Speakers on Campus

Doug Owsley, division head of physical anthropology at the Smithsonian Institute, will deliver a lecture for the Forensic Institute for Research and Education (FIRE) in the State Farm Room of the Business and Aerospace Building on Thursday, October 4, 2007. Owsley has examined 36,000-year-old bones in his work at the institute, received the Award for Civilian Service for forensic investigation for identifying 9/11 victims, appeared on the Discovery Channel and ABC’s 20/20, and examined native remains of Easter Islanders. Closer to home was his work on identifying crewmen from the historic H.L. Hunley, the world’s first operational submarine, developed and used by the Confederate Navy during the Civil War.

Dave Hickey (University of Nevada Las Vegas) will be on campus Tuesday, November 12, for a lecture in the State Farm Room, BAS. Hickey is said to be one of the best-known American art and cultural critics practicing today. Hickey has published a volume of short fiction—Prior Convictions—and he is the owner-director of A Clean Well-Lighted Place, his art gallery in Austin, Texas. He serves as director of Reese Palley Gallery in New York City. Hickey has had articles in Rolling Stone, Art News, Art in America, Artforum, Harper’s, and Vanity Fair.

Dean’s Notes

Welcome back to campus for the 2007–08 academic year. Some of you might find some changes if you were away this summer. Offices have been renovated or relocated, and there have been some changes in personnel. (See page two for the departments in Liberal Arts, with chairs, executive aides, and locations.) Liberal Arts has added 52 new faculty members for 2007–08. Fourteen of the new 52 are tenure-track and 38 are full-time temporaries.

This academic year Liberal Arts will host conferences, lectures, exhibits, plays, music, and dance. Check out the Liberal Arts Website for dates and times. Hope to see you there!

John N. McDaniel, Dean

Ostrowski Wins
ALA Award

The Library History Round Table of the American Library Association (ALA) announced the 2007 winner of the Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award, and it is our own Carl Ostrowski (English) for Books, Maps, and Politics: A Cultural History of the Library of Congress, 1783–1861 (Amherst, MA: University of Massachusetts Press, 2004). The Gleason Book Award is given every three years to recognize the best book written in English in the field of library history including the history of libraries, librarianship and book culture. Eliza Atkins Gleason was the first African American to receive a Ph.D. from the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. This is quite an honor—congratulations, Dr. Ostrowski!
Departments and Office Staff

Art
Jean Nagy, chair
Brenda Johnson, executive aide
Todd Hall 227C

English
Tom Strawman, chair
Judy Cox, executive aide (on leave)
Darlene Fults
Peck Hall 302

Foreign Languages and Literatures
Tom Heine, interim chair
Ruth Watson, executive aide
BDA 301

Geosciences
Ron Zawislak, chair
Karen Wolfe, executive aide
KOM 325B

History
Amy Sayward, chair
Tonna Collins, executive aide
Peck Hall 223

Music
George Riordan, director
Claudette Northcutt, executive aide
WMB 150

Philosophy
Ron Bombardi, chair
Terri Ferrell, executive aide
JUB 302

Political Science
John Vile, chair
Pam Davis, executive aide
Peck Hall 209

Social Work
Rebecca Smith, chair
Dian White, executive aide
Peck Hall 309

Sociology and Anthropology
Ron Aday, chair
Pansey Carter, executive aide
Todd Hall 342

Speech and Theatre
Rebecca Fischer, chair
Kim Griffin, executive aide
BDA 205

2007 MTSU Foundation Awards

Outstanding Teacher Awards went to Craig Cornish (Music) and Janet McCormick (Speech and Theatre). Lori Kissinger (Speech and Theatre) was awarded an Outstanding Public Service Award. Congratulations to all of you!

Kates Is ’07–’08 Fellow

Ron Kates (English) has been named the 2007–08 Academic Affairs Administrative Fellow. He will be teaching two classes per semester, and continue his commitment to the Learning Community Project by team-teaching a Foundation of Education and English collaborative experience. In his role as fellow, Kates will be revising the faculty handbook and undertaking other tasks assigned by the provost.

Retiree News

We apologize for not including Bill Connelly (English) in our list of 2006–07 retirees this summer. Connelly came to the MTSU English Department in 1970, and he served as department chair from 1997 to 2005. He was also the first director of the Developmental Studies Program. Thank you, Dr. Connelly, for your service to the department, the college, and the University. Enjoy your retirement!

