MTSU to eye 6% tuition hike

MTSU included in list of proposed student fee increases, too
from Staff Reports

T he Business and Finance Committee of the Tennessee Board of Regents voted June 10 to recommend to the full board that tuition at five TBR universities, including MTSU, increase by 6 percent beginning this fall.

The other universities affected are Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, Tennessee State University in Nashville and Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville. The committee also recommended that tuition at the University of Memphis increase by 7 percent. A 6 percent tuition increase also is recommended at all community colleges and technology centers. Tuition at the U of M Law School would increase by 14 percent, by 5 percent at the ETSU School of Medicine and by 9 percent at the ETSU School of Pharmacy, according to the panel’s recommendation.

In the area of mandatory fees, the committee recommended the request ed increases in fees for auxiliary enterprises, such as dormitories, which must cover all their expenses, and the requested increases in fees already approved by student referenda. The other fees recommended are for items where a critical need was demonstrated: a $25-per-semester athletic fee increase at MTSU, a $10-per-semester activity fee increase at ETSU, a $10-per-semester campus access fee at TTU and a $10-per-year student activity fee at Northeast State Community College. A breakdown of mandatory fees by institution is available at the TBR Web site at

See ‘Tuition’ page 5

Raider golfers cap historic season at NCAA

from MT Media Relations

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind.—One of the most successful seasons for any Middle Tennessee team culminated when the Blue Raider men’s golf team made the cut at the NCAA Division I Men’s National Championship and eventually finished 15th after the May 31 final round. The Blue Raiders, who won a school-record five tournaments in 2007-08, including four in succession, became the only team in the program’s Division I-era history to play on the final day of its respective sports’ national championship. Middle Tennessee accomplished this feat after earning the program’s first at-large berth in the NCAA East Region and subsequently reaching the Division I National Championships for the first time.

Once there, Middle Tennessee’s players proved their worth among the nation’s top 30 teams and made the cut to reach the final round.

“I knew this group was special at the beginning of the season, and I knew they could do special things,” first-year Head Coach Whit Turnbow said. “I really believed we could get into a regional this year and see what happens. Did I expect to be playing in the final round of the national championships this year? We believed we could get here, but to make the cut was even more special. Our kids proved they belonged, and I am so proud of them.”

The Blue Raiders proved they could do special things, working hard for it and receiving the rewards that go along with sacrifice and commitment. They worked hard for it and received the rewards that go along with sacrifice and commitment. This group is why you enjoy coaching young men. I have some of the best you could ask for, and that’s in all aspects of their lives.”

The drama was not over. Texas’ lead on Middle Tennessee but shot back and off the cut line, moving the Blue Raiders into 15th place.

HOW’S IT FEEL?—Junior Rick Cochran, left, talks with NewsChannel 5’s Brian McKeegan during a reception for the MTSU men’s golf team on its return from the NCAA Division I National Championship May 31. The Blue Raiders finished 15th.

photo by MT Media Relations

Celebrate the 4th at MTSU

by Tom Tozer

Rutherford County’s “Celebration Under the Stars” will once again be held on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University—and admission to the family-oriented event again will be free of charge. Festivities will kick off at 5 p.m., Friday, July 4, on the university’s intramural field.

From 5 to 8 p.m., there will be games and activities for kids, including face-painting, games and arts and crafts projects. Inflatable playgrounds, sack races and egg tosses will be featured, along with prizes and promotional giveaways. Glow-in-the-dark necklaces will be on sale.

The Col. Hardy Murfree Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution again will provide free U.S. flags for everyone. The chapter has provided flags for this celebration for the last 10 years. Wal-Mart at Old Fort Parkway is donating “Celebration Under the Stars” birthday cakes.

State Rep. John Hood, program emcee, will extend a formal welcome at 7:50 p.m., followed by remarks by local dignitaries and sponsor representatives. This is Hood’s 11th year serving as emcee for the event.

