

THE ALUMNI RECORD

News for MTSU alumni and friends

March 2009 Vol. 6 / No. 3

Expanding your MT horizons

Innovative classes, entertaining tours await alumni

By Rhonda Wright
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Mark your calendars to return to campus for the second Alumni Summer College at Middle Tennessee State University, June 24-26.

As an annual event, Alumni Summer College is an opportunity to expand your knowledge of interesting subjects with fellow MT alums. A curriculum that combines innovative classes and entertaining tours has been specifically created with Blue Raiders in mind.

Open to alumni and friends, the college will be a casual, fun-packed three days of learning. While exploring this year's theme of "How Things Work," we will be studying the how and why of a variety of MTSU programs. There will be several once-in-a-lifetime moments that you do not want to miss.

Alumni Summer College registration begins at 2 p.m., Wednesday, June 24, at The MTSU Alumni House. After you are welcomed with a campus tour and book-



store shopping trip, a backyard picnic at the Alumni House will give everyone time to get to know each other. The first class will be after dinner, as we tour the university's library. Located off the quad in the heart of the newer part of campus, James E. Walker Library is considered a beacon building, guiding students across campus. We will gain understanding of how libraries work in the electronic age

while touring this striking four-story modern structure. After learning how today's students receive information, we will be transported to the 1700s by candlelight to experience how people printed information in Benjamin Franklin's day. Housed in the library, the replica 18th-century Benjamin Franklin Printing

(See 'Alumni Summer College,' Page 5)

ALUM ON MOVE

An idea grew into a foundation for alumnus Keith Taylor ('89).



Ron Derhacopian / For Modest Needs

Man of Modest Needs

Taylor's mission: Help people get past emergencies

By Randy Weiler
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For 98 years, MTSU has educated students of all ages in diverse disciplines from aerospace to women's studies and many more in between.

Notable alumni have emerged from the fields of business (1986 Nobel recipient James Buchanan, '40), education

(See 'Taylor,' Page 4)

'Positioning MTSU for the Future'

By Tonja L. Johnson tjohnso@mtsu.edu

Although institutions of higher learning across the state are abuzz about the potential impact of the proposed funds that have been promised to higher education through the recently passed economic stimulus package, Middle Tennessee State University President Sidney A. McPhee cautions the MTSU community that this is not the

(See 'Positioning,' Page 2)



Andy Heidt/MTSU Photographic Services

MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee listens while Aisha Kabba, a junior pre-med/chemistry major, asks a question during a Feb. 12 town-hall meeting with students, faculty and staff in Keathley University Center. The forum was sponsored by MTSU's Office of Leadership and Service.

Carnegie distinction

Foundation honors MTSU for partnerships, outreach, community engagement

By Tom Tozer ttozer@mtsu.edu

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching recently selected MTSU for its 2008 Community Engagement Classification, which recognizes universities that demonstrate commitment to curricular engagement and outreach

(See 'Carnegie,' Page 2)

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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Price, Windham Join Signal Society

Club's 10 members have 40-year level of giving

Glen Price and William Windham have joined a distinguished group of MTSU alumni and friends.

The MTSU Foundation and the Office of Development recognized Mr. Price and Dr. Windham as donors who have given to the university for 40 years. They have joined only eight other members in the 40-year level of the Signal Society giving club.

The Signal Society recognizes faithful annual giving, regardless of the amount donated, and beginning at 20 years.

Kippy Todd, assistant director in the Office of Development, commented on the level of commitment by Signal Society members, saying, "Now, more than ever, private support is making college possible for students. Our donors have continued to give, often sacrificially, to support MTSU, and we are most grateful for their gifts and their friendship to the university."



Windham



Price

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CAMPUS UPDATE



MTSU Campus Pharmacy opens

The new MTSU Campus Pharmacy opened for business Jan. 15 in the newly expanded Health, Wellness and Recreation Center. In addition to providing full prescription services, the pharmacy offers a complete line of over-the-counter pharmaceutical products, vita-



mins, antacids, first-aid items and more (see photo at left). At right, pharmacy director Tabby Ragland, left, and certified pharmacy technician Gina Hale take and prepare customers' orders. For other current construction activity on campus, visit mtsunews.com.

Positioning

from Page 1

"silver bullet" that will rid the state's colleges and universities of their long-term budget woes.

"While we hope that stimulus funds will allow us to mitigate tuition increases for a couple of years and help to offset some of the immediate cuts that we had previously anticipated, we must remember that these funds are only temporary," said McPhee. "There are still a number of critical long- and short-term institutional challenges that we will have to address which go far beyond what can be accomplished through such short-term funding."

With this in mind, McPhee is moving forward with a campuswide initiative, which he formally introduced in 2008, to develop a set of recommendations that not only will address key budget challenges but also strategically position MTSU for future growth and stability. "Over the past few months, I have had the privilege of hearing from countless individuals who have been impressed and encouraged by our efforts to appropriately address critical budget issues in these challenging economic times.

"Thanks to the overwhelming support from the university community for our 'Positioning the University for the Future Initiative,' I am pleased to report that we have an effective, collaborative and systematic means for developing recommendations to help address our budget concerns," said McPhee.

Having started the conversation about how the university might deal with significant budget cuts in March of 2008, MTSU was well ahead of many

other universities across the country when more serious discussions about the failing economy's impact on higher education began later in the year. Since the fall 2008 semester, a 15-member Steering Committee and four Strategic Work Groups have been meeting on campus at least once a week to develop long- and short-term recommendations that will not only help the university address critical budget challenges

but also stay strategically focused on the goals of the MTSU Academic Master Plan. According to McPhee, the strength of this effort lies in the fact that the Initiative involves the participation of a broad range of individuals, including faculty, staff, adminis-

trators, students and community members.

While the Steering Committee has been responsible for developing and overseeing the overall organization and processes of the Initiative and working toward the development of a final report of recommendations, each work group was assigned to explore how the university might address budget issues from one of four key vantage points — the academic enterprise, non-academic operations, energy efficiency and conservation; and opportunities for revenue generation.

For more information about the "Positioning the University for the Future Initiative," visit the Initiative Web site, which can be accessed via the yellow link at the bottom of the MTSU home page or at www.mtsu.edu/strategic/.

"Thanks to the overwhelming support from the university community for our 'Positioning the University for the Future Initiative,' I am pleased to report that we have an effective, collaborative and systematic means for developing recommendations to help address our budget concerns."

— MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee

Carnegie

from Page 1

reach and partnerships.

MTSU joins such universities as California State, Duke, Clemson, Purdue and 107 other institutions of higher learning across the nation "where teaching, learning and scholarship engage faculty, students and community in mutually beneficial and respectful collaboration." The designation also reflects the university's sharing of its resources with the community and being involved in partnerships that enhance scholarship, research and economic development.

