

# Kentucky Wesleyan College

Parent Newsletter



We hope you enjoy our first issue of our parent's newsletter. Our intent is to keep our parents informed of things that are happening on campus. We will start by listing upcoming dates of interest and college announcements. This will be followed by recent press releases. Please provide feedback so we can work to improve our communication with our parents. Enjoy!

## **Upcoming Dates of Interest**

October 10 -11 Fall Break – No classes

October 12 – Mid-semester (All students will be issued mid-term grades – be sure to ask to see them)

November 23-25 Thanksgiving Break

December 12-16 Final Exams

January 3-19 Winter Term

January 20 Spring classes begin

March 12-16 Spring Break

## **KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE RECOGNIZED BY U.S. NEWS**

**Owensboro, Ky.** (September 13, 2011) - *U.S. News* ranked Kentucky Wesleyan College as one of the Best Regional Colleges in the South and in the top 10 Regional Colleges in the South in the Great Schools, Great Prices category for 2012. "We are thrilled that *U.S. News* recognizes the efforts of our superb faculty and our goal to provide an affordable education," shared President Craig Turner. "We are proud of our accomplishments and appreciate that *U.S. News* is helping us spread the word about the tremendous value of a Kentucky Wesleyan experience. The *U.S. News* data is a reflection of the countless stories from grateful alumni about their successes that began with a solid foundation at KWC."

The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education classifies Kentucky Wesleyan College as a regional college. These schools focus almost entirely on the undergraduate experience and offer a broad range of programs in the liberal arts and in fields such as business, nursing and education. Because most of the 371 colleges in the category draw heavily from nearby states, they are ranked by region.

The Best Regional Colleges ranking is assessed through comparisons of several measurements, such as freshmen retention rate, average graduation rate, student/faculty ratio and average alumni giving rate.

*U.S. News* considers the most significant values to be among colleges that are above average academically. The calculation for "best value" takes into account a school's academic quality, based on its *U.S. News* Best Colleges ranking, and the 2010-11 net cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal, according to *U.S. News*. Only schools ranked in or near the top half of their categories are included.

**KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE NAMED  
"A BEST IN THE SOUTHEAST" COLLEGE BY  
THE PRINCETON REVIEW**

**Owensboro, Ky. (August 2, 2011)** - Kentucky Wesleyan College is one of the best colleges in the Southeast according to the nationally known education services company, The Princeton Review. It is one of 135 institutions The Princeton Review recommends in its "Best in the Southeast" section of its website feature, "2012 Best Colleges: Region by Region," that posted August 1, 2011 on PrincetonReview.com.

Says Robert Franek, Princeton Review's Senior VP / Publisher, "We're pleased to recommend Kentucky Wesleyan College to users of our site as one of the best schools to earn their undergrad degree. We chose it and the other terrific institutions we name as 'regional best' colleges mainly for their excellent academic programs. From several hundred schools in each region, we winnowed our list based on institutional data we collected directly from the schools, our visits to schools over the years, and the opinions of our staff, plus college counselors and advisors whose recommendations we invite. We also take into account what students at the schools reported to us about their campus experiences at them on our 80-question student survey for this project. Only schools that permit us to independently survey their students are eligible to be considered for our regional 'best' lists."

Dr. Craig Turner, president of the college, said of the designation, "Kentucky Wesleyan is honored by the prestigious Princeton Review designation. Our inclusion over a number of years reflects our strong commitment the success of every student through academic excellence."

The 134 colleges The Princeton Review chose for its "Best in the Southeast" designations are located in twelve states: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia. The Princeton Review also designated 220 colleges in the Northeast, 153 in the Midwest, and 121 in the West as best in their locales on the company's "2012 Best Colleges: Region by

Region" lists. Collectively, the 629 colleges named "regional best(s)" constitute about 25% of the nation's 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review, headquartered in Framingham, MA with editorial offices in New York City and test preparation locations across the country and abroad, is not affiliated with Princeton University and it is not a magazine.

About Kentucky Wesleyan College:

Founded in 1858, Kentucky Wesleyan College is a faith-based liberal arts college dedicated to student success through rigorous academic programs offered in a nurturing, supportive environment.

