

## Through the years

Grad assistants' exhibit documents Title IX at MTSU

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## Grab your passport

House bill aims to boost study-abroad participation

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## Smooth talkers

MTSU's mock trial team soars to national competition

see page 7

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# the RECORD

## Earth Day plans heating up

by Ashlea Ramey

Spring has arrived, and this month forces at MTSU are working to celebrate the surrounding earth with the university's first-ever Earth Day festival April 16-21.

Organizers, who'd already made big plans for the event, recently learned that MTSU also will be the April 17 stop on the nationwide Stop Global Warming College Tour featuring Grammy-winning singer-songwriter Sheryl Crow and global-warming activist Laurie David.

"We wanted to make people aware of issues that they may not think are a big deal, and we're here to provide information. We want to encourage learning outside of the



classroom," said Jennifer Holder, program council chairwoman for the Office of Student Programming.

"Our concerts chair(man) wanted to hold a bluegrass festival," Holder said. "However, the date they picked fell on Earth Day, so all the student groups got together to form one massive festival."

Initially, Holder said, she and others planned a simple two-day fête to tie into Kappa Delta's yearly Wing Fling. The original plans paralleled Vanderbilt University's annual Rites of Spring music festival, but MTSU's Earth Day plans stretched to include speakers, comedians, musical entertainment and information booths.

Also, Holder added, "The Rites of Spring charges

See 'Earth' page 5

## ETIS professor's software earns \$7.8M award

by Randy Weiler

A \$7.8 million grant obtained in 2006 by Dr. Ron McBride saved MTSU that same amount for the SolidWorks software package that has helped his engineering technology and industrial studies students.

The grant is the largest from within the College of Basic and Applied Sciences in 2006 and one of the larger grant amounts universitywide.

For his efforts, Dean Tom Cheatham presented McBride, who is a professor in ETIS and software program administrator, with a college plaque for "Excellence in External

See 'ETIS' page 5

## Project HELP



**LEARNING AND PLAYING**—Taylor, left, giggles as her pal Beth prepares to leap out of the wagon during outdoor playtime. They're just two of the Project HELP students served by the 24-year-old program since it moved into its North Baird Lane facility in April 1997. The 10th anniversary building celebration on April 5 honored founding director Dr. Ann Campbell; watch for a story in the April 23 edition of *The Record*.

photo by News and Public Affairs

## Holocaust survivor to lecture April 12

by Jennifer Posey and Tom Tozer

As a young boy of 14 in occupied Poland, he, his mother and his sister hid their Jewish identity and walked among the Nazi invaders. In 1943, they escaped from Poland to Slovakia and from there to Hungary—and were liberated in January 1945.

In the years that followed, he became a post-war German government expert on Holocaust survivor syndrome. He survived a horrifying

childhood only to study the behavior of those who dispense horror.

Dr. Emanuel Tanay, an internationally known forensic psychiatrist and homicide expert, will speak at MTSU at 7 p.m., Thursday, April 12, on "The Psychology of Genocide." His lecture will take place in the State Farm Lecture Hall in the Business and Aerospace Building and will be free and open to the public.



Tanay

The MTSU Holocaust Studies Committee is sponsoring his visit.

"We wanted Dr. Tanay's presentation to be free and open to the general public so that as many middle Tennesseans as possible can take advantage of the opportunity to see him," said Dr. Nancy Rupprecht, professor of history.

"How often do you get an opportunity to listen to an internationally respected forensic psychiatrist and also a Holocaust survivor, speak on the psychology of

See 'Survivor' page 3

## IN BRIEF

### GET YOUR PEDALS ROLLING, HEAD OUT ON THE PARKWAY

Take an unforgettable road trip along the scenic 444-mile Natchez Trace Parkway by bicycle May 5-12 with Campus Recreation. A trip meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 10, at 5:30 p.m. in the Campus Recreation Center; the deadline to register is that same day at 5 p.m. The parkway commemorates an ancient trail that connected southern portions of the Mississippi River to salt licks in today's central Tennessee. The cycling journey costs \$75 each for students and \$85 for faculty, staff and guests. For more information, call Charlie Gregory at 615-898-2104.

### SPREAD A LITTLE ART AROUND WITH WORKS FROM BENEFIT

MTSU'S Student Art Alliance will conduct a benefit art sale Thursday, April 12, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the second-floor lobby of Todd Hall. The sale will include works by art students and faculty, and most will be priced between \$5 and \$40 each. For more information, contact alliance adviser Cindy Rehm at 615-904-8386.

### GUITAR STUDENT STRUMS WAY TO EVENT'S \$2K CASH PRIZE

MTSU junior guitar performance major Silviu Ciulei won the \$2,000 second prize March 24 in the Texas International Guitar Competition in Dallas. The competition, which is recognized as one of the top events in North America, netted Ciulei the largest cash award ever won by an MTSU guitar student in a competition. He also was the youngest competitor at the event.

### JOIN THE CELEBRATION APRIL 13 HONORING EXCELLENCE AT MTSU

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee and the MTSU Alumni Association are extending a public invitation to the fourth annual President's Celebration of Excellence at 6 p.m. Friday, April 13, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. This event honors students, alumni, faculty and friends of the university for their outstanding accomplishments and service to MTSU. Cost is \$20 per person; dress is business attire. Please RSVP by Friday, April 6. For more information, call 1-800-533-MTSU (6878) or visit [www.mtalumni.com](http://www.mtalumni.com).

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[www.mtsunews.com](http://www.mtsunews.com)

# April showers can bring mold as well as May flowers

by Terry Logan

**W**e Tennesseans live in an area where various kinds of mold prosper. The common perception is that all mold is harmful, which isn't necessarily true. So what is the skinny on mold?

Mold is a form of fungi that commonly grows in dark, damp places where it can thrive unnoticed for years. Molds release microscopic spores into the air, some of which have no effect on humans, while others are associated with allergic reactions, eye and respiratory irritation, and infection. About 10 percent of the population is allergic to one or more types of mold. Many of these people will be affected by outdoor as well as indoor exposures to mold. Mold is not regulated, but there are guidelines issued by the Environmental Protection Agency concerning mold and indoor air quality.



Logan

The term "toxic mold" is misleading. While respiratory mold infection is possible, it is rare. Occurrence is limited almost exclusively to people who are immune-compromised, such as transplant patients, chemotherapy recipients and AIDS patients. Some molds can produce mycotoxins. Some mycotoxins are useful as antibiotics, but others are potentially harmful, especially if eaten. However, there is little evidence that breathing mycotoxins in mold-contaminated buildings represents a health hazard.