"Community engagement is central to our academic core," said Faye Johnson, assistant to the executive vice president and provost for special initiatives, who edited and wrote much of the proposal submitted for consideration.

"This is a very prestigious designation [that recognizes work] to implement and sustain an integrated campuswide commitment to continuous community engagement," she added.

The report underwent a peer review to meet stringent criteria before it could qualify for the classification. MTSU's American Democracy Project, coordinated by Dr. Jim Williams, history

professor, was one of the models cited in the proposal that exemplified civic engagement demonstrated by MTSU students. Another initiative that propelled MTSU to the top classification was the university's award-winning Experiential Learning Scholars program, under the leadership of Dr. Jill Austin, chair of the Department of Management and Marketing.

"We are extremely proud of the designation and remain committed to this initiative in every way," said Dr. Gloria Bonner, assistant to the president in the Office for Community Engagement and Support. "Dr. Rosemary Owens, university strategic partnership coordinator, worked closely with the Office of Academic Affairs and a dynamic team of individuals representing our very fine institution."

According to the Carnegie Foundation's Web site, 217 institutions indicated their intentions to apply by the March 1 deadline. The 119 successful applicants represented institutions from 34 states and Puerto Rico. To learn more about the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, please visit carnegiefoundation.org.

Alumni office plans many spring events

Scholarship luncheon, zoo day, Lunch with President join baseball outings

From MTSU Alumni Relations

It's travel season, and the Office of Alumni Relations is coming to an area near you. "Our alumni outside of Murfreesboro can't come back to campus as often as they like, so we try to go see them as often as possible," said Paul Wydra, assistant director for Alumni Relations. "We want our alums to continue to be involved with our university and to stay connected with other alumni in their area. Our spring event schedule offers a range of activities for our alumni, their families and MTSU friends."

On March 8, alumni are invited to an all-school alumni reception at the Sun Belt Basketball Championships in Hot Springs, Ark. The reception will be held in the Hot Springs Convention Center Grand Lobby at 10 a.m. Admission is free and open for all alumni. To order Sun Belt Basketball Championship tickets, call 1-615-898-5261.

The Lunch with the President series continues this spring in Brentwood on April 14. President Sidney A. McPhee will update alumni on the latest university news at Brentwood Country Club at 11:30 a.m. Reservations are required. There is limited seating available; call for tickets today.

The Rutherford County Alumni Chapter will host its annual scholarship luncheon on April 22 to benefit the Rutherford County Chapter Scholarship. Scholarships of \$1,000 are awarded to incoming Rutherford County freshmen from this fund, and more than \$36,000 in scholarships has been awarded in the last two years. April 22 is also Administrative Professionals Day, so plan to join us at Bonefish Grill to salute the hard-

working professionals in your office and support a great scholarship program. Tickets are \$12. Don't wait; seating is limited.



The Nashville Zoo at Grassmere will be the site for the third annual MTSU Alumni Zoo Day on Saturday, May 16.

Blue is returning to the Zoo! On May 16, MTSU alumni, friends and families are invited to the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere for the third annual MTSU Alumni Zoo Day. More than 800 people have enjoyed great times and created good memories in the last two years. Gates will open at 9 a.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children (ages 3-12), and includes admission and an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Children under 3 are free. Reservations are REQUIRED, so don't delay. The deadline to reserve tickets is May 8.

This spring, we wanted to give alumni a chance to relax, reconnect and enjoy America's favorite pastime. "Minor league baseball games and picnics go hand in hand, and this is a great chance for our alumni to get reacquainted and bring their families to a fun outing" said Wydra. "These are new events for us, and we know Chattanooga and Memphis will be great hosts for our alumni." Early summer dates are being planned for Chattanooga Lookouts and Memphis Redbirds games. Picnics will be included. "We will announce all of the dates and details on our alumni Web site, so be sure to check back soon," Wydra said.

MTSU alumni, friends and families are invited to all events on this exciting list of activities.

For more detailed information and to make reservations, go to mtalumni.com or call the MTSU Alumni Relations office at 1-800-533-6878. We can't wait to see you there!

CALENDAR

Campus-related events

March

- 2-20** Invitational Exhibition: The Work of Charles Gick**
- 3** Women Composers Revealed***
- 6** Physics and Astronomy First Friday Star Party*
- 15** Music from Japan***
- 20** MTSU Wind Ensemble***
- 21-25** MTSU Guitar Festival***
- 27** MTSU Opera Scenes***
- 28** Clavierfest, Piano Competition***
- 30** Studio BFA Exhibition**



The Spring Dance Concert will be held April 16-18 in MTSU's Tucker Theatre.

April

- 1-3** Studio BFA Exhibition**
- 1-5** "Urinetown"****
- 2** MTSU Choral Concert***
- 2** Physics and Astronomy First Friday Star Party*
- 4** MTSU Jazz Artist Series***
- 5** See Spot Run*****
- 6** Stones River Chamber Players***
- 8** MTSU Percussion Ensemble****
- 13-17** Studio 2 BFA Exhibition**
- 16-18** Spring Dance Concert****
- 17** Leopoldo Erice Faculty Piano Recital***
- 21** MTSU Women's Chorale***
- 27** Smith, DeBoer and Osterfield Faculty Recital***
- 27-30** Graphic Design BFA Exhibition**
- 28** MTSU Symphonic Band Concert***
- 29** MTSU Commercial Music Esemble***

May

- 1** Physics and Astronomy First Friday Star Party*
- 1** Graphic Design BFA Exhibition**
- 9** MTSU Spring Commencement in Murphy Center, 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. ceremonies

* For more information, go to www.mtsu.edu/physics/index.shtml
** For more information, go to <http://frank.mtsu.edu/~art/barngallery/index.html>
*** For more information, go to <http://frank.mtsu.edu/~music/calendar.html>
**** For more information, go to www.mtsu.edu/theatre/currentseason.shtml
***** For more information, go to <http://www.active.com>



Submitted photo

Alumna gift for WMOT

MTSU alumna Jennifer Wendel ('93, '97), center left, holds a framed series of photographs of her parents and jazz legend Duke Ellington that she donated earlier this year, along with \$1,000, to the new MTSU/WMOT Jazz Connections Memorial Wall. The presentation honors Lewis C. Wendell and Elizabeth Wendell, along with family friend Carl Gebuhr, for their love of jazz and MTSU. The Wendell and Gebuhr families were friends when they lived in Pakistan, which Ellington visited during a world tour. Shown are, from left, WMOT Director John Egly; Wendell's son, MTSU alumnus Christopher Engels ('08); Wendell; Fran Gebuhr, Carl's widow; and Dr. John Omachonu, associate dean of MTSU's College of Mass Communication.