At 8 p.m., following the presentation of colors by the Murfreesboro Fire Department, the Blue Raider Marching Band will kick off the evening with its traditional Medley of Songs.\n
Admission to the family-oriented event again will be free of charge.

see ‘Celebrate’ page 5
IN THE WINNERS’ CIRCLE—MTSU SAE Formula Car team members pause at the 2008 competition site. From left are Randy Winston, Andres Valdes, ETIS Director of Mechanical/Electromechanical Labs Rick Taylor, Paxton Jones, Jacob Gonzalez, Scott Oetjen and Matt Bush, seated is Michael Potts.

photo submitted

SAE Formula Car revs up 2008 competition

from Staff Reports

The MTSU student team members of the SAE Formula Car, an applied undergraduate research project, completed the 2008 SAE Formula Competition in Alton, Va., with great success and accomplishments.

The Formula SAE is a formula-style race sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers, and 2008 was the MTSU team’s second year in competition. Because of strict guidelines on designing and building the open-wheeled racers, this competition is one of the most difficult. Entries are judged not only by their performance on the track but also by their technical and engineering innovation, with consideration given to project budget and timeline.

Where social theorists struggle to conceptualize how and why societies are transforming, that they are dramatically changing everywhere—along vertical and horizontal axes of power and culture—is noncontroversial. The question is whether our awareness, our knowledge and our skills are keeping up, let alone staying ahead of things. This is not the place to expound on why, for example, most of the U.S. population is poised to be of color in little over a decade or why Western dominance stands soon to be eclipsed by developments in the East. It is the educational and professional implications that are pertinent.

In mass communication, for instance, the question is whether students in recording industry are gaining the skills with which to confront international copyright issues, open new foreign markets or anticipate hybrid cultural tastes in ways that preserve their marketability and periphery allow them to contribute to the future of the local music industry. Similarly, are those in electronic media communication developing what it takes to succeed in a market where international distribution, consumption and production—for instance, of digital animation—are unlikely to become any less global? As for journalism, how other than with the aid of sophisticated intercultural skills can those entrusted with communicating realities worldwide competently convey content? How else to report effectively on such current events as violent tribal politics in Kenya, ethno-religious tensions in Tibet or the election of an indigenous president in Bolivia—not to mention development in Balonne Country, Somalia, Myanmar, Kosovo, Darfur and myriad others around the world? Those who would argue that “all journalism is local” would do well to realize that whether one lives in Shanghai or Shetbysville, what was local a mere half-century ago has in fact become international. For instance, Hispanics have become Bedford County’s largest minority group, and students in Rutherford County schools now speak around 40 native languages.

With the support of successive deans, efforts have been made in the College of Mass Communication to rise to these challenges. During the 2007-08 academic year, the Internationalization Committee has been formulating a long-term strategy. This is needed, since issues in intercultural and international education cannot be adequately met by, for instance, hosting occasional events, however agreeable. Nor can they be addressed just by reacting to problems arising. Therefore, while promoting discussions among the faculty, co-developing plans for the integration of foreign students and working with those offering meetings on related topics, the committee has come to realize the importance of aligning coherent conditions for a) the promotion of intercultural and international skills, awareness and experience on the part of the students and b) the continued development of pertinent practices and insights in curriculum, pedagogy, advising, advocacy and research on the part of faculty and administrators.

The opportunities for progress are as numerous as the challenges ahead. No doubt students will, in part, push developments ahead as they respond to cultural trends and market opportunities. There is no doubt, either, that MTSU’s College of Mass Communication can fulfill its societal mandate in the area of intercultural and international education. The question, after all, is not just one of individual growth, however personally empowering internationalization may be. The question is also one of education’s contributions to society, i.e., to the ability of humanity to build a society as vibrant and prosperous as it is diverse. Indeed, it is on all these questions that the future of our tradition of excellence depends.

Dr. Gregory Paul P. Meyjes is currently serving as MTSU’s Underrepresented Minority Visiting Professor (intercultural education and internationalization), anchored in the Department of Elementary and Special Education and affiliated with the College of Mass Communication. Meyjes also is CEO of Solidaris Intercultural Services LLC (www.intersolidaris.com), a cultural consulting firm based in the Washington, D.C., area. He can be reached at 615-909-2687 or meyjes@mtsu.edu.

