

Best of Richmond winners Features, B1

OGRESS

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Board passes tuition increase, changes to admissions

By WESLEY ROBINSON

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The Board of Regents approved tuition increases, housing rate increases and voted to keep miscellaneous salaries the same at Tuesday's meeting.

All measures had been recommendations prior to the Board's vote.

Undergraduate tuition will be increased 2.95 percent, just below the Council on Postsecondary Education's cap of 3 percent. Graduate tuition rates, which are not bound by the CPE recommendation, will go up 3.4

President Doug Whitlock said while increases to higher education institutions will affect students, universities are fortunate to have governor Beshear in office because his cuts to higher education have not been as severe as other state-funded areas because of his dedication to education.

Jennifer Lowe, a senior middle grade education major from Monticello, cited a couple of reasons for the tuition hike not being good for students.

TURNER

"We [as students] struggle as it is, plus I commute," Lowe said.

The Board also approved a hike of resident hall rates by 5 percent as well as average increases of 3 percent on meal plans.

James Street, vice president of ad-

ministration, said the new residence hall would not be completed until the last week of August. Weather delays prevented the contractors from

putting up drywall as quickly as they would have liked on the third floor's north wing will not be completed in time. As a result about

50 students will be displaced until the third floor of the hall is completed. Students will be given the option to stay in Telford Hall at a pro-rated cost if necessary.

The Board voted to keep salaries for regular, part-time and student employees the same as the 2012-2013 year.

The Board approved a change in admissions standards to fight enrollment decreases. The change will allow admission of students with either a 2.5 GPA or an ACT score of 20. The old standard was a grade point average of 2.0 and an ACT score of 18 to be ac-

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Records released in Hoskins case expose improper behavior

By WESLEY ROBINSON

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Eastern released the remainder of the documents regarding the termination of Debra Hoskins. The records revealed human resource policy violations, falsification of records, unethical use of university procards and alleged sexual harassment during her time as Center for the

Arts director. More than 700 pages of reports, university audits, investigations, emails and other correspondence detailed the university's reason for attempting to fire Hoskins June 12, which was blocked by the Center for the Arts Community Operations Board. Hoskins resigned

shortly thereafter. Among allegations:

· Retained personally identifiable credit card information, disspection of the Center's ticket box June12, 2012.

 Falsified invoices for events using incorrect flat rates.

• Procard transactions May 20, 2011 to Dec. 31, 2011 of which nearly halfwere made by other than Hoskins, totaling \$14,564.

 Using the procard for unauthorized meals nearly a quarter of which were not for potential donors or sponsors as is university policy.

• Hoskins offered a Center business manager position to someone before the job was officially posted.

• Overpayment on Center events in-

cluding the Jerry Seinfeld event (at least \$13,588) and the Manheim Steam Roller Event (at least \$6,803).

In an April 17 ruling, Madison County Circuit Judge William G. Clouse Jr. ruled the privacy agreement between



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able credit card information, discovered at a March 20, 2012 incovered at a March 20, 2012 incov

Hoskins and the university did not federal law requiring state funded institutions to disclose most of the documents related to her tenure as Center director and subsequent termination of employment at Eastern. Hoskins could have further appealed the decision but elect-

The records redacted the names of students and other university employees who could potentially be harmed by the documents being released.

Peter Baniak, editor of the Lexing-

ton Herald-Leader said the law has supported the Herald-Leader's request for the records and is pleased they have been released. The documents sought by the Herald-Leader related to her tenure as director of the new \$33 million

facility, which opened last year.

Previously withheld documents were released in March included in the documents internal audit report, which detailed the mishandling of credit card information, complimentary tickets, the underpayment of acts performing at the Center, overpayment of service contracts, issues with the Center's procard and the sale and storage of alcoholic bev-

Earlier this year, the university and Hoskins released some of the documents concerning her tenure, many of which highlighted concerns about the center's questionable handling of customer's credit card numbers and information from her former employer, Centre College's Norton Cen-

ter for the Arts in Danville. 'We are pleased that the records which we originally asked for under

the open records act have now been released," Baniak said. As for the nature claims and reports of the records, Baniak has a different

outlook: "We're going to let the records and our reporting in the newspaper speak

for that," Baniak said. Most of the allegations against

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Task force nears final proposal

By ZEYNAB DAY

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The Strategic Budget Reallocation Task Force recently addressed concerns regarding the Voluntary Buyout Program (VBP), Enhanced Retirement Transition Program (ERTP), Staff Reduction in Force Program (RIF), and the Tuition Waiver program chang-

A draft of proposed changes and updates was sent to President Whitlock, President-Elect Benson and Board of Regents Chair Craig

An email released by The Provost's Office listed May 6 as the final day for faculty to apply. The statement also listed May 13 as date of notification of acceptance for the VBP and May 20 as the deadline for revoking application and acceptance to the VBP.

