

MTSU FOUNDATION AWARDS ^{AND} FACULTY RECOGNITIONS

FALL FACULTY
MEETING

AUGUST 23, 2018

I AM *true*
BLUE

MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

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**MIDDLE
TENNESSEE**
STATE UNIVERSITY.

To the faculty and staff:

Welcome to the Fall Faculty Meeting of Middle Tennessee State University. On behalf of the MTSU Foundation Board, I would like to thank you for your dedication and leadership, which have made MTSU the institution of choice for the region's top scholars.

We are grateful to all the faculty and staff seeking to provide a supportive learning environment to our students and an experience that is as personal and unique as our diverse student population. Since the establishment of the MTSU Foundation in the early 1960s, the University has been the beneficiary of gifts that have contributed significantly to its growth and development. Our mission is to provide financial assistance from alumni, friends, and the community to build an even stronger MTSU.

I congratulate today's recipients and all the faculty. Best wishes for an exciting, fulfilling, and successful academic year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Nichols".

G. Ron Nichols, '70
President, MTSU Foundation

FOUNDATION

AWARDS





Brian W. Frank

*Department of Physics and Astronomy
Outstanding Teaching Award*

Dr. Brian Frank joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Middle Tennessee State University in 2011. Prior to MTSU, he earned his doctoral degree in Physics from the University of Maryland and worked as a post-doctoral researcher in the Center for Research in STEM Education at the University of Maine.

At MTSU, Frank teaches a variety of courses, including introductory physics for life science majors, teaching and learning seminars for future physics teachers, and upper-division courses for Physics majors intending to pursue graduate work. As an educator, he is dedicated to teaching in ways that support students as authors of scientific ideas who are capable of answering questions about how they know and why they believe.

Frank is extremely grateful to the students he has taught and learned with over the years. He says their eagerness to engage and to contribute to deep and meaningful learning is endlessly humbling and inspiring.



James B. Hart

*Department of Mathematical Sciences
Outstanding Teaching Award*

Dr. James B. Hart joined the Department of Mathematical Sciences at MTSU in 1991. He earned a B.A. in Mathematics with High Honors from Hendrix College in 1986 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Mathematics from Vanderbilt University in 1988 and 1991, respectively. While at MTSU, Hart has taught courses ranging from college algebra to graduate seminars, including the calculus sequence, linear and abstract algebra, Boolean algebra, and topology. He has directed six master's theses and currently serves as the department's graduate program coordinator.

Hart actively engages students in his research, publishing a paper on information systems with an undergraduate in 2016 and submitting a paper on graph theory jointly with a master's student in 2017. He is currently preparing a paper on cone lattices with another master's student.

Since he began teaching, Hart has placed great importance on engaging his students in the learning process. He uses the Socratic method exclusively in his upper-division and graduate courses to train students in the science and art of formal proof. To help this process, Hart created self-paced materials for these courses, one set of which was recently published in the *Journal of Inquiry-Based Learning in Mathematics* and another set under review by that journal.

In recent years, Hart turned his attention to engaging lower-division students more actively in the learning process. Working closely with MTSU colleagues Jeremy Strayer and Sarah Bleiler-Baxter, he helped pioneer the use of Pathways to Calculus precalculus materials at MTSU in 2014, assisted in editing and refining those materials in 2015, and remains active in the ongoing mentoring and professional development of precalculus instructors. In 2016, Arizona State University's Marilyn Carlson, the principal developer of Pathways to Calculus, invited Hart to join her team. These materials allow calculus teachers to supplement Calculus I instruction with investigations that use the Project Pathways pedagogy and content philosophy and are currently being tested at MTSU and several other institutions. Hart also has worked to apply active learning techniques to abstract algebra, first as a 2015 fellow in the Teaching Abstract Algebra for Understanding project based at Virginia Tech and now by capitalizing on that experience to develop his own active learning materials for this subject. Working with MTSU colleague Jennifer Lovett, Hart is currently directing an undergraduate Honors student as she investigates the nature of student responses for some of the abstract algebra investigations he is developing.



Deanna R. Little

School of Music

Outstanding Teaching Award

Dr. Deanna Little, a professor of flute at Middle Tennessee State University, holds a Bachelor of Music in Education from the University of Northern Iowa and Master of Music in Flute Performance and Doctor of Music degrees from Indiana University. Her primary instructors include James Scott, Kate Lukas, Peter Lloyd, Trevor Wye, and Angeleita Floyd. As a professor at MTSU, Little currently teaches applied flute, woodwind methods, and literature and pedagogy, and she directs the MTSU Flute Choir.

An active performer, Little is a member of the Stones River Chamber Players, appears with the Nashville Opera and Murfreesboro Symphony Orchestra, and is a frequent substitute with the Nashville Symphony.

She has performed as a soloist, masterclass clinician, chamber musician, and flute ensemble director throughout the United States, Canada, Central and South America, France, Germany, Italy, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, and the Netherlands. She is the current Collegiate Flute Choir Competition coordinator for the National Flute Association (NFA). Little also was the 2004 local arrangements coordinator for the NFA Convention in Nashville and is a past-president of the Mid-South Flute Society.

In addition to her duties at MTSU, Little teaches on the faculty of the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts and is an Altus Artist. Her CD *Diamonds Uncovered* was released in 2009, and her new CD *Inspirations from Tennessee: "The Dolly Project"* will be released this fall.



Noël D. Lorson

*Department of Art and Design
Outstanding Teaching Award*

Noël D. Lorson earned her M.F.A. from Temple University's Tyler School of Art in Pennsylvania. Before joining MTSU in 2004, her career in academia started at the University of Kansas and continued at the University of North Carolina–Charlotte. In the classroom, Lorson focuses on building a comfortable, creative community where students get to know each other, as well as the topics presented. During her 14 years at MTSU, Lorson has been immersed in growing the Graphic Design concentration within the Department of Art and Design. She has taught all the core classes in Graphic Design and has been involved in curriculum development for the areas of illustration and graphic design. Lorson also enjoys teaching a variety of electives, especially summer Design Camp. Her students' works have been consistently recognized at local, regional, and national competitions, such as the American Advertising Awards and AIGA TennShow.

Lorson was advisor to the AIGA/MTSU student group during 2004–11 and resumed the position in Fall 2015. She was president of the Nashville Chapter of AIGA in 2005–07 and has served as vice president of education and on the Advisory Board. In 2005, Lorson co-created DISH, a student design conference that served to ignite passion in young designers throughout the Southeast, and co-organized the event for five years. At MTSU, she is involved with the award-winning *Collage: A Journal of Creative Expression* that is produced by the Honors College, serving both on the Advisory Board and as the graphic design advisor since 2004. Each spring, Lorson also organizes the MTSU Professional Portfolio Review in Nashville. It is a valuable opportunity for graduating seniors to network and gain employment in the design community in middle Tennessee. In Spring 2016, Lorson chaired the Recruitment Committee for the department and held the first annual Open House with the help of her colleagues. The successful event featured workshops, demonstrations, and tours of Todd Hall.

In 2006 and 2015, Lorson received an Advisor of the Year Award for the College of Liberal Arts. She has been awarded various MTSU grants and two grants from the Tennessee Historical Commission, which she co-wrote with Anthropology faculty members. In an effort to give back to the community, her goal is to complete one pro bono project a semester. In addition, Lorson's students have conceptualized and designed for MTSU's Constitution Day, the University Advising Committee, Special Kids of Tennessee, AIGA Nashville, the Nashville Advertising Federation, the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere, and Dwight's Mini Mart on campus.



Lori Y. McClure-Wade

*Department of English
Outstanding Teaching Award*

Lori McClure-Wade is a True Blue Raider, having completed both her undergraduate and graduate degrees at MTSU. For 19 years, she has devoted herself to her teaching and her students. Every semester, McClure-Wade works with up to 100 students in both composition and literature classes. Passionate about her students, McClure-Wade prepares incoming freshmen

for the demands of being a college student while also challenging them to find their voices as writers. Critical thinking and self-expression are the heart of her pedagogical approach. Challenging her students to explore various texts and assignments, to understand the need to challenge themselves in the process, often produces profound experiences for both McClure-Wade and her students. To teach is to learn, and McClure-Wade is constantly learning from her students, which helps her hone her pedagogical approach, all with one goal in mind: building students' confidence and preparing them for academic success.

As a member of the English Department, McClure-Wade remains committed to professional growth. Her pedagogy development requires quite an investment of time, as she reads and responds to multiple major writing assignments from each student. Pushing students to take on "outside-of-the-box" assignments, leading breakout sessions at department meetings, serving on committees, and participating in various professional development workshops all contribute to a vibrant, challenging, and deeply rewarding career.

In February, McClure-Wade lost her beloved husband, Marcus. Although this loss was both unexpected and devastating, she returns to work this semester with a groundswell of love and support from her MTSU family beneath her. She is ready to once again to devote herself to the profession she loves so dearly.



Brian W. Frank

*Department of Physics and Astronomy
Outstanding General Education Award*

Dr. Brian Frank joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy at Middle Tennessee State University in 2011. Prior to MTSU, he earned his doctoral degree in Physics from the University of Maryland and worked as a post-doctoral researcher in the Center for Research in STEM Education at the University of Maine.

At MTSU, Frank teaches a variety of courses, including introductory physics for life science majors, teaching and learning seminars for future physics teachers, and upper-division courses for Physics majors intending to pursue graduate work. As an educator, he is dedicated to teaching in ways that support students as authors of scientific ideas who are capable of answering questions about how they know and why they believe.

Frank is extremely grateful to the students he has taught and learned with over the years. He says their eagerness to engage and to contribute to deep and meaningful learning is endlessly humbling and inspiring.

Stephanie H. Dean

Department of Media Arts

Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award

Dr. Stephanie Dean is an assistant professor in the College of Media and Entertainment and co-director of the Immersive Storytelling Lab. Dean researches how digital technologies, social media, and participatory media are used to align with or against discourses that form our identities, policies, and understanding of culture(s).

Currently, Dean is using virtual reality in the classroom to better place students in embodied situations that exemplify and challenge the theories they encounter in class.

Eric S. Detweiler

Department of English

Outstanding Achievement in Instructional Technology Award

Dr. Eric Detweiler is an assistant professor in the Department of English. He studies the history of rhetoric and writing education, as well as digital rhetoric and its connections to the emerging field of sound studies. His scholarship has been published in such journals as *Philosophy and Rhetoric*, *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, and *enculturation*, and he runs a podcast called *Rhetoricity*.

At MTSU, Dr. Detweiler has taught such courses as Rhetoric and Recorded Sound, Digital Rhetoric and Writing, Video Games and/as Literature, and Fermentation, Culture, and Writing.



Molly G. Taylor-Poleskey

Department of History

*Outstanding Achievement in Instructional
Technology Award*

Dr. Molly G. Taylor-Poleskey is an assistant professor of History. She graduated from Stanford University in 2016 with a dissertation on the food culture of the court of Brandenburg-Prussia in the 17th century.

Katherine A. Green*College of Graduate Studies**Outstanding Public Service Award*

Katherine A. Green is an accountant for the College of Graduate Studies. She has a degree in Finance from the University of Tennessee and a long history of public service, logging over 1,000 volunteer hours at the Knoxville Zoo. After college, she volunteered for Prevent Unwanted Pets, an organization helping low-income people spay and neuter their pets, acquire veterinary care, and also foster and adopt pets. When she moved to Murfreesboro, Green began volunteering at Greenhouse Ministries. She also started a reading program with her literacy dog in several Rutherford County schools. During this time, she became involved with Read to Succeed, where she took her literacy dog to community events and set up reading spots for children to read to the dog. Green has received two awards from Read to Succeed: the Shining Star Award, which recognizes the volunteer of the month, and the Family Literacy Volunteer of the Year for 2015.

After she began working at MTSU, her focus turned toward STEM and promoting STEM. Green started volunteering with Expanding Your Horizons (EYH), a conference for middle and high school girls, hosting a workshop on dog behavior. In 2015, she was the keynote speaker, along with Krista Wade, owner of Happy Valley Kennel. Green helps throughout the day of the conference and also serves on the boards for both EYH and the Women In STEM (WISTEM) Center, making important and effective suggestions for potential donors and grants. Green also monitors and posts on the WISTEM Facebook page. Additionally, she has volunteered at workshops for adults at the Maryville College EYH on the importance of hands-on learning in STEM for girls.



Noël D. Lorson

*Department of Art and Design
Outstanding Public Service Award*

Noël D. Lorson earned her M.F.A. from Temple University's Tyler School of Art in Pennsylvania. Before joining MTSU in 2004, her career in academia started at the University of Kansas and continued at the University of North Carolina–Charlotte. In the classroom, Lorson focuses on building a comfortable, creative community

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Preston J. MacDougall

Department of Chemistry

Outstanding Public Service Award

Dr. Preston MacDougall, a native of Toronto, received his college education in Chemistry at McMaster University in nearby Hamilton, Ontario. After receiving his Ph.D. in 1989, MacDougall received a post-doctoral fellowship from the Canadian government, which he took to Texas A&M University. He next won a post-doctoral fellowship that allowed him to independently conduct research in the Materials Science Division of Los Alamos National Laboratory, in addition to laboratory-directed research on the Department of Energy's Clean Car Initiative. In 1994, MacDougall began his academic career in the Department of Chemistry at MTSU. He was promoted to professor in 2008 and served as interim chair during the 2010–11 academic year, when funding for the new Science Building was secured from the state legislature. MacDougall has taught in the Honors College since 1999 and continues to do independent research, as well as supervising the research of undergraduate and graduate students in theoretical and computational chemistry. He also explores creative writing as a pedagogical tool in chemical education.

