Meet Our Featured Student

MIRANDA IMMEL

Hometown: “I live in Dover and graduated from Dover High School in 2013.”

Why Did You Choose Kent State Tuscarawas? “I chose Kent State Tuscarawas because it is close to home, affordable and inviting. Back in 2013, there was no doubt in my mind that Kent State Tuscarawas was the place for me.”

Why study Early Childhood Education? “When I was in the first grade, I decided that I wanted to be a teacher because my first grade teacher believed in me when I struggled. Teaching is such a rewarding career. I am very passionate about the importance of an education. I believe teachers make an everlasting impression on students, even at a very young age.”

What are your career goals? “My ideal career would be to work as a first grade teacher in counseling or administration. I am excited about the opportunities that will come my way!”

How are your classes preparing you for the future? “The classes at Kent State Tuscarawas are challenging, entertaining and interesting. They prepare you for many friendships. I think the best part about our non-traditional campus is that we have students of all ages in every class, and it makes our educational experience highly rewarding. I have heard so many different perspectives from students in all different walks of life. The class sizes are small enough to get to know everyone, and the educational experience is undeniably incredible – an experience you won’t ever forget!”

What do you like most about Kent State Tuscarawas? “You are not just a body in a classroom at Kent State Tuscarawas – you are treated as an individual with educational goals. Every professor and staff member will help guide you to reach your goals. Kent State Tuscarawas feels like home to me.”

Interesting Facts: A very active member of the campus community, Miranda was the president of the Student Government Association.

For the FUTURE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES

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“We are proud to know we are shaping our future through education and life experiences,” says Chad Conrad, director of development. “As a concerned campus, we strive to provide an excellent, affordable education for our students. Donations to the Foundation support this objective.”

Miranda Immel, an early childhood education major, is one of many deserving Kent State Tuscarawas students who are benefitting from Foundation scholarships.

“Kent State Tuscarawas scholarships have made it possible for me to achieve my dream of becoming an early childhood education teacher at an affordable cost,” Miranda explains. “Without the help of scholarships, I wouldn’t have been able to attend college. I am able to focus on my educational goals and be involved in campus activities.”

According to Dean Bielski, “We are pleased to have students such as Miranda who are so dedicated to their educations and futures, they are going to impact the world! We encourage the campus community be part of that journey and support the Foundation’s annual fund to assist us in providing essential scholarships and modern campus learning resources.”

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Dear Campus Community,

Here we are already at mid-term and it seems that we just started the semester. How the time flies! I want to point out some key accomplishments for the campus that underscore the importance we have both in our region and within our Kent family. First, we were recognized for excellence in teaching as Dr. Donald Gerbig was recognized with the University’s Distinguished Teaching Award. Dr. Gerbig is the fourth faculty member at our campus that has been recognized for this significant accomplishment. Prior recipients include Dr. Lovejoy Das, Dr. John Jewel and Mr. Dave Graff.

Secondly, the campus experienced another significant improvement in our retention rate. Nearly 70 percent of last year’s class returned this year, which led all regional campuses. I want to thank the Kent State Tuscarawas faculty, staff and students for working hard to provide the education and support necessary for this achievement to occur.

We continue to improve support, recently providing counseling service on Tuesdays for all students. Next year, we plan to hire additional faculty and staff to provide even more academic and experiential opportunities for students.

Speaking of plans, our Strategic Roadmap continues to move forward under the guidance of our campus steering committee. Chaired by Dr. Steve Minnick and Mrs. Pam Petracek, the committee is working to provide strategic direction for the campus for the next six years. Guided by the University Level Initiatives, our plan will support the overall vision of the university while remaining focused on our local identity. The plan will be launched during Spring Semester 2017.

I also want to congratulate our students. The members of our Student Government Association (SGA) put on an outstanding Homecoming Parade and were presented at the Homecoming Fri. Oct. 1. Featured on the float (l-r) were Brandi Hudnall, Jake Beatty, Bryan Zimmerman and Jessica Stewart.

A four-member team of Kent State University at Tuscarawas second year nursing students won the simulation competition during the Aultman Simulation Symposium held in October by the Aultman College of Nursing Sciences and Health. This year’s theme was “Linking Simulation to the Bedside.”

“Our students were excited for this opportunity to represent Kent State Tuscarawas and the nursing program,” says Shelly Stefka, lecturer of nursing at Kent State Tuscarawas. “The simulation scenario was a patient in respiratory distress. Our students recognized the situation as such and implemented the appropriate protocols for treatment in the same manner experienced nurses would be required to do for an individual in respiratory distress. I am proud of the way our students performed and represented our campus and the nursing program.”

