



# CLA

## College of Liberal Arts

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Fall 2012 ■ vol. 1 no. 1

Anthropology major  
**Kevin McDaniel's**  
next professional step forward  
may take him back  
**thousands of years**

# Amazon Calling

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# College of Liberal Arts

Middle Tennessee State University

[www.mtsu.edu/liberalarts](http://www.mtsu.edu/liberalarts)

Fall 2012 ■ vol. 1 no. 1

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## Dean's Note

Welcome to the inaugural issue of CLA, the magazine of MTSU's College of Liberal Arts. I'm excited about this appealing new way of telling our college's story. Special thanks for its development go to Connie Huddleston, for overseeing the entire project; Drew Ruble, for his vision and advice; Kara Hooper, who helped in many ways; and Darrell Callis Burks, who designed the magazine.

The students and faculty of Liberal Arts had a highly successful 2011–12 academic year. The cover story highlights the accomplishments of just one of our majors. You'll also find notes about what some of our other students, and the faculty who teach them, have been doing. One story deserves particular attention: two Liberal Arts majors and three faculty members studied and taught abroad as Fulbright Fellows last year, and two more Liberal Arts students have won awards for the coming year. The Fulbright program is among the world's most prestigious international exchange programs, and having so many participants in one year speaks volumes about the quality of our college and University.

Other highlights of the past year include the launch of the *MTSUArts* (an effort to celebrate the many fine arts activities on campus and to improve how we publicize them), the visit to MTSU of former Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the start of our new M.A. in International Affairs, and the new Geosciences concentration in the M.S. in Professional Science degree. We're also developing an M.A. in Liberal Arts, which will be an interdisciplinary degree aimed primarily at adult learners.

As you may know, funding for Tennessee public higher education institutions is now determined in part by how effectively students are retained in school and, ultimately, how many graduate. Part of the college's response to the new funding formula will be to hire a new "graduation coach" to help students better identify and overcome any academic hurdles they face. Liberal Arts has long worked to be proactive and student-friendly, and this new staff member will help us do an even better job in guiding our students to graduation. In another staff transition, Beth Duffield has joined us as the college development officer. Beth comes from Columbia State Community College, where she was director of alumni relations and community events.

I hope you enjoy our new magazine. ■

*Mark Byrnes, Dean*



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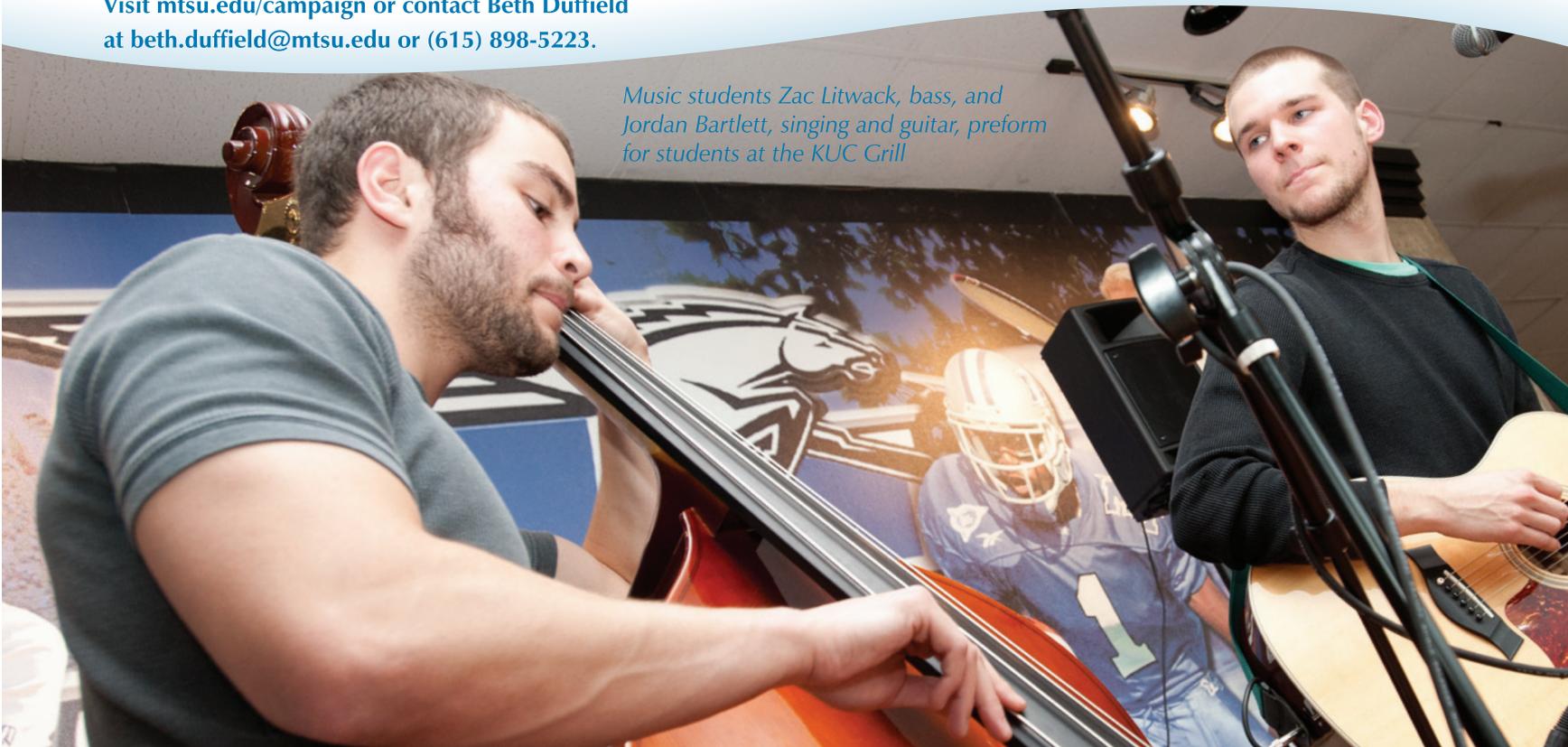
*Above: Academy Award winner Marlee Matlin speaking on campus*

*Left: MTSU dance student*

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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

*Music students Zac Litwick, bass, and Jordan Bartlett, singing and guitar, perform for students at the KUC Grill*



# CONNECT WITH MTSU



photo: Andy Heidt



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## *Editor's* Note

Welcome to our new magazine. Work began in early January to create the best magazine possible for our readers—and with the help of Dean Mark Byrnes and the Creative and Visual Services Office, I hope you agree that we have done just that.

After working at MTSU for over 28 years, the experience I have gained will serve me well in writing about our outstanding faculty and students and events on campus sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts.

In October 2007, the College of Liberal Arts issued its first newsletter: *Stay Current*. For six years we used the newsletter to keep you updated on things happening in the college and at MTSU. With this new magazine, we hope to bring you much more information in a more colorful, interesting format. Let us hear from you. ■

*Connie Huddleston, Coordinator*  
*Connie.Huddleston@mtsu.edu*

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# The People's Dean

by Gina K. Logue

**Mark Byrnes** brings a record of service and savvy— with a touch of whimsy— to his newest job



IF ANYONE EVER MAKES A MARK BYRNES BOBBLEHEAD DOLL, IT WON'T HAPPEN BECAUSE HIS EGO SUDDENLY INFLATED HIS HEAD. From one's first glimpse of the bobbleheads, bumper stickers, and other political paraphernalia prominently displayed in Byrnes's Todd Hall office, it is apparent that becoming dean of the College of Liberal Arts did not deflate his sense of whimsy.

Byrnes is responsible for approximately 3,400 majors in a college that averages more than 600 graduates annually. Combine that with a faculty of 315 full-time professors and 165 adjuncts and the weight of the responsibility would leave many educators covering in the corner. Instead, this homegrown scholar, who has written books about President James K. Polk and Tennessee government, surrounds himself with a bipartisan array of political playthings. "Maybe I'm still a kid at heart," Byrnes says.

With a little human assistance, the bobbleheads of four Founding Fathers nod in agreement as Barack Obama and John McCain bobbleheads look on. "I'm not really a serious collector," says Byrnes, who estimates he has been collecting campaign buttons and other political items for about 15 years. "I'll go through stages when I acquire a lot, and then I don't acquire anything for awhile."

What Byrnes has acquired, even before he interned at the Tennessee General Assembly in 1983, is a heartfelt yet realistic belief in the democratic process that no scandal or scalawag at the local, state, or national level has been able to convert into cynicism. He was elected to the Rutherford County Board of Education in 2004. His peers elected him chair for four years and vice chair for three.

This year, as he and his wife, Julie, and daughters Rachel and Abby prepared to settle into a new home outside their old school board district, Byrnes declined to run again. But his public service not only helped the political science professor reconcile academic theory and real-world political practice. It also informed his work as a representative of the University community.

*Continued on page 8*



photo: Andy Heidt

# The People's Dean

Continued from page 7

In a broader sense, Byrnes says, it's good for University personnel to be involved in civic life, especially since one of the tenets of MTSU's Academic Master Plan is the establishment of partnerships. "Being a dean is primarily about dealing with people, and, for that matter, so is being an elected official," he says.

## Family First

Byrnes's calm approachability was severely challenged in the summer of 2005 when his youngest daughter, Abby, contracted an *E. coli* infection, possibly during an outing at a pick-your-own strawberry patch, and suffered a stroke at the age of three.

**We have graduates from all of our programs  
doing great things around the nation and the world**

"It's hard to overstate what a traumatic thing that was," Byrnes says, recalling that time of horrendous uncertainty. "Just days short of her fourth birthday, she went from a typical, active child to a little girl who could, essentially, do nothing for herself. In the immediate aftermath of the stroke, she was completely helpless. She couldn't walk. She couldn't sit up. She couldn't talk. She couldn't eat. And she was blind." (Her cognitive skills were unaffected)

Abby's illness affected the entire family. Nevertheless, faith, superb health care, and support from University personnel pulled the family through the crisis, and they emerged stronger and more united than ever.

Through hard work with Special Kids, a nonprofit organization, and teachers and therapists from Murfreesboro City Schools, plus Julie's nurturing, Abby has recovered much of her physical ability and some of her vision. His daughter's illness led Byrnes to put several things into perspective. "The issues of what grades our kids make, what schools they attend, and what careers they pick are important, but they're not the most important things in life," he says.

