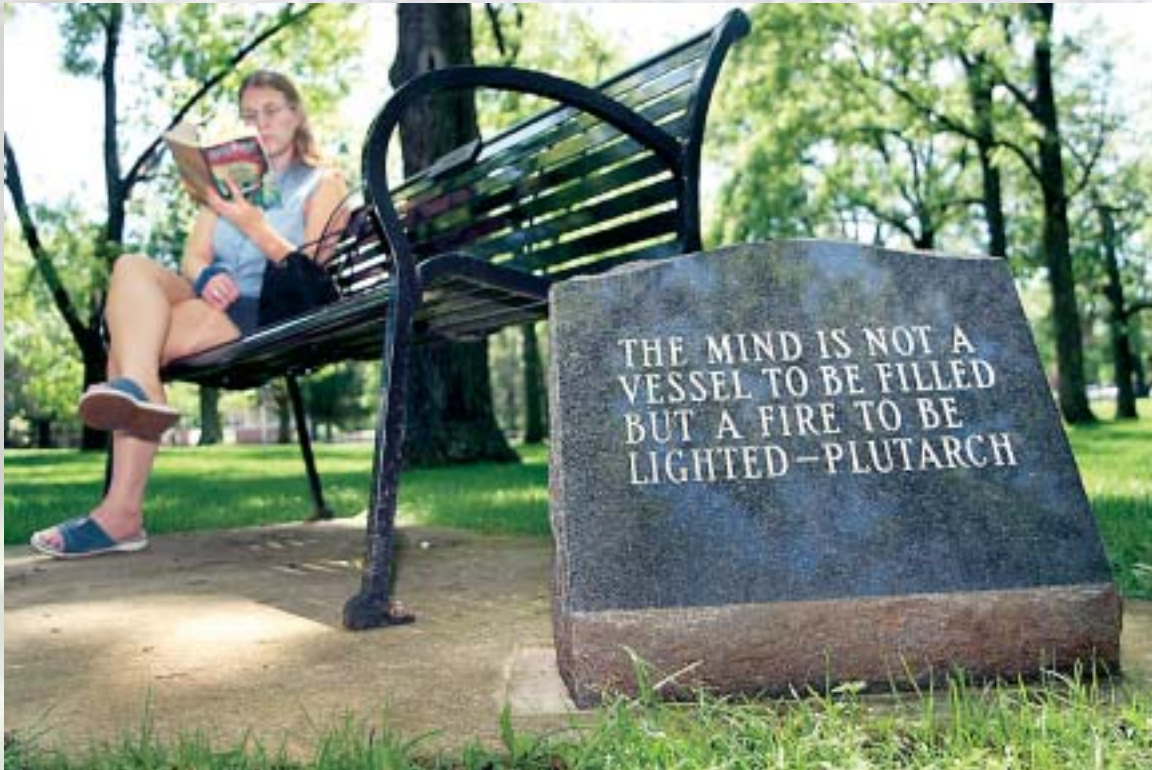


# 2004–2005 ANNUAL REPORT

Division of  
Continuing Studies and Public Service  
[www.mtsu.edu/learn](http://www.mtsu.edu/learn)



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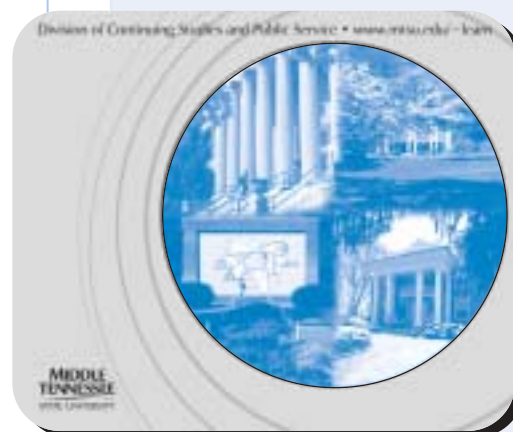
Committed to Service, Quality, and Excellence  
DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES AND PUBLIC SERVICE  
Middle Tennessee State University • Murfreesboro, Tennessee  
[www.mtsu.edu/learn](http://www.mtsu.edu/learn)

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As the new fiscal year arrives, we will transform into the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning. The division has been a valued member of the campus community, but we have had a tendency to be on the periphery. Now, as an official college, we will be on even playing ground, and it will be up to us to live up to the reputation of a college. I think we will.

**ROSEMARY W. OWENS**  
 Dean, Division of Continuing  
 Studies and Public Service



# INTRODUCTION

## MISSION

The Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service at Middle Tennessee State University extends the University's resources through partnerships, outreach, and distance learning to provide high-quality educational opportunities for lifelong learners.

The division plays an integral role in meeting the goals of the University by offering excellence in academic, personal enrichment, and professional development programs. These programs serve diverse populations, enhance the quality of life and economic development, and allow stakeholders to reach their educational objectives and cultural and social goals, helping them compete economically.

## VISION

During the next five to ten years, the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service will become a leader in continuing education. We will be known on campus, locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally as a developer, producer, and provider of quality programs. We will become the preferred middle Tennessee resource for educational services. We will be a leader in delivering degree and non-degree programs using state-of-the-art technology. The division will play a major role in University public service.

## OVERVIEW

The Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service is the community service arm of MTSU, providing academic outreach, professional development and personal enrichment opportunities, and workforce training and evaluation for middle Tennessee residents and their employers. The division extends the University's services to adults wishing to return for academic credit coursework, persons interested in personal enrichment, professionals wanting to update their skills, and groups needing conference planning assistance. In addition, the division coordinates the summer and evening schools.

## FROM THE DEAN

In 1962, Dr. Robert Abernathy, who had graduated from Middle Tennessee State Teachers College in 1929 and for many years traveled the state recruiting students, was named director of Field Services. A few off-campus courses were offered at then-Middle Tennessee State College, and from that inauspicious beginning, the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service began.

As the 2004–2005 fiscal year ends, this division is experiencing the next stage in its lifecycle. Just as FY2005–2006 arrives, we will transform into a college, the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning. To date, the division has been a valued member of the campus community, but we have had a tendency to be on the periphery. Now, as an official college, we will be on even playing ground, and it will be up to us to live up to the reputation of a college. I think we will.

With this annual report headed to press, our rebranding has begun. Letterhead and stationary, business cards, nametags, and a host of other items are being updated with our new name, and our staff is planning an official open house in the Fall 2005 semester.

To help us continue our move toward becoming a college, we have brought in two new key team members. The first is Lance Ikard, the new director of Professional Development and Personal Enrichment. As the details in this report reveal, he has already started to reshape and refocus that area. The other is Russell Clayton, our first-ever development officer. We share Russell with another college, and one of his many goals will be to act as an adhesive that binds our advisory board to us more. He will also work to refocus as much effort as possible on fundraising as we search for the financial support needed to achieve our many goals and aspirations.

And we have experienced many improvements and accomplishments over the past 12 months. Our Mini-U program saw a successful summer with 30 area youths participating in the on-campus learning experience. That program has evolved into what we now call Summer Youth University (SYU). Not long ago, we held a special recognition ceremony for three of our own (Dianna Rust, Jana Hinz, and Eve Shockly), individuals whose work and dedication have improved things for all of us. The Writer's Loft achieved a milestone with its first graduating class, and this year marks the ten-year anniversary of distance learning for the MTSU Correspondence and Telecourses programs.

You can discover more about all of these achievements and accomplishments throughout this annual report.

As we look to our future and outreach mission, we are reminded of the many ways our team members influence this community. Over the past 12 months, staff participation in both professional and community service organizations has increased. We participate in 11 professional organizations, versus last year's nine, and the number of community service affiliations—26—is nearly double that of last year. In addition, our division has played a key part in two national events: the Walk to Help Cure Diabetes and the 11th Annual American Heart Association's Heart Walk campaign.

On September 11, we raised approximately \$230 through donations and member participation in the Walk to Help Cure Diabetes. The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation coordinated the three-mile walk, which took place in Nashville's Centennial Park. For the fourth consecutive year, we participated in the American Heart Association's HeartWalk, a national campaign to help fight heart disease and strokes. In the first three years, our division held a chili cook-off to raise money, but this past year we held a special online auction that featured over 22 different items donated by our staff and supporters, and we raised \$600.

This fiscal year found our grant activity in good shape, and we even added one—Gear Up: Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs. The SIDS training program completed another successful and rapidly growing year. The program started in 2003 with 165 persons trained, and the FY2004–2005 numbers reveal an increase to 3,703 trained. The Vocational Education Professional Development grant brings over 2,000 people to MTSU each year, and that grant remained strong in the 2004–2005 fiscal year, as well.

As we finalize the transformation to the College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning, each of us looks forward to the challenges and rewards that await.

Rosemary W. Owens  
Dean, Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service



Fairview Building

## CSPS 2002–2006 STRATEGIC GOALS

- Establish excellence in management throughout the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service by creating a (results-focused) culture of accountability and high performance.
- Ensure that the division provides a student/client-centered environment that enhances learning outcomes and customer satisfaction.
- Develop and strengthen quality academic and professional programs that will allow Tennessee citizens to reach their educational objectives, attain cultural and social goals, and compete economically with the most progressive states in the region. (THEC Goal 5 and TBR Mission)
- Position ourselves as a valuable, integral part of the University community and a desirable partner in the middle Tennessee region; strengthen our programs by diversifying our funding sources; ensure quality and access in continuing education by providing funds for scholarships and faculty/instructor development; and serve as the medium for RODP, B.Unv.S., and online degrees and certificate programs.

## AODL ACADEMIC OUTREACH AND DISTANCE LEARNING DEPARTMENTAL HIGHLIGHTS



2004-2005 AODL Staff

- Retained 79 percent of students in distance learning classes in Spring 2005. These students received grades of A, B, C, D, or incomplete.
- 14 percent of RODP Spring 2005 graduates responding to the graduating senior survey indicated they plan to go to graduate school on a full-time or part-time basis next year. Sixty-two percent plan to earn a master's in the future.
- RODP academic advisement was rated at a higher satisfaction level (90 percent) than the MTSU average of 72 percent.
- Bachelor of University Studies academic advisement was rated at a higher satisfaction level (79 percent) than the MTSU average of 72 percent.
- Of 430 student respondents, 397 (or 90 percent) were satisfied or very satisfied with their distance learning course experience.
- The office sponsored the annual Distance Learning Appreciation Luncheon and presented two faculty awards (Nancy McCormick and Carol Ann Baily) and one staff appreciation award (Beth Burton, Scheduling Center).
- Three MTSU faculty members earned the Certified Online Instructor (COI) designation through the Learning Resources Network (LERN): Jackie Gilbert, Lisa Langenbach, and Kelly McKee.
- Funding was approved for 15 additional MTSU faculty members to participate in the COI Program, for a total of 39 who will earn the designation.
- The Faculty Resources section of the Online Courses Web site was revised to provide the faculty more step-by-step directions on online course development and the location of resources.
- We funded a Curriculum Development for Online Courses workshop, and 24 faculty members participated.
- We funded a Pedagogy 101 workshop for the MTSU faculty.
- The office began a faculty mentoring program and hosted a faculty mentor workshop.
- We provided transportation for delegates attending "Globalization of e-Learning for Enhancing Cross-Cultural Staff Development and International Partnerships," a learning symposium, at the Renaissance Center in Dickson in April 2005.
- We sponsored faculty members' attendance and presentations at the MERLOT Conference in Nashville in July 2005.
- We funded an online conference, "Integrity and Building Community Online," for Dr. Karen Ward, MTSU representative on the TBR Integrity in Online Learning Committee.

- The office sponsored 10 faculty members' attendance at the TBR Distance Learning Conference in Nashville.
- We established the MTSU Ad Hoc Committee for Integrity in Online Learning to assist in the implementation of procedures and policies set forth by the TBR Integrity in Online Learning Committee.