The participating students - Brandi Hudnall and Jake Beatty of Uhrichsville, Jessica Stewart of Gnadenhutten, and Bryan Zimmerman of Fresno, were coached by Stefka and Mistey Bailey, lecturer of nursing at Kent State Tuscarawas.

“This competition included both bachelor and associate degree programs,” says Bailey. “Our students excelled in communication and were able to progress further through the simulation protocol than their counterparts.” Congratulations to these talented nursing students!

And the WINNER is ...

And the winner of the third annual Chili Cook-Off is Meghan Brindley, who donated her $75 prize money to the Education Club. Congratulations! Meghan Winning second and third places respectively are Marcos Borges and Sara Waggoner. The Chili Cook-Off was hosted by the Education Club and sponsored by SGA.
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Bradley A. Bielski, Ph.D.
Dean and Chief Administrative Officer

We are proud of our 2016 Kent State Tuscarawas Homecoming Court who participated in the Homecoming Parade and were presented at the football game at the Kent Campus on Oct. 1. Featured on the float (l-r) were Miranda Inmel of Dover, Christopher Adamsky of New Philadelphia, Sarah Sanders of Port Washington, Queen Taylor Barker of New Philadelphia, and King Marcos Borges of Avar, SP, Basil.

NURSING STUDENTS WIN SIMULATION COMPETITION

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CAMPUS EVENTS & IMPORTANT DATES

FAFSA Completion Workshops
Nov. 15 & Dec. 12 | 6 – 8 p.m.
Cyber Cafe

Sexual Assault Response Team Training
Nov. 15 | noon

Turkey Bowl
Nov. 16 | noon - 1 p.m.
Student Union

Student Colloquium Proposal Deadline
Nov. 18 by noon

Twenty Turkey Throwdown
Month of November

Thanksgiving Recess
Nov. 23-27 | No Classes

STEM Commercialization & Entrepreneurship Forum
Dec. 1 | 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Founders Hall Auditorium

SGA Float in Christmas Parade
Dec. 2 | 6:30 p.m.

American Heart Association Heart Saver CPR
Dec. 6 | 1 p.m.

SGA Meeting
Dec. 8 | noon | C103

Drug Awareness
Dec. 9 | 10 a.m.

Lightwire Theater’s A Very Electric Christmas
Dec. 13 | 7:30 p.m. | PAC

Manheim Steamroller
Dec. 15 | 4 p.m. & 8 p.m. | PAC

Bachelor’s Degree Graduation Application Deadline for May
Dec. 15

Finals Week
Dec. 12 - 18

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**DR. DON GERBIG RECEIVES KENT STATE UNIVERSITY’S DISTINGUISHED TEACHING AWARD**

Dr. Donald Gerbig, associate professor of biological sciences, recently received the 2016 Distinguished Teaching Award (DTA). Sponsored by the Kent State Alumni Association, the DTA is the university’s most prestigious faculty honor. Gerbig was one of three recipients selected from 10 finalists.

"I have been privileged to teach and mentor students at Kent State Tuscarawas the past 14 years," Gerbig says. "Guiding students to success is a reward by itself. Receiving the DTA this year is an honor and high point in my career at Kent State University."

The award is presented annually to three full-time faculty members who demonstrate extraordinary teaching in the classroom and a devotion to touching the lives of students. Qualified nominees must be tenure track faculty who have taught on any Kent State campus for a minimum of seven years.

"We are proud. Dr. Gerbig has been selected for this notable award for the entire Kent State eight-campus system," says Dr. Brad Bieski, dean and chief administrative officer of Kent State Tuscarawas. "Dr. Gerbig is an outstanding, well-respected professor and dedicated member of our campus community. He is actively involved in campus committees, making significant contributions to numerous initiatives."

Employed by Kent State University since 1996, Gerbig has taught the last 14 years at Kent State Tuscarawas. He teaches several courses, including anatomy for Physical and Occupational Therapy, Structure and Function, Basic Microbiology, Basic Microbiology Laboratory and Biological Foundations, to name a few. He has had numerous articles published in scholarly journals.

Other awards Gerbig has received include the Kent State Tuscarawas Full Time Distinguished Teaching Award in 2003 and 2015, the Phi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society and the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

The Kent State University Distinguished Teaching award was also presented to Kent Campus faculty members Colleen Navak, associate professor of biological sciences, and Jan Leach, associate professor of journalism and mass communications.

Dr. Donald Gerbig received the 2016 Distinguished Teaching Award during a recent class.

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