The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine states, "Current scientific evidence does not support the proposition that human health has been adversely affected by inhaled mycotoxins in the home, school or office environment." A number of other factors can also influence indoor air quality, such as other organisms, chemicals or gases.

Concerning allergies, the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine states, "While indoor molds are well-recognized allergens, outdoor molds are more generally important."

For people with asthma, a common health strategy is to avoid exposure by minimizing the amount of dust in their environment. Humidity control is also very important. According to data published by the American Academy of Asthma, Allergy and Immunology ([www.aaaai.org](http://www.aaaai.org)), outdoor mold counts for major U.S. cities regularly exceed 10,000 spores per cubic meter of air during much of the year.

There is no specific number that defines safe or unsafe mold exposure. Some airborne mold guidelines have been proposed, but none of these has been adopted by regulatory agencies. Mold concentrations outdoors vary greatly with respect to time, species,



**THROUGH THE YEARS**—This photo collage is part of the Title IX history exhibit at the Gore Research Center.

photo collage courtesy Gore Research Center

# Studying 35 years of Title IX at MTSU

by Scott Anderson and Amanda Hall

**A**s graduate assistants at the Albert Gore Sr. Research Center, we spent the first part of the spring semester preparing an exhibit to commemorate the 35th anniversary of Title IX.

The exhibit, "No Longer on the Sidelines: 35 Years of Title IX at MTSU," was featured during the Women's Studies Conference held on campus in late February. It is available for viewing through the end of the semester at the Gore Center, located in 128 Todd Hall.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 states that "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." Although Title IX is most commonly associated with high-school and college athletics, the original statute did not refer to athletics. The legislation covers all educational activities, including fairness in rules and regulations and pay equity for staff and faculty. It also applies to non-sports activities such as marching bands and cheerleading. Title IX protects both men and women from underrepresentation in federally sanctioned educational programs.

Before Title IX, women's rules and regulations at MTSU were stricter than men's. Women had tougher dormitory curfews and cleanliness standards, for example. Men, unlike women, could live off-campus if they chose to do so. Dorm mothers, acting as on-campus parents, supervised women students. Women were prohibited from wearing pants on campus.

A women's athletic program at MTSU existed before Title IX but was poorly funded and lacked support. Few, if any, college leagues existed for women, so early women's teams played high-school teams, corporate and organization teams and other college teams unofficially. Neither the pep band nor the mascot appeared at women's basketball games, nor was the "Star-Spangled Banner" even played. The cheerleading squad sent a small contingent, if it appeared at women's games at all, but the biggest complaint was the lack of crowd support. The bottom line was that MTSU did not promote its women's teams as well as it promoted and supported its male teams.

As male student enrollment plunged during World War II, women adapted to a dramatically changed social climate on campus. Women's sports dominated recreational life and women took on traditionally male-dominated roles in student government. When the men came back after the war, women faced a return to previ-

ous conditions.

In the 1960s, they began to protest their second-class treatment by calling for the revision of antiquated "co-ed codes," a process that was taking place at universities throughout the country. In response, President Melvin Scarlett appointed a Rules Committee to study all campus rules governing student life. They were charged with bringing those rules up to date with the changing times and equalizing the treatment of men and women.

Although Title IX was passed in 1972, it was not until July 1975 that regulations were implemented to end sex discrimination in education. Over time, Title IX brought about effective changes in gender discrimination at MTSU. Pat Jones became the first MTSU women's athletic director in 1975, and she immediately set out to improve women's athletics. She even encouraged men to try out for the traditionally female-dominated sports of tennis and volleyball as protected under Title IX. Women's intramural sports were phased out in favor of competitive collegiate teams. The Murphy Center, completed in 1972, was modified between 1973 and 1974 to

add women's locker rooms.

Title IX also allowed women to demand pay equity at the university level. A 1977 survey conducted by the university illustrates a sharp average increase in women faculty's salaries from that of the previous school year. Concerned Faculty and Administrative Women, created in 1975, was happy with the promising results but still reported "discriminatory practices against women in hiring, salary, rank and awarding of tenure."

As MTSU moves further into the 21st century, women students are excelling both in academics and athletics, as evidenced in part by the women's basketball team's recent success. The June Anderson Women's Center and the Women's Studies Program collaborate to promote the interests of women through such programs as "Take Back the Night," the Clothesline Project, the Women's Leadership Conference, scholarship fundraising and the curriculum. Unfair rules and regulations no longer impede women students.

If any MTSU alumni, men or women, would like to share personal experiences about the enactment of Title IX legislation on campus, please contact the Gore Center at 615-898-2632. The Gore Center conducts oral history interviews as part of an ongoing effort to document the university's history in anticipation of the upcoming centennial in 2011. We also would like to find copies of the "co-ed codes" to add to our university archival collections. Your participation is greatly appreciated!

**Before Title IX, women's rules and regulations at MTSU were stricter than men's.**

See 'Mold' page 3

# Naomi Tutu to discuss gender, race coalitions

by Gina K. Logue

Naomi Tutu, founder and former chair of the Tutu Foundation for Development and Relief in Southern Africa, will speak on "Building Gender Coalitions Across Racial Lines" at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, April 12, in MTSU's Keathley University Center Theater.

Tutu, the third daughter of Anglican Archbishop Emeritus and Nobel Peace Prize-winner Desmond Tutu and his wife, Nomalizo, speaks on South African issues to audiences at universities, schools and churches across the United States.

Since 2003, Tutu has worked as the associate director of the Office of International Relations and Programs at Tennessee State University. From 1999-2002, Tutu served as program coordinator for the Race Relations Institute at Fisk University.

Her experience also includes a stint as program officer and co-convenor of the Gender-Based Violence and Education Program at the University of Cape Town from 1997-98. In addition, Tutu has taught courses on development, gender, and education in Africa at the University of Hartford, the University of Connecticut and Brevard University.

Tutu holds bachelor's degrees in economics and

French from Berea College and a master's degree in international economic development from the University of Kentucky.

Her awards include citations from the California General Assembly, the Boston City Council, the Kentucky branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and Outstanding Youth Women of America and an honorary doctorate from the Universal Orthodox College of Ogun State in Nigeria.

Tutu's speech is sponsored by MTSU's National Women's History Month Committee, the Black History Month Committee, the June Anderson Women's Center and the Distinguished Lecture Fund. This event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact the June Anderson Women's Center at 615-898-2193 or [jawwc@mtsu.edu](mailto:jawwc@mtsu.edu).



Tutu

## Survivor — from page 1

genocide, a topic about which he is uniquely qualified on both a professional and a personal level?"