That doesn't mean Daddy has forsaken his erudite side. Byrnes says his children give him good-natured grief on family vacations because he stops at historic tourist attractions only a policy wonk could love. "They regard this as a form of torture," Byrnes jokes. "Maybe 20 years from now they'll look back fondly, or perhaps I've scarred them permanently. I'm not sure."

## Champion of the Liberal Arts

While the young Byrnes children's attitudes toward education are still in their formative stages, societal attitudes toward the liberal arts have changed since Byrnes earned his bachelor's degree in political science

from MTSU in 1983. (He earned a diploma in international and comparative politics from the London School of Economics and master's and doctorate degrees in political science from Vanderbilt.)

The economic downturn has empowered those who see a university merely as a ticket to a more lucrative career. Indeed, in light of the unemployment rate, some even question the value of any four-year degree. Byrnes, however, insists that a traditional liberal arts education enhances individual growth and produces better contributors to society. He points to MTSU's liberal arts graduates as evidence that their courses of study prepared them for gainful employment in meaningful careers.

"We've got political science students who are lawyers, lobbyists, and government workers," Byrnes notes. "We've got historians who are not only professional historians but [who are also] working at historic sites or museums. On the other hand, we've got people from both of those disciplines and others who are working in banking or business or real estate. We have graduates from all of our programs doing great things around the nation and the world."

In fact, Byrnes asserts, the skills acquired through a liberal arts education are easily transferable—something employers say they need in their workers. "We live in an era in which the economy changes rapidly, jobs change rapidly, and expectations for those jobs are constantly evolving," he says. "So highly technical training that is useful today might not be useful five years down the road. But if you can read something and understand it, or if you can write a coherent paragraph or effectively articulate your ideas orally, that's going to be helpful regardless of the twists and turns the economy takes." Byrnes says MTSU's budget has been remarkably stable despite a \$30 million cut in state funding in 2010. His college, like all the others, is trying to adapt to the new funding formula and put an even greater focus on retention and graduation while maintaining academic standards.

So how does Byrnes cope with all these weighty issues without becoming either a stuffed shirt or an empty suit? "I hope I don't take on a different persona just because my job title has changed," he says. "I don't think you change the fundamentals of who you are just to carry out the next position. It's a hard one for me to answer because that's the kind of self-reflection I try to avoid at all costs."

So, since his job provides little time for advanced navel-gazing, Mark Byrnes, the academic with the bipartisan toy collection, brings the self-reflection to an end and gets back to work. ■

## The Team Behind the Dean

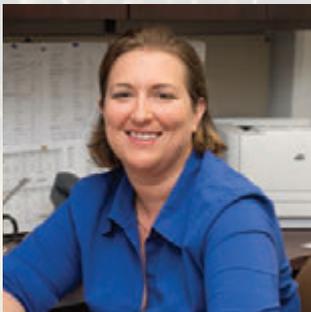
Dean Byrnes is quick to credit the college's successes to his 10-person administrative staff, hailing their good-natured efficiency and professionalism. "The college couldn't operate without them," he says.

"We regard ourselves as a service unit. Our job is to serve the faculty and the students—to facilitate the academic work that they do inside and outside the classroom. I'm fortunate to have such a good group of people working for me."

**"Byrnes's relationship with MTSU has progressed through several levels—from student to professor to administrator. He knows this institution, the groups that he leads and [the people] for whom he advocates. I believe this makes him empathetic, insightful, and knowledgeable. It also makes him less naïve."**

**Dr. Hilary Stallings**

photos: Andy Heidt



**Judy Albakry**  
Advisor



**Beth Duffield**  
Development officer



**Marion Gwyn**  
Local service provider



**Connie Huddleston**  
Coordinator



**Kathy Jones**  
Graduation coordinator



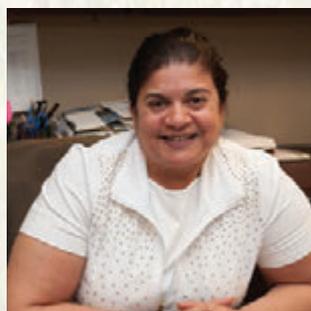
**Lucy Langworthy**  
Advisor



**Jan Leone**  
Interim associate dean



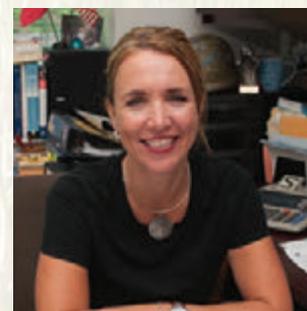
**Karen Petersen**  
Assistant dean



**Anjali Sarvaria**  
Executive secretary



**Peggy Slater**  
Executive aide



**Hilary Stallings**  
Manager of recruitment and resources

**"I like working with Mark because he does not micromanage his staff. He trusts us to do our jobs but also challenges us to do them well."**

**Dr. Lucy Langworthy**

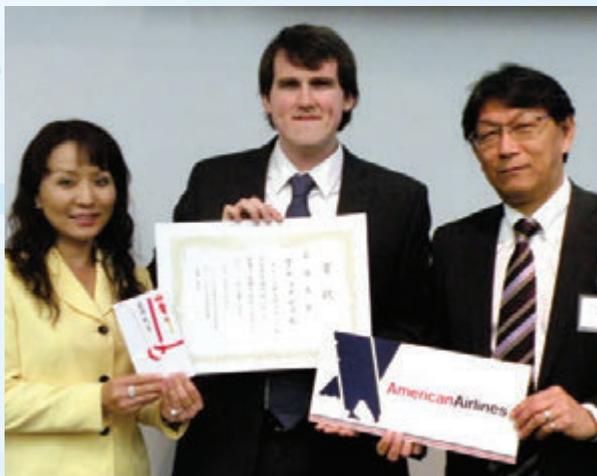


(l to r) Orlando Martinez,  
Alex Chambers

### Students of Japanese: Smart Talk!

The fifth annual Tennessee Area Japanese Speech Contest was held April 7, 2012, at Vanderbilt University. The regional level contest invited 52 Japanese language students from nine universities and offered an invaluable opportunity for them to compete. MTSU sent eight contestants to the three-tiered competition; all of them were impressively fluent, and two of them stood out. The overall Grand Prize (for the best speech in the entire competition) went to Seth Graves, who received two round-trip tickets to Japan, courtesy of American Airlines. Alex Chambers won first prize in Level 2 (intermediate). MTSU contestants had the advantage of a dedicated Japanese language faculty: Priya Ananth (program coordinator and assistant professor), Noriko Mori (lecturer), Chiaki Shima (adjunct instructor), and Saori Endo (graduate teaching assistant). Other MTSU competitors were Ryan Parrow and Shannon Laney (Level 1); Mitchell Plummer, Andrew Witt, and Tyler Whitaker (Level 2); and Preston Nalls (Level 3). ■

(l to r) Yukari Ishii, Seth Graves, Norio Inaba



## Traffic Alert

Students in a Human Rights course taught by John Maynor, associate professor of political science, presented a free public symposium on human trafficking during the spring semester. Gathered experts included Colette Bercu, founder and director of Free for Life International, an area organization that works with victims of trafficking abroad; Sheila McClain of Magdalene House/Thistle Farms, a Nashville-based residential program and social enterprise that helps women, including trafficking victims; and Special Agent Jason Wilkerson of the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. The group discussed human trafficking in Tennessee.

According to the Department of Justice, federal antitrafficking task forces opened 2,515 suspected cases of human trafficking in the U.S. between 2008 and 2010. Of those incidents, 82 percent were classified as sex trafficking. Nearly half involved people under the age of 18. Doctors at War Against Trafficking Worldwide (a nonprofit founded by Daniel Bercu, Colette's husband), estimates that 27 million people worldwide—including 13 million children—are trapped in slavery.

The symposium grew out of a course developed with a curriculum integration grant from the MTSU President's Commission on the Status of Women. ■

**Lauren Camfield**, geology student, recently worked as a research intern at the American Museum of Natural History in New York (a National Science Foundation internship). ■

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THE FUTURE OF ADVERTISING

MTSU art students won big at the recent Student ADDY Awards banquet held by American Advertising Federation Nashville. **Stefanie Cobb** took Best in Show and won a Gold ADDY for her mixed media campaign “Strangeluv, or How to Stop Worrying and Learn to Luv the Future.” **Jefferson Rodriguez** won a Gold ADDY for packaging design. The following students won Silver ADDYs: **Jenna Russell** (mixed media campaign), **Yi Hsuan Lui** (packaging), **Aaron Johnson**, (brochure), **Megan Coyne** (two ADDYs—brochure and letterpress calendar), **Katie Clagg** (letterpress calendar), and **Zac Rooks** (direct marketing). ■



## High Note

The MTSU Symphony, directed by Dr. Carol Nies, was honored to feature the internationally known Italian mezzo-soprano Caterina Novak in an outstanding performance of excerpts from Bizet’s *Carmen* at a concert on April 22. School of Music students Sarah Wofford, Katie Spencer, Corbin Phillips, William Duke, and Andrew Noble joined Novak on stage. Novak also presented two very dynamic master classes in vocal performance, stagecraft, and Italian diction.

MTSU student soloists turned in impressive performances with the symphony last season. Andrew England, a senior, was the featured horn soloist for the third movement (scherzo) of Mahler’s powerful Symphony No. 5. Graduate student Tara Kloostra performed the first movement of Mozart’s Horn Concerto No. 3, and senior Maureen Moeller performed Hanson’s Serenade for Flute, Harp, and Strings with the MTSU Chamber Orchestra. ■

## Student Fulbright News

- **Daniel Gouger** (Spanish and Biochemistry) Research Fulbright to Spanish, graduate Spring 2012
- **Anna Yacovone** (Global Studies and Organizational Communication) graduated December 2011. Works in study abroad office, Teaching Fulbright to Laos.
- In 2011–12 **Patrick Pratt** (International Relations) had a research Fulbright to Tanzania and **Kimberly Yarborough** (International Relations and Spanish) had a teaching Fulbright to Spain.

## CLA News

### Distinguished Speakers: Liberal Arts Leads the Way

Students, faculty, and the public have enjoyed many prominent speakers because of the Windham Lecture Series, the Strickland Lecture, and a number of other events and conferences sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts. A short list of such speakers, certainly not all, is below.