### Faculty Members Awarded for Innovations

Three MTSU faculty members received Innovations Awards at the 9th Annual Tennessee Board of Regents Distance Education Conference, "Emerging Technologies and Learning Communities." The TBR Distance Education Committee sponsored the conference. Those recognized at the February 9–11 Nashville conference were **Jill Austin**, **Elyce Helford**, and **Connie Jones**.

According to the conference Web site, "This award recognizes the demonstrated success of creative and original activities in the distance learning field, including Web courses, two-way audio/video courses, and any form of computer-based course. Competition is open to full-time and adjunct faculty, professional staff, technical staff, and community leaders/friends of education."

**Dr. Jill Austin**, professor Management and Marketing Department and department chair, has been active in distance learning activities including teaching videoconferencing classes, developing an online graduate class, and developing and teaching a correspondence course. As department chair, she has supported development and staffing of RODP classes, videoconferencing classes, and correspondence classes. She has served on the MTSU Distance Learning Committee since 1993.



**Dr. Elyce Helford**, professor of English and director of Women's Studies, has developed and taught correspondence courses since 1997. As director of Women's Studies, she has been supportive of staffing and sharing the WMST 2100 correspondence course with other faculty members. One of the course instructors stated, "Dr. Helford keeps the personal relationships foremost in an occasionally impersonal medium. I can say without a doubt she does this for the instructors she supervises and students she teaches alike."



**Dr. Connie Jones**, professor of Elementary and Special Education and department chair, has taught videoconferencing classes and has developed an online graduate class. In her role as department chair, she has supported the development and staffing of the RODP Master's of Education in Advanced Studies in Teaching and Learning degree. Dr. Jones has served on the MTSU Distance Learning Committee since 1993.



The MTSU honorees were among 25 recipients representing nine TBR institutions who earned this prestigious award.

## FACULTY MEMBER PROFILE

## AODL Faculty Member Profile: Dr. Janet M. Colson

Dr. Janet Colson, professor in the College of Education and Behavioral Science, continues her strong commitment to distance learning at MTSU. Dr. Colson taught the first correspondence course ever offered back in the summer of 1996, Principles of Nutrition. She has taught a distance learning course almost every summer since then. Starting in spring of 1997, she began offering the class as a telecourse.

“Ten years ago, it was the nontraditional students who worked full-time or who had family obligations. Today, more and more traditional students . . . many who live in dormitories, elect correspondence courses,” Colson said. “I’ve also had several MTSU athletes who find the flexibility of assignments much more conducive to the game schedule. One student would even take a laptop with her while at games on the road and submit assignments that way.”

After teaching three years at Mississippi College and spending three years as an adjunct at Florida State, Dr. Colson began teaching at MTSU in 1990. She said that she mainly teaches such traditional courses as Child Nutrition, Nutrition for the Young Child, and Nutrition and Aging. In alternate years, she teaches Metabolism of Carbohydrates, Fats, and Proteins.

Dr. Colson’s additional distance learning courses include Child Nutrition (first appeared as a correspondence course in the fall of 1999 and appeared as an online course in spring 2001) and Nutrition for Health Science, started as a telecourse first in the fall of 1999.

According to Dr Colson, “I decided to teach my first correspondence course because I knew there were many students out there who needed a flexible way to complete a B.S. degree. Before correspondence, I had so many students who would drive 90 miles one way just to take one class. And doing this three days a week appears to be such a waste of time . . . especially if there are alternate ways to accomplish the same thing.”

Dr. Colson earned her B.S. in home economics from Mississippi College. She received her M.S. in home economics from the University of Southern Mississippi and her Ph.D. in nutrition and food science from Florida State.



“I decided to teach my first correspondence course because I knew there were many students out there who needed a flexible way to complete a B.S. degree. Before correspondence, I had so many students who would drive 90 miles one way just to take one class. And doing this three days a week appears to be such a waste of time . . . especially if there are alternate ways to accomplish the same thing.”



## PDPE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONAL ENRICHMENT ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Mini-U completed another successful program in the summer of 2004 with 30 area youths participating in the on-campus learning experience. The success of the program so far has led PDPE to change the name to Summer Youth University and to expand it to two weeks in 2005.

The Computer Lab underwent a major technology update with the addition of 12 new computers and monitors. The lab can now provide a wide variety of computer classes to lifelong learners.

The Medical and Health program has enjoyed another year of active growth and increased enrollment and partnerships. The Massage Therapy program satisfies the 500-contact-hour education requirement for licensure in Tennessee, and the program is in its fifth year of continued growth with over 500 registrations in the nearly 100 courses offered. Graduates are getting licensed, going to work in the industry, opening their own businesses, and even returning to teach massage therapy classes.

PDPE offered the Certified Quality Engineer Refresher Course for those preparing to sit for the American Society of Quality's (ASQ) CQE certification exam. One hundred percent of the participants who took the exam after taking the refresher course passed it.

PDPE is the provider for the SHRM Learning System in middle Tennessee. This course of study is designed to prepare human resource professionals to successfully pass the national PHR and SPHR certification exams. The course is taught by a team of experienced HR professionals who provide students with current HR principles as well as guidance based on years of HR experience.



2004-2005 PDPE Staff

## FACULTY MEMBER PROFILE

### PDPE Faculty Member Profile: Dr. James E. Taylor

Dr. James E. Taylor, assistant professor of Social Work, has had over 30 years of teaching at the university level and planning, developing, and managing projects and programs for persons with disabilities while employed by the federal government. He is fully versed in the areas of research, policy, administration, human behavior, the social environment, and curriculum development.

Dr. Taylor retired in 1989 from his position with the federal government, where he directed the implementation and advancement of several national programs such as the New Careers Resources Training Program and the Independent Living Program, which provided directions to the rehabilitation community. Since 1998, he has been a social work professor teaching new courses he created in family caregiving that are now taught within the Tennessee Regents Online Degree Program. He has also taught cultural diversity, social policy, human behavior, and social environment to undergraduate social work students, and he taught respite providers online for the Tennessee Voices for Children in 2003. He was awarded the 2002 Distinguished Educator Award for Distance Education by the University.

He received a Ph.D. from Brandeis University in Waltham, Massachusetts, and an M.Ed. in 1964 from Springfield College, in Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1959, he earned a B.S. from the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College (now University) in Greensboro, North Carolina.

## AWARDS

### Distance Learning Faculty Awards

The 10th annual Distance Learning Appreciation Luncheon took place December 9, 2004, in the Tennessee Room of the James Union Building. After an overview of the University Writing Center online services and the library services for distance learners, Distance Learning Faculty Awards were presented to Carol Ann Baily and Nancy McCormick. Beth Burton received the Staff Appreciation Award.

A tradition since 1996, the Distance Learning Faculty Awards nominate faculty members who have excelled in using correspondence, telecourse, online, or videoconferencing as their delivery methods. Nominations for the Distance Learning Faculty Awards are sent to faculty members who have taught in the past year. The Distance Learning Committee receives the nominations and selects the recipients.



Dr. Taylor is a social work professor teaching new courses he created in family caregiving that are now taught within the Tennessee Regents Online Degree Program.

### **Carol Ann Baily, Director Adult Services Center (Telecourse and Online)**

Dr. Carol Ann Baily's course (UNIV 1010, University Seminar) was first delivered in spring 2002, and it continues to be a highly successful online offering. She attained the Certified Online Instructor designation through the Learning Resources Network (LERN) in March 2004, and she serves as a mentor for new course designers in the newly established MTSU Online Faculty Mentor Program. Her most significant contribution has been to use technology as a tool to address individual student learning situations. As Faye Johnson, assistant to the executive vice president and provost, said, "Dr. Baily pioneered distance learning in our University Seminar 1010 program. She was especially adept in integrating appropriate technology into the course to meet the needs of adult learners who would not have had access through traditional means."

### **Nancy McCormick, Developmental Studies (Online)**

Dr. Nancy McCormick created an online course, Intermediate Algebra (DSPM 0850), in the spring and summer of 2001. It launched in the fall of 2001, and she has taught this course ever since. Her most recent accomplishments include the addition of streaming video. In February 2004, she received the Tennessee Board of Regents Distance Education Innovation Award. In addition, she received a superior rating of her online course by the national Certified Online Instructors Program. Dr. McCormick goes to great lengths to provide clear and step-by-step illustrations of the mathematical concepts she presents. She has inspired other educators across the state and nation to develop similar courses and to enhance their present course offerings, and she has presented many workshops on issues related to the development of online courses.

### **Staff Appreciation Award**

**Dianne Elizabeth Burton, Scheduling Center**, is the 2004–2005 recipient of the Distance Learning Staff Appreciation Award. She joined the Scheduling Center in September 2003 and was selected for her scheduling of all Regents Online and Distance Learning courses each semester. According to her supervisor, "No matter what the situation or circumstance, Beth addresses everything with a smile and a positive attitude. I have seen her work in very trying situations, and she is definitely unflappable. She is a pleasure to work with in scheduling, and I'm sure that all of those who've had the opportunity to work with her would say the same."



Dean Rosemary Owens congratulates award winners at the 10th annual Distance Learning Appreciation Luncheon held in December. (L-R) Rosemary Owens, Beth Burton, Carol Ann Baily, and Dianna Rust

## Public Service Grants and Awards

The Public Service Award Committee awards grants to faculty and staff members who provide service to the community, region, state, or nation within the bounds of the University mission as executed by its departments. These activities are commonly included under the headings of extension, continuing education, community service, adult education, and consultation.

### Grants for Fall 2004

**William Yelverton**, Music (Liberal Arts), Tennessee Guitar Festival

**William Day**, Agribusiness and Agriscience (Basic and Applied Sciences), Therapeutic Horsemanship Program.

**Michael Arndt**, Music (Liberal Arts), Honors Brass Festival

**Janet Colson**, Human Sciences (Education and Behavioral Science), Action for Healthy Kids State Team Legislative Meeting and Luncheon

**Dewayne Pigg**, Music (Liberal Arts), MTSU Double Reed Day

**A. Bruce Cahoon**, Biology (Basic and Applied Sciences), Hypothesis-Based Activities in Plant Biology for Elementary School Students

**Debra Sickler-Voigt**, Art (Liberal Arts), Keeping the Night Train Rolling: A Collaborative Mural Experience

**Thomas Reed**, Music (Liberal Arts), MTSU Wind Band Conference

### Grants for Spring 2005

**Carol Nies**, Music (Liberal Arts), High School Honors Orchestra

**Todd Waldecker**, Music (Liberal Arts), Honors High School Clarinet Choir

**Debrah Sickler-Voigt**, Art (Liberal Arts), International Kids' Guernica Peace Project

**Donald Craig**, Walker Library (Liberal Arts), Capturing Student Imagination

**William Black**, Walker Library (Liberal Arts), Capturing Student Imagination

**Cindy Smith-Walters**, Biology (Basic and Applied Sciences), TAMP Calls of Tennessee Frogs and Toads CD

**Jette Halladay**, Speech and Theatre (Liberal Arts), Tennessee Storytelling Association Concert

**Melinda Richards**, Speech and Theatre (Liberal Arts), Mid-Tenn Conference on Communication Disorders

## Grants for Summer 2005

**Ronald Kates**, English (Liberal Arts),  
Socrates Cafe

**Barbara Young**, Educational Leadership  
(Education and Behavioral Science), Bridging  
the ESL/ELL Gap between Families and  
Schools

**Linda Gilbert**, Educational Leadership  
(Education and Behavioral Science), Bridging  
the ESL/ELL Gap between Families and  
Schools

**Lisa Pruitt**, Albert Gore Sr. Research Center  
(Liberal Arts), Enhancing Database Access to  
Local History Photograph Collections

**Janet Colson**, Human Sciences (Education  
and Behavioral Science), Eat Smart, Move  
More, Tune in Action Plan for Healthy Kids

**Rebecca Zijlstra**, Mathematical Sciences  
(Basic and Applied Sciences), Math Day at  
MTSU

**Jan Zijlstra**, Mathematical Sciences (Basic  
and Applied Sciences), Math Day at MTSU

**Christopher Quarto**, Psychology (Education  
and Behavioral Science), Psychological  
Services Center Parent Education Classes

**Dorothy Craig**, Educational Leadership  
(Education and Behavioral Science),  
Hablamos English! A Community-Based  
Adult Literacy Project

## Awards for 2004–2005

### FACULTY



**Kiyoshi Kawahito**  
Professor  
Economics and Finance



**Emily Zietz**  
Associate Professor  
Economics and Finance



**Patricia Patterson**  
Associate Professor  
Chemistry



**STAFF**  
**Maria Edlin**  
Assistant Director  
Center for Economic  
Education



### Dean Rosemary Owens Receives the Barbara Beeler Award

Dr. Rosemary Owens, dean of MTSU's Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service (CSPS), received the Barbara Beeler Award at the November 2004 state conference of the Tennessee Alliance for Continuing Higher Education (TACHE).

