University will offer Kurdish classes in fall

by Gina K. Logue

In the shadow of the largest Kurdish community in the nation, MTSU this fall will become one of a handful of American universities offering Kurdish-language courses.

“We think we can do it here when other places can’t … because we have the support of the Kurdish community,” says Dr. Kari Neely, assistant professor of foreign languages and a member of the group that helped devise the classes.

Estimates of the number of Kurds living in Nashville range from 11,000 to 20,000.

See ‘Kurdish’ page 5

Fulbright news sends scholar packing

by Randy Weiler

MTSU alumnus Eric Little plans for 2010 centered on developing skills in his relatively new sales job in Nashville and continuing his quest to earn a master’s in Spanish pedagogy.

His plans encountered a U-turn, however, when the U.S. Department of State informed the Murfreesboro native that he would be the recipient of a Fulbright U.S. Student grant.

He will leave in late September for Faro, Portugal, where he will teach American culture—including music from the 1950s to the present—and English language to freshmen at the University of the Algarve.

“I’m very humbled,” Little said. “I’m actually pleasantly surprised. When I told my friends and family, they weren’t very surprised. They were very happy for me. They said, ‘We knew you’d get it.’ They have a lot of confidence in me. My friends, family and the university have been very supportive and have gone great lengths to help.”

Little, who graduated from MTSU in 2008 with a degree in Spanish and with minors in history and Latin American studies, becomes the second MTSU honoree in 2010.

See ‘Fulbright’ page 5

Horse science gets go-ahead for MS program

by Randy Weiler

In spring 2011, graduate students will have an opportunity for the first time to pursue a master’s degree in horse science at MTSU.

In the works for about four years, the program received final approval from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission in June.

Students wanting to join the program next spring need to apply by Friday, Oct. 15, said Dr. Pat Kayser, clinical specialist-equine in the horse-science program. He said marketing efforts and discussions with industry, academia and alumni will generate initial student interest for the spring that should bloom later.

“We’ve had quite a bit of interest already,” Kayser said. “Since it was first announced we would have the program, we have had inquiries

See ‘Horse’ page 5
Student-athletes earn SBC praise for academic efforts

from MT Athletic Communications www.goblueraiders.com

middle Tennessee placed a combined 137 student-athletes on the latest Sun Belt Conference academic lists, receiving honors for their scholastic work in the 2009-10 academic year. Sixty-four Blue Raiders earned a spot on the Commissioner’s List for having at least a 3.5 GPA, while 73 MT athletes garnered recognition on the Academic Honor Roll with a GPA between 3.0 and 3.49.

“We are very excited about the academic success our student-athletes achieve on an annual basis. It starts with their commitment to excellence in all areas,” Director of Athletics Chris Massaro said. “Our coaches also do an outstanding job recruiting student-athletes who not only succeed on the field or court but also in the classroom.”

Soccer set the pace for Middle Tennessee student-athletes on the Commissioner’s List with 12 honorees, just ahead of nine from both baseball and football.

Women’s track and field/cross country had eight members of its squad represented.

Football led the Blue Raider Academic Honor Roll recipients with 21, followed by 12 from baseball and six each from soccer and softball.

“It is great for the system as a whole,” said Todd Wyatt, director of the Student-Athlete Enhancement Center. “When you look at the entire program, with the success we have had by winning the Bubas Cup, we are definitely proving we can do it athletically, but it is also nice to see we can do it academically. It shows we have a complete program.

“The student-athletes need to be commended for their efforts in the classroom. The support we get from the coaches and the faculty, along with the expectations of Mr. Massaro, (financial aid)?” “What’s the status of my aid?” “Is it all here?” “Do I need anything else?” “How do I get my refund?” “How do I set up direct deposit?” “Does financial aid cover housing?” “Where’s my Hope (lottery) Scholarship?”

“It gets crazy,” said Suzanne Beller, an assistant director in the Office of Financial Aid. “Generally, it’s one phone call after the other. It’s frustrating, especially when students don’t read their e-mail. A lot of questions they ask us, we’ve already mailed them the answer.”