MacDougall is a recognized leader in public relations on behalf of the chemistry profession. The American Chemical Society (ACS) has recognized his volunteer efforts as PR chair for the Nashville Section of the ACS with four national ChemLuminary Awards for Outstanding Public Relations. He is a founding member of the ACS Tennessee Government Affairs Committee, which was the driving force for creating the Tennessee legislature's STEM Education Caucus, the country's first state-level STEM Education Caucus. He also received a ChemLuminary Award from the ACS in Government Affairs for this volunteer effort. After moving to Murfreesboro, he began visiting local elementary schools, as well as the old Discovery House on Maple Street, to celebrate National Chemistry Week with hands-on chemistry activities designed to both excite and educate children about the wonders of chemistry. Since the Discovery Center at Murfree Spring opened, MacDougall's volunteer efforts have expanded, especially after his wife, Tara, became CEO and president of the children's science museum. In 2014, he led a partnership between the Discovery Center and the Nashville Section of the ACS to co-host a series of Science Cafés, which are open to the public and feature gifted public speakers who promote new exhibits at the center and explain the science related to them. MacDougall also was a key member of the Leadership and Operations Committees when the Discovery Center launched the statewide Tennessee STEAM Festival to mark its 30th anniversary in 2017. Since 2014, MacDougall has served as the volunteer director of the Tennessee Junior Academy of Science, now in its 77th year.



Qiang Wu

*Department of Mathematical Sciences
Distinguished Research Award*

Dr. Qiang Wu is an associate professor of Mathematics and Actuarial Science at Middle Tennessee State University. He is also on the faculty of MTSU's Computational Science Ph.D. program. Wu earned his Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from City University of Hong Kong in 2005 and received post-doctoral training

in statistics and machine learning at Duke University from 2005 to 2008. He joined MTSU's Department of Mathematical Sciences in 2011 and was promoted to his current rank in 2015.

Wu's research interests include computational learning theory and high-dimensional data mining. His research has focused on the mathematical foundations of support vector machines, regularization kernel methods, indefinite kernel machines, information theoretical learning, and distributed learning for big data. Wu also has developed feature selection and dimension reduction algorithms for high-dimensional data analysis and applied them in stylometry analysis. He has published 50 peer-reviewed journal/conference papers, 21 published since joining MTSU. Wu's publications can be found in highly ranked applied mathematics and machine learning journals such as *Applied and Computational Harmonic Analysis*, *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, *IEEE Transactions on Neural Network and Learning Systems*, and *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*. As of February, his publications have been cited 1,722 times by researchers from more than 20 countries.

Wu participated in five external grants, with a value exceeding \$1 million. He was principal investigator (PI) of a Society of Actuaries Educational Institution Grant; co-PI of a Tennessee Board of Regents research grant, a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant, and a Natural Science Foundation of China grant; and co-investigator of the Tennessee Health Rate Review Project. Wu also received three internal grants.



Tony V. Johnston

*School of Agriculture
Special Projects Award*

Dr. Tony V. Johnston is a professor and director of the Fermentation Science bachelor's degree program in the School of Agriculture at Middle Tennessee State University. He received his Ph.D. in Enology and Viticulture in 1995 from the University of Arkansas and assumed his current position as a faculty member at MTSU in August of that year. Johnston worked in quality control and research and development in the food industry for six years before returning to graduate school to earn his doctorate. He continues to work with and advise food processors, grape growers, and winemakers in the region and expanded his range of expertise by earning a Master of Public Health degree from the University of Florida in 2014.

Johnston is perhaps best known for his expertise in grape and wine production. He has owned and operated a Tennessee winery; assisted in the establishment of two additional Tennessee wineries and was the winemaker for one of them for three years; teaches courses on Wine Appreciation, the International Wine Industry, and Wine Science; and helped to develop and then taught the MTSU Leisure, Sport, and Tourism course on Wine Tourism. Over the past 23 years, Johnston has taught many other food- and non-food-related courses in support of multiple academic programs at MTSU.

Study abroad is a key focus for Johnston, who has led agriculture- and wine-related education trips to Argentina, Canada, France, Germany, Honduras, and Switzerland. He is planning a course in the Dominican Republic and has a number of other countries to which he would like to take students in the near future. Johnston firmly believes that all undergraduate students should study abroad at least once before graduating.

Sensory perception of foods, especially wine, is of particular interest to him. While on a recent vacation, Johnston realized that the meal he was eating (at about 11,000 feet above mean sea level) offered very little flavor. He reflected on the same effect when eating foods during commercial flight, which led to the establishment of an interdisciplinary research team to explore the physiological effect of altitude on sensory perception. This Special Projects grant offers the potential to create foods that taste better to airline passengers and skiers, as well as to geriatric patients, cancer patients, and those who may have had brain injuries leading to the loss of taste perception.



Judith M. Iriarte-Gross

*Department of Chemistry
Career Achievement Award*

Dr. Judith Iriarte-Gross is a professor of Chemistry and director of the Women In STEM (WISTEM) Center at MTSU. She completed a post-doctoral research project at Southern Methodist University that focused on inorganic polymers. Before joining MTSU in 1996, Iriarte-Gross worked as a chemist for the FDA and as a chemist and lab manager in the plastics industry. During 1990–96, she volunteered with local Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conferences in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. After moving to Murfreesboro, Iriarte-Gross started the first EYH in Tennessee, which has served over 7,200 girls. EYH introduces middle and high school girls to STEM role models and mentors through hands-on, girls-only workshops. Girls from Tennessee, as well as southern Kentucky, northern Alabama, and Atlanta, have attended the EYH events at MTSU. Tennessee is now home to six EYH conference sites: the first at MTSU in Murfreesboro, along with Memphis, Morristown, Maryville, Chattanooga, and Gallatin.

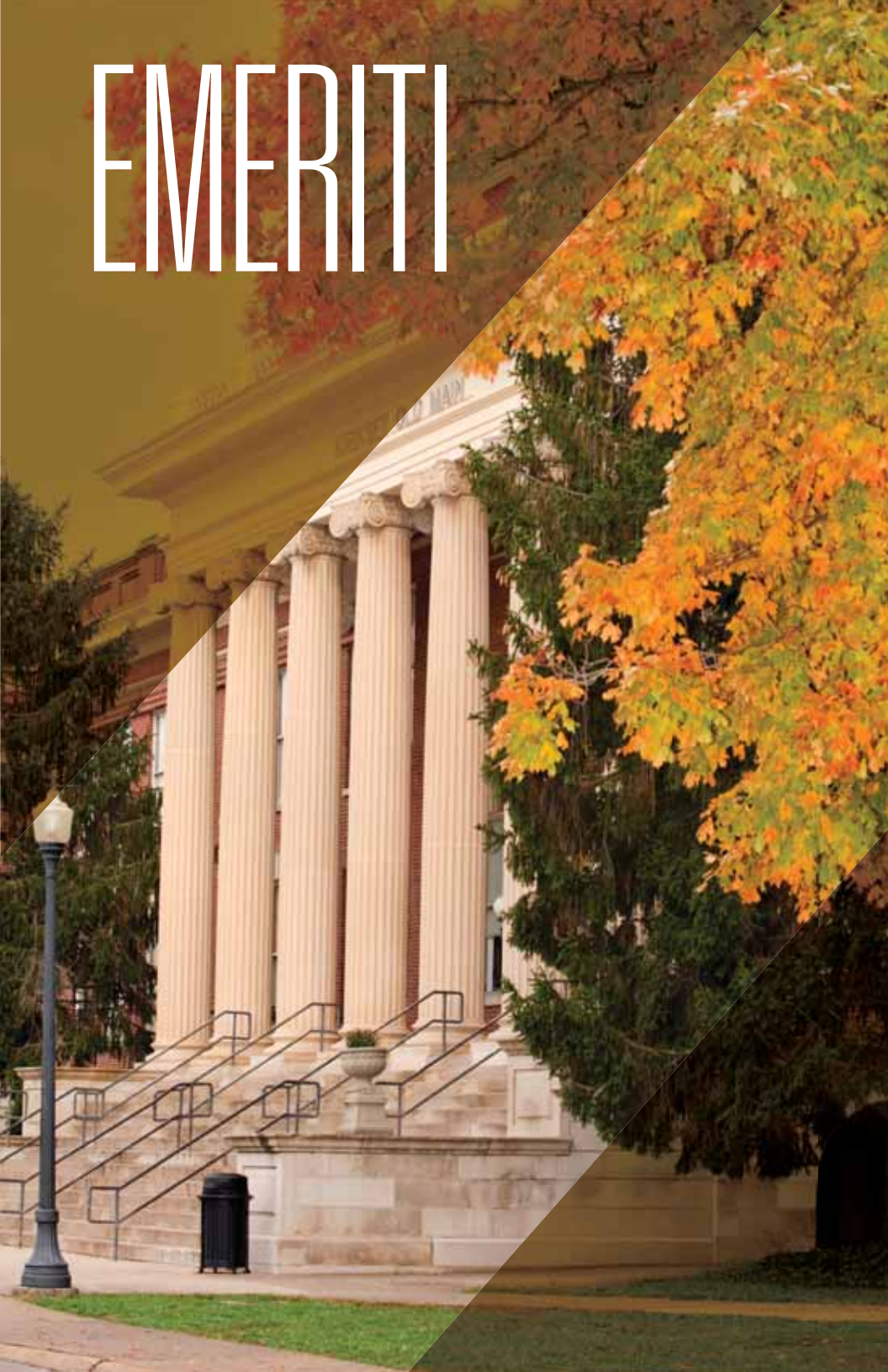
Iriarte-Gross has been a principal investigator (PI) or co-PI on six National Science Foundation (NSF) awards. In 2007, she was awarded an NSF grant titled “A Dissemination Project to Increase Girls Raised in Tennessee Science (GRITS).” This project provided information for Tennessee girls, parents, teachers, and guidance counselors about STEM education and careers. This grant also supported the growth of EYH conferences across Tennessee. As a result of her work with GRITS, the National Girls Collaborative Project (NGCP) named Iriarte-Gross lead of the GRITS Collaborative Project for the state of Tennessee in 2008. In 2009, she was appointed director of the WISTEM Center at MTSU, the first such center in Tennessee for girls and women in STEM. She is faculty advisor of MTSU’s Women In Science and Engineering (WISE) student organization and WISE living-learning community. In 2014, Iriarte-Gross and four other STEM faculty at MTSU were awarded an NSF ADVANCE grant for 2014–16. This study, “A Catalyst to ADVANCE the Participation and Advancement of Women in Academic STEM Careers at Middle Tennessee State University,” focused on identifying barriers that affect recruitment, retention, participation, and promotion of women STEM faculty at MTSU.

Iriarte-Gross, a native of Washington, D.C., is nationally known for her advocacy for encouraging girls and women in the sciences and has been recognized with numerous awards and accolades over the past two years. In 2016, she was named a fellow of both the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science, two of the premier scientific

professional societies. In 2016, Iriarte-Gross also received the William E. Bennett Award for Extraordinary Contributions to Citizen Science from the National Center for Science and Civic Engagement. In 2017, she was awarded the Dreyfus Foundation/American Chemical Society Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences, and she also won the Partners for Progress and Prosperity (P3) Award at the ACS Southeast Regional Meeting. This year, Iriarte-Gross was named the ACS Local Section Outreach Volunteer of the Year. She remains active in ACS national activities and is the current chair of the Professional Relations Committee and serves on the Committee on Committees.

For her work in programs supporting the recruitment, retention, and graduation of girls and women in STEM education and careers, she was a nominee for the 2014 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring. Iriarte-Gross was named an Association for Women in Science (AWIS) Fellow in 2009 and has served as secretary of the AWIS Executive Board, co-president of the Tennessee Chapter of AWIS, and AWIS representative on the National Champions Board of NGCP. A former Upward Bound student, she received the TRIO Achievers Award for Washington, D.C., in 2010. She is an active member and councilor of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and serves on both the Nashville and national Women Chemists Committees of the ACS. Iriarte-Gross also was named to the ACS Leadership Advisory Board in recognition of her work with girls and women in STEM. She is an at-large member of Iota Sigma Pi and president of the MTSU Sigma Xi Chapter. Locally, Iriarte-Gross was awarded the first Athena International Leadership by Rutherford CABLE in 2014 and was named a 2015 Woman of Influence in the mentoring/inspiration category by the *Nashville Business Journal*.

EMERITI



T *eaching*

R *esearch*

S *ervice*



Patricia L. Bradley

Professor Emerita of English

Dr. Patricia L. Bradley has been a highly valued member of the Department of English for many years. Her academic specialties include adolescent literature, English education, Southern literature, and American literature from the late 19th through the mid-20th centuries. Bradley's expertise in these areas has long contributed to the department's particular strengths in

American literature and Southern studies. On the undergraduate level, she also has taught the American Literature Survey course and courses in Women's and Gender Studies. On the graduate level, Bradley has offered graduate courses and directed M.A. theses and Ph.D. dissertations.