"Having known Barbara Beeler personally and realizing the tireless work she did for TACHE for many years, I am extremely humbled to have been nominated for the award," Owens said.

Dean Owens arrived at CSPS in December of 1984, and she has been a member of TACHE since 1985. Her service to TACHE includes serving as a regional representative and serving on the executive, strategic planning, awards, nominations, and program planning committees. Dr. Owens is the current TACHE president.

To be eligible for the Barbara Beeler Award, a candidate must have made extraordinary contributions to TACHE for a minimum of ten years. In addition, the person must have served in a minimum of two positions on the TACHE Executive Committee and improved the professional life of continuing education practitioners in TACHE. The candidate must have a documented record of mentoring new members and playing an active role in numerous TACHE annual conferences.



According to Dean Owens, "To have actually received the award by vote of colleagues from across the state makes me even more appreciative of the recognition."

TACHE's mission is to advocate lifelong learning and excellence in continuing higher education through professional development, research, collaborative efforts, and the exchange of information.

### Students Single Out Division Members

In the spring of 2005, each graduating student was offered the opportunity to identify a few individuals from MTSU's faculty, staff, or administration who significantly contributed to his or her success while at the University.

We are excited to announce that four members from our division were included. They are Sonya Burk, Greyson Billingham, Sarah Moore, and Dianna Rust.

"The students' responses are their way of recognizing you for your influence on and commitment to their development," Robert K. Glenn wrote in a congratulatory letter. Glenn is the vice president for student affairs and vice provost for enrollment management. "Since the students are not required to sign their nominations, this anonymous gesture should be considered as the most sincere form of compliment."

## Division Holds Special Recognition Ceremony

At the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service's July 7, 2005, monthly meeting, Dr. Kaylene Gebert, MTSU executive vice president and provost, was on hand to help recognize Eve Shockley, Dianna Rust, and Jana Hinz for accomplishments that are recognized University-wide and that will impact vital functions of the University for years to come.

According to Division Executive Secretary Becky Snow, "We are just blessed that our division is an entire team of busy bees; these three have just done something a little different."

For the past 18 months, members of the division's administrative team had been working on a variety of technology tools to help us manage and track the SACS, AMP, and division AMP goals. The team had enjoyed some degree of success but there was an opportunity to do better, and PDPE Secretary Eve Shockley helped CSPS reach that next level of quality and accountability. She used Microsoft Access to build a custom tool that division leadership can now use to easily manage its goals.

"While we are to be sure that Eve only works 37.5 hours per week, we can't keep her mind from working, trying to figure what to do next or how to make the database work more smoothly," Snow said. "She completed in less than two months what we had tried to develop for over eighteen months."

In addition, starting with the 2005 summer school term, significant changes are improving Summer School reports, helping to improve financial accountability and helping the division better manage the Summer School program, according to Jana Hinz, director of Summer School and financial management analyst.

Some of those changes we did not expect to work on for another couple of years, but the opportunity arose and Jana developed new reports in less than two months.

AODL Director Dianna Rust received University-wide recognition as MTSU Administrative Employee of the Year on May 11, 2005. Designed to honor dedicated and loyal employees who make outstanding contributions and demonstrate excellent performance in fulfilling their roles at MTSU, annual awards are given in four categories: secretarial/clerical, all-classified, technical/services, and administrative.



(L-R) Eve Shockley, Dianna Rust, Jana Hinz



Dianna Rust with the MSTU Administrative Employee of the Year Award.

## SUMMER SCHOOL

The mission of the University's Summer School is to satisfy students' needs by increasing summer academic course offerings; to establish Summer School as an academically integrated and financially viable entity of MTSU; and to provide opportunities for innovative and experimental programs and activities that fulfill University aims.

The role of the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service Summer School Office is to provide central administrative oversight for MTSU's Summer School by establishing and supporting conditions that ensure the success of University-wide summer sessions programming. We are committed to providing a broad range of summer course offerings for both graduate and undergraduate students. These summer offerings augment regular term offerings as well as provide the opportunity for year-round schooling for those students who have the need or desire.

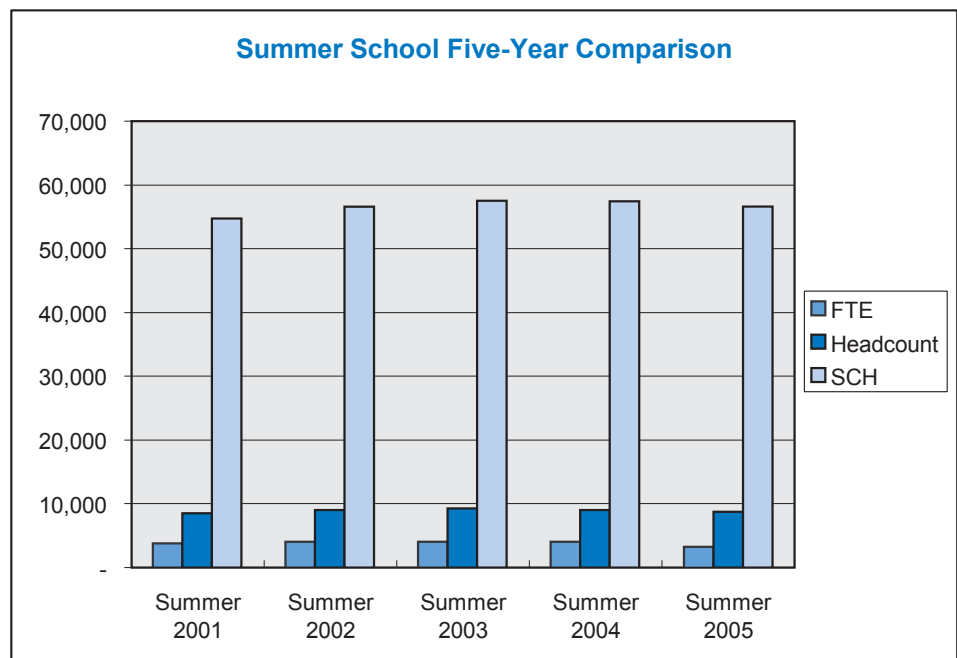
Comparing Summer 2004 with Summer 2005, headcount increased 0.76%; FTE (full-time equivalencies) decreased 3.31%; and SCH (student credit hours) decreased 1.59%. As was the case last summer, fuel costs continued to escalate. Gasoline prices wavered anywhere from \$2.10 to \$3.40 per gallon. According to commuter students, the high cost of gasoline influenced their decisions to enroll in summer classes.

## QUOTES

"I totally love summer school! I can concentrate on one subject, usually get as much sleep as I need, make a great grade, actually enjoy the class, and actually learn something."

"I think that summer school is great. It helped me graduate in December instead of May, and I love the five-week schedule. I wish they offered more classes in my major, but I think that there are a wide variety of general classes available."

	Summer 2001	Summer 2002	Summer 2003	Summer 2004	Summer 2005
<b>FTE</b>	3,804.83	4,010.09	4,066.86	4,051.19	3,917.04
<b>Headcount</b>	8,476	9,025	9,283	9,027	9,096
<b>SCH</b>	54,732	56,603	57,506	57,475	56,564





## AODL SUCCESS STORIES

### A Decade of Distance Learning: MTSU Correspondence and Telecourses Programs Enjoy Successful Ten-Year Run

A decade of commitment to students from Memphis to Mountain City has characterized the correspondence and telecourses programs at MTSU.

"These classes fill a need in our student population," said Greyson Billingham, coordinator of correspondence courses at AODL. "Many of our students are working adults who do not want to sacrifice any unnecessary time away from their children and families to continue their education."

AODL administers the correspondence and telecourses programs, off-campus courses, evening school and online courses, videoconferencing, and the Regents Online Degree Program.

"Correspondence course delivery began at MTSU in the summer of 1996 with two classes and 44 enrollments," said AODL Director Dianna Rust. "Each semester the number of enrollments has grown, and in spring 2005 we had 35 courses and 1,399 participants. The growth has been spurred by student demand for accessible courses. From surveys we've conducted, students mention that they like to work at their own pace and around other commitments. Many students mention that they wish more correspondence courses were offered."

According to MTSU senior Teresa Turnbo, programs like these provide her with the flexibility needed to be a student. "Distance learning allows me to be at home in the evening with my family, and I work in Nashville. So, driving to MTSU at night is tiring after a long day at work, and current gas prices make it expensive for me to drive to campus," she said.

While these programs make continued education possible for students like Teresa, a 42-year-old psychology major, MTSU Professor Janet Colson said that more traditional students are taking correspondence and telecourses as well.

"Ten years ago, it was the nontraditional students who worked full-time or who had family obligations. Today, more and more traditional students . . . many who live in dormitories, elect correspondence courses," Colson said. Colson has taught a variety of correspondence and telecourses over the programs' decade of operation, and she taught the first correspondence course offered back in 1996: Principles of Nutrition and Food Sciences. "I've also had several MTSU athletes who find the flexibility of assignments much more conducive to the game schedule. One student would even take a laptop with her while at games on the road and submit assignments that way."

AODL's Web page explains that telecourses require a TV, telephone, computer, and the Internet, as well as a VCR and/or DVD if the student chooses to rent tapes instead of watching the programs on Channel 9, MTSU's instructional programming station. While corre-



AODL Success Stories cont. on pg. 16

## QUOTES

## Testing Center:

"very organized and positive,"

"The staff was very easy to work with on rescheduling the test,"

"Everyone was very helpful."

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The Regents Online Degree Program began in fall 2001. There are more than 280 RODP majors, and 595 students participated in RODP courses this past spring.

**AODL Success Stories** cont. from pg. 15

spondence courses can be nontechnical experiences, some instructors may prefer to communicate with students by computer and e-mail.

"Ten years ago, the main technology involved in my correspondence course was having students fax assignments. Of course, at that time, when assignments were long, the fax would run out of paper," Colson said. "Today, students in my correspondence course may submit assignments online, and I do administer exams online, allowing students to receive immediate feedback on their grade."

According to AODL's Web page, over 30 correspondence courses and many more telecourses are offered each semester, ranging from Exploring the Universe and Business Communication to Understanding the Nashville Music Business and Introduction to Women's Studies.

Telecourses offer students the opportunity to obtain undergraduate credit hours without attending classes on campus. Students watch the programming on Channel 9 and follow a detailed syllabus and list of assignments that are completed and mailed to campus. The instructor grades and returns assignments and corresponds with students by e-mail, phone, fax, Internet, or mail. For those who do not have access to Channel 9, programming can be delivered by videotape anywhere in the world.

Correspondence courses involve individual, independent instruction of a student by an instructor on a one-to-one basis in the form of written material. Students are required to complete written assignments throughout the semester (about 10–15). Interaction and feedback are through mail, e-mail, or fax.

Most correspondence and telecourses require textbooks, and some on-campus visits may be required for orientations, midterms, and final exams. For students more than 50 miles away from campus, AODL will send exams to an approved public institution in the student's area.

"Twenty years ago, I said that I was going to go back to school . . . some day," Turnbo said. "Distance learning has allowed me to accomplish that goal, proving to myself and my children that anything is possible if you want it bad enough."