A clinical professor of psychiatry at Wayne State University School of Medicine in Detroit, Tanay has served as an expert witness in cases involving Jack Ruby, Ted Bundy, Sam Sheppard and Robert Garwood.

While sitting in a jail cell with Ruby in 1964, Ruby once told Tanay that he was "crazier than I am," because the latter never once thought of committing suicide during those years in Poland when he and his family pretended they were Christians.

"Suicide is surrender," Tanay told Ruby, adding that he wanted to survive.

A few years later, the U.S. Government sent Tanay to Vietnam during the war to participate in a court-martial and to evaluate Marines at Danang who were accused of atrocities. In addition, and according to his biographical profile, Tanay has "come to a deep and unique understanding of the belief system behind 9/11."

Tanay graduated from the University of Munich Medical School, completed his internship and residency in Illinois and did postgraduate work at the University of Michigan.

The author of *Passport to Life: Autobiographical Reflections on the Holocaust*, Tanay is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, that body's highest honor. He also has received the highest award granted by the American Academy for Psychiatry and the Law.

He is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and past president of the Michigan Psychiatric Society. Also, he was Resident Scholar at the Department of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Stockton College of New Jersey.

Now retired from private practice, Tanay continues to write and lecture throughout the United States.

"Fifteen years ago, almost no one knew what function a forensic psychiatrist filled in our justice system," said Rupprecht.

"However, since the 'Law and Order' and 'CSI' programs began to appear on televisions all over this country, we all have an inkling of how important and vital a role psychiatrists such as Dr. Tanay play in it."

Tanay's visit is being co-sponsored by the MTSU departments of history, political science, English, sociology and anthropology, art, philosophy, psychology, women's studies and the Global Studies Program.

For more information, call 615-898-2645.

# Learn about global media ethics

from Staff Reports

With the Internet reducing the world to the size of your computer monitor and filling it with information both useful and potentially harmful, how can we determine who's in charge of media? Are there any sort of global regulations, or is it every person for himself?

Tara Giunta, an international media compliance expert and Washington, D.C.-based partner in the corporate department of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP, will offer some guidelines in a special guest lecture Tuesday, April 10, at MTSU.

Giunta's lecture, "Who Will Referee the Global

Game: The Intersection of Culture, Gender, Law, and Ethics?", is scheduled at 1 p.m. in Room 106 of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building on campus. Seating will be limited, so organizers are

encouraging attendees to arrive early.

"Tara Giunta travels worldwide to determine how to translate between legal systems and ethical traditions in each culture and country," said Dr. Thomas Cooper, ethicist-in-residence at MTSU. "Now that the world is reduced to



Giunta

sharing common communication technologies, and now that messages cross boundaries without 'passports,' how do we determine which laws and ethical mores apply to which messages?

"Tara is also a coordinator of the women's executive retreat each year, so she provides an excellent understanding of the relationships among gender, leadership, culture, ethics and law."

Giunta, who received her doctor of jurisprudence degree at Columbia School of Law, Catholic University, has conducted internal investigations in areas focusing on legal and ethical compliance. She's spoken about media/telecom ethics at such events as the international Freedom of

Information and Privacy Association Conference in Ireland and more broadly about ethical behavior from individual and corporate perspectives.

Giunta advises clients in the telecommunications and information technologies industries on compliance areas such as regulatory and licensing, foreign corrupt practices act, technology transfer and data protection. She represents companies before governmental agencies, including the International Telecommunication Union, the Federal Communications Commission, the U.S. Departments of Commerce and State, and Congress.

For more information about the lecture, e-mail Cooper at [twcooper@comcast.net](mailto:twcooper@comcast.net).

## Mold

and amount. Exposure to airborne mold outdoors, where levels often exceed thousands of spores per cubic meter, is considered safe for the general public.

So what about MTSU? To date, all of the indoor air-quality testing on campus has indicated that airborne mold levels indoors are about 30 percent of the mold levels outdoors, which indicates that the building air filtration systems are functioning as

designed. For people with allergies to mold, there may be no practical level of exposure, either indoors or outdoors, that would be more comfortable.

Evacuation of a space or building in response to mold should be rare. There is no established level of airborne mold that is accepted as unsafe for the general population. We must accept the fact that mold exposure is inevitable in the world in which we

live. We are exposed to many of the same mold species indoors as well as outdoors. Ultimately, the decision to vacate a space should rest with the individual occupant and be based on the individual's sensitivity and the advice of a medical doctor.

*Terry Logan is environmental coordinator/inspector for the MTSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety. He can be reached via e-mail at [tlogan@mtsu.edu](mailto:tlogan@mtsu.edu).*

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# 2nd Spring Preview day set April 21; students should sign up soon

The second of two MTSU Spring Preview Days will be held Saturday, April 21, admissions officials said.

Students and parents or guardians interested in attending one of MTSU's Spring Preview Days are

being directed to the Office of Admissions' new registration system, Book-it-Now, said J. Christopher Fleming, associate director in admissions.

Prospective students can schedule a visit at

[www.mtsu.edu/~admissn/tour](http://www.mtsu.edu/~admissn/tour) by clicking on the "Schedule Campus Tours" hotlink.

For more information, call 615-898-5670.

# Calendar

## April 9-22

### TV Schedule

**"Middle Tennessee Record"**

Cable Channel 9

Monday-Sunday—5 p.m.

NewsChannel 5+

Saturdays—1 p.m.

Visit [www.mtsu.edu/~proffice/MTR.html](http://www.mtsu.edu/~proffice/MTR.html) for airtimes on 12 other cable outlets.

### Every Monday

**MTSU Guys & Dolls**

**Swing Dance Club**

Free dance lessons 6-7 p.m.,

open dancing 7-9 p.m.

Murphy Center Dance Studio A

For information, e-mail:

[lindyfiend@gmail.com](mailto:lindyfiend@gmail.com).

### Every Wednesday

**Gender Circles**

Weekly diversity conversations with

special emphasis on gender issues

1-3 p.m., JUB 206 (JAWC)

For information, contact:

615-898-2193.

### Through April 19

**"Kenda North: Urban Pools"**

8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday,

noon-4 p.m. Saturday

Baldwin Photo Gallery, LRC

For information, contact:

615-898-2085.

### April 9

**April 9-13**

**MTSU Student Film Festival**

KUC Theater

Free and open to the public

For information, visit

[www.mtsu.edu/~events/studentfilm.html](http://www.mtsu.edu/~events/studentfilm.html).

**Monday, April 9**

**Honors Lecture Series**

Josh Alexander, "Crime and

Punishment in 1940s Murfreesboro"

3-3:55 p.m., HONR 106

For information, contact:

615-898-2152.

**Faculty Senate meeting**

4:30 p.m., JUB 100

For information, contact:

615-898-2582.

