**MTSU Academic Master Plan Report 2014-2015**

**Report to Ms. Faye Johnson**

**Goal 3: Leverage Resources Thru Partnerships**

**Community and University Partnerships**

1. Strategic Direction

Middle Tennessee State University will create a campus culture that values partnerships and public service.

**Strategies 2007-17**

1A) Middle Tennessee State University will support and strengthen partnership initiatives between and among students, faculty members, and communities to promote interdisciplinary learning, scholarship and service opportunities.

**Objective:** Expand base for student, faculty and community partnerships within and between the colleges to promote interdisciplinary learning.

**1A) STATUS UPDATE:  
2007-2008** MTSU public relations campaigns class and MTMC developed campaign to promote public awareness of new MTMC facility; MTSU and Great Books Foundation to provide training in Shared Inquiry method of instruction and provide non-credit courses to MT prisons; MTSU/SUNO partnership with MTSU students delivering 1,000+ books to SUNO and Dillard University and School of Music coordinating Presidential "Prism" Gala Benefit Concert; MTSU/M2M partnership to create jobs in MT region; MTSU Center for Economic Education and Belmont partnered to provide Stock Market Game Program to greater Nashville area; Human Sciences Department and Rutherford County Read to Succeed Project partnered on "Families that Read Succeed"; Honors College students and The Discovery School at Reeves-Rogers on service projects for interactive learning

2008-2009 See OCES Partnerships website <http://frank.mtsu/~partner>

2009-2010 See OCES Partnership website <http://frank.mtsu/~partner>

2010-2011 See Selected Innovative Partnerships

2014-2015 Also see attached Selected Innovative Partnerships/Service/Experiential Learning and the Partnerships Website: [www.mtsu.edu/partner](http://www.mtsu.edu/partner). (CBISA database)

Selected Examples:

**Adams Place Residents, Lyons.**  Student assist the residents at the retirement residence who might have issues with Apple computers, laptops, iPhones and iPads, plus Kindles, Nooks and more. The students enjoy solving technical issues and spending time with the older generation — and the feeling is mutual. The technology collaboration has been a hit and success since 2014. The director at Adams Place has no trouble finding seniors needing assistance with their phones, computers and other technology. “The students love the residents and the residents love the students.

**Emergency Communication Center, Huddleston, Nokes, Pittard.** MTSUprovided expertise and resources to aid the creation of this center that the state of Tennessee can use to inform the public and media during a state or local disaster or crisis. The Tennessee Emergency Management Agency unveiled the Multi‑Agency Joint Information Center, or MAJIC, during the kickoff National Preparedness Month at the Tennessee Department of Military‑TEMA headquarters.

**MT Sampler Camp, Stubblefield.** Camp helps middle and high school youth learn about various career areas before they enter high school and college. It encourages youth to explore career areas early. It offers lecture series with speakers from different career areas to assist participants in major exploration. It also allows students to see “Majors” at MTSU.

**Bradley and Williamson County Dual Enrollment, McPhee.** An expanded dual enrollment program at MTSU is set to bring a wider range of college‑level courses to high school campuses around Middle Tennessee at little to no cost to high school students. MTSU partners with seven Rutherford County high schools along with schools in Williamson and Bradley counties to offer dual enrollment courses at high schools, on the Murfreesboro campus or online at schools across the state. Students who pass receive high school and college credits.

**Blackman High School Collegiate Academy, McPhee**. MTSU becomes a partner in Blackman High School's new Collegiate Academy, offering college-level courses on the high school campus and assisting in the development of its academic enrichment programs. The agreement will allow Blackman juniors and seniors who meet eligibility standards to take up to six hours of university courses at no cost to students. Credits will count on high school and college transcripts. The partners will develop and offer select post-secondary courses at Blackman with an eye toward building curriculum options for the Collegiate Academy, a competitive college-preparatory program at the school that begins this fall. MTSU will also make certain programs, activities and resources available to academy students, such as access to its new state-of-the-art, $147 million Science Building, education-abroad programs and participation in campus events and lectures.

