March 31, 2014

PROVOST SCHOLARS
March Newsletter 2014

The passionate pursuit of excellence

Intensive University Seminars

Over the past month the Intensive University Seminars have featured speakers with exciting perspectives from around the world. Dr. Kenneth Ledford, an associate professor of history and law at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU), and our Provost Scholar Mentor, Ms. Ramya Ramadurai, introduced the Provost Scholars to Germany and India, respectively, as a way of expanding their knowledge of new languages, cultures and economics.

During a portion of Dr. Ledford’s lecture, the Provost Scholars not only expanded their knowledge of German history but they also listened to the delivery of President John F. Kennedy’s famous 1963 speech in Berlin, Germany. As President Kennedy stood on a platform in Rudolph Wilde Platz, he told the German people that Soviet opposition forces were building the Berlin Wall to stifle the German peoples’ democratic aspirations. His speech was a reminder to the German people, and to Americans, that they should never stop in their pursuit of freedom and liberty.

In support of the Provost Scholars’ passionate pursuit of excellence, Dr. Ledford reminded the students that academic success in middle and high school language courses could support their travel to Europe, Asia, Africa or South America. In a later lecture, Ms. Ramadurai, her husband, Dr. Satish Viswanath, and his colleague, also reiterated the importance of academic success across all subject areas. Their emphasis was on mathematics, computer science and the lasting benefits of academic achievement.

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Happenings Over the Next Month...

- CWRU student, Al Rodriguez, and bassist and vocalist for The Midnight Slander will be joining the Provost Scholars on Thursday, April 3rd to discuss about rock orchestra and traditional southern rock music.
- The Provost Scholars program presents its first Career Panel on Thursday, April 17th. Faculty from the music department, and the dental, nursing, engineering and business schools will be speaking to the Scholars about their careers and academic preparation for pursuing higher education.
A Conversation with Ms. Myrna Corley

Mrs. Corley is the Superintendent of the East Cleveland City School District, and is an alum of John F. Kennedy High School, the University of Akron, and Cleveland State University. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Positive Education Program (PEP), founded in 1971. The PEP program was created in consultation with area school districts in the Greater Cleveland area to help schools better serve their most challenging students.

During her tenure as Superintendent of Schools, Mrs. Corley has developed several academic programs and initiatives, including but not limited to, an instructional framework focusing on the individual needs of students and differentiated instruction, increased technology, increased advanced placement courses, increased career and technical courses, development of additional extra-curricular activities, expansion of the District’s athletic programs, wellness activities, and professional development academies for staff. Additionally, she has strengthened East Cleveland School’s financial portfolio and implemented several cost-savings measures. Mrs. Corley has established several partnerships with entities in the Greater Cleveland area. She has partnered with Case Western Reserve University’s School of Dental Medicine to initiate the Healthy Bears for Healthy Teeth Program in primary classes throughout the District. Most recently she worked with Provost William “Bud” Baeslack to implement the Provost Scholars Program. Dynamic and engaging, Mrs. Corley is leading the Provost Scholars toward the passionate pursuit of excellence!