#### Sandra Day O’Connor

*See O’Connor article on page 12*

- Robert Olen Butler**
- Richard Marius** **Bill Lee**
- Michael Nelson**
- Jimmy Faulkner**
- Jane Alexander**
- Nell Irvin Painter**
- Rory Kennedy**
- William Bass** **Bela Fleck**
- David McCullough**
- Douglas Brinkley**
- Mark Bitman**
- Donald Relford**
- Jared Diamond**
- Denny McLain**
- Nina Totenberg**
- Tommy John**

*See John article on page 13*



Whether the topic is books, baseball, forensics, or music, the college has a long history of engaging some of the most interesting academic, intellectual, and cultural figures of our time. The College of Liberal Arts tradition of bringing the most thought-provoking and stimulating speakers to MTSU will continue! ■

The 21st Annual  
Windham Lecture Series  
took place this year on  
February 8 with retired  
**SUPREME  
COURT JUSTICE**

# Sandra Day O'Connor

After months of communication through agents and representatives, the College of Liberal Arts and the Windham Lecture Series completed arrangements to bring retired Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to campus as the 21st Windham Lecturer. The Provost's Office and the College of Liberal Arts hosted a reception for O'Connor and local dignitaries before her lecture, where Justice O'Connor met and spoke with guests about her career and family life. Following the reception, O'Connor spoke at the T. Earl Hinton Hall in Wright Music Building to an overflow crowd about her appointment to the Supreme Court by President Ronald Reagan. O'Connor told of her first meeting with Reagan, after which he called her and said, "Sandra, I want to put you before the Senate for the Justice position."

"Well, what do you say to the President?" said O'Connor.

"Yes sir, thank you."

O'Connor rose from a hardworking ranch family in the American West, and she rode horses before she could walk. On the family's

Lazy B Ranch, she learned the valuable lessons of hard work and fairness. After studying at Radford School, a private academy for girls, O'Connor attended Stanford University and received a B.A. (with Great Distinction). She completed her LL.B. in 1952, graduating third in her class and serving on the *Stanford Law Review*. O'Connor married John Jay O'Connor III in 1952, and the couple raised three sons.

Before the Supreme Court, O'Connor was deputy county attorney of San Mateo County, California, from 1952 to 1953; a civilian attorney for Quartermaster Market Center, Frankfurt, Germany, from 1954 to 1957; and from 1958 to 1960, she practiced law in Maryvale, Arizona. She was assistant attorney general of Arizona from 1965 to 1969. She became an Arizona state senator in 1969 and served two terms, during which she became the first woman state senate majority leader in the United States. In 1975, O'Connor was elected judge of the Maricopa County Superior Court and served until 1979, when she was appointed to the Arizona Court of Appeals. Then on September 25, 1981, after President Reagan's nomination and the Senate's approval, she was



*President McPhee meets with O'Connor before the event.*

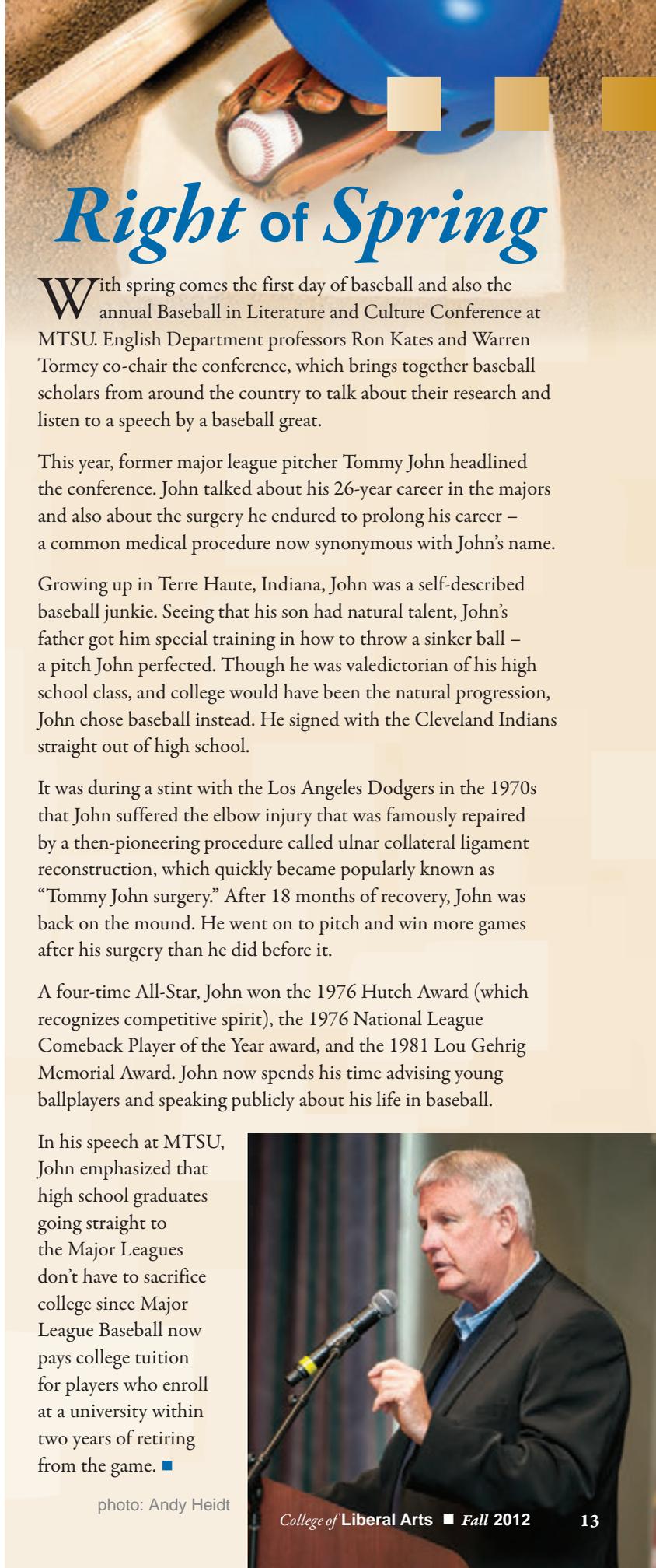
inset photos: Andy Heidt

When she was appointed O'Connor said, "I think the important thing about my appointment **is not that I will decide cases as a woman, but that I am a woman who will get to decide cases.**"

named associate justice of the Supreme Court, the first woman to serve on the highest court in the United States.

When she was appointed O'Connor said, "I think the important thing about my appointment is not that I will decide cases as a woman, but that I am a woman who will get to decide cases."

Justice O'Connor retired in January 2006, but she continues to serve her country, devoting much of her time to a project very dear to her—iCivics ([www.icivics.org](http://www.icivics.org)), an online education program to support and teach civics to teachers and students. It is Justice O'Connor's hope that this tool will teach and encourage students to become better citizens. ■



## *Right of Spring*

With spring comes the first day of baseball and also the annual Baseball in Literature and Culture Conference at MTSU. English Department professors Ron Kates and Warren Tormey co-chair the conference, which brings together baseball scholars from around the country to talk about their research and listen to a speech by a baseball great.

This year, former major league pitcher Tommy John headlined the conference. John talked about his 26-year career in the majors and also about the surgery he endured to prolong his career – a common medical procedure now synonymous with John's name.

Growing up in Terre Haute, Indiana, John was a self-described baseball junkie. Seeing that his son had natural talent, John's father got him special training in how to throw a sinker ball – a pitch John perfected. Though he was valedictorian of his high school class, and college would have been the natural progression, John chose baseball instead. He signed with the Cleveland Indians straight out of high school.

It was during a stint with the Los Angeles Dodgers in the 1970s that John suffered the elbow injury that was famously repaired by a then-pioneering procedure called ulnar collateral ligament reconstruction, which quickly became popularly known as "Tommy John surgery." After 18 months of recovery, John was back on the mound. He went on to pitch and win more games after his surgery than he did before it.

A four-time All-Star, John won the 1976 Hutch Award (which recognizes competitive spirit), the 1976 National League Comeback Player of the Year award, and the 1981 Lou Gehrig Memorial Award. John now spends his time advising young ballplayers and speaking publicly about his life in baseball.

In his speech at MTSU, John emphasized that high school graduates going straight to the Major Leagues don't have to sacrifice college since Major League Baseball now pays college tuition for players who enroll at a university within two years of retiring from the game. ■

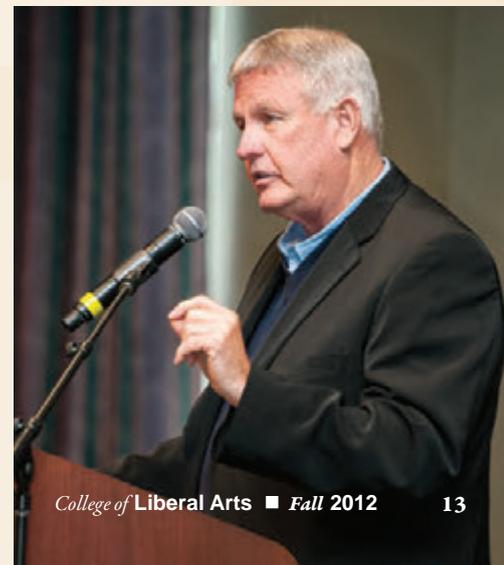


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# MTSU Arts

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Middle Tennessee State University is pleased to introduce MTSU Arts, your ticket to the hundreds of visual and performing arts events held on campus each year. Everyone is welcome—all performances are open to the public. We invite you to join us for the featured events listed here as well as many others you'll find listed on the calendar at [WWW.MTSUARTS.COM](http://WWW.MTSUARTS.COM)

## MTSU Arts 2012–2013 HIGHLIGHTS

### ART

*Forms of Expression: A Survey in*

*Contemporary Clay*, October 17–November 1

*12x12 Exhibition*, January 17–February 14, 2013

### DANCE

**Fall Dance Concert**, November 29–30

**Spring Dance Concert**, April 25–27, 2013

### MUSIC

*Handel's Messiah*, December 2–3

*The Magic Flute*, January 24–25, 2013

**Robert McDonald, piano**, April 7, 2013

### THEATER

*Titus Andronicus*, November 7–11

*A Funny Thing Happened on*

*the Way to the Forum*, April 4–13, 2013

Support the arts! Your patronage will help keep the arts at MTSU vibrant and will support the University's role as a cultural catalyst in middle Tennessee. Please consider supporting artistic development and student enrichment with a charitable gift to MTSU Arts by contacting Beth Duffield, development director, at (615) 898-5223.

