

the RECORD

AN EXTRAORDINARY SPEAKER

Convocation will feature address by Rwandan author

from Staff Reports

He calls himself an "ordinary man," but author and activist Paul Rusesabagina's extraordinary accomplishments will bring him to MTSU Sunday, Aug. 26, to help mark the beginning of the 2007-08 academic year at the University Convocation.

Rusesabagina, a native of Rwanda, saved 1,268 of his countrymen during a 100-day siege of genocidal madness in 1994 that left nearly 1 million people dead. The hotel manager turned the luxurious

Hotel Milles Collines into a refuge for Tutsi and moder-

ate Hutus while fending off their would-be killers with a combination of diplomacy and deception.

The rest of the world learned more about Rusesabagina in the 2004 film "Hotel Rwanda," which was nominated for three Academy Awards.

Related story, page 8

"For our students and our university community to have the opportunity to hear Mr. Rusesabagina, an 'ordinary man' with an extraordinary heart, at our annual Convocation is a blessing indeed," MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee said of the 2 p.m. event at Murphy Center.

"This ceremony is an assemblage and a celebration of who we are as a university and what we can accomplish together, and I can think of few people who epitomize that spirit of determination—of one person whose choices can help change the world—than this good man. We look

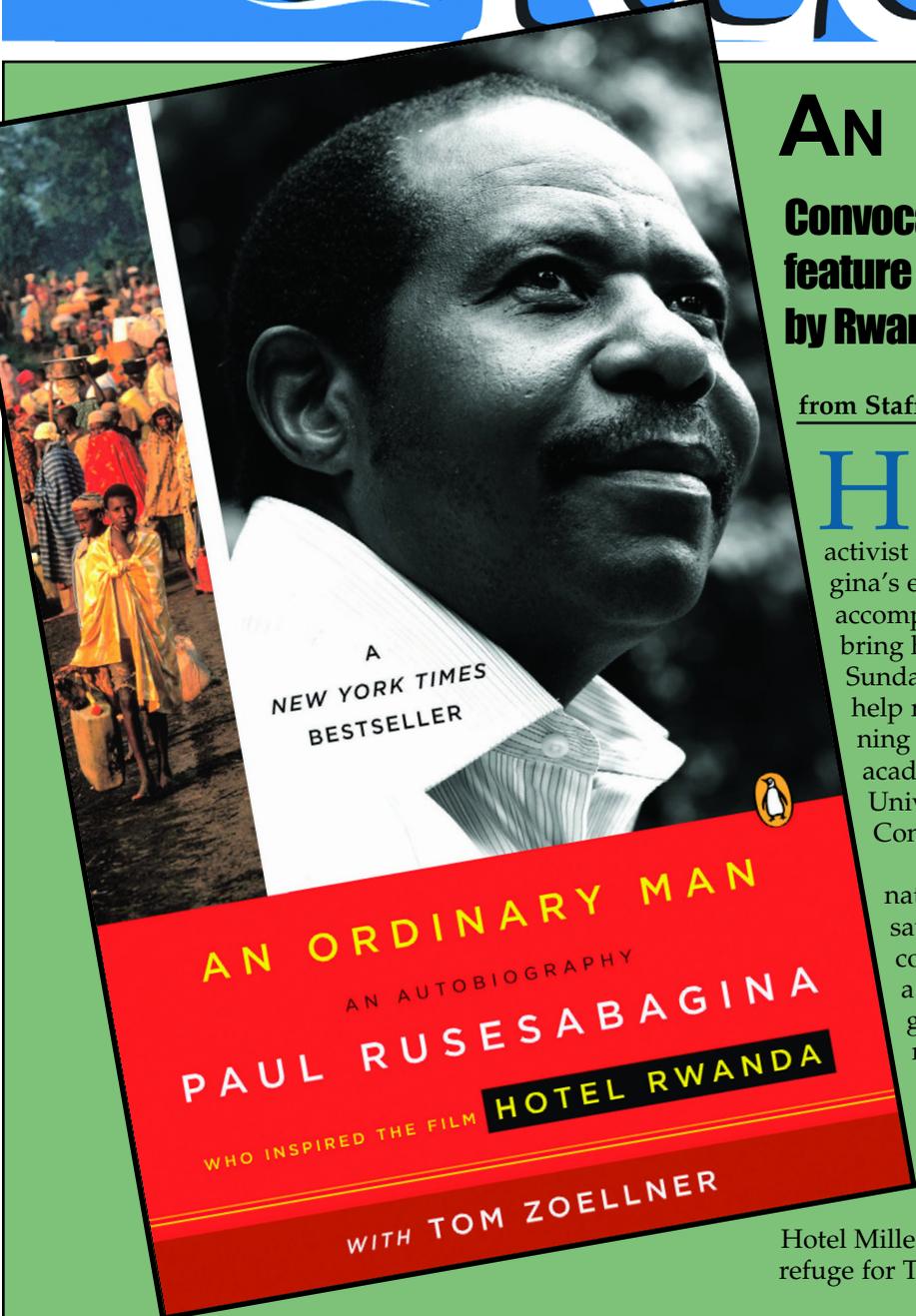
forward to hearing and learning from him, as well as each other, in this new academic year."

The University Convocation welcomes new students into the MTSU learning community. Faculty march in their regalia to dramatic compositions performed by the MTSU Band of Blue, and the traditions and rituals of the university are explained to the newest members of the MTSU family.

Rusesabagina's autobiography, *An Ordinary Man*, is MTSU's 2007 Summer Reading Selection. The Summer Reading Program, created in 2002, aims to provide a unifying experience for entering freshmen, give them the opportunity to read and interact with acclaimed authors and affirm the importance of reading for a successful and fulfilling life.

In the book, Rusesabagina tells the story of his childhood, retraces his accidental path to heroism,

See 'Speaker' page 5



Welcome to new faculty!

from Staff Reports

More than 80 new MTSU faculty members will convene Monday and Tuesday, Aug. 20 and 21, to become more familiar with their new workplace via seminars and briefings on information technology, student affairs and library services.

Events are set to begin each day at 8 a.m. in the Business and Aerospace Building and will include lunches provided by SunTrust and MidSouth banks. A full schedule is on page 5.

See 'Welcome' page 5

Pigskin Pregame aids scholarship fund

from Staff Reports

This year, the MTSU Rutherford County Alumni Chapter's annual Pigskin Pregame is set for Saturday, Aug. 25, to kick off the football season, event organizers said.

The event will be held at the home of Terry and Lisa Haynes, who live at 1707 Riverview Drive in Murfreesboro, said Paul Wydra, an assistant director in the Office of Alumni Relations.

