

KYCO students' research highlighted at ARVO meeting

A NEWS-EXPRESS
STAFF REPORT

Five students from the University of Pikeville-Kentucky College of Optometry recently attended the 2018 Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii to present their research papers. Researchers traveled from all over the world to present the most up-to-date research on a wide range of topics in vision and ophthalmology.

The Breck Dakin, Catherine Donaldson, Kristen Lantz, Nitya Murthy and Sha'Mia Stinson were accompanied by faculty member Adam Hickenbotham. O.D., MPH, Ph.D., associate professor of optometry, who was a contributing author for each of their papers. Additional contributing authors included KYCO Assistant Professor of Optometry Eilene Kinzer O.D., M.Ed., FAAO, as well as Jennifer Kreuger, Shantel Nunez and Jacob Webster.

Dakin, Nunez, Shantel, Donaldson, and Hickenbotham presented "Effect of Fixed versus Adjustable Pupillary Distance (PD) on User Visual Comfort for Virtual Reality viewers"; Donaldson and Hickenbotham presented "Effects of Monocular and Binocular Viewing on Virtual Reality Sickness while using a 3D Stereoscopic Roller Coaster Simulation"; Lantz, Webster, Krueger, Hickenbotham and Eilene Kinzer presented "The Effects of Monocular versus Binocular Aiming on Archery Performance"; Murthy and Hickenbotham presented "Maximum Visual Acuties are Located Outside the Circle of Least Confusion" and Stinson and Hickenbotham presented "Preferred Image Focus Location for Best Visual Acuity and Astigmatic Blur Adaptation."

ARVO is the largest and most respected eye and vision research organization in the world with membership of 12,000 researchers from more than 75 countries.



Submitted photo
Students of the University of Pikeville-Kentucky College of Optometry recently presented their research at the 2018 Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology meeting in Honolulu. Pictured, from left: Adam Hickenbotham O.D., MPH, Ph.D., KYCO associate professor of optometry and KYCO students Sha'Mia Stinson, Kristen Lantz, Breck Dakin, Nitya Murthy and Catherine Donaldson.

ARH helps Blake Burke bring his passion for sports and caring for others full circle as he enters physical therapy school

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Blake Burke is a recent graduate of Shelby Valley High School whose love of sports inspired him to pursue a career in Physical Therapy. Blake is one of the 11 students throughout the 12 ARH communities named a 2018 Appalachian Regional Healthcare Scholar.

As an ARH Scholar, Burke will receive a financial reward of \$5,000 toward tuition and living expenses while beginning his college career pursuing a degree in exercise science with a minor in business at Morehead State University. His goal is to ultimately become a physical therapist.

"I'm very grateful," said Burke. "Any money is good money when it comes to college nowadays. I was pretty excited about it. It's a great opportunity, especially for people who are going into the medical field. It relates to what I'm doing, it's great for the community, and it's a very good helping hand for people who are going into college."

As an athlete playing basketball, football and baseball throughout his life, Burke said he can't imagine not having the ability to walk or run. He was inspired when he witnessed his grandmother go through physical therapy after having a

stroke — an event he says really sparked his interest in the field.

"When I became a freshman in high school I knew I had to pick a career and at first I was interested in engineering, but

I kind of realized that wasn't for me," said Burke. "My grandmother had a stroke a couple of years ago. She was also diagnosed with cancer right about that time. She went through physical therapy after the stroke and chemo therapy which made her 10 times as weak. I got to see a pretty good group of physical therapists work with her

and rehabilitate her and I just wanted to be a part of that because I've been on the receiving end. I saw how she had to go through it and I really want to be able to help people with that. There are people who go through that every day."

After completing his undergraduate degree, Burke said he plans to attend physical therapy school at the University of Kentucky and ultimately would love to open his own private physical therapy practice.

"I just like to help people," he said. "I understand it's hard. Physical therapy is not something that can happen overnight. I just want to help people go from completely not being able to walk or do



Blake Burke

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Most important question in life has nothing to do with whether a chair exists

The story is told about an eccentric philosophy professor who gave his students a rather bizarre final exam. He lifted a chair onto his desk and said, "Using everything you've learned in this class, prove that this chair doesn't exist."

Students started writing furiously, filling page after page with their best arguments. One fellow wrote 25 pages in an hour. But a young lady wrote for only a couple seconds, turned in her paper, and walked out of the classroom.



ROGER ALFORD

The professor posted the grades a couple days later, and only one person had received an "A." It was the young lady who so quickly finished the exam.

Her answer, "What chair?"

The Bible tells us we are to always be ready to give an answer to life's most important questions, which, of course, are questions about eternity and how to prepare for it.

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Our freedom is not free



Another Viewpoint

FRANK CRUM

Instead of Independence Day this year, we have had Independence week. The day itself came smack dab in the middle of the week so we have two holiday weekends. Fireworks displays were scattered throughout the week beginning at Fishtrap Lake on Sunday night and ending Saturday, July 7 in Elkhorn City. Of course, this is all in celebration of our freedom which came at a

very high cost.

The Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776. It was signed by 56 men who were well aware that their signatures on the document meant they were committing treason against the British government. They also knew that if they were caught they would be tortured and hanged. So

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"Bringing Back the 60's and 70's" multiple high school reunion held at Breaks Interstate Park

By ELAINE BELCHER
ANE EVERYDAY LIVING

For the first time, Feds Creek High School Alumni Association is hosting an area-wide multi-high school Bringing Back '60s and '70s" class reunion at the Breaks Interstate Park, shelter #1 starting at 1 p.m. today.

Feds Creek, Millard, Elk-

horn City, Pellier and many more high school alumni from the 1960's and 1970's are invited to attend the reunion. Food is available at the Breaks Interstate Rhododendron Restaurant and attendees are encouraged to bring their own drinks, snacks, a chair and any memorabilia they wish to share.

"For just one day, we want to bring back the feeling of

high schools in this area back in those eras," said Janet Sawyers, reunion organizer. "Individual high schools were so close and such friendly rivals in sports. Now everyone attends big high schools with students mixed together. It's a shame because having that sense of community and closeness — it was a real gift."

As a special event to the re-

union, the band that played at area high schools during that era "Tracks of the Mind," now named "Trax" will be performing at 5 p.m.

"I was so excited when I heard that they would be able to play," said Sawyers. "The band has even agreed to host a jam session afterward for anyone who is interested."

Sawyers hopes that this type

of reunion will become an annual tradition.

"There are already more than 100 people who have signed up, and we are hoping to get the word out so more can attend," said Sawyers.

For questions or more information about the reunion, please contact Janet Sawyers at, (423) 754-5022, or email, jandellsawyers@gmail.com.