# Blowing Our Horn

MTSU's  
School of Music  
distinguishes itself by offering a  
truly retro music education

by Drew Ruble

**I**n the 18th century, or the late Baroque and Classical periods, orchestral music was the privilege of, well, the privileged. Composers like Haydn earned their living writing and performing music for dukes and duchesses and their private audiences. But as the middle class began to rise and the aristocracy exerted less economic dominance, the patronage system began to wither. Composers were pushed out of the palaces and down more entrepreneurial musical paths. Artists such as Mozart and Beethoven not only wrote symphonies and concertos but also booked theaters and even sold the tickets to their performances. And since playing to bigger and bigger audiences meant making a better living, such performances moved into bigger and bigger concert halls, which required revolutionary changes in the instruments— and a change in the roles of some instruments—to adapt to increasingly larger performing spaces, which simply demanded louder playing.

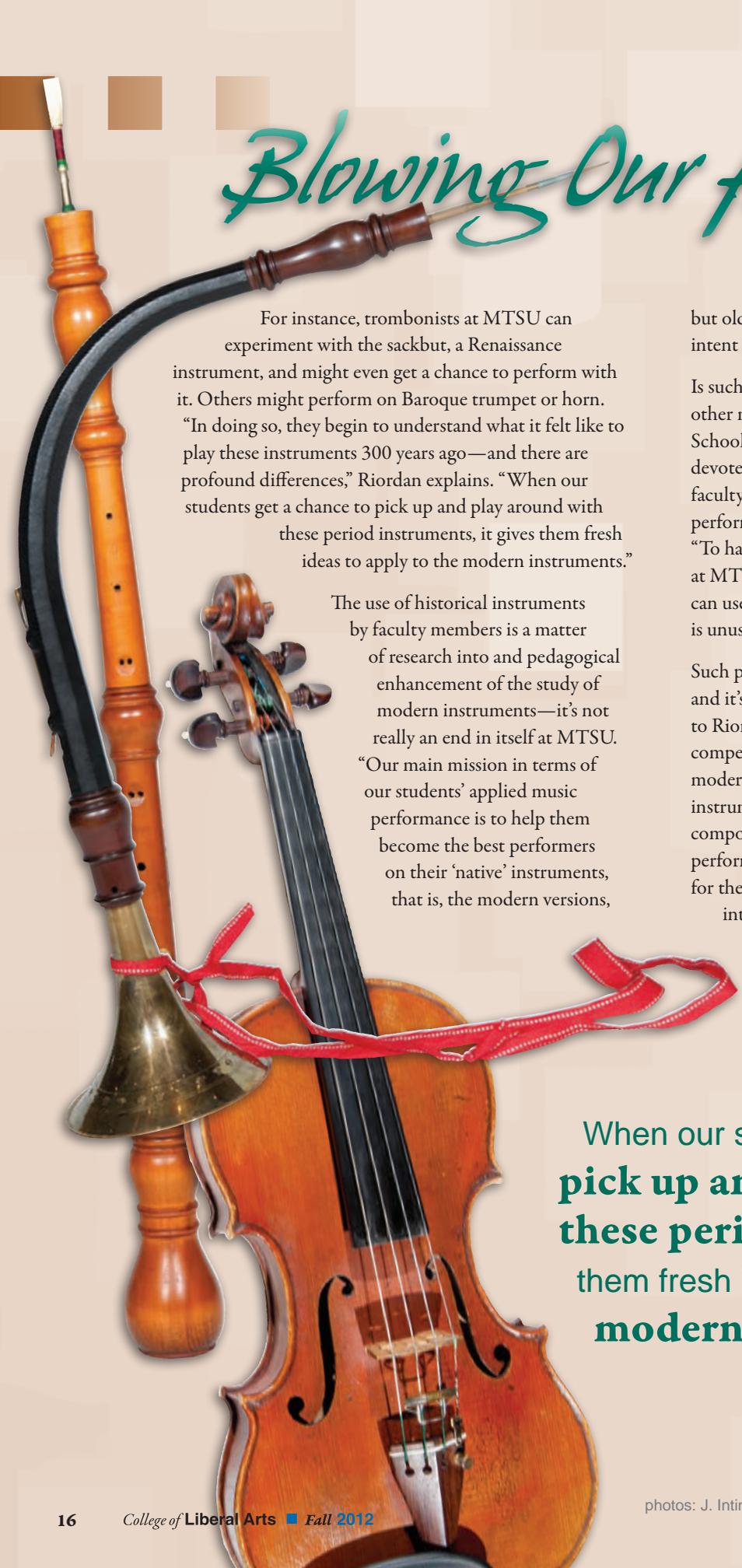
Consider the oboe, which in Baroque times was used mostly to double the string section. With the new demand for volume, the oboe's function (and thereby its design) changed in order for it to function as a prominent solo instrument above the orchestra for brief intervals, then to duck back into an accompanying role. Similarly, the violin emerged from its role as a quiet instrument used primarily for dance and was refashioned to produce a brighter sound with a raised pitch, making it more dominant. Alterations in bows, in particular, produced more volume and sustained phrasing. Significant change also came to the harpsichord, a keyboard instrument, which plucks strings to make a beautiful

but modest sound. The early pianoforte, which we know today as the piano, used small hammers instead of a plucking mechanism. Musicians then could play soft ("piano") or loud ("forte"), and composers had many new ways to incorporate nuance into keyboard phrasings. These changes (and others) led to the modern orchestra.

George Riordan, director of the MTSU School of Music, is an oboist who is equally deft at the Baroque, Classical, and modern versions of his instrument. He points out that the evolution of orchestral instruments—while needed—did not necessarily mean improvement in all aspects. "All this change was great in terms of reaching larger audiences, but it also required tradeoffs," Riordan says. "You're solving one problem but maybe creating another one. For instance, you add volume but lose something of the expressive nature of the instrument when you change it to fit different circumstances." Riordan says altering the basic sound and response of instruments also changed the musician's approach to the music. "This meant performers altered the way that they played the older music to better fit their modernized instruments. In the process, many stylistic elements from the 17th and 18th centuries were lost, and performance of older works became profoundly different from the original conceptions of the composers."

How does all this history apply to MTSU's School of Music? Due to the wealth of period instruments—and faculty specialists—at MTSU, the University has an unusual advantage over many institutions with similar music schools in that its students gain more exposure to the "root" instruments that apply to their chosen concentrations.

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# Blowing Our Horn

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For instance, trombonists at MTSU can experiment with the sackbut, a Renaissance instrument, and might even get a chance to perform with it. Others might perform on Baroque trumpet or horn. “In doing so, they begin to understand what it felt like to play these instruments 300 years ago—and there are profound differences,” Riordan explains. “When our students get a chance to pick up and play around with these period instruments, it gives them fresh ideas to apply to the modern instruments.”

The use of historical instruments by faculty members is a matter of research into and pedagogical enhancement of the study of modern instruments—it’s not really an end in itself at MTSU. “Our main mission in terms of our students’ applied music performance is to help them become the best performers on their ‘native’ instruments, that is, the modern versions,

but older instruments can help inform performers about the stylistic intent behind older music,” says Riordan.

Is such an infusion of period-instrument knowledge common at other music schools? While programs such as those at the Juilliard School in New York and Indiana University have whole divisions devoted to period instruments, most universities boast, at best, a faculty member or two who might be interested in period performance (usually a pianist who might also play harpsichord). “To have all these Baroque instruments in our instrumentarium at MTSU, the faculty members who play them, and students who can use them and to have it all integrated into the curriculum is unusual,” Riordan says.

Such period-specific instruction is a trend in higher education, and it’s also shifting the classical music landscape. According to Riordan, many performers today are capable of creating compelling performances of Baroque and Classical music on modern instruments, but many now choose to perform on instruments typically in use at the time that the music was composed. “The thinking of these period-instrument performers is that the old versions of instruments more readily allow for the re-creation of the music in the ways that the composer intended, resulting in a more historically informed performance,” he explains.

Given their significant exposure to period instrumentation, MTSU School of Music students can be considered to be on the leading edge of the period-instrument movement. ■

When our students get a chance to **pick up and play around with these period instruments**, it gives them fresh ideas **to apply to the modern instruments**.

# *A Band of All Time*

Some 10 full-time MTSU School of Music faculty members play on 17th- and 18th-century period instruments and are able to recreate the style the composers would have expected, so that their music may be heard with all its original color and passion. Here is a brief look at some MTSU School of Music faculty members who are rooted in the Baroque style.

- 1** Angela Tipps, organ
- 2** Michael Arndt, trumpet
- 3** Angela DeBoer, valveless Classical-period natural horn
- 4** David Loucky, trombone, sackbut, ophicleide
- 5** George Riordan, oboe
- 6** Jessica Dunnavant, flute
- 7** Christine Kim, cello
- 8** William Yelverton, guitar, lute, theorbo
- 9** Andrea Dawson, violin

Not pictured: Lillian Pearson, harpsichord and fortepiano





# Amazon Calling

by Richard Pace  
photos: Glenn Shepard

**I**MAGINE YOURSELF, MACHETE IN HAND, HACKING YOUR WAY THROUGH THE DENSE AMAZON RAINFOREST. YOU ARE OFTEN IN KNEE-HIGH WATER, FIGHTING BACK HORDES OF MOSQUITOES AND KEEPING A WARY EYE OPEN FOR SNAKES AND SPIDERS. Imagine that after days of hardship and frustration you happen upon a major archaeological site, previously unknown, that stretches for miles. Hidden under the forest canopy, the site is almost completely intact and has up to five feet of cultural deposition. Your companion archaeologists gleefully explain the importance of the site—a major prehistoric thoroughfare between two prominent cultures (Marajó and Santarém) that might date back 4,000 years or more. Excavations could last a decade and provide material to help fill in huge gaps in the archaeological record of the region.

If you're MTSU student Kevin McDaniel, this is not some adolescent fantasy or expedition shown on the Discovery Channel; this is actually how McDaniel, an anthropology major (and Portuguese studies minor), spent his 2012 spring break. Through the support and guidance of MTSU anthropology professors Richard Pace and Tanya Peres Lemons, Kevin was able to participate in the initial joint MTSU/Goeldi Museum project to survey the municipality of Gurupá. (The Goeldi Museum is a prominent research institute in Belém, Brazil, famous for its pioneering archaeological and ethnographic studies in the Amazon over the last 150 years.) The MTSU/Goeldi project was partially funded by a grant secured from the Faculty Research and Creative Activity Committee (FRCAC) by Drs. Pace and Peres to study the historical ecology of the region. The project, which integrates the fields of archaeology, history, and cultural anthropology, seeks to understand past human-environmental relationships and subsistence practices and apply this knowledge to contemporary attempts to improve rain forest preservation and sustainable development.