According to the email, individuals and work units will be notified of position changes, restructuring and reorganization, within the next two weeks. Once the May 20 deadline for withdrawing participation in the VBP has passed, supervisors will begin their final reorganization plans.

"Until the VBP is concluded and reorganization plans are finalized, we are unable to identify who will be subject to a RIF," the email said.

Janna Vice, co-chair of the Strategic Budget Reallocation Task Force, said changes were made to the Tuition Waiver Program to make it more generous than initially proposed after receiving feedback from faculty and staff.

"We discussed a compromise that's still

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By KASEY TYRING progress@eku.edu

The future of Model Laboratory School is no longer in jeopardy. Model could have been closed as a result of the strategic budget cuts said James Dantic, Model's di-

The Board of Regents approved \$500 tuition for the 2013-2014 school year with an additional \$500 increase the following year.

"As both a Model parent and Model educator, I don't want parents to pay anymore than they must," Dantic said. "The increase in tuition will place a greater financial burden on parents to send their children to Model. The challenge in this tuition increase is that it comes without a reciprocal increase in programs, resources, facility enhancements or staff."

By raising the tuition by \$500 the first year, Eastern will be saving about \$350,000. The increase in the 2014-2015 year will save the university another \$350,000. The two tuition increases would replace more than half the \$1.2 mil- lege of Education." lion Eastern gives Model every

"There are two fundamental ways to balance a budget that is costing the University a nominal \$1.2 million: raise revenues or cut expenses," James Street co-chair of

"As both a Model parent and Model educator, I don't want parents to pay anymore than they must."

> James Dantic **Model Lab Director**

the strategic reallocation task force said. "It appeared that some elasticity existed in the Model tuition while there wasn't a source elsewhere in the Model budget to cut significantly and keep the school operational as an asset to the Col-

Eastern students log more than 10,000 undergraduate study hours each year for more than 20 different departments of the university.

While the required tuition increase is a much better outcome than shutting the school down completely, Dantic said the decision presents challenges to Model families because it compares Model to private schools.

'Model is probably more 'public' than other public schools in Kentucky due to its additional responsibilities beyond [Pre-Kindergarten] through 12 instruction in providing EKU undergraduate experiential and educational requirements associated with their university coursework." Dantic said. "We need to be careful about avoiding any perception that we are a private school based upon a narrow interpretation of student tuition which only funds a portion of our budget. Though our parents pay tuition, Model should not

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Campus burglaries increased during spring semester

By WESLEY ROBINSON

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As the Police Beats report more thefts, EKU Police wants students, faculty and staff to help prevent burglaries.

Between Jan. 1 and April 19, EKU Police has responded to eight second-degree burglary cases and three third-degree burglary cases, said Lt. Brandon Collins. Four of the second-degree cases were closed by arrest, three are unsolved and one was dismissed because it was an unfounded case. One of the third-degree cases have been closed by arrest, the other

two remain open. Collins said "solvability factors" determine how long it takes to solve a case. Such factors include whether there are suspects named by the victim, witnesses to the crime and serial numbers or identifiable

"We work cases that have active leads first," Collins said.

"We will go back a few months after the others are reported to see if any new leads are available before we close them due to no solvability factors."

EKU Police Chief Brian Mullins said negligence is the primary reason for most of the cases. He offered a common tip to students, faculty and staff: Don't leave valuables unattended, lock offices and remove all valuables from vehicle and report suspicious activity.

"Just call us, even if you're wrong [about a potential crime occurring] it's OK, it's what we are here for," Mullins said. "Without a question, always report."

Textbooks, smartphones, laptops and backpacks are some of the more commonly stolen items on campus. Mullins said more thefts happen

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Apartment construction is wrapping up



JORDAN BURKE/PROGRESS

Grand Campus at Yorick Place is still under construction but nearing completion. The project began in August 2010 and complex will be open to new Residens by Aug. 1.

By CHRIS MCGEE

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Students eligible to live off campus will soon have an alternative to dorms and apartments away from Eastern.

Grand Campus at Yorick Place, an apartment-style housing alternative for students, is near completion. Construction began in August 2012 and is scheduled to be completed by July 31 in time for the beginning of the move-in period on Aug. 1.

The apartments are fully furnished with

appliances and furniture such as a couch, love seat, coffee table, entertainment stand and bar area with stools. As another added feature, each unit will be equipped with a full-size washer and dryer.

The apartments will have Internet access

The housing will cost between \$540 to \$545 a month.

Taylor Armistead, project manager for Grand Campus, said interest in the apartments is high.

'We've had a lot of leases completed,"

Armistead said. "But there are still a lot of openings."

Armistead also said there are model units open for students to come and get a preview.

"Students just need to call and make an appointment if they want to see a unit," Armistead said.

