



The Basic Facts

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Foutch Wins Award!

Dr. Harley Foutch, Director of the School of Agribusiness/Agriscience, is the recipient of this year's **Distinguished Educator Award** from the North America Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NATCA).

This is the highest National Award presented to any educator in Agriculture. No other person who has received the Distinguished Educator Award has been the President of the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources (AASCARR), President of NACTA, and the recipient of this award.

Dr. Foutch will receive the award at the University of California,

San Luis Obispo. The NACTA Conference will be held June 18 through 21, 2003.



Dr. Foutch grew up on a farm in Southern Illinois. He received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Southern Illinois University. His Ph.D. in Agronomy is from Auburn University.

Twenty-four years ago Dr. Foutch reluctantly agreed to serve one semester as Chairperson in the Department of Agribusiness/Agriscience. He remained in the position and grew the programs in the School of Agribusiness/Agriscience. He teaches 6-9 hours a semester in the school and advises up to 100 students.

The Science of Success

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Foutch Wins Award! | 1 |
| First Place Champions in the USA! | 1 |
| Chemistry Department Hits Gold! | 1 |
| Our B.E.S.T | 2 |



ETIS Students 1st Place Champions in Solar BikeRayce - USA!

MTSU's **Department of Engineering Technology** rolled away with **1st place** in their S-Class category for both the sprint and the 100-kilometer race at the Solar BikeRayce, USA 2003



on May 18 under the supervision of faculty advisor, **Dr. Saeed Foroudastan**. MTSU won the sprint with the highest speed time. The 100-kilometer consists of 34 laps.

Students had been up for 48 hours at the time of the awards banquet; however, Dr. Foroudastan noted that no one "even looked tired." That's the kind of energy that one can only draw when about to receive the 1st-place cup.

Dr. Foroudastan would like to thank Dean Tom Cheatham for his support, Dr. Gene Fitch, Dean of Student Life, Dr. Walter

Boles, Chairperson of the ETIS Department and the entire ETIS faculty for their time, support and commitment to this endeavor. Additionally, Dr. Foroudastan



would like to acknowledge and thank Dr. Ron McBride for his help and use of the machine shop.

Chemistry Department Faculty Hit GOLD!

In the May issue of *The Basic Facts* we reported that **Drs. Iriarte-Gross, Howard, Friedli and Dunlap** were awarded \$319,902 from the NSF CCLI (Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement) for the NMR proposal, "Hands-On Experiences with NMR in the Undergraduate Chemistry Curriculum." The CCLI proposal was primarily focused on teaching.

Dr. Norma Dunlap received notification that the NSF RUI (Research in Undergraduate Institutions) funded a second NMR machine for MTSU. Colleagues in the Chemistry Department and Dean Cheatham were ecstatic when Dr. Dunlap announced that the 2nd award was received. Everyone was somewhat guarded about the notification as they thought that NSF may not fund both pro-

posals. Dr. Dunlap, the PI on the 2nd proposal, was reassured by NSF that both would be funded!

The second (most recent) proposal is for just over \$382,779! Now, their only dilemma will be to get the room ready for the NMR's ASAP! That is one situation that several Chemistry faculty will happy to resolve.

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 Sharing Talents)

All departments are invited to submit items for this column

Aerospace

Janet McGhee directed a workshop hosted by the **Aerospace Department** for the 45th Teachers Aerospace Education Conference held June 9-27. This is the oldest continuous running teachers aerospace workshop in the nation and is sponsored by the Tennessee Division of Aeronautics. Several K-12 teachers were in attendance.

Agribusiness/Agriscience

Faculty in the **School of Agribusiness/AgriScience and the MTSU Block and Bridle Club** hosted the 14th Annual MTSU/TCYA Beef Camp this past May 29 through June 1 at the Tennessee Livestock Center on the MTSU campus. Pictures and more information about this event will be featured in the July issue of *The Basic Facts*.

Biology

Debbie Rowland has been selected as the secretarial quarterly winner for the MTSU campus. Congratulations Debbie! **Phil Mathis** and **Rebecca Seipelt** will present a three-day Biotechnology Workshop for area teachers on June 26-28. The workshop is sponsored by a NSF Grant awarded to **Rebecca Seipelt** and **Stephen Wright**. The workshop will focus on implementing biotechnology in the classroom at the secondary level.

Chemistry

Judith Iriarte-Gross has been selected to attend the 2003 Summer Institute for Women in Higher Education Administration. The program will be held from June 22 through July 18 on the campus of Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania. **Tibor Koritsanszky** presented, "3rd Southern School on Computational Chemistry and Workshop on High Performance Computing of Large Molecular Systems" held in Orange Beach, AL this past March.

Tibor Koritsanszky organized an international workshop on, "Advanced Methods in X-Ray Diffraction Analysis" with two colleagues from New York and Milan, Italy. The workshop was held in Buffalo, NY on May 12 through May 17.