**Strategies 2007-17**

1B) Middle Tennessee State University will provide students and faculty members with incentives, development opportunities, rewards, and recognitions that foster their participation in partnership and outreach initiatives.

**Objective:** Establish a partnership incentive and reward program.

**1B) STATUS UPDATE:**

2009-2010 The Partnerships and OCES website will feature highlights of partnerships beginning later during spring 2010. New and expanded partnerships for 2009-10 will be highlighted in the President’s Annual Report to TBR. The University’s financial situation prohibited the request to fund additional monetary awards this year. Future requests will be made through the MTSU Office of Development and University Relations.

2010-2011 The Partnerships website features highlights of previous partnerships. New and updated partnerships will be highlighted in the President’s Annual Report to TBR. The University’s financial situation prohibited the request to fund additional monetary awards this year. Future requests may be made through the MTSU Office of Development and University Relations.

2014-2015 The Partnerships website details and highlights new and updated partnerships, outreach, service and experiential learning and identifies community partners. The MTSU Public Service Grant continues support of competitive proposals from across the campus.

Approval has been given to develop and publish a new “Partnerships Magazine beginning late fall 2015.

Two (2) Faculty, each received $3000 Public Service Awards (service is most often inclusive of work done by faculty in conjunction with community partnerships). Fifteen (15) Public Service grants were awarded to faculty (service is inclusive of work done by faculty and staff in conjunction with community partnerships).

**Strategies 2007-2017**

1C) Middle Tennessee State University will create a program to recognize exemplary university and community partners and partnerships.

**Objective:** Develop Community partnership recognition program

**1C) STATUS UPDATE:**

2009-2010 The Partnerships and OCES website will feature highlights of partnerships beginning later during spring 2010. New and expanded partnerships for 2009-10 will be highlighted in the President’s Annual Report to TBR. The University’s financial situation prohibited the request to fund additional monetary awards this year. Future requests will be made through the MTSU Office of Development and University Relations. Partnerships website features highlights of previous partnerships. New and updated partnerships will be highlighted in the President’s Annual Report to TBR. The University’s financial situation prohibited the request to fund additional monetary awards this year. Future requests may be made through the MTSU Office of Development and University Relations.

2014-2015 The Partnerships website details new partnerships, outreach, service and experiential learning courses as well as identifies off-campus partners.

The new “Partnerships Magazine will recognize the off-campus partners.

1. **Strategic Direction**

Middle Tennessee State University will generate and allocate new resources to enhance the organizational structure to strengthen partnerships and public service programs.

**Strategies 2007-17**

2A) Middle Tennessee State University will develop the infrastructure to support an Office of University Partnerships to identify, pursue, and sustain state, regional, national, and global partnerships.

**Objective;** Establish an Office for Community Engagement; establish infrastructure to support state, regional, national and global partnerships.

2014-2015. The Office of Community Engagement and Support was reorganized in 2011 and the functions were placed in the Provost’s Office; University Development. The Special Assistant to the President remained on the President’s Cabinet.

2B) Middle Tennessee State University will establish a University Partnership Council. Membership of the Council will include representatives from both the University and constituencies beyond the University.

**Objective:** Establish University Partnership Council

**2B) STATUS UPDATE:**

2008-2009 Community Engagement Advisory Council established

2009-2010 The Advisory Council met in September 2009 to take the inaugural MTSU campus tour and then actually toured some major parts of the campus; April 2010 the Council met at the new facilities of the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning. OCES also coordinated “Neighborhood Teas” for community folks who own homes in close proximity to the University, for the purpose of planning and working closely with neighbors (October 20, 2009 and March 1, 2010. OCES staff invited guests to attend various athletic and other events on the campus.

2009-2010 Completed

2010-2011 The Advisory Council was convened at the MTSU Airport in October 2010 to learn about the MTSU world class Aerospace Program. The meeting was convened in the College of Mass Communications in March 2011.

2014-2015 Completed.

**Strategies 2007-2017**

2C) Middle Tennessee State University will develop a comprehensive data base to include all community engagement and partnership activities.