Kano, for example, discovered that a caller had been unsuccessful in getting a document faxed to the Office of Financial Aid. She had an answer to what has become a minor problem: Fax the documents to her office in Keathley University Center. By the next day, she’d placed the documents into the hands of financial-aid personnel like Beller or Assistant Director Leann Eaton or other staff and administrators.

“It’s a group of people from all over campus coming together to get people’s questions answered,” said Deb Sells, vice president for Student Affairs and vice provost for Enrollment Services.

“The site benefit,” Sells added, “is that it allows financial-aid counselors, who do an enormous amount of work, to get aid verified. Before the call center, their work was continually off-track. This frees them up to get work done to process (financial) aid to the students’ accounts.”

Friday, Aug. 27, marks the final day the 2010 call center operators will be available. Classes begin Aug. 28.

Faculty helping provide ‘Adventures in Learning’

by Gina K. Logue gklogue@mtsu.edu

A dventures in Learning,” the annual four-week mini-school for adults age 50 and older, will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays beginning Sept. 13 at First United Methodist Church at 265 W. Thompson Lane in Murfreesboro.

The purpose of the event, which is planned by an interfaith coalition, is to provide a program by and for older adults to share knowledge, talents and skills for lifelong learning and personal growth.

Dates are Sept. 20, Sept. 27 and Oct. 4. Each Monday features classes from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. and 10:45-11:45 a.m. Some of the topics slated for this year’s “Adventures in Learning” include “Our Aging Minds,” “Vital Singing: Why Hymns Are Important” and “Technological Know-How.”

As usual, retired and active MTSU faculty will play prominent roles in the event. A series under the title “A Sense of Time and Place” will feature lectures on Morocco by Dr. Ron Messier, professor emeritus of history; on ancient Egypt by Dr. Dawn McCormack, assistant professor of history; on Mexico by Dr. Dawn McCormack, assistant professor of history; and on Radnor Lake by Dr. Doug Heffington, director of global studies.

In addition, Dr. William Windham, professor emeritus of history, will lead discussions on “Reform Movements in Antebellum America,” and Dr. Charles Dean, professor emeritus of English, will conduct classes on “Poetry Then and Now—Now and Then” with analyses of the works of Emily Dickinson, Mary Oliver, Wendell Berry and Robert Frost.

In a class on books, retired MTSU English instructor Lynette Ingram will examine Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann, a 2009 National Book Award winner. Ingram, former MTSU English professor, will dissect The Thousand Autumns of Jacob DeZaat: A Novel by David Mitchell.

A highlight of this year’s “Adventures in Learning” will be “Mount and Mountain,” a dialogue between Dr. Rami Shaprio, adjunct professor of religious studies and an ordained rabbi, and Dr. Michael A. Smith, senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Murfreesboro. This class will be based on the online conversations Shapiro and Smith conducted for nearly two years about the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount.

The interfaith coalition sponsoring “Adventures in Learning” includes representatives from Allen Chapel AME Church; Central Christian Church; East Main Church of Christ; First Baptist Church, East Main Street; First Baptist Church, East Castle Street; First Presbyterian Church; First United Methodist Church; Northminster Presbyterian Church; St. Mark’s United Methodist Church; St. Paul’s Episcopal Church; and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Registration is $8 before Thursday, Sept. 2 and $10 after Sept. 2. The cost for lunches, catered by Carolyn’s Creations, is $10 per day or $36 for all four lunches. Participants may mail a check to AIL Treasurer, 1267 N. Rutherford Blvd., Murfreesboro, Tenn., 37130. Each participant should indicate which days you plan to attend and which days you plan to eat lunch.

For more information, contact Mary Belle Guinn at 615-895-6072.

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McPhee touts MTSU, pitches partnerships with business

by Tom Tozer
tozer@mtsu.edu

McPhee said, “We will make programs more accountable.” The Complete College Tennessee Act of 2010 is designed to address demands to base higher-education funding more on successful outcomes and graduation rates than enrollment.

McPhee reminded members that MTSU already puts more college graduates into Tennessee’s workforce than any other institution in the state. “More than 55 percent of our alumni live within a hour of Nashville,” he said. “The combined direct and indirect economic impact on the area’s economy from the university is estimated to be in excess of $1 billion annually.”