Her primary claim to emerita status derives from her achievements as a scholar. In 2004, Bradley published *Robert Penn Warren's Circus Aesthetic: and the Southern Renaissance* with the University of Tennessee Press. With this well-received book, she earned a national reputation as a scholar of early 20th-century Southern literature. In 2012, Bradley delivered the keynote address at the William Faulkner Conference, sponsored by Southeast Missouri State University's Center for Faulkner Studies. In addition, her impressive publication record includes a major article in the prestigious *Mississippi Quarterly*, along with contributions to peer-reviewed anthologies on Faulkner.

Bradley intends to maintain an active research agenda after retirement. She currently is working on an essay detailing Katherine Anne Porter's influence on Robert Penn Warren. Bradley also has started a book project applying the insights of disability studies to Warren's fiction.



William L. Canak

Professor Emeritus of Sociology

Dr. William L. Canak joined MTSU in 1998, serving in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology until his retirement in January. He taught courses in the areas of work, organizations, applied research, and conflict resolution. Canak advised undergraduate students, as well as directed and served on senior thesis, master's thesis, and doctoral dissertation committees. He also was actively involved in the department, serving on numerous committees, often as chair. Canak won the Bob Womack Distinguished Professor Award in 2014.

During his tenure at MTSU, Canak served as associate director, Tennessee Center for Labor-Management Relations; contributing researcher, Employment Policy Research Network (EPRN); chair, Executive Board, Rochelle Center; Executive Board member, Labor and Employment Relations Association; editor, IRRA News; editor, TERRA News; visiting professor, SUNY New Paltz; and president, Tennessee Employment Relations Research Association. Canak was a member of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Task Force on Misclassified Employees and served as a scientist reviewer for a Centers for Disease Control/National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health State Surveillance Program Grant. He was a member of the MTSU Honors faculty and was actively involved in the MTSU Faculty Senate, previously serving as Faculty Senate president. Canak was MTSU's representative to the Tennessee Board of Regents Faculty Sub-Council and the Tennessee University Faculty Senates. He served on the Focus Act Legal Issues Working Group. Canak additionally was an active member the Southern Sociological Society and the Campus Committee of the Jewish Federation of Nashville and Middle Tennessee. He also served as a pro bono arbitrator for the Better Business Bureau of Nashville and Middle Tennessee.

Canak published two books before arriving at MTSU, *Modern Mexico* (McGraw-Hill, 1998) and *Lost Promises: Debt, Austerity, and Development in Latin America* (Westview Press, 1989), plus numerous articles, chapters, and professional reports during his career. He also has published several book reviews and numerous annotated bibliographies for the Handbook of Latin American Studies of the Library of Congress.

Bené S. Cox

Professor Emerita of English

Dr. Bené Scanlon Cox's service to the University, extending over 40 years, contributed importantly not only to the educational mission of MTSU but also to higher education in Tennessee. Her work as assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs at the Tennessee Board of Regents (1988–91), and later as executive assistant to former MTSU President James Walker (1991–92), gave her a professional presence extending well beyond her work in the English Department. Cox has received an American College Testing Program Recognition of Excellence Award (1988), a State of Tennessee Vocational-Technical Directors' Leadership Award (1991), and multiple awards for her work as dean of the Tennessee Collaborative Leadership Academy (1988–94).

She spent her final years at MTSU as director of the University Writing Center (UWC). In this work, in effect the culmination of her career as an educator, Cox consolidated her research into learning theory, her practical knowledge of collaborative learning, and her commitment to racial and gender equality as she trained graduate and undergraduate staff and supervised the center's operation. (It may have been her most satisfying assignment at MTSU.)

In Spring 2018, the UWC created the Bené S. Cox Award for Excellence in Tutoring. Cox built a positive reputation among students in her sections of English 4300 The Bible as Literature and English 4510 Modern English Grammar and Usage. She also taught general studies English courses, the bread and butter of the English Department, and engaged her students in ways that were both pedagogically challenging and sensitive to student differences. It is her work in the trenches over four decades that most merits recognition by confirmation of emerita status. The business of any university is teaching, and even Cox's work as an administrator was always done in service of the educational mission to which she committed herself.



Charles H. Frost

Professor Emeritus of Social Work

Dr. Charles H. Frost demonstrated excellence in instruction, research and creative activities, and community service as a faculty member and as founding chair of the Department of Social Work. He arrived in Fall 1997 as Social Work program coordinator with the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work, with the understanding that Social Work would

become an autonomous department the following year.

As a teacher, Frost brought many excellent ideas to the department and used his knowledge and creativity to stimulate his students and mentor his colleagues. He shared his ideas generously, helping to maintain enthusiasm and improve the ability to evaluate and elevate instruction. He brought video and other innovative tools to his teaching and understood that instruction is the most important thing faculty do at MTSU.

Frost's most impressive academic research predated his arrival at MTSU, but he continued a research agenda that focused on mentoring other faculty. He co-presented with many junior colleagues at state and regional conferences to help junior faculty build their research records.

Frost was strongly committed to public service, reaching out to the community with his ideas and encouraging the department to be involved. This commitment is exemplified by his 2000 report on a "Satellite Telecast of a Series called 'Anger Management: How to Prevent Violence in Our Schools.'" Perhaps Frost's greatest public service to the community was his establishment of the Tennessee Center for Child Welfare (TCCW), a collaborative program to address the Department of Children's Services training needs.

The consortium that he developed to create TCCW also led to the establishment of the Mid-Tennessee Collaborative Master of Social Work program. He recognized that Tennessee needed another M.S.W. program and that MTSU had the resources to provide it.

As a teacher, a servant to his profession and the community, and an outstanding contributor to the work of the MTSU Social Work Department, Frost well deserves the honor of being named professor emeritus.



Duane B. Graddy

Professor Emeritus of Economics and Finance

Dr. Duane B. Graddy joined the Department of Economics and Finance in August 1972 and remained an active member until January. His areas of teaching expertise included monetary economics, financial markets, and public finance. In addition, he served as department chair and for eight years was the Director of the D.A., Ph.D., and Master of Economics programs.

He also was actively involved in numerous departmental, college, and University committees. Graddy was nominated as an Outstanding Faculty Member of the Department of Economics and Finance in 2000, 2007, and 2009.

A primary focus of his energies at MTSU was on developing and integrating online learning into the Economics curriculum. In addition, he was a faculty representative on the team that initiated the Regents Online Degree Program (now TN eCampus). For these efforts, Graddy was awarded the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) Distance Education Committee Innovation Award (2000), Certificate of Achievement from the Center for Educational Development at New Mexico State University (2000), TBR Trailblazer Award (2001), and MTSU Distinguished Educator in Distance Learning Award (2008). His writings in this area included articles in the *American Journal of Distance Education*, *Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks*, *Journal of Interactive Learning Research*, and *Learning Technology*.

During his tenure at MTSU, Graddy co-authored two textbooks, *Managing Commercial Banks: Community, Regional and Global* (Prentice-Hall, 1990) and *Commercial Banking and the Financial Services Industry* (Reston Publishing, 1985). He also edited *The Bank Holding Company Performance Controversy* (University Press of America, 1979) and co-edited *Money, Banking, and Monetary Policy* (Xerox Publishing, 1977). In addition, Graddy published more than 50 journal articles in such publications as the *Journal of Finance*, *Quarterly Journal of Finance and Accounting*, *Journal of Risk and Insurance*, *Journal of Business Finance and Accounting*, *Journal of Bank Research*, *Journal of Financial Research*, *Applied Economics*, *Journal of Labor Research*, *Journal of Economics and Finance*, *Journal of Finance Education*, and *Journal of Economics and Finance Education*.

He was a regular participant in national and regional academic organizations as a presenter, discussant, and reviewer. Graddy has presented the results of his research at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Financial Management Association, Eastern Finance Association, Southern Finance Association, Midwest Finance Association, among others. He acted as a discussant, manuscript reviewer, and textbook reviewer for numerous professional organizations and publishers. His book reviews have appeared in a number of academic publications.



Angela J. Hague

Professor Emerita of English

Dr. Angela J. Hague began her career at MTSU in 1981 and retired in 2017 as one of the English Department's most productive and valued members. Her 36-year record of outstanding teaching, research, and service to MTSU makes her fully deserving of the title professor emerita.

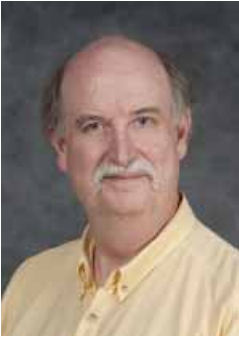
Hague received the Outstanding Distance Educator Award and the Honors Outstanding Teacher Award four times. She taught at all levels and in five fields: British literature, classical mythology, popular culture, women's studies, and writing studies. She taught for the English Department, Honors College, Regents Online Degree Program (now TN eCampus), and Women's Studies.

At the graduate level, Hague helped to initiate and develop the Ph.D. in English and served for five years as director of the department's graduate program, serving as thesis adviser and dissertation director for innumerable graduate students. She chaired the committee that began the process of offering online graduate courses and was the department's first female administrator.

Hague's role in both expanding the online curriculum and raising its profile cannot be overstated. As a member of the Online Curriculum Committee, she mentored departmental faculty for the 10 years preceding her retirement, during which time she served as campus faculty mentor for University College, as campus mentor for the state of Tennessee's online degree program, and as a member of the state's Online Quality Assurance Committee.

Other notable contributions include her service as interim associate dean for the Honors College and her creation of the program that awards the prestigious Buchanan Fellowship. With colleagues Ayne Cantrell and Linda Badley, Hague also developed and taught the University's first Women's Studies courses.

Her remarkable teaching and service are complemented by her distinguished record of scholarship. In addition to book reviews, book chapters, and articles, Hague published four books during her years at MTSU: *Iris Murdoch's Comic Vision* (Associated University Presses, 1984); *Deny All Knowledge: Reading the X-Files*, edited with David Lavery (Syracuse University Press and Faber and Faber, 1996); *Teleparody: Predicting/Preventing the Television Discourse of Tomorrow*, edited with Lavery (Wallflower Press and Columbia University Press, 2002); and *Fiction, Intuition, and Creativity: Studies in Bronte, James, Woolf, and Lessing* (Catholic University Press, 2004), which was nominated for both the Modern Language Association's James Russell Lowell Prize for Literary Criticism and Phi Beta Kappa's Christian Gauss Award for Research in the Humanities.



Robert E. Hunt

Professor Emeritus of History

Dr. Robert E. Hunt retired last December after more than 29 years on the faculty of MTSU's Department of History. He joined the faculty in August 1989, a year after he completed his Ph.D. at the University of Missouri. Hunt was awarded tenure and elevated to the rank of associate professor in 1995 and was promoted to professor in 2000.

Hunt compiled an outstanding record as a teacher at MTSU. His undergraduate and graduate courses on war and society were popular among students. Hunt supervised many master's theses and served on numerous thesis and dissertation committees. He also compiled an impressive record as a scholar. In 2010, the University of Alabama Press published Hunt's monograph, *The Good Men Who Won the War: Army of the Cumberland Veterans and Emancipation Memory*, which was awarded the 2008 Anne B. and James B. McMillan Prize for the best manuscript in Southern history or culture. Hunt remains an active scholar. His most recent article, "Luke Lea, the Legionnaires, and the Legacy of Two Wars: The Politics of Memory in the Mind of a Nashville Progressive, 1915–1945," was published in the *Journal of Southern History* in August 2017. Hunt's record of service to MTSU was exceptional. In the later years of his tenure, he served as the department's undergraduate director, chair of the department's promotion and tenure committee, and interim chair (2011–12).



Dewayne A. Pigg

Professor Emeritus of Music

A professor of Music at MTSU for more than 36 years, Dewayne A. Pigg taught General Education courses and served as coordinator for the Music Industry concentration. He was co-founder of the Stones River Chamber Players, a faculty chamber music ensemble, with which he recorded William Grant Still's "Miniatures for Flute, Oboe, and Piano"; Henry Cowell's "Quartet for Flute, Oboe, Cello, and Harpsichord"; and Madeline Dring's "Trio for Flute, Oboe, and Piano." Pigg also has recorded with stars such as John Denver, Johnny Cash, Mel Tillis, Irlene Mandrell, and others. He can be heard playing English horn on the soundtrack of *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*. A former member of the Belmont Chamber Winds, the Nashville Chamber Orchestra, and the Nashville Symphony, Pigg has frequently performed throughout the South and internationally. He is founding director of the Nashville Double Reed Ensemble.

Pigg has performed on the oboe, oboe d'amore, and English horn in solo recitals, chamber music concerts, recording sessions, and on WPLN's *In Concert* series and *Live in Concert*, earning favorable reviews for his eloquent playing style. He has been invited to play at the International Double Reed Society with the Amoris Consort in Chicago and in Madison, Wisconsin, as part of the opening gala concert for the conference. Pigg has served as a faculty member for the Tennessee Governor's School for the Arts. He holds degrees from George Peabody College and Fisk University, where Don Cassel, former principal oboe with the Nashville Symphony, was his teacher. He also did doctoral study at Indiana University.