**Objective:** Establish a comprehensive data base for community engagement and partnerships.

**2C) STATUS UPDATE:**

2007-2008 Partnerships data base has been established and updated: public service and outreach data base under development

2008-2009 Public service and outreach data base under development

2009-2010 The gradual process of integrating public service data without making changes to the Partnership Database continues.

2010-2011 For the first time, Public Service Projects that were supported by MTSU funds is documented in the Partnerships Database.

2015-2015. Completed – continued to update and refine database in order to mind the large amount of data.

**Strategies 2007-2017**

2D) Middle Tennessee State University will develop a campus-wide assessment program to measure the impact of institutional engagement on students, faculty members, and communities.

**Objective:** Conduct a campus-wide assessment program to measure impact of institutional engagement on students, faculty and communities.

**2D) STATUS UPDATE:**

**2007-2008** Campus-wide identification of engagement activities begun; EXL program assessment on target; EXL program impact on community $1.095M in 2,045 projects

**2008-2009** Campus-wide identification of engagement activities related to EXL conducted annually; identification of other engagement activities on-going; EXL program assessment on target; EXL program impact on community over $1.16M in 2,185 projects. NSSE results are forthcoming in August.

2009-2010 Until funds can be made available to acquire a comprehensive assessment package, EXL and other areas of outreach continue to report on the impact of programs. The Partnerships Database now emphasizes the completion of section related to partnership assessment. These are documented on the Partnerships website (www.mtsu.edu/~partner).

2010-2011 A company will be selected during spring 2011 to develop an assessment program for MTSU.

2014-2015 The CBISA Database has been used since 2013-2014 to compile and help integrate data on partnerships/service/experiential learning. Planning is being done to determine ways to more effectively assess external relationships. MTSU was accepted on the US President’s National Community Service Honor Roll for 2014 and an application was submitted this spring for 2015. MTSU was awarded the Carnegie Engagement Classification in Spring 2015. Institutions must meet engagement criteria in order to receive this classification.

1. **Strategic Direction**

Middle Tennessee State University will pursue innovative and creative partnerships that enhance learning, scholarship, and engagement and further social, cultural, and economic development.

**Strategies 2007-17**

3A) Middle Tennessee State University will develop innovative partnerships to enhance the University’s historic and emerging program strengths.

**Objective:** Develop innovative partnerships in MTSU's historical and emerging program strengths.

**3A) STATUS UPDATE:  
2007-2008** Innovative partnerships: ET Department and Lee Adcock Construction, City of Murfreesboro, Messer Company, The Building Group, RG Anderson Company, TDK Construction, Brasfield and Gorrie/Turner Universal, and architect, Michael Steward, to advise and support the Commercial Construction Management Program; HHP Dept and Riverdale, Brentwood, Oakland, Primary and Urgent Care, Woods Physical Therapy, Star Therapy, NHC Oak Park, and the Renkens Center for athletic training sites for clinical instruction; Center for Historic Preservation partnered with Ph.D. Program in History and the Mississippi Blues Commission to conduct research and implement a statewide Blues Heritage Trail for the use of blues culture within Mississippi Delta tourism.

**2008-2009** Innovative partnerships: Partnered with the City of Shelbyville, TN and MSCC to establish the Middle Tennessee Education Center in Shelbyville (College of CEDL); collaborated with UTSI to establish a 3 + 2 program (B.S. in Aerospace & M.S. in Flight Test Engineering (Aerospace Department); assumed Mind2Marketplace leadership role in regional initiative to move innovation to marketplace/planned (Nov '09) major regional conference in collaboration with TVC; partnered with Township of Smyrna to establish the CLEAR Water Institute (Chemistry Department); Center for Historic Preservation, in partnership with the National Park Service, established the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage ($465K grant); co-hosted NSF funded international workshop on mathematics and science education with Northeast Normal University (China); completed the Volunteer Voices project in partnership with UTK (Library); MTSU Public History Program partnered with Shacklett’s Photography (Murfreesboro) to preserve/digitize historic photograph collection for exhibition; continued TN Department of Children Services grant, lead institution for 13 member consortium to provide child welfare worker training; continued partnerships with UTK and ORNL to support faculty and student research; MTSU (Journalism) partnered with Chevrolet/EdVenture Partners in The New Shade of Chevy Campaign (student project)/--tied for 1st place in national competition; MTSU (Chemistry) collaborated with City of Smyrna to establish CLEAR Water Institute.