He added that more than 70 percent of MTSU graduates live in Tennessee. Reduced state funding has made it difficult for schools to meet the anticipated enrollment growth, McPhee said, and many schools, including MTSU, are limping along with antiquated facilities and equipment. The panel agreed that business needs to step up and provide financial support when appropriate, including offering more scholarships and internships.

“There must be better coordination and communication between business and educational leaders to assure that we are relevant in our programming and that our academic systems are in line with the needs of the business community,” McPhee noted.

The Tennessee Business Roundtable and the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce partnered with the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and the Lumina Foundation in sponsoring the event.

MTSU makes a splash during world championships

by Dr. Saeed Foroudastan
sforouda@mtsu.edu

Earlier this summer, MTSU’s Department of Engineering Technology solar boat team produced another award-winning showing in the 17th annual American Society of Mechanical Engineers Solar Splash competition—the world championship of intercollegiate solar boating—on Lake Fayetteville in Arkansas.

Impressed by their abilities both to successfully compete in every event and to confidently navigate Solar Splash challenges, judges awarded the MTSU team the 2010 Participation Award for the second straight year. It highlights not only the academic abilities of the students but also their technical capabilities and skills.

The judges, recognizing the consistent exhibition of teamwork, cooperation and courtesy throughout the competition, also awarded MTSU the 2010 Sportsmanship Award. This award acknowledges the collaborative efforts of the students under the stress of competition and unforeseen event obstacles.

Additionally, MTSU secured a spot in the coveted top-10 list of the Solar Splash competition by placing eighth overall, bringing international recognition not only to the students for their admirable accomplishments but also to MTSU and its engineering-technology program.

On Day 1 of the five-day regatta, entries were evaluated on criteria such as technical reports, visual displays, engineering and workmanship. Subsequent days allowed for evaluation of in-water performance through a compilation of dynamic events including maneuverability, solar endurance, sprints and slaloms.

The MTSU team sailed confidently into its fifth year of the solar-boat competition. Streamlining past designs that required multiple modifications for each competition activity, the team presented a “one-size-fits-all” model for this event.

Making use of the award-winning hull design from the previous year’s competition allowed the team to focus on improving stability, steering and drive-train challenges identified during earlier contests. Ergonomic improvements also were implemented that increased skipper comfort, and improvements to the on-board data acquisition system allowed the team to monitor energy usage effectively.

MTSU has a strong record of success at the Solar Splash competition: 11th overall, the Perseverance Award and Rookie Team with highest total score in 2008; Outstanding Drive Train Design Award and third place in the Technical Report in 2007, and the Teamwork Award and the Outstanding Hull Design Award in 2008 and 2009, respectively.

This year’s event participants included team captain Stan Whitehouse, co-captain Lazzaro Perez, Bryan Bodkin, Raymond Dennis, James Rancaster, Sherry Harner and Paul Martin III.

The event team appreciates the contributions of all MTSU Solar Boat members and their dedication to the success of this project. The team also is indebted to Rick Taylor of the Department of Engineering Technology’s machine shop for his continued support. His exceptional assistance and mentorship among the students with machining and design has been invaluable. Special thanks go to Martin and Harner, and to Jackie Victory in the Office of Leadership and Service for the support from the Student Government Association office. Finally, the team offers a special word of thanks to Drs. Walter Boles, ET chair; Dr. Charles Perry, Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence; the ET department faculty; and Dean Tom Cheatham of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences for their encouragement and support.

Dr. Saeed Foroudastan is associate dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences and a professor of engineering technology. He also is faculty adviser for the MTSU Experimental Vehicle Project Competitions, which include the Solar Bike, Solar Boat, Mini Baja, Formula SAE and the Great Moon Buggy Race.

The Record Aug. 23, 2010 page 3
MTSU once again on Princeton Review ‘best of list

The Princeton Review, an education-services company that offers test preparation for standardized achievement tests and advice on college admissions, has named Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU) among its 2010 ‘Best Buys’ selections in its annual guidebook, ‘The Princeton Review: Best Colleges’.

MTSU once again is receiving accolades from the education-services company The Princeton Review, joining 133 institutions recommended in the “Best in the Southeast” section of its website feature, “2011 Best Colleges Region by Region.”