About The Princeton Review:

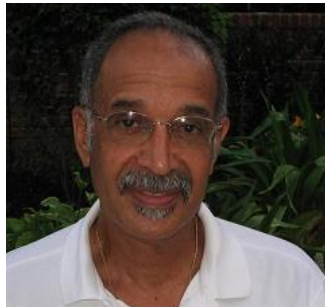
The Princeton Review (Nasdaq: REVU) has been a pioneer and leader in helping students achieve their higher education goals for 30 years through college and graduate school test preparation and private tutoring. With more than 165 print and digital publications and a free website, [www.PrincetonReview.com](http://www.PrincetonReview.com), the company provides students and their parents with the resources to research, apply to, prepare for, and learn how to pay for higher education. The Princeton Review partners with schools and guidance counselors throughout the U.S. to assist in college readiness, test preparation and career planning services, helping more students pursue postsecondary education.

The company also owns and operates Penn Foster Education Group, a global leader in online education, providing career-focused degree and vocational programs in the fields of allied health, business, technology, education, and select trades through the Penn Foster High School and Penn Foster Career School ([www.pennfoster.edu](http://www.pennfoster.edu)). Penn Foster creates the platform to leverage the company's Career Education Partnerships division with the National Labor College (NLC). This venture was formed to bring high-quality bachelor degree completion and certificate programs to the AFL-CIO's 13 million members and the working adults in their families. For more information, visit [www.PrincetonReview.com](http://www.PrincetonReview.com).

## **NICHOLAS PALMER TO LECTURE AT KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE**

**Owensboro, Ky.** (September 20, 2011) - Nicholas Palmer will present a lecture/discussion at Kentucky Wesleyan College on Thursday, September 29, at 7:30 p.m. in Hager Performance Hall, Ralph Center at the college. He will discuss his world travels and conducting experiences. Palmer is artist-in-residence at Kentucky Wesleyan College and music director and conductor of the Owensboro and Lafayette Symphony Orchestras. The program is free and open to the public. For additional information, contact Dr. Diane Earle at 270-852-3617.

## KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE HOSTS WADE LECTURE ON AMERICAN CIVIL WAR



**Owensboro, Ky.** (September 16, 2011) - The Kentucky Wesleyan College Wade Lecture Series will present “British Popular Reaction to the American Civil War” with Professor Richard J.M. Blackett on September 22 at 7 p.m. in Hager Hall at the Ralph Center. A reception will follow. He is the OAH Distinguished Lecturer and Andrew Jackson Professor of History at Vanderbilt University. Prior to his arrival at Vanderbilt in 2002, Blackett was the Moores Distinguished Chair of History and African-American Studies at the University of Houston, and he has taught at Indiana University and the University of Pittsburgh. He has taught courses in Afro-American History, Caribbean History, Afro-American Social and Intellectual History New World Slavery and various graduate colloquia in Afro American History and U.S. biography.

Professor Blackett has served as president of the Association of Caribbean Historians, has been acting editor and associate editor of the *Journal of American History* and is on the editorial board for *Slavery and Abolition*, *Contours*, *American Nineteenth Century History*, *Civil War History*, the Frederick Douglass papers and Black Petitions Project. He has written five books and over 20 scholarly articles and chapters.

The Robert H. and Alma J. Wade Endowment Fund provides this lecture series and is possible through the generous donation in memory of Dr. Wade and his wife by their son, Dr. Bob Wade, of Louisville. Dr. Wade was pastor of Owensboro’s Settle Memorial Methodist Church from 1938 to 1946 and again from 1958 to 1966. He was deeply interested in the Owensboro area and in Kentucky Wesleyan College, on whose Board of Trustees he served.

## KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE CELEBRATES 60 YEARS IN OWENSBORO WITH ALUMNI/HOMECOMING WEEKEND

**Owensboro, Ky.** (September 16, 2011) – Kentucky Wesleyan College will celebrate 60 years in Owensboro on September 22 – 24 with Alumni/Homecoming Weekend.

For more information, see [www.alumni.kwc.edu](http://www.alumni.kwc.edu). To register for events, call 270-852-3141.

**Thursday, September 22**

**Owensboro Art Guild exhibit**

8 a.m. – 5 p.m. • Ralph Center

**Diane Earle Recital • Music of Chopin & Liszt**

7 p.m. • Tapscott Chapel

**Friday, September 23**

**First Annual Kentucky Wesleyan Basketball/Baseball Golf Outing**

8 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. • Owensboro Country Club

**Registration/Open House**

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Martin Center

**Morning Joe at Jazzman's**

9 – 11 a.m.

