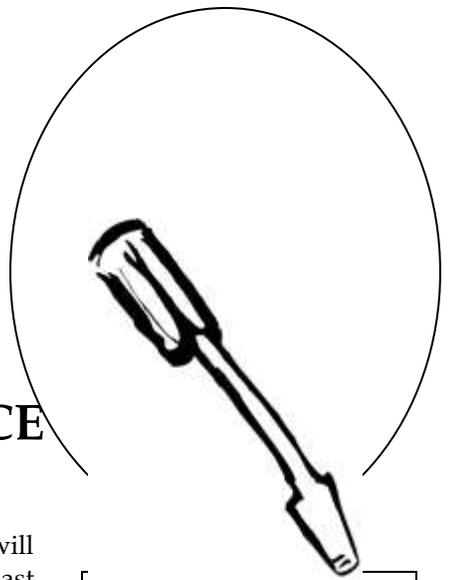


The Big Red Tool

August 27, 2008 Volume 1, Issue 1

"Baaah!" Means "No"



THE WESTERN™ ANNOUNCES 2008-09 PRICE OF EQUAL ACCESS TO EDUCATION

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

p. 3: Engagement Update: Students Engage in Eating, Sleeping, Sex.

p. 5: International Reach: Zimbabwe to Accept Thompson North Chemical Waste

NEXT ISSUE:

Administration to Serve Cake To Faculty, Staff

Photo Essay: A Century of Spirits

The Board of Regents has approved the 2008-09 budget, and with it an 8 percent increase in the cost of equal access to education. Chief Financial Officer Ann Mead explained, "For those residing outside Kentucky, the price of equal access to education will increase 13 percent."

President Gary Ransdell commented that those who can afford the nearly \$9,000 per year tuition will have equal access to all Western services and facilities, "including our reduced course offerings, and especially to the new football stadium and the future Preston Center addition."

The President clarified that equal access to parking has not been worked into the new budget, but that \$500,000 in

new wayfinding signage will help students navigate past full or faculty/staff-only lots near campus to remote, shuttle-service parking on Campbell Lane and elsewhere.

According to a The Western™ recruitment and retention officer, commenting off the record, the university will focus its efforts on attracting and retaining students who share one quality equally - the ability to pay higher tuition.

In an interview with Tool reporters at his Barren River Lake home, Athletic Director Wood Selig expressed a desire to use new revenues generated by tuition increases to realize "broader, equal access of corporate entities to SkyBox sponsorship" in upgraded athletic facilities.

NEW T-TERM CREATED

The Academic Council today announced the creation of a new T-term, designed to complement J-term and May term. T-term would occur over Thanksgiving break, and would span three days, including a day off for Thanksgiving and a study day.

"We really think this will enhance student engagement and provide students an opportunity to help units increase student credit hour production," commented Don "the Don" Swoboda, Dean of DELO. "The study day is important," said SGA President Jonathan Boles. "Students need a chance to decompress after that kind of work."

The Department of Geography and A Geologist has already announced plans to conduct a study abroad to Bolivia during the first T-term in 2009.

BOARD OF REGENTS TO FORMALLY RECOGNIZE RANSELL'S POWERS

At their fall meeting, the Board of Regents is expected to confer the title of "Caesar" on President Ransdell. Board Chair Lois Gray noted that Ransdell had already assumed the position and that this change in title simply reflected his already-established power at The Western™.

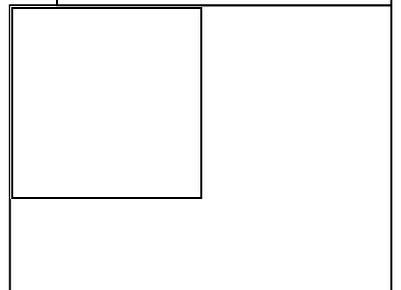
Gray commented, "This really shouldn't come as a surprise to anyone. The job that Dr. Ransdell has done on this university is something to behold," as she carefully arranged several rubber stamps in her briefcase.

"We have truly entered into a Golden Age, in terms of construction, debts, and athletics," claimed Larry Zielke, well-known as a big athletic supporter, "and we wanted to recognize that." The Board of Regents meets again in a few months to approve anything else Ransdell Caesar proposes.

STUDENTS TO RALLY AGAINST APATHY

Next week the green in front of the Preston Health and Recreation Center will be filled with more than a quarter-dozen students who plan to rally against apathy.

Student leader Martha Bogdon, organizer of the rally, stated that their group had been planning this event for several years, but was having trouble getting space reserved on the lawn. "That sort of thing takes a great deal of effort, planning, and commitment," she noted.



Ag. Dept. New Faculty Hire

NEW STUDENT ATHLETIC FEE TO FUND I-A BOWLS

Essential Plumbing Upgrades Needed to Compete with Bowl Championship Series Rivals

The Western™ Media Relations Director Bob "Roberto" Skipper issued a statement on Wednesday that outlined a new student athletic fee schedule. Beginning in Spring 2009, pending a Board of Regents rubber-stamp, the University will levy a new \$25-per-semester "Bowl Initiative Fee" on all full-time students. According to Skipper, the revenues generated by the BIF will be used to equip Houchens Industries-Smith Stadium with extensive toilet enhancements. In a phone interview, Athletic Director Wood Selig added that The Western™ must have "bowls of a quality befitting a bowl-eligible Division 1-A football team." The new Bowl Initiative could lead to significant naming opportunities for athletic donors. The Western™ is withholding the naming rights for men's urinal-troughs until after the November presidential elections.

