



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—Sept. 20, 2005

Another Reason Why Keuka College is The National Leader in Experiential, Hands-on Learning

Center for Experiential Learning will be Formally Unveiled Sept. 29

KEUKA PARK, N.Y.—Keuka College has solidified its status as the national leader in experiential, hands-on learning with the establishment of the Center for Experiential Learning.

The Office of Experiential Education became the Center for Experiential Learning after a summer renovation that was funded by a grant from the George and Frances Ball Foundation of Muncie, Ind.



A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Center will be held Thursday, Sept. 29 at 11:30 a.m. in the lobby.

The Center for Experiential Learning spans both sides of the back half of Hegeman Hall. Job openings and other advertisements will be posted on the bulletin boards located just inside the lakeside entrance, and plasma screens featuring Field Period information will run non-stop. There is also a lobby with comfortable seating, a conference room has been added, and cubicles make it easy to direct traffic from one experiential learning professional to another.

Going from the Office of Experiential Education to the more comprehensive Center for Experiential Learning “shows the College’s commitment to lifelong learning and our linkages between the College, community and alumni,” said Assistant Dean for the Center for Experiential Learning Anne Marie Guthrie. “The centralized location showcases what we have been doing in academic affairs and student affairs for years, and what we will continue to be doing today and in the future—promote the development of life-long learning and career skills students use to transform experience into knowledge.”

The Center for Experiential Learning offers “one-stop shopping,” said Guthrie. “It’s where employers looking to fill part-time or full-time jobs go, where community members or alumni with Field Period opportunities go.”

The Field Period program, student employment, TeamWorks! The Birkett Mills/Keuka College Challenge Experience, and Community Service Resource Center formerly fell under the

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umbrella of the Office of Experiential Education. They are now housed in the Center, along with two new programs: career services and co-curricular transcripts.

“We haven’t been able to address career services on a full-time basis in the past because we didn’t have a full-time position,” said Guthrie.

Now they do with Shannon Estelle, associate director of career services, a position made possible by the Ball Foundation grant.

Career services can assist students with career exploration and assessment, and job placement through on-campus recruitment, off-campus recruitment, information sessions, MonsterTrak, Quietword, and position listings.

Co-curricular transcripts will be offered to all Keuka students involved in activities starting with members of this year’s freshman class.

“Every new freshman can have a transcript established for him or her that validates participation in clubs, athletics, and honor societies, as well being the recipient of awards,” said Guthrie.

Co-Curricular Transcript Coordinator Valerie Webster obtains the information from club heads, coaches, and advisers and the official transcript is generated by the registrar’s office.

“We will work with students to help them understand the skills that they have obtained through their co-curricular involvement and help them build their resume,” said Guthrie.

Other Center for Experiential Learning staff include: Sally Daggett, associate director of the Center (oversees the student employment program); Sally Ann Swartley, coordinator of Field Period and internships; Tamara Day, community service coordinator; and Shawna Carey, administrative assistant.