

Looking At The ISSUES

January 12, 2007

Looking At The Week

Kent State Provides In Depth Visit for Science Students

What is college like? What will I do there that's different from high school? What will the professors be like? These are some of the many unanswered questions that go through the minds of high school students many of whom will be the first in their families to attend college. Increasingly, high schools and colleges are working harder to provide the information.

Ninety-four McKinley High School sophomores, juniors and seniors accepted an invitation from the Chemistry Department at Kent State University to attend "Science Visitation Day." AP and Advanced students in Chemistry, Physics, and Biology were bussed to campus, attended a presentation on admissions, toured the science learning community, participated in two departmental presentations and enjoyed lunch on campus.

Dr. Roger Gregory, Professor and Chair—Department of Chemistry; Geraldine Hayes Nelson, Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies; and Dana Lawless-Andric, Associate Director of Pre-College Programs—Upward Bound Math/Science Center and Kent State Science Learning Community, designed a program to actively engaged students with science labs and the faculty as Kent seeks to increase outreach and connection with local high schools. "We planned a fun, hands-on day and the response was very positive," Dana explained.



Erica, a sophomore, remarked, "In our geology break-out session, we saw some interesting rocks that glowed under black light. I also enjoyed seeing the campus and visiting the chemistry department. They have a 3-D classroom that was very cool!" That 3-D/virtual reality classroom caught the imagination of more than the students. McKinley science teacher

Megan Kennedy added, "Kent has the only 3-D classroom in the state of Ohio. I wish I had access to technology that advanced!"

Andy, also a sophomore, confirmed Kennedy's comment, "The trip helped me to start figuring out what I want to do after high school. I was able to compare Kent to other campuses that I've visited."

Boyd Named Chairman

Stark Education Partnership Board Member, Ted Boyd, has been named chairman of the new North East Ohio Universities Collaboration and Innovation Study Commission. The panel will make recommendations to encourage cooperation and sharing to reduce expenses among the University of Akron, Kent State, Cleveland State, Youngstown State and the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine.

Team Reports Recommendations for Governor Strickland

Adrienne O'Neill, Ed.D participated in a transition leadership team convened by Chad Wick, president of the KnowledgeWorks Foundation. This group examined the Ohio Board of Regents and made recommendations for a report that was given to Governor Strickland.