It’s a new year, new start for Tennessee’s best

MTSU is gearing up for the 2008-09 Week of Welcome, and despite the warm weather, all the excitement of a new academic year makes it seem a little like Jan. 1.

“Starting a new academic year is always an exciting time, that feeling of a new beginning, much like New Year’s Day,” said President Sidney A. McPhee. “I hope all our faculty and staff and returning students will make a resolution to welcome all of our incoming freshmen and new employees.

“The Student Affairs Division has been working hard in preparing a variety of activities to welcome everyone back to campus. Enhancing academic quality and fostering a student-centered learning culture are two pillars of our academic master plan. Helping our students reach their full potential is vital, and it begins with the commitment of the entire university community to making them feel at home at MTSU. I know we will all strive to make 2008-09 our best year ever.”

The university’s 10-day Week of Welcome calendar of events, launched on Friday, Aug. 22, should have something for everyone, said Gina Poff, director of the Office of New Students and Family Programs.

“The two best weeks of college are generally the first one and the last one, so we don’t want anyone to miss out on the fun,” Poff said. “We have 10 days of fun activities planned, many of them free and open to the entire campus community. We hope everyone will help us greet our new freshmen as they join the MTSU family.”

The Week of Welcome activities begin with We-Haul—helping students move into dormitories—and conclude Wednesday, Sept. 3, with a Student Organization Fair in the Keathley University Center courtyard.

The days between will feature plenty of activities to celebrate the 2008-09 academic year, including the MTSU Department Fair on Monday, Aug. 25, in the KUC Courtyard; Meet Murfreesboro Aug. 26-27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily in the KUC Courtyard; and a grand opening festival at the newly renovated Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center from 4 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 27.

See page 4 for more events, or visit www.mtsu.edu/~mufy/welcome.htm.

ARAMARK Food Services also is offering discount drinks for everyone on campus during the Week of Welcome with an “I’m One” button. For details and to print out a button if you’ve misplaced yours, visit www.mtsu.edu/marketing.

Renovation, expansion project complete

Recreation Center adds space to serve more students, staff

by Gina E. Fann

I f you’ve let your fitness goals slide this year because you couldn’t find an open space to work out, you no longer have an excuse. From the weight room that’s doubled in size to the second-floor cardio room with one of the best views on campus, MTSU’s $20 million, 18-month Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center renovation and expansion is ready to serve the university’s fitness needs.

“The new cardio room and weight room are just incredible,” says Jenny Crouch, marketing and accessibility coordinator for the facility. “We now have two fitness/aerobic rooms, so our aerobics class offerings for the facility. “We have multiple e-mail addresses …

Health Services’ new home features X-ray, pharmacy

by Gina K. Logue

The staff of MTSU’s Student Health Services will welcome the community to its sparkling new facilities in the Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center with a 4 p.m. ribbon-cutting and grand opening slated for Wednesday, Aug. 27, designed to put the “fun” back into the fundamentals of fitness.

“We’re bringing in a stage,” says Richard Chapman, Health Services director. “We’re going to have some bands. We’ve booked some inflatables for activities. We’re trying to work on getting some steppers from the Panhellenic Council; those are entertaining groups to watch. We’re working on a hot-air balloon for the event. We’re going to make it a real carnival/festival-type activity.”

Student Health Services

See ‘Recreation’ page 5

See ‘Health’ page 5

Text-message program adds family features

by Joshua A. Graham

Significant new features have been added to the Rave Wireless Emergency Alert system on campus, enabling MTSU’s emergency text-messaging service to keep friends and family of students on campus informed of emergency situations that may occur.

New features of the Rave text-messaging system allow users to add up to three total numbers and e-mail addresses in the database on the MTSU Web site.

“You can enter a friend, spouse, parent or a child’s e-mail address and now they can receive that same alert,” said Steve Prichard, director of Telecommunication Services. “If you have multiple e-mail addresses … (such as) if you use Yahoo or AOL or...
With the November presidential election one of the most critical in our nation’s history, the University Honors College will offer something you won’t be able to find this fall on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC or any other news outlet.