Terrance J. Quinn

Professor Emeritus of Mathematical Sciences

Dr. Terrance J. Quinn has been a faculty member in the Department of Mathematical Sciences since 2006. He was department chair for three years and served on multiple University and department committees as well as the Faculty Senate.

Quinn has been actively involved with research, publishing manuscripts, monographs, and books in a wide array of areas. These include mathematics and its applications in biological cell problems and differential equations; mathematical pedagogy; and the foundations of knowledge and research in mathematics, biology, physics, economics, philosophy, and science. He has been an invited speaker at numerous conferences in the U.S. and abroad.

Quinn has served as president of The Society for the Globalization of Effective Methods of Evolving, as an external program auditor for the Tennessee Board of Regents, and as a reviewer for various scientific journals.

Teaching a variety of mathematics courses while at MTSU, Quinn has been a successful and popular instructor. He has taught major courses in the B.S. program and core courses in the M.S. program, as well as service courses in the General Education program. Quinn has served MTSU with distinction and continues his research.



Stephen M. Shearon

Professor Emeritus of Music

Dr. Stephen M. Shearon has served on the School of Music faculty since 1994, including as director of the graduate program and as interim director. He has taught the history of Western art music, American music, Christian music traditions, courses on music research and reference tools, and broad overviews of human music-making. Shearon also taught at the North Carolina Governor's School, St. Andrews College, and North Carolina State University. The recipient of numerous grants and awards, he was a Fellow in the NEH seminar on Palace Culture in Renaissance and Baroque Rome and at the Newberry Library in Chicago. Additionally, he was founding director of the North Carolina Bach Festival, leading it for nine years.

Shearon's primary research interest is gospel music. He and Robert Darden revised and expanded the article on the subject for *The New Grove Dictionary of American Music*. As a historical ethnomusicologist, Shearon studies the shape-note gospel tradition of the American South. He and videographer Mary Nichols produced the documentary "*I'll Keep On Singin': The Southern Gospel Convention Tradition*," broadcast on WNPT and on Folkstreams.net.

MTSU's Center for Popular Music and Shearon produced "*Farther Along: A Conference on the Southern Gospel Convention-Singing Tradition*," which brought together scholars and practitioners. He also has contributed numerous articles on gospel and related subjects to the *Canterbury Dictionary of Hymnology*, *Music in American Life*, *Encyclopedia of American Gospel Music*, and the journal *American Music*.

Shearon has done extensive research on the Christian music of 17th- and 18th-century Europe, with some of his findings published in *Puzzles in Paper: Concepts in Historical Watermarks*, *The New Grove Dictionary of Opera*, and the Spanish journal *Revista de Musicologia*. He has presented papers at meetings of the International Musicological Society, International Council for Traditional Music, American Musicological Society, Society for Ethnomusicology, Society for American Music, the American Folklore Society, American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Christian Congregational Music Conference, Music of the South Symposium, and International Country Music Conference.

Marc G. Singer

Professor Emeritus of Management

Dr. Marc G. Singer retired in 2016 after serving in the Department of Management and Marketing for many years. He was hired in Fall 1990 as department chair and served in that role for three years.

During his time at MTSU, Singer taught most of the human resource management courses on both the undergraduate and graduate levels. For many years, he was the only HR faculty member in the department. Singer consistently received excellent teaching evaluations and “you make a difference” letters from the vice president of student affairs.

Singer mentored countless students, securing internships for them at the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission office in Nashville and providing them with other opportunities for human resource management employment.

He also served for many years in a national leadership role for the Society for Human Resource Management.



Norman L. Weatherby

Professor Emeritus of Health and Human Performance

Dr. Norman L. Weatherby, a Ph.D. in Demography and Applied Statistics, consistently received excellent teaching evaluations at MTSU in data analysis, research design and methods, epidemiology, health behavior theory, and health program planning, needs assessment, and evaluation. Prior to joining the faculty at MTSU, he taught at Columbia University and the University of Miami.

Weatherby has more than 35 years of experience with health program planning, implementation, management, and evaluation. He has worked with health programs in New York, Florida, and Tennessee and has international health experience in Sudan, Nigeria, Kenya, and Egypt. Projects include working with family planning clinics at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital and the New York City Department of Health, Comprehensive Cancer Centers in New York and Miami, the Prevention of Maternal Mortality Network, Drug Research and Health Services Research Centers in Miami, Florida's Tobacco Control Program, Tennessee's Lead Elimination and Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention programs, National Healthcare Corp., and the Volunteer Behavioral Health Care System. These experiences led to expertise in data management, census and housing data, patient and clinical information systems, fund accounting, and health program evaluation.

Weatherby's research interests include evaluation of health programs, maternal and child health, infectious diseases, chronic diseases, drug and tobacco use, HIV and AIDS, and childhood lead poisoning prevention. He was principal investigator on nine funded projects. Weatherby chaired 19 doctoral dissertations at MTSU and mentored students who won awards for their posters at MTSU's Scholars Week. His curriculum vitae lists 49 publications in refereed journals and 115 presentations at local, state, national, and international meetings.

He will remain on the graduate faculty following his retirement. Weatherby plans to work on research activities with faculty and doctoral students in Health and Human Performance.

Jungsoon P. Yoo

Professor Emerita of Computer Science

Dr. Jungsoon P. Yoo came to MTSU in 1991 as an associate professor and served the Department of Computer Science, College of Basic and Applied Sciences, and University with distinction for 27 years. One of the first faculty members hired into the newly formed Computer Science Department, she remained in the department until her retirement in Fall 2017.

During her tenure at MTSU, Yoo was awarded multiple large National Science Foundation grants, which resulted in many publications, in support for several undergraduate and graduate students, and in the purchase of software, some of which is still used in lab classes. She served the department by helping with the High School Programming Contest, held at MTSU for many years; being the department's library liaison; sponsoring the student chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery international professional organization; and volunteering as chair of the social committee. Yoo frequently presented for the Expanding Your Horizons workshop to encourage middle school girls to pursue STEM education. She was also the program co-chair for the 35th Annual Southeast ACM Conference in 1997, which MTSU hosted.

Yoo most frequently taught Computer Science I, a General Education course, and she worked constantly to improve the student experience in the Computer Science program. Her genuine concern for her students was exemplified by her drive to develop new techniques, tools, and labs for her students and the department.

Sung Yoo*Professor Emeritus of Computer Science*

Dr. Sung Yoo came to MTSU in 1984 as an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science. When the Computer Science Department was formed in 1986, Yoo joined its faculty and served the department, College of Basic and Applied Sciences (CBAS), and the University in many capacities for 34 years until his retirement this year.

Yoo taught and/or designed 26 courses in the Computer Science curriculum. He also kept the lab equipment running until the department hired a full-time lab manager. For many years, Yoo was faculty sponsor for the Paul Hutcheson Delta Chapter of the International Computer Science Honor Society, Upsilon Pi Epsilon. At various times, he also sponsored the student chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery international professional organization, as well as the chapter's student programming team, which participated in regional programming contests. For three years, Yoo judged the Scratch coding contest portion of the Science Olympiad at MTSU. He served as both a judge and an organizer for the High School Programming Contest held for many years at MTSU. Yoo also chaired the department's Scholarship Committee and for several years organized the CBAS Awards Ceremony.



Thomas J. Cheatham

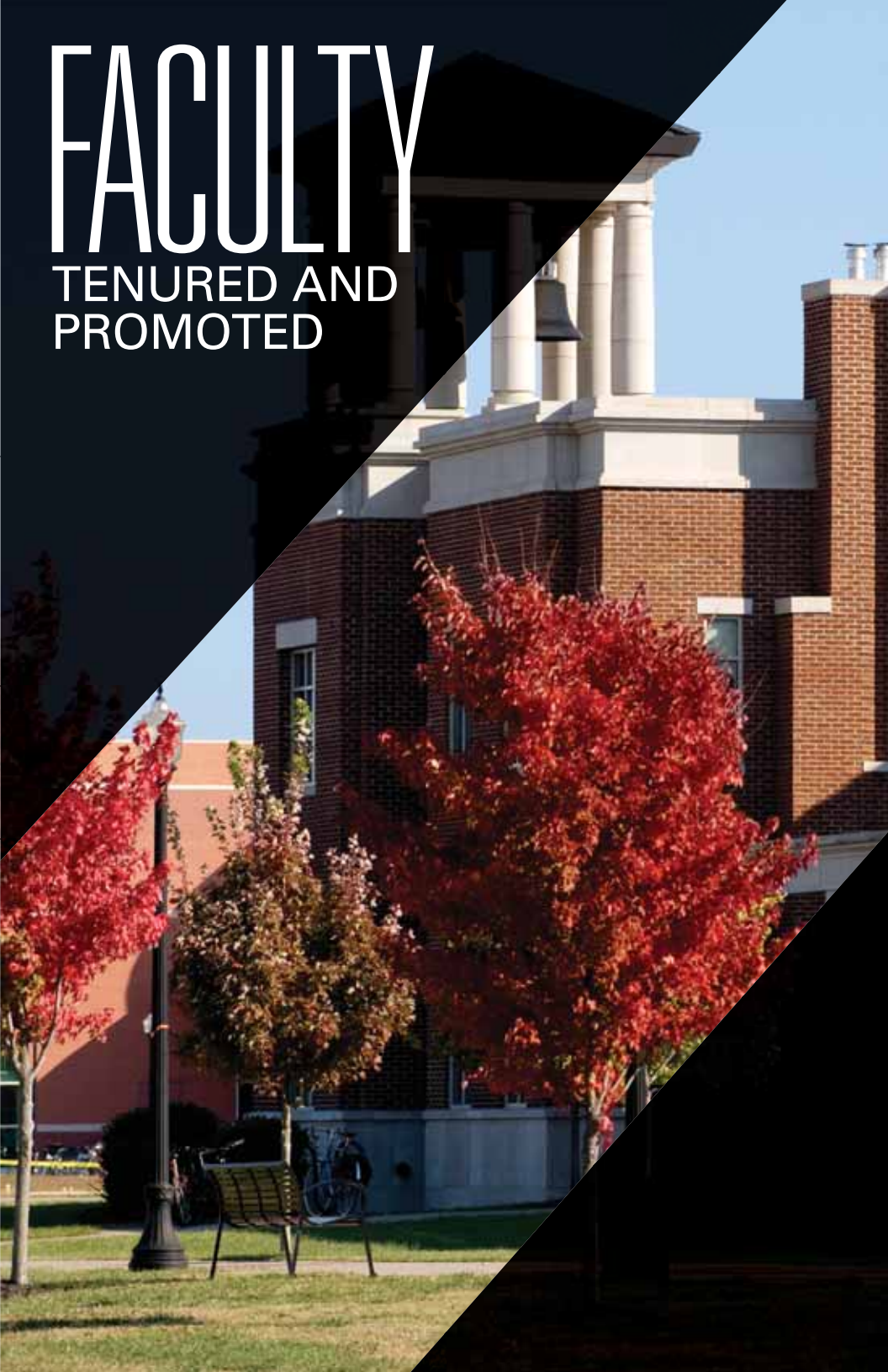
Dean Emeritus

Dr. Thomas J. Cheatham came to MTSU in 1990 as the chair of the Computer Science Department. Under his leadership, the Professional Computer Science concentration got the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and was accredited by ABET, the field's specialized accreditor. After serving as chair for eight years, Cheatham became associate dean and then dean of the College of Basic and Applied Sciences. His skills as a grant writer and his deep commitment to excellence in education eventually led him to the position of the director of MTSU's Tennessee STEM Education Center.

During his 27 years promoting excellence in education at MTSU, Cheatham was known for his dedication to mentoring and helping students, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He was a talented grant writer, assisting other faculty members from across the University in winning STEM education grants of their own. These grants include the recent approximately \$1 million National Science Foundation S-STEM grant submitted just prior to his retirement and received in February. This grant will provide scholarships to support 20 students per year for five years.

FACULTY

TENURED AND
PROMOTED



Through commitment
to teaching, research, and
professional service, the MTSU
faculty achieves the University's
mission of providing quality
educational programs in a
supportive campus environment.



Sarah K. Bleiler-Baxter

*Department of Mathematical Sciences
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Sarah K. Bleiler-Baxter, who joined MTSU in 2012, earned her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction (Mathematics Education) and M.A. in Mathematics from the University of South Florida. She received her B.S. in Mathematics from Seton Hall University.

Bleiler-Baxter teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, such as Research in Mathematics Education, Qualitative Evaluation and Research Methods, Foundations of Higher Mathematics, and Concepts and Structure of Elementary School Mathematics. Her current research interests pertain to the teaching and learning of mathematical proofs and the professional development of university mathematics faculty. In particular, Bleiler-Baxter recently has been exploring how authority and agency play out in building a classroom community that supports students as legitimate practitioners of mathematics and as creators of mathematical proofs.

She works closely with the next generation of scholars in the field of mathematics education through her faculty role in the Mathematics and Science Education Ph.D. program. Moreover, Bleiler-Baxter serves as regional chair of the Tennessee Mathematics Teacher Association's High School Mathematics Contest, as chair of the College of Basic and Applied Science's Committee on Teaching, and as an editorial board member for international journal *The Mathematics Educator*.



