

H O N O R S alternative

University Honors College Newsletter • Spring 2007
MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

From the Bell Tower

As state appropriations for public higher education continue to decline on a relative basis, individual institutions become more dependent on other sources of revenue for continued operation. Like many public universities, MTSU depends on periodic increases in tuition and fees, new dollars derived from the "overhead" on extramural grants, endowment income, and both planned and unplanned annual giving. Public colleges and universities do not have the luxury of waiting for the winds of public opinion to change or for government subsidies to decline. They must act promptly to share their needs with those who can help. Of course private gifts will carry specified or implied guidance regarding how the funds are to be spent. Such guidance is not foreign to the public university since public universities have long been held accountable for appropriate and judicious use of state-derived funds.

Bell cont. on page 2

INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE 2007

by David Foote

MTSU and the Honors College are proud to offer the Institute of Leadership Excellence again this year during Summer Session I. The first offering of this exciting program was a tremendous success last May, with 16 students from 16 different majors participating in a demanding schedule of classroom discussion, interactive learning exercises, and fascinating dinner lectures. We are planning even more exciting things for this summer's institute, which will again be held in the amphitheater of the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building. We are happy to announce that the institute now has its own Web site (www.mtsu.edu/leadership) where interested students can learn all about the institute and its activities.

We are especially excited that this year's application process can be completed entirely online through the Web site. As before, students need not be participating in the Honors program to apply but must have completed 60 credit hours before the first day of the institute and must have achieved a 3.25 or higher cumulative grade point average for all college credit to date. Those who are accepted and complete the institute satisfactorily (grading is pass/fail) are eligible to receive three hours of honors credit. In addition, co-instructor Dr. Earl Thomas and I have hired one of last year's graduates to work with us to facilitate the institute this year.

Although there may be some minor changes to the schedule, this year's Institute of Leadership Excellence will be quite similar to last year's. It is designed to be an intense, total-immersion program for high-performing students with junior or senior standing. We will meet throughout the day Monday through Friday during the first two weeks, with students working on and presenting their individual leadership projects during the third week, just as we did last year. Our goal in reviewing applications again this year is to create as diverse a group of students as possible. The diversity of the course participants was a significant factor in the success of last year's institute, and we look forward to a similar outcome again this year. We expect to bring in other faculty members from across the campus again this year to help with specific

Leadership cont. on page 4

Courtney Kano, May 2000

The Honors College is making significant progress toward achieving the level of academic quality that it seeks; however, it is evident that future progress will depend upon securing new dollars and upon improved operational efficiency. Working in concert with the Office of Development, the Honors College is actively developing a plan to recognize and seat its first **Board of Visitors** in 2007. A Mission and Bylaws document that will guide the board in its work has been drafted, and several possible board members have been identified.

Members of the Board of Visitors will be drawn from throughout the community and nation. In addition to helping the Honors College identify and secure funding for its most crucial needs, the board will help publicize the college's distinctive programs of study and assist in prioritizing the emerging needs of the college. The board will make annual visits the Honors College in order to conduct its business.

Readers who may know of persons interested in assisting the Honors College are encouraged to contact the administrative office: Martin Honors Building, Suite 205; (615) 898-2152.
—Philip M. Mathis, Dean 📍

Building For Your FUTURE

Contact our academic advisor, Ms. Michelle Arnold, to find out how you can graduate from the University Honors College. She can be reached at (615) 898-5464. Call for an appointment today! 📍

Courtney Kano was born in Bloomington, Indiana, but at the age of nine months moved to Zaria, Nigeria, in West Africa, where she lived until she was seven. She grew up in Westerville, Ohio, and moved to Murfreesboro when she was 14. She is a graduate of Oakland High School and attended MTSU on an Otis Floyd Scholarship. She majored in Criminal Justice Administration and minored in Psychology and Sociology.

During her time at MTSU, she was a student in the University Honors College. Kano's Honors thesis, "Copycat Crime: A Case Study Analysis of Three Films and Three Crimes," was approved for publication by the Honors College. She served on the grade appeals committee, participated in the Kaleidoscope program, was involved with a University mentoring program, was a member of the Golden Key Honor Society, was named to *Who's Who in American Universities and Colleges*, was a member of the Student National Exchange Club for the prevention of child abuse, and was involved in numerous community activities.

After graduating with Distinction in University Honors in 2000, Kano attended Vanderbilt University Law School on a partial scholarship. She graduated from Vanderbilt in 2003 and joined the Dallas office of corporate law firm Locke Liddell & Sapp. (Locke Liddell also has offices



in Austin, Houston, New Orleans, and Washington, D.C.) Kano is a fourth-year associate at Locke Liddell. She handles a wide variety of matters including representing a restaurant management company in litigation involving claims for breach of contract, fraud, and concerted action; a secured creditor in adversary proceedings in bankruptcy court involving construction bonds; and a nationwide mortgage company in civil litigation. Kano is a member of her firm's employment committee and is very active in its recruiting program.

Recently, Kano was selected to participate in the Lawyer on Loan Program. She served as a misdemeanor prosecutor at the Dallas County District Attorney's office and was part of eight jury trials and numerous bench trials.

Kano is also very active in the Dallas community through the J. L. Turner Legal Association and the Dallas Bar Association. She does volunteer work at Medrano Elementary School, tutoring a fifth-grader, overseeing a school supply drive, and participating in a holiday party for first-grade students. She is also an active member of the Junior League of Dallas.

Kano's stellar academic career at MTSU and Vanderbilt is even more remarkable when one learns that she also worked 30 hours per week during that time. We would also like to note that Courtney is the daughter of former MTSU professor Dr. Zak Kano and our very own Kathy Kano in Student Affairs—Ed. 📍

ALUMNI FEATURE

Carrie Hunsaker, May 2004

Shortly after graduating from MTSU in 2004 with a bachelor of science in interior design, Carrie Hunsaker moved to Cincinnati, where she began working towards a master's in architecture at the University of Cincinnati's Department of Art, Architecture, and Planning (DAAP). Since 2004, Hunsaker has interned in Dallas, Cincinnati, and Boston, working on projects ranging from the Venetian Hotel in Macau, China, to high-rise housing on Cincinnati's riverfront and a new food bank facility in the heart of Boston. The largest of these projects was undoubtedly the \$1.8 billion Venetian Macao (expected to open in 2007), which will be five times the size of the Venetian in Las Vegas. The new casino will be situated on the Cotai Strip, billionaire developer and owner Sheldon Adelson's trademarked name for the multibillion Vegas-style strip that



DAAP Building



Cotai Strip

was formerly a marshy, uninhabitable expanse that bridged Macau's Coloane and Taipa islands (hence the name "Cotai"). Though the Venetian Macao is the only casino nearing completion, Cotai is already being called "Asia's Las Vegas" and is expected to be bigger and more luxurious than its American counterpart. Hunsaker hopes to travel to Macau one day not only to gamble her life's fortune but to see to what extent her design for the Dim Sum Long House on the casino floor was assimilated into the final construction.

