



# The Basic Facts

Volume 5, Issue 7, July 2004

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

## Interim Associate Dean Visits ROTC Summer Training

### The Science of Success

#### Inside this issue:

Interim Dean Visits ROTC Training	1
CBAS Staff Changes	1
CBAS Faculty Attend CUR Conference	1
Our Best	2

**D**r. Diane Miller, interim associate dean, recently attended the senior-level Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) summer training event at Fort Lewis, Washington, bringing together cadets representing more than 272 college and university ROTC programs from all 50 states.



From May 27 to August 13, more than 4,500 active Army soldiers, Army Reserve and National Guard soldiers and Department of the Army civilians provided critical support to ROTC cadets and National Guard officer candidates during rigorous training exercises. Fort Lewis hosted the



educators' visit July 8-11. Dr. Miller observed cadets going through physical training and field maneuvers. Twenty-one junior cadets from MTSU attended the event.

LTC Todd Overby is chair of the MTSU Military Science Department.

## CBAS Staff Changes

**D**r. Diane Miller will serve as interim associate dean for CBAS for 2004-05. Her office is in Jones Hall 157. Development officer, Jim Van Wicklin, moved to Jones Hall 230C.



Dr. Lynn Parsons is the new director of the School of Nursing.



five years, will return to teaching.

Dr. Robert Carlton, who served as interim vice provost for research and dean of the graduate college, is returning as



chair of the Physics and Astronomy Department. Dr. Vic Montemayor served as interim chair of Physics and Astronomy in 03-04.



Dr. Michael Chappell will serve as interim chair of Mathematical Sciences. Dr. Curtis

Church, who served as chair for



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

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

## CBAS Faculty Attend National CUR Conference

**D**rs. Robert Carlton, Bill Robertson, Norma Dunlap, Jeff Walck, Xiaoya Zha, Paul Craig and Tom Cheatham attended the National Council on Undergraduate Research (UR) Conference. Drs. Carlton, Robertson and Dunlap made poster presentations. They attended numerous



talks about undergraduate research. The concern of the group is that MTSU is ahead of many colleges and universities and be-

hind others in UR. Dr. Craig flew the team to LaCrosse, Wisconsin in MTSU's Cessna 404. They hope to share some of the things they learned in seminars this fall.



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

All departments are invited to submit items for this column

### Agrribusiness/Agriscience

**Harry Djunaidi** recently coauthored two manuscripts in two refereed journals. One was "Which Broiler Part is the Best Part?," in *Journal of Agricultural and Applied Economics*, Volume 35 (3), December 2003, coauthored with H. L. Goodwin and Andrew McKenzie. The second manuscript was "Nonparametric Tests of Commodity Futures Market Efficiency," in *The Southern Business and Economic Journal*, Volume 25, numbers 3 & 4, coauthored with Andrew McKenzie, Eric Wailes and Gail Cramer.

**Rhonda Hoffman** (Horse Science) presented an invited paper, "Carbohydrates in Horse Nutrition," at the Conference on Equine Nutrition Research May 22-23 in College Station, Texas.

### Biology

**Brenda Myers** (MS student in BIOL), **Jeff Walck** and **Kurt Blum** published a paper entitled "Vegetation Change in a Former Chestnut Stand on the Cumberland Plateau of Tennessee During an 80-Year Period (1921-2000)." The paper was published in *Castanea, The Journal of the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society*.

**Karen Hargrove**, with MTSU's Center for Environmental Education, presented a poster session on WaterWorks!, the Center's water quality public education and outreach program, at the Symposium for Best Education Practices for Water Outreach Professionals June 2-4, 2004, at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

### Chemistry

As befits a department with a doctoral degree in chemical education, the

Chemistry Department was well represented at the 18th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education in Ames, Iowa, July 18-22. Barry Farris, one of three doctoral students present, gave a presentation along with

**Judith Iriarte-Gross** titled "Teaching Chemistry Using Guided Learning in the Physical Science Laboratory." **Judith Iriarte-Gross** also presented "Grade School to Graduate School: What We are Doing in Middle Tennessee to Promote Women in Science" and "Design and Validation of a Pre- and Post-Exam as a Means of Evaluating the Knowledge Gain of Students in a General Education Science Course," presented along with **Terrence Lee**. **Gary Wulfsberg** and **Tibor Koritsanszky** presented "Teaching Symmetry and Molecular Orbital Theory: In the Advanced Inorganic Course, the Physical Chemistry Course, or Both?" **Martin Stewart** and **Amy Phelps** presented "Doctor of Arts Degree for the Preparation of College Chemistry Teachers." **Amy Phelps** also presented "Science Literacy: Why Do Non-Science Majors Get to Learn All the Fun Stuff?" **Michael Sanger** presented "Textbook Analysis of Electrochemical Errors: Ten Years Later, Where Are We Now?" **Michael Sanger** chaired the symposium "Textbook Issues and Errors," and was a co-chair of the poster sessions. **Amy Phelps** chaired meetings of the research committee of the Division of Chemical Education of the American Chemical Society.



### Computer Science

**Jungsoon** and **Sung Yoo** presented "Designing an Adaptive Tutor for Web-Based Laboratory" at the 2004 International Conference on Internet Computing in Las Vegas, Nevada June 23.

**Suk Jai Seo** has been awarded an instructional technologies development grant in the amount of \$1,800 for Fall 2004. The title of her grant is "On-Line Tutoring System for Computer Science I Students."

### Engineering Technology/Industrial Studies

**Walter Boles**, **Austin Cheney**, and **Heather Brown**, along with **Tom Cheatham**, received \$660,000 in funding for a Concrete Industry Management PFI proposal.



**Saeed Foroudastan** presented four papers at the 2004 American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE) Conference June 21-23 in Salt

Lake City, Utah. The papers were "International Students and Communication Skills in Engineering Programs: A Recipe for Success," "Overcoming Problems in Mechanical Engineering Technology Education Through Innovative Projects," "Teaching the Engineering Students of Today to Sustain the Resources of Tomorrow," and "Sustainable Development: Intercropping for Agricul-

tural Production." All four papers were peer reviewed and published in the 2004 ASEE proceeding. Dr. Foroudastan was session moderator and reviewed several papers during the conference as well.

### Military Science

Out of 22 junior cadets, four graduated from the Leadership Development Advanced Course at Fort Lewis, Washington. The remaining cadets are scheduled to graduate in July and August.

Two cadets graduated from the Leadership Training Course at Fort Knox, KY. Two more are scheduled to graduate in July.

Two cadets graduated from airborne school. The remaining are scheduled to graduate in July and August.

### Nursing

**Suzanne Prevost** and **J. Brandon Wallace** (Sociology) presented "Predicting Limited Life Expectancy in Long Term Care," at the Sigma Theta Tau International Conference held in Ireland.

**Drs. Pat Reiss** (Oakland University, Rochester, MI) and **Lynn Parsons** published "Breaking Through the Glass Ceiling: Women in Executive Leadership Positions - Part II" in *Spinal Cord Injury Nursing*, 21 (2), 100-102.

**Lynn Parsons** published "Who Will Educate the Next Generation of Nurses? A Looming Faculty Shortage" in *Spinal Cord Injury Nursing*, 21 (2), 60-62.

**Karen Ward** presented "The Value of Community to Stress Prevention in Chronically Ill Psychiatric Clients" at the Sigma Theta Tau International Conference held in Ireland July 21.

