Higher education reform is working for Kentucky

by President Ronald G. Eaglin

In May 1997, the General Assembly passed the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act. The Act identified six key goals – two on a statewide basis and four institution-specific – to be achieved by the year 2020, linking the achievement of these goals to the development of a society with a standard of living and quality of life that meet or exceed the national average.

Two statewide goals were prescribed by the same legislation: (1) a seamless, integrated system of postsecondary education strategically planned and adequately funded to enhance economic development and quality of life; and (2) an efficient, responsive and coordinated system of providers that delivers quality educational services to all adult citizens of a quality comparable to the national average.

To address the issue of accountability, the Board of Regents and administration of the University have issued a report on what we believe has been substantial progress in meeting the goals mandated by the General Assembly in the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997. The full report is available on our Web site. Here are a few highlights:

Established in the spring of 1999 as the University’s first Program of Distinction, the Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy (IRAPP) combines specialized academic programs and a broad-based social and natural science research agenda. Dean David Rudy and his IRAPP colleagues have developed specific strategies to achieve a national reputation in both areas and early indicators are overwhelmingly positive.

The first graduates (May 2003) are being admitted to prestigious graduate schools in public administration, geography and environmental science. In terms of grant funds for service and research projects, IRAPP faculty, staff and students have secured nearly $12 million in competitive funding from federal agencies such as USDE, NASA, National Science Foundation, HUD, and SBA, in addition to numerous state, local government, corporate and private foundation grants.

Among the major initiatives of IRAPP is the Center for Virtual Appalachia, designed to become the definitive Appalachian Web site to facilitate collaborations and communications in technology transfer, tourism development, economic development, mapping and GIS technology, and education. The Atlas of Appalachia, a collaborative project involving Western Kentucky University, the University of Kentucky, East Carolina University, and Marshall University, is scheduled for release on CD ROM in late 2003.

Satellite Technology and GPS—GIS Data Infrastructure are important IRAPP initiatives because the positive effects of the technology economy and high-tech utilization in East Kentucky remain under-realized. The Space Science Center project, of which IRAPP is a major partner, is a public-private partnership that provides for economic development outreach and research commercialization that will impact the technology capacity of the region.

Important Dates

September 19
BOR Meeting

September 26
Americana Crossroads Live

September 26-27
Family Weekend

October 16-18
Homecoming

-Continued on next page
Higher education (continued)

IRAPP has developed applied research and collaborative grant partnerships with more than 110 organizations and institutions across the region. In search of criteria for its objective of a national reputation, IRAPP is surveying centers and institutes with similar objectives and missions. Among those being considered is the Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies.

Access to education and delivery of educational services are reflected in our largest enrollments in history and the steady growth in the development of online and extended campus learning opportunities since 1997. We also developed the state’s first online degree program and increased our number of fully-staffed regional centers from three to five. We now offer coursework in Ashland, Flemingsburg, Hazard, Hindman, Inez, Jackson, Louisa, Maysville, Mt. Sterling, Owingsville, Pikeville, Prestonsburg, Raceland, Salyersville, Sandy Hook, Vanceburg, West Liberty, and Whitesburg.

We continue to improve and expand the number of 2+2 programs and other articulation agreements with the Kentucky Community and Technical College System institutions within our service region. Since 1997, we have increased the number of 2+2 agreements from two to 13. They involve KCTCS institutions at Ashland, Hazard, Maysville, Morehead and Prestonsburg.

To address the mandate for strategic planning, the Board of Regents approved ‘Pride & Promise,’ a strategic plan for the period of 2001-2006. It includes a revised mission, core values, goals, objectives and measurable performance indicators. Pride & Promise was developed to guide us in support of the goals and objectives identified in the statewide Action Agenda Plan developed by the Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) and the Commonwealth’s 2020 Vision.

The planning process includes on-going assessment processes at the institutional level and within each academic and administrative operating unit. Results of the assessment data are then used to make annual revisions to the operating unit plans and institutional strategic plan. The 2002 Annual Strategic Assessment Report Card scores progress made on each of the 29 performance indicators included in Pride & Promise. Those indicators measure specific areas with a focus on student progress, educational quality and outcomes, use of resources, as well as research and service activities of the institution—areas specifically identified as critical institutional measurement by the General Assembly. The 2002 Report Card is also available on the University’s Web site.

It should be obvious that the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 set a clear direction and specific goals for higher education institutions within the Commonwealth. Morehead State University has realigned its strategic planning and assessment processes to support those goals. Significant progress has been achieved and outcomes are improving. Ongoing assessment and realignment of internal goals and resources will ensure continued progress toward meeting the system-wide education reform goals of the Commonwealth. We are proud of what we have achieved but realize that much, much more remains to be done if we are to realize the vision of those who passed the 1997 law.

Our primary objective is to effectively and efficiently utilize the additional resources provided by the legislature to make a good institution even better for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

The accountability report shows clearly that we mean what we say in our statement of core values that MSU is “a public institution fully accountable for its actions, outcomes and resources.”

Congressman Rogers, UK President Todd, MSU President Eaglin to announce water quality improvements in Southern and Eastern Kentucky

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tereotypes tell us that straight pipes, failing septic systems and inadequate wastewater treatment capacity are South and East Kentucky problems. In reality, water pollution is a common problem across Kentucky. The difference in southern and eastern Kentucky is that citizens and communities are working with PRIDE to do something about the problem.

In celebration of National Rivers Month, Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers (KY-5) held a press conference on June 30 to recognize the PRIDE programs and partners that are cleaning up the region’s waterways. Rogers was joined by Dr. Lee Todd, president of the University of Kentucky, and Dr. Ronald Eaglin, president of Morehead State University. They will discuss a cooperative effort by the universities to support PRIDE’s efforts to improve water quality.

With assistance from PRIDE, volunteers and local governments have cleaned 286 waterways in the region. In addition, PRIDE grant programs are providing sanitary wastewater treatment service to 21,284 homes, significantly reducing the number of straight pipes and failing septic systems that pour raw sewage into the region’s rivers and streams.

Eastern Kentucky PRIDE — Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment — was created in 1997 by Congressman Rogers and the late General James Bickford, the former Kentucky Secretary of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection. PRIDE links citizens with the resources of local, state and federal agencies to clean up the region’s waterways, end illegal trash dumps and promote environmental education and awareness. PRIDE is funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
Today, many organizations are taking advantage of Intranets and other technologies to deliver online orientations to new employees. Morehead State University's Office of Human Resources recently responded to the needs of today's applicants and implemented an online employee orientation program. New employees can now enroll in their MSU benefits from their home, department or location of their choice. This new online program allows employees to easily access reference information and enroll in MSU benefits at their own pace.

What formerly took over three hours in a classroom setting, now takes 30 minutes! The program enables the University to deliver consistent information to its geographically dispersed workforce in a format that is available 24 hours a day. By utilizing technology to deliver orientation-specific information and online enrollment, time and costs needed for a traditional classroom-based program are significantly reduced.

