MAE Program

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For 33 years, Western Kentucky University has been a pioneer in gifted education.

A new opportunity is now available to teachers of gifted and talented students, as Amy Bingham explains in this week’s View from the Hill.

WKU is home to the Center for Gifted Studies, the Carol Martin Gatton Academy for Math and Science, the Kentucky Association of gifted education and the World Council for Gifted and Talented Education. So it’s no surprise that teachers can now come to WKU for a Masters Degree in this field.

Why are students dropping eggs off the balcony at Gary Ransdell Hall?

 “The egg drop was more about creativity and how could they find a solution and work together in a team work situation.”

Lyndsey Duke is teaching Creative Problem Solving (Real World edition) at SCATS, the summer camp for academically talented middle school students.

 “It’s really been an eye opener as far as looking at what socially they need, what emotionally they need and what academically they need. All those come into play no matter what classroom you’re teaching in.”

Lyndsey is one of a dozen teachers finishing up a practicum that will give her an endorsement in gifted education.

That gifted endorsement has been offered at WKU for three decades but over the past year the approval process has been underway to expand the offering to include

a Masters degree.

 “We are a perfect place to be offering advanced course work at the graduate level in gifted education and talent development and now it’s official.”

Roberts says the 24 hour graduate program solidifies WKU’s prominence in this field of study.

 “This will include more course work than is available anywhere else in Kentucky.”

 “You really do get to apply what you learned throughout the program in this practicum.”

Now that Lyndsey is wrapping up her gifted endorsement, she’s hoping to take her studies to the next level.

 “Just because I’ve had so much positive experience in working with this I’d really like to do new masters program they’ve come up with.”

The new degree will offer two pathways leading to a Master of Arts in Education in order to serve both educators and researchers. For more information on the Center for Gifted Studies, call 270-745-6323.

With this week’s View from the Hill, I’m Amy Bingham.

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