Taylor

(1988 National Teacher of the Year Terry Weeks, '72 and '74), and political science (the late former U.S. Sen. Albert Gore Sr., '32).

Alumni such as Hollywood composer George S. Clinton ('69), U.S. Rep. Bart Gordon ('71), and recently retired National Football League quarterback Kelly Holcomb ('94), among others, have reached the national and international stage in their fields.

Then there is alumnus Dr. Keith Taylor ('89), who was full-speed-ahead as an MTSU Department of English faculty member before totally switching gears. Taylor used to teach Chaucer and other medieval and British literature courses. Now he travels across the United States and Canada on a mission to assist individuals in emergency situations through the Modest Needs Foundation he conceived and founded.

With a staff of 25 and with offices in New York and San Francisco, Taylor orchestrates his life's work that might provide an automobile catalytic converter for one person, a special Graco Sweet Peace Newborn Soothing Center for the mother of a baby born prematurely or - the No. 1 Modest Needs request — pay the rent or house payment for someone strapped with a short-term crisis.

"This has been a personal project," he says. "There have been times in my life where I had short-term emergencies," he says of the reason he chose to do this. "Driving home from MTSU one day, I began thinking about people who helped me with short-term emergencies. I probably wouldn't have had a job or been able to have a foundation like Modest Needs if people had not helped me get through short-term emergencies. None of these people (who helped me) were wealthy. I want to do for other people what others had done for me."

The original seed was helping an individual in Indiana meet a \$70 automobile insurance payment.

"That was the best check I ever wrote in my life," Taylor says.

In March 2002, Taylor began setting aside \$350 a month to help people who might need new tires, groceries, a utility bill paid or money to pay the rent or house payment. He created a Web site to help find more people in need. His site was linked to other sites. National media ("The Today Show," CNN, "USA Today," "People" magazine, National Public Radio, CBS "Early Show" and more) began to inquire. The foundation became a reality.

Modest Needs applications quickly grew to 300

Even during a 2002 photo shoot, then-MTSU English professor Keith Taylor ('89) was taking on modest needs one at a time.

per month. Now 2,000 applications a month are received, screened for consideration and, if selected, then posted on the Web site, where interested citizens across the U.S. and worldwide can join Taylor in fulfilling the needs. He said payments are made directly to hospitals, utility companies, landlords, banks, etc., rather than to the applicants, ensuring the money is spent properly.

There are other amazing and touching stories.

A Kentucky family had a son who needed special glasses because of a deformed cornea. The glasses cost \$550. Their application to Modest Needs asked for only \$50, with the mother explaining that she would get a second job.

"I said, 'Why don't we buy the lenses and you buy the frames?'" Taylor says, adding that the boy saw his mother for the first time when he put on his new glasses. "He went on to do very well in school. He's in the sixth grade and is happy and healthy."

In another moving story, a woman living alone in a trailer discovers her bathroom floor has rotted out.

"She couldn't even bathe," Taylor says. "To me, that's a dignity issue."

Modest Needs paid for the repairs. Since then, the woman has sent him a monthly check for \$1.

"That is really, really unbelievable," he says.

Taylor discussed Modest Needs 2009 goals and ambitions.

"We really want to double the number of people who receive help," he says. "Sixteen hundred



Jack Ross/MTSU Photographic Services file photo

ALUMNI MAKING WAVES



Submitted photo

U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Becki M. Loudon ('99) was awarded a Bronze Star for her role in Operation Iraqi Freedom, serving from Jan. 13 until Dec. 1, 2008.

Robert "Bob" Jacobs ('82), acting assistant administrator for public affairs for NASA, accepted an Emmy for NASA Television Jan. 24. It was part of the Governors' Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Midsouth Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.



Tommy Lawson/NATAS

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or 1,700 grants this year (2008) impacted a lot of people. We plan to revise the Web site. We want to stabilize the organization. We've had a period of tremendous growth. We have a significant number of staff. We have offices on two coasts. "Moving to 2010, we're looking at additional offices where we can be physically located: the Southeast, Midwest, Canada has been begging us (to come) for four years. We want to continue to expand services."

At 41, Taylor says he does not plan to retire or turn loose of the foundation, which is supported by "grants that pay our operating costs." For instance, the Herb Alpert Foundation "has given over \$1 million over a period of time."

Taylor says he "stays in touch with several of his former fellow MTSU faculty members." Because of the foundation's growth, he has not been able to maintain a connection with the university.

"I receive letters from former (MTSU) students now located in New York," he says. "We chat. They asked me to help with some part of their career or (they) personally want to help Modest Needs."

As for MTSU participation, Taylor says he does not know how many alumni, faculty, staff, administrators and students might be Modest Needs donors.

"... The only way for me to know is if I personally know (a donor) or they come online with an MTSU e-mail address," he says. "A couple of my colleagues in the English department have been donors since the early days. I would like to see a lot more (with MTSU ties) participate. The university has very involved and caring faculty and very involved and caring alumni. That alone could change the face of giving in the U.S."

Taylor says it's simple for the MTSU community to become involved.

"We run on small contributions from large numbers of people," he says, adding that potential donors can go to the Modest Needs Web site, create a contribution and view the actual contributors. "How to help is with 10-, 20-, 30-, 40- and 50-dollar donations. It's not hard for 20 people to each give \$50. It might be difficulty for one person to give \$1,000. If you do \$50 — and 19 more people do \$50 — that's \$1,000. Working together, we can change the lives and people in short-term crisis."

For more information, visit modestneeds.com.

Press was constructed from original drawings by members of the MTSU Facility Services team.

On Thursday, we will travel to the Murfreesboro Municipal Airport for flight school with the world-class instructors of the MTSU Department of Aerospace. Recognized as one of the top programs of its kind in the world, the aerospace department teaches every aspect of the flight industry. Find out how a plane works in the sky and on the ground. Introduction to Flight, Technology in Training, and Airliner Technology in Small Aircraft are classes that will use flight simulators and static displays of glass-cockpit aircraft to provide an understanding of what it takes to earn a degree from the program. We also will tour the Aircraft Maintenance Laboratory and the university's Boeing 727. We will enjoy lunch in an airplane hangar at the airport.

We've heard a lot about the need for alternative fuels and vehicles lately. Learn how their effects are being studied at MTSU. Having worked with alternative fuels for 30 years, Dr. Cliff Ricketts, professor in the Department of Agribusiness and Agriscience, will give the group an overview of ethanol production, demonstrate an ethanol Corvette, discuss methane production and explain the process of how to prepare used cooking oil to run in a biodiesel Corvette.

