**MTSU - COMMUNTY AND UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**2011-12 Strategic Partnerships, Public Service, Outreach**

**June 15, 2012**

***Selected New and Updated Partnerships, Service, Outreach***

**College of Basic and Applied Sciences**

**AGRISBUSINESS and AGRISCIENCE**

**Faculty:** Wendy Francesconi

**Public Service:** Water Quality

**Description:** Students planted buttonbush and cottonwood trees to help improve the water quality of the nearby East Fork of the Stones River and rows of trees at the MTSU farm off Guy James Road in Lascassas. One row served as a living fence along the old farm road. Another, planted along the river, will increase the area of the riparian buffer strip between land and the river, which will further the sustainability of the MTSU farm.

**Faculty:** Dr. Tony Johnston

**Outreach:** Agribusiness and Agriscience Students – Tennessee State Veterans’ Home (update)

**Partner:** Tennessee State Veterans’ Home

**Description:** Students designed and constructed planters of various sizes for flowers, herbs, and vegetables and installed a garden along a walkway at the back of the Veterans’ Home. Five residents actively participated in the construction/planting, many others watched.

**Faculty:** Dr. Cliff Ricketts

**Partnership:** Tractor Supply (update)

**Partners:** Farm Credit Services became an additional partner

**Description:**  Ricketts and his team planned a cross country trip from Tybee Island, Georgia, to Long Beach, California on 2.15 gallons of fuel from the gas pump, 2,582 miles. Fuel sources were the sun and hydrogen in the 2005 Toyota Prius.

**BIOLOGY**

**Faculty:** Dr. Cindi-Smith Walters

**Partnership:** Center for Environmental Education (update)

**Partners:** Tennessee Environmental Council and Department of Environment and Conservation; McFadden Elementary School; Rutherford County Master Gardeners; Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation; City of Murfreesboro TN

**Description:** (1) “TREEmendous” Saturday Streamside was the name given to a project during which five thousand six hundred and eleven (5611) trees were planted with over one-hundred fifty (150) volunteers; (2) rain Garden/Rain Barrel is a series of workshops focused on building bio-retention ponds (rain gardens) and/or rain barrels to ensure water quality and quantity practices within the Stones River Watershed. The workshops include hands-on, lecture, and question/answer segments; and (3) a pilot program was developed to help various communities meet their storm water program requirement needs. A thousand CDs of Tennessee frog/toad calls and a booklet to augment the CD were funded through Public Service. They are being given to folks who actually census from/toad populations, classroom teachers, naturalists, etc. They have the potential to reach more than one thousand individuals due to the multiplier effect of the use by public and private classroom teachers, part naturalists, scout leaders, home schoolers, environmental educators, etc.

**GEOSCIENCES**

**Faculty:** Dr. Albert Ogden

**Public Service:** MTSU Mineral, Gen, and Fossil Museum (update)

**Partner:** MTSU Public Service

**Description:** Dinosaur skeletons were purchased. Visitors to the museum include many third-fifth graders, home school groups, scout groups, as well as MTSU students and the general public.

**M-TEACH**

**Faculty:** Robin Bollman

**Public Service:** Cool Math

**Partners:** Project ICE – Integrity, Community, Education; MTSU Public Service

**Description:** Provides free tutorial/homework help to local under-represented minority teens in Murfreesboro. The targeted students do not typically have access to private math tutoring and little to-no mathematics enrichment outside of the classroom.

**College of Behavioral and Health Sciences**

**NURSING**

**Faculty:** Dr. Debra Wilson

**Public Service:** Renfrew Eating Disorder Clinic, Stress Management

**Partner:** Renfrew Clinic and Sexual Abuse Center, Nashville, TN

**Description:** Training for personal life problems and needs; includes self-awareness, guided imagery, mindfulness, meditation, and breath work, all grounded in a mindfulness paradigm. Assessment of personal coping and stress, theories of stress and stress management, progressive muscle relaxation, assertiveness training, self-care, nutrition, sleep hygiene, time management, goal setting and dealing with cognitive distortions and automatic thought are also part of the program.

**Faculty:** Deborah Weatherspoon

**Public Service:** Easing the Crisis of Unplanned Pregnancy

**Partners:** Cumberland Crisis Pregnancy Center; Long Hollow Baptist Church

**Description:** Provides health education related to pregnancy, breastfeeding, and care of the newborn for a population that has few resources or support. Long Hollow Baptist Church produced videos.