**Correspondence Program Allows Student to Balance Life, Education**

Mother's Day Out program and flexible distance learning courses combine to bring dedicated mother back to education.

"I want to set an example for my children that college is a necessity in order to make it in today's world," said Vickie Moser, who added that her motivation to finish her degree is simple: to set a standard for her children.

After beginning college in 1996, Moser revived her desire to finish her college degree through MTSU distance learning in the summer of 2004. She is now faced with the challenge of balancing children with going to school, and she credits correspondence courses for giving her this opportunity, saying, "Without correspondence courses, I would have never been able to return to school and finish my degree."

Her children attend a Mother's Day Out program while she works on her schoolwork from her home. Living over sixty miles from MTSU's campus, Moser said that commuting to class is not an option for her now.

She said she receives lots of support from her family, especially her father-in-law, and she expresses gratitude for her positive experience in correspondence courses to one specific instructor, Dr. Doug Winborn. Course author and instructor of HLTH 4400 (Drugs and Violence in Health Education), Dr. Winborn has taught this course by correspondence for a decade. Ms. Moser describes Dr. Winborn as "a wonderful teacher, probably one of the best I have ever had."

Moser plans to "continue being the best mother I can possibly be for my children regardless of my career path." She does express an interest in working in the school system, so she will be on the same schedule as her children.

### **Mom Pushes On toward B.Unv.S. Degree**

Mother and children sitting around the kitchen table after dinner and talking about studying is a common experience for most parents with children in both high school and college. But Indiana native Cynthia Randle found that the kitchen table turned just a bit as she finished her first year at MTSU.

Randle said her return to school has had a positive impact upon her children's view of their education. She said her daughter, now a college junior, realizes the importance of staying on track and achieving her degree. Her son, a high school senior, has his goal set on the degree he wants to receive and the college he wants to attend. She and her children have shared many conversations about study habits, courses of study, and the frustrations and rewards of being a student.

According to Randle, even in her childhood years education was exemplified as a priority. Her mother sold World Book Encyclopedias, and she believed that her mother must have been "a charter member of the Look-It-Up Club."

"She never questioned whether she would go to college," Cynthia said. "That was a given."

After high school, she attended a university in Indiana, but she did not finish at that time because her priorities changed; she got married and spent the next 12 years raising and nurturing her two children.

Then life threw her a curveball. She moved into a position where she needed to support her children and herself. But she was lucky enough to land a job with a company that not only provided a good income but also paid for continuing her education.

Randle just finished her first year at MTSU with a 4.0 GPA. She thanks her advisor for developing a plan for reaching her goal of a bachelor's degree.

She admits juggling a full-time job, a family, and taking classes can be very difficult. Her husband, children, and family are great supporters of her decision to return to school. Their support has contributed greatly to her motivation to complete her degree and her success so far.

## QUOTES

PHED 2100 Effective  
Living Telecourse  
Student:

"As a full-time (older) employed student and parent who lives over 60 miles from MTSU, distance learning is the only option I have for completing my degree. Thank you. I am very impressed in the great use of technology and believe I have learned a great deal and (am) not just earning a degree."

## Online Degree Program Creates Hope

by Liz Karlson

When you ask typical high school seniors what they plan to do after they graduate, the majority will answer “college.” In fact, according to an article in the Hudson Institute’s *American Outlook* magazine, 70 percent of high school seniors go on to college, and the average student is around the age of 24.

With college as common as a rainy day, then, and millions of dollars available for scholarships, one might ask, is there a sacrifice for a college degree anymore?

MTSU student Jacqueline Hopkins, who was scheduled to receive her bachelor’s degree at Summer 2005 commencement, would answer with a resounding “yes.”



Dianna Rust commends Jacqueline Hopkins on completing her degree.

Hopkins began her B.B.A. in Information Systems at MTSU in 1976. She was in the middle of completing her third year at the University when tragedy struck.

A car crash left Hopkins a quadriplegic, and it took more than 20 years of therapy and many challenges for her to return to school again. However, the accident didn’t crush her ambitions, for going back to school meant success.

“It would mean closure to a past endeavor and a new beginning to another,” says Hopkins.

After trying to become a full-time student at MTSU years later, she found her only option was to enroll in MTSU’s Regents Online Degree Program, which allowed her to take classes online and finish assignments by computer.

Even though the program made it more convenient to finish her degree, the process was far from easy.

“As I took classes online, I had to get up by the afternoon and get to work with the nursing assistants to get my bath and get me dressed, fed, and set up on my laptop computer activated by a head mouse sensor,” explains Hopkins.

“I spent some long hours up at night reading and completing assignments, which was very hard for me physically, to sit up for long periods of time. During this time, I have been hospitalized three times.”

Dianna Rust, director of Academic Outreach and Distance Learning at MTSU and Hopkins’ advisor, says she feels Hopkins has overcome more challenges than most students.

“I am so proud of Jackie and her commitment to complete her degree, even with physical limitations,” Rust says. “She went through many surgeries before returning to school and has dealt with other medical issues while taking classes but has persevered.”

“She hopes to find a job where she can help others with a disability . . . [and] I admire her for that.”

Hopkins also hopes to attend graduate school in the future. Asking her why she came back to MTSU to finish her degree elicits a simple answer:

“MTSU is my home institution.”

## AODL STUDENT-CENTERED HIGHLIGHTS

### Testing Center

- The Testing Center in KOM had two new Dell computers and a new system of security cameras installed. This will provide more opportunities for students to test online and greater exam security.
- The Testing Center proctored 907 exams in fall 2004 and 735 exams in spring 2005.

### Instructional CD

- AODL's Distance Learning Student Instructional CD was updated and mailed to all MTSU distance learning students.

### Majors and Enrollment Highlights

- Thirteen students were declared as Regents Online Degree Master's of Education majors (spring 2005 data).
- Thirty students were pursuing the RODP Master's of Science in Nursing degree, which began in fall 2004 (spring 2005 data).
- As of spring 2005, there were 267 students declared as undergraduate RODP majors. Seventy-four percent (197 majors) took only RODP classes. An additional 50 majors took RODP and Distance Learning classes.
- In spring 2005, there were 216 Bachelor of University Studies majors.
- Seventy-six B.Unv.S. degrees were awarded in spring, summer, and fall of 2004.
- AODL enrollment increased 14.4 percent, from 11,239 in FY04 to 12,858 in FY05.
- The number of MTSU online courses offered increased from 74 in 2003–2004 to 119 in 2004–2005.
- The number of MTSU students taking only distance learning/off-campus courses increased from 845 in fall 2004 to 909 in spring 2005.

### Dennis Bain Scholarship

- Jassiman Simms was awarded the Dennis Bain Scholarship for fall 2004. This scholarship is available to adult distance learning students.

### Correspondence

- Enrollment increased from 1,629 students in fall 2003 to 1,753 in fall 2004.
- The following three new correspondence courses were developed: CIM 3300, Concrete Industry Internship, Austin Cheney; P S 3330, Political Parties, Lisa Langenbach; P S 3420, African American Politics, Sekou Franklin.



### MTSU AND FRENCH VIDEOCONFERENCE -

Former U.S. Vice President Al Gore makes a point during a recent videoconference between MTSU and three universities in Normandy, France, where about 500 students listened. Gore's remarks centered on "sustainable development" and whether it can be an answer to terrorism. "Sustainable development means development that creates opportunities, creation of jobs, of higher standards of living and, more fulfilling life for the present generation without diminishing the prospects for future generations to do the same thing," he said.

*photo J. Intintoli*



## ECONOMICAL EDUCATION - Sarah

Jessie, right, Rutherford County Schools system instructional specialist for Hands-on Science, displays a two-liter soda bottle transformed into a science experiment as Linda Prichard, system elementary instructional specialist, looks on in the LRC's Satellite Videoconferencing Center. The pair presented "Teaching with Trash II," a videoconference in the Professional Development Programs for Teachers series, to share cost-saving ideas for K-6 classroom materials. The series for teachers airs at 3:30 p.m. every Thursday on MTSU Channel 9; Enrichment Programs for Students air at 9 a.m. each Tuesday. The Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service manages Channel 9 as part of the Telecourse programs.

*photo J. Intintoli*

## Off-Campus Programs

- Partnered with O'More School of Design in Franklin to offer off-campus classes.
- Partnered with the Department of Educational Leadership to begin cohorts at several off-campus sites: Ed.S. programs at Cason Lane Academy in Murfreesboro and in Pulaski and Lawrenceburg, and M.Ed. programs in Tullahoma and Columbia.
- An orientation was held at Columbia State Community College for students interested in participating in the B.S. in Interdisciplinary Studies program offered there. Representatives from Walker Library, Continuing Studies, the Scheduling Center, and the Department of Elementary and Special Education presented information.

## Online Courses

- The Master's of Science in Nursing online degree program began in fall 2004. The degree is part of the Regents Online Degree Program.
- Student enrollment in online courses during the 2004 summer sessions was 1,119, an increase of 370 students, or 33 percent, over the summer of 2003.
- Student enrollment during the 2004 fall semester was 1,609, an increase of 425 students, or 26 percent, over the 2003 fall semester.
- Student enrollment during the 2005 spring semester was 1,674, an increase of 274 students, or 16 percent, over the 2004 spring semester.
- The following 25 new MTSU online courses were developed for delivery in 2004–2005:

BMOM 2340–Microcomputer Word Processing Applications, Stephen Lewis  
 ET 4420–Industrial Safety, Mala Beard  
 NURS 4035–Special Topics: Health Care Issues and Trends, Suzanne Prevost  
 PSY 2300–Developmental Psychology, Brenda Rambo-Igney  
 PSY 3070–Research Methods, Donald Kendrick  
 SOC 4150/5150–Family-Centered Community Building, Carole Carroll  
 BLAW 3400–Legal Environment of Business, Lara Womack  
 FIN 3000–Principles of Financial Management, Nghiep Nguyen  
 N FS 4251–Nutrition for the Young Child, Janet Colson  
 ACCT 2110–Principles of Accounting I, John Wermert  
 ACCT 2120–Principles of Accounting II, John Wermert  
 BMOM 4340/5340–Integrated Administrative Technologies, Gerry Scheffelmaier  
 ELED 4050–Classroom Assessment, Willis Means  
 ENGL 3520–Professional Writing, Rebecca King  
 HLTH 1530–Health and Wellness, Andrew Owusu  
 WMST 2100–Introduction to Women's Studies, Rebecca King  
 DYST 6000–Introduction to Dyslexia, James Hodgson  
 LIBS 6110–School Library Administration, Kathy Patten  
 SPSE 6140–Teacher Leadership for School Improvement, Dorothy Craig  
 FOED 6030–School and Community Relations, Joel Hausler  
 FOED 6610–Analysis and Application of Research, Barbara Young  
 LIBS 6200–School Library and Media Center Skills and Issues, Kathy Patten  
 M C 6110–Quantitative Research Methods, Kenneth Blake  
 MGMT 6750–Business Ethics, Jill Austin  
 FOED 6630–Educational Tests and Measurement, Nancy Keese

- The following seven new RODP courses were developed for delivery in fall 2004:

P S 4240–American Foreign Policy, Steven Livingston  
CJA 1100–Introduction to Criminal Justice Administration, Alexandra Miller  
CJA 3230–Police Organization and Administration, Tae M. Choo  
NURS 6103–Advanced Pathophysiology, Linda Wilson  
NURS 6002–Advanced Nursing Research, Karen Ward  
NURS 6401–Informatics and Information Management, Pam Taylor  
NURS 6402–Health Care Information Systems, Pam Taylor

### Telecourses

- The Telecourse Department offered 24 courses to 443 students.
- In summer 2004, the Telecourse Department offered the first DVD Telecourse.

### Videoconferencing

- Ninety-eight students enrolled in videoconference classes at remote locations, and approximately 163 students enrolled at MTSU.