Armistead said construction is currently taking place on the clubhouse area, which will be home to the computer lab, fitness center, tanning beds, pool, lease office and 24-hour emergency maintenance.

"The management company that is in charge of the project has constructed 50,000 units across the United States," Armistead

Armistead said she would like to see Grand Campus to replace traditional dorms. "I'd love for it to, but I know it won't due to housing restrictions for incoming freshmen," she said.

Students interested in seeing one of the model units should call 859-625-0050 or visit Grand Campus' website at grandatyorickplace.com for more information.

BREAKINS

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toward the end of the semester because it's easier for thieves to identify valuables when students are moving things from the dorms to their cars and leaving them unlocked for convenience.

Mullins said reporting that items have been stolen as quickly as possible helps police recover items, along with having identifiable information like serial numbers readily available.

'It's hard to recover some of the [stolen property], but it does happen that we find it and the quicker we know about it the quicker we can work on finding it," Mullins said.

He also said in order to press criminal charges or file with insurance it's necessary to have some information about the stolen items or crime avail-

"You're not going to walk down to the county attorney's office and file misdemeanor charges," Mullins said. "If you're going to do any kind of an insurance claim, you're going to have to have some kind of documentation."

Mullins said the biggest help the university community can provide alerting police to all potential issues.

'We get out and patrol and we try to be seen, but we can't be everywhere," Mullins said. "We depend on students, faculty, staff, everybody on campus. If you see something suspicious report it."

BOARD CONTINUED FROM A1

cepted into Eastern.

The Board heard recommendations from university officials to set next year's agenda at the last meeting before the fiscal year ending meeting in June. Other issues included negotiating the contract with incoming President Michael Benson as well as a closed session to discuss undisclosed issues relating to the Strategic Task Force and reallocation programs.

Board Chair Craig Turner

said the task force has done a tremendous amount of work to outline a feasible plan and said the university will do a better job with planning in the future.

"The task force timeline brought one thing to light," Turner said. "This is a process that should be ongoing."

Turner said the university wanted to solidify its plans going forward and talks with Benson daily to ensure they are on the same page.

"He is well aware of everything we have been discussing and the progress that we are making," Turner said. "I think Dr. Benson has a very good understanding [of what we

Whitlock suggested to the board that the 21 members of the strategic task force be allowed to use the buyout options. The decision paved the way for Street to take a buyout.

"I was planning on retiring at 60 anyway, which is not that far off and the Voluntary Buyout Program was a viable option," Street said.

Street said his last day will be at the end of June.

Turner said the Board did not set a date for its next meeting, which will approve the final budget for the 2013-2014 year.

HOSKINS CONTINUED FROM A1

Hoskins had been revealed prior to the documents release late Wednesday, but the allegations of sexual harassment and instructing students to falsify time cards were brought to light.

Hoskins was being placed on unpaid leave for a week after violating the university's sexual harassment and non-discrimination policies,

according to one document.

Also among the documents is paperwork signed by Hoskins certifying completion of sexual harassment training on Jan. 3, 2012.

Hoskins former administrative assistant Brigid Gatlin said Hoskins instructed her to do her sexual harassment and discrimination training because she did not 'have the time to do so' in a document Gatlin submitted outlining "countless" occur-

rences of sexual harassment. Gatlin also said Hoskins was inappropriately referring to administration, harassing students and using her procard to make unapproved purchases as well as changing receipts.

Hoskins denied all allegations of sexual harassment and said she did not know about university policies in regards to other issues in which she was accused.

The Herald-Leader reported that Hoskins is the director of the Grand Theatre in Lancaster which is set to open soon.

REALLOCATIONS

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helpful and beneficial to the employees and families as well as to the reallocation ethics," Vice said.

Vice said the initial Tuition Waiver changes were set to save \$1 million for reallocations, while the proposed changes, which increased eligible hours from six per term to nine per term, will still save the university \$500,000.

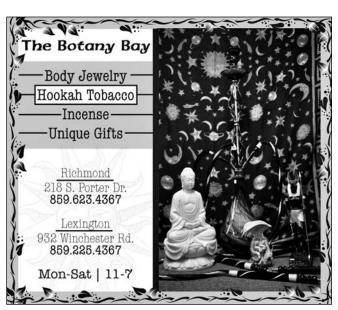
Vice said the initial proposal required all applying to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), while the new proposals do not. Vice said the new plan is set to begin on July 1.

The changes bumped credit hours of waiver per term from six to nine, Employees may transfer hours to a dependent, spouse, or sponsored dependent for a total of 27 credit hours per academic year. Employees are eligible to take up to 18 of those hours, limited to six hours per term.

The Tuition Waiver no longer covers non-credit bearing courses.

For more information or questions regarding the VBP or RIF visit Eastern's Human Resource Website or call 859-622-5094. For information or questions regarding reallocations email the Task Force at BudgetTaskForce@eku.edu.







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