"I think everyone last year had a great time," said Ginger Freeman, alumni relations director. "More than 300 people were there last year, and we are hoping even more want to share in this year's festivities."

Tickets for the event, which will run from 7 to 11

p.m., will be \$25 if purchased by Wednesday, Aug. 22, or \$30 at the door, Wydra said. He added that the ticket price includes an exclusive preview of one of Murfreesboro's newest restaurants, Carrabba's Italian Grill, along with wine, beer, soft drinks, music, door prizes and more. Parking will be available.

Wydra said all proceeds from Pigskin Pregame would benefit the Rutherford County Alumni Chapter Scholarship Fund. The Rutherford County Alumni Fund awarded \$17,000 in scholarships to incoming freshman for the 2007-08 school year.

For more information about this event or to reserve tickets, please call 1-800-533-6878 or visit www.mtalumni.com. Attendees also can mail payments to the Alumni Relations Office at MTSU Box 104, Murfreesboro, Tenn., 37132.

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www.mtsunews.com

IN BRIEF

GOT JOBS FOR STUDENTS? CAREER CENTER CAN HELP

Fall semester means students looking for classes, parking places, textbooks and on-campus jobs. If your office has work for students

for the new semester, contact the MTSU Career and Employment Center to post those openings. Call 615-898-2500 for more information.

GEAR UP FOR FALL 2007 WITH 'WEEK OF WELCOME' EVENTS

MTSU's fall 2007 "Week of

Welcome" kicks off Aug. 24 and 25 with the annual We-Haul dorm move-in sessions. See the Campus Calendar on page 4 for the first weekend's events; watch *The Record* for the full Week of Welcome schedule, or visit www.mtsu.edu/~nsfp/welcome.htm for more specifics.

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MTSU wins 2 alternative fuel grants from state

from Staff Reports

MTSU is one of 14 applicants to receive Alternative Fuel Innovations Grants totaling more than \$881,000 statewide, Gov. Phil Bredesen and Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke announced July 26.

Dr. Cliff Ricketts, agribusiness and agriscience, will receive \$79,700 to purchase a Toyota Prius and convert it to a plug-in flex-fuel vehicle to operate on electricity, solar power, hydrogen and ethanol.

MTSU already is a partner with TVA's Green Power Switch Program, which enabled the grant to be proposed, Ricketts said. The Prius will go short distances by adding the Plug-In Component that allows the car to run off electric energy produced by the sun. The gasoline engine of the Prius will be converted to run on hydrogen, which will come from water separated by a solar electrolysis unit already in place at MTSU.

The vehicle can be used in the MTSU motor pool after the research phase and can be used as a demonstration model for other universities, state agencies and county school systems, Ricketts said.

Through Ricketts and the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience, MTSU also has partnerships with Bridgestone Tire, Tractor Supply Company, Valspar Paints and HyPower Fuel.

The university also will receive \$97,621 to convert used cooking oil into biodiesel under the auspices of the Center for Green Energy Management.

The project will allow evaluations of innovative chemical reaction methods and development of a catalyst to lower production costs while meeting American Society for Testing and Materials, or ASTM, specifications for biodiesel.

"This grant program was designed to encourage local governments and public universities to assess opportunities to increase their use of biofuels and create projects to take advantage of those opportunities," said Bredesen. "I'm pleased to see the variety and innovation represented by these projects as we continue to expand the use and production of alternative fuels in Tennessee."

In 2006, Bredesen proposed \$4 million in state funding, which was approved by the General Assembly, for Tennessee's alternative fuels initiatives.

In February, Bredesen dedicated \$1 million of these funds for Alternative Fuel Innovations Grants to help local governments and public universities increase the alternative fuel use in their fleets and measure the positive impact on state air quality, particularly in areas not currently attaining federal air-quality standards.

"The grant awards show both governments and universities are taking advantage of this opportunity to improve air quality by increasing their use of alternative fuels," said Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan, who represents the Department of Environment and Conservation on the Governor's Alternative Fuels Working Group. "Making cleaner burning fuels more readily available to fleets, while at the same time providing additional research experiences to universities, is an important step in the right direction."

Other Alternative Fuel Innovations Grant recipients include:

- two Chattanooga city refueling stations, which will buy and install a new ethanol fuel tank and pump to serve Chattanooga's fleet of 157 flex-fuel vehicles and begin a similar operation to serve the Amnicola Highway Refueling Station;
- the City of Kingsport, which will convert the city's 200-plus diesel vehicles to biodiesel and develop educational materials for the public;
- the City of Oak Ridge, which will convert the city's 70-vehicle fleet to biodiesel;

• Cleveland State Community College, which will develop a Biodiesel Learning Lab and buy equipment to convert food waste products to biodiesel blends;

• East Tennessee State University, which will install an ethanol storage tank and dispensing system on campus to convert its 106 flex-fuel vehicles;

• the University of Memphis, which will build a biodiesel production unit to replace conventional diesel with biodiesel in campus vehicles;

• the University of Tennessee's Agricultural Experiment Station, College of Engineering, Facility Services and the university itself, to study ethanol production, demonstrate hydrogen generation/fueling, produce biodiesel from used cooking oil, build a biodiesel production facility using feedstock and pump and store the biodiesel.

For more information about alternative fuels in Tennessee, visit www.biotenn.org.



3 added to Insurance Hall of Fame

by Tom Tozer

Three insurance professionals, one of whom holds MTSU's Tommy T. Martin Chair of Insurance, comprise the 2007 slate of honorees inducted into the Robert E. Musto Insurance Hall of Fame July 31.

The banquet and ceremony were held at the Franklin Marriott at Cool Springs.

Inductee Dr. Kenneth W. Hollman came to MTSU in 1982 from the University of Mississippi. He teaches insurance classes, serves as a mentor to aspiring insurance professionals and is a resource person for the industry.

Hollman is the first and sole holder of the Martin Chair, the first endowed chair at MTSU. He has created and maintained one of the most respected university insurance programs in the nation, awarding more than 850 scholarships to 420 insurance students since 1983. Hollman earned his bachelor's degree in general business at MTSU and received his master's in business administration and doctorate in economics from the University of Alabama.

The late Edwin W. Craig, a graduate of Vanderbilt University, joined the National Life & Accident Insurance Company in Nashville and later achieved an outstanding sales



DESERVING OF HONOR—The 2007 inductees into the Robert E. Musto Insurance Hall of Fame—from left, Gerald Smith and John A. "Jack" Spann III (accepting for posthumous inductees Edwin W. Craig and John Spann) and Dr. Kenneth W. Hollman—join John Major, chair of the selection committee, for a photo after the ceremony.

photo submitted/Ken Robinson Photography

record in Dallas, Texas. He later returned to Nashville by way of Atlanta and played a role in the company's decision to enter broadcasting in 1925 with the establishment of WSM Radio. Craig also was instrumental in launching The Grand Ole Opry. After becoming president of National Life, he helped direct the company through tremendous growth in the 1940s, '50s and '60s. Mr. Craig died in 1969.