Kevin's preparation for this expedition actually started two years earlier as he began his studies of archaeology, Brazilian

culture and Portuguese. He conducted a literature review on Amazonian prehistory as an independent study project. He also spent the summer of 2011 studying abroad in Brazil with the Tennessee Consortium for International Studies (TnCIS). Finally, with funding support from the Provost's Office and the FRCAC grant, he was ready for the trip. Kevin first traveled to Belém, a city of two million situated at the mouth of the Amazon River. There, he met up with Dr. Pace, who was in Brazil on a Fulbright Scholarship for the year. Dr. Pace introduced Kevin to his archaeological companions, João Aires and Carlos Barbosa, both researchers at the Goeldi Museum. After several days of prepping for the field at the museum and acclimating to the climate (it was the middle of the tropical rainy season), Kevin was ready for the final leg of the trip. The destination was Gurupá, a small peasant community on the Amazon River approximately 300 miles upstream. Kevin boarded a large passenger boat for the 26-hour ride upriver, accompanied by his archaeology colleagues, Dr. Pace and his wife, Olga, their daughter, Annie, and a third Goeldi Museum researcher, ethnobotanist Glenn Shepard. The Pace family and Shepard were filming for an ethnographic documentary—a parallel project conducted alongside the archaeological expedition.

Once in Gurupá, the group rented a boat to take them into the rain forest for five days. They slept in hammocks on the boat and ate their meals there, as well. The first two days were spent on the várzea, or flooded forest, along the Mojú River (a tributary of the Amazon). Here, the museum archaeologists predicted a range of sites using computer models based on research from Marajó Island (a swampy ecosystem occupied by a large chiefdom around A.D. 1000). The group first interviewed local residents, then set off in canoes with volunteer guides to examine areas with a high probability of ancient occupation. For Kevin, it was a crash course on flooded forests. For hours, he trudged through the waterlogged terrain, finding



only small islands of dry ground, wiping scores of mosquitoes off his body every minute or so, and cooled only by the periodic downpours that pelted him. The local guides commented on his perseverance in these challenging conditions, later telling him that in any other circumstance, they would avoid these places during the rainy season.

Despite heroic efforts the first few days, all was for naught. Not a single artifact or any other sign of prehistoric occupation was found. Nature, on the other hand, was impressive. Exotic birds and insects were everywhere. Kevin was especially impressed when one of the guides stopped along the inundated trail they were following, reached down between his feet and began pulling out catfish barehanded—enough to feed his family for the night.

After two days of frustration and fruitless searching, the archaeologists decided to take the boat to the terra firme—or high land that remained above the seasonal flooding. Here they knew there were archaeological sites, recorded in previous visits by other researchers. What was not known was the extent of these sites and their importance to the archaeological record.

The boat docked for the night at Carrezedo, a small hamlet whose people lived in houses built on stilts along a long boardwalk rising above the Xingu River (another Amazon tributary). The inhabitants told of anthropogenic soils—what they called black dirt of the Indian (terra preta do índio)—and bits of broken ceramic—both good signs of prehistoric occupation.

The next day the intrepid archaeologists set off with a new guide. They walked behind the settlement to an area used for crop production—mostly manioc and corn grown in slash-and-burn plots typical of the region. As they dug into the ground with machetes (the Amazon equivalent of shovel testing), they found inches, then feet of the rich, black anthropogenic soil that comes from long-term human occupation. Intermixed with the dark soil were many

## Anthropology major **Kevin McDaniel's** next professional step forward may take him back thousands of years

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# Amazon Calling

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The pottery specialist, who examined the piece and then exclaimed that this and other uncovered artifacts they were finding, **clearly represented a novel cultural tradition**, heretofore unknown to Amazon archaeology

ceramic fragments. Kevin handed a pottery fragment he had just uncovered to Carlos, the pottery specialist, who examined the piece and then exclaimed that this and other uncovered artifacts they were finding, clearly represented a novel cultural tradition, heretofore unknown to Amazon archaeology. Beaming, João turned to Kevin and said, “This is new. This is all new.”

Over the next three days the archaeologists found three more mega-sites—all in succession along the Amazon River. Two of the sites were at least a half-mile in length. They measured the sites, recorded their locations and wrote up their notes. When asked why these sites were not previously found and recorded, João gave two answers. First, only rapid archaeological surveys had been conducted in the expansive region. Thus, missing sites—even big ones—was to be

expected. Second, using his computer models, the museum had a better idea of where to look. With this information in hand, they went through the hardship of hacking through the rain forest to look at areas off the beaten path. Although never a foolproof method, as they found out on the várzea, it struck archaeological gold on the terra firme.

Two weeks later, Kevin returned to his classes at MTSU, tired but excited about his experience and about his future. The expedition strengthens his candidacy for admittance to a highly ranked graduate school specializing in South American archaeology. (After all, he already knows of a great place to do his dissertation research.) As for MTSU, the initial project with the Goeldi Museum will lead to more research opportunities in archaeology, cultural anthropology and other related disciplines. MTSU’s 12-year presence in Amazonian research should continue with great promise. ■

*Richard Pace, Kevin McDaniel, João Aires (l to r) examining archaeological finds from Gurupá.*



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**Brook Huffman ('13)**  
Music major

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# No Vanishing Act

Claudia Barnett's stature as a  
writer and playwright continues to grow

Claudia Barnett says her playwriting career started when she submitted a one-act play to a little theater in Michigan “and then forgot about it.” A few months later, the theater tracked her down, seeking permission to produce the play. She drove to Kalamazoo, saw the production (which she described as “wonderful”), and was especially struck when one female audience member told her after the play that all young girls should see it. Inspired, Barnett sent the play to *Dramatics*, a magazine for younger audiences, which published it.

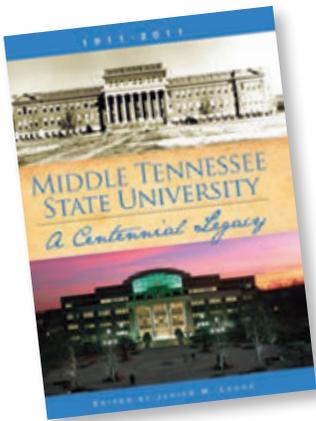
Barnett's ascent in playwriting has continued from that point on. An MTSU English professor, she writes about missing women, women who kill, and women who are silenced. In September 2011, based on only the first two scenes of her play *Witches Vanish*, she was chosen for the Downstage Left Playwright Residency at Chicago's Stage Left Theatre. At the time, she'd written only 20 pages. She traveled to Chicago six times during the year to complete the first draft, working with her director and five actresses. The characters are Macbeth's witches, who explore the stories of women who disappear. The witches travel from the Spanish Inquisition to the Soviet gulag to Juarez, Mexico. The play had a workshop production as part of Stage Left's LeapFest in May and June.

As playwright-in-residence at Tennessee Repertory Theatre in 2009–2010, she experimented with poetry, madness, and time in her full-length play *No. 731 Degraw-Street, Brooklyn; or Emily Dickinson's Sister*. In 2012, she attended a conference in Spain to present a staged reading of *He Killed My Bird; or Now that We're in Heaven*, a one-act play inspired by her Honors sophomore literature course, Women Who Kill, which covers *Medea* and *Macbeth*; 20th-century examples, *Machinal* and *The Little Foxes*; and all the way to contemporary plays by Carson Kreitzer, Rebecca Gilman, and Suzan-Lori Parks. “You'd be amazed at how many plays by contemporary American women are about women who kill,” she says. Her latest published work is *I Love You Terribly*, a book of six short plays.

Through it all, Barnett maintains a laid-back attitude and lifestyle in Murfreesboro. She lives in a log cabin outside of town, surrounded by a few acres of trees—a place that she says feeds her creativity. Originally from a bustling city in New York, she says she loves silence, fresh air, and the deer in her yard. She gets her best writing ideas while yanking out weeds.

Barnett first joined the MTSU faculty in 1994 after completing her Ph.D. at Ohio State University. She has been instrumental in developing the Visiting Artist Seminar on campus, and she has brought many excellent guests to MTSU, including actress/playwright Heather Raffo, filmmaker Jesse Epstein, and songwriter Nathan Bell. As a teacher, she is especially proud of one of her former students, Margaret Hoffman. Both Barnett and Hoffman had plays produced by Independent Actors Theatre in Columbia, Missouri, in March. Engaging with her craft, Barnett can't help but pass her enthusiasm and love of writing to her students. ■

Engaging with her craft,  
Barnett can't help but pass her  
*enthusiasm and  
love of writing*  
to her students.



**Janice Leone**, associate dean of the college, served as editor of *Middle Tennessee State University: A Centennial Legacy*. Chapter contributors were **Fred P. Colvin** (History, emeritus), **Derek Frisby** (History), **Ellen Garrison** (History), **Jordan Kirkman** (alum), **Reuben Kyle** (Economics, emeritus), **John Lodl** (alum), **Philip Mathis** (Biology, emeritus), **Rebecca McIntyre** (History), **Lorne McWatters** (History), **David Rowe** (History),

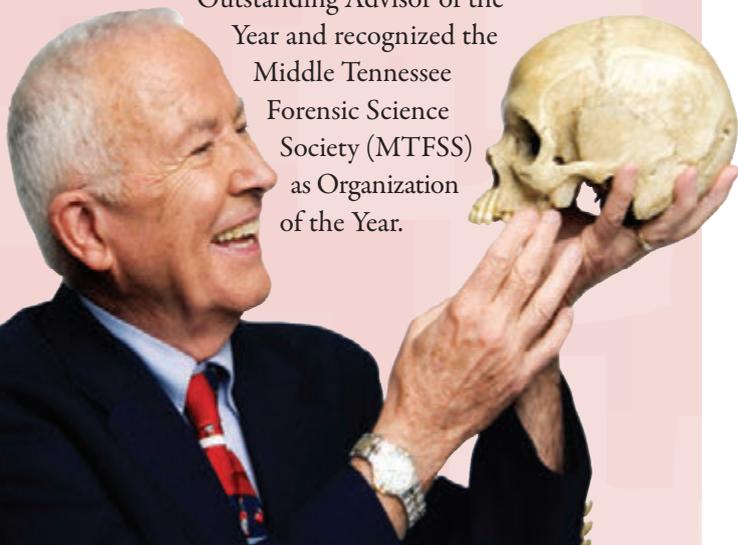
**Nancy Rupprecht** (History), **Kenneth Scherzer** (History), and **James Williams** (director, Gore Research Center).