FOR THE RECORD

In defense of the ‘I-word’: internationalization

by Dr. Gregory P. Meyjes

A s is the case on other university campuses, we at MTSU are grappling with the meaning of the term “internationalization,” whether we want it or need it—and, if so, how to get it and how much of it to pursue. Opinions, it is fair to say, range widely—even more widely, perhaps, than the notion of “intercultural” education on differences within society. Whether at home or abroad, some view “diversity” as a convenient platform to advance their own cultural group or agenda; others see the “international” as an opportunity to promote a particular foreign place, people or purpose, while still others respond to either or both the “I-words” with indifference, suspicion or even dislike. Regardless, plenty of room for confusion and even tension. Some think, for instance, that internationalization detracts from, and competes with, multicultural education. At issue is not just difference but disparity between societies as well—with views differing widely on the wisdom or necessity of confronting such potentially volatile matters. Besides, not only are the valued and defined myriad cultures inherently ethnocentric, they affect our attitudes and actions in ways so deeply ingrained as to be largely subconscious, thus making us far less prepared to effectively negotiate cultural compatibilities. And still the plot thickens, for as global markets, systems and information networks tighten, too are local cultures, ethno-politics and grassroots networks often forgotten.

What, if anything, is all that to us here in Middle Tennessee? Are we not cross-culturally and internationally privileged? Do others not come to us to live and to be educated? Are we not leading the world economically, politically and professionally—should we not concentrate on what it takes to be successful here? Besides, is English not the most useful language ever? What if we saw no need to expand on a status quo that has hitherto stood us in good stead? What if we were comfortable and content with the way things are and did not want to be bothered?
Aftertime developments at MTSU.

Jenkins credits Dr. John McDaniel, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. John Vile, chair of the Department of Political Science, with being the major influences on her academic career at MTSU.

Pre-law major earns national grant for grad study

by Gina K. Logue

Gretchen Jenkins, a May 2008 graduate of Middle Tennessee State University, received one of 40 Phi Kappa Phi Awards of Excellence to be used for graduate study. She was one of only 40 students from throughout the nation chosen to attend a women’s leadership conference.

For her thesis, Jenkins used several appellate court decisions for creating criteria by which the high court could decide a First Amendment case involving college students. Phi Kappa Phi is “the nation’s oldest, largest and most selective honor society for all academic disciplines,” according to its Web site at www.phikappaphi.org.

Jenkins credits Dr. John McDaniel, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, and Dr. John Vile, chair of the Department of Political Science, with being the major influences on her academic career at MTSU.

Vile says MTSU has had an impressive number of Phi Kappa Phi award-winners in recent years.

Physics and Astronomy taps interim chief

Henderson to lead department; plans to build on strengths

by Randy Weiler

Dr. Ron Henderson has been appointed to serve as interim chair in the Department of Physics and Astronomy for the 2008-09 academic year, Dr. Tom Cheatham, dean for the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, announced May 28.

He has mentored dozens of undergraduate research projects and taught a variety of different classes, Cheatham said. Henderson, who is an associate professor, will fill the void left by the June 30 retirement of Dr. Robert Carlberg.

“I am interested in technologies with applications in the creation of alternative white-light sources and the generation of electricity using solar power,” Henderson said, adding that although research is an important part of his work, his passion remains in the classroom.

As interim chair, Henderson said he hopes to develop a program to train future middle- and high-school physics teachers.

Henderson also said he plans on building on the existing graduate student strength in radiation physics, as well as investigating what role MTSU might play in servicing the growing nuclear-power industry.

He said he actively seeks to improve the classroom experience in a student-centered manner by introducing innovative but proven pedagogies and participating in discipline-specific workshops.

Henderson is a native of Martin, Tenn. He obtained a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee, a master’s degree from Duke University and a doctorate from the University of Virginia before joining MTSU in 1996.

In 2003, Eric Freundt, a biology major, received one of 50 Fellowship Awards to enroll at Oxford University under the National Institutes of Health Scholars in Biomedical Sciences Graduate Program.

In 2004, Andrea Walker, a RIM major, received one of 50 Fellowship Awards; she went to Vanderbilt University School of Law.

In 2006, Katie Crytzer, a pre-law major, received one of 50 Fellowship Awards; she is at the George Mason University School of Law, where she is on the law-review staff.

In 2007, Matthew Bullington, an economics major, received one of 60 Fellowship Awards; he went to Vanderbilt for graduate study in law and medicine.

In 2001, Natalie Woodward, a pre-law major, received an Award of Excellence (then for $1,000); she pursued graduate work in political science before going on to law school at the University of Minnesota.

In 2002, Virginia Vile, a French and pre-law major, received one of 50 Fellowship Awards (then for $8,000); she went on to work for law school at the University of Tennessee.