**Other benefits include:**

- Reduces staff time involved in preparing for and delivering orientation training and allows redeployment of these resources to satisfy other customer needs.
- Decreases the amount of time employees are away from the workplace attending a training program.
- Provides a self-paced enrollment process.

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**Enthused Faculty and Staff Using Facilitate.com® — A New Enterprise Collaboration Tool at MSU**

MSU has just acquired a new campus-wide license for Facilitate.com’s® web-based collaborative software for running meetings, forums, and surveys in a meeting room or over the Internet. With this new tool, any room equipped with computers and Internet access can be turned into an electronic meeting room, or meetings and surveys can be conducted over the Internet with participants located anywhere in the world, participating at the same time or at different times.

This initiative was spearheaded by Dr. Steven Hunt, professor of Information Systems, who first used the tool to conduct meetings with an international End-User Information Systems Model Curriculum Task Force. His first experience was so successful that Dr. Hunt recommended acquiring a license for the tool and making it available to everyone on campus. Facilitate.com® is a great addition to the Combs 305 wireless Collaborative Technologies Center, which was implemented through the federally-funded $1.4 million PT3 Grant, co-directed by Dr. Elizabeth Regan, chair, Information Systems. Over the past three years this grant has played an integral part in transforming teaching on campus to better take advantage of new information technologies and digital networks and make MSU a leader in 21st century education.

Just as major Fortune 100 companies, and other international industry giants are reaping the benefits of Web collaboration, now MSU faculty and students can use this technology to collaborate and leverage knowledge in a hyper-connected world.

According to Dr. Steven Hunt, professor of IS, this organization changing technology has already been used as a rich venue for anonymous and simultaneous input regarding curriculum development, College of Business program assessment, and departmental strategic planning. Dr. Hunt remarked, “This enterprise Web collaboration tool will, hopefully, enhance the ‘intellectual bandwidth’ of the electronic interactions of our MSU community.”

On June 26 and 27, 2003 a number of faculty and staff engaged in two entire days of group support systems training, which was conducted by Julia Young, VP of the San Francisco based firm. These individuals will serve in the piloting process of this innova-
Participants learned to use group techniques such as interactive agendas, brainstorming, prioritizing, voting, and action planning for more productive collaboration and decision making as well as to design and administer surveys or assessment instruments online.

Attendees participated in a sample strategic planning session conducting a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, threats, and opportunities) and goal setting. Participants also had an opportunity to work on projects of their own. Among the uses planned for Facilitate.com® are a survey of teacher education graduates, program assessment, faculty surveys, feedback regarding online courses, research surveys, and meetings of program advisory boards. Hopefully, this software will provide powerful opportunities to unleash creativity, solve problems, and take decisive action. Accessed over the Web, Facilitate.com® 7.5 will enable an open exchange among staff, faculty and students, as well as alumni to work together more efficiently and cost effectively.

This new collaborative groupware will also be infused into the business curriculum, as well as other disciplines such as teacher education, communications, and any other discipline desirous of incorporating computer-mediated group processes. For example, on July 25, Dr. Hunt’s BIS 420 Collaborative Technology students presented to the Office of Student Housing, a new Web-based exit survey developed by Josh Sturgill, David Rudder, and Nathan Tackett, all majors in the Department of Information Systems. The survey was created under the leadership of Dr. Steven Hunt and Julia Young, Vice-President of Facilitate.com®.

In attendance, at the July 25th meeting, from the Office of Student Housing were: Associate Director of Housing Dallas Sammons; Area Coordinator Shannon Colvin; and Assistant Director of Housing Operations Ruth Harney-Howard. The new Web-based exit survey was well received by these Student Housing staff members. In follow-up to the initial meeting, the IS students plan, this fall, to assist the Office of Student Housing by “tweaking” the survey into a workable assessment tool for them.

Two New P-16 Councils Approved

The Council on Post Secondary Education (CPE) has approved the application for funding two new P-16+ councils in the region which will be under the umbrella of the Appalachian Regional P-16+ Council located at MSU.

The Partners for Student Success P-16+ Council consists of Bracken, Fleming, Harrison, Lewis, Mason, and Robertson counties working with Maysville Community College in the forming of this council. Dr. Augusta Julian, president of MCC and Tim Moore, superintendent of Mason County, are taking the initial lead roles with the council. They have identified mathematics and literacy issues which they will begin to address as a council this year.

The second council to receive funding is the P-16+ Council located in Pike County. This will be a council consisting of the Pike County School System, Pikeville Independent School System, and Pikeville College. Frank Welch, superintendent of Pike County, Jerry Green, superintendent of Pikeville Independent, and Wallace Campbell of Pikeville College are taking the lead roles in initiating the council. They have identified some mathematics issues common to all their systems to begin their work.

Morehead State University will be working very close with these councils as they begin to address areas of concern within their regions. A third council is already functioning in the Hazard area. It consists of Hazard Community College, Perry, Breathitt, Knott and Leslie counties. They are working with literacy issues as a top priority.

“The formation of these councils, and hopefully others in the future, will promote efforts to improve student achievement to higher levels by focusing on cross-sector initiatives in our region and coordinating the planning and implementation of change across the spectrum of P-16+ systems,” said Dale Duvall, associate dean. “This was our initial purpose in the formation of the Appalachian Regional P-16+ Council and we are beginning to make significant progress in the accomplishment of this purpose.”
Morehead State University has partnered with Southeast Community College, Hazard Community College and Eastern Kentucky University to expand the area served by the Commonwealth Educational Opportunity Centers.

This spring, three new CEOC centers began assisting adults in Bell, Clay, Harlan, Knott, Knox, Leslie, Letcher, and Perry counties to become enrolled in a technical, community college or university.

The Commonwealth Educational Opportunity Center was founded by Morehead State University in 1991 to serve 20 counties in East and Northeast Kentucky (Bath, Boyd, Breathitt, Carter, Elliott, Estill, Fleming, Floyd, Greenup, Johnson, Lawrence, Lee, Lewis, Magoffin, Martin, Mason, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan, Owsley, Pike, Powell, Rowan, and Wolfe). An additional four counties (Estill, Lee, Powell, and Owsley) were added in 1999.

The centers, funded by the U.S. Department of Education through Title IV of the Higher Education Act and sponsored by MSU, address the needs of adults who have expressed an interest in enrolling into a program of postsecondary education at any institution of higher education. The field staff of seven College Access Counselors and three Educational Outreach Specialists travel each week to the 32 counties in the target area providing information about educational programs and financial aid availability and providing assistance with completing college applications and the Free Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA). The CEOC also provides small group workshops on study skills, financial aid, career decision-making, computer literacy and other topics.