The WISE (Women in Science and Engineering) would like to thank Dr. Cornelia Gillyard for her generous gift to their organization. The MTSU Foundation has established an account for Dr. Gillyard's gift. She is the Chair of the Chemistry Department at Spelman University in Georgia and chairs their WISE committee as well.

Computer Science

Al Cripps has secured \$20,000 worth of equipment from Thompson Machinery with the help of J. J. Lay, an employee of that company in LaVergne. The CSCI Department received a combination of equipment racks and console/desk furniture. The racks and console are valued at over \$20,000. Mr. Lay graduated from MTSU with a major in Computer Science.

The **CSCI Department** received notification that once again their major field test scores for Spring 2003 are above the national average!

Engineering Technology/ Industrial Studies

David Gore taped a teleconference during Summer Session I that will be used this fall to teach a section of, "Introduction to Operations Management."

Mathematical Sciences

Yuri Melnikov presented, "Computational Representations of Influence Functions for Multiply Connected Kirchhoff Paltes" at the XV International Conference on Boundary Element Method held in Detroit, Michigan on May 19-21.

Yuri Melnikov gave the *Keynote Presentation* at the XII Inverse Problems in Engineering Symposium held at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa on June 8-10. His topic was, "Green's Functions and Some Inverse Problems in Structural Mathematics."

Rebecca Zijlstra is coordinating Camp PRISM-Practices in Science and Mathematics along with **Judith Iriarte-Gross** from the Chemistry Department. This collaborative effort between MTSU and Murfreesboro City Schools is funded by the Jennings and

Rebecca Jones Foundation and an MTSU Public Service Grant. The TN Center for the Advancement of Math, Science, and Technology Education is also a sponsor. Approximately 25 Murfreesboro City School 5th graders will experience first-hand applications and excitement of mathematics and science fields. The new student organization, WISE-Women in Science and Engineering, will also host a workshop for Camp PRISM. The event will be held for the second year on June 15 and 16.

Ginger Rowell authored a chapter, "Environmental Economics," for the textbook *Environmental Mathematics in the Classroom*, published by the Mathematical Association of America (2003). This book uses environmental issues as the application for presenting a variety of mathematical topics. The chapter uses a mathematics and an economical viewpoint to analyze environmental issues involved with protecting water-related resources.

Military Science

Cadet Michael Carrion graduated from the US Army Mountain Warfare School in Vermont.

Cadet Benjamin Howze entered the US Army Airborne School at Fort Benning Georgia on May 21st. He will earn his Airborne Wings after 5 successful parachute jumps with equipment. **Cadets Dane Heikes** and **Walter Lillegard** who will attempt to achieve the same goal.

Major Byron Deel will participate in evaluating over 3,000 cadets from universities and colleges throughout the United States and Puerto Rico at the National Advanced Leadership Camp. Additionally, over 50 British Cadets will train and be evaluated alongside US Cadets. Major Deel will be joined by **LTC Todd Overby** and **Sergeant First Class Ed Evans**.

Nursing

Suzanne Prevost gave the *Keynote Presentation* at the Texas Tech Leadership Conference held in Lubbock, TX on June 6. Her talk was titled, "Evidenced-Based Practice."

FACES Project Faculty, Maria Smith (coordinator), Pam Holder, and Mary Jane Lavender conducted the first FACES (Facilitating Awareness and Cultivating Educational Success) Day Camp held June 6 in the School of Nursing for 31 MTSU pre-nursing and nursing students. Seminars addressed computer skill enhancement ("What's Online from the School of Nursing," "Taking Web-Based Courses," "Computer Etiquette," and "Using Software Programs") and promotion of success through test-taking strategies, time management and study skills ("Promoting Success in Nursing Through Use of the Nursing Process," "Skills for Success in Higher Education" and "Searching the Web and Getting What You Want").

Pam Holder recently published an article, "Preparing Tomorrow's Nursing Workforce" in *Spinal Cord Injury Nursing Journal*.

Physics

Bill Robertson will have 2 papers published soon in the *American Journal of Physics* and the prestigious international journal, *Applied Physics Letters*. **Jeremy Munday**, a May 2003 graduate, is co-author with Dr. Robertson on one of the papers.

Nine of the **Physics students** are involved in undergraduate research this summer. Their research endeavors are being funded by NSF funding and in connection with the undergraduate research initiative being piloted in the department this year.

Chuck Higgins is working with NASA scientists at NASA-Goddard in Greenbelt, Maryland and Kelly Clicker at MTSU on projects relating to the radio emissions of the planet Jupiter.

CBAS

Lynn Parsons presented, "Osteoporosis in Men: Non-Pharmacological Treatment Interventions" at the 23rd Annual Congress of the National Association of Orthopaedic Nurses this past month.

Lynn Parsons recently published an article, "Nurses as Change Agents in Times of Critical Shortages" in the *Spinal Cord Injury Nursing Journal*.