The MTSU Department of Art’s 2009 biennial Faculty Art Exhibition gets under way Monday, Aug. 31, with an opening reception at 11:30 a.m. in the Todd Gallery.

This exhibit features works of art by faculty members as a way to introduce their work to art majors, the broader campus population and the community. They work in a range of styles, including the representational, abstract and nonobjective, and through traditional media in a straightforward manner to mixed media with a “twist.”

The faculty members represent years of experience of productive work as evidenced by the extensive and ongoing record of exhibitions in juried and invitational shows. Each faculty member is an active working artist and visual art educator. Their personal work is invaluable to them and to their students, who learn from the efforts and successes of their mentors in the art studio.

Participating this year are professors Erin Anfinson, Michael Baggarly, John Donovan, Kim Dummons, Bob Durham, Janet Higgins, Jarrod Houghton, Sisavanh Houghton, Noël Lorson, Jean Nagy, Melissa Newman, Christie Nuell, Marisa Recchia,
Follow their lead: Heed campus building runners during crisis

by Tom Tozer
tozer@mtsu.edu

T his summer we held a special appreciation luncheon for our building runners, those volunteers on campus who have been willing to cope with obstinate students and frustrated faculty and coax them to go to the “safe places” in their buildings during a tornado drill or actual tornado warning. We simply wanted to say “thank you” to them because their rate of “runner” pay is zilch. They are not often met with pleasantries. And yet they are willing to do what they do because they want you and me to be safe.

The old claim that “it can’t happen here” literally has been dashed to smithereens. We all saw last April that tornadoes can indeed happen here, and they did so with a vengeance. Talk to the people at Union University in Jackson, and they will attest to the fact that a tornado can zero in on one building among a group of buildings and demolish it. On this campus, that building could be a maintenance shed or the Honors Building. A twister is no respecter of age, gender, structure or intellectual pursuits.

In this issue, student Erin Bridges writes about the building-runner luncheon. She did so at our request because it’s important to note that we at MTSU hold these runners, most of them clerical personnel, in the highest regard. These folks deserve our gratitude and respect. Theirs is not an easy or fun job. Not only do they come to work each day wondering if they will have to spring into action and hope they remember which floor or hallway or nook they cover, but they’re also wondering if they’ll get into a stare-down with a combative student or grumpy faculty member who can’t be bothered with responding to their safety efforts.

Imagine if a window had blown in on the students as they were making their way up the stairwell to return to the classroom and there were serious injuries. When the questions started flying—and they would—who would be on the hottest seat? We understand that tornado drills are an inconvenience. We have discovered over time that there is not a good time to hold a drill. Yet everything we read and every seminar we attend drives home the same theme: When it comes to safety and emergency preparation, the key is practice, practice, practice. A little inconvenience just might save some lives.

We are grateful to President Sidney A. McPhee and the executive staff for recognizing the importance of these drills. We also appreciate the support of the Division of Academic Affairs in allowing building runners to assure concerned students that they will not be penalized if they are late to a class or test because they chose to “do the drill” and remain in a “safe place.” Yes, some individuals defy instructions, go outside, get in their cars and drive off during a tornado warning. We all make choices—some of them poor ones. I hope your choice—our choice—is to do the right thing and model sensible behavior for anyone who may follow our lead.

Again, to all building runners, thank you. To everyone on campus: Whether it’s a tornado drill, actual warning, fire alarm or another emergency that calls for action—please Do the Drill!

Tom Tozer is director of the Office of News and Public Affairs.

Safety relies on technology, but people are still the key

by Erin Bridges
news@mtsu.edu

W hen the sun is shining and there’s not a cloud in the sky, it’s difficult to motivate students and faculty to follow tornado-siren warnings. This task is left to designated building runners at MTSU, whose requests for people to move to safety are sometimes ignored.

At this summer’s luncheon in honor of building runners, Dr. Diane Miller, interim executive vice president and provost, and John Cothern, senior vice president, confessed that they too sometimes are hesitant to respond quickly to building runners’ instructions.

“I wanted to say a few words of thanks for a thankless job, and if we get out of line, don’t hesitate to put us in our place,” Cothern told the group.

In April, MTSU saw firsthand that tornado warnings can become reality on the ground in minutes. Still, Miller said, when the sirens sound, “it’s hard to convince some students who wander off campus and professors continue to conduct classes, despite imminent danger. That siren sound is when the building runners’ jobs begin.