The newest centers that serve the expanded area are on the campus of Hazard Community College in Hazard, the Middlesboro Campus of Southeast Community College, and at the Eastern Kentucky University Center in Corbin. CEOC centers are located on the campus of Morehead State University in Morehead, and at the MSU campuses in Ashland, Jackson, Mt. Sterling, Prestonsburg and West Liberty, and at the Department for Employment Services in Pikeville.

The centers provide services to more than 3,000 persons each year and assist more than 1,100 to become enrolled.

By furthering their education and completing a college degree, adults in these 32 counties will have improved job skills and career options, thus increasing their employability. “All services are free of charge to potential students,” said Dail Howard, CEOC project director.

Additional information is available from the centers by calling Howard on MSU’s main campus at (800)333-3621 or (606)783-2063.

The outreach center staff and their phone numbers are: in the Morehead area, Linda Thompson at (800)333-3621 or (606)783-2063; in Hazard, Dr. Edith Baker at (606)436-5721, ext. 8001; in Ashland, Penny Feltz at (800)648-5370 or (606)327-1777; in Corbin, Sharee St. Louis Smith at (606)528-0551; in Jackson, Ella Turner at (800)729-5225 or (606)666-2800; in Mt. Sterling, Linda Thompson at (859)499-0780; in Pikeville, Linda Crum at (606)433-7721, ext. 137; in Prestonsburg, Elizabeth Bishop at (800)648-5372 or (606)886-2629; and in West Liberty, Doug Hennig at (800)648-5271 or (606)743-1500.

**Lovely Joins Winner’s Circle**

Sylvia Lovely, executive director and CEO of the Kentucky League of Cities, received the 2003 Winners’ Circle Award from the Lexington chapter of the National Association of Women Business Owners.

State leaders credit Lovely for transforming the League of Cities, which she has led for 13 years, into one of the nation’s most respected such agencies. The Lexington-based organization now has 370 member cities for which it provides legal, political, and financial services.

“Sylvia has gently pushed cities to become more proactive in anticipating issues and trends – everything from the brain drain, health care, and the influx of Hispanics,” said Fox, “something that is very hard to do because often the public officials are so busy putting out small fires that they don’t see the big ones down the road.”

Sylvia Lovely defines “community” as “about the people and relationships we form. At the end of the day people want the same thing: to hope for the future and live a meaningful life.”

**MSU junior receives fellowship**

A Morehead State University junior was granted a summer fellowship through the National Science Foundation.

Chris Garris of Sandy Hook traveled to Oklahoma for eight weeks to participate in the Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program.

Garris was among 10 other students who worked with a specific research project where he will work closely with the faculty and other researchers at his host school.

While working with Dr. Laurie Couch, associate professor of psychology, Garris was encouraged to apply for the program. After completing five applications just hoping to be accepted to one he was excited to find out he was accepted in two states.

“This is a great opportunity to be affiliated with this foundation; hopefully, it will open doors when applying for graduate school,” Garris says.

Enrolled as a double major in psychology and communications, Garris says he took on the added major just to have a back up plan. “In the beginning I was afraid I might not enjoy psychology so I majored in communications.”

His chosen majors have allowed him to wear a variety of hats. He serves as a staff writer and photographer for the Raconteur, the University’s yearbook. His psychology background and love for finding out about people is evident in his work as a Big Brother for Pathways in Morehead and as an enrichment leader for the Upward Bound program.

Garris, a graduate of Elliott County High School, is the son of Tex and Juanita Garris.
College of Business

6th Annual Northeast Kentucky Small Business Awards Breakfast

The Ashland SBDC hosted its 6th Annual Northeast Kentucky Small Business Awards Breakfast on May 15 at the Grayson Conference Center in Grayson. It was a huge success with record attendance. Kim Jenkins, Ashland’s Management Consultant and the event’s coordinator, said, “When we started this event in 1998, approximately 75 people attended. This year, approximately 275 were in attendance.”

Jenkins added, “This is a very prestigious ceremony to honor, celebrate, and recognize small business owners and advocates for their contributions to both our economy and our communities.” This event recognizes small business owners and advocates in Boyd, Carter, and Greenup counties.

The event is jointly offered by the Morehead State University/Ashland Small Business Development Center, Ashland Alliance, Ashland Main Street, Ashland Community College/The Entrepreneur Center, Grayson Area Chamber of Commerce, and the 2003 Northeast Kentucky Small Business Awards Committee.

Rob Johnson of WSAZ News Channel 3, served as Master of Ceremonies.

This year’s guest speaker was Dr. Bob Albert, dean, College of Business, Morehead State University. Dean Albert reminded the guests how very fortunate Northeast Kentucky is to have so many wonderful entrepreneurial assistance programs and economic development agencies to help small businesses.

A local computer company agreed to design and host a Web site for this event. The website features past award winners, sponsors, categories, criteria, and much more including the ability to submit 2004 nominations electronically. Take a moment to visit their site at www.nekysba.com

Cowart, Peng present paper

Dr. Lary B. Cowart, associate professor of real estate, along with associate professor of finance, Chien-Chih Peng, took part in the 19th annual American Real Estate Society Conference in Monterey, Calif. The professors presented their paper “Do Vacant Houses Sell for Less? Evidence from the Lexington Housing Market” to those in attendance during the April 2-5 conference.

Cowart elected to second term

Dr. Lary B. Cowart has been re-elected to his second two-year term on the Real Property Committee of the American Society of Appraisers, effective June 2003.

The ASA is committed to promoting professional excellence in its membership through education, accreditation, publication and other services. It is an organization of appraisal professionals and others interested in the appraisal profession. Members of the ASA are grouped into six disciplines: Appraisal Review and Management, Business Valuation, Gems and Jewelry, Machinery and Technical Specialties, Personal Property, and Real Property.

Landrum receives publication


Landrum and Baldwin presented their findings at the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Academy of Management in Seattle, Wash., August 1-6.
Office of the Dean

Dr. Michael Seelig, dean, and the Caudill College of Humanities will receive additional funding through the strategic initiative budgeting process in support of initiatives set forth in its comprehensive, multi-year, strategic plan. The University Planning Committee and Provost recommended, and the President approved, an additional $25,000 be provided to the College for this purpose in FY 2003/04.

The Caudill College initiated a campus-wide “Diversity” initiative, headed by Dr. Ricky Little, associate professor of music and an assistant-to-the-dean, which resulted in several minority students submitting applications to graduate programs at the University, and several minority high school students submitting requests for undergraduate admissions applications. Dr. Little represented the College and University at minority student recruitment fairs in North Carolina, established relationships with department chairs at Kentucky State University, arranged on-campus visits for prospective minority students and parents, and arranged for a campus contingent to visit with over twenty-five minority students at Mason County High School.

Jennifer Reis, art gallery director, was selected by Dean Seelig to serve as the first director of the newly established MSU Arts & Humanities Council, a partnership between the campus and local, statewide and regional arts and humanities groups.