Sarah E. Bergemann

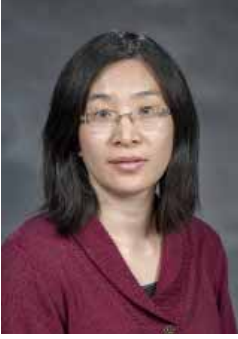
Department of Biology

Promoted to Professor

Sarah Bergemann received her Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Wyoming and joined the Biology Department at MTSU in 2007. She earned a B.S. in Botany and M.S. in Biology from Humboldt State University.

Bergemann is a fungal biologist with research emphases in evolutionary ecology, population genetics, and taxonomy. Her current research focuses on the factors that control bioluminescence in fungi, including the heritability and environmental cues, and their role in variable luminescence intensity. She has co-authored 28 peer-reviewed publications in academic journals.

Bergemann teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, such as evolution, mycology, biometry, and seminar courses.



Wandí Ding

*Department of Mathematical Sciences
Promoted to Professor*

Wandí Ding, who joined MTSU in 2007, earned her Ph.D. in Applied Mathematics from the University of Tennessee. She received an M.S. in Applied Mathematics from the Ocean University of China and a B.S. in Mathematics Education from Qingdao University in China.

Ding teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses. She serves as faculty for the interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Computational Science program as well as the Honors College. Her research interests include mathematical biology, computational biology, optimal control, mathematical modeling, ordinary and partial differential equations, difference equations and hybrid systems with applications to population dynamics, disease modeling, natural resource management, and systems biology. Ding's research focuses on understanding the spatial and temporal patterns that arise in dynamic biological systems and, when possible, finding the best way to control the system.

She serves on the Board of Contributing Advisors for the Systemic Initiative for Modeling Investigations and Opportunities with Differential Equations and is actively involved in the Society for Mathematical Biology. Ding is a member of several editorial boards and publishes high-quality papers. She has been working with faculty from a variety of departments on National Science Foundation ADVANCE and Research Experiences for Undergraduates grants.



Zhijiang Dong

Department of Computer Science

Promoted to Professor

Dr. Zhijiang Dong received his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Florida International University in 2006. He earned a B.S. in Mathematics and an M.S. in Computer Science from Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China. Dong joined MTSU in 2006 and was tenured and promoted to associate professor in 2012.

He teaches a number of undergraduate core courses at MTSU, such as Theory of Programming Languages, Compiler Design and Software Development, and Database Management Systems. Dong also teaches several graduate courses including Selected Topics in Database Management Systems and Software Engineering. He is one of the faculty members introducing real-world projects to students in and out of the classroom.

Dong has published several book chapters and over 40 peer-reviewed articles in computer science journals and conferences. His current research interests pertain to formal methods, runtime verification, validation and verification, and computer science education. Some of Dong's research pertains to the development of trusted and resilient systems that are anticipated to accomplish predefined missions despite hostile attacks, human errors, or unexpected environmental disruption. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation and the Air Force Research Laboratory with a total of \$2 million in the past 10 years.



Yi Gu

*Department of Computer Science
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Yi Gu completed her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Computer Science from the University of Memphis, in 2008 and 2011, respectively. She received a B.S. degree in Computer Science from Jiangsu University in China in 2005. Gu joined MTSU as a tenure-track assistant professor in 2013.

She has taught undergraduate and graduate courses such as Data Communication Networks, Advanced Networks, Parallel Processing Concepts, Cybersecurity, Computer Orientation, Independent Study, and Thesis/Dissertation Research. Gu's main research interests include parallel and distributed computing, especially in scientific workflows optimization; task/job scheduling/mapping; and cloud/green computing. She also conducts some research in wireless sensor networks and cybersecurity. Some of her research pertains to how to support large-scale computational sciences and optimize their end-to-end network performance to enable scientific collaborations that require fast system response, smooth data flow, efficient energy consumption, and reliable distributed operations in different computer environments, including clouds and grids.

Gu is faculty sponsor of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) student chapter and the ACM programming contest team at MTSU. Gu previously worked as assistant professor at the University of Tennessee–Martin for two years.



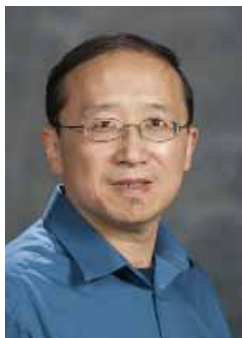
Charles A. Higgins

*Department of Physics and Astronomy
Promoted to Professor*

Dr. Charles A. Higgins, who joined the MTSU faculty in 2001, earned his Ph.D. and M.S. in Astronomy from the University of Florida, where he studied radio emissions from the planet Jupiter. He received his B.S. in Physics from the University of Alabama–Huntsville.

Higgins teaches undergraduate lecture and lab courses in Astronomy and Physics, including general astronomy, general physics, astrophysics, and classical mechanics. His research interests are the radio emissions from Jupiter and the Sun, using both ground-based and spacecraft data in his studies. Higgins also works with NASA scientists, using the 2017 solar eclipse event to study the Sun and the Earth's ionosphere. He is a founding member of a NASA-sponsored education project called Radio Jove, which he has been operating since 1999. The goal of Radio Jove is to use radio astronomy to promote science and education to students, teachers, and the general public.

Higgins is the MTSU Astronomy Club advisor, and he mentors undergraduate students with their research projects. Prior to MTSU, Higgins was a National Research Council post-doctoral fellow at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.



Jing Kong

Department of Chemistry

Tenured and Promoted to Professor

Dr. Jing Kong is on the faculty of the Department of Chemistry at the College of Basic and Applied Sciences. Kong obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from Nanjing University in China in 1985, Master of Science degree from Chinese Academy of Sciences in 1988, and Ph.D. degree from Dalhousie University in Halifax, Canada, in 1996. After earning his Ph.D. degree, he worked at Q-Chem Inc., a chemistry software maker, from 1996 to 2013, first as a research scientist, later as the chief scientist in 1998, and then as the chief executive officer and chief scientist in 2006. During his tenure at the company, Kong published a number of peer-reviewed research papers and secured a number of federal small business innovative research grants. He joined MTSU as an associate professor in chemistry in 2013. He has also been part of the Computational Science Ph.D. Program. He has taught courses at both the general education and doctoral levels, and supervised undergraduate, master's, and Ph.D. students and post-doctoral fellows for research. In the past five years, he has published 10 peer-reviewed research papers and obtained \$775,000 in research grants from the National Science Foundation, Air Force Research Lab, American Chemical Society Petroleum Research Funds, and National Institutes of Health.



Henrique G. Momm

Department of Geosciences

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Henrique G. Momm completed his M.S. in Civil Engineering and Ph.D. in Geology and Geological Engineering from the University of Mississippi. He joined MTSU in 2012 after working as a post-doctoral fellow at the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Sedimentation Laboratory and as a visiting assistant professor at the University of Mississippi.

Momm's research interests and experiences are in geoinformatics: the integration of geographic information systems (GIS), remote sensing, and computational sciences, to improve the basic understanding of watershed systems and their associated physical processes. At MTSU, he has secured funding from the National Science Foundation, USDA (National Institute of Food and Agriculture, National Science Laboratories, and National Park Service), Tennessee Department of Transportation, Tennessee Board of Regents, and other state and federal agencies to support his research. Momm's contributions at MTSU have been documented in scientific journals in hydrology, geomorphology, soil science, remote sensing, GIS, and machine learning.

He has been an invited speaker to universities and national laboratories both nationally and internationally in China, Brazil, Spain, and Romania. Momm is an active member of the scientific team of the USDA-supported Annualized Agricultural Non-Point Source watershed management and pollution estimation model, to which he has contributed three components. He oversees MTSU's geospatial research laboratory, an interdisciplinary research and educational initiative designed to increase the use and awareness of GIS, spatial analysis, and remote sensing. Momm also has led the development of a master's-level graduate program in Geosciences and has taught more than eight upper-level and graduate courses in programming, GIS, remote sensing, modeling, data analysis, and watershed modeling.

**Ryan R. Otter**

Department of Biology
Promoted to Professor

Dr. Ryan R. Otter, who joined the MTSU faculty in 2007, earned his Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology from Clemson University and an M.S. and B.S. in Zoology from Michigan State University.

His research focuses on the impact of water pollution in freshwater ecosystems. Otter's projects have ranged from investigating the effects of coal ash on the environment to developing computational interfaces that allow scientists to more easily handle and interpret large complex data sets. He teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, mainly those focused at the beginning and end of a student's program.

Gregory T. Rushton

Department of Chemistry

Tenured

Dr. Gregory Rushton comes to MTSU from SUNY Stony Brook, where he was an associate professor of Chemistry and associate director of science education in the Institute for STEM Education. Rushton also held a faculty position for over a decade at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, where he directed a graduate program in science education and taught in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

His research involves conceptual change in tertiary chemistry learning environments, science classroom discourse practices, policy reform in K–16 chemistry education, large-scale demographic analyses of K–12 STEM teaching populations, and science teacher leadership. Rushton has directed or co-directed more than 20 externally funded projects totaling nearly \$17 million since 2005, including awards from the National Science Foundation, Institute of Education Sciences, and Howard Hughes Medical Institute. He regularly shares his work at national and international meetings and has authored or co-authored more than 40 refereed research manuscripts and book chapters in venues that reach diverse audiences such as *Educational Researcher*, *Science Education*, *ACS Central Science*, and the *Journal of Chemical Education*.

Rushton earned a Ph.D. in Physical Organic Chemistry and an M.Ed. in Science Education at the University of South Carolina and his undergraduate degree in Chemistry at the University of Southern California.



Mohamed S. Salem

Department of Biology

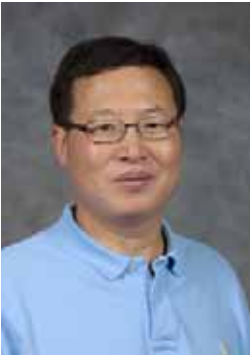
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Mohamed S. Salem, who joined the MTSU faculty in 2012, received his Ph.D. in Genetics from West Virginia University. He earned a B.S. and M.S. in Zoology from Zagazig University in Egypt.

Salem is a member of both the Molecular Biosciences and Computational Science Ph.D. interdisciplinary programs at MTSU. He teaches a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses, such as General Genetics and Genomics.

In his research, Salem uses state-of-the-art genomics technologies to study the salmonids fish. He received several federal grants to genetically improve fish in U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) breeding programs in terms of growth and disease-resilience.

Salem has been a chair of the USDA National Animal Genome Research Program and a member of the organizing committee of the Plant and Animal Genome international conference, the largest agriculture-genomics meeting in the world. Also, he serves as a review panel member of the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture and is an editor for several scientific journals, including BMC-Genomics and Marine Biotechnology.



Zhifu Yang

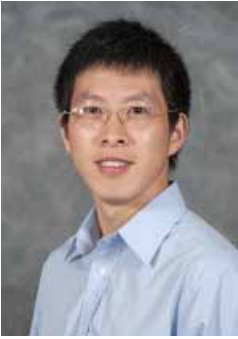
*School of Concrete and Construction
Management*

Promoted to Professor

Dr. Zhifu Yang completed his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from Purdue University and received his M.S. and B.S. in Material Science and Engineering from the University of Science and Technology in Beijing, China. He joined MTSU in 2005.

Yang teaches various courses in concrete and construction, including concrete application, concrete problem and repair, concrete mixture design, formwork design and computerized drafting, and senior concrete laboratory. His research interests include concrete materials and durability, as well as condition assessment and rehabilitation of concrete structures. He has been actively conducting a variety of funded research projects for government agencies and concrete industries. This includes patching materials, cementitious grouts, chloride ion limit in concrete, wood ash application, fiber reinforced concrete, and pervious concrete.

Yang has published many articles in the top peer-reviewed concrete journals and presented at both national and international conferences relating to concrete technology.



Dong Ye

*Department of Mathematical Sciences
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Dong Ye earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics from West Virginia University and joined MTSU in 2012. He completed an M.A in Operation Research and a B.A. in Mathematics, both from Lanzhou University.

Ye teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, including Elements in Linear Algebra, Calculus, Advanced Linear Algebra, Graph Theory and Combinatorics, Algebraic Topology, Optimization, and Differential Equations. His research interests mainly lie in combinatorics, discrete mathematics, and applications in complex networks. Some of his research explores how network structures are associated with network properties such as traceability, stability, etc. Ye has published over 30 papers in prestigious journals and has been invited to give over 30 talks at national and international conferences.

He has received grants from the National Science Foundation and the Simon Foundation. Currently, Ye serves as an editor of *International Journal of Mathematics and Statistics* and *Theory and Applications of Graphs*.



J. Claire Cook

Department of Human Sciences

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. J. Claire Cook received her B.S. in Child Development and Family Studies from Baylor University, M.S. in Human Development and Family Sciences from Ohio State University, and Ph.D. from the University of Missouri in Human Environmental Sciences with a concentration in Human Development and Family

Sciences. She joined MTSU’s faculty in 2012.

Cook teaches undergraduate classes in the Child Development and Family Studies program of the Human Sciences Department, including Parenting, Family Centered Community Building I, and Family Life Program Development and Evaluation. Her current research concerns the intersection of culture and parenting practices, particularly among low-income, immigrant, and refugee populations. This research aims to inform the work of those helping professionals supporting parents in various capacities.