In 2004, another Walter, a RIM major, received one of 50 Fellowship Awards; she is at the University of Mississippi.
June 16-19
Blue Raider Baseball Day Camp
for boys ages 7 to 12
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2450.

June 18
CUSTOMS Orientation
Liberal arts, education and behavioral science, business and undeclared majors
For information, visit www.mtsu.edu/~customs or contact: 615-898-5533.

June 18-22
Blue Raider Youth Tennis Camp II
for athletes ages five to 18
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-2957.

June 21-22
Southeast Regional Limousin Show
Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, contact: 931-433-1895.

June 21-23
Kermit Davis Basketball Team Camp II
for boys’ high-school teams
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-5228.

June 22-27
U.S.-Sino Workshop on Mathematics and Science Education
For information, e-mail dmiller@mtsu.edu or contact: 615-898-2881.

June 23-28
American Ranch Horse Association World Championship Show
Tennessee Miller Coliseum
For information, please visit www.americanranchhorse.net/2008worldshow.htm.

June 24-29
Blue Raider Youth Tennis Camp III
for athletes ages five to 18
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-5228.

June 25-27
Blue Raider Strength and Conditioning Camp
for athletes ages 12 to 18
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-904-8196.

June 25-28
Kermit Davis Basketball Camp
for kindergarten to 12th-grade boys
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-5228.

June 25-29
Rick Insell “Elite” Basketball Camp
for seventh- to 12th-grade girls
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com or contact: 615-898-5356.

June 26-29
Murfreesboro Obedience Training Club Agility Trial
Tennessee Livestock Center
For information, e-mail mote@webtv.net.

Sunday, June 29
“MTSU On the Record—Celebration Under the Stars”
Guests: Marlane Sewell, Jim Fanguy, Tom Sage and Birdie Donnell
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM
fee increase for the new student cen-

tals and a new $15-per-course $20-per-hour fee for art course materi-

tion fee, a $25-per-credit-hour addi-

ally.

generate another $3.916 million annu-

which will fund plant costs, utilities

ships and employee salaries and ben-

gender-equity efforts, student scholar-

increase in the mandatory program

2007), the average student’s bill

2.6 percent tuition increase will

$610 per semester) will include:

$60 increase in the debt ser-

dvice fee to fund phase II of the new

student center, approved by the TBR

in June 2007; the previously mentioned $25

athletic-fee increase to help fund

gender-equity efforts, student scholar-

ships and employee salaries and ben-

and a $2 increase in both the health

s service fee and the $16-per-credit-

hour fee, which will fund plant costs, utilities

and employee salaries and benefits;

If approved by the full TBR, the

mandatory MTSU fee increase will

generate another $3,916 million annu-

ally.

Nonmandatory fee increase pro-

posed by the Board consists of a $10- to

$50-per-hour change in the current

$65- to $225-per-hour flight instruc-

tion fee, a $25-per-credit-hour addi-

tion to the current $20-per-credit-

hour applied music fee, a new $20-

per-hour fee for art course materi-

als and a new $15-per-course

concrete-management materials fee.

If approved by the board, taking

both tuition and fees into account

(except the $60 phase II debt-service

fee increase for the new student cen-

ter construction approved in June

2007), the average student’s bill

would increase only 5.6 percent due to

the low number of fee increases.

“The 6 percent tuition increase will

not provide sufficient funds to

fully cover the $6.1 million state

appropriation reduction, cost

increases and needed new initiatives,”

said MTSU Senior Vice President John

Cothern, “so budget cuts will still be

necessary and will have some signifi-

cant effect on some university pro-

grams and activities. The university is

committed, however, to protect as

much as possible core missions

which is academics and instructional

activities.”

The full board will take action on

the committee’s recommendation at its

meeting on Thursday, June 26, at the

TBR central office at 1415 Mur-

freesboro Road, Suite 350, in Nash-

ville.

The meeting is set for 1 p.m.

to 4 p.m. and is open to the public and

the press as observers; those planning

to attend should notify Mary Morgan at

615-366-4414 to arrange clearance

by building security. An agenda and

meeting materials will be on the TBR

Web-site for download at a later date.

The Tennessee Board of Regents is

the nation’s sixth-largest higher-

education system, governing 45 post-

secondary education institutions.