Dr. John Ernst, associate professor of history, was selected by Dean Seelig to serve as director of the MSU Interdisciplinary Appalachian Heritage Program. Dr. Ernst is presently collaborating with the Kentucky Folk Art Center staff for the submission of an NEH grant to record music and oral histories of regional musicians who play traditional music.

Dr. Sylvia Henneberg, assistant professor of English, was selected by Dean Seelig to serve as director of the MSU Interdisciplinary Women’s Studies Program.

Plans are currently underway to establish a MSU Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies Program in Spring 2004.

Dean Seelig has initiated a project of displaying professionally matted and framed copies of student works produced in Dixon Ferrell’s drawing courses throughout the Dean’s Suite located in Rader Hall. Ferrell is associate professor of art.

Dean Seelig has also just completed serving for one year as the executive director of the Gateway Children’s Advocacy Center, and presently serves as vice president of the Christian Social Services’ Board of Directors and as a consultant to the St. Claire Regional Medical Center’s Annual & Employee Giving Campaigns.

Department of Art

The Art Gallery underwent an $80,000 renovation of its facilities during the summer months. Thirty art majors exhibited their works at “The Big Door Out: 2003 Senior Art Exhibition,” and forty-five students exhibited their work in the “Sophomore Exhibition.” Students enrolled in the Appalachian Arts courses exhibited their works on the fifth floor of the Camden Carroll Library.

Gary Mesa-Gaido, associate professor of art at Morehead State University, was one of twelve artists whose decorated dinosaurs were unveiled to officially launch Carnegie Museum of Natural History’s “DinoMite Days” held in Pittsburgh. His “Phillipsaurus” was named after its inspiration, Phillip Johnson’s PPG building. It was composed entirely of reflective glass and mirrors. The project will be distributed to Pittsburgh’s parks, plazas, and public streets. Mesa-Gaido was also a special guest speaker in April for the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science celebrating Mathematics Awareness Month. His presentation was “Computers, Art, and Chaos.”

Students from Dr. Joy Gritton’s Appalachian Arts class organized and participated in an exhibition of work titled “Appalachian Art: Building a Healthy Region.” The exhibition was featured at the regional Appalachian Studies Association Conference held at Eastern Kentucky University in March. During April, the exhibit was presented on-campus in the Camden Carroll Library Appalachian Collection area.

Sara Pennington, senior art major, presented an exhibition of photographs, “Up Close and Personal,” at the Kentucky Folk Art Center, June 4-Aug. 31. Pennington was
awarded a Phi Kappa Phi National Graduate Fellowship totaling $8,000. She has been accepted into graduate school in The Ohio State University’s Arts Policy and Administration Program.

Hundreds of high school students from 29 counties competed for honors and awards during the 2003 Kentucky Burley/Coal Regional High School Exhibition and competition. The show, sponsored by the Kentucky Art Education Association, was the highlight of High School Art Day, sponsored by the MSU Department of Art. Seven hundred students from twenty-six high schools participated.

Emma Perkins, assistant professor of art, gave two presentations at the National Art Education Association Conference in Minneapolis in April. At the conference, she served as State Delegate for Kentucky.

On May 29, a bronze replica of the Morgan County High School Cougar was unveiled at MCHS. The life-size bronze cougar was produced as a result of a collaborative effort between MCHS and the MSU Art Department. Steve Tirone, associate professor of art, directed the project. His assistants included MSU alumnus Eddie Horton of Elliottville, and art students Scott Clevenger of Morehead and Jessica Story of Morehead. Tirone also juried art contest entries the Spring 2003 Inscape art, poetry, and prose publication. Student winners with published art work were Bruce Parsons, junior from Pikeville; Peggy Spencer, graduate student from Owingsville; Elizabeth Haight, graduate student from Greenup; Lori Reid, graduate student from Morehead; Lori Tinch, senior from Owingsville; Melissa Turner, senior from Flatwoods; Amanda Seifert, sophomore from Dayton; Tim Jones, freshman from Olive Hill; and Sara Pennington, senior from Elliottville.

Melissa Turner won the Inscape cover contest. Faculty advisors to Inscape were George Eklund, associate professor of English, Gary Mesa-Gaido and Elizabeth Mesa-Gaido, associate professors of art.

Art faculty members exhibited work in “Kentucky Visions, 2003” held at the Governor’s Mansion April 14-25. A statewide juried art exhibit, Kentucky Visions is sponsored by the Kentucky Arts Council. Participating artists were David Bartlett, professor of art, Dr. Robert Franzini, art department chair, and Karen Telford, adjunct professor of art. Bartlett’s digital photographs “Rt 519, KY” and “Poppin Rock, KY” were purchased by the Kentucky Arts Council for their permanent collection.

Department of Communication & Theatre

Dr. Bob Willenbrink, chair of the Department of Communication & Theatre, was the director, author and producer of the ARC of Arkansas National Performing Arts Institute for disabled artists. The Institute featured the talents of 70 disabled artists from around the country, and culminated in a performance of “Thanks for the Memories” a musical tribute to the service provided by USO clubs. The performance included Chris Burke, star of the television series, “Life Goes On.” Dr. Willenbrink is also the author and director of “Harmony in the Mountains, A Forum Fanfare,” an August 14-16 production in Hazard featuring over 100 performers to raise money for area charities.

In a major step forward by the Caudill College to integrate technology in classroom instruction, Dr. Cathy Thomas, associate professor of speech, Dr. Noel Earl, assistant professor of speech, and Calvin Lindell, assistant professor of speech, have collaborated on more than a $170,000 grant that will bring state-of-the-art SmartBoard technology to three Caudill College buildings and fourteen classrooms between 2003 and 2006, and training to approximately fifty Caudill College and other University faculty on SmartBoard application.

David Hurt, instructor of speech, presented his portrayal of John C. C. Mayo, an east Kentucky coal baron, at the Rowan County Public Library. His performance was a presentation of Kentucky Chatauqua through the Kentucky Humanities Council.

The magic and romance of William Shakespeare’s, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” was performed in the Little Theatre in Breckinridge Hall. The classic comedy, suitable for all ages, featured Stephen Brashear, senior from Hazard, as Puck; Robert Daniels, sophomore from West Liberty, as Demetrius; and, Juliana Peterson, junior from Alexandria, as Helena. The play was directed by Dr. Travis Lockhart, professor of theatre; scenic design was by Dr. William J. Layne, professor of theatre; and costume design was by Denise Vulhop Watkins, assistant professor of theatre.