DAAP's architecture program ranks number two in the nation, behind only Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. Hunsaker attributes the program's prestige, in part, to the valuable experience that students gain through internships. DAAP

Hunsaker *cont.* on page 10

Leadership *cont. from front*

topics, and we will have a terrific lineup of dinner speakers on many of the evenings during the institute.

We are able to offer half-price tuition again this year due to Dr. Lee Martin's continued generosity as well as a substantial infusion of funds from the provost, and we are hopeful that the college deans will offer an additional \$100 to each of the students from their colleges who enroll, as they did last year. Our long-term goals focus on expanding the program, perhaps by offering it at other times during the summer or during the academic year, so that we can help many more students begin to realize their own leadership potential. Given the volatility of state funding, our goals also include operating the institute from an endowment, and we are working toward that end. Accordingly, we encourage anyone interested in financially supporting this outstanding program to contact the Honors College or the University Development Office.

Dr. Thomas and I are grateful for the encouragement and strong support we have received from administrators, faculty, and staff across the University for the Institute of Leadership Excellence. We are convinced that it will soon become a flagship program for Middle Tennessee State University, and we look forward to another successful institute this May! 📌

OTHER ALUMNI NEWS

William Lauren Bandy, December 1997

William Lauren Bandy, an airline pilot living in Hendersonville, N.C., and a 1997 graduate of MTSU, was presented with the Gemini Air Cargo All-Star Award for "extraordinary performance above and beyond the call of duty." He was recognized for his part in dealing with a tense situation on the ground in N'Djamena, Chad, Africa, while delivering tents and tarpaulins for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent to war refugees fleeing the fighting in the Darfur region of Sudan. Bandy, who flies a McDonnell Douglas DC-10 to various places around the world, is a former resident of Nashville, where he worked as a professional musician for over 20 years. Bandy continued to work full-time as a musician during his first three years of study at MTSU and commuted each day from Nashville. He was the first MTSU Aerospace student to graduate with Distinction in University Honors and was also the winner of the Honors Academic Achievement Scholarship, the Beechcraft Staggerwing Museum



Scholarship, the Don Ace Memorial Scholarship, and the Buck Clapp Memorial Scholarship. He was also a national winner of a CAE Simuflite Citation Type Rating scholarship. Bandy wants to thank all the department chairs, professors, instructors, advisors, and fellow students who helped him through the challenging years at MTSU. 📌

Catching Up with Jeremy Brown (B.A., 1998; M.A., 2002) Ph.D. in Sight by Spring 2008!

The Honors Program was very important to me. I met my first wife, many good friends, and a lot of excellent mentors through the program. It taught me a lot about myself, and more important, about what I liked and disliked in my own educational

experience. Furthermore, it prepared me for grad school and gave me the confidence to continue my education.

I wrote my Honors thesis in the fall and spring of 1996–1997. It was a struggle, but it taught me about the

Alumni *cont. on page 5*

Alumni *cont.*

exacting amount of work involved in doing professional writing. During the writing, I finally realized that I wanted to go to grad school to get a degree in English literature.

I began my graduate program in 1998 at MTSU and discovered to my astonishment that grad classes were not unlike the undergraduate Honors classes I had attended—though they required more work. This discovery made the entire process less scary—if you’ve ever been in grad school, you know that making the process less scary is very important. The Honors classes I had taken had prepared me better for grad school than I could have hoped. Original research? Knew how it was done and where to find materials. Intense discussions of works? That too had been taught to me by the Honors program.

I found the most help, though, when I began writing my master’s thesis. This process, though also scary, was much less trying than it would have been without the Honors program. I had performed all the steps before with the Honors thesis, and I had a good grounding in the material I wanted to cover. I felt excited and, unlike many students with whom I spoke, I had written a work of comparable length for my undergraduate thesis. I received my master’s degree in English in spring 2002. I also returned to MTSU to acquire a doctoral degree. This transition was again aided by the Honors program.

I took a teaching assistantship, and, as the first order of business in designing my classes, I tried to organize them to emulate the best things from Honors courses. Therefore, I attempted to encourage discussions and develop readings and activities that would challenge my students’ beliefs and allow them to better define what they thought. I tried to create innovative assignments that would allow the students to both

develop their own sense of self and demonstrate what they learned in an academic fashion. All of this came from Honors courses (and I stole freely from many courses I had taken). The Honors Program introduced me to a style of learning and teaching that brings out the best in ambitious students, and I try to incorporate the program’s lessons into my own teaching every day.

The most important legacy of the Honors program for me is the network of friends and contacts I have built. I have friends in English (and other) departments all across the country, and I have developed a close working relationship with many instructors. In fact, some have accompanied me throughout my entire education at MTSU. I took many an undergraduate Honors course and later, graduate class, from my present dissertation director, Dr. Angela Hague.

Finally, the program helped me develop myself: my beliefs, my identity, and my current interests. I am sure I would have come to grad school eventually. I am equally sure that I would have developed in much the same way had I not taken Honors courses. However, I am also sure that having had the Honors program as a springboard greatly helped me in grad school. My coursework aside, I developed a much more holistic approach to my studies based on Honors classes, and given their influence, I have developed a much more flexible style of teaching than many of my colleagues. All of this I owe to the Honors program.

Former Honors student **Angela Westphal** (Spring 2003) will soon be entering the nurse practitioner program at Vanderbilt. The program is a three-year combined master’s program in which she will receive RN licensure and nurse practitioner certification. She plans on going into primary pediatric care and then continuing on to study acute pediatric care. 📍

UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS OFFICE (UFO) ADVISORY BOARD

The UFO Advisory Board is the official group involved in the nomination and recommendation of students for prestigious fellowships and scholarships such as the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, the Harry Truman Scholarship, the Rhodes Scholarship, and the George C. Marshall Scholarship. The board assists students with application processes to ensure competitiveness and to provide support and advice on materials to be submitted.

Michelle Arnold presented at the McNair Professional Research Seminar in January. She talked about the Undergraduate Fellowships Office and specific fellowships that are available.