Department’s Color Guard and singing of the

national anthem by MTSU’s Associate Professor H.

Stephen Smith, the Murfreesboro Symphony

Orchestra will present a program of traditional

patriotic tunes, rousing Sousa marches and inspir-

ational classical music. There will be a preview of

the MTSU School of Music, will conduct.

The fireworks display will light up the sky at

9 p.m.

Caution, parents!

Because there is construction on campus,

some temporary fencing will be erected as a barri-

er to keep guests away from construction.

Organizers are urging parents to keep a close eye

on their youngsters during the celebration and

keep them away from those construction areas.

Construction may affect traffic entrances

Guests should enter the campus via one of

deepes designated entrances: Faulkinberry Drive off

Middle Tennessee Boulevard, Champions Way off

Greenland Drive, Alumni Drive off Rutherford

Boulevard or north from East Main Street onto

North Baird or Womack Lanes.

All other entrances on the east side of campus

along Rutherford Boulevard will be closed.

A section of Blue Raider Drive south of the

Tennessee Livestock Center down to the

Recreation Center will be closed to traffic.

Parking also won’t be allowed in any

lots at the corners of MTSU Boulevard and Blue

Raider Drive, including lots adjacent to Scarlett

Commons and the softball field.

The best parking on campus will be north

(toward Greenland) and west (toward Middle

Tennessee Boulevard) of the recreation site

and also in lots on the east side of Rutherford

Boulevard. The lots adjacent to the Recreation

Center will be closed.

Handicapped parking will be available by

entering campus via the south heading

north on Blue Raider Drive near the Recreation

Center. By showing your permit, a staff person

will direct you to the appropriate lot.

MTSU police and university personnel also

will be on duty to help guests find parking areas.

Guests should exit the way they enter

Rutherford Boulevard will close temporarily

during the fireworks display and reopen as

soon as the area has cleared.

At the end of the evening, guests are asked to

exit by the route they used to get to the celebra-

tion. All lots on the north (Greenland Drive) side

of MTSU Boulevard will be closed via

Champions Way onto Greenlaned Drive or

via Faulkinberry Drive to Middle Tennessee

Boulevard.

All lots on the south (East Main Street) side of

MTSU Boulevard will be directed to exit campus

via Alumni Drive onto Rutherford Boulevard or

via Womack or Baird Lanes or City View Drive

onto East Main.

Safe and fun for everyone

For safety purposes, organizers are reminding

everyone that pets, alcoholic beverages, cooking

grills and personal fireworks or sparklers are not

permitted on the celebration site. In addition, ban-

ners and signs from outside groups, other than

the evening’s sponsors, will not be allowed on the

grounds. Families are encouraged, however, to

bring picnic baskets, lawn chairs and blankets for

picnicking on the grass. Sodexo, food vendor for

the event, will sell soft drinks, pizza, hot dogs and

traditional holiday snacks and desserts.

Event sponsors include MTSU, The Daily News

Journal, the City of Murfreesboro, Murfreesboro

Parks and Recreation, Rutherford County Govern-

ment and Rutherford County Chamber of Com-

merce. Symphony supporters include the City of

Murfreesboro, SunTrust Bank, the Tennessee Arts

Commission, Aquatic Critter and General Mills.

A special “Celebration Under the Stars” publi-

cation will be made available as well.

For more information about the event, call

Marlene Sewell at 615-893-2141, Murfreesboro

Parks and Recreation at 890-3333 or MTSU News

and Public Affairs at 615-898-2919.

Tuition

In MTSU’s case, a proposed $89

increase in the mandatory program

service fee (which would raise the $610 per semester) will include:

• a $60 increase in the debt ser-

dvice fee to fund phase II of the new

student center, approved by the TBR

in June 2007; the previously mentioned $25

athletic-fee increase to help fund

gender-equity efforts, student scholar-

ships and employee salaries and ben-

efits; and

• a $2 increase in both the health

s service fee and the $16-per-credit-

hour fee, which will fund plant costs, utilities

and employee salaries and benefits.

If approved by the full TBR, the

mandatory MTSU fee increase will

generate another $3,916 million annu-

ally.

