

MTSU

PRESENTATIONS



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MIDDLE TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

Kevin Corns, Ph.D.

LEADING THE WAY IN DRONE TECHNOLOGY AND EDUCATION

Kevin Corns leads MTSU's drone program, the largest experiential unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) curriculum in the U.S. He applies drone technology to strategic partnerships and real-world missions, including aerial video feeds, surveillance, and logistics for companies like ESPN+ and the state's TDOT Aeronautics Division. Highlighting innovation and practical skills, the UAS program equips graduates to excel as entrepreneurs, in commerce, or within government roles after graduation.



MTSU College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Department of Criminal Justice Administration

Ben Stickle, Ph.D.

MAKING COMMUNITIES SAFER

Ben Stickle's research enhances public safety, shapes law enforcement training, and elevates MTSU's reputation as a leader in applied criminal justice research. He has been featured in *The New York Times*, *Good Morning America*, and NBC for his work on package theft, metal theft, and emerging crime trends and has secured over \$10 million in grants and contracts with direct impact on Tennessee. Partnerships include the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Postal Service.



Aliou Ly, Ph.D.

LEARNING HISTORY IN SENEGAL

Aliou Ly takes MTSU students to Senegal to study history on-site in this annual summer MTSU Signature Study Abroad program. Students live and interact with local Senegalese people, becoming richly immersed in unique cultural, economic, and social environments. By the trip's end, students understand that, despite their differences, people around the globe share similar goals and aspirations.



Richard Tarpey, D.B.A.

BRIDGING STUDENTS AND INDUSTRY PARTNERS

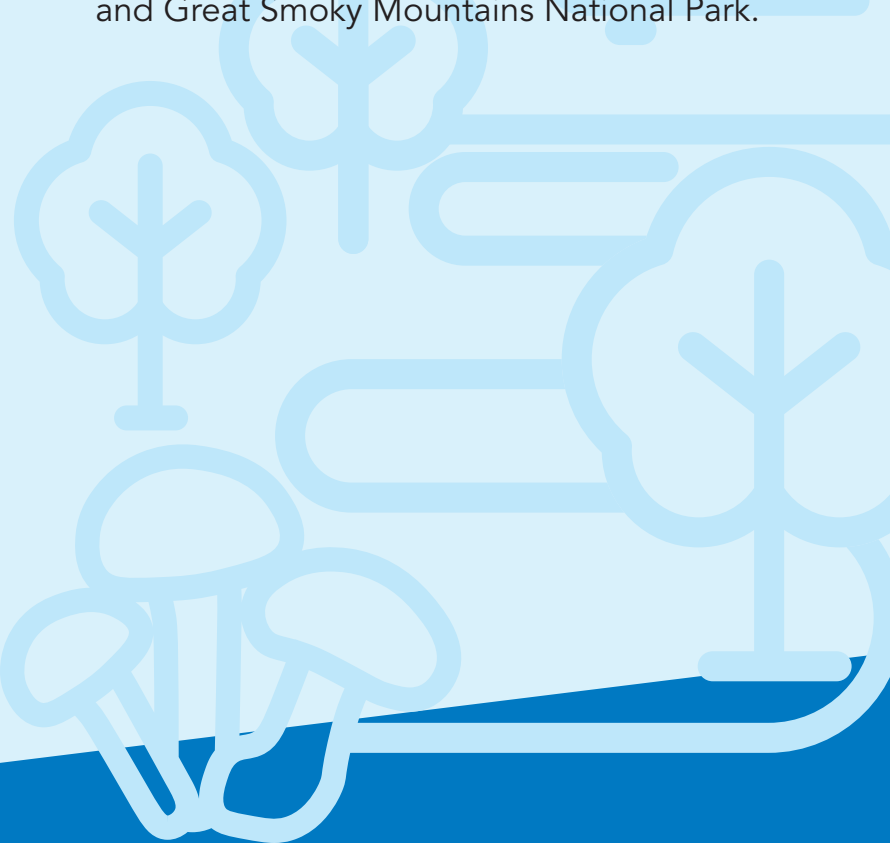
Described as a “man on fire,” Richard Tarpey created and administers the Synergy CollabLab program that connects students with industry representatives to solve real-world challenges. Teams develop innovative solutions, gaining hands-on experience and networking opportunities. Recent partners include GEODIS, Mars Petcare, and Assurant. Tarpey also launched the Center for Supply Chain Management and Sustainability, which connects MTSU students to over 100 companies.



Donald M. Walker, Ph.D.

EMERGING FUNGAL PATHOGENS, MICROBIOMES, AND HOST HEALTH

Donald Walker studies the impact of emerging fungal pathogens on native wildlife, research that informs biodiversity conservation efforts. Walker has been awarded roughly \$2,300,000 in state and federal grant funding and is a recent recipient of a National Science Foundation CAREER award (\$1,000,000). He and his team present educational workshops for Zoo Knoxville, The Nashville Zoo, and Great Smoky Mountains National Park.



MTSU College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Department of Health and Human Performance

Kahler W. Stone, Dr.P.H.
Andrew Owusu, Ph.D.
Marie Patterson, D.H.S.
Gabrielle Chesak, M.P.H.

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTH

Together, these faculty and their students oversee MTSU's Public Health Assessment and Surveillance in Epidemiology (PHASE) lab, a Tennessee Department of Health-funded initiative. The PHASE lab partners with hospitals across Tennessee to improve health care-associated infection (HAI) surveillance. Through data validation, research, and student training, the lab strengthens infection reporting and patient safety, reducing HAIs and antimicrobial resistance statewide.