**Jennifer Vannatta Hall**, assistant professor of music, served on the Tennessee Arts Commission's 2012 Citizen Advisory Panel.

**Shirley Farris Jones** (retired secretary, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures) spent last winter coauthoring a book on Murfreesboro in the Civil War. Jones has worked tirelessly on journals her family preserved, and from them comes *The Un-Civil War in Middle Tennessee*, published by the History Press of Charleston, South Carolina.

**The Forensic Institute for Research and Education** (FIRE) brought Dr. William M. Bass, founder of UT-Knoxville's famed Body Farm, to campus for the Legends in Forensic Science 2012 Spring Lecture, which attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people. FIRE also hosted the 2012 Organized Crime Symposium (Forensic Skeletal Search and Recovery) course during the summer and also hosted CSI: MTSU Summer Camp for high school students. The Student Organization Awards Committee named **Dr. Hugh Berryman**, the institute's director,

Outstanding Advisor of the Year and recognized the Middle Tennessee Forensic Science Society (MTFSS) as Organization of the Year.



Professor **Erin Anfinson** (Art) led the way for ten of her art students and ten mass communication students to work with touring artists/animators Tiny Circus in April. The group created a work of stop-motion animation.

**Robert Bray** (English), a noted Tennessee Williams scholar, is coeditor of two upcoming books from Cambridge University Press: *Modern American Drama on Screen*, and *Modern British Drama on Screen*. Included in the former is Bray's essay "A Streetcar Named Desire: Just 'Shoot the Play.'"

**John Donovan** (Art) received the Tennessee Arts Commission Individual Artist Fellowship in Craft Media for 2011-12.

At the 2011 National Speleological Society Convention, **Albert Ogden** (Geosciences) received Best of Show for a Karst educational video he created along with **Pat Jackson** and **Ty Whitaker** from Audio/Visual Services.

**Felicia Miyakawa** (Music) took over as coeditor of a book series from Indiana University Press called *Profiles in Popular Music*.

Returning from Cortland Repertory Theatre in upstate New York, Professor **Kyle Kennedy** performed "A Murder Is Announced". Kennedy and Kerby Thompson, producing artistic director of the Cortland, are working together to have Thompson come to MTSU to conduct workshops, visit classes, and to discuss future internships.

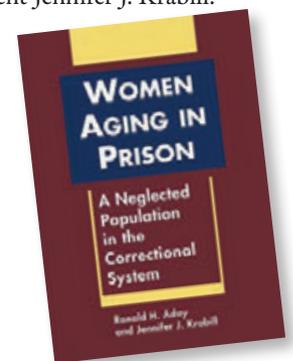
**Alvin Knox** (English) is poetry editor of the new literary journal *2<sup>nd</sup> and Church*.

**Bonnie B. Rushlow** (pictured) was selected by the National Art Education Association to receive the 2012 National Art Educator of the Year Award at the NAEA National Convention in New York, March 1-4, 2012.



**William Canak** (Sociology and Anthropology) became a member of the Tennessee Employee Mis-classification Advisory Task Force, a unit of the Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

**Ronald H. Aday** (Sociology and Anthropology) cowrote *Women Aging in Prison: A Neglected Population in the Correctional System* (Lynne Rienner Publishers) with student Jennifer J. Krabill.



**Ron Bombardi** (Philosophy) published "Whose Blue? Class, Race, and Gender in American Vernacular Music" in *Blues and Philosophy*, a recent volume in the popular *Philosophy for Everyone* series from Wiley-Blackwell.

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# HIDDEN GEM

Tucked away in nondescript Ezell Hall is a rare museum built stone by stone by Drew Ruble



**Growth** of the MTSU Mineral, Gem and Fossil Museum through the years is perhaps best attributed to Ogden's vision, sweat, and savvy

**D**r. Albert Ogden can pinpoint the birth of his fascination with geology. He was 10 years old, bicycling up and down dirt roads in his native Pennsylvania, when he and his friends spotted fool's gold and other colorful minerals poking up out of the ground. "We thought it was treasure," Ogden says.

Soon enough, the farmer who owned the property approached the trespassing boys to quiz them about their intentions. Upon discovering their interest in rocks, the farmer—a retired geologist and museum curator—invited the boys back to his home where he and his wife revealed a stunning collection of beautiful gems from around the world. Over the next few years, the farmer would take Ogden and cohorts on gem, mineral, and fossil digs all over their local area.

Ogden's boyhood fascination with rock and fossil hunting waned over the next few years. "Then I took Earth Science in high school," Ogden says, "and I knew right then that geology was for me."

He earned his degree in geology from Penn State University and eventually a Ph.D. in hydrogeology from West Virginia University. After stints at the University of Arkansas, the Edwards Aquifer Research and Data Center in Texas, the Idaho Division of Environment, Tennessee Tech and Clemson University, Ogden landed at MTSU.

It was in Murfreesboro that Ogden began serious pursuit of his dream to open a small mineral, gem, and fossil museum. In 2005, using pieces from his

own collection to launch it, Ogden brought his vision to life. Since then, he's built the campus-based collection through donations both large and small and by smartly using limited University funds. (Ogden annually attends the world's largest rock sale in Tucson, Arizona; he puns that he acquires new pieces for the collection at "rock bottom" prices.) But the steady growth of the MTSU Mineral, Gem, and Fossil Museum through the years is perhaps best attributed to Ogden's vision, sweat, and savvy.

The result is the only museum of its kind in the middle Tennessee area. Regionally speaking, the closest approximation to Curator Ogden's campus museum is a lesser collection of gems, minerals, and fossils housed at the Pink Palace in Memphis.

On one recent visit to the museum, Ogden and museum director Dr. Alan Brown (a fellow MTSU geology professor who recently took over operation of the museum), were hosting a group of Boy Scouts working to earn their merit badges in geology. Other common visitors to the museum come from Campus School, College Grove Elementary, Siegel Elementary, Kittrell Elementary, Woodbury Elementary, and Middle Tennessee Christian School. Ogden says museum attendance has skyrocketed in recent years as a result of area home school groups who are required by the state to take science field trips and who have discovered the free museum. "They really network to find resources to help each other out," Ogden says. "Word spread like wildfire last year."

In all, Ogden says about 50 groups passed through the museum last year. Importantly,

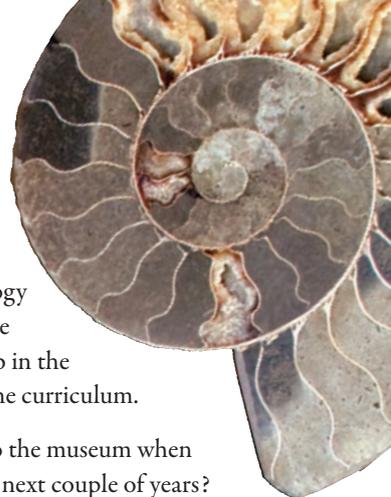
the museum is a University educational resource as well. More than 700 MTSU students take beginning geology each semester and are required to take a lab in the museum as part of the curriculum.

What will happen to the museum when Ogden retires in the next couple of years? Ogden says he plans to continue to assist the museum's future growth both as a buyer for the collection and as someone willing and able to solicit donations large and small.

"Of course, I'm going to keep my fingers in it, plus I've got lots of connections, and I'm always talking the museum up anyway," he says. In addition to expressing total confidence in Brown's stewardship, Ogden says the museum has strong support of Mark Byrnes, dean of the College of Liberal Arts. "Dean Byrnes even has his own small, but nice rock collection," Ogden says. "It is really cool to have a dean that digs rocks as I do!"

The museum also anticipates a visibility boost in the coming years that might help its prospects for longevity. Plans are afoot to relocate the museum to a more conspicuous location—one of the old science buildings—once construction on MTSU's new \$126.7 million science building is completed.

Ogden can appreciate a rock 'n' roll parlance, as he is a lifelong musician and member of a rock 'n' roll band, that rocks. ■



### What's inside?

The museum has two main exhibit rooms, one with mineral specimens and a second housing fossils, birthstones, jewelry made from semiprecious stones, and figurines carved from various minerals. A third, smaller black-light room displays fluorescent minerals. Samples come from every state in the union and from more than 50 countries around the world.



### Some of the more interesting items at the museum include

- a partial fossil of a prehistoric, tooth-filled, savage, 25-foot dolphin;
- a replica Allosaurus—a dinosaur that lived 145 to 155 million years ago during the late Jurassic period—that stands six feet tall and is 10 feet long;
- a collection of Tennessee fossils (and others from around the world);
- dinosaur excrement, which Ogden likes to have student visitors pass around a bit before he tells them what it is; dinosaur eggs; and dinosaur bones; and
- An eight-foot-long, museum-quality replica of a mastodon skull, replete with long tusks.

## Fulbright News

**Mohammed Albakry** (English) spent his Fulbright grant in Morocco teaching in the new M.A. program in linguistics at Mohammed V University–Agadal for the past year. Albakry also collected data for research on multilingualism and identity politics in Morocco.



**Sean Foley**, associate professor of history, was a Fulbright research scholar at the International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from September 2010 to December 2011. Foley's third Fulbright, this time his

research focused specifically on the career and correspondence of Shaykh Tahir Jalaluddin (1869–1956), one of Southeast Asia's leading modern Islamic intellectuals. He also appeared as an analyst on al-Jazeera English television three times and wrote several opinion pieces for the *New Straits Times* (Malaysia), *The Tennessean*, *Today's Zaman* (Turkey) and *Atlantic Monthly* (an article on popular Lebanese-Swedish Muslim singer Maher Zain). Visit [www.seanfoley.org](http://www.seanfoley.org) for more.



**Richard Pace** is in Brazil on a Fulbright Scholarship for the year. (See page 18)

**Rebecca McIntyre** (History) recently published her first book, *Souvenirs of the South: Northern Tourism and Southern Mythology*.

The summer 2011 issue of *American Archaeology* contained a review of *Faking Ancient Mesoamerica*, a book by Professor **Nancy Kelker** (Art). The reviewer called the book a must-read for museum professionals, collectors, and art historians. Professor Kelker's coauthor was Karen Bruhns.

