Northern Kentucky University’s Alpha Tau Omega fraternity raised $31,000 for St. Elizabeth’s Women’s Health Breast Center to purchase a Trident machine, which detects if tumors are fully removed in the breast.

Over the last four years, ATO has raised a total of $110,000 for St. Elizabeth’s Women’s Health Breast Center. They presented this year’s donation live on Fox19 News.

“They are incredible,” said Terri Bogan, St. Elizabeth’s Nurse Navigator during the segment. “Today’s youth are tomorrow’s leaders in our community, and to see how they are so engaged in the philanthropy of local charities is amazing.”

ATO raised funds during their Mardi Taus event, which is a Mardi Gras-themed carnival, and through corporate sponsorships and campus activities.

“To raise money for a great cause is one of the largest aspects of our Alpha Tau Omega brotherhood,” said Alex Altevers, Alpha Tau Omega president. “It is what brings our community and brothers closer together and really shows the capacity that all of us have as NKU students to accomplish great things.”

LEARN MORE: nkuato.org
FACULTY FOCUS

Should we fear the coming age of robots and artificial intelligence? Dr. Austin Lee, one of the country’s foremost experts in social robotics, says not at all. With the help of his robots Coconut and Pineapple, Dr. Lee, associate professor of communication studies at Northern Kentucky University, is quickly becoming one of the country’s foremost experts in the field of social robotics. His recent research has centered on reciprocity and persuasion between humans and robots, as well as our collective fear of robots and artificial intelligence. Despite Dr. Lee’s findings, he’s convinced that robots can make the world a better place.

LEARN MORE: inside.nku.edu/nkumagazine/2017/june/austin-lee.html

BRIEFS

NKU’S RESEARCH AND EDUCATION FIELD STATION GRAND OPENING

Northern Kentucky University celebrated the grand opening of its new Research and Education Field Station in Melbourne, Kentucky.

The Field Station is located adjacent to the St. Anne Woods & Wetlands and the Ohio River. It allows students from all disciplines to observe and enjoy nature, while providing an “in the field” opportunity to learn. According to Dr. Richard Durtsche, NKU Field Station Director, these experiences are where students really make a connection.

LEARN MORE: inside.nku.edu/artsci/centers/refs.html

SPRING COMMENCEMENT HONORS 1,600 GRADUATES

Northern Kentucky University graduated more than 1,600 students at its Spring Commencement on May 5 and May 7, 2017.

More than 1,500 graduates received their degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Education and Human Services, the Haile/US Bank College of Business, the College of Health Professions, and the College of Informatics. Salmon P. Chase College of Law awarded Juris Doctor degrees to 99 graduates.

LEARN MORE: inside.nku.edu/nkumagazine/2017/may/2017-grads.html

NKU 2017 SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

Northern Kentucky University released its 2017 Sustainability Strategy to guide the University’s environmental sustainability initiatives through 2022.

NKU committed to achieving carbon neutrality by 2050 when the University became a signatory of the American College and University Presidents’ Climate Commitment in 2007. The 2017 strategy is the next step toward envisioning and enabling a more sustainable NKU. Faculty, staff, students, and community members were engaged to develop the six goals outlined in the Sustainability Strategy.

LEARN MORE: http://green.nku.edu

SUZANNE FITZPATRICK (’89) AND HER FORMER TEACHER KEN JONES CELEBRATE 30 YEARS OF SCREENWRITING

Suzanne Fitzpatrick (’89) and Ken Jones have a tale of friendship that’s straight out of Hollywood. Jones, director of Northern Kentucky University’s School of the Arts (SOTA)—calls Fitzpatrick his “first and best writing student” at NKU, where the two met when she was a journalism major who had signed up for his playwriting class.

Fitzpatrick and Jones co-wrote “Divine Will,” an award-winning film currently on PureFlix. Over the years, they have collaborated on several screenplays, including “The Abject,” “Dream Thief,” and “Over the Moon,” which won Fitzpatrick and Jones 1st Place in Outstanding Achievement at the Hollywood International Moving Pictures Film Festival (HIMPFF).

LEARN MORE: inside.nku.edu/nkumagazine/2017/june/suzannefitzpatrick.html

GERARD ST. AMAND SERVES AS NKU INTERIM PRESIDENT

St. Amand reflected on his time at NKU and his role in guiding the University during this time of transition.

“When I was asked to serve in this interim role, it was made clear that no one wants a transition period of simply “marking time” waiting for the next president—certainly our students can’t afford that and neither can the region we serve,” wrote St. Amand. “Rather, we must keep charging forward to advance all of our strategic priorities.”

St. Amand joined NKU Chase College of Law as dean and professor of law in 1999. In 2006, St. Amand was selected to serve as NKU’s vice president for university advancement, a position he served in until 2013 when he elected to return to the law school in a full-time teaching capacity. St. Amand postponed retirement to serve as interim president.

LEARN MORE: nku.edu/news/05_11_17StAmandInterimPresident.html

THE SCOREBOARD

Four members of Northern Kentucky University’s baseball squad earned All-Horizon League First Team distinction. NKU tied regular-season champion UIC for the most first-team honorees, as TJ Alas, Trey Ganns, Jake Richmond, and Chad Roberts all earned distinction. The Norse also earned the No. 3 seed in the Horizon League Championship.


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