Members of the UFO Advisory Board

Michelle Arnold,
Honors College, Chair

Marsha Powers,
Honors College

Suzanne Prevost,
Nursing

Mary Phillips,
Accounting

Jan Quarles,
Electronic Media Communications

Hilary Stallings,
Liberal Arts

Daniel Pfeifer,
Recording Industry

Spring 2007 Honors College Deadlines

Independent Research or Creative Projects Proposals (to be completed in fall 2007)

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL (FIRST
DRAFT) FOR INDEPENDENT
RESEARCH
for Committee Review
February 16, 2007

FINAL PROPOSAL (SECOND
DRAFT) FOR INDEPENDENT
RESEARCH
for Honors Council approval
March 23, 2007

Independent Research or Creative Projects to be completed in spring 2007

FINAL COPY FOR
THESIS DEFENSE
One copy due in the
Honors College office to
be graded by committee
March 30, 2007

THESIS DEFENSE BEFORE
COMMITTEE
Date to be announced

PUBLIC DEFENSE BEFORE
HONORS LECTURE SERIES
April 16 and 23, 2007

FINAL PROJECTS
All post-defense corrections
must be made. Submit two
copies on cotton paper (one for
thesis defense room, the other
for Walker Library).
April 25, 2007

H-OPTION PROPOSALS FOR
FALL 2007 COURSES
March 23, 2007

All materials are due in the Honors
College Office, Paul W. Martin Sr.
Honors College Building, Suite 205,
by 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date.

UH 3500-001 NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES TR 9:40 TO 11:05 A.M. COURSE REFERENCE NUMBER (CRN): 85235

Students who are curious about non-Western cultures and views of the world are invited to enroll in the junior interdisciplinary seminar, Native American Cultures. Focusing on fiction by and about Native Americans, students will read novels by James Welch, Leslie Marmon Silko, Louise Erdrich, N. Scott Momaday, and Margaret Craven, as well as short fiction and oral tales from *Spider Woman's Granddaughters*, a collection of traditional and contemporary writing by Native American women. Students will catch a glimpse of a strange world of power and spiritual allies as seen through the eyes of the shaman, the Yaqui sorcerer in Carlos Castaneda's *A Separate Reality*. The class will examine the history of how Indian tribes were finally "tamed" in the West by reading Dee Brown's *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee* and will become intimately acquainted with the Pueblo people's mythology and view of the cosmos in Frank Waters's *Book of the Hopi*. The course will be capped by Jerry Mander's *In the Absence of the Sacred: The Failure of Technology and the Survival of the Indian Nations*, a powerful analysis of the contrasts between Western and Native American culture.

Requirements for the course include reading quizzes, one long paper, two short papers, and a final exam. If you wish to learn new and alternative ways of looking at the world, at the human place in the natural world, at American history, and at pre-industrial, earth-centered views of religion and ethics, join Dr. Tom Strawman for this course.

This course has been approved for English major and minor credit and will substitute in group "b" or "g" of the major (see "Major in English," item 3, page 242, 2005-2007 Undergraduate Catalog).

For additional information and a tentative textbook list, contact Dr. Tom Strawman at 898-2659 or strawman@mtsu.edu.



UH 4600-001 ECONOMICS AND CULTURE TR 1:00 TO 2:25 P.M. COURSE REFERENCE NUMBER (CRN): 85236

This senior interdisciplinary seminar is experimental in that it will not be taught with a traditional economic text. Instead, texts reflecting the evolving American cultural experience (and its global context) will be the devices through which the class will examine economic thinking. All the texts will be nontechnical and understandable to students who have not had economics prerequisites. The general objective is to enrich and expand critical thinking skills by relating economics to arts and sciences in a manner that does not rely on prior technical knowl-

edge about economics. The basic idea is that critical thinking transcends disciplines, and Honors students, in particular, have the ability to rely on this development of intellect to penetrate new dimensions of thinking. In this context, the specific objective is to add economic reasoning as a dimension of critical thinking when contemplating the cultural experience within which one lives. Specific examples include economics as reflected in literature and drama, advances in technology, changing demographics, globalization, and the commercialization of almost every aspect of American life.

This course may also count as three hours of upper-division Economics credit.

For further information, contact Dr. Richard Hannah at 898-2228 or rlhannah@mtsu.edu.

UH 4600-002
LEGENDS OF KING ARTHUR
MW 12:40 TO 2:05
COURSE REFERENCE NUMBER (CRN): 85237

This course is a study of the Arthurian legends from their origins in Celtic-Roman Britain to the late Middle Ages. The primary focus of the course will be Arthurian literature composed from the 12th to the 15th centuries in Latin, Welsh, French, and Middle English (although the text also contains selections translated from German, Old Norse, Italian, Spanish, and Provençal). We will begin by exploring the historical and mythical origins of the characters of King Arthur and Merlin. The second major unit (and, in one respect, the heart of the course) will examine the two great love stories connected with the legend: the romances concerning Tristan and Iseult and, of course, Lancelot and Guinevere. This unit will be followed by a study of the tales about Sir Gawain, the most popular of the English knights. We will conclude with a discussion of the tragedy of King Arthur (that is, Mordred's rebellion and Arthur's death). The course covers a variety of medieval literary forms: the Latin prose chronicle, the poetic epic and alliterative heroic saga, the romance (in both prose and verse), the Breton *lai*, lyrics and songs, and, finally, the English prose chronicle.

This course has been approved for English major and minor credit and fulfills areas "a" or "d" for the English major requirement (see "Major in English," item 3, page 242, 2005–2007 Undergraduate Catalog).

For more information, contact Dr. William Connelly at 898-2573 or wconnell@mtsu.edu.

THE HONORS H-OPTION

The H-Option proposal is a request for Honors credit for a non-Honors, upper-division class. In order to submit an H-Option proposal, students must have completed at least nine hours of lower-division Honors coursework. Honors College students may use the H-Option for a total of nine credit hours. Proposals for fall 2007 must be submitted to the Honors College by March 23, 2007. For an application form and instructions, please visit <http://honors.web.mtsu.edu/HOptions.htm>.



HONORS STUDENT COURTNEY LEDFORD



by Dr. Steve Jones

Courtney Ledford started her MTSU career in the Woods-Felder Honors Living and Learning Center. Through the Honors College, she found a way to earn a top-notch education at a major public university. Early on, she enjoyed the small size and the big challenge of Honors classes, and she made it her goal to fulfill all the requirements of the Honors College. This spring, Ledford expects to graduate with a bachelor of science in psychology with Honors.

Ledford has been involved in many leadership positions on campus. For four years, she has represented the College of Education and Behavioral Science in the Student Government Association. In her junior year, she was chosen as a Student Ambassador by the Office of Alumni Relations. This select group hosts special guests, alumni, and donors for the University. Ledford's view on campus involvement is simple. "By being involved with MTSU's student life you can find your place on this huge campus, and

Ledford *cont. on page 13*

MTSU-CHERBOURG SUMMER UNIVERSITY HAS SECOND SUCCESSFUL YEAR

"I love this trip! I'm so very sad that it is ending. My time in France has opened my eyes to the world. I can't wait to plan my next trip and continue to work on other languages."