### 2004 Dennis Bain Memorial Scholarship Awarded

RODP student Jassiman Simms is the 2004 recipient of the Dennis Bain Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded once a year to an adult student who is strong academically and who has found distance learning to be vital in finding time for education within his or her other personal and professional responsibilities.

“When I found out about the Regents Online Degree Program, I was eager to enroll,” the 27-year-old Knoxville warehouse supervisor said. “I have now been in the program for three semesters and think it is the best way to earn a degree because it allows you to work full time and still earn a college degree.”

Simms earned her associate's degree in 1998, and she graduates in fall 2005 with a Professional Studies major, concentrating in Organizational Leadership. She returned to school after a five-year absence because of the flexibility of the RODP program, and she has made the Dean's List every semester of her enrollment at MTSU. She was recently promoted to a supervisory position at her organization and hopes that her degree will allow her to move into management.

The Dennis Bain Memorial Scholarship was established specifically for adult students who are enrolled in distance learning courses at Middle Tennessee State University. Dennis Bain was a coordinator of videoconferencing and telecourses who passed away in 2000. After Dennis's passing, his family donated money to begin this scholarship, and MTSU created it in his honor.

Anyone wishing to donate to this scholarship fund may contact Dianna Rust (drust@mtsu.edu) or the MTSU Foundation.

## QUOTES

“I have now been in the program for three semesters and think it is the best way to earn a degree because it allows you to work full time and still earn a college degree.”

RODP student Jassiman Simms

# DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES AND PUBLIC SERVICE

**SUMMER/FALL 2005**

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Academic Outreach and Distance Learning Bulletin

- Correspondence Courses
- Online Courses
- Telecourses
- Videoconferencing Courses
- Off-Campus Courses

Middle Tennessee State University  
Academic Outreach and Distance Learning  
1301 East Main Street  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132  
(615) 898-5611  
[www.mtsu.edu/learn](http://www.mtsu.edu/learn)

**DIVISION OF CONTINUING STUDIES AND PUBLIC SERVICE**

**2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT**

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

**The Writer's Loft:**  
MTSU's Low-Residency Certificate in Creative Writing

Fall 2005  
Kickoff/Orientation  
August 26 and 27

Middle Tennessee State University  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

College of Continuing Education and Distance Learning  
[www.mtsu.edu/~theloft](http://www.mtsu.edu/~theloft)



**RN to BSN**

**Online Bachelor of Science Program**

School of Nursing  
Middle Tennessee State University



## RN to BSN

The School of Nursing's online bachelor of science program, also known as the RN to BSN, is an interactive experience through which students may earn a bachelor's degree in three semesters if all prerequisite courses are completed. Registered Nurses who graduated from an approved academic program with an associate degree in nursing or a hospital diploma in nursing will receive advanced standing credit for their knowledge and experience in the field of nursing. The RN to BSN is a unique program consisting of an exciting mix of online courses and real-life experience provided through clinicals. The purposes of MTSU's Nursing Program are:

- to provide quality nursing education that prepares graduates for professional nursing practice as generalists;
- to prepare graduates who have an appropriate base for specialized study in nursing practice, education, administration, or research; and
- to provide graduates with a professional practice base that is responsive to the changing health care needs of the citizens of Tennessee and the nation.

### Low-Residency

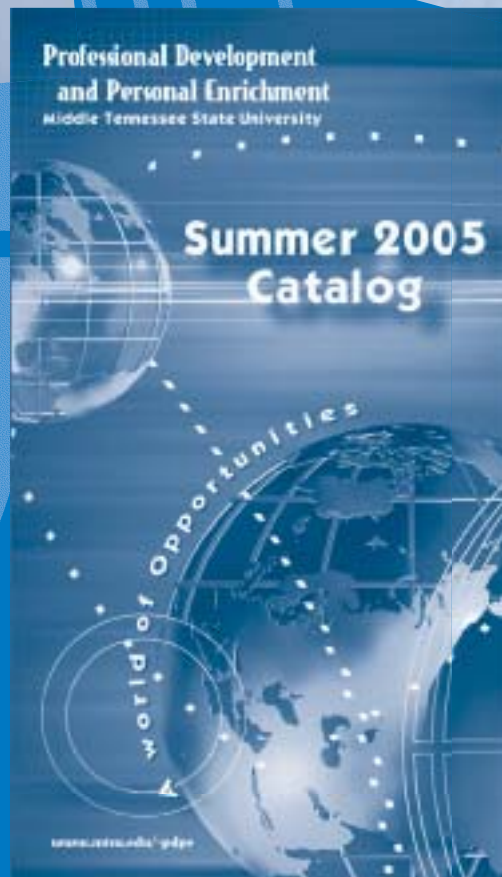
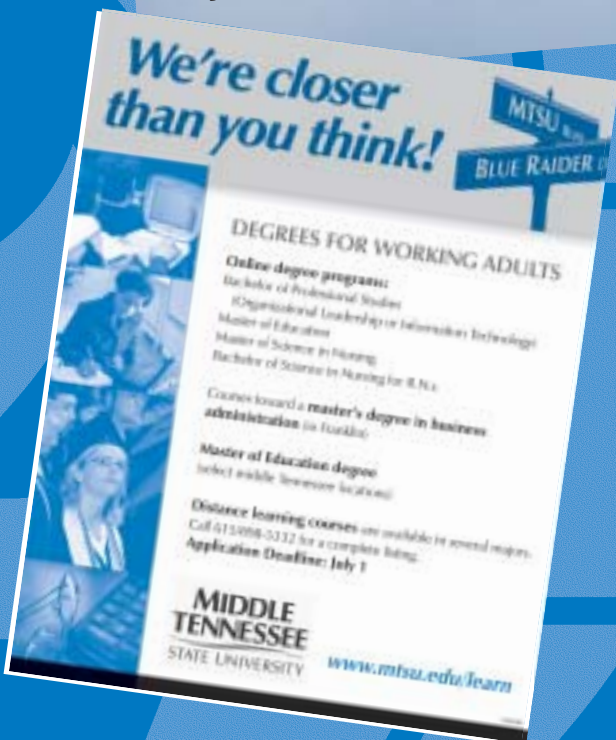
The RN to BSN's low-residency feature allows a huge range of students spanning many different generations, lifestyles, and schedules to pursue bachelor of science degrees on a customized, individual basis. During the application process, transcripts are evaluated to determine prerequisite requirements for admission to the upper-division nursing program. With semester studies in full swing, RN to BSN students complete almost all coursework online from home, the office, or whatever location best serves their needs and preferences. The only exceptions are the clinicals. For those who prefer a more traditional approach, MTSU's nursing faculty are available for meetings and consultations as students begin their studies. In addition, instructors are available by e-mail and phone throughout the semester, and students may schedule appointments with their instructors at any time. The MTSU School of Nursing holds a pinning ceremony at the end of the fall and spring semesters, and RN to BSN students are included.

The Bachelor of Science in Nursing program at MTSU is approved by the Tennessee Board of Nursing and is accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission and Collegiate Commission for Nursing Education.

A Master of Science in Nursing is now available, through the Regents Online Degree Program ([www.rodip.org](http://www.rodip.org)).



# FIND OUT WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT!



## 2004-2005 CREDIT STATISTICS

### SUMMER 2004

Correspondence Enrollments: 550  
 Telecourses: 187  
 Off-campus Enrollments: 152  
 Online Enrollments: 1,119  
 Videoconferencing Enrollments: 6  
 RODP Enrollments: 652  
 Total: 2,666

### FALL 2004

Correspondence Enrollments: 1,753  
 Telecourses: 122  
 Off-campus Enrollments: 489  
 Online Enrollments: 1,609  
 Videoconferencing Enrollments: 47  
 RODP Enrollments: 1,175  
 Total: 5,195

### SPRING 2005

Correspondence Enrollments: 1,399  
 Telecourses: 134  
 Off-campus Enrollments: 595  
 Online Enrollments: 1,674  
 Videoconferencing Enrollments: 45  
 RODP Enrollments: 1,150  
 Total: 4,997

### TOTALS FOR 2004-2005

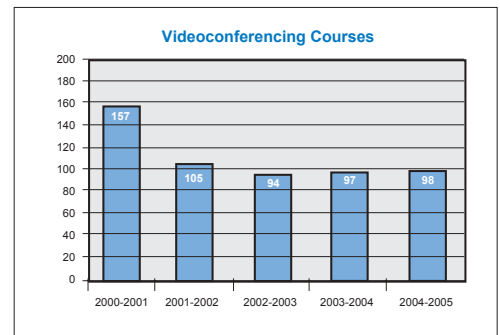
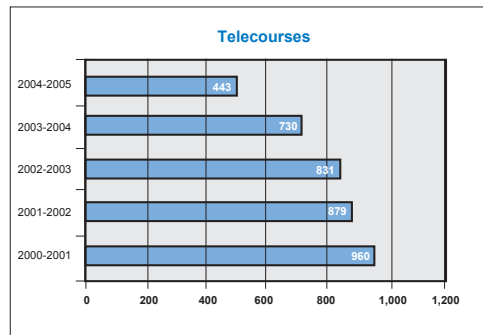
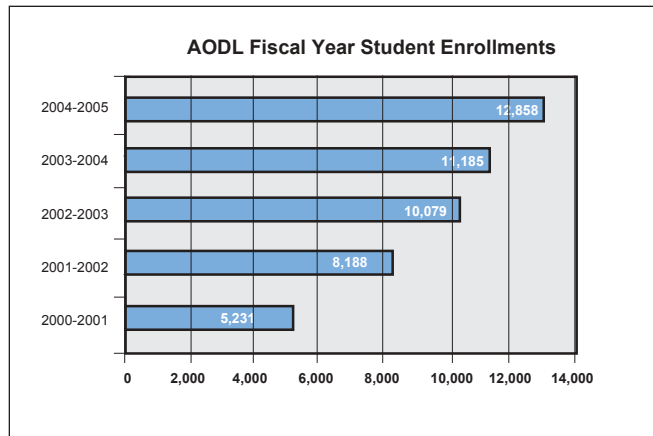
Correspondence Enrollments: 3,702  
 Telecourses: 443  
 Off-campus Enrollments: 1,236  
 Online Enrollments: 4,402  
 Videoconferencing Enrollments: 98  
 RODP Enrollments: 2,977  
 Total: 12,858

## AODL STATISTICS

Academic Outreach and Distance Learning (AODL) experienced significant growth over the past five fiscal years, with the figures nearly tripling from the 2000-2001 total of 5,231 to the 2004-2005 number of 12,858. These numbers represent all courses, including correspondence courses, telecourses, off-campus courses, online courses, videoconferencing courses, and courses offered as part of the Regents Online Degree Program (RODP). Yearly comparisons reveal strong, steady growth in the AODL area of the division. The 2000-2001 total jumped to 8,207 in 2001-2002. The next year, the totals increased to 10,079. In 2003-2004, AODL had 11,167 registrations.