**MTSU Concert Band**

7:30 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 10

**Tuesday, April 10**

**Learning, Teaching and Innovative Technologies Center's First Tuesday Series**

"Evidence-Based Learning: Part III,"

Shelia Otto (academic enhancement)

3-4:30 p.m., Peck Hall 106

For information, visit

[www.mtsu.edu/~ltanditc](http://www.mtsu.edu/~ltanditc)

or contact: 615-494-7671.

**Tuesday, April 10**

**National Women's History Month:**

**Tara Guinta, "Who Will Referee the Global Game—Culture, Gender, Law and Ethics"**

1-2:30 p.m., HONR 106

For information, contact:

615-898-5910.

### April 11

**Wednesday, April 11**

**MT Softball vs. Southern Illinois**

4 and 6 p.m., Blue Raider Softball Field

For information, visit

[www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com)

or contact: 615-898-2103.

**Forrest Hall Community Forum:**

**MTSU and Murfreesboro**

**Town Hall Meeting**

6-7 p.m., Patterson Park Community

Center, 521 Mercury Blvd.

For information, contact:

615-898-5812.

### April 12

**Thursday, April 12**

**Student Art Alliance Benefit Sale**

includes works by art students and

faculty, most priced \$5 to \$40

11 a.m.-6 p.m., Todd second-floor lobby

For information, contact:

615-904-8386.

**MTSU Community Health Fair**

9 a.m.-3 p.m., KUC 314

For information, contact:

615-898-2987.

**National Women's History Month:**

**Naomi Tutu, "Building Gender**

**Coalitions Across Racial Lines"**

4:30 p.m., KUC Theater

For information, contact:

615-898-2193.

**Dr. Emanuel Tanay,**

**"The Psychology of Genocide"**

7 p.m., BAS State Farm Lecture Hall

For information, contact:

615-898-2645.

**MTSU Percussion Ensemble**

8 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 13

**April 13-15**

**MT Baseball vs. New Orleans**

April 13, 6 p.m.; April 14, 4 p.m.;

April 15, 1 p.m.; Reese Smith Field

For information, visit

[www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com)

or contact: 615-898-2103.

**Friday, April 13**

**President's Celebration of Excellence**

6 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room

For information, visit

[www.mtalumni.com](http://www.mtalumni.com)

or contact: 615-898-2922.

**MTSU Wind Ensemble**

7:30 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 14

**Saturday, April 14**

**Men's Tennis vs. Memphis**

11 a.m., Buck Bouldin Tennis Center

**Men's Tennis vs. Belmont**

6 p.m., Buck Bouldin Tennis Center

For information, visit

[www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com)

or contact: 615-898-2103.

**Jazz Artist Series: Snooky Young**

featuring Clay Jenkins and

MTSU Jazz Ensemble I

7:30 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 15

**Sunday, April 15**

**Holocaust Remembrance Day**

**88.3 WMTS-FM Record Convention**

vinyl, CDs, DVDs, sheet music, music

memorabilia and door prizes

all proceeds benefit MTSU's student-

run radio station

10 a.m.-4 p.m., Holiday Inn

Murfreesboro (I-24 @ Old Fort Pkwy)

Admission charge: \$3 per person

For information, contact 615-898-2636

or e-mail [program@wmts.org](mailto:program@wmts.org).

**Sigma Theta Tau nursing honors**

**society induction ceremony**

2 p.m., Cason-Kennedy Nursing

Building

For information, visit

[www.mtsu.edu/~xialpha](http://www.mtsu.edu/~xialpha)

or contact: 615-898-5844.

**MTSU Brass Ensemble**

7 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 16

**April 16-19**

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month:**

**"Clothesline Project"**

11 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Knoll

For information, contact:

615-898-2193.

**Monday, April 16**

**Income Tax Day**

**Student Nurses Association meeting**

11 a.m.-noon, CKNB Room 121

For information, visit

[www.mtsu.edu/~sna](http://www.mtsu.edu/~sna)

or contact: 615-898-2437.

**MTSU Women's Chorale**

7:30 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 17

**Tuesday, April 17**

**Martin Chair of Insurance**

**Invitational Golf Tournament**

10:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Champions Run

Golf Course, Rockvale

For information, contact:

615-898-2673.

**Tuesday, April 17**

**Sexual Assault Awareness Month:**

**"Take Back the Night"**

5 p.m., KUC Knoll

For information, contact:

615-898-2193.

### April 18

**Wednesday, April 18**

**MTSU Dames Club luncheon**

Guest speaker: Lola Stanton, Lola's

Creations

11 a.m.-1 p.m., JUB Hazlewood

Dining Room

Cost: \$9 per person; reservations

should be made by April 9

For information, contact:

615-898-5396.

**University Honors College**

**Spring Awards Reception**

2 p.m., HONR 106

For information, contact:

615-898-2152.

**MT Baseball vs. Vanderbilt**

6 p.m., Reese Smith Field

For information, visit

[www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com)

or contact: 615-898-2103.

**Middle East Center Lecture Series:**

**Dr. John Esposito,**

**"Islam and the West"**

7 p.m., BAS State Farm Lecture Hall

For information, contact:

615-494-8809 or 615-494-7906.

**MTSU Flute Choir**

8 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 20

**Friday, April 20**

**Black Alumni Achievement Awards/**

**Al Wilkerson Scholarship Reception**

Keynote speaker: Vincent Windrow

7 p.m., JUB Tennessee Room

Admission: \$10 per person

For information, contact:

615-898-2718.

**MTSU Commercial Music Ensemble**

7:30 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

### April 22

**Sunday, April 22**

**"MTSU On The Record—MIMIC"**

Guests: Drs. Andrienne Friedli and

Marion Wells

7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

Podcast available at [www.mtsunews.com](http://www.mtsunews.com)

or free subscription at iTunes.

**MTSU Symphony Orchestra**

8 p.m., WMB Hinton Music Hall

No admission charge

For information, contact:

615-898-2493.

money, but we're able to hold Earth Day for free."

After careful deliberation by student organizations, the festival will embrace several musical genres and will be headlined by comedian Zach Galifianakis of Comedy Central's news farce "Dog Bites Man, which is broadcast on Comcast Cable channel 60.

"Originally, we were going to have music as our headliner," Holder noted. "However, on a budget of \$20,000, comedians are much more affordable."

The Stop Global Warming College Tour will indeed help to headline the festival, however. According to Crow's Web site and [www.stopglobalwarming.org](http://www.stopglobalwarming.org), David, one of the producers of "An Inconvenient Truth," Al Gore's Oscar-winning study of global warming, will speak and Crow will briefly perform during the April 17 event. They'll also show clips from "An Inconvenient Truth" and conduct a dialogue with students during the 90-minute event.