**HEALTH and HUMAN PERFORMANCE**

**Faculty:** Dr. Andrew Owusu

**Public Service:** Giving Thanks- Health and Food an Educational Intervention

**Partner:** Greenhouse Ministries

**Description:** Many of Greenhouse Ministries' clients have diabetes or are at risk for getting diabetes and are at risk for food borne illnesses due to improper food safety habits. This program educates their clients in a fun and beneficial way in order to prevent illness.

**College of Business**

**COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

**Faculty:** Dr. Charles H. Apigian

**Partnership:** The Try Boro Kids Race Series

**Partners:** Murfreesboro Parks and Recreation; MTSU Center for Physical Activity and Health in Youth; Murfreesboro City Schools

**Description:** The Try Boro Kids Race Series was created to promote physical activity through events that are unique and special for kids. Three events were held in 2011, which encouraged kids to be more active throughout the year by offering a run, a duathalon, and the 3rd annual Try Boro Kids Triathlon, which again sold out at 250 kids. One of the goals is to reach youth that normally do not pursue these types of activities. A booklet was created that stresses the importance/fun of physical activity. It includes articles on running, injury prevention, nutrition, etc.

**MANAGEMENT and MARKETING**

**Faculty:** Jean Wilson

**Outreach:** Culture Fest 2011, “Tour the World”

**Partners:** Promotions Experiential Learning Class – Laura Buckner; SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise Association)

**Description:** The vision is to promote diversity and tolerance for all. The mission is to expose the middle Tennessee area to the culture and lifestyles that make the community diverse, by providing a

venue for open discussion, interaction, and growth. Audience included MTSU students, public school students, religious and cultural organizations, and citizens.

**Faculty:** Jean Wilson

**Outreach:** Hobgood Family Wellness Festival

**Partner:** Hobgood Elementary School

**Description:** The Festival was aimed at increasing the ability an at-risk population to improve its health and wellness. Children from underprivileged neighborhoods were challenged to increase their level of physical activity and improve their choice of healthy foods. Students and families interacted with members of the MTSU Football, Volleyball, and Basketball teams; nursing students; and staff from Middle Tennessee Medical Center; Discovery Center; and the Primary Care and Hope Clinic. Twenty-three interactive stations were provided.

**Faculty:** Jean Wilson

**Outreach:** “2 Acres of Hope, Impacting the Lives of Hundreds, One Acre at a Time”

**Partner:** The Journey Home

**Description**: MTSU SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise) team began a partnership with the Journey Home (JH) to expand their Community Garden from 1-2 acres. Prior to MTSU’s involvement, the one acre garden was tended with help primarily from the JH’s Executive Director’s immediate family and volunteers. The “2 Acres of Hope” project, built a greenhouse to "jump start" and, thereby, lengthen the growing season. Since the garden runs alongside a river, the goal was for it to be organic and protect the environment from pesticide/fertilizer run-off, so a composter was built. the need for water, and because we are working with a non-profit organization, funds are limited. Rain barrels were designed to collect water.

**College of Education**

**EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

**Faculty:** Kathyrn Bourdeau

**Outreach**: Growing a Science Reader: Trade Books for Teaching Science

**Partner:** Scales Elementary School

**Description:** Preparation of grade level resource units that can be shared among fifteen teachers. The objective is to improve third and fourth grade students’ access to high quality children’s trade books that teach scientific concepts.

**ELEMENTARY and SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**Faculty:** Debbie Bauder

**Partnership:** After School Remedial Reading Program

**Partners:** Boys and Girls Club; Murfreesboro City Schools; Rutherford County Schools

**Description:** Tutorial programs were set up at the Center for Dyslexia, Cason Lane Academy, Bradley Academy, and Black Fox Elementary and John Pittard Elementary Schools.

**Faculty:** Dr. Becky Alexander, Dr. Charles Milligan, Dr. Charlene True

**Outreach:** Woodbury and MTSU Collaboration for Success

**Partner:** Woodbury Grammar School, Cannon County, TN

**Description:** The purpose is to increase student achievement through the use of technology in a targeted after-school tutoring program. The process includes the training of teachers, weekly support for the after school program, and collaboration between the Woodbury Grammar faculty and MTSU faculty.

**Honors College**

**Faculty**: Dr. Ron Kates and Dr. Hilary Stallings

**Outreach:** Honors Learning Community English Class

**Partners:** Mitchell-Neilson Primary and Elementary Schools

**Description:** Combined classes of the two professors worked with students from both schools. They selected the book “Sylvester and the Magic Pebble” to read to the elementary students. They used the story to illustrate making graphs with colored stones. The elementary students then went to the primary school to teach the 2nd graders based on what they’d been taught.