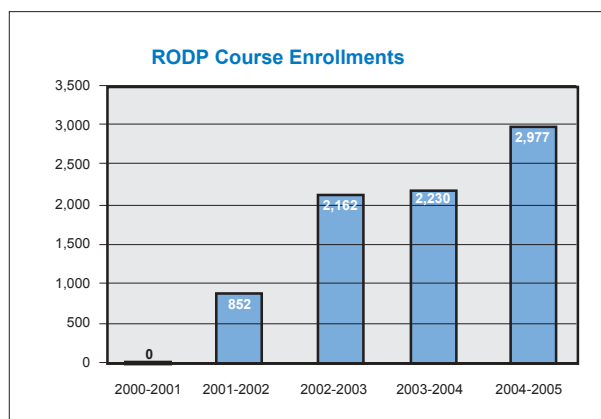
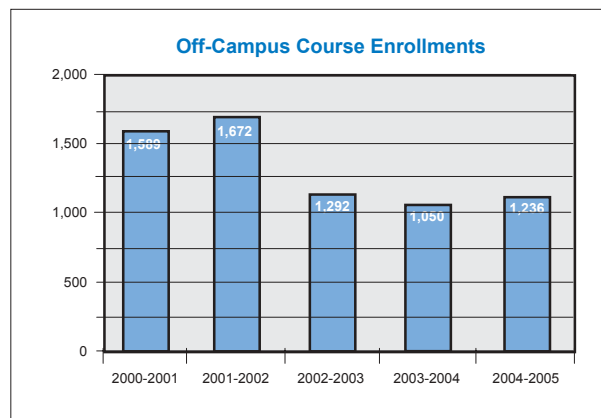
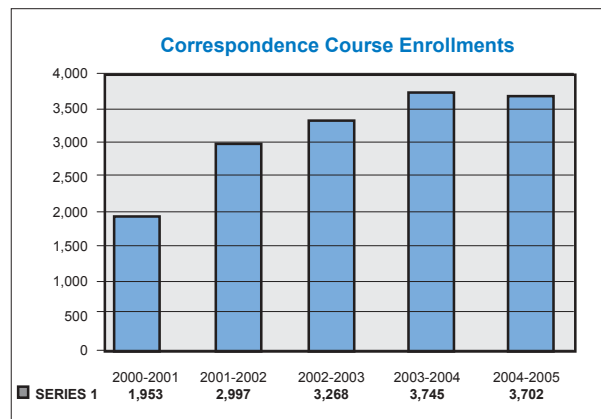
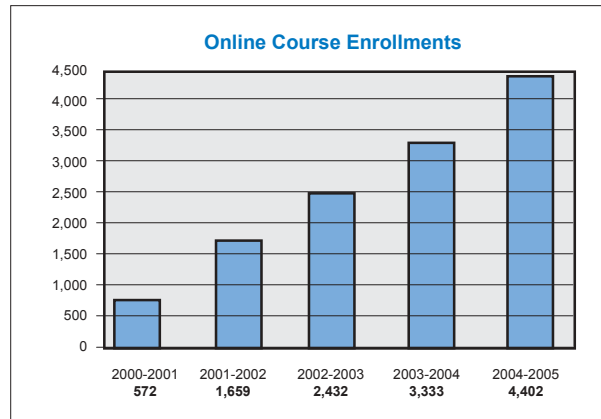
Over the past five fiscal years, number of online and RODP students rose steadily, and while experiencing some mixed results over the reporting period, enrollment for off-campus and videoconferencing ended on an upswing. Technically, correspondence courses had a decrease in registrations, but the five-year numbers show that the program continues to enjoy strong growth. Telecourse registrations dropped for the fifth straight year.

The five-year enrollment totals for all AODL courses are as follows: online, 12,398; RODP, 8,221; off-campus, 6,821; videoconferencing, 551; correspondence, 15,708; and telecourse, 3,843.



THESE STATISTICS ARE FOR A FIVE -YEAR PERIOD

## AODL and Historical Statistics



All Continuing Studies statistics are recorded and presented in this report on a fiscal year basis (June to June) representing fiscal years 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2004-05.



Seen at the October 2004 TGFOA Conference were (L-R) G. Robert “Smitty” Smith, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Accounting, Middle Tennessee State University; Barbara White, Assistant Director for Special Projects; Stephen Gauthier, GFOA Technical Services Director; and John Dluhos, TGFOA President.

## PDPE SUCCESS STORIES

### Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association Conference

Once again PDPE was privileged to coordinate the annual Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association (TGFOA) Conference. The partnership between TGFOA and PDPE began over five years ago and continues to flourish due to the commitment to quality PDPE exhibits toward this statewide event. This educational experience brings together the senior financial leaders of the state with county and municipal government officers for a two-day learning and networking event.

The 2004 conference was held October 20–22 at the Cool Springs Marriott in Franklin, Tennessee, with 175 participants. This year’s conference was sponsored by Bank of America, Moody’s Investors Services, Regions Bank, Reliant Investment, and SunTrust. Over 25 exhibitors provided product education opportunities for the government officials and certified public accountants in attendance. These exhibitors included Arbitrage Compliance Specialists, Inc., Brentwood Services, Inc., CPAK, Deutsche Bank, Duncan Williams, Inc., Government E-Mgt Solutions, Inc., Health Cost Solutions, ICMA Retirement Corporation, Incode, Inc., Kidwell and Co., KVS Information Systems, Inc., LBMC Technologies, LLC., Local Government Data Processing Corp., Nationwide Retirement Solutions, ProSoft Solutions/Springbrook Software, SAMCO Capital Markets, SAP Public Services, Inc., Standard and Poors, Inc., Tyler Technologies/MUNIS Division, US Bank, and Wachovia Corporation.

PDPE and TGFOA were honored to have the following speakers at the conference: Stephen Gauthier, GFOA technical services director; Matt Murray, University of Tennessee; G. Robert “Smitty” Smith, MTSU; Dale Sims, treasurer, State of Tennessee; Representative Charles Curtiss, District 43; Margaret Mahery, TML executive director; Doug Goddard, TCCA executive director; Carson McCord, senior sales representative, GovDeals.com; Mal Fallon, managing director, Standard and Poors; Steve Adams, chief administrative officer, Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation; and John R. Huffman, principal, Reliant Investment Management, LLC. Their presentations were informative and educational. Twelve (12) CPEs were earned by those registered for the conference.



Also attending the TGFOA Conference were (L-R) Art Alexander, Assistant Director, Tennessee Comptroller’s Office; Steve Adams, Chief Administrative Officer, Tennessee Education Lottery Corporation; Richard Norment, Assistant to the Comptroller, State of Tennessee; and John Morgan, Comptroller, State of Tennessee.

## Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence Conference

The inaugural Manufacturing Excellence Conference was held March 17, 2005, with over 100 persons from middle Tennessee's businesses and industries in attendance. The conference featured world-renowned speakers addressing emerging technology in manufacturing. John Greaves (Deloitte Consulting) spoke on the latest trends and technology in RFID. Rita Burgett of Strategic Transformations, Inc., addressed managing technology change in the business environment. Fred Cohen of Fred Cohen and Associates spoke on the challenges of information security. Mark Swenson, vice president of manufacturing engineering at Nissan North America, explained the impact of technology on Nissan's manufacturing operations. Charles Perry discussed technology at MTSU.

At the conference, Dr. Charles Perry was officially named chair of the Robert E. and Georgianna West Russell Chair in Manufacturing Excellence at MTSU. Dr. Perry recently retired as an IBM Distinguished Engineer after 28 years of manufacturing, engineering, and management experience. At IBM, he was granted 33 U.S. patents and was recognized as a technical leader and mentor in paradigm shift problem solving. He is considered a key contributor to the success of IBM's glass ceramic packaging technology, which continues to contribute billions in revenue to IBM. The Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence was founded to enhance the quality of manufacturing education, support existing manufacturing concerns, and attract new manufacturing activity to the middle Tennessee region. This conference supported each of those mandates and generated over \$5,000 in initial funding for the Marvin Runyon Scholarship Fund, which will be used to assist students pursuing degrees in the Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies at MTSU.

PDPE worked with Dr. Perry to coordinate this inaugural conference, and plans for the 2006 Manufacturing Conference are in progress. Our partnership with the Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence and with the Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies has provided valuable marketing and planning capabilities for them while broadening and strengthening PDPE's business and industry relationships.

## PDPE Adds Technology, Offers New Certification

The PDPE computer lab is now brand new. Ten of Dell's latest computers were purchased and customized to meet the needs of the PDPE technology area. These computers were customized to meet maximum hard drive and memory capabilities for the classroom. This purchase allows PDPE's technology area to offer a variety of classes throughout the day, night, and weekend.

In the past, the technology area had to rely on the use of academic classrooms that were not always available. PDPE had to wait until academic classes were listed before scheduling its classes, and most courses had to be scheduled on the weekend, limiting the number of offerings.

The older equipment was not capable of supporting the latest software. Now, the lab has new equipment capable of matching most of the businesses own hardware. With this new advancement, employers can send their employees for class during the day



Present at the inaugural Manufacturing Excellence Conference were (L-R) John Greaves, RFID Technology Global Lead, Deloitte Consulting LLP; Dr. Charles Perry, Russell Chair in Manufacturing Excellence, Professor at MTSU; Mark A. Swenson, Vice President, Manufacturing Engineering, Nissan North America; Fred Cohen, Fred Cohen and Associates; and Rita Burgett, President, Strategic Transformations, Inc.

## QUOTES

Manufacturing  
Excellence  
Conference Attendee:

"Great conference!  
The speakers were  
excellent and it was  
a good showcase  
for MTSU's  
accomplishments."

New Certification cont. on pg. 28

### **New Certification** cont. from pg. 27

for training. With the setup and installation of new computers, a variety of courses will now be available to the general public. Students can take any course in the Microsoft Office suite, get a Webmaster certificate, take the Microsoft Certification Exam, or even take a basic computer repair class. Other courses include software that allows the student to learn about managing Web sites, programming software, and understanding security software.

PDPE's latest technology certification course is the IC3 Certification. IC3 consists of three courses that (after completion) will allow the student to be a functional user of computer hardware, software, and the Internet. The program provides sufficient Internet and computing skills to enter job markets or begin higher education programs.

In addition to PDPE's traditional courses, a variety of online courses will continue to be available to students online. Our partnership with Gatlin Education, Education To Go, and the Regents Online Continuing Education program give students the opportunity to attend courses in the comfort and convenience of their homes or offices.

The PDPE computer lab at Fairview offers new computer equipment, hassle-free parking, and a quiet environment conducive to learning. Our lab can accommodate fifteen students, each with his or her own computer for hands-on learning.

### **MTSU Offers Unique Creative Writing Experience in the Writer's Loft**

The Writer's Loft, MTSU's low-residency certificate program in creative writing, achieved a milestone this year. On January 16, 2005, seven writers completed the program's rigorous three-semester writing requirement and received certificates in creative writing in a Nashville, Tennessee ceremony. As the first entrants into the program and now as the first group of alumni, these students will always hold a special place in the Writer's Loft history.

Part of the University's Continuing Studies initiatives, the 18-month program in writing allows a huge range of students spanning many different generations, lifestyles, and schedules the opportunity to pursue their craft on a customized, individual basis.

"Our mentors are essential to the Writer's Loft's success," said Lance Ikard, director of Professional Development and Personal Enrichment at MTSU and administrative/creative director of the program. "Mentors and students meet for a weekend of orientation where the students decide whether to write fiction, nonfiction, or poetry, and then everyone returns home. . . wherever home may be."

"Studying creative writing in a low-residency format is the ideal situation because writers should be home writing, not sitting in class," said Charlotte Rains Dixon, an award-winning writer from Portland, Oregon and one of the program's mentors. "A mentor in a low-residency program respects the student's writing on its own terms and exists to guide that writing to excellence." R. L. Burkhead, the founder of the program and an integral part of its success as coordinator of marketing agreed, adding, "The Writer's Loft is a supportive, open, creative environment."

Each mentor is given no more than five students to work with throughout the semester, and the students mail packets of writing to their mentors approximately every five weeks. In turn, the mentors evaluate the work and send the writing back to the students with detailed comments.

Some mentors come from MTSU's English Department; others work from their homes in Oregon, Alabama, and Tennessee. In addition to being part of the Writer's Loft's administrative support team, Burkhead has earned his M.F.A. in Writing at Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky, where he just finished his first novel: "Our mentors work out beautifully," Burkhead said, "because they know how it feels to be creative writing students who work with mentors."

In order to create a sense of community among students and mentors throughout the semester, Burkhead said that his division uses e-mail communication as well as the Internet; the Writer's Loft has a special Web site that will serve as an information hub.

"There's more than the mentors; although, they would be enough," Ikard said. "A key part of our division's mission is a public service component, and we have worked hard to make the Writer's Loft available to everyone in Tennessee and even in Kentucky and beyond."

The Writer's Loft has partnered with Davis-Kidd Booksellers in Nashville (Green Hills) to host one of the program's public readings as well as workshops. Tuition guarantees admission to any of the workshops, and the general public is allowed to register for and attend workshops. (The panel discussion is open to the public, too, at no charge.) There's a semester writing competition with the winning entries appearing in an issue of *The Trunk*, the program's literary publication.