Those jobs can make the difference in the safety of students and faculty. Each building runner has been instructed to take occupants to the safest places in their designated areas, and each is familiar with safety precautions necessary during a tornado warning.

After the April tornadoes here, MTSU received some complaints about the siren system and MTSU’s alerts. The university’s Office of News and Public Affairs, Information Technology Division, Policie Department and building runners are working together on the issue to improve the communication process.

“Because we have such a diverse campus and community, many of you (building runners) are in different types of places, and the big task is coming up with something that can get you information wherever you are,” MTSU Police Chief Buddy Peaster said.

MTSU uses the Rave Alert system to send text messages and e-mails to students and faculty who have registered for the free service. Currently, more than 13,000 people are registered for the program, which officials say is an excellent percentage of use for a university of MTSU’s size.

“We are receiving close to 100 percent completion rate for reaching everyone in Rave through at least one method,” said Steve Prichard, director of telecommunications in the Information Technology Division.

In an attempt to reach more people on campus, MTSU added a voice-alert option to its Rave System this summer. The voice alert will call each number registered in the system and leave a prerecorded message, providing a way for students and faculty to get emergency information via a landline, too. Each person who registers for the Rave Alert system now can list three additional cell numbers, three landlines and two e-mail addresses.

With input from building runners and others on campus, the frequency and duration of the tornado siren also has been adjusted, since some people on campus had trouble hearing the warnings in April. The tornado siren, which sounds only in the event of a tornado warning for the area, will now sound for three minutes, remain silent for three minutes, then sound once more for three minutes. The extra minutes are intended to reach more people and make them aware of the warning, officials said.

With warnings from building runners, three methods of receiving alerts and extended tornado sirens, more MTSU students and faculty can be notified in times of danger and get to safety.

To learn more about tornado safety and preparations on campus, go to www.mtsu.edu/alert4u. To register for the Rave Alert system, visit www.getrave.com/login/mtsu and log in with your MTSU e-mail account.

When we surveyed the nearly 230 building runners on campus to hear their biggest complaint, No. 1 was “People ignore me.” Imagine if you were doing your job to the best of your ability and those around you simply dismissed you with a sneer or brushed you off. One dedicated runner said that during the actual warning, after she corralled everyone into their “safe place,” one faculty member decided he had waited long enough and proceeded to order his students back to class. No one had issued an all-clear, so this recalcitrant individual just decided to take charge and make the call.
Hanks to the dedication of two MTSU doc-
toral students, MTSU’s Center for Physical
Activity and Health in Youth recently spon-
sored its first Camp ENRGY, a five-day camp
designed for youth with physical disabilities.

Held Aug. 3-7 on the university campus, Camp
ENRGY—which stands for Excellence ‘N’
Recreation and Games for Youth—was organized
by Sandy Stevens and Jenny Hutchens, who are
enrolled in the doctoral-level exercise science pro-
gram offered through the Department of Health
and Human Performance.

“The impetus for Camp ENRGY came about as
an outgrowth of a four-year research project con-
ducted at MTSU and funded by the National
Institutes of Health,” said Dr. Don Morgan, CPAHY
director and HHP professor.

During this research, Morgan studied how to
improve the leg strength and endurance of young-
sters with cerebral palsy by helping them train on an underwater treadmill.

That planted the seeds for what would become
Camp ENRGY.

“This project,” he said, “I began to envision the creation of a
sports and fitness camp for youngsters with physical disabilities in the hope of
improving their ability to participate
more confidently in home-, school- and
community-based physical activities.”

When the CPAHY received funding last year from the Centers for Disease
Control and Health Promotion, Morgan
set about the task of turning the
adaptive-recreation camp that he had
envisioned into a reality. In the process,
he recruited Stevens and Hutchens,
who organized the weeklong camp for
children ages 10 to 17 and served as its
co-directors.

“We have been working on the
camp since January,” Stevens said,
adding that although research sup-
ports a relationship between partici-
pation in physical activity and good
health, children aren’t physically
active and don’t experience the
benefits of such a lifestyle.

“Engagement in physical activity
becomes more challenging for chil-
dren with disabilities,” she said,
“(and it was) our hope that by pro-
viding this camp, participants would
experience an increase in their confi-
dence and their physical capability,
creating a positive experience with
physical activity that may encourage continued participation and also
allow the participants to explore a
variety of activities that have
the potential for lifelong activity.”

The free 8 a.m.-3 p.m. daily camp provided
participants with activities ranging from swim-
ming, nature trails, yoga and dance to indoor
soccer, martial arts, GPS-based activities and
dancing.

