd.html
 - https://www.pmg-ky2.com/springfield/news/eastern-kentucky-university-announces-academic-honors-for-fall-2023/article_906941b4-1c16-5979-ae31-42d3b926bef0.html
 - https://www.state-journal.com/education/eku-releases-deans-list-deans-award-winners/article_b17ffeea-dd7b-11ee-81d0-339acec94acc.html
- EKU Student Entrepreneur Feature
 - <https://fox56news.com/news/local/richmond/eku-student-bringing-new-pickleball-facility-to-richmond/>
- Forbes Ranking: 2024 Best Online Homeland Security Programs
 - <https://www.forbes.com/advisor/education/law/best-online-homeland-security-degree-programs/>
- Lifetime Movie Filmed on EKU's Campus
 - <https://thecinemaholic.com/killing-all-my-sisters-where-filmed-cast/>
 - <https://list23.com/3721510-which-film-in-the-thriller-series-is-currently-in-production-and-who-played-the-lead-role-in-creatin/>
- Kentucky's Aerospace Industry is Soaring
 - <https://www.lanereport.com/171941/2024/03/public-policy-kentuckys-aerospace-industry-is-soaring/>
- Enrollment Increases
 - <https://www.lanereport.com/171906/2024/03/education-the-numbers-tell-a-story/>
- Apologies Expert - Dr. Beth Polin
 - <https://www.todayonline.com/world/how-apologise-you-mean-it-2378011>
- EKU Ranked Best Bang for Buck
 - https://www.sentinel-echo.com/community/eku-ranked-among-best-bang-for-the-buck-colleges-by-washington-monthly/article_713f9848-f1d7-5e29-8bb1-4e9fc9036c6d.html
- EKU Study Abroad Feature
 - <https://www.lanereport.com/171753/2024/03/study-abroad-transformational-eku-students-report/>
 - https://www.richmondregister.com/community/study-abroad-offers-transformative-experience-for-eku-students/article_fb21c8b4-dfb8-11ee-ab9d-134b38510472.html
- Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet EKU Student Interns
 - https://www.richmondregister.com/community/eku-students-stand-out-in-state-internships/article_951cc91c-d7cd-11ee-ac58-5fe70b99ac1d.html
- EKU Combats Teacher Shortage
 - <https://fox56news.com/video/eastern-kentucky-university-combats-teacher-shortage-connecting-student-teachers-with-districts-in-need/9480589/>
 - <https://fox56news.com/news/local/eastern-kentucky-university-combats-teacher-shortage-connecting-student-teachers-with-districts-in-need/>
- Kentucky Newsmakers
 - <https://www.wkyt.com/2024/03/01/kentucky-newsmakers-33-eku-president-david-mcfaddin-author-nick-rowe/>
- First certification in hypertension - EKU Grad
 - <https://md-update.com/2024/03/nurse-practitioner-becomes-first-advanced-practice-clinician-with-certification-in-hypertension/>
- Eastern Kentucky releases Fall 2023 President's List
 - https://www.state-journal.com/education/eastern-kentucky-releases-fall-2023-president-s-list/article_55c4b5e6-dc0e-11ee-bed0-4b8e716eb750.html

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- EKU COM student feature
 - https://www.richmondregister.com/community/eku-pre-med-student-aspires-to-serve-barbourville-community/article_9d72f204-da60-11ee-83f7-2736a42323fc.html
 - <https://www.lanereport.com/171572/2024/03/eku-pre-med-student-sees-proposed-d-o-school-as-a-chance-to-serve-region/>
 - <https://pr.timesoftheislands.com/article/EKU-Pre-Med-Student-Aspires-to-Serve-Eastern-Kentucky-Community?storyId=65e2488a8f077bbdb80bcbc5>

Upcoming Events

April 15-Sine Die-Last Day of General Assembly Session

April 17-Giving Day

April 23-Milestone Breakfast

April 24-President's Excellence Award Ceremony

May 10-Commencement (Alltech Arena at the Kentucky Horse Park)

May 15-Board of Regents Meeting

I look forward to celebrating the closing of yet another academic year with you in the weeks ahead.

One Eastern,



Dr. David T. McFaddin

President