Collectively, the 623 colleges named “regional best” constitute about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review asked students to rate their schools based on accessibility of the professors, the quality of food and campus life in general. The company’s staff also based their evaluation on the quality of academic programs and observations during visits to campuses over the years.

“We are proud to once again be listed among the ‘Best in the Southeast’ by The Princeton Review,” said MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, noting that the company also gave the university the honor in 2008.

“We are committed to continuing Middle Tennessee State University’s long-standing tradition of offering our students outstanding academic programs in the kind of nurturing environment which addresses their individual needs. Our continued success is due to the hard work of our outstanding faculty and staff.”

“We’re pleased to recommend Middle Tennessee State University to users of our site as one of the best schools to earn their undergraduate degree,” said Robert Franek, senior vice president/publisher for The Princeton Review. “We chose it and the other terrific institutions we name as ‘regional best’ colleges mainly for their excellent academic programs.”

The Princeton Review is a for-profit educational preparation company that offers test preparation for standardized achievement tests and advice on college admissions. Forbes magazine ranked MTSU as the No. 1 public institution in Tennessee, as well as one of the Top 50 higher-education “Best Buys” in the nation and one of the Top 100 U.S. public universities, in its 2009 “America’s Best Colleges” listing.

To read MTSU’s complete entry in the Princeton Review rankings, register free at www.princetonreview.com, then click the “Find a College” tab at the top of the page and type “Middle Tennessee State University” in the search box.
to 14,000 people. Kovan Murat, a senior political-sci- ence major and co-founder of the Kurdish Students
Association at MTSU, working on his M.A.T. program, arrived in three waves—in the 1960s, in 1992 after the poison-gas
attacks staged by Saddam Hussein’s regime in Iraq
and from 1995 to 1998 with the help of nongovern-
mental organizations.

Murat says the language is endangered because
Saddam’s operatives forced Kurds to learn to read
and write Arabic. He says those who dared to
learn Kurdish put their lives and the lives of everyone
in their village at risk.

“Even right now, when I come home, I’m not allowed
to speak another language besides Kurdish,” Murat
says. “That’s my father’s goal, preserving the language,
because he was a rebel fighter against Saddam Hussein.”

“In a diaspora situation, which is what this is, by
the third generation, there’s language assimilation if
they’re not very diligent about language preserva-
tion,” Neely adds.

Neely formed a working group with Dr. Allen
Hibbard, English professor and director of MTSU’s
Middle East Center; Dr. William Canak, sociology pro-
fessor and adviser to the KSA; and Dr. Clare Bratten,
an electronic media communication professor who has
produced documentaries on the Kurdish people.

After getting approval from uni-
versities in the United States,
they applied for and obtained a diversity
grant from the Tennessee Board of
Regents. The grant will support the
class instructor. To respond quickly
to student interest before the
Kurdish classes could be offered, the group devised a
spring 2010 special-topics course, “Introduction to
Kurdish History, Politics and Culture” as a part of
the Middle East Studies minor.

“We launched our Middle East Studies minor four
years ago with new courses in Arabic and Hebrew,”
Hibbard says. “Fulbright Kurdish language courses
will greatly enhance our offerings. These exciting and unex-
pected developments would likely not have happened
without the presence of the Middle East Center on
campus. There is a need and potential here.”

The instructor will be Deniz Ekici of the Center for
Kurdish Studies at the University of Exeter in the
United Kingdom. Ekici, a native of Turkey who is
working on his doctorate, earned his bachelor’s degree
from Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts in Istanbul
and his master’s degree from City University of New
York.

Ekici’s professional experience is in educational
and learning technologies. He has developed and
 taught beginning, intermediate and advanced Kurmanji-Kurdish courses and collaborated with educators at the University of Arizona to develop the first interactive Kurdish DVD. His Kurmanji-Kurdish Reader, a mul-

tilevel reference tool with an exten-
sive grammar section, was pub-
lished by Dunwoody Press in 2007. “Considering the fact that
Kurdish language and culture have been oppressed for so many decades
and remains understudied, these classes are crucial,”
Ekici notes via an e-mail from Exeter. “They will make
Kurds in the Nashville community. Kurmanji employs
the Latin alphabet instead of the Arabic alphabet, which Neely says should make it more accessible
to non-Kurds who want to take the class.