Nonmandatory fee increase pro-

posed by the Board consists of a $10- to

$50-per-hour change in the current

$65- to $225-per-hour flight instruc-

tion fee, a $25-per-credit-hour addi-

tion to the current $20-per-credit-

hour applied music fee, a new $20-

per-hour fee for art course materi-

als and a new $15-per-course

concrete-management materials fee.

Golfers

from page 1

the Longhorns ran into trouble on

their closing holes and couldn’t over-

take the Blue Raiders. Next on the

list was Indiana, which also had

pulled to within one shot, but the

Hoosiers also were doomed on No.

18.

“The wait was tough, and then

being at the course this morning

and seeing all of it unfold made

for some nervous moments,”

said junior Chas Narramore, who

finished strong at three-

over on a day when the course

was at its toughest due to extremely

strong winds.

“Oh, we knew we had made

the cut, it was pretty exciting. To

know you are playing on the final
day of the national championship is

something you always will remem-

ber. We were standing with the

national champi-

81 on a day when the course

course this

18.

Hoosiers also were doomed on No.

18 on a day when the course

was at its toughest due to extremely

strong winds.

“Once we knew we had made

the cut, it was pretty exciting. To

know you are playing on the final
day of the national championship is

something you always will remem-

ber. We were standing with the

national champi-

Primed for the tournament and

amid the hull of the

field tied for 55th.

Narramore overcame a tough week

with his strong final round and was

over for the tournament, good for a

tie for 60th.

Sophomore Kent Bull tied for

69th at 26-over, and senior Nick

Bales concluded his high school

style with his five-over 77 counting on the

final day of the national champi-

onship. He was 28-over for the tourna-

ment and tied for 71st. His even-par

72 in the second round tied for

Middle Tennessee’s low round of the tournament.
Mathematical sciences professor Xiaoya Zha and management and marketing associate professor Jinfeng Yue share a common thread in their roles as translators for the June 22-27 U.S.-Sino Workshop on Mathematics and Science Education.

Co-hosted by MTSU and Northwest Normal University in Lanzhou, People’s Republic of China, the invitation-only workshop will have the central theme of “Identifying Common Priorities that Promote Collaborative Research.”

“Every Chinese faculty member here feels obligated to help,” Zha said. “It is my honor and my duty to help the progress in this conference,” Yue added.

Obviously, when you merge 50 Chinese higher education people with 75 from the United States—and math and science are the subject matters—communication could be a problem.

That’s where Zha, Yue, and a dozen or so faculty members and students enter the picture. They will serve as translators.

Yue even wants to enlist the services of his son David, 10, and daughter Cynthia, 7. “Both of my children could help,” Yue said. “They can help and learn from a conference. This opportunity will give them an impression of how the whole conference is running.”

This is a very important event for both co-hosting universities and both countries that is being partially funded by the National Science Foundation,” said Dr. Diane Miller, interim vice provost for research.

“MTSU is doing so much more with under-graduate research, starting Ph.D. programs and the promotion of the research,” he said. “The research level is certainly different than 10 years ago. It has provided many opportunities for faculty to develop themselves. This (collaboration) is purely interna-
tional in its kind of uniqueness.”

Yue said collaborations like this could enhance exchange programs.

“We could exchange faculty and students, and they also could send faculty to MTSU,” he said. “In business programs, we’re also looking for opportu-

MTSU is a Division of Development and University Relations recently brought home seven awards from the Tennessee College Public Relations Association conference at Tennessee College Public Relations Association. The Office of Publications and Graphics received Silver Awards in the “Radio/TV Show or NewsCast” category and a Bronze Award in the “College Viewbook” category. The Office of Marketing and Communications’ Silver Award in the “Radio Ad” category and shared credit for the “Print Ads” award.

The Office of News and Public Affairs received a Silver Award in the “Media Success Story” category for “Filling Empty Bookshelves”; a Silver Award in the “Radio/TV Show or NewsCast” category for “Convergence Journalism: Media Relations-Meets-Student Learning,” which was a segment in the January 2008 “Middle Tennessee Record” program; a Bronze Award in the same category for the radio program “MTSU On the Record: Safety and Sanity.”

Senior nontraditional student receives journalism scholarship

MSU senior Laura Raines of Murfreesboro recently was chosen as the 2008 recipient of the Lisa L. Rollins Journalism Scholarship, which is presented annually to a nontraditional student majoring in mass communication with an emphasis in news-editorial, magazine, electronic media, public relations or media design/graphics.

