



The Basic Facts

Volume 4, Issue 11 November 2003

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

MTSU Student Nurses Association Hosts State Meeting

The Science of Success

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In October 2003, approximately 100 students and faculty and 20 exhibitors from across the state descended upon MTSU for the annual Student Nurses meeting.



The MTSU Stu-

dent Nurses Association Chapter won the Outstanding Community Service Award and the Gold Precious Metal Award. Heather Adams (MTSU) was named nursing student of the

year in Tennessee. Heather and Nikki Lyons-Murry (MTSU) both served on the Board of Directors. Ms. Sheila Marquart was named Student Nurses Association Advisor of the Year. Faculty members Janice Harris and Jenny Sauls helped make the weekend event run smoothly.

2003 Instructional Technology Share Fair

The 2003 Instructional Technology Share Fair was held in the Alumni Center on October 22, 2003. Of the 14 presenters, 7 were from the College of Basic & Applied Sciences. The dean was very proud to see CBAS faculty continuing to take the lead in using technology in teaching and learning. Special thanks to:

- Sandra Johnson (BIOL), *Visual Library of Images for Organisms*
- Ron McBride (ETIS), *Reverse Engineering System*
- Ginger Rowell (MATH), *Web-Based Regression Tutorials*

- Michael Sanger (CHEM), *Using Computer Animations*



Jan Zijlstra and Ron McBride at the Share Fair with Ron's doctoral student from Tennessee Technological University.

to Teach Concepts in Chemistry

- Rebecca Seipelt (BIOL), *Getting to Know the Human Genome*
- Nicole Welch (BIOL), *Getting to Know the Human Genome*
- Rebecca Zijlstra (MATH), *Implementing the Geometer's Sketchpad in the Geometry Curriculum*



See Farm Day Event details on page 2



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Sanger Receives Innovative Teaching Award



Michael Sanger (CHEM) received the 2004 National Conference on College Teaching and Learning Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Technology November 13. Dr. Sanger uses computer animations and electron density plots as instructional

tools to improve students' conceptual and content knowledge in chemistry. As stated in the award program, "Dr. Sanger has widely presented results of his research on computer animations at national conferences and has multiple publications pertaining to the integration of instructional technology into chemistry education. Dr. Sanger

was recognized for his work in instructional technology with the 2002-2003 Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award from the MTSU Foundation." Nicole Welch (BIOL) was also nominated for this innovative teaching award.



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

All departments are invited to submit items for this column

Aerospace

Led by **John Bertrand** and **Wayne Dornan**, the flight team attended a regional meet in Romeville, Illinois, October 13-19. The flight team won the Team Safety Award.

Paul Craig, John Bertrand, Wayne Dornan, and Terry Dorris, along with Myra Norman of Sponsored Programs, traveled to the NASA Langley Research Center for a kick-off meeting concerning the MTSU-NASA grant. Flight research will begin in the spring which will bring primary flight students together with the very latest flight technology.

Agribusiness/Agriscience

Johnny Haffner attended the 2003 Purina Mills "Equine Nutritional Research for the Health of the Horse" seminar in St. Louis, Missouri, October 2-4.

Tony Johnston sponsored the 2003 MTSU/Farm Bureau Discussion Meet October 21. Along with three other students, Rebecca Cadral participated and won first place, advancing to the state competition in December.

Jessica Gentry attended the Tennessee Cattlemen's Association Convention October 3-4 in Nashville, Tennessee.

Tim Redd and Harley Foutch provided a presentation to Leadership Rutherford on November 5 at the Miller Coliseum. After a tour of the facility, their presentation gave the students an overview of the School of ABAS.

Under the leadership of **Kevin Downs**, the ABAS students, faculty, farm staff, and the Ladies of the Rutherford County Farm Bureau hosted approximately 2,000 students and teachers for the annual Farm Day event. Elementary school teachers and students were given the opportunity to learn about the science of agriculture



and were able to interact with animals and equipment. The Farm Bureau group demonstrated how plants are utilized in every day life. The students were treated to cookies and milk provided by the MTSU milk processing plant.

The MTSU Dairy Science Club members, along with **Tim Redd**, Manager of the MTSU Farm Laboratories and club advisor, took an educational trip to California to tour new and innovative rotary milking barns and cow comfort facilities. They also had the opportunity to visit the state-of-the-art Hilmar Cheese plant, a training facility for hydroponics and aquaculture, along with an artificial insemination bull collection farm.

Daniel Boyer, Beef and Swine Herdsperson, attended several elementary school festivals this month discussing beef and swine products. He also provided animals for the "Kiss the Pig" contests.

Biology

Steve Howard co-authored three papers titled "Mutation Accumulation in Growing Asexual Lineages," "Opposites Attract? Mate Choice for Parasite Evasion and the Evolutionary Stability of Sex," and "The Ratchet and the Red Queen: The Maintenance of Sex in Parasites."

Cindi Smith-Walters and **Kim Cleary Sadler** made a presentation titled "PEEK—Packing Environmental Education for Kids."

Chemistry

Linda Wilson presented "The Many Faces of Forensic Science" at the 20th Annual Rimes Lecture at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama on October 16.

Computer Science

Sung Yoo coached two programming teams at the 2003 Association of Computing Machinery programming contest at Tennessee Technology University in November. Out of 116 teams, one team came in second place!

Engineering Technology/Industrial Studies

Saeed Foroudastan organized a tour of the Corvette Plant in Bowling Green, Kentucky, for 30 students.

Saeed Foroudastan and two student officers of the American



Society of Mechanical Engineers attended the Southeastern Region XI 2003 Regional Student Leadership Seminar in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mathematical Sciences

Rong Luo presented "On the Degree Sequences of Simple Graphs" at the Integers Conference at State University of West Georgia in October. At the 37th Midwestern Graph Theory Conference at Valparaiso University, he presented a paper titled "Edge Coloring of Simple Graphs With Small Maximum Degrees." He had an article published in Graphs and Combinatorics titled "Edge Coloring of Embedded Graphs With Large Girth."

Zachariah Sinkala made a presentation at the 23rd Southeastern-Atlantic Regional Conference on Differential Equations in October.

Military Science

The Blue Raider Army ROTC team competed in the "Army 10 Miler" competition in Washington, DC.

The MTSU Ranger Challenge Army ROTC team competed at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, in an annual military fitness and

skills competition. The team placed first overall in the rope bridge competition, the patrolling, and map reading knowledge competition. Out of 29 teams, the MTSU team placed fourth overall.



The MTSU Blue Raider Battalion hosted the 22nd Annual Salute to Veterans in October. Among the special guests were U.S. Army Brigadier General Leslie L. Fuller, a MTSU alumnus (B.S. 1973), and President McPhee.

Nursing

Linda Wofford provided an outstanding keynote presentation on "Bad Bugs or Viral Villains: Know Your Enemies" at the annual conference on Resources for Young Children and Families.

Formal written notification was received from the chair of the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE) visiting team that accreditation was given through CCNE until December 31, 2003.

Karen Ward and **Suzanne Prevost** represented MTSU at the Biennial Convention held in Toronto. **Karen Ward** was elected to serve on the Nominating Committee, and **Suzanne Prevost** was elected national secretary.

Physics and Astronomy

William Robertson gave two presentations and chaired a session at the Progress in Electromagnetics Research Symposium (PERS) in Honolulu, Hawaii, in October.

Nayer Eradat made two oral presentations and presented a poster at the Optical Society of America's Annual Conference in Tucson, Arizona, in October. She also gave an oral presentation at the Women in Higher Education in Tennessee (WHET) Annual Conference in Nashville.