Tickets are available in Room 308 of the Keathley University Center for MTSU students, faculty and staff only and are free with a valid MTSU ID. The day of the performance, doors will open at 6:30 p.m. and the concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Murphy Center.

To go along with the tour, members of Students for Environmental Action will sponsor a weeklong showing of "An Inconvenient Truth" April 16-19 at 7 each evening in the KUC Theater. The documentary will be presented free, followed by a question-and-answer session.

Most of the Earth Day events will take place on MTSU's Murphy Center lawn, Holder said. Bluegrass band Heartland kicks off the daylong festivities

at noon April 20, followed by performances by Joe Harvey Band, Happy Birthday Amy and Overzealous.

Between musical sets, Dr. Cliff Ricketts, MTSU professor of agribusiness and agriscience, and John Cronin, director of New York's Pace Academy for the Environment, will speak. Then, at 7 p.m., comedian Arj Barker will begin the indoor portion of the performance day, followed by Oteil and the Peacemakers. Finally, at 9:30 p.m., Galifianakis will close the festival.

During the performances, several environmental and student groups will sponsor information booths for eventgoers. Holder said she also expects coverage from WMTS-FM, whose staff currently is planning a remote broadcast from Murphy Center. Other media coverage may come from MTTV, but no confirmation was available at press time.

"We chose those events because ultimately, we really want to inspire debates and discussions," Holder said.

Members of MTSU's Student Government Association also will participate throughout the week with their "I Hate" campaign, in addition to serving as hosts for the independent documentary "Kilowatt Ours," which will be shown at 5 p.m. April 18 in the KUC Theater.

If this year's festival proceeds smoothly, Holder said she's optimistic it will undergo future growth. "We started this, and hopefully it will keep going, and we'll get bigger and bigger names."

For more information, contact Student Programming at 615-898-2551.

*Ashlea Ramey is a sophomore majoring in journalism.*



Crow



David

# Bill aims to boost studying abroad

by Tom Tozer

**M**TSU President Sidney A. McPhee is praising the introduction of the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007, legislation to establish a national study-abroad fellowship program.

The bill (H.R. 1469), introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Reps. Tom Lantos, D-Calif., and Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-Fla., chairman and ranking member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee respectively, would create a national fellowship program, increasing the numbers of students studying abroad to 1 million per year. The program would be administered by an independent entity and would provide key support for necessary modifications at institutions of higher education to allow all college students the opportunity to study abroad.

"MTSU is an avid proponent of international study, and our Office of International Education is actively engaged in promoting opportunities for students to experience other cultures," McPhee said. "With our world becoming a global community, it is vital that our graduates today be able to contribute to an international economy, enhance diplomacy among nations and compete for jobs here and abroad. As we learn more about one another, so will our level of acceptance and respect of one another rise and enrich us."

Dr. Anne Sloan, MTSU special assistant to the provost for international education, pointed out that research in Minnesota and Georgia systems demonstrates that students who have participated in study abroad have a higher percentage gradua-

tion rate over the non-study-abroad student population.

"Study abroad is extremely valuable to MTSU students," Sloan said. "It broadens them as individuals, increases their understanding of themselves and their place in the world and increases their self-assurance. Given the global economic environment, many businesses consider study abroad or international internships or experiential learning a plus for prospective employees since they have experience in adapting to a different culture.

"For students who are contemplating graduate school, study abroad and international internships are viewed positively by many programs and help set the applicant apart from others who are applying for admission and financial aid," she continued. "From my own perspective as an MTSU study-abroad participant in the 1960s, the experience increased my self-reliance and gave me a sense that I was much more capable of accomplishing goals. It also provided a basic approach to cross-cultural sensitivity that allowed me to more effectively teach students about other countries and helped prepare me for the position I now hold."

Jennifer Campbell, director of MT Abroad, said MTSU leads the Tennessee Board of Regents system with more than 250 students studying in more than 40 different countries around the world.

"MTSU students can study Spanish in Spain, anthropology in Brazil, recording industry in London and business in Japan, just to name a few," Campbell said. "One thing I continue to hear from students is their inability to afford the

study-abroad program. MTSU has worked hard to inform students of scholarship opportunities and financial-aid eligibility. This type of study-abroad fellowship program can only bring more student access to these vital international programs."

H.R. 1469 is named after the late U.S. Sen. Paul Simon of Illinois, who was a strong proponent of international education. His efforts led to the creation of the bipartisan Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program. Many of the recommendations contained in the commission's 2005 report, "Global Competence and National Needs: One Million Students Studying Abroad," are included in this legislation.

Currently, about 200,000 U.S. undergraduate students study abroad each year.

"One million students studying abroad per year will transform our country, in a positive and powerful way," said Peter McPherson, president of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges and former chair of the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program.

"For the American work force to be competitive in the global marketplace, our students need experience in and knowledge about the world outside the United States.

Last year, a similar bill in the Senate received overwhelming bipartisan support and had 46 co-sponsors before the session ended. Sens. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., and Norm Coleman, R-Minn., will reintroduce a Senate bill in the coming weeks.

Gifts" in January.

McBride said the university research price of about \$7.8 million contained nearly \$15,000 per user seat, and the grant proposal included 520 seats. Through the grant, he said, "MTSU got it for \$14.42 per seat or station. That's quite a savings."

"It's more user-friendly than some of the other CAD (computer-aided drafting) programs," McBride said of the software. "It's a good product. It has a lot of applications—medical, physics and others."

His students, some of whom are using it in the workplace, like

SolidWorks as well.

"I like it because of all the other integrated programs that go with it," said senior J.T. Tapp, a former Mt. Juliet resident now living in Murfreesboro.

Tapp said the integrated programs include finite-element analysis and flow analysis, "a feature that has not been available." He added that if parts that are available from SolidWorks can be downloaded, "it saves a lot of time." Tapp said the Formula SAE team will use the software to prepare their car this spring.

"It has been really helpful," grad-

uate student Brett VanSickle said of SolidWorks. "It's the most powerful software I've used at school. I used it in the workplace for about a year and a half."

VanSickle said the finite-element analysis that's built into the program "determines the stress (on the part). It lets you know if you need to make the part stronger (or) lighter and when it will break."

McBride, an MTSU faculty member since 1986, submitted the software grant through the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. He said universities like Vanderbilt, Tennessee

State and UT-Knoxville and Chattanooga are SolidWorks users.

Eastman Chemical Co. in Kingsport, Oak Ridge National Laboratory are industrial users.