That sentiment from one of the first participants in the MTSU-Cherbourg Summer University was echoed in 2006 by the dozen students, including Honors students Jonathon Gower and Josh Alexander, who found the second year of the program equally rewarding and stimulating. New activities—especially on Norman history, cuisine and folklore—complemented the already-diverse program combination of language study, history, art, and literature that makes up the program. Dr. Nancy Goldberg,

professor in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures and the program's director, was particularly proud of the enthusiasm and maturity of this year's students during the three week stay in Cherbourg and the final week in Paris. "We were happy to be in Paris for the final match of the World Cup as well as for Bastille Day," said Goldberg. "These were wonderful cultural experiences to share with our French friends." Plans are already set for the 2007 program (June 22–July 21, 2007), which carries six hours of credit at the intermediate or advanced level of French. Visit www.forlang.mtsu.edu/goldberg/cherbourg or contact Dr. Goldberg at 898-2281 for further information. 📌

NOBEL LAUREATE GIVES TO THE HONORS COLLEGE

The new year got off to a great start when a \$10,000 check along with an enclosed note from Nobel laureate Dr. James M. Buchanan arrived in the Honors College. Dean Phil Mathis noted, "Dr. Buchanan's contributions to the Buchanan Fellows Program and prior scholarship funds have been significant. We are delighted that Dr. Buchanan has remembered us. His latest donation will become a part of a Foundation account that provides mini-scholarships to Buchanan Fellows as a means of encouraging students to study abroad."

It is clear that the educational experience is greatly enhanced study

abroad. Mathis said, "The Office of International Education and Exchange and the Honors College are taking the lead in promoting MTSU student interest in study abroad." Those in the Honors College are thankful for Dr. Buchanan's interest in the Buchanan Fellows Program and are also very appreciative of his willingness to allow his name and reputation to be used in conjunction with the Buchanan Fellowships. "We expect to enroll the first Buchanan Fellows class in August and possibly give the first mini-scholarship for study abroad to a member of that class in 2009," Mathis said. 📌

HONORS FACULTY MEMBER, DR. RICH BARNET

Richard Barnet, professor of Recording Industry, received a noninstructional assignment during fall 2006 to complete a book about the concert and touring industry. Although the book's publisher plans to market it to the general public, several universities have already expressed interest in adopting it as a textbook.

Barnet coauthored the book with Jake Berry and Ray Waddell. Berry is production manager for the Rolling Stones and U2 and has held similar positions for major acts including Janet Jackson, Tina Turner, and Metallica. Waddell has spent the last 19 years covering the international touring industry for *Billboard*, the major trade publication of the music industry, and is senior correspondent for touring for the magazine.

The book, *This Business of Concert Promotion and Touring*, will be published by Billboard Books, a division of Watson-Guptill. The tentative release date is September 1, 2007.

"We made a decision to interview major players in the industry so that the book will be based on primary sources, something not common for nonfiction works of this type," said Barnet. "My greatest challenge was arranging times for interviews of professionals who were touring overseas. Due to a mixup in the time of a prearranged telephone interview, I woke a famous person at 3:30 a.m. Hong Kong time; I thought he had finished his tour and was back in the United States." Barnet said. "I learned to ask, 'What country and city will you be in?' when arranging interviews."



"My most fascinating research came from spending three days with the U2 Vertigo tour," said Barnet. "I learned that the glamour of touring is a myth; the touring crew members were in the hotel lobby at 6:00 a.m. and did not leave the concert venue until after the show, usually midnight."

Barnet had an uncomfortable moment when he was mistaken for an entertainment journalist. "Bono and the band walked by me as I sat backstage taking notes. Because I appeared to be a journalist in a restricted area, I was asked to 'ditch the notebook' while the performers were in the building," he said.

Not all of the interviews went as planned. After a 30-minute interview with a major player in the music industry, Barnet was told that he could not mention the interviewee's name or her company nor could he use any information that might have revealed her identity. However, others chatted frankly about their jobs and many pro-

vided useful information about budgets, contracts, riders, and other matters.

After returning to campus at the beginning of spring semester, Barnet was often asked if he enjoyed his "time off" and if he did a lot of traveling. "The truth is," he said, "I went to my windowless basement office each morning and worked on my research and writing. Walking the dogs during rest breaks was my only travel."

Barnet's background in the live entertainment industry helped him understand the environment in which touring acts and their crews must survive. Before he entered academe, Barnet was touring conductor for the Ice Follies and for Holiday on Ice International. "We typically performed nine shows a week, opening on Tuesday and finishing on Sunday. We traveled to the next city each Monday, except when we had a two-week run in a major city." According to Barnet, the grueling tour schedule continued for 32 weeks.

After each tour ended, he returned to Los Angeles to work in music production. "I was blessed to work with music producer Paul Walberg," said Barnet. As a member of Walberg's production staff, Barnet learned to arrange, copy, edit, and record music and help prepare music for arena shows and television specials and commercials. "At first I was overwhelmed by the caliber of studio musicians who recorded the music I helped prepare," Barnet said. "One guitarist walked into our session at the last minute and apologized that he was late because he had just finished working on a song for Steely Dan's new album."

THESES DEFENDED FALL 2006

Hunsaker *cont. from page 3*

students can be found all across the globe, even working for “starchitects” who have included Peter Eisenman and Zaha Hadid, among others.

Hunsaker will travel to Turkey this summer to work on digital 3-D reconstructive visualization and way-finding graphics for the Troy excavation, for which her professor is the project architect and designer of the master plan. The ultimate goal is to improve the visitor experience by redesigning the way in which the site’s history is presented. With Troy’s enigmatic and uncertain past, it will be more important to design the tour in an interactive way that relies on multiple perspectives and visitor interpretation. All factual data will be limited to the excavation process—the history of the interpretation of the myth—and all of the controversy surrounding the fate of Schliemann’s treasure, which visitors should find to be just as intriguing as Homer’s accounts.

Although Hunsaker has an interest in archaeology, she is most interested in the preservation of the recent past, which is only now beginning to officially include mid-20th-century architecture. Using transparency in modern housing as a starting point, her thesis will consider how new interactive technologies (e.g., YouTube, MySpace, camera phones, etc.) have altered the way in which middle-class Americans mask or reveal private information. She proposes that these technologies will play a large role in the design of future American housing. After graduation, Hunsaker looks forward to settling in one place, getting a dog, working for a progressive firm, and having time to get acquainted again with the world outside the architectural studio. 📌



Josh Alexander

“39963” (A creative project on the last person from Rutherford County to be executed in a Tennessee prison)
Dr. Will Brantley, major advisor

Dr. Will Brantley, right, congratulates Josh Alexander after his successful thesis defense.



Kristen Chandler

“Historic Costume Design”
A creative project
Dr. Scott Boyd, major advisor

Kristen Chandler and the costume she designed as her creative thesis project.