ENGAGING THE SPIRIT CONFERENCE A PAN-GALACTIC SUCCESS

Participants Overwhelmed by Good News and Optimism

Once again, The Western™ has rubbed out a stunning success in its "Engaging the Spirit" conference. Faculty from every corner of the campus bloviated on the usual subjects, including "How to Engage Students in a non-Sexual Fashion," "How To Appear to Fulfill Wetherby's Asinine Requirements without Really Trying," "Engaging Students," "Students Engaging Student Engagement," "Engaging Student Engagement," "How to Succeed in Administration Without Really Trying," "Student Engagement," and the ever-popular seminar "Brown-nosing Wetherby From Two Buildings Away."

The success of the Engaging the Spirit Conference has faculty from every corner of The Western™ clamoring to participate.

"I don't know why anyone would ever need to attend a professional conference in their own discipline, when our campus has this kind of heady, intellectual atmosphere. The ALA, the AAA, the APA—

they're all dead to me. What could I get there that I couldn't get—no, exceed—here at The Western™," argued several professors from different departments.

"My panel was rejected this year," said an unnamed faculty member from the History Department, "but that's not surprising. I've been rejected from every major conference in my profession. But I have high hopes for next year." "I like how they swipe our cards and give out door prizes and unit awards based on attendance, but also say they don't count attendance. That's the The Western™ spirit!" said Ima O'Toole, of the College of Education.

In an effort to increase the intellectual quotient from 2008, the 2009 conference will feature dancing clowns, macarena competitions, and several Ken Kesey-style acid tests. "Now *that* I'm looking forward to," said Won Jite, faculty from Potter College.

ACADEMIC QUALITY UPDATE:

COLLEGE OF ED. TO INVESTIGATE GRADE DEFLATION

CEBS Dean Sam Evans is launching an investigation into reports of grade deflation in his college. "For the past several years, we've consistently awarded around 85% of grades in the 'A' and 'B' range. I understand that this semester we've handed out four 'C' grades. That's not the The Western™ way."

CEBS faculty reacted with horror. "Who on earth would give someone a 'C'? It would absolutely devastate them. After all, they use color-coded tabs and binder dividers, and happy purple ink."

Rumors that one student received a 'D' were flatly denied by Evans' office staff. "Don't be absurd. Out students are much too clever to receive a grade like that. It simply wouldn't happen," sniffed one source who asked not to be named.

THE OUTSIDE WORLD

FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL DECLARES SCHIZOPHRENIA A "CHOICE"

At the conservative Family Research Council's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., FRC President Tony Perkins described schizophrenia as "by definition unnatural" and "harmful to the persons who engage in it and to society as a whole."

Perkins announced that new FRC research proves schizophrenia is a "conscious choice" and is not genetic or inborn. In an address to meeting attendees, Dr. John Freesinger, a Ph.D. in Art who performs psycho-physiological research on "mental deviants" in the basement of the FRC's Virginia Beach compound, explained that "schizos choose to engage in behaviors that endanger their God-given psychological order, such as wearing tin foil hats, or becoming verbally incoherent and intellectually catatonic."

Dr. Freesinger noted that such behaviors have also been observed in college juniors who migrate to South Padre Island in March and April. He added that schizophrenics who believe friends and family are conspiring against them are "probably not hallucinating at all."

In a separate statement, the FRC reiterated its opposition to Multiple Personality Disorder. The statement asserted that the idea of "marrying two personalities into one is a radical redefinition of traditional identity" and that it will redouble lobbying efforts for constitutional amendments abolishing legal recognition of dual-personality individuals.

"We embrace the traditional personality structure. Our motto is 'One Personality for One Person'," explained FRC canvasser Erica Strauss.

The Big Red Tool is one of the top two newspapers at The Western™. If you have a story, a death threat, rotten spam, or simple hate mail, direct it to:

TheWestern.BigRedTool@gmail.com

Or visit our website at <http://www.bigredtool.com>.

****Next Issue: Sept. 15, 2008****

Tool Activity: Mad Lib! Take a word from each list below and plug them into the blanks of this branding phrase. Then stand back and watch the magic! *"The Western™: A(n) _____ American University with _____ Reach."*

Words for first blank

Leading	Very Filling
Thrusting	Truthy
Poor	Partying
Asinine	Regional
Pro-	Somewhat
Spiritous!	Franco-
Over-Enrolled	Critical Thinking
Entire	Under-staffed
Middle	Following
Exhausted	Undead
Studenty	Punchy

Words for second blank

International	Smelly
Trans-Galactic	Senseless
71-inch	Manute Bol
Whopper	Catholic
Intercontinental	Ransdellian
Martian	SEXI
Muscular	Empty
Imaginary	On-line
Long	Tickly
Cross-county	Engorged
Comprehensive	Grabby