McBride said a new version of the software would be available to renew for \$7,500 in June.

"Definitely, I hope they extend it," VanSickle said, when asked whether he and other students would like to see it renewed. "It's a huge asset to the university."

# Forensic research institute marks formal launch

by Lisa L. Rollins

Dr. William M. Bass, an internationally recognized expert in the field of forensic anthropology who has gained prominence through his research facility, the UT "Body Farm," delivered a guest lecture March 27 in the State Farm Lecture Hall of MTSU's Business and Aerospace Building.

Sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts, the visit by Bass marked the formal kickoff for the Forensic Institute for Research and Education, which is led by Dr. Hugh Berryman, and served as the inaugural talk in the university's newly established William M. Bass Legends in Forensic Science Lectureship.

A professor of sociology and anthropology, Berryman is the director of FIRE, which was approved by the Tennessee Board of Regents during fall 2006.

In addition to serving as the debut speaker for the lectureship named in his honor, Bass will serve as a member of FIRE's external board of advisers, a panel that also includes:

- Richard L. Lambert and My Harrison, FBI agents in charge of Tennessee;
- Tennessee State Medical Examiner Bruce Levy;
- MTSU alumnus Mark Gwyn, director of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation;
- longtime state archaeologist Nick Fielder, now with the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency;
- odontologist Michael Tabor;
- Mike Bottoms, 22nd Judicial District attorney general; and
- Harry Sommers, a special agent for the Drug Enforcement Agency who oversees Tennessee and northern Georgia.

Aside from its external board, the institute also has a 14-member internal board of directors composed of MTSU faculty and administrators.

"We are honored to have William Bass not only be our inaugural speaker, but also serve as a member of our external board for the institute," Berryman said of the renowned doctor's involvement in the MTSU-led forensics emphasis.

According to its mission, the institute, using an interdisciplinary approach, will focus on training and continuing education for law enforcement and forensic specialists, bringing a forensic focus to campus education, as well as working to obtain external funding for research.

By using such an approach and incorporating experts from MTSU's biology, chemistry and anthropology programs, among others, Berryman said his goal is for FIRE to form cooperatives directed toward a number of different initiatives in forensic science, homeland security, education, child abuse, and gangs and hate crimes, among others.

"In all of these areas, FIRE will initiate and cultivate partnering with industry, forensic laboratories, and local, state and federal law enforcement

agencies," he said.

Additionally, Berryman said, a 10-member volunteer student team, the Forensic Anthropology Search and Recovery Team, will be "a service arm of FIRE ... (and) is experienced in processing forensic crime scenes involving skeletal remains."

Under Berryman's direction, the team of undergraduate and graduate students assists law enforcement in skeletal crime scene location, documentation and recovery. To date, the team has helped process at least two crime scenes in Rutherford and Robertson counties and received requests from law enforcement to take part in other investigations.

Volunteering their weekend time and weekday evenings, the student team members "do a great job and I'm really proud of them," noted Berryman, who continues to do skeletal identifications for the state.

"This is great experience for the students and they are, in a sense, like ambassadors for MTSU. ... They let people know we have talent here."

Berryman said the William M. Bass Legends in Forensic Science Lectureship will be held once each spring and fall semester and feature prominent experts from within the forensics field. Each lecture will be open to the public and free of charge. This year's speaker, Bass—along with his co-author Jon Jefferson—has written the best-selling "Death's Acre: Inside the Body Farm" and also has become a successful fiction writer. His Body Farm has been featured in fiction and nonfiction books as well as on television programs such as "The Dead Zone" and "CSI."

Honored as National Professor of the Year in 1985-86 by The Council for Advancement and Support of Education, Bass received his bachelor's degree at the University of Virginia, his master's degree from the University of Kentucky and his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.



Bass

## Welcome, sir



**LEARNING FROM EXPERIENCE**—Cadets in MTSU's Army Reserve Officer Training Corps pose for a photo with Maj. Gen. James R. Myles (standing, center, in camouflage fatigues), commander of the U.S. Army's Aviation and Missile Command, or AMCOM, at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Myles visited the MTSU cadre in March to discuss equipment readiness and preparation for the ongoing conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Students shown standing with the major general in Forrest Hall are, standing, left to right, Alex Treneff, Jason Overstreet, Tyler Garrett, Stephen Bonney, Kenny Pospisil, John Watson and Nick Gregory. Hunkered down in the front row are Cory Hammock, Joseph Brannock, John Durden and Jason Shaffer.

photo by News & Public Affairs

# Spring Dance Concert takes flight April 19-21

by Lisa L. Rollins

MTSU Dance Theatre will present its annual Spring Dance Concert at 7:30 nightly April 19-21 at MTSU's Tucker Theatre.

"This semester's concert features work by international guest artists and has dances from several dance genres," Kim Neal Nofsinger, director of the dance company, said. "Seven company members will perform guest artist Zelma Badu-Young's 'Crash,' a humorous work showing a

unique group of individuals whose lives intertwine on the street."

Nofsinger said Badu-Young is a specialist in West African dance who incorporates traditional movement in a contemporary framework.

The spring concert also will feature "Ash Wind" by Chung-Fu Chang, a native of Taiwan.

"This lush, beautiful work provides an insight into the frailty of life and is influenced by an Asian aesthetic in its visual poetry," Nofsinger remarked.

Tap, jazz and modern works cho-

reographed by faculty members Elaine Husted, Nancy Ammerman and Nofsinger will complete the concert.

"These dances range from traditional to contemporary artistic viewpoints and incorporate the 40 members of MTSU Dance Theatre," Nofsinger said of the company, whose members represent a variety of majors from across campus. Students selected for this ensemble are required to enroll in technique classes, attend Saturday-morning classes and rehearse a minimum of three

hours per week for each piece they are dancing.

"The dedication of these students is evident within the quality of the concert that will be presented," the director observed.

Tickets for the Spring Dance Concert may be purchased at the door on the evening of the performance. Ticket prices range from \$4 to \$8. MTSU students will be admitted free with a valid ID.

For more information, please call 615-494-8810 or visit the department's Web site at [www.mtsu.edu/~theatre](http://www.mtsu.edu/~theatre).

# MT mock trial team soars to national competition

by Cristol Camacho

No argument about it—MTSU's mock trial team is making its point on a national level.

Although more than 400 teams across the United States compete annually in mock trial competitions, MTSU has been to nationals almost every year since the team was founded in 1989. This April 13-15 will mark their 17th national tournament trip.

The MTSU team qualified for this year's National Championship Tournament directly from the regional tournament at Bellarmine University in Louisville, Ky., where the team failed to advance last year.