Matthew Bullington

“Socio-Economic Impacts on Domestic Mexican Migratory Patterns”

Dr. Tony Eff, major advisor

Matthew Bullington, left, with Dr. Tony Eff



Matthew Hogan

“Fatigue and Duty Time: The Impact of Flight Schedules on Pilot Performance”

Dr. Wayne Dornan, major advisor

Matthew Hogan, center, with committee members Dr. Bill Connelly and Dr. Wayne Dornan.



Courtney Ledford

“Gender Differences in Self-Set Goals and Initial Success as Determined by Salary”

Dr. Steve Jones, major advisor

Courtney Ledford with Dr. Steve Jones, left, and Dr. Scott Carnicom after successfully defending her thesis.



Tiffany Crews

“The Role of Tennessee Women in the 1976 Jimmy Carter Presidential Campaign”

Dr. Jan Leone, major advisor

Tiffany Crews, middle, with Dr. Philip Mathis and Dr. Jan Leone.



Sheila Umayam

“The Increasing Importance of the Nurse Practitioner in the Primary Care Setting”

Dr. Gloria Hamilton, major advisor

Sheila Umayam, left center, with Dr. Gloria Hamilton, left, and Honors College Academic Advisor Michelle Arnold, right.

Barnet cont. from page 9

Barnet left Los Angeles to accept a faculty position at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia. There, he taught music industry courses and served as director of concert and support services. While in Virginia, Barnet produced the week-long Shenandoah Valley Music Festival and was co-owner of a regional booking agency. "As the agency grew, I had to decide if I wanted to leave my university job and work full-time as an agent. I realized that the campus environment was a wonderful place to work, so I sold the agency," he said.

Barnet's other coauthored books include *Controversies of the Music Industry* and *The Story Behind the Song: 150 Songs that Chronicle the 20th Century* (both from Greenwood Press). The latter will soon be released in a simplified Chinese version by Jiansu Peoples' Press. He also wrote entries for *Women in Music Since 1900: An Encyclopedia*, *the Macmillan Encyclopedia of Communication and Information*, and *the Encyclopedia of Appalachia*.

Barnet served as chair of the Department of Recording Industry for several years before returning to the classroom full-time. He teaches an Honors section of RIM 3600H, Survey of the Recording Industry, as well as Concert Promotion and Touring, Advanced Concert Promotion, and Ethics in the Music Industry. "I enjoy teaching Honors students because they are eager to absorb everything I throw at them," he said. Barnet pointed out that Honors students "teach the teacher," something he appreciates. "I am thrilled to be a part of the Honors program and hope to help as it blossoms into one of the nation's finest," he said. 📌

ADVENTURES IN ICE CLIMBING

by Catherine Crooks, Assistant Professor,
Psychology; Honors Faculty

Every winter, my husband and I load up the car with our gear and dogs and head to Ouray, Colorado, to ice climb. This is the only area in the country that has a fully established "ice park." The ice is formed by water spigots and piping (essentially an irrigation system) that run along the top of the Uncompahgre Gorge and bring water to all parts of the canyon in controllable amounts. The canyon has hundreds of ice climbs that are fairly easy to get to via steep snow- and ice-covered trails to the bottom of the canyon or a quick rappel into the canyon. It has been my experience that the hike to the bottom of the

canyon is much more difficult than the actual climbing!

What draws me to ice climbing is the pristine beauty and aesthetics of the places that ice forms. You are climbing on a beautiful frozen waterfall that won't be the same the next day or that may not even exist a few weeks later. It's like climbing a sculpture. I also enjoy the meditative aspect of ice climbing—focusing only on your next move or where your next ice axe placement will be. When I'm ice climbing, I don't think of anything else (well, unless a piece of ice breaks off and hits me in the face). I love this aspect of the sport and I don't get that with any other sport. Ice climbing is a sport that truly nourishes my spirit. 📌



GUEST SCHOLAR TO LECTURE IN HONORS APRIL 4 AND 11

In 2007, the Honors College will join the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures to welcome visiting scholar Mirielle Hardy to MTSU from the Institut Universitaire de Technologie (IUT) in Cherbourg, France, where students are involved in engineering, marketing, business, and language studies. Part of the ever-expanding group of cooperative programs between IUT and MTSU, the Invited Professor program supports an annual four-week visit from an IUT faculty member, who gives presentations and lectures on a wide range of subjects. Dr. Nancy Goldberg, who teaches French and is on the graduate faculty, represents the Honors College on MTSU's International Education and Exchange Committee. She developed the Invited Professor program with support from Dean Phil Mathis.

Professor Hardy will present two lectures in the Honors College: April 4 and April 11. Both will be held in HONR 106 beginning at 12:30 p.m. and ending around 2:00 p.m., including time for post-lecture reflection, socialization, and refreshments. Both lectures are free and open to the public. A description of each lecture follows.

Gross Foods and Culture, or the French Attachment to Rotten and Smelly Cheeses

The French have a special relationship with food. Cheese and wine, in particular, are deeply rooted in the national

soil and culture. There are 20 or 30 different cheeses per region, which adds up to approximately 400. During this session, Professor Hardy will present the palette of French cheeses, explain how they are made, and describe the rituals of table etiquette. Then, she will try to help her audience understand why unpasteurized, traditionally made cheese has become a symbol of the French "cultural exception" and an emblem of "slow food."

Company Communication: From Mission Statements to "Factomercials"

Mission statements are a very specific and austere genre of expression by which companies present their values and objectives. A recent study of the mission statements of most important American and British companies shows that their values have changed over time.

Marketing evolves quickly. Lately, marketing professionals resorting to new forms of advertising have displayed a growing interest in written fiction: as with movies, product placement is now appearing in literature. The aim of this lecture is to present different forms of "factomercials" and to show how they fit with the new values and objectives expressed in corporate mission statements. 📌

Ledford *cont. on page 8*

by giving back to the University, you really benefit in the long run," she said. Her passion for campus involvement extended to her sorority, Chi Omega, where she served as both campus activities chair and, later, as president.

Ledford also works to make the Honors experience as fulfilling for other students as it has been for her. She serves on the Honors College Dean's Advisory Board, the Honors Council, and the Buchanan Fellows Selection Committee as the student representative. She interns for the Human Resources Department of Rutherford County and interns part-time for Gaylord Entertainment's Corporate Recruiting Department. After graduation, Ledford plans on earning her master's degree in human resources development, and her goal is to work as a director of talent management for a big company. With her experiences at MTSU and the Honors College, she is well prepared for her future.