Raines, 22, received the $500 award during the College of Mass Communication’s 15th Annual Awards ceremony. Representative of Cleveland, Tenn., Raines received her GED before enrolling in MTSU’s mass communication program.

During the fall and spring semesters, she is employed by ARAMARK Food Services.

“(The) Lisa L. Rollins Journalism Scholarship allows students like me, with a family, financial assistance for college,” Raines said. “(With this scholarship), I will be able to do an internship this summer.”

Rollins, who serves as a part-time journalism professor and as director of special media projects for the College of Journalism and Public Affairs, established the scholarship in 2004 to assist journalism majors, especially nontraditional learners.

It’s football season—ticket time again in Middle Tennessee

MTSU football season is just around the corner, so don’t miss out on every Blue Raider touchdown and tackle.

MTSU employees may use payroll deduction to pay for season tickets.

MTSU football season tickets, regularly $90 each, are only $50 for MTSU employees. And under the new “ADD ONE person” campaign, if you add one new season-ticket holder and renew by Wednesday, Oct. 16, you will receive one complimentary concession coupon book.

And under the new “ADD ONE Campaign,” if you add one new season-ticket or a new non-MTSU employee holder, you will receive the official BLACK OUT T-shirt and a MTSU car flag.

For tickets, call the MTSU Ticket Office at 615-898-2013 or visit online at www.goblueraiders.com. For more information, contact the marketing office at 615-898-3322.
Vile ‘looks forward to challenge’ as honors dean
by Randy Weiler

Dr. John Vile has been named dean of the University Honors College, Dr. Kaylene Gebert, executive vice president and provost, announced in late May. Vile previously served 19 years as political science chair.

“He is an exemplary academic, an involved university and community citizen, and a man with a wonderful laugh,” Gebert said of Vile, who takes the reins July 1. “Dr. Vile will be an exceptional honors dean, and we are delighted to welcome him to this new role.”

“John Vile is an internationally recognized constitutional scholar who also takes time to advise CUSTOMS students for freshman registration,” Gebert added. “I already know what can be done when private donors contribute to public institutions, and I plan to continue to seek outside support at a time when state budgets are tight,” Vile said. “Mathis has put together an extraordinary advisory board. I already know some of the members and am looking forward to meeting the others.”

Vile earned his bachelor’s degree from the College of William and Mary in 1973 and his doctorate from the University of Virginia in 1977. “I was in the honors program when I was an undergraduate at the College of William and Mary,” he said. “My daughter (Virginia) participated in the program here (and was named Honors College Most Outstanding Senior). Both my daughters went to public universities, and I am looking forward to explaining to other students what a gain an honors education can be.”

Vile admits he has 19 years of emotional attachment to his political science chair’s job in Peck Hall.

“I told Dr. John McDaniel (College of Liberal Arts dean) that when I’m buried, I may be like (explorer) David Livingstone—my heart might have to be buried near the (political science) department. I’ve formed some extraordinary friendships with students, faculty and administrators and look forward to forming many more in the Honors College.”

Vile has worked with Willis and Dr. Tom VanDervort in coaching MTSU mock-trial teams. They have placed in the top 10 nationally for 11 years, and their students have won numerous individual awards.

Vile and his wife, Linda, who teaches kindergarten at Stewartboro Elementary School in Smyrna, live in Murfreesboro. The honors program began in 1973 and became a college in 1998.
by Gina K. Logue

MTSU will look to fill two positions in the MT Abroad office this summer: Jennifer Campbell, director of MT Abroad, departed May 30, and Brandon Fisher, coordinator, will leave in August.

Campbell was slated to assume the job of director of study abroad at her alma mater, Rollins College, in Winter Park, Fla., starting June 2. Fisher, an MTSU graduate who is pursuing a master’s degree in educational leadership, will teach English in France after 2½ years as the office coordinator.

“We’re going to miss Jennifer tremendously, because she’s been essential to developing a lot of the policies and procedures that give us an infrastructure for running what is becoming a pretty large program,” says Dr. Anne Sloan, assistant to the executive vice president and provost for international education.

During Campbell’s nearly six-year tenure, all of MTSU’s study-abroad opportunities, including those available through consortiums, exchange and faculty-led programs, were centralized in the MT Abroad office so that students can access all programs from a single source.