It’s the fall Honors Lecture Series “Politics and the Press: The Relationship Between Government and the Fourth Estate.”

The one-hour pass/fail UH 3000 course will be held every Monday from 3 until 3:55 p.m. (except Sept. 1 for Labor Day holiday) and Oct. 13 for fall break) during the fall semester.

The class is held in Room 106 of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building. All lectures are live and open to the public.

Students and the public can see and hear the full spectrum—history, economics, past and modern media, political science and more—from MTSU’s vast array of academic experts.

To learn more, call 615-898-2152 or visit http://honors.web.mtsu.edu/lecture_series.htm.

The fall 2008 schedule, complete with lecture topics and speakers, is shown at right.

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Commercial construction management launches this semester

by Randy Weiler

The unveiling of MTSU’s new commercial construction management concentration in MTSU’s Department of Engineering Technology will take place when fall semester classes begin Aug. 25, department chairman Dr. Walter Boles announced.

“Our first class, the introduction course, has 10 students signed up for this fall,” said Boles, who added that these students have heard about the program by word of mouth or other means, since the concentration has not been advertised. “This concentration is probably that many more students who have expressed interest and will not have to take the intro course, either due to transfer credit or existing students transferring over to the commercial program,” Boles said. “I expect we will have 20 to 30 students ‘declared’ as commercial construction students this fall.”

The Tennessee Board of Regents heard MTSU’s program proposals and then approved the concentration in summer 2007.

“Current construction management programs in Tennessee are unable to supply enough graduates for the region,” Boles said. “The commercial construction management program is designed to prepare graduates for entry-level supervisory and estimating positions with commercial construction firms, material manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers.”

Boles added that the vision “is to become a leading program graduating 50 to 100 entry-level managers per year who would stay in Tennessee. However, our focus is on a quality program. The numbers are secondary.”

“We want to create strategic regional partnerships that will provide employers with a new source of construction management professionals,” he added. “Advantages for potential employers will include early access to students and graduates and positions on our advisory board to help guide the program in mutually desirable directions.”

Since January, a fundraising drive for the program has generated nearly $150,000 toward an initial goal of $500,000. Boles said: “Ideally, we’re trying to get to $500,000, with $300,000 to support the recruiting of a nationally renowned commercial construction management program director and a $200,000 goal for scholarships.”

Companies or individuals who have made commitments include J.E. Crain & Son, Brassfield & Gorrie, Skanska, Turner Universal, ETIS, Orion, The Comfort Group, ACTUS Lend Lease, Messer, ABG Caulking, American Constructors, TDK, Debbie and Joey Hatch, RG Anderson, Hardaway Construction, The Building Group, Lee Adcock, ABG Caulking and Caden Construction.

Prospective donors can contact Boles or Jennifer Allen (allen@mtsu.edu), development director for the College of Basic and Applied Sciences, at 615-898-5003 or 615-804-5347.

Boles said nearly 50 construction and industry professionals have agreed to serve on the Commercial Construction Management Advisory Board.

“I think we have a very high-quality advisory board,” Boles said. “The (board) members are very knowledgeable of the other prestigious construction management institutions and their curricula.”

Industry leaders are touting the concept and the need for such a program. “The new MTSU construction management program is a wonderful idea,” said Thomas Reed, safety director for Associated General Contractors of Middle Tennessee. “It will train the next generation of managers and supervisors. It will also help the area retain quality students and bring in individuals from other areas.”

Added Terry Ruppel, director of education for the Mid-Tennessee Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors Inc., and a member of the program’s advisory board: “Tennessee needs and deserves a major program in commercial construction management. I want to express my support of this effort and look forward to our chapter and member companies forming strong partnerships with the program.”

Dr. Al Carter, professor of engineering technology, is the coordinator of the commercial construction program, Boles said.