**Owensboro Art Guild Exhibit**

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. • Ralph Center

**Campus Tour**

10 a.m. • Meet at Minerva

**Off the Sidewalk Series: Lunch with students**

11:30 p.m. – 1pm • Winchester Lawn

**Golden Jubilee Club Luncheon (Classes of 1952-1961)**

12:30 p.m. • The Miller House

**Career Connections**

1 p.m. – 4 p.m. • Martin Center

**Campus Tour**

2 p.m. • Minerva

**Alumni Band Rehearsal I**

3:30 p.m. • Ralph Center

**Alumni Awards Banquet/Memorial Service**

6:30pm • Owensboro Country Club

**Homecoming Bonfire & Pep Rally**

9:30 p.m. • Quad

**Minerva Makeover**

Midnight

**Saturday, September 24**

**Kappa Delta Shamrock-N-Run 5K Run/Walk** • 7:30 a.m. • Benefits Prevent Child Abuse • Wesleyan Drive

**Alumni Continental Breakfast**

8:30 – 10 a.m. • Martin Center

**Sweetheart Breakfast**

9 – 10:30 a.m. • Rogers Hall

**Owensboro Art Guild Exhibit**

9 a.m. – Noon • Ralph Center

**Faculty Reception**

10 – 11 a.m. • Smith Lounge, Winchester Center

**Alumni Softball Game**

10 a.m. • Foster Field

**Alumni Band Rehearsal II**

10 a.m. • Ralph Center

**Campus Tour**

10 a.m. • Minerva

**Kentucky Wesleyan Singers Concert**

11 a.m. • Tapscott Chapel

**Class of 1986, 25-Year Reunion**

12:30pm • Owensboro Country Club

**Greek Open Houses**

12:30 – 2 p.m. • Fraternity and Sorority Suites in Deacon (men) and Barnard-Jones Administration Building (women)

**Campus Tour**

1 p.m. • Minerva

**Meet President and Mrs. Craig Turner**

2 – 4 p.m. • President's home

**Liberty Mutual Pregame Tailgating Tent**

4 - 5:45 p.m. • Sponsored by Liberty Mutual, Campus Ministries and Fellowship of Christian Athletes • • Gate by Steele Stadium

**Kentucky Wesleyan Football vs. Kentucky State University**

6 p.m. • Steele Stadium/Bullet Wilson Field

**KENTUCKY WESLEYAN GRADUATE AND BASKETBALL STAR TO SPEAK**



**Owensboro, Ky.** (September 14, 2011) – Kentucky Wesleyan College basketball great Corey Crowder '91 will speak at the first event in the college's Alumni Lecture Series on Wednesday, September 21 at 7 p.m. in Hager Hall at the Ralph Center. His topic is "*Leaders Learn from Mistakes.*" Crowder is an author, speaker, mentor and expert in the challenges high performance individuals face. After playing basketball in the NBA and overseas for 14 years, he worked in insurance sales and then followed his dream of speaking and coaching people on how to become superstars for life. A master networker and communicator, he has coached business executives and current and retired professional athletes. Crowder is a certified Executive and Business Coach from the Center for Executive Coaching, an International Coaching Federation accredited program. He is the author of *Superstar for Life: A Professional Athlete's Guide to Elite Performance On and Off the Court* and co-author of *The Student Athlete Success System* and *Success in a Challenging World*.

Crowder was the 1991 National Division II Player of the Year and the first KWC athlete to play in the modern era of the NBA, where he played for the Utah Jazz and the San Antonio Spurs. Crowder was named to the Kodak/NABC All-American first team in 1990 and 1991 and the All-Great Lakes Valley Conference first team in 1989, 1990 and 1991. He broke the KWC career scoring record with 2,282 points.

Assistant Director of Development Matt Ruark '09 said of Crowder, "Corey's life story is an all-American journey to success. His reflections and perspective will encourage students, alumni and the community."

The event is free and open to the public.

# KWC to host indie film series

By Dariush Shafa, Messenger-Inquirer

Published: Saturday, September 17, 2011 1:06 AM CDT

Students at Kentucky Wesleyan College will get a chance to learn more about independent filmmaking shorthand, as the upcoming Indie Film Series that starts Tuesday will give students the chance to ask questions of those who helped make the films.

Tamara Coy, an assistant professor of English at KWC with a background in screenplay, is the faculty member behind the partnership. On Tuesday, the film "A Mind Beside Itself" will be screened. On Sept. 27, it will be the film "Elysian," and on Oct. 4, "Silence of the Belle." All three films will be shown at 6:30 p.m. in Rogers Lecture Hall on campus and will feature a question-answer session with at least one member of the writing/directing team.

Coy said this is an opportunity to give students a view into a world they can be a part of and enjoy, but might not have known existed.