Ledford has been accepted into Vanderbilt's human resource development master's program. Congratulations, Courtney! —Ed. 📌

NEW Honors Learning Community

Building on the success of the first Honors Learning Community class pairing, a new community will be unveiled for Fall 2007 featuring a linked Honors English 1010 and Honors Foundations of Education 1110. This will offer students the opportunity to experience an integrated curriculum while building a cohort of future educators. The instructors—Dr. Ron Kates from English and Dr. Susie Watts from Educational Leadership—will work together to design specific links between the subject matter of both courses, as well as assignments that will enable students to synthesize material from both subjects.

A FRIENDLY GAME OF DODGE BALL



To blow off some much needed steam mid-semester, the Honors College Residential Society sponsored a day of activities at the Rec Center. Although the rain prevented students from using the Alpine highropes course, it didn't stop them from a raucous dodge ball tournament. Approximately 60 Honors students, Troy Arrington of Residence Life, and Deans Mathis and Carnicom participated. Dr. Mathis said, "It is great fun to gather not only for scholarly pursuits but also in the name of community."

Honors Alternative Credits

Phil Mathis
dean

Scott Carnicom
associate dean

Karen Demonbreum
newsletter editor

Contributors:

Michelle Arnold, Kathy Davis, Marsha Powers, Georgia Dennis, David Foote, Cathy Crooks, Nancy Goldberg, Shelley Thomas, Amanda Hawkins, Steve Jones

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NOVEMBER 13: A SPECIAL DAY FOR THE HONORS COLLEGE

November 13, 2006, was an especially eventful day in the Honors College. MTSU President Sidney McPhee, Provost Kaylene Gebert, Cingular Wireless VP/GM Jim Thorpe, PolyVision VP Lee Hicks, Technical Innovations' Susan Bradley, the Martins (Lee and Paul Jr.), and several other VIPs spent the entire afternoon in the college, where they were treated to a veritable smorgasbord of special events! Built around the Martin Lectureship, the day's events included

- A fireside luncheon in the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building
- A ceremonial signing of the Honors College's *Book of Town and Gown*, a special guest book that includes the names of both on- and off-campus leaders who develop and promote the Honors College
- Author H. Lee Martin's autograph session for his new book, *Techonomics: The Theory of Industrial Evolution*
- A rededication of the Cingular Wireless Computer Lab (HONR 218) and the renaming of the room as the Advanced Classroom Technology (ACT) Lab
- A 45-minute demonstration of the capabilities of the ACT Lab by Barbara Draude (ITD), Watson Harris (Provost's Office), Scott Carnicom (Honors College), and Scott McDaniel (ITD)
- H. Lee Martin's invited lecture, "Techonomics: Understanding the Sources of Global Change"
- A festive post-lecture reception, including hors d'oeuvres, in the Student Commons

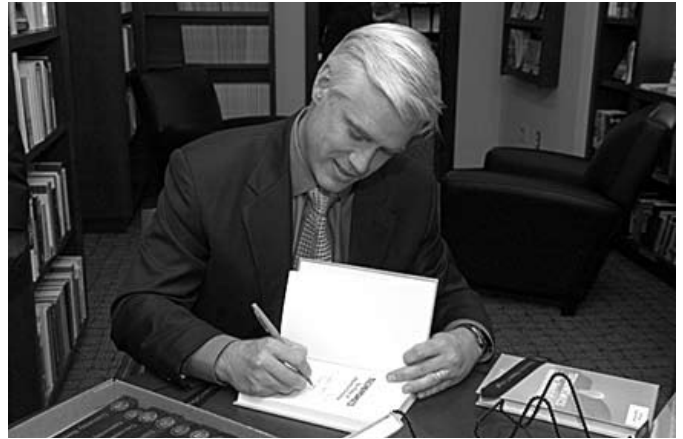


Dr. Kaylene Gebert, far right, signs the Book of Town and Gown as Lucinda Lea, Sidney McPhee, and Jim Burton (left to right) await their turns.

A SPECIAL DAY FOR THE HONORS COLLEGE CONT.



Lee and Paul Martin sign the Book of Town and Gown.



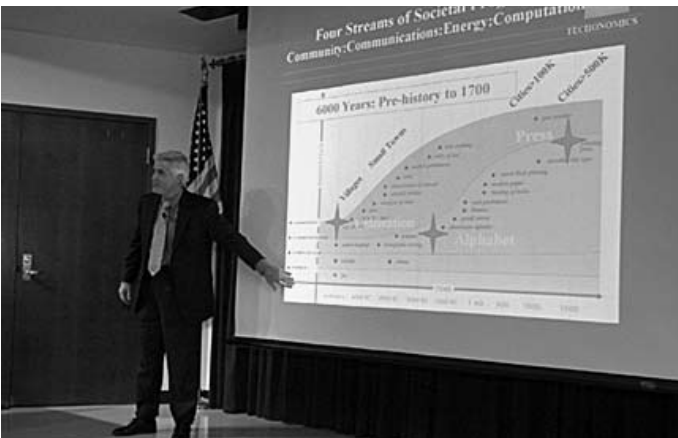
Dr. H. Lee Martin autographs his new book Technomics



President Sidney McPhee holds the new plaque during the rededication ceremony as Cingular Wireless Vice President and General Manager for Tennessee and Kentucky Jim Thorpe and Laurie Parker, senior PR manager, look on.



During the demonstration, ITD's Barbara Draude, left, shows Jim Thorpe, Carla Martin, and President McPhee how the technology works.



Dr. Martin mesmerized the crowd during the lecture.



Honors students Zol Hooper, Kathleen Clark, and Matt Bullington (left to right) present Dr. Martin a token of appreciation at the conclusion of the lecture.

FACULTY NEWS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Dr. Robert B. Blair, associate professor in the Business Communication and Entrepreneurship Department, received the Robert W. McLean Distinguished Associate Professorship for 2006–2007 at the Jennings A. Jones College of Business faculty meeting last year.

Dr. Kevin Smith, professor in the Sociology and Anthropology Department, headed up another summer dig at Castalian Springs, Tennessee. The purpose of the five-year project, which began in summer 2005, is to gain an initial understanding of the size and extent of a prehistoric Native American town there dating back to AD 1000–1400, with the hope that any development will not have a negative impact on the site. Students honed their abilities in surveying and recording—work that is definitely not for the impatient. It takes many hours to prepare a site just to begin to dig, not to mention the many tedious hours of work that follow. The search and discovery process is a complex and arduous one.

Dr. Philip Edward Phillips, associate professor of English, was invited to France in August 2006 to serve as a plenary speaker at an international conference on Boethius, “Colloquia Aquitana—II, Boèce (Rome, ca. 480–Pavie, ca. 524): l’homme, le philosophe, le scientifique, son oeuvre et son rayonnement,” held at the Musée Conservatoire du Parchemin et de l’Enluminure in Duras. He presented two papers, one in French and the other in English: “Boèce, le Quadrivium, et la Consolation de la Philosophie” and “Translating and Remaking Boethius’s The Consolation of Philosophy into English from the 9th to the 21st Centuries.” Dr. Phillips has also recently published two articles: “Robert Browning’s Poetry

of Loss: ‘Prospice’ and ‘To Edward FitzGerald,’” in the *Sun Yat-sen Journal of Humanities* (Summer 2006), and “Clarembald of Arras and his Glosses on Boethius’s *De Trinitate* and *De Hebdomadibus*,” in *Carmina Philosophiae* (Vol. 14, 2005).