“There are a lot of service-sector jobs that come in
contact with the Kurdish community in Nashville on a
fairly regular basis,” says Neely, “so people who are
going into education, social work, law enforcement,
medicine—any of these areas could benefit by having
some kind of Kurdish background.”

In addition, Neely says, the Middle East Center is
working with the Department of Military Science
because of a need for Kurdish- and Arabic-language
specialists and sensitivity training for their troops.

These classes will add to students’ cross-cultural
understanding as far as the non-Kurdish students are
concerned, because only through learning the lan-
guage can one be exposed to a certain ethnic group’s
network of cultural values that are otherwise inaccessi-
ble,” Ekici notes.

Hibbard

Honors College Dean John Vile
noted that with MTSU’s increased
attention to study-abroad programs,
it is “unlikely to be the last” time the university has two Fulbrights in the
same year. He said that Honors
College adviser Laura Clippard has
applied thorough and organized
efforts in the Undergraduate
Fellowships Office, where Little and Howell initiated their Fulbright
quests.

Vile said Little’s ability to speak
Portuguese and his love for teaching
greatly enhanced his chances.

As part of the interview process
involved conversations with
a professor who knew Portuguese,
Vile said. “Although the rest of us on
the committee didn’t know what was
being said, it was quite obvious Eric
had great command of the language.

“Eric is committed to teaching
and was an extremely representative not
only of MTSU but of the United
States in Portugal.”

As for what life will be like when
he returns to Portugal, Little said he
knows he will be living off-campus in
a university teachers’ residence.
The Fulbright award funds his travel to
and from Portugal, his stay there and
upkeep. “Anything they require (me
to do) they will pay for,” he
explained.

Little said his teaching will be a
50/50 split between the American
culture and the English language.

“I’ve been a graduate student
here,” he said. “I’ll be using the
strategies I’ve learned in the M.A.T.
(Master of Arts in Teaching) program and be teaching English through the
culture.”

“Dean Cheatham was very instru-
cemental in this getting on the Tennessee
Board of Regents docket for, getting
this approved and giving me guid-
ance,” Kayser said.

“This is a natu-
ral first master’s in the
School of
Agriculture and
Agriscience for us because of our nation-
ally recognized horse-science program,”
Cheatham said. “There is not another
similar program in Tennessee.”

Kayscr said he will be joined as grad-
uate-level faculty by Dr. John Haffner,
equine veterinary medicine; Dave
Whitaker, horse-science director and
teaching team coach; Rhonda Hoffman,
equine nutrition, advising and MTSU’s
Horsemen’s Association; and Anne
Brzezicki, horsemanship director and
equestrian team coach. Brzezicki will
be involved in an experiential-learning lab
capacity, he said.

For more information, contact Kayser
at 615-898-2582 or klclippar@mtsu.edu.
Borendame selected to lead men’s tennis

Middle Tennessee Director of Athletics Chris Massaro has named Jimmy Borendame as the next Blue Raider head men’s tennis coach.

“Jimmy is a highly organized, winning coach that will carry out the Blueprint for Blue Raiders men’s tennis program,” Massaro said.

Schaub promoted to women’s tennis coach

Melissa Schaub, Blue Raider assistant women’s tennis coach, has been promoted to the Blue Raider head coaching position, Director of Athletics Chris Massaro said.

The Blue Raiders’ 2010 football season is ready to roll! Clip and save this handy listing; home games are in bold.

Celebrated Blue Raider football!

Kickoff time of the Georgia Tech game has not yet been announced, but it will be played Saturday, Oct. 16, at 6 p.m. at Georgia Tech.

Visit www.goblueraiders.com for updates and ticket information.

Ride in style to 3 away games: BRAA

Prices for the three trips vary. The cost of the Memphis trip is $50 per person; Georgia Tech is $60 per person, and Western is $35 per person. Game tickets are not included in the price, but the BRAA is coordinating a block of seats in the MTSU section at each game for coach riders. Fans can call BRAA at 615-898-2210 to sign up for the trip.