Under Campbell’s guidance, MTSU has sent more college students abroad than any other Tennessee Board of Regents institution. And although she says she did not accomplish it alone, Campbell maintains she is most satisfied with the establishment of a pool of funding for worthy students.

“It has taken five years to get here, but we finally have a study-abroad scholarship,” she says. “I think a university MTSU’s size could easily send 500 or 600 (students out of the country), and I would have liked to have seen us establish a pool of funding for worthy students.

“We need to have more students who have interacted with cultures other than their own to prepare them for the marketplace of the 21st century,” Sloan says. “It’s no longer some little extra educational enhancement. Nationally, it has become more and more part of the educational mainstream.”

Campbell says she remains confident that international education will remain a strong priority.

“We have a campus here that really believes in study abroad, puts their money where their mouth is and really supports international growth on this campus,” she says.

For more information about study abroad opportunities at MTSU, contact the MT Abroad office at 615-898-5179 or go to www.mtsu.edu/~mtabroad.

We need to have more students who have interacted with cultures other than their own to prepare them for the marketplace of the 21st century,” Sloan says. “It’s no longer some little extra educational enhancement. Nationally, it has become more and more part of the educational mainstream.”

Campbell says she remains confident that international education will remain a strong priority.

“There’s a campus here that really believes in study abroad, puts their money where their mouth is and really supports international growth on this campus,” she says.

For more information about study abroad opportunities at MTSU, contact the MT Abroad office at 615-898-5179 or go to www.mtsu.edu/~mtabroad.

MT Abroad leaders taking off for new horizons

ON HER WAY—Departing MT Abroad Director Jennifer Campbell happily points toward her new destination, Winter Park, Fla., as her career path takes her back to her alma mater, Rollins College. Campbell has served students and faculty in MTSU’s study-abroad program for nearly six years.

photo by News and Public Affairs

Faculty/Staff Update

Appointments

Dr. Don Hong (mathematical sciences) was recently invited to serve as a peer reviewer for Small Business Innovation Research Concept Proposal for Lytmos Group, Inc.

Conferences

Dr. Allen Hibbard (English, Middle East Center director) gave a keynote address at the Fourth International Conference in Tangier, Morocco, “Borders, Beats & Beyond,” held May 16-19. Hibbard was on the organizing committee for the conference, and MTSU’s Middle East Center was an official sponsor of the event.

A proposal by Dr. John Omachonu (mass communication), “Media Concentration and Minority Ownership: Intersection of Ellul and Habermas,” was one of 10 selected (in a blind review process) from a national pool of 30 for the 2008 University of Colorado Colloquium on Media Ethics & Economics, scheduled for Sept. 15-17. Omachonu will be mentoring a doctoral student from the University of Illinois as co-author, and completed papers will be published in a special issue of the journal of Mass Media Ethics.

Passages

Archie Sullivan, former director of safety for the Office of Campus Planning, passed away May 28. Mr. Sullivan was employed by MTSU from July 1, 1966, until his retirement on April 1, 1982.

Presentations

Dr. Hilary Stallings (liberal arts), Dr. Watson Harris (provost’s office) and Jean Nagy (art) presented “The Ugly Truth: An Academician’s Reflection on the Punch List” at the 2008 Annual NoName Facilities Conference at Pennsylvania State University May 12.

Publications

Drs. Gary Wulfsberg and Preston MacDougall (chemistry) along with undergraduates Rachell Briggs and Goldwater Scholar Taylor Barnes and colleagues at Colorado State University and the Russian Academy of Sciences, have published an article, “Silver Dichloroacetate: A Compound with Weak Ag-CI Bonding Interactions and An Extraordinary Range of 35Cl NQR Frequencies,” in the international journal Inorganic Chemistry Acta (Volume 361, pages 2471-2482 (2008)).

See yourself in The Record!

E-mail your faculty/staff accomplishments to glnn@mtsu.edu or fax to 615-898-5714. Attention: The Record, Faculty/Staff Update. Please note that publication of printed or handwritten contributions may be delayed.

Calendar items welcomed

Want to make sure your event gets plenty of attendees? Get it on The Record’s Campus Calendar page! Submit your campus event information—at least three weeks in advance, please—to glnn@mtsu.edu and don’t forget the date, time, location and contact information.