"I wanted to show students it's not just about the blockbusters," Coy said. "I really wanted them to see the art behind it ... Short films are such a different approach than a full feature film."

Coy said she is hopeful students will not only learn from this, but embrace it and try their hand at it also, meeting other creative minds in the process.

"I wanted them to see that in short films, they can really explore creativity," Coy said. "There's a whole broader community of these indie filmmakers. There's all of this talent."

P.J. Starks, a writer/director on the short film "A Mind Beside Itself," said he felt this series was a great thing and thankful to be a part of it.

"When an organization such as KWC steps into the picture to help bring your vision to life, believes in what you have to offer and wants to partner on an endeavor, it's extremely validating," Starks said.

Starks said it's important to him to show students exactly what he does.

"The film series is about building awareness and establishing educational opportunities. If a student wants one on one insight into what it takes to write/direct/produce an independent film, they'll get just that by attending the screenings," Starks said. "If someone is interested in helping out and wants to learn more about how they can become involved, they too will have a chance to find out. The world of indie film in our area is rapidly growing and this is a chance to meet those that are on the forefront."

Starks said he also wants students to understand the value of what he does.

"One of our goals is to highlight the abilities of local artists, and in an arts-rich community such as Owensboro, you cannot create enough venues to spotlight local talent. It creates value for the filmmakers who need a tangible setting to screen their work and creates value for the public by giving them a chance to experience local filmmaking in a way they've never had before," Starks said. "For me, it's about giving back by creating opportunities. I've had and been given so many indie filmmaking opportunities over the past four years that I want others to have a chance to experience the same."

Starks said if this is successful, he'd like to return with another series of films for students.

"As co-creator of this series, I assembled the best local indie films our area has to offer. I think the public will be pleased. I cannot thank organizations such as KWC enough for their support," Starks said. "It's because of this support that we have a chance to display our work



and share our stories. I'm looking forward to kicking off Series One and hoping that it's successful enough that we can greenlight Series Two."

## **KWC, River Valley join obesity battle**

**By Dariush Shafa, Messenger-Inquirer**

Published: Sunday, September 11, 2011 12:01 AM CDT

A partnership between a local college and a regional mental health care provider is ready to grow, as administrators involved in the project seek to help fight childhood obesity throughout the community by teaching children to develop healthy attitudes toward food and physical activity.

The project began in January as the brainchild of Kentucky Wesleyan College's Jason Crandall, an assistant professor of kinesiology and health promotion, and Dr. Lionel Phelps, vice president of research and development at River Valley Behavioral Health.

A third organization, the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Office, has also joined in the effort.

The result is a 12-week "multi-component" program, said Phelps, focusing on nutrition education, physical activity and behavior modification. At the same time, the program offers research opportunities, gathering data on children and how they respond to the program and its facets.

"These things are really necessary with children with weight issues to see permanent results," Phelps said. "We work with the kids on changing their attitudes about their physical activity, a healthy look at food and how they look at themselves. It's a treatment and prevention program rolled into one."

Crandall and students from KWC have previously been involved with students from local elementary schools. Their work dealt with activity, including teaching children fun games and activities that would get them to enjoy exercise.

Crandall's students, likewise, learn how to teach and direct children in such activities as part of their studies.

"My students will head the activity. We try to make it fun," Crandall said. "It's focused on keeping them active."

Phelps said he and his people approach from another angle.

"We try to motivate them," Phelps said. "The behaviorists try to work very closely with the trainers on keeping kids focused and maintaining group cohesion. Kids are more likely to do something if they see other kids doing it and enjoying it."

The nutrition education component also teaches children about what they're eating and how they can rethink their choices.

One such exercise had students reading nutrition information off their foods and learning about how that can affect them.

"We don't want them focused on labels, but to know what it is, why it's there and that they can use it to control their intake," Phelps said. "We're coming at this from a clinical standpoint, of what can we do to change their viewpoint. That's something not a lot of people are doing locally."

The need for the program, Phelps said, is growing ever greater with children having the opportunity to pick things that don't keep them active, like video games, using the Internet

and more.

The goal now, Phelps and Crandall said, is to expand the program to more schools or to other organizations that can help them implement it. If possible, they'd like to take it outside the area or the region and pursue state or federal funding to do so.

Though it is research based, Phelps said they don't want this to seem like a cold, heartless project. The exact opposite is the case, Phelps said.

"We don't want the schools to think they're all guinea pigs," Phelps said. "It's really to teach all kids they can change how they think about a healthy lifestyle."