Dr. Gary Wulfsberg, professor in the Chemistry Department, is on the Program Committee planning the XIV International Conference on Hyperfine Interactions and the XVIII International Symposium on Nuclear Quadrupole Interactions, to be held in Iguacu Falls, Brazil, August 2007. An all-day meeting of this committee was held in Rio de Janeiro in November 2006 to choose the invited speakers. Dr. Wulfsberg participated using Skype on the Internet for phone and video connection, thereby saving the University the \$2,000 cost of an airline ticket.

Professor Marc J. Barr, Electronic Media Communication, received second-place honors in the What Is a Cup Juried National Exhibit at the Vulcan 5 Gallery in Oakland, Calif., in November. He also had exhibits in the SIGGRAPH 2006 Teapot Exhibit in Boston, the International Cup the Clay Studio of Missoula in Missoula, Mont., and the 14th Annual Strictly Functional Pottery National Market House Craft Center and the Crafts National 2006 Lancaster Museum of Art, both in Lancaster, Pa. His work also has been selected for an exhibition at the Tennessee Arts Commission Gallery in 2008.

Dr. Martha Hixon, associate professor in English, will be taking over as president of the International Children’s Literature Association this summer, for 2007–2008. This is the professional association for university faculty members who work in the field of children’s literature.

Dr. Ronald Ferrara, professor in Aerospace, presented “Legalized Murder: The Army Flies the Mail” at the National Council on Aviation and Space Education annual conference in Arlington, Va., in late 2006.

Dr. Bob Petersen, associate professor in English, presented “Philip Henry Gosse’s *Tenby: A Seaside Holiday* (1856): Nature Writing as a Chapter in Victorian England’s Struggle with Science” at the Pacific Ancient and Modern Language Association meeting at the University of California–Riverside in November.

Dr. Patricia Wall, assistant professor in Accounting, has been very busy. She recently published “New Ways to Cook the Books: Recent Accounting Disasters” in the *Journal of Business and Economic Perspectives* (Fall/Winter 2006) and “The Future of E-Commerce Tax Liability” in *Tax Adviser* (December 2006). In collaboration with Dr. Lara Daniel, she published “Employment Law Update,” in the *Journal of Applied Business Research* (Second Quarter 2006). The paper was also presented at the Tennessee Society of CPAs Manufacturing Conference in Nashville last October.

Dr. Thomas Berg, associate professor in Electronic Media Communication, was elected president of the Broadcast Education Association during its Board of Directors meeting in late October. Berg’s one-year term begins April 18, 2007.

Dr. Jwa Kim, professor in Psychology, and Honors College alum Amanda Cotton (B.S. 2004, M.A. 2006), presented

Faculty cont.

"Psychometric Analysis of Athletic Perfectionism through Polytomous Item Response Theory" at the Mid-South Educational Research Association in Birmingham, Ala., in November.

Dr. Stephen Schmidt, professor in psychology, presented an abstract, "Lexical Pop-Out: The Effect of Emotion on Automatic Attention to Words," at the 47th Annual Meeting of the Psychonomic Society in Houston in November.

Dr. Karen Petersen, assistant professor in Political Science, accepted a 2006–07 Academic Fellowship with the Foundation for the Defense of Democracies in Washington, D.C. Petersen was in Israel during summer 2006 for an intensive series of lectures by academics, diplomats, and military officials from India, Israel, Jordan, Turkey, and the United States. Field trips to military, police, and immigration facilities throughout Israel were also part of the program. Petersen said she would bring the experience home to help in more role-playing activities for her classes. Petersen teaches international relations and coaches our Model UN team. We congratulate her on this honor. Dr. Petersen will also be teaching one of the new Honors College Buchanan Fellows courses—PS 1010 Foundations of Government.

Dr. Bill Canak, professor in Sociology and Anthropology, has a chapter in the forthcoming book *Labor in the New Urban Battlegrounds: Local Solidarity in a Global Economy*, edited by Lowell Turner and Daniel B. Cornfield and published by Cornell University Press. Dr. Canak's chapter is "Immigrants and Labor in a Globalizing City: Prospects for Coalition Building in Nashville." In 2006, he was elected chair of the National Chapter Advisory Committee of the Labor and Employment Relations Association.

Dr. Yang Soo Kim, assistant professor in Speech and Theatre, and Young Y. Kim at the University of Oklahoma coauthored "Communication Patterns and Psychological Health in the Process of Cross-Cultural Adaptation: A Study of American and Korean Expatriate Workers," which is to appear in the next edition of the *International and Intercultural Annual*.

Dr. Jane Marcellus, assistant professor in Journalism, published "These Working Wives: Representation of the 'Two-Job' Woman Between the World Wars" in *American Journalism* (Summer 2006).

Professor Wendy Koenig, assistant professor in Art, has been very busy. She presented a paper titled "The Heroic Generation: Fictional Socialist Realist Painters in the Work of Ilya Kabakov" at the College Art Association meeting in New York City in February. She also has a presentation, "Rhythm in not Beat: Finding the Art in DJ Spooky's Performance," scheduled at the Midwest Art History Society meeting in Indianapolis in late March. Koenig is a new Honors faculty member and is teaching a new art class—ART 1910: Art History Survey I. We welcome her to the Honors community!

Dr. Kevin Donovan, professor in English, presented a paper on King Lear, "Lear's Awakening," at the Southeastern Renaissance Conference in Chapel Hill, N.C., in October. In April 2007, he will participate in the seminar "Drama and the Making of National Identity" at the annual meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America in San Diego.

