Dean's Notes

As the fall 2005 semester closed, I thought back over the last couple of months and recalled several major partnership projects between Liberal Arts and our community. Right at the top of the list was "An Evening of Swing," a November 11 evening event hosted by the Robert L. McLean School of Music for community members to hear MTSU Jazz Bands led by Don Aliquo and Jamey Simmons. More than 350 community members, now referred to as Friends of Music, enjoyed a delicious dinner, followed by music and dancing. Recognized at the dinner were patrons for the evening Don and Hannah Witherspoon, SunTrust Bank, Steinway Piano Gallery, MTSU Foundation, Dick and Martha Curl, Middle Tennessee Medical Center, the College of Liberal Arts, and the major sponsor for the evening, Robert W. McLean. What a success! With the money raised at what will be an annual event, the School of Music will purchase two portable master classrooms.

The next partnership that comes to mind is the AIGA/MTSU sponsored Adobe workshop that was held on campus, also on November 11. Noel Lorson (Art), who serves as the copresident of AIGA (American Institute of Graphic Design), was instrumental in bringing the Adobe Workshop to MTSU. The workshop brought participants from the business community of Murfreesboro and Nashville and many of our own students and faculty.

John N. McDaniel, Dean
THANKS TO ANNE SLOAN

Anne Sloan (Political Science and associate dean) is leaving the dean’s office to become special assistant for international education in the provost’s office beginning January 1. We will miss working with Anne on a daily basis, but look forward to hearing about her new role in international education at MTSU. Her work on institutional effectiveness, curricula matters, budget reports, and the many other projects that she handled with exceptional grace will be a guide for whoever moves into the role of associate dean. Best wishes!

INTERIM ASSOCIATE DEAN
MARK BYRNES

Mark Byrnes (Political Science) has been selected as interim associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts. As of January 1, 2006, Mark took over the responsibilities in curriculum and program development and assessment and CUSTOMS advisement for the college. Mark comes to the position with fifteen years of experience, which includes service on the College Tenure and Promotion Committee, the University Advising Task Force, the University Planning Committee, and the Faculty Senate. He has been president of Phi Kappa Phi Honorary Society and the University chapter of AAUP; currently, Mark is coordinator of the American Democracy Project and supervisor of the

JETTE HALLADAY, CARNEGIE HONOR RECIPIENT

Jette Halladay (Speech and Theatre) has been recognized as the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching’s Tennessee Professor of the Year. Jette was greeted by U.S. Senator Lamar Alexander and Congressman Bart Gordon as she was honored in Washington, D.C., on November 17, 2005. Jette will be acknowledged locally at a program at Bradley Elementary School on February 28 at 10:00 a.m. We are very proud of Jette and plan to honor her and celebrate her accomplishments for the entire year.

FORENSIC SPECIALIST ON CAMPUS

Hugh Berryman comes to MTSU this spring for a six-month assignment in Anthropology. Dr. Berryman is one of only 50 forensic anthropologists certified by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences. He provides forensic anthropological consultation to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii and to the Office of the Tennessee State Medical Examiner. He also serves as a master tracking instructor for law enforcement and the military through the Tennessee Law Enforcement Training Academy. Dr. Berryman’s expertise allowed him to be selected to examine the remains of Kennewick Man, a 9,300-year-old skeleton discovered in the state of Washington. Dr. Berryman will help develop a vision for forensic sciences at MTSU, working with the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning to develop a certificate program in applied forensic sciences, and with the Anthropology Program to develop a minor in forensic science. He will also teach one class in the department of Sociology and Anthropology.

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**FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Don Aliquo** (Music) performs on a 2005 Grammy nominated recording "Journey home" by former MTSU professor Dana Landry (piano). The title track, composed by Maria Schneider, was nominated in the Best Instrumental Composition category. The tune was recorded in MTSU Studio B and side-men included former MTSU professor Erik Applegate (bass) and noted vibraphonist Gary Burton.

**June McCash** (Foreign Languages and Literatures) has a new book out titled *Jekyll Island's Early Years: From Prehistory through Reconstruction*, published in fall 2005 by the University of Georgia Press. The book has been nominated for a Malcolm Bell, Jr. and Muriel Barrow Bell Award sponsored by the Georgia Historical Society. The Bell Award is given to the best book on Georgia history published during the previous year. The award was established in 1992 in recognition of the Bells' contributions to the recording of Georgia's history. Dr. McCash's next book, in collaboration with Judith Clark Barban of Winthrop University, is an edition and translation of *La Vie seinte Audree (The Life of Saint Audrey)* by Marie de France. It will be the first translation of this work, newly attributed to Marie, and the first edition in more than fifty years. It is under contract with McFarland and Company.