**David Lavery** (English) and Stacey Abbot, of Roehampton University, London, coedited *TV Goes to Hell: An Unofficial Road Map of Supernatural* (Toronto: ECW Press).

**Dawn McCormack** (History) had a terrific archaeological season at Abydos, Egypt, where she continues her research on the excavated area. Students working with McCormack were Sara Rieger, Kristen Baldwin Deathridge, Eden Fann, Alex Collins, and Kerri Lorigan.

**Karen Petersen** (Political Science) and **Basra Mohamed** (student) both published chapters in a recent book titled *Belgorad Dialogue 2011: The Problems of Russia and World History*.

Five MTSU Foundation Awards were presented to faculty in Liberal Arts. **Shannon C. Hodge** (Sociology and Anthropology) and **Virginia A. Donnell** (Theatre) received

Outstanding Teacher Awards; a Distinguished Research Award went to **Ron Aday** (Sociology and Anthropology); **Don Aliquo** (Music) won a Creative Activity Award; and **John Vile** (University Honors, Political Science) received the Career Achievement Award.

**Xiaowei Shi** (Speech and Theatre) presented a paper that was selected as one of the top four at the 97th Annual Communication Association Convention.

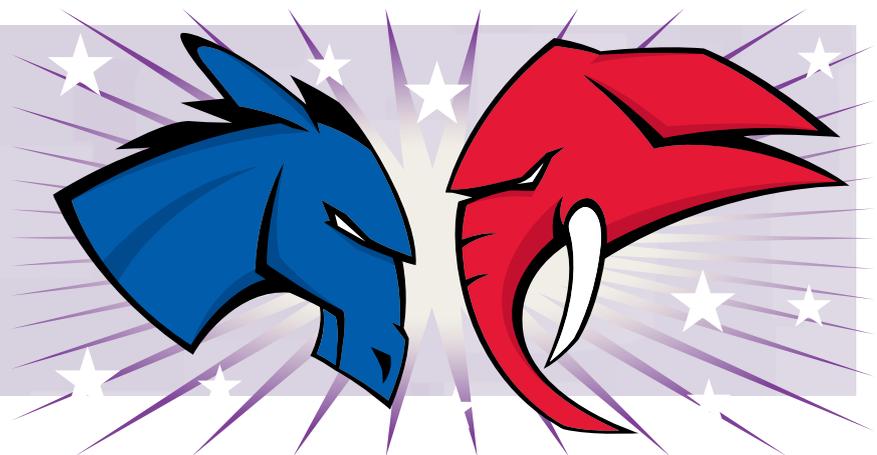
Many faculty members were promoted or tenured. **Patricia Bradley** (English), **Tommy Macon** (Speech and Theatre), **Kristine McCusker** (History), **Paul Osterfield** (Music), and **Todd Waldecker**

(Music) were promoted to professor. **Erin Anfinson** (Art), **Andrea Dawson** (Music), **John Donovan** (Art), **Patricia Gaitely** (English), **Mark Jackson** (English), **Phil Oliver** (Philosophy), **Bonnie Rushlow** (Art) were promoted to associate professor. **Sean Foley** (History) and **William Leggett** (Sociology and Anthropology) were promoted to associate professor and tenured.

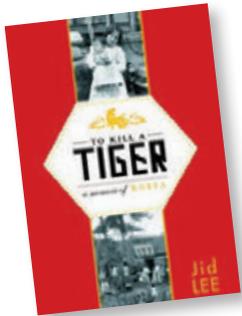
**Joan McRae** (Foreign Languages and Literatures) will serve as chair of the MTSU Chairs Council, succeeding Jackie Eller (Sociology and Anthropology)

**Steve Morris** and **Andrei Korobkov** (Political Science) represented MTSU at the

**A**ttack Ads, Super PACs, and Angry Voters: A Preview of the 2012 General Election, a symposium on negative political advertising, will take place in October at MTSU. (More information concerning this event will be on our webpage and Facebook page.) **Kent Syler**, a visiting assistant professor in the Political Science Department and former congressional aide to Bart Gordon, will lead the discussion.



Conference on Corruption in Mexico, Russia, and the United States. The conference took place at Vanderbilt in October 2011 and was sponsored by MTSU and Vanderbilt.



In 2010, **Jid Lee** (English) saw the publication of her personal narrative, *To Kill a Tiger: A Memoir of Korea* (Overlook Press).

**James S. Gibson** (Professor Emeritus, Art) received the Joseph A. Cain Memorial Purchase Award at the 45th Annual National Drawing and Small Sculpture Show at Del Mar College, Corpus Christi,

Texas, for his welded sculpture *Ericka-Chendu* (2009).

**Tanya Peres Lemons** (Sociology and Anthropology) led the MTSU Middle Cumberland Archaeology Project (MCAP) in May and June, which investigated a multicomponent shell midden site occupied between 7000 BC and AD 1400 on the west side of Nashville. Twenty MTSU students surveyed over ten acres, sorted thousands of artifacts and soil samples, and began analysis of the material, which they will complete in the coming fall and spring.

**Michael Arndt** (School of Music) will be serving as the 2012–13 Faculty Senate president, succeeding Kim Neal Nofsinger (Speech and Theatre).

**Doug Heffington** received the Faculty of the Year Award for his work to foster a more global campus through the MTSU

Office of International Affairs and Office of Education Abroad. He took a group of students to Japan to help broaden their views of the world and to make a difference.

An English translation of the play was produced by **Mohammed Albakry**, MTSU associate professor of applied linguistics, and Rebekah Maggor, Vanderbilt lecturer in English.

College of Liberal Arts 2012 retirees were **Fred Beemon** (History), **Barry Buxkamper** (Art), **Frederic Crawford** (History), **Martha Foster** (History), **Janet Higgins** (Art), **Elizabeth Nuell** (Art), and **Sharon Shaw-McEwen** (Social Work)

Four faculty members in the School of Music had CDs released in 2011: **Deanna Little** (flute) with *The Silver Sounds of*

*Christmas*; **Reed Thomas**, who conducted the music on *Angels in the Architecture*; **Don Aliquo** (saxophones), whose three titles were *Sun and Shield*, *Home at Last*, and the collaboration *Back When It Was Fun*; and composer **Paul West Osterfield** with *Rocky Streams*.

**Richard Pace** and **Brian P. Hinote** (both Sociology and Anthropology) are awaiting the printing of *Amazon Town TV: An Audience Ethnography in the Brazilian Amazon* (University of Texas Press). It is scheduled for publication next year.

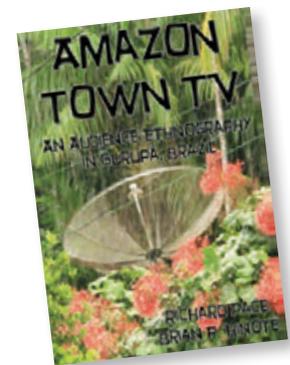


photo: Andy Heidt

In 2011, Middle Tennessee State University approved the mission statement for the University. Pivotal to this mission is partnering, and **Debrah Sickler-Voigt** (Art) takes partnering seriously. She has recently been working with the Tennessee School for the Blind (TSB) and Monica Leister, a TBS teacher, who brought her class to campus to work with MTSU students on a comprehensive art education project with Sickler-Voigt's practicum class. The MTSU class, with instruction from Sickler-Voigt, helped the TSB students create a shadow box art project. Before starting, they learned about two artists (O. L. Samuels and Louise Nevelson) and their work. This gave them a springboard to create their own projects.

In their second meeting on campus, MTSU students asked TSB students about the artists and their work.

Currently taking classes at MTSU to get a certification in art education, Leister has been asked by TSB to start an art program for the school. TSB is an accredited K–12 institution, where students are on different tracks. Some are on the academic track, which means they will have a chance to go on to college. MTSU is happy to have two students from TSB enrolled this semester. (Other TSB students are on the life skills path, which offers courses to help them in their everyday lives.)

At the end of the semester, the TSB students returned to campus along with parents and teachers for the unveiling of their artwork. ■



“Heads or Tails” is the title of **Socrates Garcia’s** (music alumnus and instructor, ’08) new composition that premiered at the Jazz Education Network Annual Conference in Louisville, Ky.

**Jennifer Pickering** (’10) and **Tommy Hartzog** (’10) are working on the Bangladesh Program for Enhancement of Emergency Response (PEER) as graduate assistants at Vanderbilt University. MTSU

geosciences labs will be used to conduct geochemical analyses of core samples collected during fieldwork in Bangladesh. The research will be used to determine the effects of climate change on Himalayan rivers and South Asia delta regions.

**Aaron Shew** (International Relations, ’11) and **Natalie Shew** recently lived in Afghanistan, where Aaron served three months as an

intern manager with SALT International— a nonprofit institution that sought him out because of his work with agriculture and in foreign countries. Aaron assisted farmers in converting soybeans to flour for cooking. Natalie served as an ESL teacher and had a strong impact on the women in the class. The couple lived in a mud home that provided little protection from the weather. The Shews

say the experience was worthwhile, and they were able to really help in the short time they were there. They are now in northern Iraq, where Aaron is building an agriculture extension for soybean production. When their two- to three-year commitment is over, Aaron plans to work on a Ph.D. in international relations, and Natalie wants to continue studying languages.

*Continued on page 30*



# HUDSON ON THE HUDSON

A Liberal Arts graduate once called  
“a poet of place” by the *New York Times*  
earns the right to rest on her laurels.

by Gina K. Logue

**Alice Hudson** (’69) didn’t need a map to get from her hometown of Oak Ridge to Murfreesboro or from Murfreesboro to New York. All she needed was her love of geography and a college education. On her second summer trip to visit her sister in the Big Apple in 1970, Hudson was hired as a map cataloguer and reference librarian at the New York Public Library (NYPL). The rest is not only NYPL history—it is the history of New York.

By October 1981, Hudson was chief of the Lionel Pincus and Princess Firyal Map Division of the New York Public Library system. Its holdings include “more than 433,000 sheet maps and 20,000 books and atlases published between the 15th and 21st centuries,” according to NYPL.

The *New York Times*, which once called Hudson “a poet of place,” described collection visitors as a hodgepodge of builders, developers and architects, novelists, and urban archaeologists—even “conspiracy theorists decoding the World Trade Center bombing.”

