The Associate Degree Nursing program has been promoting nursing excellence for over 50 years. A measurement of this success is demonstrated in the actions and abilities of our graduates and students… students like Devin Napier. Completing her final semester of the nursing program, Devin continually role-models nursing excellence through hard work, an eagerness to learn, and a passion for the nursing profession. Her constant smile and positive attitude highlights her collaborative, team-oriented approach to nursing care.

Over the summer break, Devin participated in the SPICEE (Summer Partnership Integrated Clinical Experience and Education) program, a competitive enrichment experience that integrates theory and clinical practice through collaborative partnerships with local clinical agencies to enhance clinical nursing competencies. This immersion allows student nurses the opportunity to strengthen critical skills necessary for registered nurses, specifically clinical decision-making, techniques of professional and therapeutic communication, and psychomotor skills necessary for safe and competent nursing practice. During this precepted experience, students work collaboratively with a registered nurse to develop and provide holistic care to acutely ill clients in a hospital-based setting. Students function in a professional nursing capacity, perform nursing assessments, administer medications, and prioritize care delivery. Assigned to a telemetry floor, Devin worked well with patients and staff and displayed professionalism and compassion within a dynamic healthcare environment that can, at times, be highly stressful. Feedback from clinical agency staff reported Devin was “a joy to work with” and very “proactive with learning”.

Devin demonstrates the core values of the Associate Degree Nursing program through caring to promote health, healing, and hope in response to the human condition, recognizing and affirming the diversities and uniqueness of the individual, approaching delivery of nursing care from a holistic and patient-centered perspective, adhering to the moral and ethical code of nursing practice - displaying integrity in all actions, and reflecting excellence through a commitment to personal and professional growth. Affirmed by Aristotle, “We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, therefore, is not an act, but a habit.” Devin embodies this excellence and is an Outstanding Student and representative of EKU.
SAVE THE DATE!

What: EKU College of Health Sciences Homecoming Tailgate
When:: October 24, 2015

The College of Health Sciences will be hosting a tailgate before the Colonels take on the Tennessee State Tigers on October 24! Come join us for great company, time, and food!

Visit explorekentucky.us to see the first entry in a series of articles written by graduate students in the Department of Recreation and Park Administration at Eastern Kentucky University. This specific story is about Yahoo Falls, in the Big South Fork just outside of Whitley City.
Dr. Heather Adams-Blair is the recipient of the 2015 Department of Exercise and Sport Science Excellence in Teaching Award. Dr. Adams-Blair teaches both graduate and undergraduate classes including Exercise and Sport Psychology, Sports Information Programs, Lifetime Fitness and Wellness and Legal Issues in Sport.

Mr. Jim Hinerman is this year’s recipient of the Department’s Excellence in Service Award. Mr. Hinerman just finished his second stint as President of KAHPERD, the Kentucky Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance. He is one of only two individuals to have ever held the position of President of KAHPERD twice.

Dr. Eric Fuchs is this year’s recipient of the Excellence in Scholarship Award. Dr. Fuchs is the Director of the Athletic Training Program at EKU and he teaches three courses a semester. This past year he co-authored a textbook on Emergency Assessment and Care in Sports for Human Kinetics. He also wrote a white paper on entry-level degrees for athletic trainers, which was published in the National Athletic Training Association journal.

The Department’s 2015 Excellence in Advising Award winner is Dr. Jim Larkin. Dr. Larkin has done a great job with our students for many years, making sure they are on the right path to graduation and seeing that they are well prepared for their next challenge. He truly mentors students so that they are the best they can be.

On May 15, 2015 the College of Health Sciences hosted their first college only convocation ceremony in over a decade. During this ceremony the addresses to the class came from the class themselves with one undergraduate and one graduate candidate speaking, Mrs. Brooke King and Dr. Cheryl Mitchell respectively. Approximately 500 graduates were in attendance at the ceremony but diplomas will be awarded to 456 bachelor’s degrees, 138 master’s degrees, 8 doctoral degrees, 42 associate degrees for a total of 656 degrees and 12 certificates from spring and summer. This was a grand event for our students, faculty, their friends and family; complete with a reception for all to enjoy, celebrate, and bid farewell (for now) to their alma mater.
Outstanding Alumni

James Couch graduated from our EHS undergraduate program in 2003. He was an outstanding student and we knew he would go far in the field of EHS. Upon completing his undergraduate degree, he received a prestigious grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) to attend the University of Cincinnati where he received his Master’s degree in Occupational Environmental Health. After he completed his degree, he began working for NIOSH as an Industrial Hygienist. After working for a few years, NIOSH sent him to the University of Michigan where he is working on his PhD in Occupational/Environmental Health. He is now an Occupational/Environmental Health Scientist with NIOSH and has proven to be a tremendous asset to the organization. He also won an Alice Hamilton award which speaks volumes to the EHS professional that he is. We are very proud of his accomplishments thus far in his career.

Improving Kentucky’s Health and Well Being

Residents received free vision and kidney screenings and education on a variety of health topics and programs, at a health fair on July 17th at Tates Creek Baptist Church, in Richmond. EKU Baccalaureate Nursing students along with the Madison County Health Department, Lions Club and Kiwanis International collaborated to host the fair. Education included diabetes prevention, fall prevention, bicycle safety, car seat and seatbelt safety, pedestrian safety, nutrition, physical activity, poison control, emergency preparation and assistance with smoking cessation.

Congratulations to Dr. Donna Ricketts, Professor in the Department of Associate Degree Nursing, for successfully defending her dissertation entitled “The Effect of a Cultural Competency Seminar on Nurse Educators: A Pilot Study” and receiving a Doctorate in Nursing Practice.