**Nancy Rupprecht** (History) was elected to a second term as vice chair/president-elect for 2005-2006 then president/chair for 2006-2008 of the European Section of the Southern Historical Association.

**Jerry Brookshire** (History) was elected to a two-year term as president of the Southern Conference on British Studies, and he also became a member of the Executive Council of the North American Conference on British Studies.


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**Marty Foster’s** (History) new book, *We Know Who We Are–Metis Identity in a Montana Community*, will be out in spring 2006 from the University of Oklahoma Press.


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**STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Matthew Palmer**, an MTSU graduate in guitar, won first prize ($1,000) at the Academy of North Carolina Guitar Competition in Greensboro. Matthew is a GTA at Appalachian State University working on his master's in guitar performance.

WHAT WAS THE BEST-KEPT SECRET ON CAMPUS?

MTSU first lady Liz McPhee thought the Theatre and Dance program at MTSU was one of the best kept secrets on campus—but she’s letting the secret out! With Mrs. McPhee at the helm, Theatre and Dance is moving forward to form a board of local residents who will promote the programs and work to establish a national undergraduate playwriting festival and minority scholarships among their most high priority projects. If you are not familiar with all the fabulous events and impressive accomplishments in Theatre and Dance, read on.

• MTSU Theatre students took the top three places at the 2005 Regional Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Winners in the Ten Minute Play category were 1st - James Houk, 2nd - Austin Sanders, and 3rd - Tracy Thorne.

• MTSU Theatre students performed an original work, American Tall Tales, before youth theatre festivals in Russia, Latvia, and Finland.

• In 2005, six MTSU Theatre students and two faculty members participated in a New York City internship with the Flying Fig Theatre, an off-Broadway company. The participants helped create the design elements for the world premier of Laura Gunderson’s play Sus Manos. Faculty Scott Boyd (set and light design) and Todd Edwards (sound design) supervised Amanda Hodges (assistant set design), Katie Gant (assistant light design), Ryan Chittaphong, Courtney Cowart, Brian Morgan, and Alex Wallace.

• In spring 2006, MTSU Theatre students will travel to La Cane, Honduras, to perform an original piece, lead theatre workshops, and implement service projects to enhance the village’s soup kitchen and school. MTSU faculty Deborah Anderson, Jeff Gibson, and Jette Halladay will accompany Ryan Chittaphong, Amber Curry, Corinne Denny, Chris Ford, Katie Gant, Paige Hall, Matt Hiller, Ian Hunt, C.J. Jordon, Brian Morgan, Dustin Napier, Josh Proctor, Jordan Turman, and Anna Whitehead.

TENURE AND PROMOTION

Congratulations!

TENURED
Scott Boyd
(Speech and Theatre)
Linda Seward
(Speech and Theatre)
Allison Smith
(English)

PROMOTED
Pat Bradley
(English), Associate Professor
Marion Hollings
(English), Professor
Peter McCluskey
(English), Associate Professor
Richard Pace
(Sociology and Anthropology), Professor
Stephen Shearon
(Music), Professor
Jack Thomas
(English), Professor
James Williams
(History), Professor

TENURED AND PROMOTED
Don Aliquo
(Music), Associate Professor
Jun Da
(Foreign Languages and Literatures), Associate Professor
Andrei Korobkov
(Political Science), Associate Professor
Kristine McCusker
(History), Associate Professor

Mark Byrnes continued from page 2

Political Science Internship Program.
In Mark’s spare time he is vice chairman of the Rutherford County School Board. Welcome, Mark—we all look forward to working with you.


**T. EARL HINTON MUSIC HALL**

On Sunday, October 9, 2005, the Music Hall in the Wright Music Building became the T. Earl Hinton Music Hall. Dr. Hinton and more than 100 of his closest friends were entertained by the MTSU Chamber Winds, Reed Thomas, conductor; the MTSU Symphony Orchestra, Carol Nies, conductor; the MTSU Concert Chorale, Raphael Bundage, director; the MTSU Steel Drum Band, Lalo Davila, director; Angela Tipps, organist; Jerry Perkins, pianist; and Christine Isley-Farmer, soprano. The afternoon came to a fitting crescendo with Dr. Hinton leading the Symphony Orchestra in a rousing rendition of "The Stars and Stripes Forever."

Thank you, Earl, for your dedication to the School of Music, the College, and the University.

**STAYINTOUCH AND STAYCURRENT!**

The dedication of administration, faculty, and staff members is only one reason for the successes summarized in this newsletter. Our alumni and friends are also vital to our continuing progress. We hope you will become more involved in the growth and success of the College of Liberal Arts. Please check the Web address below for more news. If you wish to donate to a specific program, please contact the Development Office at (615) 898-2502.

If you would like to be added to our mailing list, send an e-mail via our college Web page, [http://libarts.web.mtsu.edu/](http://libarts.web.mtsu.edu/)