By providing ENRGY’s 18 or so campers with a wide array of adaptive-rec opportunities,
“We hoped that each child would leave with the
desire to continue at least one of the activities
explored,” said Stevens, who plans to assist with
next year’s camp.

As for the campers’ families, organizers
reported that the parents seemed both excited
and grateful for their children’s ENRGY experi-
ence.

“Many of the families have so many expens-
es associated with accommodating a disability,
(s) so things like camps are difficult to fund,” Stevens
observed. “Several parents stated that they would
not be able to participate if not for the funding …
so I was truly excited to be a part of this process.”

In preparing for next summer’s camp, after
evaluating this year’s program and participant
feedback, camp creators will “make adjustments,”
as needed, to refine the camp so that it provides
the most positive experience possible for its young peo-
ple, Stevens said.

“We hope that this summer camp will become
a template for other camps for physically chal-
lenged youth here in Tennessee and throughout
the nation,” Morgan noted. “We also hope that we can
raise awareness of the need for local recreation
groups and organizations to provide meaningful
activity and sports opportunities for these kids.”

For more information on the new
program. “The PLA program simply
makes it faster, easier and more cost-
effective for those who qualify.”

For more information on this and other PLA programs, please contact MTEC
Site Coordinator Molly Culbreath at
931-685-4444 or at mculbre@mtsu.edu.
Deadline to apply for the fall 2009
semester is Friday, Aug. 28. Courses
at MTEC will begin Saturday, Aug.
29. For more information on the new
PLA hybrid course, please visit

by Lisa L. Rollins
lrollins@mtsu.edu

by Tom Tozer
ttozer@mtsu.edu

The MTSU College of Continu-
A number of businesses and organizations
may take classes online or at MTEC.
Beginning with the fall 2009
semester, MTSU will offer a new
hybrid course, Professional Studies
3010, for those interested in earning
undergraduate college credit for prior
learning.

“Hybrid courses offer the best of
both worlds,” said Lance Ikard, an
MTSU instructor for the course. “It
combines the convenience of online edu-
cation and the comfort of a few face-
to-face class meetings.”

Students will take most of
the course online in addition to sever-
al in-person class sessions, he noted.

Prior Learning Assessment is a
nationally recognized program that
utilizes the value of prior learning for those seeking to finish their under-
graduate degree. The PLA program
was designed to evaluate the credit-
worthiness of prior learning for on-
the-job training, certificate programs,
seminars, corporate training, military
education and other nontraditional
courses.

“A degree from Middle Tennessee
State University shows you’ve
worked hard to succeed at a national-
ly recognized, fully accredited state
university,” said Dr. Dianna Rust, the
associate dean who supervises the
program. “The PLA program simply
makes it faster, easier and more cost-
effective for those who qualify.”

For more information on this and other PLA programs, please contact MTEC
Site Coordinator Molly Culbreath at
931-685-4444 or at mculbre@mtsu.edu.
Deadline to apply for the fall 2009
semester is Friday, Aug. 28. Courses
at MTEC will begin Saturday, Aug.
29. For more information on the new
PLA hybrid course, please visit

STUDIES WITH CONCENTRATIONS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OR ORGANIZATION-AL LEADERSHIP, OR THEY MAY CHOOSE A BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN LIBERAL STUDIES. STUDENTS CAN TAKE CLASSES ONLINE OR AT MTEC. BEGINNING WITH THE FALL 2009 SEMESTER, MTSU WILL OFFER A NEW HYBRID COURSE, PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 3010, FOR THOSE INTERESTED IN EARNING UNDERGRADUATE COLLEGE CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING.

HYBRID COURSES OFFER THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS,” SAID LANCE IKARD, AN MTSU INSTRUCTOR FOR THE COURSE. “IT COMBINES THE CONVENIENCE OF ONLINE EDU-
CATION AND THE COMFORT OF A FEW FACE-
TO-FACE CLASS MEETINGS.” STUDENTS WILL TAKE MOST OF THE COURSE ONLINE IN ADDITION TO SEVER-
AL IN-PERSON CLASS SESSIONS, HE NOTED.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT IS A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED PROGRAM THAT UTILIZES THE VALUE OF PRIOR LEARNING FOR THOSE SEEKING TO FINISH THEIR UNDER-
GRADUATE DEGREE. THE PLA PROGRAM WAS DESIGNED TO EVALUATE THE CREDIT-
WORTHINESS OF PRIOR LEARNING FOR ON-
The new Adult Degree Completion Program expands to Shelbyville

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MTSU Photographic Services photo by Andy Heidt

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MTSU Photographic Services photos by Andy Heidt

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Please note:
Event dates, times and locations may change after press time. Please verify specifics when making plans.