Prospective students can learn more about the program by contacting Carter at 615-898-2906 or acarter@mtsu.edu or chairman Boles at 615-898-2776 or waboles@mtsu.edu.

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IRB sets monthly meeting schedule

MTSU’s Institutional Review Board has set its fall 2008 meeting schedule.

All meetings will take place the first Wednesday of each month at 2 p.m. Meetings are set for Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5 and Dec. 3.

Protocol applications must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. two weeks before each review meeting date.

All meetings will be conducted in the Sam Ingram Building’s garden-level conference room. The MTSU Institutional Review Board reviews all research involving human subjects at MTSU.

The Office of Compliance is located in the Ingram Building in Room 101B. For more information, please contact the Office of Compliance at 615-494-8918 or irb@mtsu.edu, or visit the IRB Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~irb.
New campus roundabout aims to keep traffic moving

from Staff Reports

Drivers traveling on MTSU Boulevard and Blue Raider Drive this semester will notice one significant absence at that busy intersection: a backlog of traffic from the four-way stop.

A new traffic roundabout at the intersection allows motorists from each direction to loop around to the correct lane, yielding to any vehicles already in the loop. The change is part of the four-phase $30 million traffic master-plan construction project at MTSU, designed to improve traffic flow, safety and access around campus, and MTSU’s roundabout is the first of its kind at a Tennessee public university.

To date, the project has completed new parking lots, improved campus entry, improved roadways, added shuttle bus lanes, sidewalks and lighting,” says Ron Malone, assistant vice president for events and transportation services.

“The Roundabout is the latest of these improvement and will certainly help our students, faculty and staff navigate their way through campus more efficiently, effectively and, most importantly, safely.”

Roundabout construction began this summer, when traffic at the intersection was diverted to a route through the University Honors College parking lot. The route opened Aug. 11, and work continued the next week to create dedicated shuttle and bicycle lanes along MTSU Boulevard in front of Cummings Hall.

Officials decided to turn the MTSU Boulevard-Blue Raider Drive intersection into a roundabout after studying a safety report that indicated that roundabouts are safer than traditional traffic circles and intersections, with 40 percent fewer collisions and 80 percent fewer injuries to drivers and pedestrians. Other universities with traffic roundabouts include Stanford University, Michigan State, and Virginia Tech and the University of Maryland.

Officials thought it seemed right to have a few of these columns on our campus. As the sole national accreditation body for mental-health and school-counseling programs, the school-counseling area of study … are now accredited by the CACREP,” Quarto said.

The newly acquired accreditation “is the highest level of accreditation for counseling programs in the United States” and can provide a number of benefits for those who complete such CACREP-accredited programs, he added.

Dr. Virginia Dansby, coordinator for MTSU Professional Counseling, said, “With this accreditation decision, MTSU now has one of two CACREP mental-health programs in Tennessee and one of six CACREP school-counseling programs throughout the state.”

As the sole national accreditation body for mental-health and school-counseling programs, the CACREP designation is noteworthy, Dansby and Quarto agreed. “While the accreditation is an honor for the university and for the faculty, it is even more important for the students, as graduation from a CACREP-accredited program provides multiple benefits, including special consideration in hiring decisions throughout the country,” observed psychologist Dansby.

The psychology department currently offers a Master of Education degree in professional counseling with concentrations in school counseling and mental-health counseling. The school-counseling concentration prepares students to work in elementary and secondary schools with the potential for recommendation for licensure as a school counselor. The mental-health counseling program prepares students to work with children and/or adolescents in community mental-health centers, family services agencies and private-practice settings.

Quarto said MTSU’s school counseling concentration originally was accredited in 2000 and mental-health counseling, a new concentration that began in 2005, has received its first accredited status from CACREP.

“Many individuals helped us through this rigorous evaluation process, and we greatly appreciate everyone for their assistance,” Quarto noted. “A special thanks goes to our site supervisors, who make such an important contribution during practicum and internship, and to our excellent students, who have helped us earn this honor and who make the hard work worthwhile.”