Ricketts then will take us through the process of how to run engines on hydrogen from water, using the sun as the power source. We also will see the hydrogen race vehicle which set and held the hydrogen land speed record at the Bonneville Salt Flats for 15 years. The class will conclude with a demonstration of the solar/electric flex-fuel Toyota Prius and the MTSU-manufactured vehicle which runs on sun and water as its only power sources, funded in part by the MTSU Green Energy Fee paid by students.

June is National Dairy Month, and we are going to celebrate with ice cream! Discover what makes your favorite brand your favorite brand. We'll dive into the world of flavorings and ingredients to identify preferred individual tastes.

Did you know all of the milk consumed in university dining facilities is produced by the MTSU herd and processed by students? Experience what agribusiness students learn while studying dairy production at the only university milk processing plant in Tennessee. MTSU is rumored to produce the best chocolate milk around. Judge for yourself as we sample the finished product.

Thursday wraps up as we revisit one of your favorite meat and threes, the City Café, for dinner. Many Blue Raiders have fond memories of walking or hitching a ride to this downtown restaurant. We

will honor the City Café's reputation as an unofficial polling place by holding our election for class president there.

Friday is Alumni Summer College field trip day. Several treats are in store as we travel to historic Lynchburg, Tenn., home of the world-famous Jack Daniel's Distillery. Experience how a true southern boarding house worked in the early 1900s

individual tastes. We'll have an educational tasting to learn about each brand and be encouraged to discern their differences by the way they were processed, look, smell and taste. It's OK if you don't want to taste; just sit beside someone who does.

Lynchburg is the county seat of Moore County, the smallest county in Tennessee. Even though it's home to the distillery, it's a dry county and has been ever since Prohibition. While the distillery may be the main attraction there, you won't want to miss the chance to browse through the Lynchburg Hardware and General Store as well as a variety of other unique shops located around the town's square.

Opened in the spring of 2004, Barbecue Hill is tailor-made for good southern cooking and old-fashioned fun. The open-air pavilion offers a spectacular view of Jack Daniel's Hollow and the town of Lynchburg. Enjoy a relaxing afternoon with your classmates throwing horseshoes, tossing bungs, sipping lemonade, and rocking on the edge of the hollow.

Have you ever thought that your love of barbeque should qualify you to be a judge? Judging contests is a lot harder than one might think. Find out what it takes to be a judge at the Jack Daniel's annual Invitational Barbecue. For 20 years, this contest has attracted barbecue masters from all around the world. We'll see how judges choose the best of the best before dinner on Barbecue Hill.

By the end of the program, attendees will have earned the honor and distinction of Alumni Summer College graduates and will enjoy the accomplishment at a graduation ceremony.

Tuition for Alumni Summer College is \$195 per person, and the registration deadline is May 20. Space is limited. Tuition includes classes, seven meals, transportation from the Alumni House each day, and transportation to and from Lynchburg. A detailed schedule and registration information are posted at www.mtalumni.edu. Special rates are available at area hotels.

Contact Rhonda Wright, Alumni Relations assistant director, at rwright@mtsu.edu or 1-800-533-6878 with any questions.

SCHEDULE 2009



How Things Work

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24

Registration
Campus Tour and Group Photo
Opening Backyard Picnic at the MTSU Alumni House
Tour of James E. Walker Library
Candlelight Printing

THURSDAY, JUNE 25

Breakfast at the MTSU Alumni House
Preparing for Take Off
Hangar Lunch
Alternative Fuels and Vehicles
Got Milk?
We All Scream for Ice Cream
Dinner at the City Cafe

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

Breakfast at the MTSU Alumni House
Fieldtrip to Lynchburg
Lunch at Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House Restaurant
Jack Daniel's Distillery Tour
Family of Brands Tasting
Lynchburg Town Square
Social Hour at BBQ Hill
BBQ School
Dinner at Barbecue Hill
Alumni Summer College Graduation

For more information, go to www.mtalumni.com
or call Rhonda Wright at 1-800-533-6878.

while dining at Miss Mary Bobo's Boarding House Restaurant for lunch. Sit at a large family table alongside a gracious hostess, who will encourage conversation, share a bit of local lore and ensure that dishes are passed to the left. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Miss Mary Bobo's celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2008.

Jack Daniel's Distillery was licensed in 1866, making it the oldest distillery registered in the United States and a National Historic Site. While touring the grounds, we'll see where generations of proud, quality-minded folks have crafted the world-famous, charcoal-mellowed Tennessee sip-pin' whiskey. Learn how their products are manufactured and hear some interesting stories along the way.

Although all Jack Daniel's Tennessee Whiskeys share a family resemblance, they have their own



To view some highlights of the 2008 Alumni Summer College, go to: www.mtalumni.com.

CLASS NOTES

1960s

Diane Hodge Duncan ('67), Louisville, Ky., is a retired art teacher and teaches part-time at Noe Middle School.

Richard Holland ('65), Tampa, Fla., is a retired FBI agent and currently serves as vice president of compliance for a financial institution.

Hank Smith ('65, '72), Saugerties, N.Y., is in his 43rd year of teaching physical education and serves as a deacon for St. Mary of the Snow Church.

Anne D. Underhill ('67, '71), Murfreesboro, is retired from Murfreesboro City Schools and works part-time at DeHoff Christian Bookstore.

Bertram Wakeley ('66), Taylors, S.C., after 42 years of service, is retired and working on a book about presidential politics.

Anthony Zimmerman ('65), Springfield, Va., has received his professional certification in Human Factors and Applied Cognition from the psychology department of George Mason University. He works for Defense Intelligence Agency in Washington, D.C.

1970s

David Alan Albanese ('71), Houston, Texas, is a managing member of Futures Unlimited LLC.

Rebecca Lynn Albanese ('73), Houston, Texas, supervises all domestic buyers for the fuels marketing division of ExxonMobil.

Shelia Bedwell ('75), Fort Myers, Fla., is a property acquisition assistant for Lee County Government.

Lane Davies ('72), Cohutta, Ga., is founder and artistic director for the Tennessee Shakespeare Festival.

Dan Elrod ('70), Nashville, Tenn., has been included in Business Tennessee's 150 Best Lawyers.

Alaana Hawkins ('74), Readyville, Tenn., is a medical technician and nurse for Michael MacQuarrie M.D.

Steven King ('76), Encinitas, Calif., is the executive vice president of sales and marketing for Insight Health Corporation.

Sue Leslie Lytle ('76), Tracy City, Tenn., published her book *Execution's Doorstep: True Stories of the Innocent and Near Damned*.