**TV Schedule**

“Middle Tennessee Record”
Cable Channel 9:
Monday-Sunday, 7 a.m., 5 p.m.
NewsChannel 5+:
Sundays, 1:30 p.m.
Visit www.mtsunews.com for other cable-outlet airtimes.

**Aug. 24**

New Faculty Orientation
Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building, Business and Aerospace Building
For information, visit http://frank.mtsu.edu/~provost/newfaculty/index.shtml or contact: 615-898-5941.

**Aug. 28**

Blue Raider Volleyball: Middle Tennessee Invitational
Aug. 28: Kansas, 7:30 p.m.
Aug. 29: Murray State, 1 p.m.; Xavier, 7:30 p.m.
Alumni Memorial Gym
For information, visit www.goblueraiders.com.

**Aug. 30**

“MTSU On the Record—Recording Industry”
Dr. Richard Barnett, professor of recording industry, discusses technological and economic changes in the profession and what majors can expect in the market when they graduate.
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

**Sept. 1**

MTSU Department Fair
11 a.m.-1 p.m., KUC courtyard
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

**Sept. 3**

Thursday, Sept. 3
MTSU Department Fair
11 a.m.-1 p.m., KUC courtyard
For information, contact: 615-898-2454.

**Sept. 4**

Deadline to submit dependent eligibility verification
For information, visit http://hrs.web.mtsu.edu/ or contact: 615-741-3590.

**Sept. 6**

“MTSU On the Record—The Color and Gender of Journalism”
Dr. Dwight Brooks, new chair of the Department of Journalism in the College of Mass Communication, talks about race and gender issues in the media.
7 a.m., WMOT 89.5-FM

Get noticed in The Record!
Submit Campus Calendar items to gfannt@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 26, for the Sept. 7 edition of The Record or by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 9, for the Sept. 21 Record.
Thomas Sturgill, Patricia Tenpenny and Daniel Lai. Following the Faculty Exhibition, an inaugural Department of Art/Student Art Alliance Show will be presented beginning Tuesday, Sept. 22, featuring only Department of Art majors and MTSU students. This is the first joint effort between the department and students from across campus with an interest in art.

The Faculty Art Exhibition runs through Thursday, Sept. 17. It’s free and open to the public, and gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, closing only on state and university holidays. For more information or directions, call Eric Snyder, Todd Gallery curator, at 615-898-5633.

ART EXHIBIT—A sample of the work on display at the biennial Faculty Art Exhibition in the Todd Gallery is shown at left. Beginning clockwise from top, the works include Melissa Newman’s “Dupe,” Christe Nuell’s “Voyager,” “Subterranean #1” by Jarrod Houghton, Patricia Tenpenny’s “Meditation on Metatron’s Cube 3” and Sisavanh Houghton’s “Mosquitos 4x4.”

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listing of the 50 “Best Buy” schools in higher educa-
tion—an institution that delivers the greatest return
on investment by a student or his or her parents.

“Being ranked among the top 100 public insti-
tutions in the United States is an honor that has
resulted from the hard work and commitment of
our outstanding students, faculty, staff and alum-
ni,” said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee.

“Additionally, our designation as a ‘Best Buy’
among the top 50 colleges and universities in the
country speaks to our commitment to providing an
academic experience that goes beyond the expecta-
tion and focuses directly on the needs and success
of our students. In both cases, these notable rank-
ings reaffirm our position as ‘Tennessee’s Best.’”

In the top-100 listing, MTSU ranked 57th and
was the only public university in Tennessee to
make the cut. In the “Best Buy” designation, MTSU
ranked 47th and was in the company of other top-
50 institutions such as the University of Florida, the
University of California at Berkeley, The Citadel
and the College of William and Mary.

This is the second year for Forbes’ “America’s
Best Colleges” rankings. The Center for College
Affordability and Productivity, which calculated
the rankings for the magazine, is an independent not-
for-profit center based in Washington, D.C., that
encourages dialogue and research on issues facing
higher education.

Add fall blood-drive dates to calendar

B

efore your calendar gets filled up with meetings,
classes and more meetings, mark a few dates now
to help others by donating blood at one (or more)
of the four drives set for fall 2009 at MTSU.

