Spring 2011 Graduation Preview

VFTH

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WKU’s continued growth in enrollment has prompted the need for three undergraduate ceremonies on the hill this weekend.

Amy Bingham tells us about more “firsts” that will be part of commencement in this week’s View from the Hill.

Proud family and friends will pack Diddle Arena at ten, two and six on Saturday for undergraduate ceremonies.

But during Friday night’s graduate ceremony, the very first graduates of WKU’s Educational Leadership Doctoral Program will be recognized.

“For me it’s just been a real honor to be one of the firsts.”

The first recipients of WKU’s first independent doctoral degree were recently recognized by the Board of Regents.

Edwin Craft, who serves as WKU’s Communication Technologies Director, will soon take a position at Delta State University in his home state of Mississippi.

“What I think I’m able to do is take the education I’ve received here and give something to my hometown.”

John Baker is an instructor in Leadership Studies at WKU. He says his study of organizational leadership will make him an even better asset for the university.

“That allowed me to pursue those aspects of leadership that coincided with education yet still other areas of leadership I wanted to learn about.”

Angela Gunter, an English teacher at Daviess County High School, says her study of teacher leadership has been extremely beneficial.

“From a practical standpoint, I must say almost everything I did in this program, I was able to bring to my classroom or from my classroom to the program to the coursework.”

Kelly Scott Davis plans to continue her work at the Kentucky Center for Instructional Discipline. She calls the three year doctoral degree intense, but rewarding.

“The classes have been challenging but very interesting, I’ve learned a lot and made so many new friends. That’s been wonderful for me, all the friendships.”

Matthew Constant is the Director of I.T. at Daviess County Schools. His dissertation about one-on-one laptop programs served two purposes.

“I was able to work on an issue that my board of education wanted me to work on, they wanted data on, and fulfill a degree program at the same time.”

Now they will be the first to wear this newly designed gown for WKU Ed.D. graduates.

“To be among the first to finish out of the gate has been a real honor and Western made us feel real special.”

WKU Owensboro will host its first commencement ceremony tomorrow night at 5:30 at Deer Park Elementary School and the Gatton Acadamy commencement ceremony will be held Saturday on one p.m. at Van Meter Hall.

For the latest commencement information, log onto wku.edu forward slash commencement.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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