"We are now back on track," said Dr. John Vile, political science department chairman and mock trial coach. "Our students have worked hard and represent a good mix of freshmen through seniors."

Collegiate mock trial teams usually consist of three attorneys and three witnesses on each side of the case, plaintiff/prosecution and defense. Tournaments consist of four rounds—two on each side of the case—and are scored by two judges in each round.

The top team of Jamie Bowers Kidd, Jason Walker, Cory Hudson, Daniel Vaughn, Natalya Vaughn, Nick Lee and Dani Westerman went

6-2, carrying both judges' ballots against Bellarmine in the final round.

MTSU also captured four individual awards at Bellarmine. Bowers won an award for best attorney. Sarah Young, Vaughn and Lee all received All-Regional Witness Awards.

"By being part of mock trial, I have gained a working knowledge of the American legal system, made some great friends, built up my resume and had a great time while doing it all," said Lee, an MTSU junior.

The team emerged second overall and secured one of two bids to the National Championship Tournament to be held at Stetson University in St. Petersburg, Fla.

It's the first time that the event will be held outside of Des Moines, Iowa, which will now host the national tournament every other year. The coaches and team said they welcome the new location and look forward to chartering the MTSU airplane to travel to and from the tournament.

Mock trial can become very time-consuming for students and coaches with team practices and traveling for invitational, regional and national tournaments. This year, former MTSU "mockers" Patrick Chinnery, an MTSU political science instructor, and Brandi Snow Bozarth, a Nashville attorney, have helped coach the team.



**LISTEN TO THIS**—MTSU's award-winning mock trial team includes, from left, Nick Lee, J.R. Lind, Cory Hudson, Jamie Bowers Kidd, Natalya Vaughn, Daniel Vaughn and Alex Jason Walker. Not pictured are Natalie Schneider and Matt Gaddis.

photo submitted

"We want to remember that we are not majoring in mock trial," said Vile. "It's the icing on the cake, not the cake itself."

All the time and dedication do pay off: about two-thirds of the students who participate in mock trial end up going to law school, according to Vile.

"I joined mock trial to gain experience in the legal field and to learn about our legal system," said Lee. "In the immediate future, I'm going to graduate and go to law school. After that, I will practice law and perhaps, down the road, go into teaching."

## Help international students get back on financial feet at CAIRS yard sale

from Staff Reports

Community Assistance for International and Refugee Students, or CAIRS, will hold a huge yard sale from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, April 28, at the St. Rose of Lima school gymnasium, 1601 N. Tennessee Blvd. in Murfreesboro.

Donations of items and homemade goods will be accepted the day before the sale between 3 and 8 p.m. Volunteers also are needed to help with the sale.

Proceeds will benefit CAIRS, a not-for-profit organization dedicated to helping international students attending MTSU on student visas who are not eligible for any type of federal aid or grants, as well as refugees and other immigrants.

This fund has already assisted MTSU students from India, Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia and Turkey with \$100 grants and small loans for emergencies such as car breakdowns, job layoffs, replacing stolen books or bikes, etc.

CAIRS raises anywhere from \$500 to \$1,000 at these yearly sales.

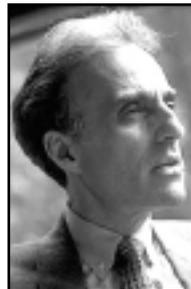
For more information, contact CAIRS co-adviser Karen Case at [kcase@mtsu.edu](mailto:kcase@mtsu.edu) or 615-427-9411.

## Professor offers expertise on Islam

from Staff Reports

Dr. John Esposito will lecture on "Islam and the West" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 18, at MTSU's State Farm Lecture Hall in the Business and Aerospace Building in an event that is free and open to the public.

A professor of religion and international affairs and founding director of the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University, Esposito is editor-in-chief of the four-volume *Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern Islamic World*, *The Oxford Dictionary of Islam* and *The Islamic Word: Past and Present*. Among the more than 30 books he has authored are *What Everyone Needs to Know About Islam*, *Unholy War: Terror in the Name of Islam*, *The Islamic Threat: Myth or Reality?* and *Islam and Politics*.



Esposito

Esposito, an internationally known expert on Islam and the Middle East, is widely interviewed or quoted in the media in sources such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, CNN and network news stations, NPR, BBC and media throughout Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

In his provocative, challenging and direct presentations, Esposito explores the nature of Islam's relationship with the West and the resentment and misunderstanding that have characterized this often-troubled relationship.

This lecture, which is supported by the MTSU Distinguished Lecture Fund, is the third in a series of events sponsored by the new Middle East Center at MTSU this spring. In January, Lilly Rivlin presented her documentary film "Can You Hear Me? Israeli and Palestinian Women Fight for Peace." In March, Dr. F. Gregory Gause III spoke on "The Iraq War: Causes and Consequences."

For more information about the event, contact 615-494-8809 or 615-494-7906.

## Neill-Sandler scholars named April 10

by Randy Weiler

Ten Middle Tennessee high-school seniors who have overcome obstacles and become successful in life will be honored for their tenacity Tuesday, April 10, during the ninth annual Neill-Sandler Strive for Excellence Banquet at MTSU.

The invitation-only event will start at 6 p.m. in the Tennessee Miller Coliseum's Miller Room.

The students, who have been nominated by their schools and school systems, have persevered through rough times. Despite their situations, they have per-

formed well in the classroom and on their college entrance examinations and exhibited leadership in and out of school. Some have worked to support themselves and family members. Scholarships provided through the Neill-Sandler Foundation and The Danner Company, a Nashville-based business led by Ray Danner, will go to the deserving students who come from the Bedford, Cannon, Coffee, DeKalb, Franklin, Rutherford, Warren, Williamson and Wilson county school systems and Tullahoma City Schools.

This year's honorees include Jessica Berry of

DeKalb County High School in Smithville; Kyle Chompooring of Franklin County High School; India Clark of Lebanon High School; Crystal Clayton of Warren County High School; Chris Ehemann of Tullahoma High School;

Lauren Grooms of Smyrna High School; Chad Hoose of Cannon County High School; Melissa McClenney of Shelbyville Central High School; Brittany Nelson of Independence High School in Franklin; and Tosha Stoutenburg of Coffee County Central High School.

One scholarship winner will receive the Ray Danner

Scholarship, which has a \$10,000 total award. Another will receive the Elizabeth and Sidney McPhee Scholarship, with a \$7,500 total award. Each of the other eight winners will receive a \$5,000 scholarship.

Kippy Todd, assistant director for annual giving and donor relations in the Office of Development, said 85 recipients have benefited from the scholarships since 1999.

For more information about the program, visit [www.mtsu.edu/~devofc/neill-sandler.htm](http://www.mtsu.edu/~devofc/neill-sandler.htm).