Frederick S. Cottle

Department of Human Sciences

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Rick Cottle, who joined MTSU in 2013, earned his Ph.D. in Integrated Textile and Apparel Science from Auburn University in 2012. He completed an M.B.A. from the University of Phoenix in 2003 and a B.S. in Textile Management and Technology from Auburn University in 1984.

Cottle teaches such courses as Basic Textiles, Textiles II, Fashion Promotion, Consumer Economics, and Global Topics in Human Sciences. He currently serves on the Faculty Senate and is faculty sponsor of the MTSU Student Chapter of the Nashville Fashion Alliance (NFA). Cottle also is the liaison to the Nashville Fashion Week Organization and the NFA. His current research interests pertain to data generated by 3D body-scanning technology, which has applications in areas like sizing of apparel, human wellness, and psychology. Work in this area has led to Cottle's involvement in apparel consulting, as well as serving on the graduate faculty as a mentor and graduate-level committee member.

He is a veteran of the textile industry for more than 30 years, serving in positions ranging from production worker and industrial engineer to project management, marketing, and sales. Cottle previously taught at Kansas State University.



Kathleen H. Darby

*Department of Social Work
Promoted to Professor*

Dr. Kathleen H. Darby received her Ph.D. and M.S. in Social Work from the University of Tennessee and a B.S.W from MTSU.

She teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, as well as capstone courses for both programs. Much of Darby's teaching focuses on macro practices such as community, organization, grant writing and research. Current research interests include health disparities, co-occurring disorders, and interprofessional education.

Her 25 years of experience in health care management and her ongoing commitment to equal and affordable access to health care continue to inform her teaching.



Michelle L. Finch

School of Nursing

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Michelle L. Finch earned her Ph.D. in Nursing from Nova Southeastern University in Davie, Florida. She completed her Master of Science in Nursing from Barry University in Miami Shores, Florida, and her Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the University of South Florida.

Her nursing career began in 1991 after she earned an associate's degree in Nursing from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. She joined Middle Tennessee State University in 2010.

Finch teaches both undergraduate- and graduate-level courses, such as Introduction to Nursing, Clinical Skills, Pediatric Simulation, Theoretical Foundations, and Advanced Role Development. She acquired her certification in pediatric nursing in 2004.

Her current research interests include emotional intelligence and empathy in nursing students and curricular development. Finch has presented oral presentations related to this topic at local, national, and international conferences, most recently at the NETNEP 7th International Nurse Education Conference in May in Banff, Canada.



Amanda J. Flagg

School of Nursing

Tenured

Dr. Amanda J. Flagg received her Ph.D. and M.S.N. as a clinical nurse scientist and clinical nurse specialist from the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. She also received dual master's degrees in Education and Counseling from Boston University.

Flagg teaches undergraduate and graduate courses, such as Mental Health Nursing, Research (at both levels), and Advanced Nursing Theory (for graduate students). Her research interests include quantitative methodology, such as instrument development, concordance as it relates to patient/healthcare provider interventions and adherence, and educational strategies with a focus in nursing education.

Flagg is a retired major who served 20 years in the United States Air Force Nurse Corps. Her nursing career has been extremely diverse, working with multiple types of patient care specialties. She was a principle investigator and instructor of several research endeavors sponsored by national funding sources that focused on the use of simulation for training and development of nursing and medical interventions under combat and warfare conditions.

Since her retirement from the Air Force, Flagg has been engaged as a faculty member for Midwestern State University and the University of Texas Health Science Center School of Nursing. She joined MTSU's School of Nursing in 2012 as an associate professor.



Cyrille L. Magne

Department of Psychology
Promoted to Professor

Dr. Cyrille Magne, who joined the MTSU faculty in 2007, earned a B.S. in Cellular and Molecular Biology and a Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Paul Cézanne University in France. He also completed a two-year post-doctoral research fellowship at the Center for Complex Systems and Brain Sciences at Florida Atlantic University.

Magne teaches in the undergraduate and graduate programs in Psychology, as well as the Ph.D. program in Literacy Studies. He also has a strong record of commitment to involving undergraduate and graduate students in his research. Magne has chaired six Ph.D. dissertations, six master's theses, and two Honors theses.

His research interests focus on the neural basis of prosody perception and the relationship between prosody sensitivity and reading skills. The National Science Foundation funded his most recent work. Magne is the author of numerous publications in such highly ranked journals as *Cerebral Cortex*, *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, *Trends in Cognitive Sciences*, and *PLoS One*.



Richard C. Meeks

School of Nursing

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Richard C. Meeks completed his D.N.P., M.S.N. in Nursing Administration, and B.S.N. from the University of Alabama–Huntsville. He received an A.A.S. in Nursing from Motlow State Community College. Meeks has been a licensed nurse since 1993.

He serves as associate director for the School of Nursing, as well as teaches undergraduate and graduate courses such as Caring for Adult Clients II and Advanced Role Development. Meeks’s current research interests address clinical alarm management and employee satisfaction. He also is interested in how nurses interact with alarms in the critical care environment and variability in alarms across a single organization.

Prior to joining MTSU in 2012, Meeks worked in various roles within the Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) system, including serving as a bedside critical care nurse, nursing supervisor, nurse manager, vice president of clinical services, and most recently vice president of quality, risk, and education. He also served as a hospital ethics and compliance officer.



Lauren E. Rudd

Department of Human Sciences

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Lauren E. Rudd teaches in the Textiles, Merchandising, and Design (TXMD) program. She earned her B.F.A. in Art at the University of Memphis, M.S. in Industrial Studies with a computer-aided design emphasis from MTSU, and Ed.D. in Leadership and Professional Practice at Trevecca Nazarene

University. Rudd teaches Computer Aided Design, Fashion Illustration, Design Fundamentals, and Social Aspects of Clothing—Behind the Cloth: Saris and Veils.

She is a quilter and fiber artist and is interested in all aspects of cultural arts. Rudd's research interests include incorporating fabrics into teaching design fundamentals, the effect of design problem-solving on individual problem-solving abilities, teaching multicultural education through traditional fiber arts, and sustainability and social responsibility in design. Another area of research focus is Baby Boomer women.



Sherri L. Stevens

School of Nursing

Tenured

Dr. Sherri Stevens earned her Ph.D. from the University of Tennessee, an M.S.N. in Adult Acute Care Nursing from the University of Alabama, and a B.S.N. from Middle Tennessee State University. She has been a faculty member in the MTSU School of Nursing since 2012.

Stevens has taught a number of classes in both undergraduate and graduate programs, including Pathophysiology, Pharmacology, Adult Health, Healthcare Policy, and Professional Practice.

Areas of research interest include women and cardiovascular disease, qualitative research, and phenomenology. Other research activities involve hospital readmissions and patient understanding of discharge instructions. Prior to coming to MTSU, Stevens taught in other nursing programs and worked in emergency nursing and acute care in the middle Tennessee area.

Elizabeth Q. Wright

Department of Criminal Justice Administration

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Elizabeth Q. Wright completed her M.S. and Ph.D. in Criminal Justice at Sam Houston State University in 2000 and 2004, respectively. At the undergraduate level, she double-majored in Psychology and Social Welfare with a concentration in Criminal Justice at the University of Wisconsin, receiving her degree in 1994. Wright began her academic career in North Carolina in 2004 and joined the faculty of MTSU in 2015.

She teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses, including Research Methods, Ethics in Criminal Justice, Victimology, Juvenile Justice, Emergency Management, and Women, Crime, and Justice. Wright's current research interests involve examining vicarious trauma in law enforcement and victim advocate personnel, as well as looking at stress management techniques for justice-employed personnel. Additionally, she is examining crime victim compensation programs across the United States for similarities and differences in program offerings.

As a practitioner, Wright worked with male and female incarcerated youth in Wisconsin and was responsible for monitoring the progress of her clients while incarcerated and developing their after-care plans to aid in reducing recidivism upon release. She has worked extensively with sexual assault and domestic violence crime victims since 1992 as a crisis line counselor, support group facilitator, emergency room companion, agency board member, grant writer and evaluator, and trainer of new advocates.



Joshua R. Aaron

*Department of Management
Tenured*

Dr. Joshua R. Aaron earned both his Ph.D. and M.B.A. in Strategic Management at the University of Alabama, where he also received his B.S in Accounting. He joined MTSU in 2014 after academic positions at East Carolina University and Georgia State University.

Aaron teaches the capstone courses in the Jones College of Business, Strategic Management at the undergraduate level, and Strategic Business Consulting at the M.B.A. level. His current research interests pertain to financial topics related to entrepreneurship and small businesses.

Aaron owns and operates Aaron Capital, LLC, a real estate investment firm. Prior to entering academia, he worked as an auditor for Ernst & Young in Birmingham, Alabama.



Gregory L. Nagel

*Department of Economics and Finance
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Gregory L. Nagel, who joined MTSU in 2010, completed his Ph.D. in Finance and his M.B.A. at Florida State University and his M.S. in Engineering at Purdue University. He is the recipient of the 2018 Bridgestone Americas Distinguished Lecturer Award and the Bob Womack Distinguished Faculty Award.

Nagel teaches M.B.A. and undergraduate Finance classes and strives to create a classroom where students enjoy learning about the real world.

His research on top executive labor markets has been cited by professionals, the Federal Reserve, *Harvard Business Review*, and the *New York Times*.

Nagel's research interests include CEO pay, top executive labor markets, firm performance, and corporate governance.

Prior to becoming an academic, Nagel worked for 20 years at General Motors (GM). There he led global engineering teams and was recognized for fundamental contributions to engineering by the Society of Automotive Engineers and by the American Welding Society. Nagel was a development engineer at GM and also worked on a joint venture with Toyota.



Philip A. Seagraves

*Department of Economics and Finance
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Philip Seagraves received his Ph.D. and M.S. in Real Estate from Georgia State University in his hometown of Atlanta. He earned an M.B.A. from Emory University and a B.B.A. in Marketing at the University of Georgia. Seagraves joined MTSU in 2014 to help build the University's Real Estate program.

As director of MTSU's growing Real Estate concentration, he teaches such courses as Principles of Real Estate, Real Estate Finance, Real Estate Investments, Real Estate Brokerage Management, and the Dale Carnegie course. Seagraves's current research interests include innovative housing, real estate securities, brokerage, and corporate executive pay. In addition to his research program, he also has a passion for international study and travel so students can learn more about real estate around the world.

Helping to bring the real world into the classroom, Seagraves is an active real estate investor, developer, and licensed real estate broker in Tennessee, Georgia, and Wisconsin. He also helped launch Blue Raider Realty, a one-of-a-kind real estate brokerage where MTSU students can get licensed and start working in the industry before graduation. Prior to joining MTSU, Seagraves taught Real Estate and Real Estate Investment at the University of Wisconsin, Mississippi State, and Georgia State. He also worked for Intuit, ADP, and IBM in marketing and business development.



Daniel J. Smith

*Department of Economics and Finance
Tenured*

Dr. Daniel J. Smith is an associate professor of Economics at Middle Tennessee State University and director of the Political Economy Research Institute. He currently serves as the book review editor for *The Review of Austrian Economics*.

Smith previously worked as the BB&T Professor of Economic Freedom at Troy University and associate director of the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy. He was raised in Midland, Michigan, and graduated from Northwood University. Smith completed his Ph.D. in Economics at George Mason University.

His academic research uses both Austrian and public choice economics to analyze market and governmental institutions, including social and economic cooperation, monetary policy and institutions, and public pensions.



Terry L. Goodin

Womack Department of Educational Leadership

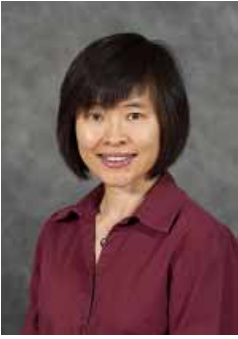
Promoted to Professor

Dr. Terry L. Goodin earned his Ed.D. in School Administration from Vanderbilt University in 2003. He received an M.Ed. in Educational Administration from Lipscomb University in 1997 and his B.G.S. from Western Kentucky University in 1995.

Goodin has both public school and University teaching experience. Since coming to MTSU in 2006, he has taught more than 30 different graduate courses in the Womack Department of Educational Leadership, including classes taught on campus, online, and in the off-campus graduate cohort program. Notable course topics include issues in higher education, legal issues in higher education and in K–12 schools, leadership at the administrative and teacher levels, research methods, and curriculum development. Goodin's research interest areas include problem-based learning (PBL), leadership, and entrepreneurship education.

In 2013, he led a departmental faculty work team that developed the undergraduate Secondary Residency I experience, which is part of the Ready2Teach teacher training initiative in the College of Education. The nationally recognized Residency I program comprises the first semester of the senior year for aspiring teachers. It situates learning of pedagogical content in the context of its eventual use by employing the PBL method, in which teacher candidates are exposed to problem scenarios that are developed from actual practice. The program uses field placements, experiential learning, and professional learning communities to accomplish course goals. Goodin serves as Secondary Residency I coordinator.

Goodin was instrumental in the development of the statewide Ready2Teach Program, particularly in the area of PBL. His expertise in the PBL method was of use in the creation of course modules for universities across the state. He has conducted regional and national training and consulted on the use of the PBL method.