Before ending the spring semester, Morehead State University’s Speech Team honored its members at an awards reception. Receiving honors were: Summer Copley, Elk horn City freshman, and Alisha Andress, Fort Mitchell junior, Harlen Hamm Award for Dedication; Amanda Day, Morehead sophomore, Team Spirit Award; Kami Carson, Washington Court House, Ohio, senior, Most Improved Speaker in Interpretation; Amy Aschenauer, Ashland sophomore, Most Improved Speaker in Prepared Speaking; Tami Shannon, Hillsboro, Ohio, freshman, Most Improved Speaker in Limited Prepared Speaking; Liz Haynes, Lexington sophomore, Most Improved Overall Speaker; Jason Hale, Wellington senior, Outstanding Team Leadership Award; and, Jessica McCarty, Farmers senior, 4-Year Member of Service Award. Dallas Sammons, associate director of housing, was presented the Volunteer Service Award. This recognition is presented to the faculty or staff member that has provided helpful contributions to the program. Dr. Robert Willenbrink, chair of the Department of Communication and Theatre, and Dr. Michael Seelig, dean of the Caudill College of Humanities, received awards for their support of the program. The MSU Speech Team wrapped up its season in mid-March when they competed in the International Speech Tournament in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. An estimated 200 students from 15 different colleges and universities competed in the different speaking categories. Alisha Andress won the championship in the Cultural Tour. The first place is equivalent to a national championship.

Shannon Convery, MSU theatre graduate, has had guest starring roles in the following network and cable television series: “Family Affair,” “The Michael Richards Show,” “ER,” “For the People,” “Six Feet Under,” and has an upcoming appearance on “American Dreams.” She was also a featured performer in the independent film, “The Secretary.”

Brian Phillips, MSU theatre graduate, is the associate director of the Cincinnati Shakespeare Festival and was awarded Best Actor award and Best Supporting Actor award at the Cincinnati Arts Awards this past year.
Department of English, Foreign Languages, & Philosophy

Dr. Sylvia Henneberg, assistant professor of English, taught expatriate writers in Paris and French Culture this summer in the Kentucky Institute for International Studies’ Paris, France program.

Dr. Terry Irons, associate professor of English, was selected as this year’s recipient of the University’s Distinguished Faculty Service Award. Dr. Irons also was awarded a Kentucky NSF EPSCoR grant to fund his proposal: A Phonological Atlas of Kentucky English.

Approximately 1000 students from fifteen senior high schools and three middle schools throughout East Kentucky participated in MSU’s Regional Foreign Language Festival. Coordinated by Mary Jo Netherton, associate professor of French, faculty members from the Department, along with graduates and area residents, served as judges. Events included academic competition in listening, speaking and writing proficiency, literary recitation, extemporaneous prose reading, drama, and construction models in French, German, Latin, Russian, and Spanish.

Dr. Philip Krummrich, professor of comparative literature and chair of the Department of English, Foreign Languages, & Philosophy, is publishing a critical, dual-language edition of the “Quadros ao Gosto” Popular/Quatrains in the Popular Style by Portuguese writer, Fernando Pessoa. Dr. Krummrich and his faculty are meeting with representatives from the College of Education and the P-16+ Program to explore the possibility of forming partnerships with several high schools in the service area to study using high school writing portfolios as assessment tools for the placement of students in appropriate level composition courses at MSU.

Dr. Bruce Engle and Dr. Mark Graves, instructors of English, have signed a contract to write a textbook on film studies. Dr. Ron Morrison, professor of English, has been honored as the “2003 Outstanding Teacher” by the South Atlantic Association of Departments of English. He will receive the award and give a talk on his philosophy of teaching at the meeting of the Association this fall in Atlanta.

Dr. Rebecca Sexton, instructor of English, and Chris Holbrook, assistant professor of English, were among several regional writers who took part in a book signing at Coffeeetree Books in Morehead.

Department of Geography, Government, & History

Dr. William Green, professor of government, taught this summer in the Kentucky Institute for International Studies’ Bregenz, Austria program.

Acclaimed author and historian Howard Zinn spoke to an overflow crowd in Button Auditorium on April 14. Zinn is professor emeritus at Boston University and the author of the classic A People’s History of the United States. Zinn has received the Lannan Foundation Literary Award for Nonfiction and Eugene V. Debs award for his writing and political activism. He is the author of numerous books, including The Zinn Reader, Republic or Empire: American Resistance to the Philippine War, The Future of History: Interviews with David Bartramian, The Politics of History, and Terrorism and War. Sponsored by the Department of Geography, Government, & History, the Kentucky Association of Teachers of History, Phi Alpha Theta, and Morehead State University’s Student Government Association, the presentation attracted a wide and diverse audience that included MSU students, a number of high school teachers and their students, and faculty from the University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Eastern Kentucky University. Zinn was greeted by a standing ovation as he entered the auditorium. After his presentation, he took questions from the audience for more than an hour, and remained to greet students until well after 11 p.m.

The Department of History is working to establish a collaborative agreement with Murray State University as a step toward developing a Master’s program in Public History. Adrian Mandy, Thomas Kiffmeyer, and Yvonne Baldwin met with William Mulligan, the director of the Forrest C. Pogue Public History Institute at Murray State University, in April. A second meeting is scheduled for September to begin to work out the details of course sharing and the development of common online courses. The Department has been encouraged by the Kentucky Heritage Council to develop such a program, which trains historians for museum work, historic preservation and historic resource development and tourism.

Holly Beech, a May 2003 graduate, interned with the Kentucky Heritage Council during the Spring Semester. Three students have taken advantage of Governor Patton’s Washington Center internship initiative. Steve Bartley interned this past Spring Semester, and Hollie Rayburn, as well as Tashena Nobrega, were in Washington this summer.

The Department is offering a special course, GEO 399, during the Fall 2003 Semester that should attract a variety of students. The course, “Caves and Kentucky,” taught by Dr. Gary O’Dell, assistant professor of geography, whose background of three
decades of research experience in this subject promises a class that will be both interesting and informative. Dr. O’Dell has been a member of the National Speleological Society since 1967 and came to MSU after eleven years in the Groundwater Branch of the Kentucky Division of Water. Students will learn about the physical processes that create vast underground mazes and produce a characteristic surface landscape with sinkholes, sinking streams, and springs, known as “karst” terrain. Topics in the course will include significant world karst regions, the origin and development of caves and associated landforms, the ecology of subterranean life, and social and environmental issues such as cave tourism, water supply issues, groundwater contamination, and the special problems of urban development in karst regions. Although this is not intended as a course in cave exploration, students will become familiar with basic exploration and safety techniques as well as specific research methodologies including dye tracing of groundwater and collection of samples for water quality testing. Students will take three Saturday field trips, to (1) Carter Caves State Park; (2) the cave region of southeastern Kentucky; and (3) Lexington and the Bluegrass cave region. The first two trips will provide an introduction to karst landforms and cavern morphology. The Bluegrass region field trip will include a visit to the McConnell Springs city park in Lexington, to the water plant at Royal Spring in Georgetown, and to the High Bridge Springs water bottling plant on the Kentucky River.