2010-2011 Selected Innovative Partnerships

Partnered with the National Science Foundation, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, North Carolina State University, and the Hauptman-Woodward Medical Research Institute to develop a state-of-the-art facility and user-assess program for neutron diffraction analysis of advanced, complex and functional materials at the High Flux Isotope Reactor of ORNL (Chemistry Department).

2014-2015 Highlights of Selected Innovative and Expanded partnerships and Public Service

**Science 1131 , Iriarte‑Gross**. Students completed projects designed to help young children understand the science behind science. MTSU students are enrolled in an experimental‑learning physical science class in the university's Honors College. Students led fifth‑graders at Murfreesboro City's Discovery School through a rotation of seven science experiments.

**African American Heritage Society Maury County, Norkunas.** This is original research on topics related to the African American past in Maury County in cooperation with the African American Heritage Society. Materials were developed for twelve online exhibits for AAHSMC. AAHSMC used the students' research to successfully apply for historic markers for several local sites and it is being used to create an entirely new archive in Maury County that scholars and local historians will use into the future.

**Alternative Fuel.**  Dr. Cliff Ricketts discovered how to drive 2,600 miles without using any gasoline. And then the “Discovery Channel Canada” discovered him.

**Anti‑ bullying Law, Gilbert.** Dr. Jackie Gilbert joined forces with people across the state and nation to help craft legislation and guidelines that will help to promote civility within government agencies. The legislation grants legal protection to those government agencies that adopt a model policy to combat abusive behavior in the workplace or craft comparableguidelines of their own.

**Bonnaroo Festival, Paulson.** The College of Mass Communication teamed up with Bonnaroo leaders in an ongoing partnership that brought festival officials to MTSU for question‑and‑answer sessions with students and then put students behind the scenes at Bonnaroo for multimedia news coverage.

**Camp PRISM, Science & Math Summer Camp, Thomas.** (Practice in Science and Math) includes lectures, field trips to various classrooms on the MTSU campus and local businesses, including Nissan. Paid for by federal funds Murfreesboro City Schools receives, the camp began more than a decade ago.

**Chemistry Department Seminar.** Dr. Charles C. Chusuei and his student researchers have been developing a technology that could transform patient care in emergency rooms and health centers throughout the world. It involves the detection of something one can find in a bottle in almost every home—hydrogen peroxide.

**Concrete Management, Brown.** In keeping with its reputation for growing with a changing world, Middle Tennessee State University is home of the Concrete Industry Management (CIM) Department. The department is a joint initiative between MTSU and leaders from the concrete industry. It provides students the opportunity to enter a broad field that has an urgent need for professionals with the skills to meet the growing demands of a progressive, changing industry.

**Crime Scene Investigations, Berryman.** Middle Tennessee State University's Forensic Anthropology Search and Recovery Team helps with the work of removing and examining human remains. (Example: Officials said it could be weeks before a body found outside of Arnold Air Force Base in Tullahoma might be identified. Police said the remains were definitely human and had been there for quite some time. MTSU’s team will actually examine those remains.)

**Dale Carnegie, Urban.** MTSU’s Jones College entered an exclusive partnership with Dale Carnegie Training to embed “soft skills” training within the university’s curriculum. The result - All Jones College graduate and undergraduate students will have taken such a course for credit before obtaining their degree.

**Exploring Life (EXL), Sadler.** Students have been involved in an ecological restoration project at two sites in collaboration with two partners: the National Park Service at Stones River National Battlefield and Murfreesboro City Parks & Recreation. Site one is located at Stones River and site two is located at the Overall Street trailhead at Lytle Creek on the Greenway. They are removing exotic invasive pest plants that have completely changed the vegetative composition of the area. A third ecological project has been in collaboration with Stones River Watershed; students have assisted with planting trees to stabilize the bank next to Garrison Creek.