Bobbie Markham ('79), Nashville, Tenn., is a transcription quality coordinator for HCA-HSC Nashville Shared Services Division.

Dr. Rosemary W. Owens ('72, '74, '79), Murfreesboro, received the Association for Continuing Higher Education's Emeritus Award.

1980s

Dale T. Barnett ('81), Raleigh, N.C., is the manager of Hunt Horse Complex at the N.C. State Fairgrounds.

Jeff Betzler ('86), Lexington, Tenn., and **Tim Montgomery** ('87), Murfreesboro, have formed a new CPA firm: Edmonson, Betzler & Montgomery PLLC.

Barry Buchanan ('86), Tuscumbia, Ala., is a home health administrator for Southern Rural Healthcare Inc.

Lt. Col. Danny N. Clark ('87, '88, '89), Tuscaloosa, Ala., is professor of military science at the University of Alabama.

Kent Evetts ('81), Greenbrier, Tenn., has been promoted to environmental operating unit manager for Barge, Waggoner, Sumner and Cannon Inc.

Valerie Galloway ('84), Arlington, Texas, is director of education and outreach for Casa Manana Musicals Inc.

Jean Garrison ('85), Nashville, Tenn., is a staff vice president for W. D. Schock Company Inc.

Roderic Hewlett ('86, '98), Macomb, Mich., is vice president of product development and management for Laureate Higher Education Group in Baltimore, Md.

John E. Lentz ('83), Corinth, Texas, is the music director at FirstCom Music.

Nedra Morris-Bailey ('83), Murfreesboro, is a claim representative for State Farm Insurance.

Col. David L. Musgrave ('89), Richmond, Ky., has assumed the U.S. Army command of the Blue Grass Chemical Agency at Blue Grass Army Depot.

David W. Pierce ('82, '00), Murfreesboro, has published his first book, *Don't Let Me Go*, and is an adjunct professor in the MTSU English department.

Regina Puckett ('87), Murfreesboro, has published her new book, *What the Heart Knows*.

Gregory Robertson ('87), Murfreesboro, is a supervisor and realtor.

Marion Southall-White ('88), Antioch, Tenn., is a production leader for Calvin White.

Rod Williams ('85), Sammamish, Wash., is executive vice president and chief underwriting officer of Liberty Mutual Surety in Seattle.

1990s

Lisa Butler ('93), Nashville, Tenn., is a production artist for Gish, Sherwood and Friends.

Tricia Craig ('96), Goodlettsville, Tenn., is assistant principal of Jo Byrns Elementary School in Cedar Hill, Tenn.

Nathan Downing ('95), North Bethesda, Md., is senior editor for TEAM Sound and Vision.

William Christopher Dixon ('99), Chattanooga, Tenn., is an attorney with the law office of Johnny Houston.

Daniel Lyn Graves II ('91), Murfreesboro, has joined the law firm of Price and Tidwell.

David Griffith ('94), West Chester, Ohio, is training pilots for the new Iraqi Air Force in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Jaime Groce ('97), Collierville, Tenn., is the chief planner for the town of Collierville.

Amy Harrison ('99), Smyrna, Ga., is a senior commercial underwriter for Zurich Small Business Insurance.

Clint Jennings ('98), Buffalo Valley, Tenn., is assistant vice president for internal audit at Hospital Corporation of America in Nashville, Tenn.

Joshua Larsen ('99), Apple Valley, Minn., is a reference attorney for Thomson Reuters.

Sergeant First Class Becki M. Louden ('99), Woodbury, Tenn., has been awarded the U.S. Army's Bronze Star for exceptional meritorious service.

Chris Marsh ('99), Lewisburg, Tenn., is director of information technology and telecommunications for Cosmolab Inc.

Anissa Mirtes ('91), Calhoun, Ga., is a teacher with Gordon County Schools.

Tejas Patel ('99), Aurora, Ill., is vice president and technology manager for Bank of America.

Terri Ray ('94), Pegram, Tenn., is the mayor of Pegram.

Lee Sandstead ('96), Newcomerstown, Ohio, hosts *Art Attack with Lee Sandstead* on the Travel Channel.

Lt. Bill Sharp ('93), Woodbury, Tenn., is a detective for the Rutherford County Sheriff's Office Cold Case Unit.

Brad Shepard ('97), Murfreesboro, is a cofounder of Innovar Partners, an operational improvement firm.

Tracy Sissom ('94), Beech Grove, Tenn., is a registered nurse for the Cannon County Board of Education.

Caresa Young ('95, '97, '99), Murfreesboro, received her Ph.D. in special education from Vanderbilt University and serves as director of the reading clinic at the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center.

2000s

Jennifer Bailey ('08), Murfreesboro, is a staff accountant for Carr, Riggs & Ingram LLC.

Kristen L. Beadle ('06, '08), Murfreesboro, is a construction sales specialist for Waste Management.

Christi Bogle ('03), Woodbury, Tenn., is a spa consultant and relaxation coach for Spa Escapes by Christi.

Daniel Bond ('03), Chicago, Ill., joined the law firm of Kirkland and Ellis as a litigation associate.

Jennifer Carter ('02), Dallas, Texas, is a flight attendant for Southwest Airlines.

Zac Cook ('04), Nashville, Tenn., recently completed his M.B.A. at Belmont University.

Zelia Cross ('01), Murfreesboro, is a compensation analyst for MTSU.

Richard Denney ('06), Murfreesboro, is a legal administrative specialist with the Department of Veteran Affairs.

Marcia Beene Dickerson ('01, '04), La Vergne, Tenn., is the managing editor of military publications for Iostudio in Nashville, Tenn.

Kelley Doss ('05), Nashville, Tenn., is a payroll compliance analyst for SMS Holdings.

Bobby Duke ('03, '07), Murfreesboro, has been awarded the \$25,000 Milken Foundation National Educator Award.

Rachel Edington ('06), Knoxville, Tenn., is a hall director for the University of Tennessee Housing Office.

Melody Foy ('06), Knoxville, Tenn., is a professional school counselor.

Fernando Greene ('03), Murfreesboro, is a graphic designer for Wax Family Printing.

Chassen Haynes ('08), Murfreesboro, is the director of government affairs and small business for the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce.

Benjamin S. Henson ('03), Tuscaloosa, Ala., is a producer and director for the University of Alabama Center for Public Television and Radio.

Misty Herndon ('05), Waverly, Tenn., is a paralegal at the law office of Anthony L. Sanders.

Michael Hicks ('08), Universal City, Texas, is a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Randolph Air Force Base.

Rebecca Jones ('03), Nashville, Tenn., is the guest services manager for Simon Property Group.

Marissa Miller ('06, '08), Geneva, N.Y., is an area coordinator for residential education at Hobart and William Smith College.