For the second consecutive year the Military Science Department hosted the 2nd Annual “Screaming Eagle 5K” which drew 42 runners to the campus during Easter Weekend. This year’s participation doubled the success of last year’s run.

Fifty-five cadets participated in a joint-field training exercise with UK, EKU, Indiana University at Purdue, Xavier University, and East Tennessee State University at Ft. Knox. Approximately 250 students participated in the exercise that is designed to prepare cadets for summer camp at Ft. Lewis.

For the second consecutive year, the Military Science department exceeded the commissioning mission of 10 lieutenants. This year’s class of 13 second lieutenants included five active duty officers, two reserve officers, and six National Guard officers. Preliminary indications are the program will again rise in the national rankings, moving from 91 of 270 to 38 of 270, number one in the State of Kentucky. This summer 14 cadets participated in the National Advanced Leadership Camp (NALC) at Ft. Lewis. This camp is the capstone event for cadets as they progress from their junior year to the senior year. CPT Joey Odell, MSG Rodney Quarles, and SFC Jerome Hughes were all selected to serve as NALC cadre. Dean Seelig had the opportunity to serve as institutional representative and spend three days observing and participating in the NALC training activities.

The Department updated its classrooms this summer to include wireless LAN, new combination TV/DVD/VCR monitors, and laptops through a PT3 grant.

**Department of Music**

Dr. Christopher Gallaher retired after serving the University for 31 years, the last 15 as chair of the Department of Music. Dr. M. Scott McBride has recently been selected to replace Dr. Gallaher in the position. Dr. McBride received his doctorate degree in music education from the University of Oklahoma, and both master and bachelor degrees in music from Kent State University. For the past nine years, he served as chair of music and director of bands at the State University of West Georgia.

As part of an effort by the Caudill College to make the arts far more visible on campus, several members of the campus and local community gathered at the end of the school year for the “President’s Spring Concert on the Lawn” performed for the first time by the MSU Concert Band, and guest artists, under the direction of Dr. Susan D. Creasap, associate director of bands.

Dr. Greg Detweiler, assistant professor of music, and Dr. Roma Prindle, associate professor of music, taught vocal music this summer in the Kentucky Institute for International Studies’ Salzburg, Austria program.

Adam Turner, a junior from Dillsboro, Ind., was the recipient of the 2003 A. Frank and Bethel C. Gallaher Memorial Music Performance Competition. As the winner, he received the honor of performing at the University’s Academic Awards Convocation.

The MSU Symphony Band, conducted by Dr. Richard Miles, director of bands, performed the “Star Wars Trilogy” by John Williams and arranged by Donald Hunsberger at the Spring Gala. Other groups performing at the Gala included Ray Ross, assistant professor of music, and members of the “GALAcit Cantina Band,” and Dr. Gordon Towell, associate professor of music, and members of the “Gordon Solo and the Millennium Falcon Orchestra.”

Toward the end of Spring, one of the most famous operas in the world was presented on campus. George Bizet’s master-
piece, “Carmen,” was presented under the direction of Dr. Roma Prindle. The ensemble was joined by the University’s Men’s Chorus with Dr. Greg Detweiler conducting, and the University’s Women’s Chorus with Laura Wilson, instructor of music, conducting, to complete a cast of eighty. The role of Carmen was played by MSU senior Andrea Trusty, a mezzo-soprano from West Liberty. With support from the Regional Arts Appreciation Fund, the cast also performed for local public schools and community residents in Hazard and Harlan.

MSU’s Concert Choir and Chamber singers, conducted by Dr. Detweiler, presented a free concert at First Baptist Church in Morehead. The concert featured such works as “Haec Dies” by William Byrd, “Super Flumina Babylonis” by Palestrina, and “Clap Your Hands” by Edwin Fissinger. Dr. Detweiler’s choirs have toured Canada, Germany, Austria, Hungary, and the Czech Republic.

April was Jazz Appreciation Month and the MSU jazz ensembles, under the direction of Dr. Gordon Towell, joined high school jazz bands for the annual Jazz Clinic, and saluted the Big Bands in a campus concert.

MSU’s Percussion Ensemble under the direction of Frank Oddis, associate professor of music, assisted in the University’s celebration of its 116th year as an educational institution by performing at the Founders Day Awards Luncheon.

Dr. Ricky Little, associate professor of music, who has performed on four continents before audiences that included heads of states received the University’s Distinguished Creative Productions Award.

Department of Sociology, Social Work & Criminology

Two senior social work students, Erin Robinson and Becky Amburgey, presented research papers at the Kentucky Association of Social Work Educators. The research titled, “Test Cheating in a Rural College: Studying the Importance of Individual and Situational Factors,” was done in collaboration with Dr. Eric Swank, associate professor of social work, and Dr. Cynthia Faulkner, assistant professor of social work.

Dr. Bernadette Barton, assistant professor of sociology, received a grant to do research on exotic dancers. Her publications include, “Dancing on the Mobius Strip: Challenging the Sex War Paradigm,” Gender & Society (October 2002), “Sex Activism and Social Change in San Francisco,” Gender, Place, and Children (forthcoming Fall 2003), and “The House on Transcript Avenue,” Lesbian Ex-Lovers (forthcoming 2004).

Dr. Edward Breschel, associate professor of sociology, received a summer grant to conduct a pilot study on “Fall Risk Prevention in the Elderly,” in collaboration with Donna Corley, RN, MSN, coordinator of Associate Degree Nursing Program. Using the functional benefits of the Feldenkrais Method as an intervention they examined its effect on functional improvement, stability, reduction/prevention of falls, reduction of functional impairment, improved quality of life, and health promotion. This pilot study is being conducted at Morehead Housing Authority’s Heritage Place.

Dr. Robert Bylund, professor of sociology, Dr. Rebecca Katz, associate professor of criminology, and Dr. David Rudy, professor of sociology and dean of IRAPP, were commissioned by the Buffalo Trace ASAP Board to conduct a study designed to systematically describe the attitudes, perceptions, and norms of adults with respect to alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. Dr. Katz has also received a sabbatical leave to conduct women’s issues research in the Republic of Georgia for a Civic Education Project Fellowship during the 2003-2004 academic year.

For the past year, Dr. Steven Eliason, assistant professor of sociology, has been working on research dealing with attitudes of wildlife law violators and game wardens in Kentucky. Dr. Eliason is currently collaborating on a research project dealing with wildlife law offenders with Dr. Kevin Hunt in Mississippi. Dr. Eliason has an article published in, “Deviant Behavior: An Interdisciplinary Journal,” a forthcoming article to be published in “Society and Animals,” and is working on a proposal for a book titled, Rural Crime and Law Enforcement: A Reader, that has been requested by an editor at Prentice Hall publishing company.

Dr. Cynthia Faulkner and Dr. Sam Faulkner, assistant professors of social work, are conducting a study and pilot project working with the Cabinet for Families and Children to assess and improve employee moral.