**Health and Gerontology (EXL), Sauls.** Students interact with a "well" elderly persons who live in a community setting. The objective is to obtain a health assessment that encompasses the bio‑psychological‑spiritual person, identify risk behaviors or need for health information, and conduct a health teaching project with clients that promotes wellness and reduces risk/risk factors.

**Health Literacy with Burmese Refugees in Rutherford County, Bates.** Faculty and students provide health literacy training and education to Burmese refugees who seek citizenship in the United States. Culturally relevant training is provided for the refugees and for MTSU faculty and students

**Mechatronics, Boles.** MTSU’s Mechatronics Engineering degree program is on the cutting edge of a fast‑growing industry. Jobs are waiting for engineers to design and enhance robotics and automated systems. Bridgestone, with a mechatronics facility at its LaVergne education center, and Nissan are among worldwide and local partners in the program.

**Mexican American War, Frisby.** Three Middle Tennessee State University professors and one U.S. representative want to leave

no man behind and are working to bring a few of those fallen soldiers home to Tennessee. It started out as part of the U.S. Army Ranger Creed and spread to all four of the Armed Forces.

**Nashville Zoo, Hodge.** Archaeologists exhumed the bodies from near the entrance, took samples to study and reburied the skeletons. Scientists determined the remains are likely those of slaves working at Grassmere who died between 1830 and 1860. The location of the new slave cemetery, near the Grassmere farm home and the family cemetery, is something special. It was important to honor the slaves who lived in this area as citizens and important members of our history, even though they might not have been considered that at one time.

**NICE, Nashville International Center for Empowerment, Norkunas.** Graduate students volunteer with immigrants and/or refugees associated with the Center in order to build a relationship with MTSU's Public History Program. Several students taught English to immigrants and one student taught driver's education. Two students continued to teach after the semester ended and wrote that the relationship they developed with the family they were tutoring was enormously meaningful. Six students co‑created oral histories with immigrants and some of the excerpts from those interviews will be posted on the NICE website.

**Operation Adopt a Hero, Stallard a MTSU student**.Part of the mission of Operation: Adopt a Hero is to connect resources already in place with veterans and their families.

**Pathology of Sport Illness and Spectator Populations (EXL), Phillips.** Students provide 200 service learning hours with MTSU and Vanderbilt athletics, a physical therapy clinic, general medical clinic, or local high school athletics. present orally and written research projects, and provide clinical reports.

**Pickett Chapel Lebanon TN, Hodge.** Surveyed the archival sources, sampled the archaeology, and explored their potential to address more complex questions. MTSU archaeology students and volunteers figured out that the artifacts are undisturbed and densely distributed across every part of the property that was excavated. Artifact analysis is ongoing at MTSU’s Archaeology Lab. The assemblage is predictably dominated by nails, ceramics, and glass and appears to represent the entire site occupation from the early 19th century to the present.

**Professional Seminar 3390 (EXL), Emery.** Students complete 100 hours of field placement in Middle Tennessee social agencies and organizations. A few examples of placements include: The Domestic Violence Program, Child Advocacy Center, The Discovery Center, The Discovery Center, Stones River Manor, Murfreesboro Pregnancy Support Center, CASA, Community Care, and Project HELP. The work that the students do is based upon their site audience/clients/residents and includes working with children, adolescents, the elderly, and families in a variety of capacities.

**Public Service Internship 4290 (EXL), Langenbach**. Students develop an experience based knowledge and apply their knowledge by working in a public service organization. **Partners**: Rutherford and Davidson County General Sessions Courts. Domestic Violence Unit of those courts. Gov. Haslam’s office. St. Clair Senior Center. Business Education Partnership Foundation – Rutherford Chamber. Public Defender or Rutherford County. Congressman Marsha Blackburn.

**Raiders' Closet, Hemby.** Due to the economic hardships many students are facing, the Business Communication and Entrepreneurship Department faculty created a clothing closet project to help students acquire the needed professional attire. At Raider’s Closet underprivileged students can receive a suit they need for an interview. They are not required to return the suit but encouraged to "pay it forward" and to give back to the Closet once they are established in their post‑graduation jobs and careers.

