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SPRING 2013 NEWSLETTER

MT Center for Student Involvement and Leadership
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Fraternity and Sorority Life
Intercultural and Diversity Affairs
June Anderson Center for Women and Nontraditional Students
Leadership and Service
Student Government Association
Career Development Center
The opening line of the MTSU’s True Blue Pledge best describes our reality and purpose: “As a member of this diverse community, I am a valuable contributor to its progress and success.”

Fortunately for all of us, our University is made up of many different types of people from many different places. The really great thing about that is that we are afforded the wonderful opportunity to learn so much about so much. In class, you are liable to sit by someone from as far away as Sri Lanka and as near as Smyrna. Today there may be salsa dancing at the KUC and tomorrow there may be a spoken word event in the new Student Union. In the morning there may be Native American drumming and in the evening a Parade of Flags featuring international students may journey across campus. There is no telling who you will meet and what you will experience here at MTSU. Every day provides so many exciting learning opportunities. In addition to being a “member of this diverse community,” you are also a “valuable contributor to its progress and success.” That line may sound kooky, but it’s actually true. The University goes to great lengths to include your thoughts, opinions, and ideas. At the beginning and the end of the day, you are why MTSU exists. Your progress and success is our progress and success. So get involved!

Attend our cultural events, participate in diversity forums, celebrate our graduates, support our peace campaigns, and serve on our committees. There is a whole new world awaiting you here in the office of Intercultural and Diversity Affairs. We invite you to be a part of all or some; it’s totally up to you. We are happy to help and we aim to please!
“The commitment to fraternal values is what sets fraternity and sorority members apart from other organizations. This commitment is what makes our members better students, sisters/brothers, and contributing members of society.”

**Upcoming Fraternity and Sorority Life Events**

**National Pan-Hellenic Council**

**Back-to-School Party**

January 16, 2013 • 9:00 p.m.
James Union Building
Tennessee Room

**Valentine’s Day Date Night: Have You Been Hit By Love?**

February 12, 2013 • 5:00 p.m.,
Student Union, Room 250 (A/B)

**Greek Week**

April 16–20, 2013

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**Fall 2012 Highlights**

The fraternity and sorority community hosted a very successful Greekfest. There were approximately 1,200 students present to enjoy food, games, Step Off, and a Talent Show.

The Interfraternity Council conducted Informal Recruitment on September 17–21. This provided an opportunity for all eleven chapters to recruit new members. Approximately 196 men have received bids, and the number is still increasing.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council held its Annual Homecoming Step Show. Congratulations to Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. on their victory!

Panhellenic Sorority Recruitment took place September 14–17. Congratulations to the Panhellenic Community on welcoming 180 new members to the fraternity and sorority community.

Education, leadership, service/philanthropy, brotherhood/sisterhood, integrity, diversity, and collaboration are the foundation values of the fraternity and sorority community and what we seek in future new members. Becoming a member of a fraternity or sorority is not simply wearing letters on a shirt, attending social events, and going to meetings: it is a way of life.
Are you

• 24 years of age or older or do you have a five-year gap since last enrolling in high school or college?
• employed part-time or full-time?
• serving the role of spouse, domestic partner, parent, or caretaker?
• veteran or reservist of the armed forces?

Then guess what?
You are considered an Adult Learner (also known as a nontraditional student) and we have something just for you.

The June Anderson Center supports and enhances the educational and developmental experiences of adult learners. Innovative and quality services, programs, resources, and activities are offered in an effort to integrate all aspects of academic life. Adult Learner Programs facilitate a sense of belonging and community among participants.

Some of the programs and events for our adult learners are
• Legal Clinics
• Life Enrichment Series
• Older Wiser Learners (OWLS) Student Organization
• Networking Social
• National Nontraditional Student Week
• Off-Campus Housing Fair
• Nontraditional Student Seminar for Success Series
• Nontraditional Family Fun Day

The June Anderson Center for Women and Nontraditional Students provides student support services conducive to learning and personal development for all women and adult learners. The center sponsors several student organizations and offers varied programs that function as support systems for women and nontraditional students. Learning opportunities enhance self-esteem, intellectual growth, and leadership development, so that students may experience academic success, retention, and graduation.

Did you know that “you” as a woman and “you” as an adult learner are both one of the fastest growing populations here at MTSU? We welcome you. You have arrived at an exciting time and we are delighted that you are here and a part of our growth.

Upcoming 2013 Events

• **Women’s Empowerment Series**
  Jan. 15, Feb. 6, Mar. 12, Apr. 9;
  Student Union Bldg. second floor by the fireplace
• **Legal Clinics** — Feb. 18, Mar. 19, Apr. 9; 6:00–8:00 p.m.;
  Student Union Bldg., Suite 330;
  Space is limited and by appointment only; Call 898-5812 for more information or to schedule and appointment
• **National Women’s History Month** — Mar. 1–31
• **Sexual Assault Awareness Month**
  Apr. 1–30
• **Nontraditional Student Seminar for Success Series** — Feb. 21, Mar. 21, Apr. 18; Call 898-5812 for more information
• **Nontraditional Student Family Fun Day** — Apr.
• **Nontraditional Student Networking Socials** — Feb. 12, Mar. 12; Student Union Bldg., Suite 330
• **Off Campus Housing Fair**
  Apr. 18; 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Blue Raider Leadership Summit

If you are a new or emerging student leader on campus or just looking for ways to enhance your leadership capabilities, then BRLS is for you! The Blue Raider Leadership Summit (BRLS) is an opportunity to learn about effective leadership and network with other students. BRLS is for students who are new to leadership or are aspiring leaders. This year’s conference will take place on campus February 2, 2013. The theme for this year’s BRLS is the NFL, so we would love to have students join us in this annual event and cheer on their favorite teams!