The psychology department at MTSU, under the direction of Dr. Dennis Papini, chairman, is part of the university’s College of Education and Behavioral Science, which is led by Dr. Terry Whiteside, interim dean. At present, the mental health concentration has 11 students and school counseling has 54 enrollues, Dansby confirmed.

For more information about CACREP, please visit www.cacrep.org. For more information about these MTSU programs, please contact the psychology department at 615-898-2706.

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"Many individuals helped us through this rigorous evaluation process, and we greatly appreciate everyone for their assistance." Dr. Christopher J. Quarto, psychology professor

by Lisa L. Rollins
Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.

Cable Channel 9: Monday-Sunday—7 a.m., 5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+: Sundays—1:30 p.m.

**Aug. 25**

Monday, Aug. 25
**Fall 2008 semester begins**

Week of Welcome:
**University Department Fair**
11 a.m.-1 p.m., KUC Courtyard
For information, contact: 615-898-5172.

**Aug. 26**

Aug. 26-27
**Week of Welcome: “Meet Murfreesboro”**
10 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Courtyard
For information, contact: 615-898-5172.

Tuesday, Aug. 26
**Week of Welcome: Comedian Mike Birbiglia**
8 p.m., Murphy Center
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

**Aug. 27**

Wednesday, Aug. 27
**Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center Grand Opening Festival**
4-9 p.m.
For information, contact: 615-898-2104.

Faculty and Guest Recital:
**Todd Waldecker, clarinet; Keith McClelland, bassoon; and Fay Adams, piano**
8 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.

**Aug. 28**

Thursday, Aug. 28
**Blue Raider Football vs. Troy**
6:30 p.m., Floyd Stadium
For information, visit [www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com) or contact: 615-898-2450.

**Aug. 29**

Aug. 29-30
**MT Volleyball “Blue Raider Bash”**
Aug. 29: vs. Idaho, 7:30 p.m.;
Aug. 30: vs. Southeast Missouri State, 12:30 p.m.; vs. South Dakota State, 7:30 p.m.
Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit [www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com) or contact: 615-898-2450.

**Sept. 1**

Monday, Sept. 1
**Labor Day**
no classes; university closed

**Sept. 2**

Tuesday, Sept. 2
**Week of Welcome: Volunteer Fair**
10 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Courtyard
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

**Aug. 30**

Aug. 30-31
**Tennessee Cowboy Mounted Shooting Championship**
Tennessee Miller Coliseum
For information, visit [www.tnmsa.com](http://www.tnmsa.com).

**Sept. 3**

**Sept. 3-7
Eastern Cowboy Mounted Shooting Championship**
Tennessee Miller Coliseum
For information, visit [www.cowboymountedshooting.com](http://www.cowboymountedshooting.com).

Wednesday, Sept. 3
**Week of Welcome: Student Organization Fair**
10 a.m.-2 p.m., KUC Courtyard
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

**Sept. 5**

**Sept. 6**

**Sept. 5-6
MT Tennis 22nd Annual Wally Tidwell Pro-Am**
Buck Bouldin Tennis Center
For information, contact: 615-898-2450.

**MT Volleyball “Middle Tennessee Invitational”**
Sept. 5: vs. Lipscomb, noon; vs. Iowa State, 7:30 p.m.;
Sept. 6: vs. Loyola Marymount, 2:30 p.m.
Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit [www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com) or contact: 615-898-2450.

**Sept. 5 and 7**

**MT Soccer Middle Tennessee Classic Camper Weekend**
Sept. 5: Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m.;
Sept. 7: High Point, 1:30 p.m.
Blue Raider Field
For information, visit [www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com) or contact: 615-898-2450.

**Sept. 5**

First Friday Star Party
6:30 p.m., Wiser-Patten Science Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-5946.

