

NEWS RELEASE

Kentucky Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham spoke at the Graves County Schools Performing Arts Center in Mayfield, Ky., on Nov. 13, 2008. Murray State University's Department of History and Justice sponsored the event. Justice Cunningham served as the department's distinguished guest scholar.

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education has mandated that universities in Kentucky do a better job of reaching out to their service regions. Duane Bolin, who teaches in the Department of History at Murray State University, said that MSU has always excelled in this area, but that they wanted to do a better job of providing enrichment and educational opportunities for schools and communities in its region. He went on to say that the university continues to find ways to extend the walls of its classrooms.

Justice Cunningham spoke about the impact of technology on justice in Kentucky. He contrasted the Kentucky Constitution, which was ratified in 1891, with the U.S. Constitution. He also discussed the impact of money on justice in Kentucky. At the end of his talk, Justice Cunningham asked the question: "Upon what does the future of justice depend in this country?" The answer, he explained, lies in the hands of ordinary citizens. Whether we agree to serve on a jury, how we elect our judges, or how we respond to the law, are all choices that affect the future of justice.