The late John Spann started in the business in 1947 and made a name for

himself when he joined Professional Insurance Agents of Tennessee in 1951. He was twice honored as PIA Agent of the Year, serving as the organization's vice president and president. He served as a spokesman for the PIA at legislative hearings and served on both legislative study committees and the governor's task forces. Spann was a gifted writer and speaker, skills that thrust him into political circles, where he submitted bills and amendments to the Legislature. Mr. Spann died in 1985.

In 1997, Robert L. Musto, son of Robert E. Musto, presented a \$10,000 gift to MTSU's Martin Chair of Insurance in honor of his father, which provided the foundation for the hall of fame. The late Musto served as vice president of the former National Life and Accident Insurance Company. The younger Musto is regional sales manager of the company his father helped build.

For more information about the Musto Insurance Hall of Fame, contact Hollman at 615-898-2673.

EXL students can help EYH girls agree: 'math is fun!'

by Randy Weiler

In the early 1990s, Teen Talk Barbie said the phrase, "Math is hard. Let's go shopping." Wikipedia claims one of the four pre-programmed phrases the toy said was, "Math class is tough."

Either way, the organizers behind this fall's 11th annual Expanding Your Horizons in Math and Science program want girls in fifth through eighth grades to know that math and science can be challenging and interesting, as well as fun.

"My daughter Emma's summer science camp was a highlight of her summer," Dr. Rebecca Zijlstra, a professor in mathematical sciences, said. "Still she couldn't help noticing on her first day that 'it was all boys!'"

"One of the camp activities was to take apart discarded appliances and reassemble them into a new and useful invention. The boys made things like stun-gun deflectors and robots. The girls made 'mega-mops' and lip-gloss dispensers.

"It made me question the progress we have made since Barbie's infamous quote 'Math is hard. Let's go shopping.' EYH conferences let young women know that society values their mind power and creativity and that we need their contributions in the STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields."

MTSU students can use experiential learning concepts to motivate the middle-school girls about math and science during the Oct. 27 EYH, which will be held at various sites around campus.

Laura Clippard, a Student Support Services counselor, drafted an experiential learning plan where MTSU students can earn one hour of service-learning credit by becoming an EYH group leader.

Up to 40 students can register until Sept. 6 for EXL 2010 or 3010, said Clippard, the course instructor.

"Students can get hands-on experience and learn about the research explaining why girls drop out of math and science," Clippard said.

Clippard and colleague Dr. Judith Iriarte-Gross, the EYH director and MTSU chemistry professor, said up-to-date statistics indicate low numbers of women in these career fields.

Clippard said women account for 11 percent of engineers and 20 percent of scientists, according to figures released by the foundation named for former astronaut Sally Ride. Iriarte-Gross said more women than men earn biol-



MEETING THE CHALLENGE—Chemistry professor Dr. Judith Iriarte-Gross, left, and Student Support Services counselor Laura Clippard team up with a few plastic pals to show girls that math and science are fun, as well as a challenge, in the upcoming Exploring Your Horizons conference. Not pictured is fellow EYH organizer Dr. Rebecca Zijlstra, mathematical sciences.

photo by News and Public Affairs

ogy degrees, but women don't enter biology career fields as often as men.

"The research says girls are taught differently and boys are encouraged (to pursue math and science)," Clippard said. "We want to give (EXL) students a chance to be role models. This is something they can put on their resumés."

"This course provides an opportunity for college students to assist in the planning for a large-scale service learning project and to be present at the event to see the impact the program has on the way girls think about math and science," said Dr. Jill Austin, management and marketing chair and EXL director. "This is a great example of the type of experiential learning experiences that are part of the EXL Scholars Program."

Visit the class Web site (www.mtsu.edu/~lclippard) for more information.

Summer enrollment dips again, slightly, for 2nd year

by Randy Weiler

An MTSU Enrollment Services official said the university's Information Technology Division electronically submitted a headcount of 8,845 students attending summer classes on Monday, Aug. 6, to the Tennessee Board of Regents.

Dr. Sherian Huddleston, associate vice provost for enrollment services, said the submitted total is a 2.7 percent decrease from the summer of 2006, when 9,080 students were enrolled. She added that it was a decrease of 251 students.

This marks the second straight year that summer enrollment has fallen, Huddleston said.

"Historically, summer enrollment increases one year and decreases the next," she said, adding that the 2006 enrollment total was 16 less than 2005, when 9,096 students were in attendance.

On a positive note, the 97 first-time freshmen attending summer classes is 22 more than the 75 who attended in '06.

"Some students want to go ahead and begin taking classes to get started on their academic career," Huddleston said.

Also, there is an increase in re-enrollees, with 641 attending this summer compared to 639 students who attended a year ago.

One significant decrease noted by Huddleston and other administrators is the 173 new transfers attending this summer. That's 59 fewer than the 229 transfers who attended in '06.

Another decrease, added Huddleston, is in the area of returning students. There are 7,256 returning students this summer—173 fewer than 2006 when that total was 7,429.

Tornado siren tests planned

Tornado siren test dates for the next 12 months have been released by MTSU's Department of Campus Safety and Chief Buddy Peaster.

The tornado siren will be tested on the second Tuesday or second Wednesday of alternate months to ensure that the system is working properly and that the warnings can be heard campuswide. Tuesday tests will occur at 12:20 p.m., while the Wednesday warnings will be heard at 11:15 a.m.

Test dates and times are as follows:

- Tuesday, Aug. 14, 12:20 p.m.

- Wednesday, Sept. 12, 11:15 a.m.
- Tuesday, Oct. 9, 12:20 p.m.
- Wednesday, Nov. 14, 11:15 a.m.
- Tuesday, Dec. 11, 12:20 p.m.
- Wednesday, Jan. 9, 11:15 a.m.
- Tuesday, Feb. 12, 12:20 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 12, 11:15 a.m.
- Tuesday, April 8, 12:20 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 14, 11:15 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 10, 12:20 p.m.
- Wednesday, July 9, 11:15 a.m.

For more information, please contact Campus Safety at 615-898-2424.

KUC extends hours this fall

from Staff Reports

The Keathley University Center will be open later this fall semester, increasing its hours effective Friday, Aug. 24, to better accommodate the MTSU community.

"We hope that this will allow for more events for student groups and departments alike," said Jennifer Kirk, assistant director of student unions and programming.