**Student Journalists in West Tennessee, Alligood.** Journalism students spent three weeks working at the Chester County Independent Newspaper writing feature stories. The students published stories after only three days in the county and were working on others. “This is my first time really doing anything like this,” said Sinclaire Sparkman, a junior. She said she had finished her general‑education classes and the feature writing class was a great introduction to her major, which is journalism.

**Camp STEM, Seivers.** Each year the College of Education hosts elementary school students for this camp, focusing on exploration of astronomy, robotics, and geology. MTSU’s MTeach program provides teachers for the camp, and participants take field trips to the Mineral, Gem, and Fossil Museum, the airport, and other sites.

**China Guangxi University, Mcphee.** Since the launch of a 2012 agreement with Guangxi Botanical Garden of Medicinal Plants in China, a group from Middle Tennessee State University has discovered 37 plants that may have the potential to treat cancer and other diseases.China provides the plants to create a sample, and MTSU examines the pharmaceutical value. In China, the groups discussed the plants’ potential ability to heal infections and disease — 13 that could kill cancer, nine to fight viral infections and 15 to battle protozoa.

**Coding Camp (Gayle Porterfield, David Lockett), Seivers.**  In computer programming, coding is the process of designing, writing, testing, troubleshooting and maintaining the source code of programs. Utilizing a number of fun programs, with assistance from high schoolers ‑‑ the camp helps youngsters grow in their knowledge of coding.

**Instrumental Analysis Laboratory, Chong.** This ambient air monitoring project that is funded by Environmental Protection Agency for three years. The analysis of over 400 samples will provide ample learning opportunities for students enrolled in the instrumental analysis course in which they would learn the analytical instrumentation and principles that are relevant to the analysis of air pollutants.

**International Love Quit, Kissinger.** A beautiful handcrafted quilt, comprising 81 specially designed squares contributed by 38 countries and 36 states, is now being spotlighted in Washington, D.C. It combines talents from Tunisia to Texas into a massive piece of fiber art recognizing the abilities and friendships of artists around the world and it will become a permanent part of the State Department’s Arts in Embassies traveling worldwide exhibit. Partners include: Very Special Arts (Tennessee State Organization on Arts and Disabilities. US Department of Civil Rights. US's State Department's Disability Action Group. Arts in Embassies Program. Around the World Digital Arts Festival. Dr. Lauren Rudd, MTSU Department of Human Sciences ‑ Textiles.

**Montverde Academy, McPhee. MTSU**  has signed a first‑of‑its‑kind partnership with Florida's Montverde Academy, a premier private boarding school known for its strong international enrollment and 100 percent college placement rate. The pact will allow for dual enrollment of Montverde students and allow the academy's guidance counselors and MTSU's undergraduate and international studies recruiters to work collaboratively in placing best‑fit students from Montverde at MTSU.

**Nissan, Ann Campbell Early Learning Center (Robyn Ridgley), Seviers.** Nissan holds a supply drive at its plant where employees drop off consumable items needed by the Center. Nissan has sponsored the Center through the Wishing Tree program to provide consumable products that we use in our program each day.

**Peru, Universidad Andina Del Cusco, Mcphee.** Leaders from MTSU and the Universidad Andina Del Cusco agreed on a partnership between the two institutions. UAC, known best for its programs in tourism,accounting and nursing, is located near the Historic Sanctuary of Machu Picchu, described by National Geographic as one of the world's most important archeological sites.

**Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Boyle.** This partnership expands individual opportunities for earning course credit and certifications through TDEC’s Fleming Training Center in Murfreesboro, online and at other statewide locations.

**Center for Historic Preservation, West and Graham. NPT Documentary,** $50,000 to Nashville Public Television for documentary on "The Washingtons of Wessyngton Plantation," as part of ongoing Civil War 150th series.

**Veterans Center.** University President McPhee announced a partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to create a 2,600‑square‑foot center in the heart of campus that will cater to the needs of student veterans. Construction will coincide with the addition of a suite of new services for the students.