

By KYLE WOOSLEY

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# Phillip Phillips scheduled for spring concert

By KALEIGH UNDERWOOD  
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Student Activities Council (SAC) announced Monday, March 25 that an *American Idol* star will bring his talent to Eastern.

Phillip Phillips, winner of the 11 season of *American Idol*, will perform at the EKU Center for the Arts at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 18.

Phillips broke an American Idol record when he won with 132 million votes. Then he went on to have the biggest digital sales week for any Idol winner's coronation song, which sold about 4 million copies.

Joe Katzman, vice president of SAC, wanted to bring a show people would be able to connect with and recognize.

"We felt as an up and coming artist, and also last year's Ameri-

can Idol winner, students would be excited to see him," Katzman said. "We were excited to bring a different type of artist to EKU."

The opening act, Churchill, will perform at 8 p.m. with Phillips' scheduled to take the stage at 9 p.m. Student tickets are \$7 and can be purchased in the Student Government Association (SGA) office from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The EKU Center for the Arts holds nearly 2,000 people with 1,364 lower level seats and 588 upper level seats available. Seating will not be assigned, so those who arrive to the show first will be able to pick their seat on whichever level their ticket dictates. Tickets for the public go on sale Monday and will be \$12. Day of show tickets will be \$15.

"We had our eye on a few country artists," Katzman said. "Phillip

Phillips was trying to do a tour of college shows, so it just clicked."

SAC had a budget of \$35,000 for the event, which pays for everything from the artist fees to promotional items such as posters and radio advertisement. Also, SAC staffs the event and acts as security, hospitality, ticket collectors and stage set up. Other organizations such as Greek Life and other RSOs volunteer to ensure the events success.

Part of the profit goes toward enhancing their operating budget, which is used for more events for students.

"I've been a member of SAC since the spring of 2009, and this is the highest level of excitement I've ever seen about an event," Katzman said. "I wouldn't be surprised if we sold out the Center for the Arts."

## HOSKINS

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it card number through an unencrypted email.

Because Hoskins failed to follow PCI DSS, it could have resulted in potential fines and penalties up to \$500,000 and "the suspension of the merchant account."

According to the documents, if the merchant accounts were suspended, the university would be unable to accept credit card payments, including tuition payments.

The Center handed out 6,899 complimentary tickets, which were valued at \$389,039. While 3,774 of the tickets were assigned to 509 people, valued at \$208,804, another 3,125 tickets, valued at \$180,235, were unassigned tickets. There is no documentation of who received these unassigned tickets.

Hoskins also authorized the

overpayment of a contract \$1,263 on two personal service contracts.

The Center's university-assigned procards were consistently delegated to unauthorized individuals, totaling 98 transactions and \$14,564. These transactions were made at Wal-Mart, Meijer and Dollar Tree. Other transactions not included in the above amount totaled \$1,113.

Hoskins also used the procard to purchase unauthorized meals. Though she was given a waiver for meals specifically for donors and sponsors, the procard was used to purchase meals for staff and interview candidates.

The university directly reimbursed four members of the Center for the Arts Community Operations Board \$638. About half of these reimbursements were for meals and were approved by the chair of the Board.

The Center processed payments for wine for a Supper Club

event. But under university policy, the Center is not authorized to purchase or sale alcoholic beverages without a caterer's license or temporary license. Eastern does not have a license to sell alcohol.

On another occasion, the Center received a donation of beer at a gala opening. The audit found 399 bottles of beer, the remainder from the event, to be stored in a closet at the Center. A separate university policy limits the possession of alcoholic beverage at the Center to certain locations, not including the closet.

Also included in the documents were correspondences expressing concerns about misusing information from Hoskins' previous employer, Centre College's Norton Center for the Arts.

In the response to the open records request, it was stated the issue is still ongoing in the Madison County Circuit Court.

# Five candidates in running for faculty regent

By ELISE SVOBODA  
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The faculty regent election began March 18 to determine who will represent the faculty on the Board of Regents.

In previous years, only a few candidates were in the running. This year there are five candidates for the position: Malcolm P. Frisbie, professor, Department of Biological Sciences who has already served two terms on the Board of Regents; William S. Hatcher, assistant professor, Department of Government; Amy Thieme, associate professor, Department of Communication; Sherwood Thompson, professor, Department of Educational Leadership Policy Studies; Matthew P. Winslow, professor, Department of Psychology.

Robert Johnson is the co-chair of the university nominations and elections committee and said to be eligible to run for faculty regent the candidate must at least be an assistant professor. Johnson added candidates running for the faculty regent position usually have an interest in budget measures and the future of the university.

Johnson said faculty should take the time to "read up" on what each candidate has to say to make an informed decision, because of the role the new regent will have over the next three years.

"This is the time of semester we are all so very busy, but this election is really important and I think

we have great candidates for the position," Johnson said.

The Board of Regents has 11 members on it: The governor appoints eight and three are elected to the position from within the university. The three elected regents are faculty and staff regent, who usually serve a three-year term, and a student regent, which is the Student Government Association (SGA) president usually serving a one-year term. Johnson said there are no term limits for a faculty regent, which is why Frisbie is able to run for re-election. He said he hopes awareness for this election results in a higher turnout of voters.

"As a committee we wanted to make sure the election was well publicized and that there was good participation in the election and so far we have more participation this time than three years ago," Johnson said.

Anyone who holds the rank of instructor or above is eligible to participate in the elections. Voting closes Friday, March 29.

For more information on each candidate visit <http://faculty-senate.eku.edu/insidelook/who-are-candidates-faculty-regent>. For anyone who has questions or concerns, contact the university nominations and elections committee at [FacultyRegentElection@eku.edu](mailto:FacultyRegentElection@eku.edu). Also, there is a link on the faculty senate web page to the open forum video showcasing the candidates positions, which was held March 6 in the Teaching and Learning Center in Keen Johnson.