The KUC's new hours will be Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m.-11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 7 a.m.-8 p.m.; and 4-11 p.m. Sundays.

The James Union Building will resume its regular operating hours of 7 a.m.-8 p.m. weekdays beginning Monday, Aug. 27, when the fall semester begins.

"For the summer and holiday seasons, the KUC and JUB close earlier due to lack of

activity," Kirk explained.

There is a \$10-per-hour charge for departments and organizations to use facilities before and after normal operating hours in the KUC and JUB. If the activity starts during regular hours and continues after the building closes, then the charge is the basic \$10 per hour for a building manager to remain available. If the activity begins before or after regular operating hours, there is a \$40 minimum charge plus \$10 per hour after the first four hours.

Kirk said that requests for KUC or JUB facility usage should be made at least seven business days before the event to schedule a building manager for convenience and safety.

For more information, please visit the Student Unions Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~mtunions or contact Kirk at 615-898-2590.

Campus Calendar

Aug. 13-26

TV Schedule

"Middle Tennessee Record"

Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday—5 p.m.
Visit www.mtsu.edu/~proffice/MTR.html for airtimes on 12 other cable outlets.

Through Sept. 14

Order August 2007

Commencement DVDs

\$10 each, plus \$6.95 shipping, handling and state sales tax
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~phillips/dvd.htm or contact: 615-898-2700.

Aug. 14

Tuesday, Aug. 14

Tornado Siren Test Date

12:20 p.m., campuswide
For information, contact: 615-898-2424.

Aug. 19

Sunday, Aug. 19

"MTSU On the Record— The Sheriff's Murder Cases"

Guest: Dr. Jack "Justin" Turner (encore broadcast)
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com or free subscription at iTunes.

Aug. 20

Aug. 20-21

New Faculty Orientation

8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., BAS N217, other BAS South locations
For information, contact: 615-898-5941.

Aug. 23

Thursday, Aug. 23

Blue Raider Blast: Murfreesboro

5:30-7:30 p.m., Public Square
Free and open to the public; barbecue, \$5 per plate
For information, contact: 615-898-2210.

Aug. 24

Aug. 24-25

WEEK OF WELCOME We-Haul Dorm Move-in

All day, freshman halls
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

Friday, Aug. 24

Annual Fall Faculty Meeting

9:30-11:30 a.m., Tucker Theatre
For information, contact: 615-898-5941.

AROTC Stand-to Swearing-in Ceremony for New Freshmen

9:30 a.m., Forrest Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2470.

Friday, Aug. 24

Annual Faculty Luncheon

Noon, James Union Building
For information, contact: 615-898-5941.

WEEK OF WELCOME

Dinner and Music at the Quad

6 p.m., Floyd the Barber Band;
8 p.m., "Ferris Bueller's Day Off" outdoor movie
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

Aug. 25

Saturday, Aug. 25

WEEK OF WELCOME

Information Booths, Dinner and Street Fair

10 a.m.-6 p.m., information booths;
6 p.m., dinner and street fair behind Corlew Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

Women's Soccer vs. UAB

exhibition game
7 p.m., Blue Raider Field
For information, contact: 615-898-2450.

Pigskin Pregame

7-11 p.m., 1707 Riverview Drive (home of Terry and Linda Haynes)
Tickets: \$22 each by Aug. 22; \$30 at the door (includes dinner and drinks)

Proceeds benefit Rutherford County Alumni Chapter Scholarship Fund
For information, visit www.mtalumni.com or contact: 615-898-2922.

Aug. 26

Sunday, Aug. 26

"MTSU On the Record— MIMIC"

Guests: Drs. Andrienne Friedli and Marion Wells (encore broadcast)
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
Podcast available at www.mtsunews.com or free subscription at iTunes.

WEEK OF WELCOME

University Convocation

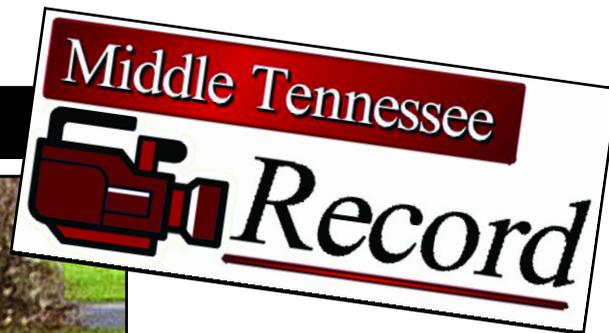
speaker: Paul Rusesabagina
2 p.m., Murphy Center
Free and open to the public
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

WEEK OF WELCOME

President's Picnic

immediately following Convocation, Walnut Grove
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

Taking aim at forensic science



TUNE IN TODAY—Dr. Hugh Berryman draws a bead on a rack of pork ribs in the name of forensic science in the August edition of "Middle Tennessee Record," MTSU's monthly video magazine. Viewers can learn why and also watch as the Mass Communication building gets an upgrade to HDTV, local videogamers have fun—and take precautions—with the new Nintendo Wii gaming system, grad student Alicja Kutyla gets a prestigious fellowship from the Smithsonian Institution, Sarong Vit-Kory reads her award-winning essay about an emotional trip to Cambodia, Campus Safety Chief Buddy Peaster talks about lessons learned from the recent tornado drill and the Southern Girls Rock and Roll Camp celebrates its fifth year. Watch it week-days at 5 p.m. on local Cable Channel 9, or visit www.mtsunews.com anytime to watch the August show on YouTube.

photo by News and Public Affairs

Speaker — from page 1

revisits the 100 days in which he was the only thing standing between his “guests” and a hideous death, and recounts his subsequent life as a refugee and activist, working to uphold his vow, “Never again.”

A recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the National Civil Rights Museum’s 2005 Freedom Award, he now lives in Brussels, Belgium.

The University Convocation is free and open to the public. First-year students are expected to attend; their families and members of the MTSU and Murfreesboro communities are welcome to participate as well.

Rusesabagina also will sign copies of the book the night before Convocation—Saturday, Aug. 25—beginning at 7 at Linebaugh Library, located at 105 W. Vine St. in Murfreesboro. Reservations are \$10 each; call 615-893-4131 for more.

Assistant coach to lead men’s tennis team

from MT Media Relations

Director of Athletics Chris Massaro has announced the hiring of former Blue Raider All-American David McNamara as the men’s tennis head coach.

McNamara replaces 20-year veteran Dale Short, who retired at the conclusion of the 2007 season. McNamara has spent the last five seasons as an assistant coach at Middle Tennessee, helping the Blue Raiders to a pair of NCAA Team Championships appearances as well as assisting in the development of three All-Americans and national champions—Daniel Klemetz, Marco Born and Andreas Siljestrom.