**Sept. 6**

Saturday, Sept. 6
**MT Soccer Middle Tennessee Classic Camper Weekend**
Sept. 5: Texas Tech, 6:30 p.m.;
Sept. 7: High Point, 1:30 p.m.
Blue Raider Field
For information, visit [www.goblueraiders.com](http://www.goblueraiders.com) or contact: 615-898-2450.

**Sept. 7**

Sunday, Sept. 7
**Faculty Voice Recital:**
Dina Cancryn
3 p.m., Hinton Music Hall
For information, contact: 615-898-2493.
The new clinic is an attraction all its own. With 18,000 square feet and 22 examination rooms, it is an improvement over the McFarland building, which provided only 10 functioning exam rooms. For the first time on campus, X-ray services will be available, as well as travel medicine to support study-abroad students.

Another first, and perhaps the main attraction, will be the drive-through pharmacy, which could be up and running as early as Oct. 1. Until then, the dispensary will remain in operation. MTSU’s new pharmacy director, Tabby Ragland, already is on board and working to fulfill all the necessary requirements, including licenses and arrangements with insurance companies.

"When attracted me the most was the opportunity to do something brand new, to develop something from the ground up, from the very beginning and make it my own and grow it to fit this environment, this college campus," Ragland says.

For now, plans call for the pharmacy to have the same hours as the clinic, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Chapman says customers will drive in the recreation center’s main entrance, turn to the right and curve around the building, where they will encounter an ATM-type kiosk with a pneumatic tube system.

“With parking on any college campus, it’s a little bit of a challenge at times,” Ragland says. “So with the drive-through feature, that makes it very nice for people to get their prescription on their way to class or on their way home if they want to. If they want to call in or e-mail or fax in their request, then they can just pull in the drive-through and pick it up that way.”

As with all medical services, Chapman and his staff will strive to keep costs low by charging minor fees for lab work, blood tests, medications and specialized exams such as the Federal Aviation Administration exam for aerospace majors. However, as usual, there will be no charge for routine office visits for students.

“It is a student-funded facility, so we are interested to hear the comments and feedback from the students and certainly try to listen to their needs,” Chapman says. “I think with our expansion of pharmacy services, expanding our X-ray offerings and the travel clinic, hopefully we’re really striving to meet student needs.”

Meanwhile, Chapman is looking forward to expanding Health Services’ outreach programs, highlighting such areas as alcohol and drugs, nutrition, healthy lifestyles, sexual health, smoking, sexually transmitted illness awareness, and suicide and depression.

Eventually, the McFarland building will house the Academic Support Center, Transfer Student Services and a satellite office of the Department of Public Safety.

For those not yet aware of the Rave text-messaging service, signing up is easy. Students, faculty and staff may sign up for the service at no charge at www.getrave.com/login/mtsu PipelineMT page that leads to the Rave sign-up page.

Prichard said the text-messaging service also is utilized by campus police because of the 24-hour nature of their service.

“They are the first responders to emergency events, and this is just one more way of notifying the campus community about an emergency event,” he explained. “The … work week is a five-hour nature of their service.

For more information about Rave Wireless Emergency Alert, please visit www.getrave.com/login/mtsu.

For more information about the Record Aug. 25, 2008 page 5
A quick guide to office relocations across campus

MTSU has the lowest square footage per student for classrooms, labs and offices of all universities in the state. Yet the university is committed to maintaining academic quality and ensuring that students and faculty have the best possible learning and teaching environment.

Several offices and departments have been relocated on campus to make room for other activities and to consolidate areas that share common interests and audiences.

In some cases, relocation has allowed for vacated areas to be renovated, which, in turn, provides newer and improved office or classroom surroundings. While relocation may cause some temporary confusion, the ultimate purpose is to improve services and promote efficiency.