## MCCONNELL

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Kentucky from seceding from the Union as well as working to prevent war with Great Britain over the Oregon Territory. McConnell said Crittenden performed a great service to the state and the country and set a great example for the need to compromise.

"I think we need to remember that even though we may have very different opinions for the direction the country should be going, there is still room for compromise," McConnell said.

Smith said she enjoyed hearing McConnell talk about Crittenden's desire for compromise and reaching a consensus and this philosophy can be applied to our current leaders.

"History doesn't have to repeat itself, it's always smart to take a look back," Smith said.

Tom Appleton, a professor of history said he enjoyed McConnell's anecdotes about the Crittenden's knowledge of the political process and his desire for compromise. He added that because the speech would be aired on C-SPAN and the media coverage would be a great recruiting tool for the university.

"Not only is he a student of history but he's a news maker," Appleton said. "It's always great to have a dignitary like that on our campus."

This was the third of about a dozen lectures on Kentucky statesmen, which Appleton, who is also campus coordinator of Eastern's Civil War Sesquicentennial Observance, said fit in with Eastern's goal.

"We decided that it would be appropriate to about a Civil War Era Senator," Appleton said. "We have offered about a dozen lectures on the Civil War topic and were happy his was among that group"

Before the speech McConnell presented President Doug Whitlock with a framed page of the Congressional record to commemorate his service to Eastern and the state as an administrator in higher education.

McConnell, who was introduced by Whitlock at the event, said the framed Congressional record page contained the praise for Eastern's outgoing president that he delivered while on the Senate floor.

## POWER

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"Everyone is encouraging that we move forward with this," Whit said.

Richmond Mayor Jim Barnes said he hopes the community can make the event so large that only the football stadium could hold it.

Zane Morrison, 20,

graphic design major from Paris, said he didn't come last year because he didn't know about it, but this year he knew about the event prior to it.

"I saw the flyers and got the email," Morrison said.

Facebook and Twitter pages were also created to help promote the event, and areas around the Powell Building had been chalked with "POMD."

Adam Griggs, a man-

ager at Soft Shoe, said he likes events like Power of Maroon Day and City-Fest.

"They give us a lot of exposure," Griggs said.

Spencer Barrett, 22, public relations major from Lancaster, was one of the students in public relations event planning class that helped put together the event.

"We have had a lot of campus and community involvement, so it's been

easy to market," Barrett said.

Barrett said he was not involved in Power of Maroon Day in 2012 because he had not heard about it, but added he appreciated all of the school spirit that was shown at the event.

"I'm really impressed by the involvement," Barrett said. "I want to see this pride and spirit keep up. I've seen a lot of maroon today."

## BUYOUT

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the cost of alternative health insurance.

The second option has a slightly larger severance package. The participant will receive six months base pay and a \$1,500 health insurance equivalent to help cover the cost of replacement health insurance. However, service payment is not included in second option.

Both options provide the employee pay for any unused sick and vacation leave.

Pam Schlomann, co-chair of the Strategic Budget Reallocation Task Force, has apprehension to the programs the university is offering.

"I have 30 years in, but I still have some questions about the possible tax implications," Schlomann said.

Mark Jackson, worker in Facility Services, said he is not participating in either program.

"My wife also works here," Jackson said. "I'm not retiring until she does. I have 19

years, and she has 23."

Once an employee chooses one of the above options, he or she can't be employed in a benefits-eligible position for three calendar years, beginning June 28, 2013. Also, a person can never again be employed by the university if he or she elects to retire after choosing the buyout program.

On the other hand, the Staff Reduction in Force Program is by no means voluntary. Each program, department and every other entity of the university will conduct an evaluation of workers and efficiency. If need be, reductions in that particular work force will be done in reverse order of hiring by job classification.

For this force program, health, dental and life insurance coverage benefits will continue through the end of the month of the last day worked and multiple benefits will be given to those let go. Job search assistance for 90 days, letter of reference and tutition assistance would be available for only the employee, not his or her family.

The Enhanced Retirement Transition Program is designed for faculty and administra-

tive positions. The program is not meant to be a permanent modification of the current Retirement Transition Program, but rather a one-time amendment to the current policy.

A faculty member must be able and decide to retire under any approved institutional retirement system such as Kentucky Teachers Retirement System or Optional Retirement Program by no later than July 1, 2013 for participation in the fall or July 1, 2014 for participation in the new retirement plan fall 2014.

Additionally, those interested in participating must have applied and been approved by the Board of Regents to participate in Retirement Transition Program with the first year beginning in fall 2013.

Under the current Retirement Transition Program, a faculty member can teach part-time for three years at 37.3 percent of his or her base pay. With the Enhanced Retirement Transition Program, the member can teach for two years up to a maximum of 50 percent of his or her nine-month base salary upon retirement.

Participating faculty can elect for the Enhanced Retirement Transition Program to

begin in fall 2013 or fall 2014. If the Enhanced Retirement Transition Program for 2013 is selected, the period is for one or two consecutive academic years. If fall 2014 is chosen, the term is one academic year.

Neil Wright, a professor in the foreign language and humanities department, said he will participate in the Enhanced Retirement Transition Program beginning in fall 2014 because he still has a daughter enrolled at the university.

President Whitlock said the university looked at plans from other universities in developing the Enhanced Retirement Transition Program. He also said this temporally amended retirement program will not be the only opportunity for revenue to be explored.

Whitlock also believes the program will allow departments to replace faculty and afford them the opportunity to downsize.

Whitlock said there is an ultimate goal for the transition, buyout and retirement programs.

"A streamlined, more efficient university that will be better able to meet the challenges of the 21 century," Whitlock said.

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