



# The Basic Facts

Volume 3, Issue 2 February 2002

The Basic Facts, College of Basic and Applied Sciences, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN

## College of Basic and Applied Sciences (CBAS) Grants Update

For the past fiscal year (FY 2001-2002) the Dean's office has been tracking grant applications and grant funding for the college. The following is a breakdown by department of the data collected:

### The Science of Success

#### Inside this issue:

- CBAS Grant Update 1
- Nursing's New Scholarship 2
- Our B.E.S.T 2

Department	Internal/External Grants	Total \$ Amount Applied For	Total \$ Amount Awarded
CBAS	External	\$3,175,717	\$530,000
	Internal		
AERO	External	\$109,512	\$43,750
	Internal	\$1,600	\$00
ABAS	External	\$19,000	\$19,000
	Internal		
BIOL	External	\$1,083,483	\$57,646
	Internal	\$23,310	\$16,301
CHEM	External	\$371,910	\$77,292
	Internal	\$19,407	8,648
CSCI	External	\$416,585	\$19,073
	Internal	\$2,110	\$1,510
ETIS	External	\$577,914	\$266,392
MATH	External	\$2,709,843	\$178,731
	Internal	\$13,811	\$6,011
NURS	External	\$511,702	\$150,000
	Internal	\$16,053	\$13,443
PHYS	External	\$1,416,731	\$407,300
	Internal	\$5,125	\$5,125



For the most part, the information is provided to us by the Office of Sponsored Programs. Updates and changes may happen daily depending on information received from various sources. Please visit the Sponsored Programs web page at <http://www.mtsu.edu/~sponprog/newslettervol10iss2.html> for more information on grants.

## Nursing Department Receives Christy-Houston Foundation Donation

The Nursing Department was recently a recipient of a \$150,000 donation from the Christy-Houston Foundation. The donation was in honor of James R. Arnhart, who was hospital administrator at Rutherford Hospital from March 2, 1953, until September 4, 1986. According to Mr. Bob Mifflin, executive director of the Christy-Houston Foundation, Mr. Arnhart "is closely identified with the health care legacy of this region."

"Rutherford Hospital flourished under Mr. Arnhart, tripling in size and having four significant additions to the facility," Mifflin said.

In the fall, 2002, two incoming freshmen will be the first James R. Arnhart Scholars. To be eligible they must be incoming freshmen from Rutherford County, have a minimum American College Test (ACT) score of 21 and a high school grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Retention of the scholarship requires the student be a full-time student and a nursing major. Preference shall be given to students who plan on working in Rutherford County for at least two years after graduation.

Dr. Pam Holder, director of the School of Nursing, said "We are delighted to get the news about the gift from the Christy-Houston Foundation honoring

James Arnhart. The recipients of this award will be given a wonderful educational opportunity in our nursing program to continue that legacy as contributing members of the nursing profession."

When Rutherford Hospital was sold to HEALTHCO, Inc. in 1986, and became Middle Tennessee Medical Center, the \$40 million proceeds from the hospital sale were donated to the Christy-Houston Foundation. The Foundation was chartered on May 27, 1986. Arnhart was selected as the first executive director of the foundation at that time and remained in that position for 13 years.

Visit our newsletter web site to view all The Basic Facts issues:

<http://www.mtsu.edu/~collbas/newsletters>



## The Basic B.E.S.T. (Boastful Educators Showing Talents)

All departments are invited to submit items for this column

### Agribusiness/Agriscience

**Warren Anderson** recently participated in the Tennessee Turfgrass Association Conference and Trade Show at the Opryland Convention Center in Nashville. He arranged a booth highlighting the School of Agribusiness and Agriscience. Also, he developed a workshop entitled, "Turf Grass and Soil Interactions," with about 40 people attending.