The following offices and departments have found new homes as we begin the 2008-09 fall semester. We suggest that you attach this list to your campus directory and keep it for reference.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Original Location</th>
<th>New Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of Research and Sponsored Programs</td>
<td>Midgett Building, Room 104</td>
<td>Ingram Building, Garden Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Graduate Studies</td>
<td>Cope Administration Building, Room 114</td>
<td>Ingram Building, First Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources/Payroll Department</td>
<td>Cope 217</td>
<td>Ingram Building, Second Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Transit Training Center</td>
<td>Fairview Building, Room 210</td>
<td>Lylte House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance</td>
<td>Fairview 215</td>
<td>Lylte House</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office of Institutional Diversity</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Peck Hall, Room 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East Center/Studies Program</td>
<td>Peck Hall</td>
<td>Midgett 104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Liberal Arts</td>
<td>Peck Hall</td>
<td>Todd Building, Room 231</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MT Study Abroad</td>
<td>Peck 103</td>
<td>Peck 207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychological Services Center</td>
<td>Peck Hall</td>
<td>Off-campus site (2227 NW Broad St.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### Departmental relocations since January 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Original Location</th>
<th>New Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office of Senior Vice President</td>
<td>Cope 211</td>
<td>Cope 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office for Community Engagement and Support</td>
<td>New office</td>
<td>Cope 114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News and Public Affairs</td>
<td>Cope 209</td>
<td>Tom Jackson Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning</td>
<td>Cope 119</td>
<td>Fairview 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of History</td>
<td>Peck 223</td>
<td>Peck 223A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Social Work</td>
<td>Alumni Memorial Gym/ Kircsey Old Main/Peck</td>
<td>Peck 132, Northwest Quad</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Anticipated relocations during fall 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Original Location</th>
<th>New Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health Services</td>
<td>McFarland Building</td>
<td>Student Health, Wellness and Recreation Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Technology Division</td>
<td>Cope 003</td>
<td>Cope 217A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Finance Services</td>
<td>Cope 105</td>
<td>Cope 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>Cope 208</td>
<td>Cope 209</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing and Communications</td>
<td>Cope 209</td>
<td>Cope 205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer Student Services</td>
<td>KOM 100C</td>
<td>McFarland Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Support Center (part of Academic Support Services)</td>
<td>Keathley University Center, Room 324</td>
<td>McFarland Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Finance Technical Support Services</td>
<td>New office</td>
<td>Cope 202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Accounting</td>
<td>Cope 108</td>
<td>Cope 105</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Women’s Studies chooses Johnson as new director

by Gina K. Logue

Dr. Newtona “Tina” Johnson, professor of English and chair of the President’s Commission on the Status of Women at MTSU, is the new director of the university’s Women’s Studies Program. Johnson took over the job Aug. 1.

She succeeds Dr. Elyce Helford, also an English professor, who served as director for the past eight years.

Johnson joined MTSU in 1998. She has been a member of the Women’s Studies Council since then and has served on many committees, including the curriculum committee. She earned her bachelor’s degree in English language and literature with honors from the Fourah Bay College of the University of Sierra Leone; a master’s in English from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia; a master’s in applied linguistics from Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec; and a doctorate in literary and cultural studies from Emory University in Atlanta.

In her vision statement, Johnson wrote, “I will use my collegial relations with faculty and administrators across MTSU’s campus and my experience in recruiting faculty from diverse disciplines to create more disciplinary diversity in our curriculum, to solicit more faculty involvement in the program and to promote the program to faculty, students and administrators as a community of scholars that prides itself on its inclusiveness as it fosters a global feminist perspective.”

The Women’s Studies Program provides undergraduates with an opportunity for an 18-hour interdisciplinary minor with tracks in women’s studies and gender studies. In addition, the program provides travel grants, student awards, an annual scholarship and a library of more than 1,000 volumes for research.

The program sponsors research lectures by faculty members, assists with National Women’s History Month events on campus each March, and coordinates a biennial interdisciplinary conference in Women’s Studies.