Britnee Movai ('05), Lexington, S.C., is the South Carolina regional manager for Hutcheson Enterprises Inc.

Deidre Ortiz ('08), Winchester, Tenn., is a staff news reporter for the *Herald-Chronicle*.

Sherry Parfait ('04), Cane Ridge, Tenn., recently launched Parfait Creative Media in Nashville, Tenn.

John Patrick ('01), Fairfax, Va., is an audio/video systems engineer for Avitecture Inc.

Dawn Perault-Amstutz ('90, '00), Saint Paul, Minn., is a veterinary technician for Century Animal Clinic.

Matthew Reed ('07, '08), Murfreesboro, is an auditor with Ernst & Young in Nashville, Tenn.

Avery Riordan ('07), Austin, Texas, is a ticket agent and shipping manager for All Access Today.

Marianna Rucker ('05), Franklin, Tenn., is a Web marketing copywriter and editor for The Lampo Group.

Ryann Schneider ('05), Murfreesboro, has joined Bass, Berry & Sims in their intellectual property and technology and corporate and securities practices office.

Jeffrey Skaggs ('03), Nashville, Tenn., works in the creative department of Kobalt Music.

Adam Smith ('03), Smyrna, Tenn., is an attorney with Miller & Martin PLLC.

Evelyn Stewart ('05), Wartrace, Tenn., is emergency director for Harton Regional Medical Center.

Seth Stouder ('08), Brentwood, Tenn., is an on air D.J. for 102.9 the Buzz.

Netsanet Abraha Tegegn ('02), Nashville, Tenn., is the program coordinator of child welfare services at Catholic Charities of Tennessee Inc.

Capt. Rohn Perry White ('02), Richmond Hill, Ga., graduated from Shippensburg University with an M.S. in organizational development and leadership.

Emily Wright ('07), Murfreesboro, is a sales representative for Kay Cameron's Educational Sales.

In Memoriam

MTSU and the Office of Alumni Relations extend deepest sympathy to the families and friends of alumni who have passed away.

1940s

Billy E. Royster ('49, '73), Manchester, Tenn., died Jan. 25, 2009.

1950s

Joseph Burks Sr. ('59), Horse Cave, Ky., died Aug. 1, 2008.

Natalie F. Robling ('55), Elberfeld, Ind., died Jan. 5, 2007.

1960s

James T. Bell ('62), Grayson, Ga., died Dec. 31, 2007.

Pauline Wilson Blankenship ('60), Murfreesboro, Tenn., died March 8, 2008.

Billy J. Chitwood ('62), Madison, Tenn., died May 31, 2008.

Ronnie Wilmouth ('64), Indian Wells, Calif., died Dec. 14, 2008.

1970s

Sandra Norvella Mason Merkis ('72), Norris City, Ill., died Aug. 4, 2008.

John N. Wood ('77, '78), Augusta, W.Va., died July 6, 2008.

1980s

Mary Southerland Ledbetter ('81), Crossville, Tenn., died Oct. 14, 2008.

Your e-mail address is important

Now more than ever, it is important that we have your updated e-mail address. With a growing alumni population and increasing mailing costs, it has become even more critical for the Alumni Office to use more efficient and cost-effective means to communicate with our alumni population. E-mail, along with our Web site, is the fastest and least expensive method available to keep you in touch. Please help further our efforts by submitting and/or updating your e-mail address. E-mail addresses may be submitted online at mtalumni.com or by calling the Alumni Office at 1-800-533-6878.

Integrity, quality, safety remain MTSU’s priorities

You, the alumni of Middle Tennessee State University, still are members of this Family of Blue. As the campus has changed and the student population has grown, promoting the family feeling of the MTSU campus is still very prevalent.

These tough economic times have caused families to analyze budgets and look for ways to reduce spending. MTSU executives are involved in this same process. Like other schools in the Tennessee Board of Regents system, MTSU has submitted a plan to reduce its base expenses to meet the coming budget cuts. The final budgets and cutbacks will be official in late March.

First and foremost, the goal of the institution is to maintain the integrity and quality of the academic programs and ensure the safety of the students. The university continues to remain committed to students in several different ways:

- Did you know that MTSU has an emergency text-messaging service? Students, faculty, and staff are able to receive safety-alert text messages on their cell phones when they register for the service. This will further enhance our ability to keep the MTSU community informed of critical situations.
- Do you have a freshman entering MTSU? Student Persistence Initiatives are designed as one-on-one advising for freshmen.

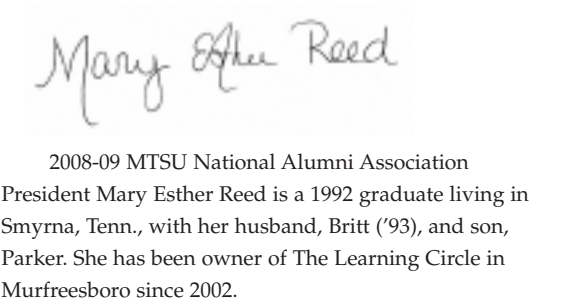


Reed

The five schools involved in this advising program saw a 1.8% increase in returning students.

- Retaining students through graduation is a campuswide initiative and has increased during the last few years. Returning freshmen numbers have improved, fewer freshmen have undeclared majors, and the initiative of tracking juniors to encourage graduation also has escalated.
- Twenty-one departments earned the Academic Performance Award. The graduating seniors in these departments performed above average in their major field exams.
- Scores for MTSU seniors exceeded the national average on 2007-08 general education exams.

These are only a few of the ways MTSU continues the family tradition. Like all large families, we miss individuals when their chairs are empty at our events. Make it a point to become a more active MTSU family member.



2008-09 MTSU National Alumni Association President Mary Esther Reed is a 1992 graduate living in Smyrna, Tenn., with her husband, Britt ('93), and son, Parker. She has been owner of The Learning Circle in Murfreesboro since 2002.

Baby Raiders

Ashlen Michelle Alcorn, born March 21, 2008, to **Shannon Michelle** ('92) and **Allen Alcorn** of Fayetteville, Tenn.

Jackson Matthew Baker, born Sept. 8, 2008, to **Courtney** ('05) and **Jeffery Baker** ('06) of La Vergne, Tenn.

Jackson H. Bentz, born Feb. 20, 2007, to **Mandy** ('03) and **Trevor Bentz** of Coalfield, Tenn.

Emilie Clancette Burris, born Oct. 8, 2008, to **Mandie** and **Adam Burris** ('06) of Chattanooga, Tenn.

Tristyn Layla Burton, born Oct. 4, 2008, to **Quintina** ('01, '03) and **Trent Burton** of Murfreesboro.