Dr. Christopher Hensley, director of the Institute for Correctional Research & Training, is now the editor of the “American Journal of Criminal Justice” and has also appeared on the Discovery channel for a national documentary on “Love Behind Bars.” Dr. Hensley’s publications include, Sexual Deviance: A Reader, “Characteristics of Prison Sexual Assault Targets in Male Oklahoma Correctional Facilities,” Inmate-to-Inmate Sexual Coercion in a Prison for Women,” “Mentoring in Academe: Models for Facilitating Academic Development,” and “From Animal Cruelty to Serial Murder: Applying the Graduation Hypothesis.”

Dr. Mary-Margaret Just, assistant professor of social work, produced a video CD featuring Morehead and Prestonsburg students, faculty, and administrators discussing the creation and benefits of the BSW program at the Prestonsburg extension center. Dr. Just and Dr. Judith Stafford, associate professor of social work, presented this work at two conferences in 2002-2003. The CD was created with the help of Patrick Hawkins, director of the Science and Technology Multimedia Resource Center. Dr. Just also co-wrote, “Evaluation of a Rape Protocol: A Five-Year Follow-up with Nurse Managers” submitted to the Journal of the American Nurse Practitioners.

Ted A. Marshall, professor of social work and chair of the Department of Sociology, Social Work, & Criminology, was given an award by Governor Paul Patton in recognition of Marshall’s work with Families and Abused Children.

Dr. Clarena Phillips, assistant professor of sociology, has received a prestigious National Institute of Mental Health post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine for a period of one year. Dr. Phillips will conduct research on substance abuse issues among minority communities.
Professional/Academic Recognitions

Lora Leigh Bailey .................................................................UK-MSU Physician Assistant Program
Brittany E. Blankenship .......................................................University of Cincinnati College of Medicine
Lesley Kyle Bow ...............................................................University of Kentucky College of Medicine
Tamela L. Brown .................................................................Graduate School, Biology, Morehead State University
Elizabeth Ashley Cline ..........................................................Shenandoah University School of Pharmacy
Courtney Beth Commella .....................................................UK-MSU Physician Assistant Program
Adam C. Crawford ...............................................................MBA Program, Morehead State University
Jason L. Dean ...............................................................Vetinary School University of Minnesota
Amanda K. Fries .................................................................St. Elizabeth Medical Center School of Medical Technology
Garry F. Garrett .................................................................Graduate School, Physics, University of Cincinnati
John W. Gullett .................................................................University of Louisville School of Medicine
Twana J. Hatton ...............................................................Pikeville College of Osteopathic Medicine
Robert L. Hopkins ............................................................Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University-Environmental Engineering & Environmental Science
Troy L. Hounshell .................................................................University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine, Kansas City, MO
James K. Howard .............................................................University of Louisville School of Dentistry
Pamela J. Howard ..............................................................Ohio State University School of Pharmacy
Stephanie D. Jett ...............................................................Veterinary School, Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine
Christine Dawn Little ..........................................................UK-MSU Physician Assistant Program
Jennifer Ashlee Lykins ..........................................................UK-MSU Physician Assistant Program
Leanne McHenry ...............................................................UK-MSU Physician Assistant Program
Laura E. McKenzie .............................................................Veterinary School, Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine
Travis W. McVey ...............................................................Veterinary School, Auburn College of Veterinary Medicine
Robin M. Mills .................................................................St. Elizabeth Medical Center School of Medical Technology
Michael T. Pass .................................................................Shenandoah University School of Pharmacy
Eric D. Robinson ..............................................................Graduate School, Geology, University of Texas at Austin
Anthony L. Sharp ...............................................................Graduate School, Geoscience, Radford University
Sheila F. Spencer ...............................................................Surgical Physician Assistant School University of Alabama at Birmingham
Hope D. Smith .................................................................University of Kentucky School of Pharmacy
Nashley K. Steele ..............................................................Graduate School, Biology, Morehead State University

Office of the Dean

AMSP/arsi Summer Academy – The Appalachian Mathematics and Science Partnership (AMSP) management team partnered with the Appalachian Regional Systemic Initiative (ARSI) management team to host a three-day (July 14 - 16) Summer Academy in Lexington. The AMSP is a $22.5 million grant funded by NSF and includes nine higher education institutions and 51 public school districts in Eastern Kentucky, Eastern Tennessee, and Western Virginia. The focus of the Summer Academy was the improvement of K-12 pre-service and in-service teacher education programs in mathematics and the sciences within higher education and school district partners. Dr. Gerald DeMoss, dean, Science & Technology and the AMSP PI at MSU, organized and served as moderator for a program on “Math/Science Teacher Education Issues: Recruitment, Induction, and Retention.” Jill Ratliff, director of MSU’s Educational Service Units, Dr. James Cibulka, dean of UK’s College of Education, and Barry Pelfrey, minority recruitment and retention scholarship coordinator for the Kentucky Department of Education, were co-presenters. A panel discussion followed the presentations.

Additionally, several other MSU faculty working on the AMSP project participated in the three-day program. Participants included Dr. Rodger Hammons, chair, Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Dr. Kristin Thompson, assistant professor of mathematics, Dr. Edna Shack, professor of education, and Dr. Joan Whitworth, associate professor of science education.

Space Science Center

Dr. Ben Malphrus, professor of space science, and Dr. Robert Boram, professor of science held a “Physics for Elementary Teachers” workshop at Morehead State University from July 14 - 25. The workshop is sponsored by the Appalachian Mathematics and Science Partnership (AMSP), a $22 million National Science Foundation grant received by a partnership of universities including Morehead State, the University of Kentucky, Eastern Kentucky University and Kentucky State University. Twenty-five teachers from MSU’s service region attended. The workshop was an inquiry-based approach to learning concepts in physics and the teachers were engaged in activities and experiments for six hours each day. The intent of the AMSP project is to improve math and science instruction and performance in the Commonwealth. The “Physics for Elementary Teachers” workshop is a first step toward that goal.
Department of Agricultural & Human Sciences

Dr. Scott Rundell, Dr. Judy Willard, Dr. Adam Kantovich, and Dr. Lane Cowser served as judges in various state FFA contests that were held as part of the Kentucky State FFA Convention on June 11-13 in Louisville. Several students in the Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences were also involved in the activities of the convention. Holly Fields of Maysville, a student in the Agriculture Program at MSU, was elected as a State FFA officer. Randall Riffe of Grayson, finished his term as a State FFA officer. The MSU Collegiate FFA sponsored the Vegetable Production Proficiency Award.

The Fourth Annual Kentucky Junior Livestock Expo-East was held June 16-17 at the Derrickson Agricultural Complex. On the 16th approximately 250 4-H and FFA members were involved in a skill-a-thon contest and various clinics and judging contests. Clinics and contests were held with dairy, goat, swine, sheep, and beef animals, as well as oral reasoning skills. A record number of 534 animals were shown at the Expo-East.