# MTSU creates Office of Institutional Diversity

by Tom Tozer

A lengthy legal struggle to ensure diversity and inclusiveness in Tennessee higher education once again has borne fruit at MTSU.

The university's new Office of Institutional Diversity is a direct result of nearly 40 years of legal scrutiny stemming from a case most often called simply "Geier."

In 1968, Rita Sanders Geier filed a suit against the state of Tennessee and the U.S. government, charging that Tennessee's higher education system was segregated. After all parties agreed that the state had met all consent decree requirements, the suit was dismissed late last year. But the Tennessee Board of Regents still required its institutions to formulate a plan to continue the spirit of the Geier requirements.

MTSU's new Office of Institution-

al Diversity will ensure that diversity concerns remain in the forefront to provide equity for all faculty, staff and students. Officials said this will keep the door open to a diverse population of students, faculty and staff and provide them with a more enriching educational experience.

Dr. Sharon Shaw-McEwen, professor of social work, will assume her new role as assistant vice provost for institutional diversity in the Office of the Provost under the umbrella of Dr. Jack Thomas, senior vice provost



Shaw-McEwen

Shaw-McEwen will guide efforts to conceptualize, define, assess, nurture and cultivate diversity as an institutional and educational resource and value.

"Dr. Shaw-McEwen is the right person for this position because her academic background is grounded in diversity and equal-opportunity issues," said Dr. Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost. "Under her leadership, along with Dr. Thomas, diversity will be a core value that will be reflected in all that we do at MTSU."

"I am grateful to the president, the provost and the vice provost for insisting MTSU become a model for the nation by providing an equitable playing field for everyone," Shaw-McEwen responded. "This newly created position will allow us to review our institutional programs and policies in light of their contribution to diversity as an educational tool."

During the first year, Shaw-McEwen will, among other tasks, assemble an institutional diversity committee that will provide guidance to university units. It will:

- review the strength of the diversity language in the university mission statement;
- establish definitions of diversity and diversity-related terms for MTSU;
- develop a university plan consistent with the current environment;
- establish short- and long-range educational benefits of diversity for MTSU; and
- establish plans to monitor, evaluate and report the progress in achieving the diversity goals and objectives.

"The creation of this office also will elevate the impact of the Scholars Academy and the October-November 2007 MTSU Biennial International Conference on Cultural Diversity," added Shaw-McEwen, who chairs the conference planning committee.

If you would like to join or have input in this effort, please e-mail the Office of Institutional Diversity at [cdinit@mtsu.edu](mailto:cdinit@mtsu.edu) or call 615-898-5975.

# Accounting Alumni Appreciation Day set April 26

by Claire Rogers

The 16th Annual Accounting Alumni Appreciation Day will be held at MTSU Thursday, April 26, from 8 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the State Farm Lecture Hall of the Business and Aerospace Building. Registration and morning coffee will begin at 7:30 a.m.

The seminar is open to anyone interested in accounting, auditing and

taxation. Participants will earn eight hours of Continuing Professional Education credit and have the opportunity to visit with alumni and former professors.

Jim Metzler, vice president of small firms interests for the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, will open the conference with an update focusing on small firms. Metzler leads AICPA initiatives, including the activities of the private

companies and private section and the institute's specialization accreditations.

Wallace Drucek, senior special agent/computer investigative specialist for the U.S. Department of the Treasury, will discuss digital evidence and computers in criminal tax investigations. Since 1987, Drucek has been involved in numerous Title 26-, 31- and 18-related investigations.

Following lunch, nine breakout

sessions will address such issues as tax planning, MS Office for accountants, managerial/cost accounting, auditing and the annual employment law update.

Cost is \$75 each for MTSU alumni and \$100 for all others. Net proceeds will be used for accounting scholarships.

For more information and to register, visit [www.mtsu.edu/~actgdept](http://www.mtsu.edu/~actgdept).

## the RECORD

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## Faculty/Staff Update

### Conferences

Dr. Sanjay Asthana (journalism) attended the International Conference on Media Education in the Middle East in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, March 4-7 at the invitation of the Saudi Ministry of Education. He joined attendees from the European Commission, education ministers from the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council and several media education researchers and presented a paper, "Media, Children and Young People," and conducted a workshop, "Teaching About Media."

### Presentations

Dr. Sanjay Asthana (journalism) presented "Sketching Theories of New Media" at the Media in Transition 5: Creativity, Ownership and Collaboration in the Digital Age international conference April 27-29 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Boston.

Drs. Robert B. Blair and Vincent W. Smith (business communication and entrepreneurship) presented "Communication Learning Goal Assessment in an AACSB Accredited College of Business" at the Association for Business Communication-Southeast USA Conference in Nashville March 23.

The pair also provided audio-visual technical support during the conference.

Drs. Robert B. Blair and Martha Balachandran (business communication and entrepreneurship) presented "Business Etiquette and Image Management" April 4 at the National Business Education Association Conference in New York City.

Drs. Aimee Holt and Mary Ellen Fromuth and Shannon Riggs, a graduate student in school psychology, presented "The Perception of Teacher Sexual Misconduct by Age of Adolescent" at the Southeastern Psychological Association annual convention in New Orleans Feb. 21-24. Holt also joined psychology students Leah N. Barrett and Holly E. Walters to present "Membership Needs Assessment for a State School Psychology Association" and "A School-Based Needs Assessment: Teachers' and Parents' Perceptions," respectively, at the National Association of School Psychologists Convention in New York City March 30.

Dr. Albert Ogden (geosciences) made two presentations in March: "Starting the New MTSU Mineral, Gem and Fossil Museum" March 21 at the Tennessee Association of Museums' annual meeting in

Murfreesboro and "Origin of Cave Formations" March 15 to the Middle Tennessee Gem and Mineral Society's regular meeting in Murfreesboro.

### Publications

Drs. William Ford, Charles Baum and Jeffrey Hopper (economics and finance) published "The Obese Smoker's Wage Penalty" in the December 2006 *Social Science Quarterly*, Vol. 87, Number 4, 2006, Southwestern Social Science Association.

Dr. Don Hong (mathematics) published a paper, "Airline Revenue Optimization Problem: A Multiple Linear Regression Model," in the *Journal of Concrete and Applicable Mathematics*, 5 (2007), pp. 153-167. His co-author is Renee Ferguson of the U.S. Social Security Administration.

Dr. Yang Soo Kim (speech and theatre) has had an article, "Communication experiences of Korean expatriates in the U.S.: A study of cross-cultural adaptation," accepted for an upcoming 2007 issue of *Human Communication*.