Gifts to the MTSU Annual Fund are vital in enhancing MTSU academic departments and programs.

Contributions made to the MTSU Annual Fund through the Phonathon can be designated to any specific need or area of interest, Kerr said. These can include but are not limited to student scholarships, innovative academic endeavors, new computer laboratory, special library and departmental acquisitions, facilities improvement or special academic initiatives and projects.

For more information, call 615-898-2502 or e-mail devofc@mtsu.edu.
Dean adds corporate-governance training

from Staff Reports
news@mtsu.edu

Dr. Jim Burton, dean of the Jennings A. Jones College of Business, has attained the status of “Certified Director” from the John E. Anderson School of Management at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The designation represents a higher level of endorsement that entitles him to sit on corporate boards of directors and participate in the corporate governance of major companies throughout the nation. “There are a number of schools of business in the country that offer training programs for directors,” Burton said, “but this is the only one that I’m aware of that has any sort of certification process at the end of it.”

The 30 participants included board directors, business owners, higher-education officials and others who have a vested interest in learning more about corporate governance, liability issues, performance-based pay and how pending federal legislation will change the way business does business. “There were discussions that heightened your awareness and made you think in new ways,” Burton noted. “It re-energized your thinking on several things.”

Burton said the certification becomes a point of recognition and distinction and may generate additional requests to serve as a director in companies around the country. He has served on the board of Piedmont Gas for several years.

“It was an arduous three days, jam-packed with reading, speakers and workshops. Several people out there knew of MTSU through athletics or a particular academic program or they knew someone who was here.”

Pettey filling post as interim chair of computer science

from Staff Reports
news@mtsu.edu

Dr. Chrisila C. Pettey, professor of computer science at MTSU, has been named interim chair for the department, College of Basic and Applied Sciences Dean Tom Cheatham announced.

Pettey, who has been at MTSU since 1991, will fill the void left by the retirement of Dr. Richard Detmer earlier this year.

“It’s an honor to be named to this position,” Pettey said, “a bit overwhelming, but honor nonetheless.”

She said a major focus will be on the department’s accreditation self-study, which is due later this year.

“I hope we will be able to put more opportunities for real-world experiences for our undergraduate students into our curriculum,” she said. “Another goal is to implement ways to grow both the graduate and undergraduate programs.”

Pettey earned her bachelor’s degree from Lipscomb University in 1978, her master’s from MTSU in 1981 and her doctorate from Vanderbilt in 1990. Her areas of interest include parallel processing and genetic algorithms.

Cheatham said a national search would be conducted to find a permanent chair.

The computer science department has 12 full-time faculty, two full-time staff and two adjunct faculty members.

Faculty from page 8

Jones of Hoover, Ala., and Jessica Jones Stallman of Murfreesboro; and six grandchildren.

He was employed by MTSU from September 1967 until his retirement in May 2005 as a professor of accounting.

Brelinda Johnson (Academic Support Center) is the new academic adviser for the new College of Behavioral and Health Sciences. She is currently advising students majoring in criminal justice administration, health and human performance, human sciences and psychology and will be transitioning into advising social-work majors over the course of the fall 2010 semester.

Brandon Nolen (athletics) has joined the Middle Tennessee baseball staff as the volunteer assistant. His duties will include working with catchers, hitting instruction and on-campus recruiting.

Insuring their legacies

CAREER RECOGNITION—The newest members of the Robert E. Musto Insurance Hall of Fame at MTSU pose with plaques recognizing them as professionals who have made outstanding contributions to Tennessee’s insurance industry during the recent induction ceremony at the DoubleTree Hotel in Murfreesboro. They are, from left, Tom McDonald of Franklin, Tenn., a longtime Tennessee Farmers Insurance Company executive; Joseph M. “Joe” Rackley of Pulaski, founder of insurance software company Rackley Systems Inc.; and Dan Brooks of Rutledge, a longtime State Farm Insurance executive. In 1997, Robert L. Musto, son of Robert E. Musto, presented a $10,000 gift to MTSU’s Martin Chair of Insurance in honor of his father, which provided the foundation for the hall of fame. To date, there are 44 members of the Musto Insurance Hall of Fame, which is under the guidance of the Tommy T. Martin Chair of Insurance in MTSU’s Jennings A. Jones College of Business.