## **Kentucky Gamma chapter recognized as one of Sigma Phi Epsilon's best**

Owensboro, September 8, 2011: The Kentucky Gamma Chapter at Kentucky Wesleyan College was recently named one of Sigma Phi Epsilon's best chapters in the nation and recognized with the coveted Buchanan Cup. The Buchanan Cup, an award for outstanding chapter performance, is named after the fraternity's former Grand President Edwin Buchanan. It is bestowed every two years for chapters excelling in all areas of chapter operations and leadership including volunteer support, recruitment, member development, academics, fiscal health, and faculty engagement.

This marks the first time the Kentucky Wesleyan College chapter has won the Buc Cup in the last decade. For the rigorous application process, the chapter noted a number of efforts designed to make it a high performing chapter among the 240 SigEp chapters across the country.

The chapter outlined its efforts to engage the campus community directly into the chapter's programming and to serve in campus leadership roles like last year's student government president. They are also committed to scholarship and academic excellence and have repeatedly won the top scholastic fraternity award given out at KWC. Kentucky Gamma is also involved in the community by conducting donation drives for the Owensboro Humane Society and raising funds for the Youth AIDS foundation.

SigEp's Executive Director Brian Warren said, "Buchanan Cup-winning chapters are SigEp's very best. Their members set an example for others to emulate. They challenge us to be better men, to be balanced men. Their work is shifting the stereotypes of fraternity from drinking and parties to development and leadership."

Sigma Phi Epsilon, established in 1901, is one of the nation's largest fraternities, with over 15,000 undergraduates on 240 campuses across the United States. Its mission is building balanced men, which is achieved through a continuous member development program that has contributed to a fraternity-wide GPA of over 3.0, a focus on the principles of Sound Mind and Sound Body, and service learning efforts that allow members to develop leadership skills while giving back to the community.

## **CHRIS OWEN NAMED GLFC OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK**

*Threw for 221 yards and two touchdowns*

**OWENSBORO, Ky.** (Sept. 19, 2011) — Kentucky Wesleyan's Chris Owen was named the Great Lakes Football Conference Offensive Player of the Week for his performance in a close 28-26 loss to visiting Siena Heights on Saturday.

Owen, a 5-foot-11, 180-pound senior quarterback from Evansville, Ind. (Central HS), completed 21 of 30 passes with no interceptions for 221 yards and two touchdowns, including scores covering 25 and four yards.

Kentucky Wesleyan (0-3) will host Kentucky State (2-1) on Saturday at 6 p.m. CT.

### **ANTHONY YOUNG RECEIVES ALL-AMERICAN RECOGNITION**

#### ***Sporting News selects senior forward***

**OWENSBORO, Ky.** (September 8, 2011) — Kentucky Wesleyan senior forward Anthony Young received honorable mention All-America recognition by *The Sporting News* in their preseason basketball publication.

Young, a 6-7 senior forward from Indianapolis, Ind. (Arensal Tech HS), led the Panthers in scoring (19.4), rebounding (8.4) and blocks (16) in 28 games and 26 starts.

He was second in free throw shooting (87.8) and third in minutes played (31.1) while shooting 49.2 percent from the field and 35.5 percent from the three-point arc.

His numbers also included a fourth-best 33 three-pointers made plus 28 assists and 17 steals.

The Panthers return seven letterwinners including three starters from last season's 19-10 squad that earned a record-breaking 37th trip to the NCAA tournament.

KWC opens the season with two exhibition contests at South Carolina on Nov. 3 and at Pittsburgh on Nov. 7.

The regular season begins with a home contest on Nov. 19 against Asbury at 3:15 p.m. CT.

**KENTUCKY WESLEYAN FOOTBALL SELECTS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**  
***Senior tackle Levi Ray named president***

**OWENSBORO, Ky.** (August 31, 2011) — Five members of the Kentucky Wesleyan College football team have been selected to the Leadership Council for the 2011-12 academic year, as announced by ninth-year head coach Brent Holsclaw.

Levi Ray, a senior offensive tackle from Brandenburg, Ky. (Meade County HS) will serve as the President.

The rest of the Council include Justin Blosser, a junior defensive end from Woodstock, Ga. (Etowah HS); Chris Owen, a senior quarterback from Evansville, Ind. (Central HS); Jake Pepper, a junior wide receiver from Princeton, Ky. (Caldwell County HS); and Quadarius Wallace, a junior cornerback from Union, Miss. (Union HS).