Seok Jeng Jane Lim

*Department of Elementary and
Special Education*

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Seok Jeng Jane Lim earned her Bachelor of Social Science in Children and Family Studies at Edith Cowan University in Perth, Australia. She was awarded her Master in Educational Leadership in Early Childhood Education from Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia. In 2012, Lim completed her Ph.D. in Elementary/Early Childhood Education at the State University of New York at Buffalo. She joined MTSU in August 2012.

Lim is a Singaporean and has more than 20 years working and teaching preschoolers and adults in early childhood education. She has presented at 40 national, state, and international conferences. Lim's area of research interest is bullying among refugee children, an underrepresented population. She teaches undergraduate, graduate, and Honors courses in Human Development, Effective Instruction, Assessing Young Children, and Infant Toddler Practicum. She has led several study abroad programs to Singapore for the Administering Early Childhood Program.

The major highlight of Lim's profession is being able to mentor students for their professional growth and development in state, national, and international presentations. In total, she has mentored 42 undergraduate and two graduate students in professional presentations. Of these presentations, five have won first- and second-place prizes in the MTSU Scholars Week Poster Contest.

Lim was former executive director of Association for Early Childhood Educators (Singapore). She was on the executive board of the Association for Childhood Education International (ACEI) and is the past-president of Tennessee ACEI.



J. Jeremy Winters

*Department of Elementary and Special
Education*

Promoted to Professor

Dr. J. Jeremy Winters completed a Ph.D. in Mathematics Education from the University of Tennessee in 2003, as well as M.Ed. and B.S. degrees from Harding University. He teaches courses in mathematics methodology for both graduate and undergraduate students seeking a teaching license in grades K–5.

His mathematics methods courses provide service to six local schools and over 1,000 elementary school students and parents each year through Family Math Nights. The program director for MTSU's Middle Level Education program for students seeking licensure in grades 6–8, Winters teaches a variety of courses in this program as well. In 2014, he received the MTSU Public Service Award.

Winters has collaborated across the University on multiple grants and publications, including over \$1 million for professional development for teachers in grades K–8. The most recent project has been a three-year Math/Science Partnership grant, Project Inspire, with Murfreesboro City Schools, which has impacted over 150 elementary school teachers of mathematics with sustained professional development. He is a frequent speaker at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics annual conference, as well as other national and international conferences.



Emily B. Baran

Department of History

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Emily B. Baran, who joined the MTSU faculty in 2012, earned her Ph.D. and M.A. in History at the University of North Carolina. She earlier received her B.A. in History and Russian from Macalester College.

Baran teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Russian and Soviet history, historiography, and Western civilization. Her research explores the relationship between minority religious communities and modern states in the Soviet Union and former Soviet states. Baran is particularly interested in the role of religion in the development of modern human rights.

Her first monograph, *Dissent on the Margins*, examines the history of Jehovah's Witnesses in the postwar Soviet Union. Baran is currently researching the multinational campaign for emigration rights on behalf of Soviet Christians during the late Cold War.



Jun Da

*Department of World Languages, Literatures,
and Cultures*

Promoted to Professor

Dr. Jun Da received his Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Texas and a B.S in English from Shanghai Jiao Tong University. He joined MTSU in 2000.

Da teaches a variety of graduate courses, including foreign language teaching methodologies, language testing, and instructional technology, and undergraduate courses in Chinese language and culture. His current research interests include second language acquisition, language pedagogy, computer-assisted language learning, and Chinese linguistics.

Da currently serves on the board of directors of the Chinese Language Teachers Association USA and the editorial board of *Chinese as a Second Language*. Since 2017, he has served as executive editor of the *Journal of Technology and Chinese Language Teaching*.



Angela R. DeBoer

School of Music

Promoted to Professor

Angela DeBoer received a Master of Music from Northwestern University and a Bachelor of Music from DePaul University, with additional studies in the Orchestral Performance program at the Manhattan School of Music. She teaches undergraduate and graduate French horn and has taught Music Theory

as well as Brass Literature and Pedagogy. DeBoer also is on the faculty for the Governor's School for the Arts.

She is an active performer who plays second horn with the Chattanooga and Huntsville Symphonies, is third horn with the Nashville Opera, performs regularly with the Nashville Symphony, and maintains a presence in the recording studios of Nashville, where she frequently records soundtracks for film, television, and video games. DeBoer also enjoys playing period instruments, having performed with the natural horn on several recitals as well as with the Atlanta Baroque Orchestra and on the baroque horn with the Music City Baroque and Indianapolis Baroque. She has held positions in, and performed with, many orchestras across the country, including the Tulsa, Milwaukee, and Grant Park Symphonies and the Civic Orchestra of Chicago.

DeBoer recently performed as principal horn with the Hollywood Film Music Orchestra on tour in China. Her students have gone on to have successful careers, including orchestral and academic positions in the United States as well as in Europe.



Kimberly L. Douglass

*Department of Political Science and
International Relations*

Tenured

Dr. Kimberly Douglass, an associate professor of Political Science, has served as associate dean of the MTSU College of Graduate Studies since 2017. Prior to MTSU, Douglass was an associate professor in the School of Information Sciences (SIS) at the University of Tennessee. From 2015 to 2016, Douglass worked as interim associate director of SIS, where she led SIS through a successful reaccreditation by the American Libraries Association. Douglass also headed up projects funded by the National Science Foundation (DataONE, 2009-15) and the Institute for Museum and Library Services (Team Science, 2015-17). Both projects involved building infrastructures and/or developing human capacity to preserve data assets.

Douglass's research agenda is primarily about the politics of knowledge infrastructures and secondarily about methodology, e-government/e-governance, and stakeholder interests. Her co-authored article "Data Sharing by Scientists: Practices and Perceptions" is among the top 1 percent of articles cited in Public Library of Science.

Douglass is an award-winning curriculum developer and teacher. In 2015, she won the UT College of Communication and Information's Innovative Technology Teaching Award. This year, Douglass co-authored the workbook/curriculum *Young Adult Road Map: A Step-by-Step Guide to Navigating Wellness, Independent Living, and Transition Services for People in Their Teens and Twenties*. Her academic research in progress focuses on how special needs communities use platforms such as Google and Facebook to develop community governance (outside of government).

Other professional accomplishments include a best poster award for "Seeing Policy Clearly: A Comparison of Network Analysis Models on Domestic Partner Benefits in Tennessee" (2015); the Bonnie Carroll and Roy Cooper Faculty Enrichment Award, to support the research efforts of promising faculty members (2013) at SIS; and the Quest Scholar of the Week (2013) at UT.

Douglass earned her Ph.D. in Political Science (2009) from the University of Tennessee and her Master of Public Administration (1997) and bachelor's in Social Sciences (1995), both from Tennessee State University.



Jenna D. Gray-Hildenbrand

Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Jenna Gray-Hildenbrand, the first tenure-track Religious Studies faculty member hired at MTSU, is co-founder of the University's Religious Studies program. The goal of the program is to provide students with the religious literacy necessary for our increasingly diverse

society. During her first year at MTSU, Gray-Hildenbrand successfully developed an introductory Religious Studies course, Religion and Society, as a General Education class. In 2015, she co-authored a successful \$30,000 grant, from the Lilly Endowment, jointly with the University of North Florida and Clemson University. These funds facilitated collaboration among these universities regarding the development, assessment, and promotion of new Religious Studies programs at public universities.

Gray-Hildenbrand's teaching, research, and publications focus on religion in the United States. Her area of specialization is the criminalization of religious practice and the limits of religious freedom. Gray-Hildenbrand argues that by shifting the focus of inquiry to the ways religious communities interpret legal conflicts, we gain a better understanding not only of how conflicts between religious communities and the government develop and in some instances escalate, but also how legal conflicts are catalysts for change, not only in the beliefs and practices of religious communities, but also in the ways laws are written and enforced. For the past five years, she has conducted research throughout Appalachia at small "sign-following" churches, whose religious practices of handling poisonous serpents and drinking poison have led to conflicts with the law. She has received internal and external grants to support her research.

For Gray-Hildenbrand, teaching and mentoring go hand-in-hand. In addition to the courses she teaches, she works with students on independent research projects, Scholars Week presentations, and Honors and graduate theses. Gray-Hildenbrand has participated in several pedagogical workshops and training sessions and has been awarded grants for instructional activities. In 2017, she received an Experiential Learning Outstanding Faculty Award. Gray-Hildenbrand also serves on the Faculty Senate and is a member of the Women's and Gender Studies Council.



Brian P. Hinote

*Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Promoted to Professor*

Dr. Brian P. Hinote currently serves as an administrative fellow and systems/applications administrator in the MTSU Office of Student Success, where he leads multiple strategic initiatives in advising, supplemental instruction, educational technology, and predictive analytics. Since arriving at MTSU, he has compiled an impressive record of leadership, teaching, research, and service. In addition to clinical and research experience in areas as diverse as pediatrics, neurology, and cell biology, Hinote's interdisciplinary work, which stretches across several continents, appears in multiple books and peer-reviewed journals.

As an experienced educator, researcher, and leader, he possesses valuable expertise working with students and colleagues in various health and data science fields. Hinote is a recognized expert in higher education, law, and business, with a demonstrated record of leadership and collaboration across our University, community, and beyond. He previously served as a fellow in the Office of the Provost at Tennessee Technological University and as program coordinator for MTSU's Health Care Informatics master's program. An active member of the graduate and Honors faculties, Hinote also is a former officer in the Faculty Senate. Additionally, he is an experienced mentor and consultant, and his research has been funded by multiple University grant and national research awards.

A dedicated faculty member and an accomplished researcher, Hinote now spends most of his time on various projects germane to student success at MTSU. He also is a graduate of Vanderbilt University's Peabody Institute in Higher Education Management and has trained with principals at Kotter International in change management methodologies (Change Essentials) and with colleagues at The Stanford d.school (Design Thinking). Hinote further earned his advanced specialist certification in Supplemental Instruction (SI) methodologies at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and is an alumnus of Harvard University's Graduate School of Education (Management Development Program).



Shannon C. Hodge

*Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Promoted to Professor*

Dr. Shannon Chappell Hodge joined the Anthropology faculty at MTSU in 2005. She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from Tulane University and earned her B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Kansas.

Hodge teaches Introduction to World Prehistory in the General Education curriculum and lower-division and upper-division undergraduate Anthropology courses such as Biological Anthropology, Human Osteology, Bioarchaeology, and the Archaeology of Death. She is also active in mentoring undergraduate Anthropology senior thesis students, Honors College thesis students, and master's students for the M.A. in Liberal Arts. Hodge conducts public service work in conjunction with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology, Tennessee Council for Professional Archaeology, and Wilson County Black History Committee / Pickett Chapel Project. She has received funding for public service and research from the Tennessee Historic Commission, Tennessee Wars Commission, MTSU Foundation, National Park Service, and National Science Foundation.

Hodge's research interests focus on the bioarchaeology and paleopathology of prehistoric Native American human skeletal remains, particularly from the Archaic and Mississippian periods of prehistory, and on the bioarchaeology of the African diaspora. Her current research includes a complete bioarchaeological analysis of the human remains from the David Davis site, a Native American village near Chattanooga from the late prehistoric through the Spanish contact period. Hodge currently serves as co-director of the Mexican American War Dead project, a multi-year, multidisciplinary effort to repatriate Tennessee volunteer soldiers and other American war dead from the Battle of Monterrey during the Mexican-American War, and to conduct an all-encompassing biological analysis of the remains to explore the daily lives and military hardships of 19th-century frontiersmen and soldiers.



Mark A. Jackson

Department of English

Promoted to Professor

Dr. Mark Allan Jackson received his B.A. in Business and Economics from Hendrix College, his M.A. in English from the University of Arkansas, and his Ph.D. in American Literature from Louisiana State University. He joined the MTSU faculty in 2008.

Jackson teaches a wide variety of undergraduate and graduate classes in American folklore, popular culture, and multicultural literature. In his research and writing, he specializes in examining political expression in American music. Jackson has published essays, reviews, and commentaries in such journals as *American Music*, *The Journal of American History*, *Popular Music and Society*, and *The Journal of American Folklore*.

Three of his edited compilations of American folksong recordings have appeared through the West Virginia University Press Sound Archive Series, including *Jail House Bound: John Lomax's First Southern Prison Recordings, 1933*, which won the American Folklore Society's Brenda McCallum Prize. The University Press of Mississippi published his book *Prophet Singer: The Voice and Vision of Woody Guthrie* in 2007, and the University of Massachusetts published his edited collection *The Honky Tonk on the Left: Progressive Thought in Country Music* this year.



Aliou Ly

Department of History

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Dr. Aliou Ly, who arrived at MTSU in 2012, earned his Ph.D. in History at the University of California–Davis. He received his M.A. in History from California State University–Fullerton and a B.A. in History from Universite Cheikh Anta Diop in Dakar.

Ly teaches such undergraduate and graduate courses as World Civilizations I (from Origins to 1500), US History Survey II (from 1865 to Present), African Slave Trade, Women and Politics in Africa, Colonial Africa, and Nationalism and Decolonization in Africa. He also leads an MTSU Education Abroad Program to Senegal.