The busy summer prevented donors from adding a
stop at the local Red Cross to their to-do lists, boosting
the need for blood to help save lives in travel-related
accidents, organizers say. That combination depleted the
local Red Cross’s already-low supplies of blood.

To replenish supplies and ensure plenty of help for
emergencies around the community, MTSU students,
faculty, staff and friends again are being asked to roll up
their sleeves for the fall blood drives on campus.

The first of the fall 2009 blood drives is set for
Monday, Sept. 21, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Room 322 of the Keathley University Center.

Other blood drives are set in KUC 322 on:
• Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;
• Monday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; and
• Tuesday, Nov. 10, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

If you’re really dedicated to keeping your lifesaving
appointments, put the spring 2010 blood drives in KUC 322 on your calendar:
• Jan. 26-27, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;
• Tuesday, Feb. 9, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.;
• Monday, March 1, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; and
• March 30-31, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at
least 110 pounds and be feeling healthy on donation
day. They also can’t have donated blood in the previous
56 days. More information is available at the Red Cross

NEW TOUR OF DUTY—Col. Mike Walsh, center, watches as his wife, Trish, center right, and mother,
Joan, center left, pin his new insignia to his uniform during an Aug. 6 promotion ceremony in Cantrell Hall
in the Tom Jackson Building. Looking on are Gordon Walsh, left, the colonel’s father, and his nephew and
godson, Nicholas Hodges. Walsh, who was presented with his new rank by Brig. Gen. Terry M. “Max”
Haston, an MTSU alumnus, recently left his command post in MTSU’s Army ROTC unit after three years
in Iraq to resume overseas duty. After briefings in Fort Riley, Kan., he is set to lead a 15-member military transi-
tion team who will advise an Iraqi Army leadership unit on equipping, manning and training their forces.

MTSU Photographic Services photo by J. Intintoli

MT Cross Country Team announces 2009 schedule

from MT Athletic Communications
www.goblueraiders.com

D

ean Hayes, MTSU head cross country

coach, has announced the Blue Raiders’
2009 schedule, which includes five
regular-season meets leading up to the Sun Belt
Championships Oct. 31 in Monroe, La.

The teams will also travel north for two mid-
season meets, the Western Kentucky University
Old Timers Classic will be held Saturday, Sept.
19, at Kereiakes Park in Bowling Green, Ky. Last
season, Kereiakes Park was the course for the Sun
Belt Championships, where Middle Tennessee
placed second in the women’s contest and third in
the men’s race. The Greater Louisville Classic is set
for Saturday, Oct. 3, at E.P. “Tom” Sawyer State
Park in Louisville, Ky.

The regular season will conclude at the Sun
Belt Championships, hosted by the University of
Louisiana at Monroe on Dec. 13 at the Chenault Park Golf
Course in Monroe, La. It will be the first time ULM
has played host to the Sun Belt Championships
since Middle Tennessee joined the league in 2001.

The Warhawks joined the league full-time in 2006.
The Warhawks joined the league full-time in 2006.

The campaign opens Friday, Sept. 4, at 5 p.m.
with the Belmont Invitational at Percy Warner Park
in Nashville. Last season, the Middle Tennessee
men finished second at the meet and the women
placed sixth.

On Friday, Sept. 11 and Saturday, Oct. 17, the
teams will travel to Chattanooga, Tenn., and the
Moccasin Bend Golf Course for the University of
Tennessee-Chattanooga Opener and then the UTC
Invitational, respectively.

The teams will also travel north for two mid-
season meets, the Western Kentucky University Old
Timers Classic and the Greater Louisville Classic.
The Old Timers Classic will be held Saturday, Sept.
19, at Kereiakes Park in Bowling Green, Ky. Last
season, Kereiakes Park was the course for the Sun
Belt Championships, where Middle Tennessee
The MTSU Student Government Association's annual Pigskin Pre-Game is set for Saturday, Aug. 29, to kick off the 2009 football season.

The event will be held at Marymont Mansion in Marymont Springs, located at 1124 Tucker Lane in Murfreesboro.

“Last year almost 500 people attended Pigskin, and we were able to raise almost $10,000 toward the scholarship fund,” said Paul Wydra, assistant director in the Office of Alumni Relations at MTSU. “Great food, entertainment and people—we hope even more people can attend this year.”

Tickets for the event, which will run from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m., will be $35 each. Attendees must prepay and reply by Wednesday, Aug. 26, to secure their ticket. The ticket price includes food, entertainment by Danny Lowe, beverages, door prizes and more, Wydra said, adding that on-site parking will be available.