Facility

Pettey filling post

Sign up for MTSU’s EMERGENCY MESSAGING SERVICE

Get noticed in The Record!

Submit your Faculty/Staff Update items and other news tips to gfan@mtsu.edu by 3 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 25, for the Sept. 6 edition of The Record or 3 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 8, for the Sept. 20 edition of The Record.
MTSU, meet Murfreesboro Aug. 31-Sept. 1

MTSU is continuing a tradition started in 2001 by inviting area businesses and organizations to welcome students back to campus during the festive Week of Welcome—the first days of the fall semester—at MTSU Murfreesboro days Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 31-Sept. 1.

Participants can visit with students and display products by reserving space in tents placed in the courtyard outside the Keathley University Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Display space costs $250 and includes a table and chairs, lunch for two people each day and access to electricity for both days. Merchants also will receive two visitor-parking passes per day.

“We encourage businesses to bring free samples, specialty giveaways and coupons to give students,” said Gina Poff, director of the Office of New Students and Family Programs.

“The students really enjoy the event, and in past years, we have had vendors tell us they gave away as many as 5,000 items per day.” Poff added that if merchants want to participate but cannot attend MTSU Murfreesboro days, the university will provide them with free welcome-back posters for display at their businesses.

Local agencies and campus groups may also participate in the Volunteer Fair on campus on Tuesday, Sept. 7, and share volunteer opportunities with MTSU students. There is no cost for volunteer agencies to participate in the event.

MTSU expects to enroll 25,700-plus students this fall, and economic-impact studies have shown that students spend more than $6 million locally during the school year. Recent estimates place MTSU’s total economic impact at more than $1 billion.

Deadline for participant registration is Monday, Aug. 30, and space is limited. For more information, contact Rob Patterson, NSFP coordinator, at 615-898-2454 or visit www.mtsu.edu/nsfp/PDFS/10meetmboro.pdf.

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UR010-0810

Faculty/Staff Update

Appointments

Jenny Tenpenny Crouch (Campus Recreation) has been appointed to serve on the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education committee to establish standards for student media. She is representing College Media Advisers, a national organization that helps student media professionals improve operations. Crouch served as CMA president in 2001-03 and on the group’s board for about eight years; she was director of student publications at MTSU for about 15 years.

Certifications

Jennifer Frizzell (nursing) passed the certification for the pediatric nursing specialty through the American Nurses Credentialing Center and is now a certified pediatric nurse.

Conferences

Dr. Mark Anshel (health and human performance) chaired “Controversies in Clinical Trials,” a pre-conference satellite symposium of the International Society of Behavioral Medicine held Aug. 2-3 in Washington, D.C.

Dr. David Carleton (political science) attended the annual meeting of the American Democracy Project.

“Agents and Architects of Democracy,” June 17-19 in Providence, R.I., and the Tennessee Campus Compact workshop, “Navigating the Maze: Securing External Funding for Civic Engagement Programs,” April 22 at Lipscomb University to prepare for the launch of the Department of Political Science’s new minor in political and civic engagement.

Institutes

Dr. Karen Petersen (political science) attended the 2010 SACS Commission on Colleges Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation in Tampa July 25-28, an event focusing on successful assessment practices and quality enhancement initiatives to improve student learning.

Passages

Ms. Alma Travis Baldwin (accounting) passed away Aug. 5. She was the daughter of the late Walter C. and Mary Leola Travis and was also preceded in death by two brothers, Fred and Donny Travis, and two sisters, Mary Louise Travis and Sarah Horner. She is survived by four sons, Mike, John and Jeff Baldwin of Murfreesboro and Tony Baldwin of Houston, Texas; three grandchildren, Catherine Baldwin and Justin Baldwin of Murfreesboro and Travis Baldwin of Houston, Texas; and one great-granddaughter, Alexis Baldwin of Murfreesboro. She also is survived by two brothers, Charles and Tom Travis of Murfreesboro, and two sisters, Ina Ruth Brannon and Frieda Travis of Murfreesboro.

She was part of the American Democracy Project, the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education and the Tennessee Campus Compact.

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