**College of Liberal Arts**

**ANTHROPOLOGY**

**Faculty:** Dr. Shannon Hodge

**Partnership:** New Use for Dental Technology

**Partner:** National Park Service (National Center for Preservation- Technology and Training)

**Description:** Research to provide archaeologists with a new way to investigate the past while respecting the wishes of living Native Americans in the treatment of their ancestors’ remains. With existing computer-aided technology used by dentists for restorations such as crowns, Hodge produced replicas of human teeth for study so that the natural teeth could be returned to the grave. Using dental technology to replicate the remains allows them to be returned to their proper burial location. This technique can provide one approach to preserving irreplaceable scientific data while also respecting Native America’s call for timely repatriation.

**Faculty:** Dr. Tanya Peres Lemons **Partnership:** Downtown Cumberland River Banks Archeological Study **Partners:** Tennessee Division of Archeology; The National Science Foundation

**Description:** After the historic Tennessee floods of 2010, an emergency grant was awarded to assess the flood and looting damage along fifty river miles of the Cumberland River. Three researchers and ten MTSU students surveyed one-hundred twenty-eight riverbank or bank line sites and documented samples from the twenty most endangered. The effort has aligned groups—archeologists, government agencies, Native Americans—that sometimes have had competing interests.

**HISTORY**

**Faculty:** Zada Law

**Partnership:** Castalian Springs Airborne Research Project

**Partner:** Tennessee Historical Commission

**Description:** One goal is to discover more historic sites in Castalian Springs and gain a deeper understanding of the area’s existing ones.The project is being done through the Fullerton Laboratory for Spatial Technology at MTSU. Another goal is to locate prehistoric villages, archaeological mound sites, Civil War-era fortified sites and Zeigler’s Station, a settlement that was destroyed by Native Americans in 1792.

**MUSIC**

**Faculty:** Dr. Jennifer Vanatta-Hall

**Partnership:** Music Enrichment for At-Risk Children

**Partner:** Bellwood-Bowdoin Preschool

**Description:** Provide at-risk students with music lessons in which they explore, create, sing and play. There is no music specialist employed at Bellwood-Bowdoin Preschool.

**CENTER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**Faculty:** Caneta Hankins

**Partnership:** War of 1812 Committee

**Partners:** Tennessee Historical Commission; Tennessee State Museum; The Hermitage; the Tennessee Historical Society

**Description:** The committee plans and implements activities and programs to commemorate the bicentennial of the War of 1812. Students researched and developed the driving tour brochure. Students also worked at and participated in the March 2012 conference. More than three hundred people attended the Nashville conference. More than five thousand brochures are being distributed by the partners in various parts of the state carrying the work of the CHP to a broad audience and providing information on the sites associated with this period. Desired results include heritage development, tourism, research, and interpretation of the importance of this period of the history of Tennessee and the United States.

**Faculty:** Caneta Hankins

**Partnership:** Banks of Red Boiling Springs Adaptive Reuse

**Partners:** Vision 2020; Red Boiling Springs, TN

**Description:** The Center was invited to assess and make recommendations on the exterior and interior condition and recommend rehabilitation options of this 1920 building for use as a heritage/welcome center in Red Boiling Springs.

**Faculty:** Anne Leslie-Owens

**Partnership:** Tennessee Civil War GIS Project

**Partners:** MTSU Fullerton Lab for Spatial Technology; Tennessee Civil War National Heritage Area (TCWNHA – managed by MTSU Center for Historic Preservation)

**Description:** The MTSU Fullerton Lab for Spatial Technology will inventory and describe the geospatial data points for approximately seven hundred sites in Tennessee listed in Frederick H. Dyer’s *A Compendium of the War of Rebellion.* Thisdatabase provides the content for a website to identify Tennessee’s Civil War military engagements.

**Faculty:** Anne Leslie-Owens

**Partnership:** Civil War 150th Documentary Series

**Partner:** Nashville Public Television

**Description:** Nashville Public Television is developing a six-part documentary series on the Civil War in Tennessee, a major effort of the Tennessee Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission.

**Faculty:** Anne Leslie-Owens

**Partnership:** “Shades of Gray and Blue” Civil War Arts and Artists Website

**Partner:** Vanderbilt University

**Description:** Vanderbilt University is working with the MTSU Center for Historic Preservation and MTSU Walker Library to research and create a database, lesson plans, and website that explore the art and material culture reflective of life in Tennessee during the Civil War.