Faculty cont. on page 19

MCNAIR SCHOLAR BRINGS INNOVATIVE METHODS TO NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

Claire Marshall, a foreign languages major concentrating in French, is applying brain-based methodologies of teaching languages to a group of non-English speakers from the Rutherford County Adult Education office and St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church. Every Tuesday evening this semester, she will be offering free English lessons in the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors building to a mix of men, women, and children. Over the past year, Marshall has been learning two new methodologies—Total Physical Response (TPR) and Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (TPRS)—first as an assistant with the Undergraduate Research, Scholarship, and Creative Projects initiative and, more recently, as a McNair Scholar with Dr. Shelley Thomas, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Dr. Thomas was introduced to the methodologies at an American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages conference in 1999 and received training in them during a noninstructional assignment the following year. Marshall has an article in the forthcoming issue of the *McNair Research Review* titled "Increasing International Interest Requires a Quantum Leap in Methodologies for Learning World Languages." Marshall recounts her experience learning the methods through Mandarin and Spanish classes at the MTSU Summer Language Institute and then describes the important role MTSU is playing in the research and development of these methods in the United States, Europe, India, and China. 📌

TAILGATING, HONORS COLLEGE STYLE

On a clear and sunny Saturday in November, the Honors community gathered for the 2006 MTSU Homecoming festivities in Walnut Grove between Cope and Peck. With our bright blue tent and flag gently flapping in the autumn breeze, Honors College administrators, faculty, staff, students, and friends joined to celebrate over three decades of Honors at MTSU. Partygoers enjoyed typical tailgate fare including hamburgers, hotdogs, and roast owl. Just kidding—no owls, other than the Florida Atlantic Owls, who were later defeated by

the Blue Raider football team, were harmed during the Homecoming revelry. Scott Carnicom, associate dean, said, "Many thanks are owed to everyone who made this event such a success, especially the Honors Student Association. This is a great tradition that we plan to continue next fall. I hope that even more alums will stop by next year and share their Honors experiences." In addition to the good company and cheer, attendees received Honors College t-shirts and coupons for free merchandise from Sonic Restaurant. 📌



ATTENTION ALUMNI!

Mark your calendars for next fall's Homecoming. The Honors College is already planning its annual BBQ/tailgate party before the big game. Hope to see you there.

SPRING 2007 HONORS LECTURE SERIES

CRIME: Causes, Detection, Punishment, Fact, and Fiction

All lectures are free and open to the public.

Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors College Building, Room 106
Mondays, 3:00 to 3:55 p.m.

- January 22 Study Abroad Presentations
- January 29 *The Sociology of Crime and Punishment*
Dr. Andrew Austin, Associate Professor, Social Change and Development, Chair of Sociology, University of Wisconsin–Green Bay
- February 5 *Sherlock Holmes: The First CSI*
Dr. Robert Glenn, Vice President for Student Affairs and Vice Provost for Enrollment and Academic Services, MTSU
- February 12 *DNA and Crime Scene Evidence*
Dr. Tammy Melton, Professor, Chemistry, MTSU
- February 19 *The Death Penalty: If at First We Don't Succeed . . .*
Dr. Bill Shulman, Associate Professor, Criminal Justice Administration, MTSU
- February 26 *Crime in Film*
Dr. James Tate, Associate Professor, Psychology, MTSU
- March 12 *Detective Fiction*
Dr. Pete McCluskey, Associate Professor, English, MTSU
- March 19 *Talking to the Dead: A Forensic Anthropologist's Perspective*
Dr. Hugh Berryman, Research Professor, Sociology and Anthropology, MTSU
- March 26 *Causes of Crime*
Dr. James Tate, Associate Professor, Psychology, MTSU
- April 2 *Crime: Intervention and Prevention—What Works*
Dr. Gloria Hamilton, Professor, Psychology, MTSU
- April 9 *Crime and Punishment in 1940s Murfreesboro*
Josh Alexander, Honors College Graduate, Fall 2006
- April 16 Thesis Presentations
- April 23 Thesis Presentations

BUCHANAN FELLOWS INVITED

In eager anticipation of the inaugural semester of the Buchanan Fellowship program, the Buchanan Admissions Committee has been diligently reviewing application dossiers from students across the country. Dr. Jill Hague, chair of the committee, said, "While the majority of applicants are from Tennessee, this program has attracted the attention of high-caliber students from as far away as the state of Washington." The Buchanan Fellowship program, which is limited to a cohort of 20 Honors students per year, is the largest award offered by MTSU and includes full tuition, money for books, and priority consideration for study abroad. Dr. Scott Carnicom, associate dean of the Honors College and member of the committee, said, "Many thanks are due to the committee, which includes Dr. Jill Hague, Dr. Richard Hannah, Dr. Eric Klumpe, and Ms. Courtney Ledford, senior Honors student. All of our nearly 200 applicants were stellar, which made our selection challenging, but we'll soon have our initial class solidified." The first class of Buchanan Fellows will be honored in an induction ceremony planned for August 2007 in the Paul W. Martin Sr. Honors Building. 📍

Faculty *cont. from page 17*

Dr. Felicia Miyakawa, assistant professor in the McLean School of Music, had an article published this spring in the scholarly journal *American Music*: "Turntablature: Notation, Legitimization, and the Art of the Hip-Hop DJ." "Psychometric Analysis of Athletic Perfectionism through Polytomous Item Response Theory" at the Mid-South Educational Research Association in Birmingham, Ala., in November. 📍

COLLAGE EARNS GOLD MEDALIST CERTIFICATE

by Amanda Hawkins

Collage: A Journal of Creative Expression, the student literary and arts magazine sponsored by MTSU's Honors College, has received the Gold Medalist Certificate from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA). The CSPA was organized at Columbia University in New York in 1924. Medalists have been named since 1925 in an effort to inspire improvement in student print publication.

Magazines submitted to the CSPA competition last spring were scored based on organization, content, and design. Each section was then split into subcategories and given a point value.

Overall, *Collage* scored 925 points out of 1,000 to earn the Gold Medalist rating. In the design category, the magazine captured All-Columbian Honors by receiving 345 points out of 350.

Panels of experts in journalism and journalism education judged all submissions. One judge said the art in *Collage* was "visually interesting, skillfully done and shows a good variety of medium."

Fall 2006 *Collage* editor-in-chief Travisty Vasquez-Terry and advisor Marsha Powers said they're very pleased with the awards but that they're still seeking ways to improve future issues. "We've implemented a new grading scale for *Collage* submissions to meet the specifications for a prestigious student journal," Vasquez-Terry said. "In regard to the selection process, *Collage* is not about what we, as a staff, like. It's about creating an outlet for displaying the best literature and art that MTSU students have to offer in an aesthetically appealing fashion, which accentuates the high-quality works we receive."

Other improvements are also being made, such as expanded staff and

faculty-taught workshops for staff members. Powers and Vasquez-Terry, along with the rest of the staff, say they're dedicated to the success of the magazine and look forward to scoring even higher marks from the CSPA on future issues.

The final comment on the CSPA *Collage* critique is, "The magazine looks fantastic. Your staff should be very proud of the work you've done here."

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association has recognized Collage: a Journal of Creative Expression with a prestigious Crown Award. Collage, the student arts and literary magazine sponsored by the Honors College, is receiving the award in recognition of its overall excellence. Crown Awards are the highest recognition given by the CSPA to a student print medium. Watch for additional news about this award in our fall newsletter. —Ed. 📣

**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY

The Honors Alternative
University Honors College
MTSU P.O. Box 267
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