"Anyone serious about the craft of writing can submit an application," Ikard said. "Our goal is to help people improve, whether you're 85 years old or just getting out of high school."

Ikard added that there is no competitive component to the application process, but he said that space is limited. Since the program has six mentors, the five-to-one student-teacher ratio restricts each semester's class to 10 new participants.

"Those who respond the fastest will have the best chance at getting in," Ikard said. "And the rest could end up on a waiting list for the next semester."



## QUOTES

SHRM Students:

"I passed my PHR exam!! The class was one of the best I've ever attended."

"All the instructors were wonderful."

## QUOTES

"I am a computer teacher who needs to constantly update my skills. I have enrolled in costly one-day courses but they have not proven to be worth the time or money because it is impossible to process all the information that is thrown at you in a one-day seminar. However, the online courses offer in-depth, well-planned instruction that I can access when I have the time and desire."

## PDPE STUDENT-CENTERED HIGHLIGHTS

- The Writer's Loft honored its first graduating class on January 16, 2005. Seven writers successfully completed the required three semesters and received their certificates. The Writer's Loft continues to be exceedingly popular with its students and mentors.
- The Regents Online Continuing Education (ROCE) program came into being this year. Modeled after the highly successful RODP program, ROCE makes non-credit programs available online. PDPE is taking the lead in development of online Spanish courses with Spanish for health care, law offices, social workers, human resources, hospitality, and construction work sites approved and under development.
- English as a Second Language and Spanish were offered at 84 Lumber Company Headquarters in LaVergne, Tennessee. The company's goal was to bridge the language barrier between managers and front line workers.
- Beginning Hindi was introduced in the spring of 2005. This course appeals to native Indians who want their children to be exposed to the language and culture of India. It's also attractive to those traveling to India for mission work and business.
- PDPE tailored a LEAN training program to the specific needs of an area lumber company, providing in-house instruction for their managers and supervisors. Implementation of these principles was assured by ongoing on-the-job training, specially designed improvement projects, and compliance audits conducted by PDPE trainers.
- PDPE worked with MTSU's Industrial/Organizational Psychology program to provide performance assessment and ongoing, customized training for supervisors and managers at Sloan Motorcycles.

## Vocational Education Highlights

- Janet Bogle was added to our staff in August, bringing with her a wealth of knowledge from the vice president's office, AODL, and PDPE. Her ready and willing attitude has made the Vocational Education office a better place to work.
- Vocational Education added several new conferences this year. MTSU sponsored the staff retreat for the Tennessee Department of Education's Career and Technical Division. The Health Science, Professional Development, and New Teacher Workshop conferences were included in MTSU's new contract, and we assisted in several curriculum writing workshops and various committee meetings.
- The Vocational Education area's biggest highlights this year were the Vocational Student Organization Fall Leadership Conferences. These three combined regional conferences were held in Knoxville, Jackson, and Murfreesboro. Attendance for these first-time events exceeded our expectations with approximately 6,000 students attending.

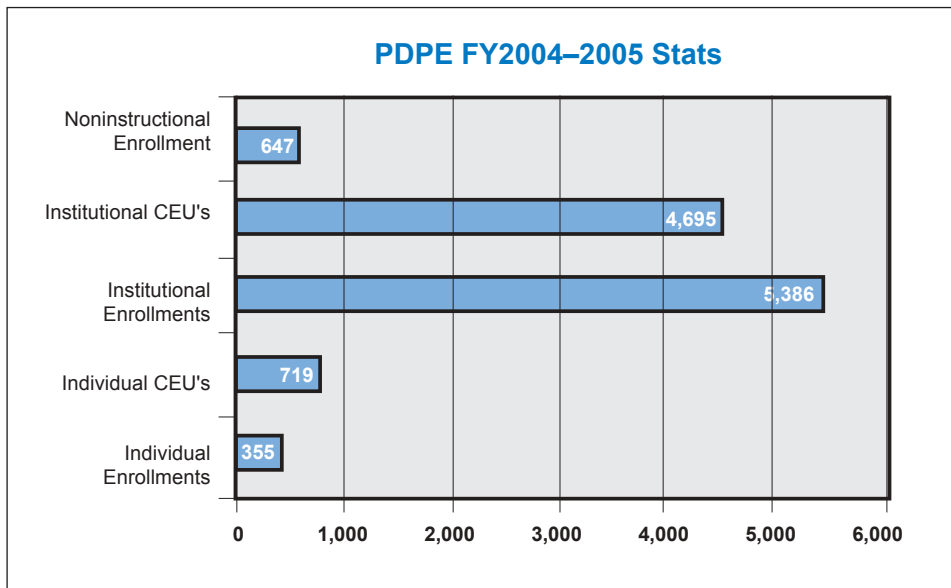


## 2004–2005 NON-CREDIT STATISTICS

### PDPE STATISTICS

In FY 2004–2005, the Professional Development and Personal Enrichment portion of the division enjoyed over 6,000 enrollments and issued 5,414 CEUs in courses, workshops, and programs in areas such as business, government, education, medical and health services, technology, and the creative and applied arts.

There were 4,695 institutional CEUs awarded and 719 individual CEUs awarded. Over the reporting period, there were 355 individual enrollments, 5,386 institutional enrollments, and 647 noninstructional enrollments. Noninstructional enrollment includes programs such as MOS, Intern Clinic, Massage Application, and Massage Clinic.



#### SUMMER 2004

Individual Enrollments: 61  
Individual CEU's: 48.8

Institutional Enrollments: 1,324  
Institutional CEU's: 1,298.8

#### FALL 2004

Individual Enrollments: 158  
Individual CEU's: 312.7

Institutional Enrollments: 2,524  
Institutional CEU's: 2403.8

#### SPRING 2005

Individual Enrollments: 136  
Individual CEU's: 357.2

Institutional Enrollments: 1,538  
Institutional CEU's: 992.3

#### TOTALS FOR 2004–2005

Individual Enrollments: 355  
Individual CEU's: 718.7

Institutional Enrollments: 5,386  
Institutional CEU's: 4,694.9

## 2004–2005 CSPS ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board's purpose is to act as ambassador for the division and to build relationships and solicit counsel. The board promotes programs and services that facilitate the division's mission of extending the resources of the University to enhance quality of life in our community and region and beyond.

### Advisory Board Direction and Structure

As the Advisory Board focuses on the coming fiscal year and its goals, more and more attention will be placed upon fundraising, grant writing, and so on. In addition, the arrival of a new development officer will further bind the board to our organization and bridge the board's input with internal leadership priorities. When the board is fully staffed, it contains 20 members. Internally, three positions are filled with MTSU personnel: one administrator, one PDPE instructor, and one AODL instructor. Two members come from area businesses, and the remaining 15 positions include one member from each of the following: Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, Tennessee state government, local government, health care, automotive industry, technology industry, manufacturing industry, professional association, sales/consultant, hotel industry, K-12 education, technology center, banking/financial, community college, and the media.

### AODL Partnership Highlights

- Personnel delivered 12 classes to various off-campus videoconferencing sites with 98 students at remote locations in Columbia and Franklin.
- Staff members hosted two videoconferences with participants in France for the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
- Videoconferencing equipment was moved from Centennial High School to O'More College of Design in Franklin.
- Personnel presented the Channel 9 Annual Report to the Murfreesboro Cable Commission and received approval to continue use of the education channel until April 2006.
- The Vision Institute Grant was funded by the Tennessee Department of Education and jointly administered by Continuing Studies and the Department of Elementary and Special Education. The program trains teachers to work with students with visual impairments.

### 2004–2005 Advisory Board Members

(Parentheses indicate term expiration date)

Sylvia Brace (Spring 2006)  
Digidivide.com

Judy Henegar (Spring 2006)  
Tennessee Technology Center

Pam Little (Spring 2006)  
Doubletree Hotel

Kathy Payne (Spring 2006)  
City of LaVergne

Niles Reddick (Spring 2006)  
Motlow Community College,  
Smyrna Campus

Richard Redditt (Spring 2006)  
Engineering Technology and  
Industrial Studies, MTSU

Mary Wade (Spring 2006)  
Murfreesboro City Schools



## Public Service and University Service

- Cindy Womack coordinated the division's online auction to benefit the American Heart Association. The auction raised \$600. Womack also coordinated logistics for the Seigenthaler Lecture Series events when former U.S. Vice President Al Gore was the featured guest and the Family-Centered Community Building course when he was present in fall 2004. In addition, she served as chair of the TBR Distance Education Committee and Annual Conference and was the INROADS advisor. She also coordinated the walking horse exhibition at Miller Coliseum for a facilities conference hosted by the MTSU Provost's Office, was appointed to the TBR RFP Course Management Committee, and served on the Unity Luncheon Committee.
- Dianna Rust served as a delegate to the Teaching, Learning, and Innovative Technologies Summit, as well as serving on the ACHE Region VII Awards Committee and serving on the MTSU Employee Recognition Committee.

## PDPE Partnership Highlights

- PDPE has partnered with the Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies Department to develop several new programs based on the LEAN manufacturing concept. LEAN office and LEAN health care prepare the department to expand this valuable training into areas beyond heavy manufacturing.
- PDPE partners with the Middle Tennessee Association of Realtors to offer the Affiliate Broker Pre-license Course each spring and fall. This course continues to be an extremely popular PDPE training program for middle Tennesseans.
- PDPE provides continuing educational opportunities for persons in the health care field. Each semester the division offers CPR training in conjunction with the School of Nursing. During the 2004–05 year, 40 nursing students and faculty members received their required CPR training from the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service.
- PDPE continues to partner with the Rutherford County Emergency Medical Service and the MTSU School of Nursing to offer Emergency Medical Technician IV training. In 2005, 28 participants were trained to help satisfy the demand for technicians in the middle Tennessee area.
- Once again, PDPE was privileged to coordinate the Tennessee Government Finance Officers Association annual conference in Franklin. A record 175 participants from across the state of Tennessee attended the conference in October 2004.
- PDPE partnered with the Tennessee Department of Revenue and Jennings A. Jones College of Business's Tennessee Small Business Development Center to present the 2004 Tennessee Business Tax Seminar. This seminar provided the latest tax information to educate and assist businesses and professionals throughout



PDPE Partnership Highlights cont. on pg. 34

## PDPE Partnership Highlights cont. from pg. 33

middle Tennessee.

- PDPE, in partnership with the Jennings A. Jones College of Business's Tennessee Small Business Development Center and the Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, provided LEAN manufacturing certification training and LEAN office training to area businesses.
- PDPE worked with the Tennessee Six Sigma consortiums to offer Six Sigma Green Belt training and certification.
- PDPE partnered with Belmont University to sponsor a two-day conference featuring "Facing the Challenge of Change" and "Handling Negative Emotions in the Workplace" by Ben Bissell. The conference was held at the Nashville Sheraton.
- PDPE partnered with Shop at Home Network in Antioch, Tennessee, to provide SHRM Learning System training at Shop at Home's facilities, a convenient location for those from the Nashville area.
- PDPE worked with MTSU's Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence and Dr. Charles Perry to coordinate the inaugural Manufacturing Excellence Conference, focusing on emerging technology in manufacturing. Keynote speakers from around the United States provided a diverse and fascinating analysis of emerging technology. The conference provided \$5,250 to the newly established Marvin Runyon Scholarship Fund for students in engineering technology and industrial studies.
- PDPE coordinated the Broadcast Education Association's District II Conference held at MTSU October 1–2, 2004. The conference was attended by educators in the mass communications field from a seven-state area. It was sponsored by Channel 2 (WKRN-TV), Channel 4 (WSMV-TV), Channel 5 (WTVF-TV), and the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters. Ken Strickland, an MTSU graduate and NBC news producer covering the U.S. Senate, was the keynote speaker.