“This is my dream job. It is a huge opportunity for me personally,” McNamara said. “I’ve seen where the program has been and the successes Dale has been able to achieve. I look forward to continuing those successes and taking the program to another level.”

McNamara said Short has been a huge influence on his life ever since the young Australian arrived on campus in January 1995.

“Dale has been a coach, a father figure, a best mate, a mentor and a boss, and he will continue to be all of those, as he will still be a big part of this program,” McNamara said.



McNamara

“Dale, Buck Bouldin and Dick LaLance have built a program here to be very proud of, and I hope to continue that tradition.”

Middle Tennessee has compiled a 66-58 overall dual-match record during his five seasons as an assistant, including a 49-27 mark the past three years. The Blue Raiders claimed their first Sun Belt championship in 2005 and lost in the first round of the

NCAA Team Championships in 2005 and 2006.

The Melbourne, Australia, native has also been a big part of the program’s individual success in collegiate grand slam tournaments, relying on his experience as a national champion doubles player.

“David beat out a very competitive field for the position,” Massaro said. “He has the advantages of being a great player here at Middle Tennessee and also a good teacher of the game. Plus, he had Coach Short’s unequivocal endorsement, which meant a lot to me.”

“I am confident David is the best person to build upon the successes we have already achieved and to move our program to an even higher level.”

McNamara received his bachelor’s degree in exercise science in 2002 and a master’s in sport management in 2005. He took a teaching position in upstate New York before returning in 2006 to Murfreesboro.

Welcome — from page 1

New faculty members also have a Web site devoted to information that can help them kick off a successful semester: www.mtsu.edu/~provost/newfaculty/index.htm.

The general Fall Faculty Meeting, scheduled for 10 a.m. Friday, Aug. 24, in Tucker Theatre will formally blend new faculty into the university family with an itinerary of announcements, introductions and a “state of the university” address from President Sidney A. McPhee. The session also will feature the MTSU Foundation Awards, which include Outstanding Teacher Awards, Outstanding Instructional Technology Awards, Outstanding Public Service Awards, Distinguished Research Awards, the Creative Activity Award, the Career Achievement Award and Special Projects Awards.

The annual faculty luncheon will follow at noon in the James Union Building.

“New Faculty Orientation gives us an opportunity to welcome faculty and give them a sense of what is important in the MTSU community and to share with them the resources available to them,” said Dr. Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost. “This is always an exciting time for us as our new faculty bring energy, new ideas and expertise that enhance our teaching, research and outreach efforts.”

“Most importantly, the New Faculty Orientation underscores that MTSU is a student-centered institution that truly focuses on a quality educational experience,” Gebert noted. “Student-centeredness and quality are the essential core of our dynamic university.”

New faculty also are invited to showcase their knowledge by joining the Office of News and Public Affairs’ roster of experts with research background, training and experience in specific areas of interest to the media.

“Today’s Response” is a media tip sheet that NPA sends out every weekday to more than 170 print and electronic media members, offering expert commentary on timely news topics.

Recent “TR” items have quoted faculty and staff experts on topics ranging from financial disclosure

New faculty orientation schedule set

Monday, Aug. 21

8-9 a.m.: Refreshments and Booth/Tables Set-Up, BAS N127 (SunTrust Room)—Information on Photographic Services, Internet/e-mail forms, parking permits, Human Resource Services benefits, telecommunications/voice mail.

8 a.m.-4 p.m.: Faculty photos, LRC 239.

9-9:45 a.m.: Meeting with President Sidney McPhee and selected administrators, BAS S126—Executive Vice President and Provost Kaylene Gebert, presiding.

9:45-10:15 a.m.: Research and Graduate Education, BAS S126—Drs. Michael Allen, vice provost for research and dean of the College of Graduate Studies, and Myra Norman, director of the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.

10:15-10:30 a.m.: Break.

10:30-11:15 a.m.: “Building a Student and Faculty Community at MTSU,” BAS S126—Dr. Kevin Smith, president, Faculty Senate.

11:15 a.m.-noon: “The Student Culture at MTSU,” BAS S126—Drs. Bob Glenn, vice president for student affairs and vice provost for enrollment and academic services, and Gene Fitch, assistant VP and dean of student life.

12:15-1:40 p.m.: Lunch.

1:45-2 p.m.: Quick Takes, BAS 126:

- Learning, Teaching & Innovative Technologies Center—Faye Johnson and Barbara Draude, co-directors.

- Disabled Student Services and American Disabilities Act—Dr. Watson Harris, director of academic planning and ADA coordinator.

- Travel Rules and Regulations—Tamala Pincheon, travel coordinator.

- Athletics—Chris Massaro, director of athletics.

2-3:15 p.m.: “Providing A Framework for Learning” Faculty Workshop, BAS S126—Dr. Carolyn Hopper, learning strategies coordinator for the University Seminar.

Tuesday, Aug. 21

8-8:30 a.m.: Refreshments and Booth/Tables Set-Up, BAS N127 (SunTrust Room)—Human Resource Services benefits.

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.: Faculty photos, LRC 239.

8:30-9:30 a.m.: Breakout sessions by college:

- Session I, “ITD Faculty Services,” BAS S137E

(Computer Lab)—Barbara Draude, director, Academic and Instructional Technology Services, Information Technology Division, and assistant professor, School of Nursing; for College of Liberal Arts and Walker Library.

- Session II, “Master Classroom Support,” BAS S128—Tim Brown, associate vice president, ITD; for Colleges of Basic and Applied Sciences and Mass Communication.

- Session III, “Overall Review of Library Resources and Services,” Walker Library—Sharon Parente, assistant professor, University Library; for Colleges of Business and Education and Behavioral Science.

9:30-9:45 a.m.: Break.

9:45-10:45 a.m.: Breakout sessions by college:

- “ITD Faculty Services,” BAS S137E; Business and Education and Behavioral Science.

- “Master Classroom Support,” BAS S128; Liberal Arts and Walker Library.

- “Overall Review of Library Resources and Services,” Walker Library; Basic and Applied and Mass Comm.

10:45-11 a.m.: Break.

11 a.m.-noon: Breakout sessions by college:

- “ITD Faculty Services,” BAS S137E; Basic and Applied and Mass Comm.

- “Master Classroom Support,” BAS S128; Business and Education and Behavioral Science.

- “Overall Review of Library Resources and Services,” Walker Library; Liberal Arts and Walker Library

12:15- 1:40 p.m.: Lunch.

1:45 p.m.: College Orientation Meetings:

- Basic and Applied Sciences, BAS S128—Dean Tom Cheatham.

