



**KENTUCKY STATE
UNIVERSITY**

GOOD NEWS

OCTOBER 2019

Kentucky State University is the Commonwealth of Kentucky's most affordable public university and is now recognized as one of the best values among regional colleges in the South.

In the 2020 U.S. News & World Report rankings, Kentucky State University ranked second as one of the best value schools among regional colleges in the South.

According to the methodology used by U.S. News and World Report for the category, only schools ranked in the top half of their 2020 Best Colleges ranking categories were considered for the Best Value Schools list. Other factors included in determining the ranks were the ratio of quality to price, the percentage of all undergraduates receiving need-based grants and the average discount applied by the school.

Kentucky State ranked sixth among the top public schools among regional colleges in the South. Among regional colleges in the South, Kentucky State ranked 20th in campus ethnic diversity.

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**BY U.S. NEWS AND
WORLD REPORT**

According to the methodology, schools whose enrollment is made up of mostly just one ethnic group will not score highly using the ethnic diversity index because students are highly unlikely to encounter others from different ethnic backgrounds on campus.

In a new ranking, Kentucky State ranked 26th for top performers on social mobility among regional colleges in the South. The ranking is computed from the two ranking factors assessing graduation rates of Pell-awarded students.

Kentucky State also ranked 31st in the best regional colleges in the South category.

Kentucky State was ranked 35th among Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Kentucky was also named one of the top four top public schools among regional colleges in the South.



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KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY ADDS MEN'S VOLLEYBALL



Kentucky State University's President Dr. M. Christopher Brown II and Director of Athletics Etienne Thomas recently announced that Kentucky State would be growing its stable of NCAA DII intercollegiate sports by adding men's volleyball, starting with the 2020-2021 school year. The addition of men's volleyball was announced at a press conference on the Kentucky State campus along with the news that the University has received a \$150,000 gift to Thoroughbred athletics to support the new program.

"Men's professional volleyball is the third most popular sport in the world and boys' volleyball is on the rise in the USA. We are proud today to announce that Kentucky State is leading the way in being the first NCAA DII or DIHBCU to add men's volleyball," President Brown said. "It is smart for us to be in front of trends and especially compelling that the SIAC will be sponsoring men's volleyball conference-wide."

SIAC Commissioner Greg Moore announced that a total of six colleges from the SIAC, all HBCUs, will be announcing the addition of men's volleyball. A total investment of \$1 million is being made (\$600,000 from First Point Volleyball Foundation and \$400,000 from USA Volleyball) to support six SIAC colleges and the league in starting the sport.

KENTUCKY STATE UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR RECEIVES RARE EDUCATOR of the YEAR AWARD

A Kentucky State University professor recently received the rare honor of being named Educator of the Year by the Kentucky Communication Association (KCA).

Dr. David L. Shabazz, chair of the Division of Literature, Languages and Philosophy and associate professor, is one of only two recipients of the KCA's Educator of the Year in the organization's history. The first recipient was named in 2013.

"I was very surprised," Shabazz said. "I knew I had a chance for the excellence in teaching award, but this came as a total surprise. I'm an introvert, so I rarely tell my colleagues about my accomplishments. This time I did."

Shabazz has had an incredible year prior to this recognition. Shabazz completed his doctorate, presented at the World Journalism Education Congress (WJEC) in Paris, was approved for tenure/promotion and received awards from the Broadcast Education Association (BEA).

"I feel like my cup runneth over," Shabazz said. "I'm feeling a mixture of humbled, excited, and energized. All faculty and staff are service industry employees, which means we rarely hear 'thank you' or received accolades until much later."



DR. DAVID L.
SHABAZZ

Shabazz said it's taken a lot of work to get to this point.

"I've worked an unforgiving schedule for the last three years," Shabazz said. "My internal constitutions are very strong, but it's always nice to get external validation. An award like this only makes me want to work that much harder."

Shabazz said the fact that the award is rarely given makes it that much sweeter.

"Being the first person to win this since 2013 is a great honor," Shabazz said. "Educator of the year is not an award routinely given out just because the category exists. That really makes me humbled to know my work stands out among the excellent communication professors throughout the Commonwealth."

Shabazz offered encouragement to others who are putting in hard work in their fields.

"There are many people who go the extra mile and don't get any recognition," Shabazz said. "I hope my success can inspire others who are on the grind trying to make things better. Keep grinding and it will be worth it."