All proceeds from Pigskin Pre-Game will benefit the Rutherford County Alumni Scholarship Fund. The Rutherford County Alumni Fund awarded $20,000 in scholarships to incoming freshmen for the 2008-09 school year. In the last three years, the fund has awarded $57,000 in scholarships to incoming freshmen.

MTSU students will be calling alumni to inform them of the latest developments at MTSU and their respective colleges and ask them to make a gift. Alumni can go to any specific need or area of interest, Kerr said. These can include, but are not limited to, student scholarships, innovative academic endeavors, state-of-the-art computer/laboratory equipment, special library and departmental acquisitions, facilities improvement or special academic initiatives.

“We recognize it as a way to satisfy annual giving requirements for the course,” said Roberta Flockton, secretary in the Department of Human Services recruitment.

Participants must complete the 30 hours to receive a TECTA Orientation Certificate. The MTSU TECTA site is part of a statewide grant and serves Rutherford and 16 other counties in the south central area of Tennessee.

For more information about this free orientation course for people working in monitored early-childhood education programs, call 615-904-8318 or visit the MTSU TECTA Web site at www.mtsu.edu/~tecta.
Math's Nelson and McNair's Saunders take interim roles

by Randy Weiler
jweiler@mtsu.edu

Don Nelson, professor of mathematical sciences, and Steve Saunders of the McNair Scholars have moved into respective interim chair and director roles in their programs, university officials announced.

Nelson has received Tennessee Board of Regents approval to lead the math department for the 2009-10 academic year, said Dr. Tom Cheatham, dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences. Nelson replaces Dr. Terry Quinn, who stepped down to return to full-time teaching and pursue his research, Cheatham added.

Heading into his 24th year at MTSU, Nelson has been professor in the math department and conducted considerable research. From 1992 until '98, he served as assistant chairman of the department before returning to full-time teaching.

A 1969 graduate of Mississippi College with master’s and doctoral degrees in mathematics from Vanderbilt University, Nelson was a math professor at Louisiana College in Pineville from 1974 to 1986. From 1983 to 1985, he was an operations research analyst at the U.S. Naval Weapons Center at China Lake, Calif. Early in his career, he was a mathematician at the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Waterways Experiment Station in Vicksburg, Miss.

Saunders, who has been at MTSU full-time since 2005, had served as McNair assistant director and program coordinator. He moved into the interim director’s role earlier this summer after Dr. Diane Miller became interim executive vice president and provost in the Division of Academic Affairs.

Saunders has served as editor of McNair Moments, a department publication about students in the program, and the McNair Research Review, bound paperback volumes of the students’ research findings. Saunders, who has been an adjunct in political science, is working on his doctorate in international relations at Vanderbilt University. He received his master’s degree in international relations from Ohio State University in 1981 and bachelor’s from Ohio State in 1971.

Saunders is the widower of Dr. Anne Sloan, a 15-year MTSU political science faculty member, who passed away April 4.

## Faculty/Staff Update

### Elections

Dr. Michael D. Allen (vice provost for research and dean of the College of Graduate Studies) has been elected president of the Tennessee Conference of Graduate Schools. The TCGS, founded in 1977, is affiliated with the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools and Council of Graduate Schools.

### Exhibitions

A set of computer-designed ceramic pieces by Professor Marc J. Barr (electronic media communication) has been chosen as one of only 100 for exhibit (out of 1,250 U.S. entries) in the 17th Annual Strictly Functional Pottery National, set for September and October in the Market House Craft Center in Lancaster, Pa. Another of Barr’s pieces has been selected for the Jingdezhen International Contemporary Ceramics Exhibition at the Jingdezhen International Ceramic Fair in Jingdezhen, China, in October.

### Passages

James Clayton Roper (Housing and Residential Life), 75, passed away Aug. 2. Mr. Roper was employed by MTSU from February 1967 until his retirement in March 1996 as a custodian for Housing and Residential Life.

### Presentations

Dr. Ron Aday (sociology and anthropology) commented on the impact of job layoffs on males in an Aug. 2 article in The Tennessee Review, bound paperback volumes of the students’ research findings. Saunders, who has been an adjunct in political science, is working on his doctorate in international relations at Vanderbilt University. He received his master’s degree in international relations from Ohio State University in 1981 and bachelor’s from Ohio State in 1971.

Saunders is the widower of Dr. Anne Sloan, a 15-year MTSU political science faculty member, who passed away April 4.