- Business, BAS N219—Dean Jim Burton.

- Education and Behavioral Science, BAS S118—Dean Gloria Bonner.

- Liberal Arts, BAS S126—Dean John McDaniel.

- Mass Communication, COMM 241—Dean Anantha Babbili.

- University Library, Walker Library Conference Room—Dean Don Craig.

rules for state government officials to the impact of Rupert Murdoch’s purchase of *The Wall Street Journal*. (To get a feel for TR, check out todays-response-from-mtsu.blogspot.com.)

To ensure the success of TR—and, most importantly, to keep MTSU’s wealth of expertise at the forefront when local media need commentary—NPA needs to continually replenish the pool of campus experts.

New faculty members, as well as those who’ve never volunteered their expertise before, can visit the NPA Web site at www.mtsunews.com and

click on “Experts List.” The form provided there can be filled out and sent to NPA. There’s also much more for everyone, including new faculty, on the NPA site. Check out “Successful Events: How NPA Can Help,” which includes a list of colleges and departments on campus that each NPA staff member covers. In whatever list your area appears, that public information officer is your initial point of contact for public relations and publicity needs.

Also on the Web site, check out the links to “MTSU News Releases,”

the “MT Record” TV program, the “MTSU On the Record” radio program podcasts and “MTSU Audio Clips.” They’re just a sample of the ways MTSU is in the news. For more information, call Tom Tozer, director of News and Public Affairs, at 615-898-5131 or e-mail him at ttozer@mtsu.edu.

“The beginning of the fall semester is a busy and exciting time,” added Gebert. “We encourage all faculty to participate in as many of the opening meeting and activities as possible.”

Art professor's canvas stretches back to 1860s

History comes alive in Civil War-themed mural

by Rometrius North

For local artist Erin Anfinson, the Civil War has become palpable via paint.

Thanks to the history-themed mural that she's been commissioned to create at The Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County, Anfinson is experiencing the war in ways that bring it to life.

"This experience makes the Civil War much more tangible than I've experienced before," said Anfinson, an assistant professor of art at MTSU. She is currently creating the work that will be on display at the center's main exhibit gallery as part of a permanent Civil War exhibit for the City of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County.

Funded by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area, the commissioned work will be the background for the entire war exhibit, noted Melissa Zimmerman, heritage programming specialist for the Center for Historic Preservation at MTSU.

"The Civil War and Reconstruction era is a big part of Murfreesboro, and that is why this mural and exhibit are so important to the city," Zimmerman said. "The exhibit will tell more about the social history of the event, and we hope that it will better prepare people to go out and see the Sam Davis Home (in Smyrna), Oaklands, Bradley Academy and the Stones River National Battlefield (in Murfreesboro)."

Although the artist said she has not yet titled the in-progress mural, the full exhibit is to be called "The Time That Changed Everything: Murfreesboro's Civil War Era."

"We feel fortunate to have found not only a well-respected, nationally exhibited artist for this mural, but also someone who is part of the outstanding MTSU faculty," said Zimmerman, who added that the idea for the mural's design was derived from old photographs now housed in

MTSU's Albert Gore Sr. Research Center.

Anfinson said her main inspiration for the mural is a single photograph that depicts Union troops occupying the downtown square in Murfreesboro during the Civil War.

"She took different pieces of each photograph and wove them together perfectly, (and) she found and incorporated details that most people would never notice," said Zimmerman, referring to Anfinson's artistry and skills of observation.

Although it's not the largest mural she's undertaken, Anfinson said that once completed, the mural—which is being painted on stretched canvas—will be 8-by-18-feet in size.

Anfinson said she accepted the offer to paint the work because "it's always a good challenge to take on a project outside of your regular studio practice, and working with new content, materials and pushing beyond your normal scale limitations can teach you a lot."

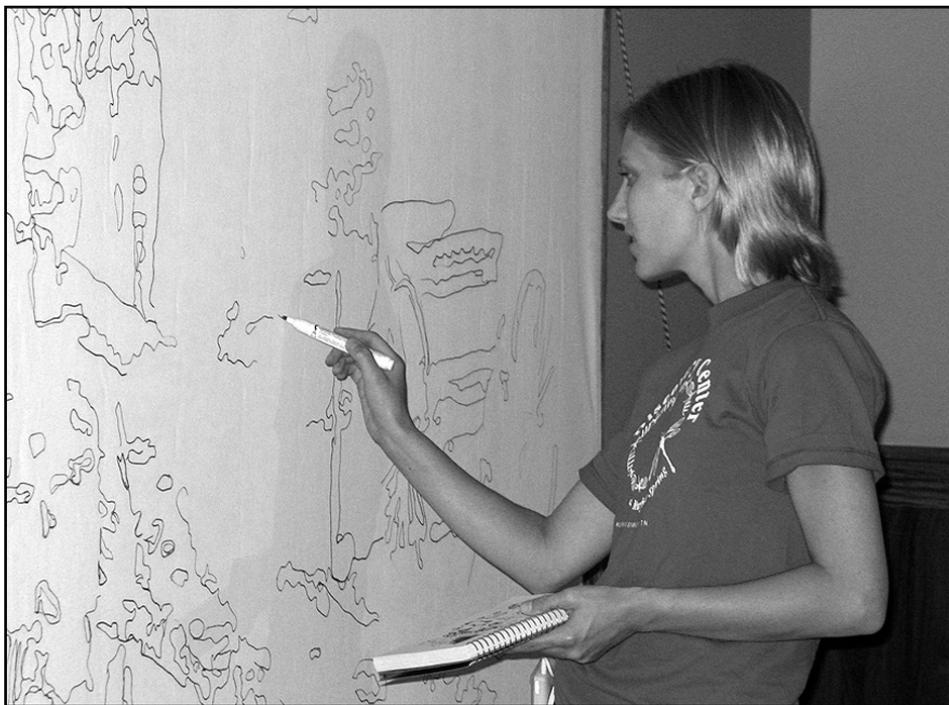
With a completion date of Aug. 17 as her goal, Anfinson said she first drafted the mural's design on her computer, then set about the task of transferring the idea to canvas.

As for the center's staff, they couldn't be more delighted with the newest addition to their surroundings.

"It was like it was meant to be there," said Zimmerman of the mural's locale, "because there is a huge bay window that is framed by wooden molding in the room—the perfect frame for the canvas."

Anfinson's mural, however, is just one intriguing component of the upcoming Murfreesboro's Civil War Era exhibit, which is slated to be completed by late fall, Zimmerman said.