Up ’til Dawn

Up ’til Dawn (UTD) is a registered student organization whose mission is to raise funds for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. UTD is a nationwide student-led, student-run program, and the largest fund raising program at MTSU. College students host several events to raise awareness and proceeds to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. The Up ’Til Dawn finale event will be held February 16, 2013, so Up ’Til Dawn would love to have the support of as many students as possible to help save the babies! Contact Charles Parks at cmp5w@mtsu.edu to join today!

Alternative Spring Break

Are you looking for Spring Break ideas? Do you love helping others by engaging in community service? Join us for Alternative Spring Break (ASB) 2013! The ASB program is a four-day event through which students participate in community service and give back to their community. Each day students perform a different service project that focuses on a particular social issue. There is a small fee attached to this event that includes lunch, transportation, and t-shirt. Please stop by our office or check out myMT for additional details! Applications will be available starting mid-November!

Student Organizations

Get involved! There are more than 250 student organizations registered with the Office of Leadership and Service. Choose a group that fits your interests and needs, such as religious, sports club, special interest, honors/leadership, or departmental/professional.

See Spot Run 5K

The annual See Spot Run 5K is a fun race for you and your dog! See Spot Run supports Habitat for Humanity in Rutherford County. All MTSU students, alumni, and community members are encouraged to participate.

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It has been a big year for the SGA as we are celebrating our 75th year as the student government at MTSU. We were part of the grand opening of the new MTSU Student Union in August, hosted the 101st Homecoming “Under the Blue Top,” traveled to Georgia Tech on a Road Rally to watch the Blue Raiders ride on to victory against the Yellow Jackets, partnered with the University College Advising Center to start a food pantry for students in need, and have passed legislation in the Senate to further the potential of our student body.

We have also started a great “Blue Card” program to give you discounts in Murfreesboro. Present this card at any of our various participants’ locations and get a variety of discounts and free items with your purchase. There is a list of all participating businesses on our website. If you don’t have your “Blue Card” yet, come to our office and pick one up for free!

Upcoming Events

The Big Event
We will be having our 5th annual “The BIG Event” project on March 23, 2013. This is the largest one-day community service project students across the nation participate in. We want to make this one BIGGER than ever, so we are partnering with United Way’s Day of Action as well.

Spring Elections
Do you want to represent your student body? Run for an executive office or for the SGA Senate to represent your college and be a...“Voice of the Students” Vote on February 25–28, 2013.
You wouldn’t study for a final after the exam, so why would you wait until after graduation to start your job search? Yet many students do wait until their last semester, or after, to start the job search process. In a 2011 national study of college seniors, only 59% reported starting their job search by their spring semester with even fewer actually applying to a job.¹

The key to job search success is starting early. That is, early in one’s college career! In addition to the typical three to six months necessary to implement a job search campaign, it is also critical to have at least one quality internship. A 2012 national employer survey reinforces the fact that internships are a vital component of college hiring programs with 40% of all new full-time employees coming directly from internship programs.² In another survey, 71% of employers prefer to hire candidates with relevant work experience.³

This means students should start no later than the sophomore year getting career plans in order. The Career Development Center (CDC) helps students focus on what they are going to do with their degree through the Career Cluster model. Career assessments can help clarify career choices. Preparing resumes and practicing mock interviews are critical for securing internships. Students who check out the positions in Lightning JobSource and meet with their Career Advisor will be ready for their senior year!

### Spring 2013 Career Fairs

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<th>College to CareerFair and TeacherRecruitment Fair</th>
<th>Agriculture Career and Internship Fair</th>
<th>Internship and Summer Jobs Fair</th>
<th>Business Exchange for Student Talent (BEST)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Williamson County Agriculture Expo, Franklin, TN</td>
<td>Tennessee Livestock Center</td>
<td>James Union Building (JUB)</td>
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(See [www.mtsu.edu/career](http://www.mtsu.edu/career) for complete details and requirements)

¹ – The Class of 2011 Student Survey Report, (November 2011) National Association of Colleges and Employers, Bethlehem, PA
² – 2012 Internship & Co-op Survey, (April 2012), National Association of Colleges and Employers, Bethlehem, PA
³ – Job Outlook 2013, (November 2012) National Association of Colleges and Employers, Bethlehem, PA
The Center for Student Involvement and Leadership is now located in the new Student Union building, room 330.

www.mtsu.edu/involve

Spring 2013 Newsletter designed by Della Wheeler, intern, Center for Student Involvement and Leadership, and MTSU Creative and Visual Services

Visit MyMT at mtsu.edu/myMT and start getting involved today!