For more information on the Women’s Studies Program, call 615-898-5910, send an e-mail to womenstu@mtsu.edu or visit the Web site at http://womenstu.web.mtsu.edu.

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For more information on the Women’s Studies Program, call 615-898-5910, send an e-mail to womenstu@mtsu.edu or visit the Web site at http://womenstu.web.mtsu.edu.
The art department at MTSU will serve as host for its second biennial exhibition of works by alumni, aptly titled “Alumni 2008,” from Sept. 8 to Sept. 26 in the university’s Todd Gallery. About 50 pieces, representing a variety of media, will make up the exhibit, which will feature the art of Diane Fox ('86), Glenda Guion ('85), George Juliano ('69), Rebecca Parker ('04), Jim Poag ('77), Tom Sain ('84), Patricia Tenpenny ('92) and Vicki Terry ('92).

“The ‘Alumni 2008’ exhibition is the most recent in an ongoing series of shows designed designed to recognize Department of Art graduates for their ongoing commitment to art-making and their passion for their discipline,” said Eric Snyder, gallery curator.

“Alumni showing this year represent a range of years, beginning with the 1960s and ending with a more recent graduate of 2004,” he added. “They are active educators in higher education, performance artists or independent artists. Their works are seen across the country, internationally in galleries and museums, found in private collections and seen in regional and national publications.”

A free public reception for the artists will help kick off the alumni show Monday, Sept. 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. in the gallery’s lobby. Located on the first floor of MTSU’s Todd Building, the Todd Gallery is open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays and closed on all state holidays. Admission is always free and exhibits are open to the public.

For more information regarding the current exhibit, please contact Snyder at 615-898-5653 or e-mail him at esnyder@mtsu.edu.
The third annual “Evening of Swing,” gala, a dinner/dance event, will get under way beginning at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 1, in the James Union Building’s Tennessee Room, MTSU’s Friends of Music committee members announced.

The evening’s entertainment will feature the big-band music of the 1930s and ’40s as performed by MTSU’s two jazz ensembles, with great big-band music and lots of dancing, that our committee has put together," said Dr. George T. Riordan, director of the MTSU School of Music.

“The Tennessee Room is a great place for dancing and enjoying the music and the evening,” he added. “People were very impressed with the authentic and danceable swing provided by our students in the MTSU jazz ensembles ... (so) this is a wonderful forum to introduce the high quality of our musicians to people who haven’t yet enjoyed concerts at the School of Music.”

Riordan said the Friends of Music group was designed to encourage community members to take advantage of the 200 concerts presented annually at MTSU and to enable the school to give better services and opportunities to music students as well as providing guidance to the school via a community perspective.

“We have an active and dynamic leadership committee who are really excited about this year for the school and our students,” he remarked.

MTSU’s Friends of Music organizing committee members include Liz Doss, Shirley LaRoche, Jane Blakery, Martha Curri, Bobbi and John Duke, Brenda McFarlin, Margie Spangler, Veronica Milner, Linda Palmer, Robbie Hooper and Ernestine Thomas. Representing MTSU on the committee are Riordan, Aliquo, Connie Huddleston, Bobbi Duke and Deanna Little. "The evening’s entertainment will put together our first two events, and the evenings were truly memorable. So many people took part in the dancing that we’ve put together what could well be the largest dance floor in the area," Riordan said. "In the past we filled all of our tables, and we’re well on track to selling out 2008.

Also, Riordan said, a free group swing-dance lesson session will be offered on Thursday, Oct. 30, “to help people polish their moves as well as to learn the basics.”

Individual tickets for “Evening of Swing,” which includes dinner and a gala evening of music and dancing, are $75 per person; $35 of that amount is tax-deductible.

Tables seating 10 are available for $750 ($550 is tax-deductible), and patron and major-sponsor tables are available for $1,000, $2,500 and $5,000.

For more information on “Evening of Swing,” or the Friends of Music, including ticket inquiries, please contact Claudette Northcutt at 615-898-5924.