The Milk Processing Unit sponsored a Food and Dairy Inspector's Workshop in January with participants including personnel from the State Regulatory Offices and Military Warrant Officers as well as MTSU and UT faculty. The session was a great success due to the efforts of Janet Kelly, Liz Troop, and Katie Jones. MTSU is the only university in the state that has a milk and food processing system and has been used extensively for training in these areas.

**Kevin Downs and Joey Mehlhorn** served as advisors for their respective student teams from the School of Agribusiness/Agriscience as they participated in the 2002 Animal Science Academic Quadrathlon and the Southern Agricultural Economics Association Quiz Bowl. Two parts of the four-part games was held at the University of Florida and the remainder was held in Orlando.

### Biology

On February 22, Sigma Xi and National Women's History Month will present a panel discussion on the personal experiences of various MTSU faculty members and the changes they have seen in recent years. The panel discussion is entitled, "Perspectives of MTSU Women in Science." Faculty featured will share their research/work experience in archaeology, biology, chemistry, mathematics, nursing, pharmacy, physics, psychology, and veterinary medicine. The discussion will be from 1:00 — 3:00 pm in Cason Kennedy Nursing Building, Room 121.

**Jeffrey Walck** had a paper published in the *Journal of Biogeography* entitled "Why is *Solidago Shortii* Narrowly Endemic and *S. Altissima* Geographically Widespread? A Comprehensive Comparative Study of Biological Traits."

**Cindi Smith-Walters** reports that the GET WET program (where 34 Tennessee schools, from Memphis to Clinton, were provided funding to begin or extend water education projects for their schools) has been completed. The schools were required to provide a 20% match of their funding; they were extremely successful in leveraging funds to overmatch by five times the required amount in the GET WET grant. The excitement of the students in GET

WET schools and the pride they take in their projects cannot be measured by numbers or dollars. Empowered by this project, GET WET teachers have continued their projects with funding from additional sources. The continuing desire of these teachers and students to do more and learn more is the best measure of success we can hope for. **Smith-Walters** is also working with the Tennessee State Department of Education to develop a Science Sampler of activities and correlations to the State Science Framework. This sampler will be available on-line through the DOE and via computer disc.

### Chemistry

**Amy Phelps and Melvin Miles** each gave talks in February at the weekly Chemistry Seminar series. The titles respectively were, "A Look at Preservice Chemistry Teachers Misconceptions: Issues of Data Analysis," and "Twelve Years of Cold Fusion Research: Excess Enthalpy and Helium-4 Production."

The Chemistry Club will be sponsoring "Demomania" on February 21, 9:15 — 11:00 am in the KUC Theater. Demomania is designed to give students of several area high schools the opportunity to observe numerous chemical demonstrations that are designed to educate, excite, and entertain.

**Ngee-Sing Chong** will be giving a talk at the weekly Chemistry seminar series on February 28 entitled, "Methods Development for the Gas Chromatographic Analysis of Semivolatile Compounds." This is an internet-based seminar from Agilent Technologies.

### Computer Science

**Roland Untch** recently published an article entitled "Prioritizing Test Cases for Regression Testing," in the October issue of the *Institute for Electrical and Electronic Engineers Transactions on Software Engineering*.

**Brenda Parker** has been awarded an Eisenhower Professional Development Grant for the 2001-2002 academic year to implement "A Teacher Enhancement Partnership for Maury, Lewis, and Williamson County Middle School Science Teachers."

**Richard Detmer** attended the Academic Chairpersons Conference in Orlando, Florida in February.

**Ralph Butler** has been awarded a research grant from Argonne National Laboratory for Spring 2002. The title of his research is "Verified MPD Project."

### Engineering Technology/Industrial Studies

**Saeed Foroudastan** will be a session moderator at the American Society for Engineering Education Conference in June in Canada.

**Chong Chen** attended an engineering education workshop in November entitled, "Active/

Collaborative Learning and Teaming in the College Classroom." The workshop was sponsored by the National Science Foundation and Tennessee Technological University.