MTSU College of Liberal Arts

Department of Theatre and Dance

Lauren Shouse, M.F.A.

THEATRE DIRECTOR AT NASHVILLE REPERTORY THEATRE

Lauren Shouse has directed 10 productions for Nashville Repertory Theatre, the Middle Tennessee region's flagship professional company. In fall 2024, she directed Sara Bareilles' hit musical *Waitress*, which premiered in Tennessee Performing Arts Center's Polk Theatre to much critical acclaim. Shouse was nominated for Best Director of a Musical from [BroadwayWorld.com](https://www.broadwayworld.com).



MTSU College of Education

Department of Elementary and Special Education

Katie Schrod, Ph.D.
Joan Boulware, Ed.D.
Bonnie Barksdale, Ph.D.
Janna McClain, Ph.D.
Stacy Fields, Ph.D.

A DECADE OF FAMILY LITERACY

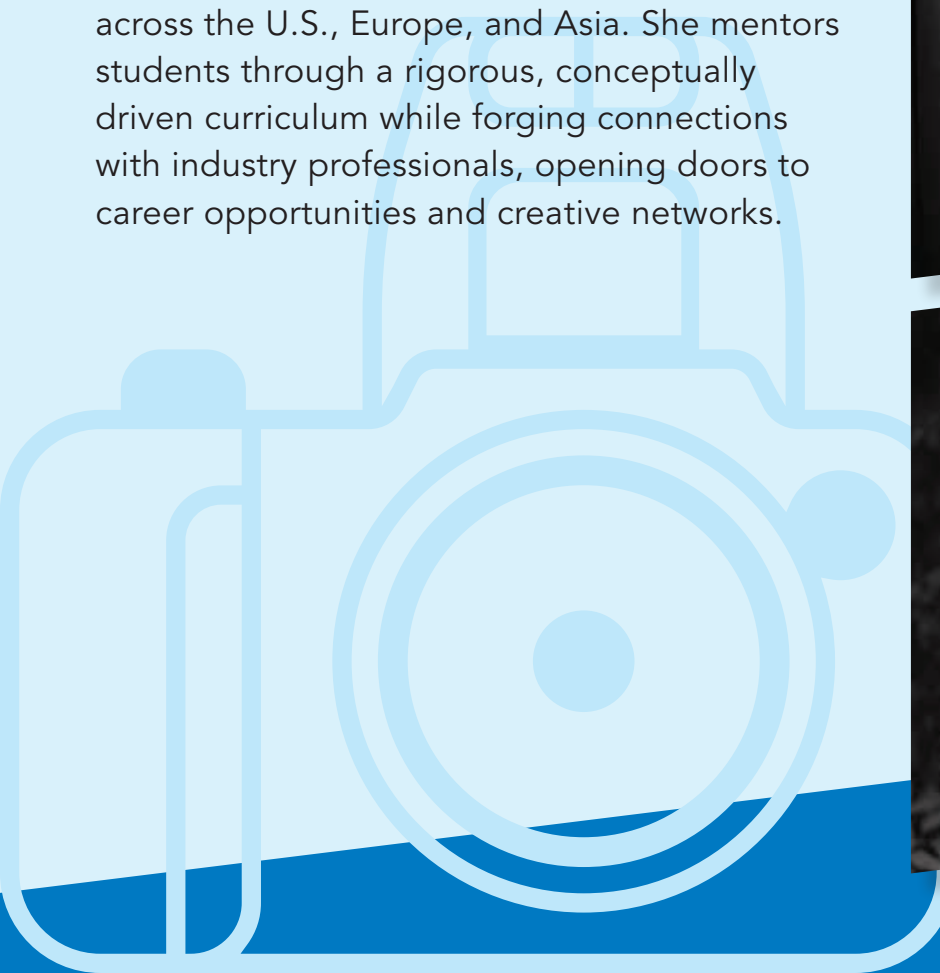
MTSU, Read To Succeed, and Murfreesboro/ Rutherford County schools share a 10-year partnership focused on family literacy. Experts in early literacy, Katie Schrod, Bonnie Barksdale, Janna McClain, and Joan Boulware have hosted over 100 family literacy nights reaching thousands of families, local teachers, and MTSU students. The program has provided over 17,000 books, interactive activities, and caregiver training to the community, supported by over \$65,000 in grants and fundraising.



Kristine Potter, M.F.A.

LEADING VOICE IN CONTEMPORARY PHOTOGRAPHY

Kristine Potter, a Guggenheim Fellow and Swiss Images Vevey Grand Prix recipient, explores American landscapes, myth, and cultural narratives. Her monograph *Dark Waters* earned critical acclaim, with reviews in *The New York Times* and *The Guardian*. Her work is held in major museum collections and exhibited in leading institutions across the U.S., Europe, and Asia. She mentors students through a rigorous, conceptually driven curriculum while forging connections with industry professionals, opening doors to career opportunities and creative networks.



MTSU College of Behavioral and Health Sciences

Department of Psychology

Michael Hein, Ph.D.

Judy Van Hein, Ph.D.

Patrick McCarthy, Ph.D., J.D.

Mark Frame, Ph.D.

Alexander Jackson, Ph.D.

WE'RE NUMBER ONE!

MTSU's Industrial-Organizational (I-O) Psychology master's program has consistently been ranked No. 1 in the nation. One key reason is the program's Center for Organizational and Human Resource Effectiveness, led by Michael Hein, Judy Van Hein, Patrick McCarthy, Mark Frame, and Alexander Jackson. COHRE is a premier professional consulting firm and provides I-O students practical hands-on experience with real-world clients from a wide range of public and private organizations.



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