## PUBLIC SERVICE ACTIVITIES

### Division Member Professional Affiliations

Association for Continuing Higher Education (ACHE)  
Association of Writers and Writing Programs (AWP)  
Ducks Unlimited  
International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP)  
Learning Resource Network (LERN)  
Middle Tennessee Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)  
Rutherford County Personnel Association  
Tennessee Alliance for Continuing Higher Education (TACHE)  
The F. Scott Fitzgerald Society  
The Hemingway Society  
University Continuing Education Association (UCEA)

### Staff Community Service

American Cancer Society  
American Heart Association  
Colonel Hardy Murfree Daughters of the American Revolution  
Consolidated Utility District  
HOSPICE of Murfreesboro  
Leadership Rutherford  
Linebaugh Library Foundation  
Murfreesboro Junior League  
Nashville Habitat for Humanity  
New Frontiers  
New Vision Baptist Church  
Room in the Inn  
Rutherford County Food Bank  
Silver Springs M.B.C.  
Smyrna High School Quarterback Club  
Stones River Ducks Unlimited  
Stones River Outreach Ministries  
Stones River Watershed Association  
Tennessee Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra Board  
Tennessee Utility Management Review Board  
Tennessee Technology Center Advisory Board  
Tennessee Technology Center BST Advisory Board  
United Way of Rutherford County  
World Outreach Church  
Youth Leadership Rutherford  
YMCA of Rutherford County

## QUOTES

### CQE Student:

"I passed the CQE exam! I walked into the exam confident, walked out even more confident. I failed the exam in 2002, but this course was a tremendous help."

## QUOTES

**ENGL 2030 Student:**

"I wish I had taken an online class sooner. I absolutely loved everything about it."

**ORCO 4500 Student:**

"I really enjoyed my online class."

**ELED 6030 Student:**

"Distance learning courses are very convenient for part-time students with full-time jobs!!"

## DIVISION PARTNERSHIPS

### Internal

Campus Recreation  
Center for Advancement of Mathematics, Science, and Technology Education  
Center for Health and Human Services  
Center for Teaching, Learning, and Innovative Technologies  
College of Education and Behavioral Science  
MTSU Audio/Visual Services  
Department of Educational Leadership (M.Ed., off-campus)  
Department of Electronic Media Communication  
Department of Elementary and Special Education (2+2 program, CSCC)  
Department of Engineering Technology and Industrial Studies  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures (videoconferences)  
Department of Health and Human Performance  
Department of Management and Marketing  
Department of Psychology  
Department of Sociology and Anthropology  
Jennings A. Jones College of Business  
Jennings A. Jones College of Business (MBA, Franklin)  
MTSU Channel 9  
School of Nursing (RN to BSN)  
Student Affairs (RODP CUSTOMS)  
WMOT FM Radio

### External

Achieve Global  
Athena Learning Center  
Baptist Hospital  
Battle Ground Academy  
Belmont University  
Brentwood Academy  
Broadcast Education Association  
Columbia State Community College  
Comcast Cable Public Access (Murfreesboro Channel 3)  
Community Anti-Drug Coalition of Murfreesboro  
*Daily News Journal*  
Davis-Kidd Booksellers  
Education to Go  
Frist Center for the Visual Arts  
Gatlin Education Services  
Linebaugh Public Library  
Middle Tennessee Bone and Joint Clinic  
Middle Tennessee Medical Center  
Motlow State Community College  
National Business Bureau  
National HealthCare  
Nissan North America, Inc.  
O'More School of Design  
Pearl-Cohn Comprehensive Business Magnet High School

Russell Chair of Manufacturing Excellence  
Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce  
Rutherford County Department of Education  
Rutherford County Emergency Services  
Sloan's Motorcycles  
Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)  
St. Thomas Hospital  
STAR Physical Therapy  
State Medical Examiner's Office  
State of Tennessee, Motorcycle Rider Training Program  
Stewart Lumber Company  
Tennessee Department of Education, Special Education Division  
Tennessee Department of Education, Vocational-Technical Division  
Tennessee Department of Revenue  
Tennessee Government Financial Officers Association  
Tennessee Regional Safety Council  
Tennessee Small Business Development Center  
Tennessee Six Sigma Consortium  
Tennessee Small Business Development Center  
Tennessee State University  
Tennessee Voices for Children  
*The Tennessean*  
Vanderbilt University  
Volunteer State Community College

## QUOTES

Managing Problem  
Employees Attendee:  
"This was the best  
seminar I've attended  
in 27 years of work-  
ing!"



## CONTRACTS AND GRANTS

### Vocational Education Professional Development

[www.mtsu.edu/%7Evoiced/](http://www.mtsu.edu/%7Evoiced/)

The Vocational Education Professional Development Grant is an agreement between the Tennessee Department of Education, Vocational-Technical Division, and Middle Tennessee State University. The grant provides professional development conferences, workshops, and meetings for vocational administrators and educators in Tennessee.

The Tennessee Vocational Education Conference brings over 2,000 people to MTSU each year. Participants are classroom teachers and administrators representing secondary and postsecondary public schools. More than 200 presenters conduct workshops and seminars on timely topics such as leadership, government regulations, trends and issues in education, communication, the integration of business and education, designing learning activities, professional commitments, conflict management, helping at-risk youth, and more. The implementation and integration of academics in vocational education is a major theme throughout the conference. Other professional development opportunities include the following:

- New Teacher Workshop
- High Schools That Work Assessment Workshop
- TDCTE (held quarterly)
- Vocational Student Organization, Fall Leadership conference

### Vision Institute Contract

The Vision Institute, supported by a contract from the Tennessee State Department of Education, remained strong in the 2004–2005 fiscal year. (This institute is administered and staffed by DCS and the Department of Elementary and Special Education.)

The Vision Institute is broken down into two formal levels (Level I and Level II), and after successful completion students attend a four-week practicum at the Tennessee School for the Blind in Nashville.

A Level I Summer Institute is provided for the purpose of training teachers in Tennessee how to work with visually handicapped students. At this level, students come to MTSU for three weeks to attend classes such as Orientation and Mobility, Anatomy and Physiology of the Eye, Introduction to Braille, Communication Skills for the Visually Handicapped, and Education Procedures for the Visually Handicapped.

During the following summer, teachers participate in Level II, in which they attend three weeks of classes in Nature and Needs of the Visually Impaired, Advanced Educational Procedures, Advanced Braille, and Communication Skills.



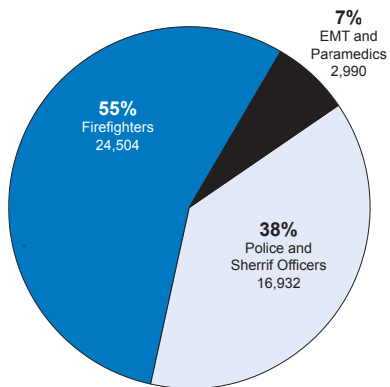


## Prevention through Understanding: Investigating Unexpected Infant Death

[www.mtsu.edu/~sidsproj](http://www.mtsu.edu/~sidsproj)

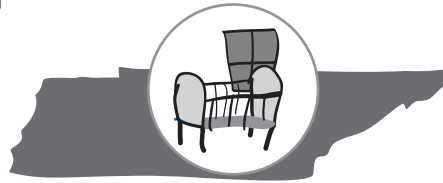
Over the 2004–2005 fiscal year, the SIDS training program completed another successful and rapidly growing year. Developed by the Division of Continuing Studies and Public Service, the Center for Health and Human Services, and the College of Education and Behavioral Science, under contract with the Tennessee Department of Health, this statewide training program focuses on collecting accurate data from unexplained infant death scenes. The program was initiated in February 2003 as a result of the Sudden Unexplained Child Death Act, which states that all first responders in Tennessee must receive training on handling cases of sudden unexplained infant death as part of their basic and continuing training requirements. The purpose is to help reduce the incidence of injury and death to infants by accurately identifying the cause and manner of death of infants under one (1) year of age.

The training program is estimated to reach 44,426 first responders in Tennessee. The following graph gives a breakdown of the targeted trainees:



The annual Train the Trainer in-service was held on January 28 at the Memphis Hilton Hotel. The five-hour program instructed regional trainers to take information to their departments and conduct training. As a result, 232 in-service trainings were held across the state. This is an increase of 124 from the '03-'04 contract year. Since the program's inception, it has not only become highly visible across Tennessee, but it is also being recognized as a model in several other states. Since its beginning in 2003 with 165 persons trained, the number of trainees has increased from 421 in 2003–2004 to 3,703 in 2004–2005.

This year, the program presented a display at the Tennessee Public Health Association annual meeting in September and at Scholar's Day at MTSU in October. For more information, please visit [www.mtsu.edu/~sidsproj](http://www.mtsu.edu/~sidsproj) or e-mail [sidsproj@mtsu.edu](mailto:sidsproj@mtsu.edu).



**Prevention Through Understanding:**  
Investigating Unexpected Infant Death



Contracts and Grants cont. on pg. 40

**Contracts and Grants** cont. from pg. 39

## Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs grant

[www.mtsu.edu/~gearup/](http://www.mtsu.edu/~gearup/)

During the 2004–2005 fiscal year, our division gained the grant known as Gear Up. Federally funded through the U.S. Department of Education, Gear Up is a discretionary program designed to increase the number of low-income students entering and succeeding in postsecondary education. It gives students the opportunity to improve study, social, and leadership skills, and it helps prepare them to become productive students and citizens.

Students from Metro Davidson County Schools attend this three-week college preparatory program each summer held on the campus of Middle Tennessee State University. The July 1, 2005, Gear Up graduation ceremony was the culmination of a wide assortment of workshops that started in mid-June. From June 13 until July 1, students sampled college life at MTSU, an experience that included learning about biology, police work, management and marketing, nursing, African American studies, engineering, and psychology. Students also participated in rocket building and launching and tie-dyeing.

Each summer, students participate and complete coursework in English, math, science, and University 1010, and many campus resources are involved to ensure the program's success. In the past, departments such as Campus Recreation and ROTC as well as various faculty members have been involved in helping students understand what takes place on a college campus.

Gear Up and programs like it have been changing the lives of many young people for many years.

## QUOTES

### Gear Up Program Quotes:

"Gear Up offered a great opportunity to learn about the college experience. Participating this summer will help ease the process when I apply for college."

"I enjoyed meeting with the representative from Allied Health. It helped me with my decision of choosing a major."

"The overall experience was great! MTSU has so much to offer to students."



### YES YOU CAN-

Charles Roshing Jr., right, encourages Pearl-Cohn classmate Travis O. Williams as he crosses the One Rope Bridge in the first GEAR UP program in 2003.

*photo J. Intintoli*

# STAFF AND INSTRUCTORS

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### RIDING IN STYLE-

Continuing Studies  
Coordinator Cindy Womack,  
left, and Psychology  
Associate Professor Rick  
Moffett pause on campus  
before taking off on their  
motorcycles.

*photo J. Intintoli*

Staff cont. on pg. 42

Staff cont. from pg. 41



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Coordinators, and staff.

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### CSPA Welcomes New Members Russell Clayton and Lance Ikard



Russell Clayton started with our division as a development officer in July 2005, and he splits his time between us and the College of Education and Behavioral Science. After earning his B.S. in business administration from Auburn University in 2000, Russell worked in fundraising for Auburn and Vanderbilt University. He has been a part-time MTSU student since June of 2004, working on a Master's of Education (M.Ed.) in Administration and Supervision.



Lance Ikard arrived at the beginning of 2005 after a long and successful career in human resources. He spent over 30 years working for such companies as Genesco, Firestone, Samsonite, Nissan, and American Color. A lot of his background is in employee development, succession planning, and positive employee relations. A native Tennessean, he graduated from Sewanee in 1971, and in 1974 he graduated from MTSU with an M.A. in psychology. Lance has two daughters and four grandchildren.

## PDPE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PERSONAL ENRICHMENT INSTRUCTORS

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Frank Wells  
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Instructors cont. on pg. 44



Administrative CSPS Staff

## Instructors cont. from pg. 43

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