Planned by MTSU graduate students and co-curators Ashley Tate and Julie Lenger, the exhibit will encompass 15 panels that present information through text and graphics, as



TRACING HISTORY—Assistant art professor Erin Anfinson outlines key parts of her mural in progress at The Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County in the photo above. The photo at top is the view of the Union-occupied Public Square in Murfreesboro during the Civil War that inspired a mural.

photos submitted

well as three interactive exhibits, Lenger said.

"We hope the exhibit will inspire visitors to explore the county's many historic sites and neighborhoods to uncover more of the story," Zimmerman said.

Located at 225 W. College St., the center is open weekdays from 9 a.m.

to 3 p.m. Admission is always free.

For more information on the center, including current exhibits, visitor's information on area sites and cultural events, programming or tours, please contact the center at 615-217-8013.

If they can make it there ...



AT THE TOP—Members of MTSU's Educational Talent Search program pause at the exhibit area of Top of the Rock at Rockefeller Center during their July 16-20 visit to New York City to take advantage of cultural opportunities—and to pose for a fun group photo. METS Coordinator Debbie Frisby said the 27-member group attended the Broadway shows "The Lion King" and "Mamma Mia," visited the Statue of Liberty and Ground Zero, toured NBC Studios, the Natural Science Museum and Juilliard. They also explored St. Paul's Cathedral, SoHo, Chinatown and Little Italy and performed at the Apollo Theater in Harlem. METS, which is 100 percent federally funded at \$220,000 annually, serves more than 600 middle- and high-school students in Coffee, Grundy and Warren counties to help first-generation college students receive financial aid and attend the college of their choice.

photo submitted

Fulbright Scholar 'builds bridges' for Middle East Center

by Gina K. Logue

The Middle East Center celebrates the conclusion of its inaugural year with a bittersweet farewell and plans for even more enlightening activities in the near future.

Younes Riyani, lecturer and doctoral candidate at Abdelmalek Essaadi University in Tetouan, Morocco, returned to his homeland last month. The Fulbright Scholar spent the past academic year at MTSU working on his doctoral dissertation.

"The concern of my dissertation is to show the affiliation of American representation of Morocco with French representation of Morocco," Riyani said in a pre-departure interview.

Specifically, Riyani is examining American impressions of Morocco between 1912 and 1956, the time of Spanish and French colonization. His goal is to reread those texts from another perspective overlooked by Western scholars, but he said he does not intend to bash the West for viewing the Arab world through a Caucasian mindset.

"There is a chasm between the political society and the academic society," Riyani said. "So the academic society has the spirit to create an equal dialogue between cultures, between civilizations."

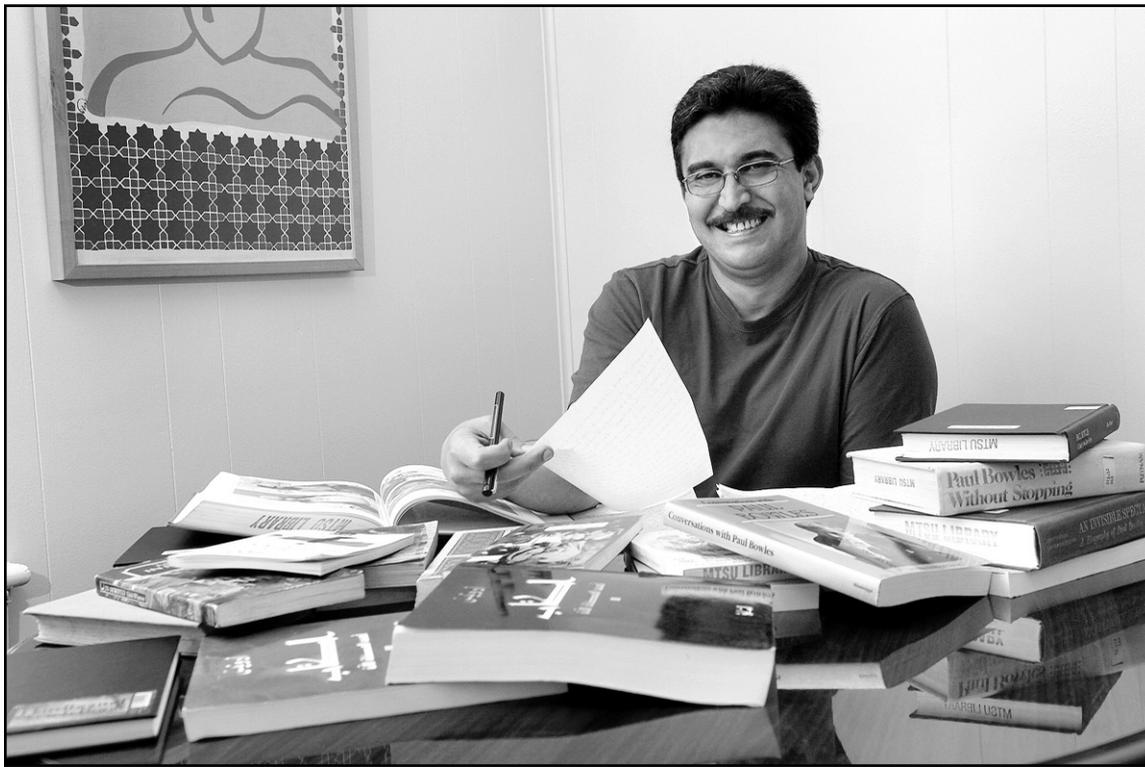
That viewpoint largely characterizes the purpose of the fledgling Middle East Center.

"In a kind of institutional fashion, what you do is build bridges through your exchanges," said Dr. Allen Hibbard, English professor and center director.

In one short year, it has seen the approval of an interdisciplinary minor in Middle East studies, an introductory course in the subject, classes in first-year Arabic and Hebrew and a community outreach program aimed at middle- and high-school teachers.

In addition, several accomplished scholars were brought to campus, including Riyani's fellow Fulbright Scholar, Muhammad Masud of Yarmouk University in Irbid, Jordan, who served as a teaching assistant in elementary Arabic courses.

Plans are under way to bring Dr. Abdul Aziz Said, founder of American



SCHOLARLY PURSUITS—Fulbright Scholar Younes Riyani poses with some of the texts that contributed to his doctoral dissertation on American impressions of Morocco between 1912 and 1956.

photo by J. Intintoli

University's Center for Global Peace, and Dr. Robert Satloff, executive director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, to MTSU this fall in conjunction with conferences on diversity and the Holocaust, respectively. In addition, MTSU will co-sponsor an international conference in Tangier next May.

"This year, we've been fortunate to have a federal grant, an Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages grant offered through the Department of Education, and that's a matching grant, so that when we put in our proposal, there is a commitment from the university to match the dollars," Hibbard said.