**College of Mass Communications**

**CENTER for POPULAR MUSIC**

**Faculty:** Dr. Dale Cockrell

**Partnership:** Pa’s Fiddle: The Music of America and The Making of Pa’s Fiddle

**Partners:** Santa Fe Productions; Pa’s Fiddle Recordings, LLC

**Description:** MTSU students worked behind the scenes to film “Inside Pa’s Fiddle,” a documentary on the inspiration, creation and execution of the special. This music was part of the “Little House on the Prairie Series”. The students’ documentary will accompany the PBS special in a planned DVD package.“Pa’s Fiddle: America’s Music” will be broadcast during the 2012 June pledge-drive season on PBS stations throughout the nation.

**JOURNALISM**

**Faculty:** Dr. Tricia Farwell

**Partnership:** Creating Ad Campaigns

**Partner:** Lotus Energy Drink

**Description:** Dr. Farwell’s “Advertising Campaigns” class was given the task of creating advertising campaigns for Nashville-based company Lotus Energy Drink in order to reach its targeted demographic of college students. Lotus was formed by three Nashville siblings two of whom attended MTSU. The class was divided into two agencies for work on the campaign. Only a few days after the class presentation, the company was already implementing some of the ideas.

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**

**Staff:** Faye Johnson

**Partnership:** Mind2Marketplace (M2M) (update

**Partner**: Northern Middle Region: Nashville Entrepreneur Center, Nashville (new)

Description:M2M continues to actively promote entrepreneurship development and directly assists entrepreneurs and their companies in middle Tennessee. M2M is partnering with the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service to deliver services in managing a Federal and State Technology Partnership Program (FAST). Selected counseling/technical assistance activities included - help with mobile solar unit; a technology company providing comprehensive I.T. services; and a portable dock invention. November 2011 - Tennessee Governor Haslam named M2M and the MTSU College of Business as partners in the Northern Middle Region: Nashville Entrepreneur Center which is part of the Tennessee Regional Entrepreneurial Accelerator. In February 2012 M2M sponsored a forum hosting three of the nine Accelerators, including the Northern Middle, Southern Middle, and Upper Cumberland Regions. The accelerators will provide mentoring, education and training, strategic and technical support, and assistance identifying sources of capital. M2M's partnership with the Transit Alliance of Middle Tennessee afforded it the opportunity to nominate two members to the spring 2012 class of the Transit Academy.

**Staff:** Dr. Rosemary Owens

**Partnership:** Club MARVEL ( Academy

**Partner:** Murfreesboro City Schools

**Description:** The Partnership is designed to maximize each fourth-sixth grade participant’s potential and to foster a passion for lifelong learning through exposure to a variety of fields and disciplines. Its purpose is to generate and develop an excitement about a college campus, what it offers, and the vision it can create. The Saturday Academy is held at MTSU. Children have experienced: aviation/airport; mathematics; astronomy; the arts; a working farm; the environment, environment.

**PRESIDENT’S OFFICE**

**Staff:** President Sidney McPhee

**Partnership:** From Flora to Pharma

**Partner:** Guangxi Botanical Garden of Medicinal Plants

**Description:** This partnership provides for the creation of the Tennessee Center for Botanical Medicine Research at MTSU, where the screening of Traditional Medicine (TCM) extracts will happen. GBGMP has identified and grown five hundred plants or herbs that have potential to treat a variety of diseases. The twenty-five extracts that have been prepared represent a library of fifty thousand to two-hundred fifty thousand individual compounds. MTSU is expert in screening extracts to identify those that show promise for treatment of cancer, AIDS, etc.

**STUDENT AFFAIRS**

**Staff:** Jackie Victory

**Partnership:** Habitat Blitz Build

**Partner:** Habitat for Humanity

**Description:** MTSU students completed a third Habitat Home in April. The students raised twenty thousand dollars. They are challenged with raising the funds to build the Habitat home. Once all the funds have been raised, only MTSU students volunteer to build the home.

**UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

**Staff:** Dr. Gloria Bonner and Dr. Nate Phillips

**Partnership:** The Garden of Hope

**Partners:** Rutherford County Sheriff’s Department; Tennessee Department of Agriculture; UT Extension-Rutherford County

**Description:** The purpose was to establish and maintain a comprehensive, therapeutic gardening program that promotes education, nutrition, and wellness, intended to both culture life lasting skills and to help incarcerated individuals develop into productive citizens in the community. Local elected officials and many community citizens attended the ground-breaking ceremony held at the main garden.

6/15/12