Reza Ordoubadian (English, retired) will be at the Southern Festival of Books in Nashville in October (12-14) to present his work of translation, The Poems of Hafez. A second book of poetry translated by Dr. Ordoubadian, The Poems of Abu Sa’id Abu Kheyr, is forthcoming.
Conference on John Milton

The English Department will sponsor the ninth biennial Conference on John Milton October 25–27. The conference attracts scholars from throughout the U.S. and abroad. Past participants have come from Japan, Australia, Korea, Norway, New Zealand, and every region of the United States and Canada. Since its inception, the conference has attracted most of the leading American scholars in the field of Milton studies. It has also resulted in a series of collected essays, two of which have won the prestigious Irene Samuels Prize awarded by the Milton Society of America. Codirectors of the conference are Charles W. Durham, MTSU professor emeritus; Kristin A. Pruitt, professor emerita, Christian Brothers University; and Kevin Donovan (English). Durham and Pruitt are past presidents of the Milton Society of America. This year’s plenary speakers are Richard J. DuRocher of St. Olaf College and Laura Knoppers of Pennsylvania State University.

MTSU Art Students at the Frist Center

Among the student art on display at the Frist Center in Nashville from November 16 to December 31 will be the work of MTSU Department of Art students Danny Greene, Dale Meir, Sarah Sullivan, Beth Copely, Brandon Morgan, Michelle Smalley, Rachel Bonham, and Caitlin Roston. There will be a public reception on Friday, November 16, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Frist. See you there!

Anthropology Students to Present in Washington, D.C.

The American Anthropological Association (AAA) informed two of our anthropology students that their research was accepted for presentation at the association’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Heather Lee and Erica Roe-Fehrmann will present their research among the best and brightest from around the world. University professors and graduate students were in the mix of applicants. We applaud these students and expect they will represent MTSU and Tennessee well at the conference!

McNair Scholars Program Research Winners

The McNair Scholars program, named in honor of Challenger astronaut Ronald E. McNair, is a postbaccalaureate achievement program at MTSU and other institutions. This year at the eighth annual Research Symposium for McNair Scholars, first place went to Stephanie Mills (Music, violin) for “A Creative Project Based on the Life and Work of Manuel de Falla.” Michael Linton (Music) was Mills’s mentor. Second place went to Dean Andrews (Political Science) for his project, “Individual Rights and the President’s Military Tribunal System.” Clyde Willis (Political Science) was Andrews’s mentor. Others in Liberal Arts who participated in the symposium were Logan Grant (Political Science) with “The Phantom Category of Terrorism” (Clyde Willis, mentor) and Sarafina Croft (Foreign Languages and Literatures, Spanish) for “Motivation and Language Transfer in L2 English of Spanish-speaking Adult Learners” (Mohammed Albakry, mentor, English).

The Digital Age

The fall 2007 Honor Lecture Series, The Digital Age, will be held on Mondays at 3:00 p.m., in the Paul W. Martin Honors Building, room 106. On November 5, Patrick Chinney (Political Science) will present “Presidential Campaigning in the Internet Age.”
**Upcoming Events**

For music, art, drama, and dance, see the Liberal Arts events Web page at http://libarts.web.mtsu.edu/

- **October 4**
  Forensic Institute for Research and Education
  Legends in Forensic Science lecture featuring Douglas Owsley
  Business and Aerospace Building, State Farm Room

- **November 8–10**
  MTSU Holocaust Studies Conference
  "Questions of Memory and Conscience"
  James Union Building

- **November 10**
  Homecoming Parade and Tent City
  MTSU vs. Louisiana–Lafayette, 2:30 p.m.
  Alumni Band weekend and Salute to Veterans Day

- **November 12**
  Lecture by art and cultural critic Dave Hickey

**STAY IN TOUCH AND STAY CURRENT!**

The dedication of administration, faculty, and staff members is only one reason for the successes summarized in this newsletter. Our alumni are also vital to our continuing progress. We hope more of you will become involved in the growth and success of the College of Liberal Arts. Please check the Web address below for more news.

If you wish to donate to a specific program, please contact the Development Office at (615) 898-2502. If you would like to be added to our mailing list, send an e-mail via our college Web page, http://libarts.web.mtsu.edu/

MTSU, a Tennessee Board of Regents university, is an equal opportunity, nonracially identifiable, educational institution that does not discriminate against individuals with disabilities. AA/EOE/9007

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**Art Prof Stay Busy**

Assistant professors Wendy Koenig and Erin Anfinson of the Department of Art find time to pursue professional activities off-campus. Koenig was recently named a contributing editor of *Artpapers*, and one of her articles, "Black Is the Color: Leaster Julian Merriweather and Invisibility's Sticky Side," was published in the July/August issue.

Anfinson was commissioned by the Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (administered by the Center for Historic Preservation) to paint an eighteen-by-eight-foot mural to serve as a backdrop for a permanent exhibit, "The Time that Changed Everything: Murfreesboro’s Civil War Era." The work is at the Heritage Center of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County, on the corner of College and Walnut. The center is open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Guided tours are Monday through Saturday by reservation (call 217-8013).