The center has established its own brick-and-mortar headquarters with phones and a part-time secretary, Chantal Rich, in Room 104 of the Midgett Building. Hibbard attributes the center's rapid growth to leadership and backing from President Sidney A. McPhee, Vice President and Provost Dr. Kaylene Gebert and College of Liberal Arts Dean Dr. John McDaniel, as well as the immediacy of worldwide political issues and the enthusiasm of faculty and students.

"We're investing our time and energy into this new program, and that's contagious," Hibbard said.



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Residential Development Program receives \$61,000

Builders, industry reps donate proceeds of home sale to aid degree

from Staff Reports

A group of Middle Tennessee home builders and related industries' representatives presented a check for more than \$61,000 to The Residential Home Building and Land Development Program at MTSU July 23.

Regent Homes, led by president

David McGowan, assembled a group of local home builders, subcontractors and suppliers to build a home in the Blackman Farms community in Murfreesboro.

The home recently sold, and Regent Homes is donating the profits to the MTSU RHBLD degree program. The program offers a bachelor of science degree in Construction Management Technology that puts an emphasis on residential land development and residential home building.

"We were very fortunate to have a lot of great companies help out by donating materials and resources," McGowan said.

Platinum sponsors for the MTSU house include Regent Homes, HK Construction/The James Hardie Company, Beazer Homes and Centex Homes.

Gold sponsors include Source 1 Cabinets, Centurion Stone, 84 Lumber, The L&L Company, Builders First Source, B&M Insulation Co. and Hermitage Lighting Gallery.

Silver sponsors include Moen, T&T Concrete, Kenco Distributors, Pinnacle Bank, Whirlpool Corp., Sylvan Designs and Dal Tile.

Proceeds from the sale of the home will help pay for the expenses of running the program until 2009,

when the Tennessee Board of Regents will assume funding for the program if the required number of students is enrolled.

MTSU's Residential Home Building and Land Development Program is the only one of its kind offered in the United States.

Regent Homes and Regent Development are also the builders of the Traditional Neighborhood Design communities of Lenox Village in Nashville and Lenox of Smyrna as well many other Middle Tennessee communities.

For these students, it's not the years — it's the mileage

Scholars Academy participants prepare for college life with road-trip projects

by Gina E. Fann

The MTSU Scholars Academy may need to revise its name—to the Road Scholars Academy.

Its students are incoming freshmen who've spent the last month in introductory classes like speech and University Studies 1010 to familiarize themselves with MTSU before the fall semester's wild rumpus starts.

They dive into the Summer Reading Selection and use it to create a project that culminates in a whirlwind all-night road trip.

Many of the young people have hardly left their hometowns before, much less Tennessee. And yet there they were at the Grand Canyon in 2005, watching the sun rise.

There they were in New Orleans Aug. 3, unloading donated books to refurbish the hurricane-desecrated libraries of Southern University of New Orleans and Dillard University.

"They amaze me," Dr. Sharon Shaw-McEwen, director of MTSU's Office of Institutional Diversity and the instigator of the Academy, said, watching the 29 students scurrying from box to stack to desk in Room 106 of the Paul W. Martin Honors Building to prepare for the trip.

"Our project is always based on



ALPHABETICAL OR NUMERICAL?—MTSU Scholars Academy student Candice Black, an incoming freshman psychology major, helps inventory donated books to deliver to Dillard and Southern Universities of New Orleans to help reopen their libraries.

photo by J. Intintoli

the Summer Reading Selection, and this year the students decided to create a pictorial journal or paper comparing the situation in Rwanda (from Paul Rusesabagina's *An Ordinary Man*) to the devastation and carnage that occurred and is still present in New Orleans.

"They've been preparing by reading the book and watching 'When the Levees Broke' (Spike Lee's HBO documentary), and they decided one of the best ways they could help was to collect books for the university libraries," Shaw-McEwen explained.

Students were asked to bring at least 50 donated books each to contribute to the service project. The final tally was more than 1,000, hand-inventoried according to title, author, ISBN and date and then catalogued by spreadsheet on one of three laptops on the way down to New

Orleans. SUNO had another 200 boxes of donated books waiting in a trailer to be inventoried, too, so the MTSU road scholars whipped those into spreadsheets as well.

"I'm just excited to see the changes in New Orleans," said Jasmine Malone, a Nashville freshman, as she typed the inventory information into the computer. "I went down in 2005 and want to see how they've gotten back on their feet."

The books traveled under the bus that ferried the scholars eight hours west to the Crescent City.

"We have no luggage. We never take luggage," Shaw-McEwen said of the Scholars Academy excursions. "We just take backpacks. We're just there long enough to do what we're there to do and turn around and come home."

Four of the original scholars from

the academy's first incarnation, the 2005 First-Time Freshmen Summer Institute, and one 2006 FTF/Scholars Academy participant joined the NOLA trip as "senior counselors." Rinaud Matthews, sophomore international relations major and the OID's full-time volunteer student assistant, served as the student coordinator for the project.

"We need to compliment our faculty for their support, because they're just outstanding in their dedication to our scholars," Shaw-McEwen said. "And Avé Trotter, our executive aide, implements whatever we come up with, so quickly and seamlessly and perfectly."

As for the 2007 road scholars? They're looking forward to a little sleep before classes start again.

the RECORD

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UR007-0807

Faculty/Staff Update

Conferences

Dr. Abdul Khaliq (mathematical sciences) was an organizer for a mini symposium, "Advances on Modeling in Financial Mathematics," at the Sixth International Congress on Industrial and Applied Mathematics Conference, held July 16-20 in Zurich, Switzerland.

Elections

Jim Ferguson (jazz studies) was elected as a national vice president of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists at its national convention in Philadelphia July 19-21.

Publications

Dr. Gore Ervin (biology) is coauthor of a book chapter, "Fetal Physiology," that appears in the fifth edition of *Obstetrics: Normal and Problem Pregnancies*, published in June by Churchill Livingstone.

Dr. Michael Linton (music theory and composition) published an article on the fate of symphony orchestras, "And the Band Played On," in the July 14 edition of *The Wall Street Journal*.

Workshops

Dr. Anhua Lin (mathematical sci-

ences) attended the Fifth International Bioinformatics Workshop June 24-26 at Shandong University, Weihai, China. He also traveled to Shanghai Jiaotong University to collaborate with mathematicians as well as give talks.

See yourself in The Record!

E-mail your faculty/staff accomplishments to gfann@mtsu.edu or fax to 615-898-5714, Attention: *The Record*, Faculty/Staff Update. If your department isn't receiving enough copies of *The Record*, please e-mail gfann@mtsu.edu with "Record Circulation" in the subject line.