As a historian of colonial and post-colonial West Africa, Ly specializes in the political history of West Africa, in particular Guinea Bissau, with a focus on the meaning of women's participation in national liberation struggles and politics. His current research explores the ways in which a focus on the perspective of women fighters leads to re-writing current historical narratives of the Guinea Bissau national liberation war. This research has methodological implications for historical research on national liberation struggles more broadly. Ly's research also examines the ambiguous relations between African national liberation movements and movements for women's rights and emancipation within those movements.

For many years, he also had a research interest in the Haitian Revolution of 1791–1803 and in the dissemination of the idea of this revolution throughout African political and intellectual circles in the 19th and 20th centuries.



Jamila L. McWhirter

School of Music

Promoted to Professor

Dr. Jamila L. McWhirter completed her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction with a specialization in Choral Music Education at the University of Missouri. She earned an M.A. in Choral Music Education from Central Missouri State University and B.M.E. in Choral Music Education from Southwest Baptist University.

McWhirter is coordinator of the Music Education area and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in music teacher education, such as Foundations and Philosophy of Music Education, Contemporary Issues and Research in Music Education, Music Education Research Project, Introduction to Music Education, Choral Music in the Middle and Senior High School, and Choral Conducting. She supervises Residency II student teaching candidates.

McWhirter serves on the American Choral Directors Association National Standing Committee on Education and Communication. She also is a member of the National Association for Music Education Editorial Advisory Committee for the Music Educators Journal. For the past 12 years, she has filled various positions for the Tennessee Music Educators Association board and council. McWhirter currently is the Tennessee Music Educators Association research chair and Tennessee Society for Music Education chair. She recently completed work for the Tennessee Board of Education as a reviewer of the Tennessee Fine Arts Standards in Music Education. In addition, McWhirter also has held offices in the Missouri Choral Directors Association and Missouri Music Education Association.

She serves as a presenter, clinician, guest conductor, and adjudicator throughout the United States. McWhirter's research and scholarly writing also has been published in the *Journal of Research in Music Education* and by Oxford University Press.

Prior to joining MTSU in 2005, McWhirter taught at Stephens College, the University of Missouri, Central Missouri State University, and Missouri Baptist University. She also taught K–12 public school choral music for 13 years before pursuing her doctorate.



Kathleen A. O'Connell

Department of Art and Design

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Kathleen O'Connell earned an M.F.A. and M.A. in Art (printmaking and book arts) from the University of Wisconsin and a B.F.A. in Studio Art (printmaking, sculpture, and drawing) from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh. She joined the MTSU faculty in 2012.

O'Connell teaches undergraduate courses in Book Arts, Letterpress Printmaking, and Art Foundations and is an Education Abroad program leader. Her current research includes formal investigations into letterpress, typography, hand-lettering, many forms of printmaking, pressure printing, pattern design, paper marbling and other forms of surface design, artist's book design and production, and printing press mechanical repair.

O'Connell's current body of artistic work conceptually explores the intersection of magical realism and feminism in both the American South and in South America, especially Peru. Content reflects her personal experience but is also generated from conversations about the experiences of women, who share deeper roots in those particular geographies. The artistic output is formatted as visually rich, colorful hand-pulled prints or hand-bound artist's books. Her collaborative projects include an array of international artists' books and prints. Personal and collaborative artworks have been selected for inclusion into multiple international and national juried exhibitions. Works may be found at www.kathleenocconnell.net.

Additionally, O'Connell is a workshop instructor in the United States and abroad. She is immensely involved in her fields and serves as vice president of programming and executive committee member on the board of directors of the College Book Art Association. Prior to working at MTSU, she pieced together a living involving travel, artist residencies, assorted art-related jobs, freelance work, workshop instruction, and adjunct teaching positions. In the several years prior to arriving at MTSU, O'Connell lived and worked in Lima, Peru.



Patrick G. Richey

*Department of Communication Studies
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Patrick (Pat) Richey completed his Ph.D. at the University of Southern Mississippi. He earned his M.A. from Stephen F. Austin State University and his B.A. from Louisiana College.

Richey currently is director of forensics at Middle Tennessee State University. He has competed, coached, or judged International Public Debate Association (IPDA), National Parliamentary Debate Association, World's Championship Debate, cross-examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, Student Congress, and multiple individual events for the past 20 years. Richey's capacities in IPDA include or have included: current (2012–20) and former (2006–09) IPDA Governing Board member; founder and editor for the *IPDA Journal* for four years; tab room for two IPDA National Championships; and editor of the *IPDA Textbook* (2nd ed.). He also is currently the IPDA historian.

His academic interests include debate history and theory, especially ethos, as well as rhetoric, specifically post-colonial thought.



Stephen E. Severn

Department of English
Tenured

Dr. Steve Severn, newly-hired department chair and Professor of English, comes to MTSU from West Texas A&M University in Canyon, Texas, where he had taught English since 2005. For the past five years, he served as the department head of English, Philosophy, and Modern Languages, and prior to that assignment, he served as director of the Office of Writing Programs for six years.

Severn earned his Ph.D. in English, with a specialization in Victorian and modern fiction, from the University of Maryland in 2004. He has published pieces on Elizabeth Gaskell, Oscar Wilde, George Gissing, Katherine Mansfield, W.H. Auden, Elizabeth Bishop, and others in a variety of journals, including *PMLA*, *Victorian Review*, and *Victorian Institutes Journal*. Severn's current monograph-in-progress is entitled *A Professional('s) Project: The Shorter Writings of Elizabeth Gaskell*.

A self-described "academic oddball," he actually began his professional life as an engineer. Severn attended the University of Pennsylvania on a Navy ROTC scholarship. After earning a Bachelor of Science and Engineering (cum laude) in Systems Science and Engineering in 1991, he served for five years as a naval officer. Prior to reporting aboard the USS *Arkansas*, a nuclear-powered cruiser, he completed Nuclear Power School, Prototype Reactor Training, Surface Warfare School, Damage Control School, and Chemical Warfare School. During his three years on the ship, Severn completed a six-month deployment to the Persian Gulf and a nine-month, dry-dock overhaul in the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard.



Kristi C. Shamburger

Department of Theatre and Dance

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Kristi Shamburger holds a Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre Performance from Baldwin-Wallace College in Berea, Ohio, and an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre from the University of Nevada–Las Vegas. She is a longtime member of the Actor's Equity Association and has performed in such regional theatres as Skylight Opera

Theatre in Milwaukee; Lyric Opera Cleveland in Ohio; St. Michael's Playhouse in Colchester, Vermont; Maine State Musical Theatre; The Odyssey in Los Angeles; and more. Shamburger taught theatre and musical theatre courses and choreographed for Middle Georgia College, Huntington University, and Belmont University before joining the MTSU Theatre and Dance faculty in 2010.

Most recently, she has directed MTSU musicals "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat," "Peter Pan," "West Side Story," and "Les Miserables." In the past few years, Shamburger redesigned a large-enrollment, web-assisted Introduction to Theatre course into an active learning experience with Virginia Donnell and developed a Musical Theatre Performance minor with the help of her colleagues in the School of Music. Along with her directing projects, Shamburger teaches three courses she created for MTSU: Musical Theatre Performance I and II and Musical Theatre History. She is also a certified instructor in the Lugerling Expressive Actor technique, an integrated voice, movement, and acting technique, which she teaches in Voice for the Actor at MTSU and through various workshops across the Southeast.



David A. Schmidt

*Department of Global Studies and
Human Geography*

Tenured

Dr. David Schmidt serves as Vice Provost for International Affairs and is a Professor of Global Studies and Human Geography. Before joining MTSU, he served as executive director of the Bechtel International Center, associate professor of Japanese at the University of the Pacific, and director of the University of Wisconsin System's Institute for Global Studies. He also was founding fellowship coordinator for Yale University's Center for International and Area Studies.

Schmidt has a Ph.D. from Saint Louis University, an M.A. from Ohio State University, and a B.A. from the University of Wisconsin. He has written extensively on post-World War II issues regarding women's rights and education in Japan and South Korea. Schmidt's book entitled *Ianfu—the Comfort Women of the Japanese Imperial Army of the Pacific War: Broken Silence* is the seminal academic text that utilizes Japanese and Korean language primary sources in addition to interviews with former ianfu and U.S. and Japanese military personnel. He served for four years as the U.S. representative for the East Asian War Reparation hearings and made significant contributions that led to the establishment of a corporate-funded reparations endowment in Japan as well as the creation of a report submitted to the Japanese Diet. Schmidt also is co-author of the book *Gogatsu no shi (Poems of May): Terayama Shuji*. In addition to numerous other publications and presentations, he has more than 21 years of teaching experience.

A recipient of the Association of International Administrators' Presidential Fellowship, the Korea Foundation Research Fellowship, and the Mombusho Fellowship, Schmidt additionally participated as a fellow in Harvard University's Institute for Educational Management.



Cheryl B. Torsney

Department of English
Tenured

Dr. Cheryl B. Torsney, professor in the Department of English, holds a B.A. in English and French from Allegheny College, an M.A. in English from Louisiana State University, and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Florida. She has served as Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs at MTSU since 2017. She spent most of her professional life at West Virginia University (WVU), where she rose through the ranks; taught undergraduate and graduate courses in American literature, gender studies, and material culture; and served as director of graduate Studies in English.

In her administrative roles at WVU (associate provost for academic programs), Hiram College (vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college), SUNY New Paltz (interim provost), and the University of Texas-El Paso (senior vice provost), Torsney was engaged in leading diversity initiatives, academic programming, faculty development, outdoor education, advising and retention initiatives, accreditation, and engaged learning.

She received two Fulbrights (to France and to the Netherlands), was an American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) summer fellow, led an NEH summer seminar, and is the author or editor of four volumes and many articles in her field. Torsney serves as an independent consultant and as a peer evaluator of the Southern Association for Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and for the Higher Learning Commission.



Andrew R. Wyatt

*Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor*

Dr. Andrew R. Wyatt received his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Illinois–Chicago in 2008 and his B.A. in Literature from Antioch College in 1989. He has conducted research in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Brazil, Belgium, and the midwestern U.S.

Wyatt joined the MTSU faculty in 2012. His classes include Introduction to World Prehistory, Introduction to Archaeology, Research Methods in Anthropology, Ancient Civilizations, Environmental Archaeology, and Mesoamerican Archaeology.

Wyatt's research interests focus on human-environment interactions in ancient societies and paleoenvironmental reconstruction. In particular, he studies the sustainability and longevity of small-scale agricultural systems in ancient cultures and examines how these practices have resulted in long-term environmental changes. Wyatt's primary methodological specialty is archaeobotany, and he has established a lab to study and analyze ancient plant remains.

His early research at the ancient Maya site of Chan in the Belize River Valley investigated the process of agricultural intensification and the role of farmers in the regional political economy. Wyatt currently is conducting archaeological and ethnobotanical research at the site of Motul de San Jose in Guatemala and multiple sites in the eastern Brazilian Amazon. His research in Brazil is aided by students who participate in an archaeological field school through Education Abroad. Wyatt also is conducting ethnographic studies of Lacandon Maya household agricultural practices at Lake Mensabak in Chiapas, Mexico.



Mary Ellen Sloane

James E. Walker Library

Promoted to Professor

Mary Ellen Sloane earned her Master of Library and Information Science degree from San Jose State University and her B.A. in Philosophy from California State University–Sacramento. She joined MTSU as the web librarian in 2005. Sloane served as the electronic resources librarian during 2007–13 and has been the user services librarian for Basic and Applied Sciences since 2013.

She provides reference and information literacy instruction to science disciplines, participates in library collection development for the science collection, and shares awareness of scholarly communications matters, such as copyright, author identifiers, and impact metrics, with the campus community. In the 2017–18 academic year, Sloane facilitated a faculty learning community on open data and recently attended the Data Science and Visualization Institute for Librarians at North Carolina State University.

She teaches a wide range of collection management and development topics, including policies, procedures, selection, collection evaluation, user assessment, electronic resources management, acquisition, and resource sharing.

Sloane has been active in serving with Tennessee's library consortium, Tenn-Share, and was recognized with the Tenn-Share Resource Sharing Award in 2010. Her research interests include information literacy, scholarly communication, collection development, and library technology. She received the Highly Commended Paper Award from the Emerald Literati Network Awards for Excellence in 2013.

Linda M. Turney

James E. Walker Library

Tenured and Promoted to Associate Professor

Linda M. Turney received her M.S. in Library Science from the University of North Texas and her B.A. in Liberal Arts from Ambassador University. She is responsible for cataloging a large volume of electronic resources, primarily electronic books and streaming video. Cataloging involves the activities of selecting robust cataloging metadata, enhancing and editing records for compliance with national standards and local guidelines, and loading finished records into the library database for resource discovery and research.

Turney's research interests include cataloging, student use of library technology, library metadata, and the connection between quality metadata and quality search results in library discovery catalogs. Her articles include "What's in a Word? Rethinking Facet Headings in a Discovery Service" and "Higher Education and Emerging Technologies: Student Usage, Preferences, and Lessons for Library Services."

Prior to joining MTSU in 2012, Turney worked as the cataloging coordinator at Sam Houston State University in Texas. She also was a technical services librarian at Kilgore College in Kilgore, Texas, and an image librarian in the Photo Repository at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