"The Leadership Council has been set up to help improve communications between the student-athletes and the coaching staff," said Holsclaw. "The Council will be modeled as the "Code of Champions and 10 Commandments" for this football team and family."

**DAVID WILLIAMS NAMED DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS AT KENTUCKY WESLEYAN COLLEGE**  
***Brings 20 years of Division II athletic experience including 12 in administration and 10 as the director***



**OWENSBORO, Ky.** (August 18, 2011) — David Williams has been chosen to be Kentucky Wesleyan College's new director of athletics, KWC president Dr. Craig Turner announced Thursday. He will begin his duties immediately.

The former AD at Missouri Western State University and the University of Wisconsin-Parkside brings 20 years of intercollegiate athletic experience including 12 in administration and 10 as the director.

“David’s reputation as a national leader in NCAA Division II athletics administration is unparalleled,” said Dr. Turner. “His peers consider him as one of the top 10 mentors in the profession. He has an incredibly strong record of building winning programs with the highest degree of integrity and academic excellence.”

“His passion for the student-athletes having a positive experience on the competitive field and in the classroom placed him over the top. We are very fortunate to have a person of this caliber join ‘Team KWC.’

Williams is no stranger to his new institution.

“I’m very familiar with Kentucky Wesleyan College, the athletic staff, the fans and the tradition since my days at Wisconsin-Parkside as a fellow Great Lakes Valley Conference member,” Williams said. “This is the right time and the right place for myself and my family. KWC has all the ingredients for many future successes in all sports.

“It is extremely important to me that student-athletes enjoy their college experience. I applaud their dedication and drive to be successful in their sport, in the classroom and in the community. It is my responsibility to ensure their experience is a great one to remember for the rest of their lives.”

Williams, 42, served as president of the Division II Athletic Directors (D2ADA) for three years. During his tenure he co-authored the 'Division II Model Athletic Department.' The document is still used today by the NCAA as they assist colleges and universities seeking to transition from NAIA to NCAA Division II.

He graduated from the prestigious Sports Management Institute. The Institute addresses key areas for the athletic administrators in collegiate, amateur or professional sports including management strategy, legal and ethical behavior, marketing, media relations and management of financial, physical and human resources.

At Missouri Western in St. Joseph, Williams’ secured funding, approximately \$19.3 million, to build an 118,000 square-foot indoor practice facility, new practice fields, 2,000-seat football stadium expansion to bring the NFL’s Kansas City Chiefs summer training camp to campus and also construct a spring sports complex.

The Griffons participated in two postseason football bowl games, men’s basketball went to the NCAA South Central Regional, and softball won the conference title to earn a trip to the NCAA while women’s basketball, women’s soccer and volleyball all doubled their win totals from previous seasons.

His student-athletes attained the highest grade point average of any department as 55.4 percent of the group surpassed the 3.0 grade point average. The Griffon athletes won the Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletic Association (MIAA) award for surpassing the graduation rate of the total student body by the largest percentage.

The Griffons also won the NCAA's National Community Engagement Award for "A Night Out on the Griffs" and raising \$1,000 annually by the student-athletes for the "Make-A-Wish Foundation."

MWSU and the City of St. Joseph co-hosted national championships for both NCAA Division II women's basketball (twice) and softball.

During Williams' tenure at Wisconsin-Parkside, the Rangers earned trips to the NCAA tournament 19 times in 13 different sports while winning 12 GLVC championships. His facility improvements were major as he was part of a \$12 million expansion of the Sports and Activity Center including new state-of-the-art scoreboards and the first videoboard in the region for DeSimone Gym. The baseball and softball fields also received new chairback seats, scoreboards and new dugouts.

The grade point average of the UWP student-athletes was consistently higher than the student body at-large where they consistently exceeded the 3.0 GPA mark each semester. Overall the grade-point average, retention rate and graduation rate for student-athletes all far surpassed the rest of the student body.

Williams lured many high-profile events to the UWP campus, including the NCAA Division I fencing national championship, and the NCAA Division II national wrestling championship along with the NAIA Cross Country Championships. The University also hosted a many conference and regional championships in several sports.

Prior to his promotion as Rangers director, Williams served as assistant AD for marketing and operations. He also served as UWP head men's golf coach and top assistant basketball coach. He also made stops as assistant basketball coach at North Dakota State and Augustana (Ill.).

The native of Prospect Hills, Ill. is a graduate of Augustana College, with a degree in education. He earned a master's degree in educational administration from North Dakota State University.

Williams and his wife, Suzanne, have three children Cooper 12; Carter 10; and Caden 6.