Hudson’s 1969 bachelor’s degree in geography from MTSU served her well as she navigated technological changes in both cartography and library science over the years. The brave new worlds of Google Earth and MapQuest are not alien to Hudson. “I think they’re a lot of fun because they brought a lot more people to the importance of geography and spatial relationships,” Hudson says. Nevertheless, the librarian who took her geography courses in Kirksey Old

Main retains a fondness for the tactile sensation of holding a map, like a journalist who won’t give up a subscription to the hard copy edition of the newspaper just because it’s accessible online. Hudson says, “I like to have the map in my hand where I can see the entire map of the state of Tennessee, not just a three-inch square in my car.”

Retired since July 2009, Hudson considers her paramount achievement the cofounding of a group called the Mercator Society to raise money to expand and maintain the library’s world-renowned map division. According to the *Times*, the NYPL collection, the largest in any public library in the country with the exception of the Library of Congress, grew exponentially during Hudson’s tenure. ■

# The Least Among Us

by Drew Ruble



*Darin Gordon*

It's no secret that TennCare, Tennessee's Medicaid managed care program that provides health coverage for 1.2 million low-income children, pregnant women, and disabled individuals, has had a somewhat problematic existence during its more than 15 years of service.

Those days, however, seem to have been left in the past. Under the leadership of Darin Gordon ('95), a former MTSU political science major, the program has made significant advancements over the past several years, including increasing client satisfaction and getting on a sound fiscal administrative footing.

Gordon, who is director of the TennCare Bureau and deputy commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration, manages a program that deals directly with personal health

A Liberal Arts graduate shows steady stewardship of the state of Tennessee's health care safety net for the poor and disabled

care. Gordon tracks the performance of all managed care organizations (MCOs), the insurance companies that provide care to TennCare enrollees, to ensure they are properly accredited and performing in a manner comparable to national benchmarks.

"TennCare has been successful in addressing a problem that the entire health care industry deals with today: containing rising costs while improving quality of care," Gordon says. "The management team has taken TennCare from a position that was poised to bankrupt the state to being a fiscally stabilized program with an enrollee satisfaction rate of 95 percent. Moving forward, there are many uncertainties as to what the national and state health care landscape will look like. Our job is to position ourselves and the state to be prepared for as many scenarios as possible. Regardless of what becomes of national health reform, TennCare will continue to play a significant and important role in access to health care for many Tennesseans. TennCare's goals will remain the same: we must continue to deliver high quality, cost-effective care that results in improved health and quality of life for our members."

**TennCare has been successful in addressing a problem that the entire health care industry deals with today: containing rising cost while improving quality of care**

There's no better proof of Gordon's good stewardship of the program than his survival during the biggest political sea change in Tennessee since Reconstruction. Following the Republican takeover of the state House, Senate, and Governor's Mansion, one might have thought a change in leadership at TennCare would follow. But that hasn't been the case. Gordon, appointed to his current post under former Democratic governor Phil Bredesen, has remained at the helm of the massive health care program even after the election of Republican governor Bill Haslam. TennCare had 10 directors in the previous 12 years before Gordon's appointment in 2006.

"I feel very fortunate for my time at MTSU," he says. "This university fosters an extraordinary learning environment, and during my time there I was lucky enough to have professors who continuously pushed me to expand my horizons, to challenge myself, and to accept nothing short of my best performance. In fact, I credit Dr. Mark Byrnes in the Political Science Department with being the catalyst who set me on my current professional path. Dr. Byrnes encouraged me to compete for a government internship that led me to where I am today. In my current role as director of TennCare, I continue to strive for those same personal goals with the added benefit of being able to help so many others at the same time." ■

# Alumni News

Continued from page 28



Guitarist and School Music alumnus **Silviu Ciulei** (B.M., 2008) won prizes in seven international competitions during 2011–12. He also won second prize in the Eastern Carolina University competition. Earlier this year, Ciulei was selected as a finalist and won third prize in the Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artists Competition in Charleston, S.C., the most prestigious guitar competition in the nation and one of the most eminent in the world. Competing with Ciulei were finalists from Russia, Turkey, and Mexico. Earlier this year, he was a semifinalist in the Christopher Parkening International Guitar Competition, first-prize winner of the Appalachian Guitarfest at Appalachian State University in N.C., and first-prize winner at the Columbus, Ga. Guitar Competition. He won second prize in the Texas International Guitar Competition and third prize in the Schadt Concerto Competition, Guitar Foundation of America. Ciulei is a doctoral student at Florida State University.

“Queen” is coming to North America! No, not the Queen of England, the Queen Extravaganza Tour. Playing drums will be **Tyler Warren** ('08). After a ten-week tryout, Warren was named drummer for the authorized cover band by original drummer Roger Taylor. Taylor knew there were cover bands out there playing Queen's music, so he figured why not select the very best to play the British rock band's music, which brought them celebrity and number-one songs. Warren will be playing a 15-month concert tour, which will include these and many other songs. He'll mainly be playing drums, but he'll play other instruments, too. He gives credit to his professors Lalo Davila and Tommy Giampietro for their guidance and his success. Look for a show near you.



## Meet the Friends of Liberal Arts Board

The board works to cultivate and maintain relationships with community, state, and national leaders; promote the achievements of CLA faculty and students, as well as overall public image; expose students to various career options; serve as mentors to those students; and pursue external funding.

**Lauren Agee**, B.A. (Political Science) 2001; senior legislative advisor to State Senator Jim Kyle; 2009 Young Alumni Achievement Award recipient.

**James Brooks**, retired CLA associate dean and Department of Speech and Theatre chair; 30-year faculty member; Professor Emeritus (2001).

**Charlotte Gardner**, B.A. (English) 1958; community volunteer and dedicated MTSU supporter (School of Music Orpheus Competition).

**S. A. Habib**, B.F.A. (Art/Graphic Design) 1977; founder/owner, Nashville-based Locomotion Creative marketing firm.

**Phillip Hodge**, B.S. Anthropology (1997); archaeologist supervisor, Tennessee Department of Transportation.

**Bill Ketron**, B.A. History (1976); state senator and insurance agent; helped found Blue Raider Athletic Association (BRAA).

**Joe Klingemeyer**, MTSU supporter and parent; owner, Culver's restaurant; board member, Linse Bock Foundation, which funds School of Music scholarship.

**Devin McClendon**, B.A. Political Science (1996); commercial real estate/political fundraising; past president MTSU Alumni Association; former board member MTSU Foundation and BRAA.

**Rick Mansfield**, B.A. History (1980); MTSU parent and Murfreesboro attorney; vice chair, Friends of Liberal Arts board.

**Phyllis Murray Martin**, B.A. (Speech and Theatre) 1975; current president, MTSU Foundation.

**Alice Nunnery**, M.A. English (1983); retired English professor.

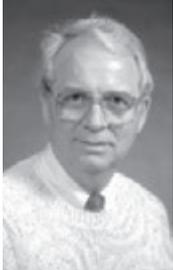
**William Windham**, retired faculty member and Department of History chair; established in 1990 the Windham Lecture Series, which brings a prominent speaker to MTSU each year.

**Doug Young**, B.A. Sociology (1971), owner/operator, City Tile in Murfreesboro; city council member; MTSU Alumni Association board member; former MTSU Foundation member; Chair, Friends of Liberal Arts board.



*Matt Hibdon, MTSU Honors Student,  
History major, Graduate May 2012*

## During academic year 2011–12, the College of Liberal Arts lost five distinguished colleagues.



**Charles Jackson Dean**, associate professor emeritus of the Department of English, passed away December 1, 2011 at his home. After completing his B.A. and B.D. degrees from Vanderbilt Divinity School, he studied for a year at Durham University in England. Mr. Dean received his M.A. from Columbia University in New York and came to Murfreesboro in 1962. He taught at MTSU for 42 years before retiring in 2004. He is survived by his wife, Mary Frances “Fran” Wright Dean; son, David Dean; brother, Bill Dean; and sister, Joann Rochester.

**Virginia Fowler** (secretary in the Geography and Geology Department, now Geosciences) passed away recently. Mrs. Fowler served the department from 1970 to 1996, under chairs Ralph Fullerton and William Kohland.



**William H. Holland Jr.**, who joined the English faculty in 1966 and retired in 1993, passed away at his home in Bastrop, Texas, on January 23, 2012. He received his B.A. in English from Millsaps College, where he was a member of ODK Leadership Fraternity and Pi Kappa Alpha social fraternity and was editor of the literary magazine and the yearbook. He joined the army during the Korean War and was stationed in Germany, where he used his word skills as a code breaker. He received his master’s degree from the University of Mississippi and his doctorate in English from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He is survived by his wife, Anne S. Holland; son, James E. Holland (Anna); sister, Shirley H. Carley; daughters, Mary T. Hatcliff (Pat) and Carolyne Raney (Eric) and D’Arcy Simpson (Chuck); daughter-in-law, Patricia K. Holland; stepson W.M. Holmes (Donna); 11 grandchildren; and 2 great-grandchildren.



**Jerry Ross Perkins** (School of Music) passed away September 29, 2011. Dr. Perkins taught piano at MTSU for 40 years. He received his bachelor and master of music degrees from the College-Conservatory of Music of the University of Cincinnati on a University Honor scholarship. He received his doctorate at Boston University. Dr. Perkins cofounded the Stones River Chamber Players and served as its artistic director for many years. He is survived by his sons, Curt and Eliot, and his partner, Jon Howard.



Professor Emeritus **Jack Justin Turner**, who taught in the Political Science Department for 35 years, passed away December 29, 2011, in Lexington, Kentucky. Dr. Turner received his undergraduate degree from Berea College and his Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky. He primarily taught international relations at MTSU. After retirement, he wrote a series of novels set in his beloved Kentucky and a history/memoir, *Maytown Magic and Mayhem: Fifty Years of Mountain Basketball*. He is survived by his wife, Judith (Judy) Gibson Turner, hundreds of successful former students, many friends, and a loving family.



photo: J. Intintoli

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# MTSU *Arts*

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Visit [www.mtsuarts.com](http://www.mtsuarts.com) for more information on performances occurring on the campus of MTSU.  
All music events will be held in Hinton Music Hall, Wright Music Building unless otherwise noted.

Throughout the semester, visit ongoing student art exhibitions in the Todd Art Gallery.

See the calendar insert in this magazine for more information.

*Painting by Damaris Ruiz, MTSU Art student*