Addison Grace Clapp, born Oct. 15, 2008, to **Jacqueline Suzanne Berry** ('97) and **Jimmy Clapp** of Knoxville, Tenn.

Rebecca Reese Clemons, born April 6, 2008, to **Donna** ('90) and **Scott Clemons** of Red Bank, Tenn.

Kreslyn Zakiya Cross, born Dec. 28, 2007, to **Zelia** ('01) and **Kendrick Cross** of Murfreesboro.

Jaxen Lee Douglas, born Dec. 1, 2008, to **Faran** ('00) and **Jason Douglas** of Bell Buckle, Tenn.

Brooks Robert Durham, born Oct. 21, 2008, to **Melanie** ('00) and **Ryan Durham** ('98) of Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

Nate Dyer, born Oct. 1, 2008, to **Gwen** ('98, '05) and **Clay Dyer** of Murfreesboro.

Braxton Daniel Greever, born Oct. 12, 2008, to **Christie** ('06) and **Tom Greever** of Murfreesboro.

Taylor Patricia Harrison, born April 21, 2008, to **Amy** ('99) and **Rogers Harrison** of Smyrna, Ga.

Josie Caroline Hawkins, born Sept. 13, 2008, to **Cynthia** ('95) and **Chuck Hawkins** of Waverly, Ala.

Shelby Elizabeth Helton, born Jan. 7, 2009, to **Alicia** and **Kevin Helton** ('99) of Rogersville, Tenn.

Addison Michelle Howell, born Nov. 7, 2008, to **Lindsay** ('98) and **Kevin Howell** ('98) of Fletcher, N.C.

Benjamin Cai Jones, born Aug. 15, 2008, to **Terra** ('04) and **Zachary Jones** of Raleigh, N.C.

Judd Edward Linville, born Dec. 22, 2008, to **Kimberly** ('03) and **Eddie Linville** ('01, '03) of Lascassas, Tenn.

Marlee Erin Madry, born Sept. 18, 2008, to **Calita** and **Marland Madry** ('97) of Stockbridge, Ga.

Abbey Claire McClain, born Jan. 7, 2008, to **Carrie** ('99) and **Allen McClain** of Winchester, Tenn.

Cooper Lee Meredith, born Sept. 1, 2008, to **Sara Lynn Mosley** and **James Michael Meredith** ('96) of Nashville, Tenn.

Jason Earl Meredith, born Nov. 13, 2008, to **Bobbie J.** ('05) and **Brandon Meredith** ('07) of Smyrna, Tenn.

Rory Addison Oleksik, born Oct. 10, 2008, to **Rachel** ('99) and **George Oleksik** ('99) of Hixson, Tenn.

Owen Anthony Potts, born Nov. 11, 2007, to **Amy** and **Jason Potts** ('97) of Franklin, Tenn.

Anna Bennett and **Lauren Hilary Powell**, born Oct. 31, 2008, to **Candace** and **Michael Powell** ('97) of Quebeck, Tenn.

Madelyn Grace Riley, born Oct. 14, 2008, to **Amy** ('99) and **Bill Riley** of Antioch, Tenn.

Mylee Elizabeth Rogers, born Dec. 1, 2008, to **Michele** ('04) and **Chad Rogers** of White House, Tenn.

Jacob Dean Scruggs, born Oct. 21, 2008, to **Janice** ('94) and **Bill Scruggs** of Hartsville, Tenn.

Mali Marie Siple, born Nov. 6, 2008, to **Nishea Foley** ('02) and **Brent Siple** of Louisville, Ky.

Cooper Ryan Stevens, born June 20, 2008, to **Julie** ('03) and **Ryan Stevens** of Tullahoma, Tenn.

Sophie Isabel White, born Aug. 10, 2008, to **Melody** ('98) and **Jimmy White** ('97) of Jackson, Tenn.

MTSU NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-09		
Officers		
President – Mary Esther Reed ('92, '94, '96)	Smyrna, TN	
Vice President – Jim Stubblefield ('83)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Treasurer – Beth Barber Jones ('99)	Columbia, TN	
Secretary – Brent Campbell ('02)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Exec. Dir. – Ginger C. Freeman ('89, '92)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Past President – Devin McClendon ('96)	Brentwood, TN	
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Kent Ayer ('99)	Murfreesboro, TN	
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Mary Megan Benton ('97)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Chontel Bridgeman ('93, '95, '96)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Norman Burns ('85, '95)	Richmond, VA	
Jamie Burns Burriss ('03)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Milbrey Campbell ('74, '77)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Alan Clark ('69, '75)	Estill Springs, TN	
David A. Cullum ('55)	Nashville, TN	
Emily Pentecost Ellis ('72)	Clarksville, TN	
Marla Frisby ('95)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Casey Guimbellot ('06)	Nashville, TN	
Russ Hamblen ('88)	Shelbyville, KY	
Aubrey Hardison ('00)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Donna Hastings ('70, '74)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Jonathon Hawkins ('93)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Rollie M. Holden ('83)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Jack R. Lewis, Jr. ('64)	Penhook, VA	
Eddie Linville ('01, '03)	Lascassas, TN	
Susan Mack ('76)	Columbus, IN	
Angela Lee McClister ('00)	Chattanooga, TN	
Ernest McKinney('76)	Nashville, TN	
Susan Melton ('79)	Woodbury, TN	
Bud Morris ('68, '75, '81)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Brad Newberry ('93)	Rockvale, TN	
Liz Rhea ('55)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Katy Francisco Riddle ('99, '05)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Brandon Robbins ('03)	Cookeville, TN	
Ronald Roberts ('84, '91)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Michele Butler Rogers ('04)	White House, TN	
Kelly G Rollins ('93)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Mary L. Secrest ('74, '78)	Atlanta, GA	
Chuck Shaw ('78)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Greg Smith ('85)	Clarksville, TN	
R. Eugene Smith ('57)	Collierville, TN	
Janice B. Tant ('76)	Nashville, TN	
Chip Walters ('85)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Phyllis H. Washington ('74, '77)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Hanna R. Witherspoon ('64)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Andy Womack ('70)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Emily Wright ('07)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Doug Young ('71)	Murfreesboro, TN	
Ex Officio Members		
Dr. Sidney A. McPhee	MTSU President	
William J. Bales	VP, Development & Univ. Relations	
John W. Cothorn	Senior Vice President	
Jim Holland	MTSU Foundation President	
Don Witherspoon	MTSU BRAA President	
Dr. Alfred Lutz	MTSU Faculty Senate President	
Sondra Wilson	MTSU SGA President	
MTSU NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PAST PRESIDENTS		
President/Year graduated	Term	Hometown
Linda Bramblett ('67)	1982-83	Shelbyville, TN
Tommy Campbell ('74)	2003-04	Murfreesboro, TN
Cecil Cantrell ('53)	1992-93	Asheville, NC
James Caperton Jr. ('72)	1997-98	Shelbyville, TN
David A. Cullum ('55)	1998-00	Nashville, TN
Ann A. Eaden ('59)	1991-92	Nashville, TN
Dawn F. Eaton ('80)	1994-95	Murfreesboro, TN
John E. Ellington ('56)	2001-02	Murfreesboro, TN
Eddie Freeland ('76)	1995-96	Bowling Green, KY
George E. Gardner ('57)	1990-91	Murfreesboro, TN
Charles F. Harrell ('62)	1978-79	Woodbury, TN
John D. Hood ('54, '74)	1987-88	Murfreesboro, TN
Charlene B. Key ('62, '67, '92)	1985-86	Lebanon, TN
Richard C. Key ('62)	1993-94	Lebanon, TN
Bob Lamb ('69, '77)	2006-07	Murfreesboro, TN
Ben Landers ('77)	2004-05	Knoxville, TN
Connie G. Landers ('76)	1988-89	Shelbyville, TN
L. Quentin Lane ('54)	1975-76	Chattanooga, TN
J. Devin McClendon ('96)	2007-08	Brentwood, TN
James E. McFarlin ('76)	1983-84	Murfreesboro, TN
James R. Powers ('72, '73)	1996-97	Crossville, TN
John F. Scarbrough ('69, '71)	1989-90	Tullahoma, TN
Martha W. Scarbrough ('64, '67)	1976-78	Tullahoma, TN
Lorraine Singer ('70, '71, '75)	2002-03	Winchester, TN
Ross Spielman ('55, '66)	1972-73	Murfreesboro, TN
Kenneth H. Summar Jr. ('84)	2000-01	Brentwood, TN
Sandra Y. Trail ('72)	2006-07	Murfreesboro, TN