### Mathematical Sciences

**Ginger Rowell** gave a presentation "One-Way ANOVA Designs and Analysis Using Legos," at the 2002 Joint Mathematics Meetings in January. She also served as the secretary of the Statistics Education SIGMAA.

**Donald Nelson** attended the Joint Mathematics Meeting in January held in San Diego, CA.

**Michael Chappell** published in the September issue of the *Mathematics Teachings in the Middle School* an article entitled "Creating Connections: Promoting Algebraic Thinking with Concrete Models." She also recently published in the *Early Childhood Education Journal* an article entitled, "Helping Teachers Promote Problem Solving with Young At-Risk Children."

**Ginger Rowell** began working with CBAS students during the summer of 2001 on a project entitled, "Web-Based Regression Tutorials." The project was for NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) Engineering Cost Office (ECO) in Huntsville, AL. MSFC ECO is supporting this project with a grant. In January 2002, **Rowell** and four of the students presented their work to NASA's MSFC ECO. The ECO is interested in this work as a training tool for statistical methods that can be used to estimate space flight vehicle costs. This project is a continuation of work that **Rowell** started as a 2000 NASA/ASEE Summer Faculty Fellow.

### Military Science

**Major Charles Tilton** is currently in training in Nashville for a new assignment, which is as Commander of the 45th Civil Support Team for the Tennessee Army National Guard.

The Military Science Department is currently providing second semester Sophomore and Junior students who have not had Army ROTC a way to obtain credit for the Basic Course (Freshman and Sophomore). Every summer students can attend a four week Leadership Training Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky. Students will receive pay and six credit hours as well as qualification to enter the Advance Course (Junior and Senior).

### Nursing

The Center for Health and Human Services has been awarded a grant from the Mission Investment Opportunities Program (MIOP). The grant will be used to implement a smoking cessation project to educate pregnant women in the state about the dangers of smoking and assist them in gaining cessation resources and support through health care providers. Principal investigator for the grant is **Jo Edwards**, Adams Chair of Excellence in Health Care

Services.

The Center for Health and Human Services will host high school students from across Tennessee in the Second Annual Youth Tobacco Summit, April 25-26. Students and sponsors will spend two days at MTSU examining best practices in youth led tobacco use reduction programs. They will be trained to go back to their communities and engage youth in efforts to reduce tobacco use in their peers.

**Suzanne Prevost** was appointed Chairperson of the National Research Committee by the American Board of Nursing Specialties in January at the board meeting held in San Antonio, TX.

**Lynn Parsons** presented on the topic, "Nurse Delegation Decision-Making" for Methodist College of Nursing and the Nebraska Methodist Medical Center at the Medical Center Oncology Auditorium in Omaha, NE, in January.

**Linda Covington** presented on the topic, "The Impact on Culture on the Use of Technology: Implications for Nursing Education" in February in Atlanta, GA, at a nursing research conference.

**Suzanne Prevost** has been reappointed to chair the International Evidence-Based Practice Task Force for another two years. The task force is sponsored through Sigma Theta Tau, the International Society of Nurses.

**Lynn Parsons** has been selected to be in the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Leadership Academy. She was one of sixty applicants to be selected through a national competitive process.

**Suzanne Prevost** recently published an article in *SCI Nursing* entitled "Security in the Midst of Uncertainty."

### Physics

Dr. Gerrit Verschuur will visit MTSU on March 14 and 15th as a Harlow Shapley Visiting Lecturer in Astronomy. He will give a public lecture at 7:00 pm in the Davis Science Building, Room 100. The title of the lecture will be "Impact: The Threat of Comets and Asteroids." On March 15 he will give a Physics and Astronomy Colloquium at 2:00 pm in Wisner-Patten Science Building, Room 220 on the topic of "Interstellar Matter: From Holes in the Heavens to the Stuff of Life." Dr. Verschuur's visit is sponsored by the Department of Physics and Astronomy and by the American Astronomical Society.