A day in the life of ... Jameel Braddock, one busy MTSU student

Senior juggles studies, organizations, job

By Erin Bridges

To fully prepare for life after college it's not enough to attend classes regularly. The road to success is traveled by students involved in campus organizations and with well-rounded resumes who network throughout their four years at MTSU.

For today's fast-pace students, keeping up with an agenda is the key to making it through college successfully.

"Someone once told me that looking at my agenda gave them a headache," Jameel Braddock says.

Jameel came to MTSU in fall 2006 after having attended big-name schools like the University of Mississippi and the University of Tennessee.

"I knew I had to be here, even though UT was my dream."

The environment and student interaction on campus won him over, and

since he arrived in Murfreesboro, he hasn't stopped giving back to the school. Jameel is president of the Student Ambassador program and executive director for Up 'til Dawn. On top of all that, he manages to balance an overloaded schedule of 18 hours and a part-time job, and keeps up with friends and family.

How does he do it?

Unlike most students, who begin their day on campus stressing over the endless search for a parking place, Jameel says he is content arriving early and parking in the back.

By 8 a.m. he's situated at his cubicle in the Student Life Center, ready to take on a full day of classes and meetings. He'll head off to class after spending his first few hours on campus preparing for the B.O.L.T (Bettering Our Leaders for Tomorrow) leadership conference and Up 'til Dawn grand finale.

Between classes, Jameel can be found in the KUC working, socializing with

friends, and enjoying Asian cuisine from The Grill. The downtime doesn't last long, though. Afternoon meetings begin shortly following classes.

On a typical day, he'll leave campus around 6 p.m. with a full night of homework ahead of him. Before bed, Jameel pulls out his planner and plots out the next day. With schedules this busy it's understandable that students feel "senioritis."

"Some days I go to school, other days I work. Every day is different," says Jameel.

When Jameel's schedule gets overwhelming, he reminds himself that he's doing something great and acting as a positive role model for other students. His future following graduation in May 2009 holds numerous possibilities. Whether Jameel moves on to law school or continues his work with Up 'til Dawn as a St. Jude representative, there is likely to never be a dull moment in his life.

Most students' agendas are similar to Jameel's, filled from top to bottom beginning early in the morning and ending late in the night. With new lists for each day, students manage overloaded schedules in order to prepare for the professional world that awaits them.

MTSU senior journalism major Erin Bridges of Columbia, S.C., is a practicum student working this spring in the Office of News and Public Affairs. She plans to graduate in August.



Jameel Braddock, who arrives early and parks in the back, stays organized with lists.

CAMPUS BRIEFS



J. Intintoli/MTSU Photographic Services

Funding for teaching

MTSU President Sidney A. McPhee, second from left, joins the university's legislative delegation (that includes alumni) in accepting a \$19,744 contribution from the AT&T Foundation to support the MTSU Honors College's Junior Science and Technology Project. The project focuses on improving science and technology education for fifth- and sixth-grade students at Hobgood Elementary and the Discovery School at Reeves-Rogers via Honors College "interns" as mentors. With McPhee are, from left, 13th District State Sen. Bill Ketron ('76), 62nd District State Rep. Curt Cobb, AT&T Regional Manager Lanie Johnson, 16th District Sen. Jim Tracy, 49th District Rep. Kent Coleman and 48th District Rep. Joe Carr ('81).

McPhee appoints Sells VP for student affairs

Dr. Sidney A. McPhee announced recently the appointment of Dr. Debra Sells as vice president for student affairs and vice provost for enrollment and academic services at MTSU.



Sells

"I am pleased that [Tennessee Board of Regents] Chancellor Charles Manning approved my recommendation to appoint Dr.

Sells as our new vice president for Student Affairs," McPhee said. "She is a highly capable individual who has done a phenomenal job in helping us to transition after the departure of former vice president Bob Glenn. I have been impressed not only by her efficient and positive approach to her role as a university executive, but also by her keen knowledge of enrollment issues and the student affairs area."

Sells, a native of Benton Harbor, Mich., has been at MTSU since 1996, just after earning her doctorate in education from Arizona State University.

Sells said the university "will be facing interesting times in the next few months. ... Obviously, we have many challenges."



The MTSU Alumni Association invites you to submit nominations for the following prestigious awards:

2009 - 2010
Distinguished Alumnus Award

2009 - 2010
Young Alumni Achievement Award

Nomination forms are available online at www.mtalumni.com.



The MTSU Alumni Association is seeking nominations for the 2009 class of Alumni Association

Board of Directors

Nomination forms are available online at www.mtalumni.com.

Nominations are due April 8, 2009.

Did you know?

• Elvis Presley made five Murphy Center concert appearances in the 1970s.

Source: MTSU Miscellany, Trivia and Facts about MTSU 1911-2001