The State FFA Horse Judging Contest was held at the Derrickson Agricultural Complex on July 17. Dr. Judy Willard, coordinator of the MSU Equine Program, worked with various vocational agriculture teachers to conduct this contest. Several FFA teams from across the state participated in this contest as well.

Department of Biological & Environmental Sciences

The Department of Biological & Environmental Sciences was well represented during the spring honors week and at the graduation exercises. The outstanding undergraduate and pre-medical student in biology was John Gullett. John, a graduating biology major from Morehead, was also selected to give the commencement address at the graduation exercises in May. He spoke on the importance of the success of the day—achieving the milestone of completing a college degree. Gullett, a 4.0 student, will attend the University of Louisville’s School of Medicine in the fall. Other student awards were Michael Kenawell, Frankfort, Outstanding Graduate; Leslie Byrd, Olive Hill, Outstanding Pre-Physician Assistant; Robert Hopkins, Wellington, Outstanding Environmental Science; James K. Howard, Salyersville, Outstanding Pre-Dentistry; Hope Smith, Campton, Outstanding Pre-Pharmacy; Melissa K. Hieneman, Greenup, Outstanding Biology Teaching; and Robin Mills, Felicity, OH, Outstanding Medical Technology.

Allen Risk, associate professor of biology, was also recognized by his peers during the honors week as the Outstanding Teacher for 2003 among the MSU faculty. Allen uses an innovative and investigative approach to his teaching of his botany course. This honor continues a long history of outstanding university awards achieved by the department.

Dr. David Magrane, chair, was awarded the Outstanding Faculty Volunteer of the Year for 2003 award given at MSU’s annual Founders Day Luncheon. Magrane has served as the co-chair for the campus giving campaign. He was also selected as one of 13 professors in the United States to review textbooks for McGraw-Hill Publishers for entry-level biology courses. The meeting took place in Huntington Beach, CA.

Dr. Les Meade, professor, a member in the department for 32 years, retired in May. Les Meade is a well-respected field biologist with a specialty in herpetology. He has been a great asset to the department and the University community. Much of his time now will be spent as an environmental consultant.

The department is pleased to announce the hiring of two young faculty who will begin their tenure at MSU this August. Dr. Janelle Hare, who received her Ph.D. from SUNY at Albany, has been hired to teach microbiology. Her specialty is in the genetic rearrangement of pathogenic bacteria. Another new faculty member is Dr. Michael Shaughnessy, who received his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma and has a specialty of mammal distribution patterns and biogeography. Dr. Shaughnessy researches mammal distributions affected by the interactions with other mammals. He uses remote sensing and GIS techniques, and is particularly interested in studying park and refuge system habitats at varying levels of disturbance.

Several faculty have been successful in obtaining grants this past spring: Dr. Brian Reeder and Dr. Geoff Gearner, professors, received a PRIDE (Personal Responsibility In a Desirable Environment) grant totaling $298,938 entitled “The Upper Licking River Watershed: Teaching and Monitoring”. Through East Kentucky PRIDE/National Oceanic and Atmospheric, these scientists will help to improve water quality in eastern Kentucky. Reeder is guiding a program for high school teachers entitled “Reading the River” that will help teachers educate their students about water quality. Gearner is doing his part by using students to monitor the watershed for unwanted microorganisms.

Dr. Brian Reeder and Dr. David Smith were re-funded on the Ashland Landfill Grant for $11,524.78.

Assistant Professors Carol Wymer and David Peyton received an IRAPP grant for $4,958 to study “The Use of DNA Fingerprinting to Determine the Relatedness of Japanese Knotweed (Fallopia japonica) Populations in Eastern Kentucky.”

In May, David Peyton was awarded the KBRIN (Kentucky Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network) faculty collaborative research grant for “Critical Binding Region of HNF-3 Alpha” in the amount of $11,000. Peyton conducted this research in collaboration with research scientists at the University of Kentucky this summer.

Research efforts are continuing on active grants awarded earlier. These include:

- Dr. Darrin DeMoss ($5,000) “Effects of Estrogen and Calcium Channel Blockers on Dry Skeletal Mass.”
- Dr. David Eisenhour ($4,774-IRAPP) “Geographic Variation of Morphology of Kentucky Populations of Red Shinners (Lythrurus umbratilis).”
- Dr. Sean O’Keefe ($4,848-IRAPP) “The Water Beetles of Eastern Kentucky.”
- Dr. Cynthia Trombino ($4,899-IRAPP) “Nesting and Foraging Requirements of the Appalachian Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.”

Several presentations were made in the spring by members of Biological and Environmental Sciences and their students. Scott Stuble of Louisville, a junior biology major under the direction of Dr. Peyton, presented “Regulation of the AFP Promoter by the HNF-3 DNA-binding Domain” at the Posters at the Capital meeting in Frankfort.

Tina Howard-Ousley of Salyersville, a Biology graduate student, and Dr. Geoff Gearner presented a paper entitled “Assessment of Antibiotic Resistance in Fecal Coliform Bacteria in the Triplett Creek Watershed,” Rowan County, Kentucky at the 103rd general meeting of the American Society of Microbiology in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Gearner also gave a paper entitled “Incorporating an Internet Project-Based
Learning Activity into the Undergraduate Microbiology Course” at the American Society of Microbiology’s 10th Undergraduate Microbiology Education Conference, College Park, Maryland.

**Dr. David Saxon**, with Dr. Magrane, published data on the “Protective effects of 17-estradiol and 4-hydroxytamoxifen on reactive oxygen species-mediate DNA damage” in *The FASEB Journal*.

In a new program called “Letters from Home,” students accepted into medical schools are invited to a banquet hosted by the Northeast AHEC and St. Claire Regional Medical Center in association with MSU. The intent of this program is to maintain contact with these students during their years of study with the hope that upon graduation from medical school, these new doctors will return to the area and practice medicine. In his role as pre-medical advisor, Dr. Saxon was the liaison with AHEC and St. Claire. Saxon was also a participant in the Professors in the Schools Program in the spring when he collaborated at Menifee County High School.

**Department of Industrial Education & Technology**

**Dr. Ahmad Zargari**, chair, taught in the Governor’s Scholars Program (GSP) of Kentucky this summer. The GSP is a five-week residential summer program for outstanding Kentucky students completing their junior year in high school. The program strives to enhance Kentucky’s next generation of civic and economic leaders and to create models of educational excellence for teachers and students alike. Dedicated faculty, drawn competitively from Kentucky colleges, universities and high schools, interact with GSP scholars during weekends and evenings, as well as in class by forming a family-type community that creates lasting bonds. Dr. Zargari served his second year as faculty for the GSP and will be teaching courses relating to technology, engineering, and current issues.

The department would like to congratulate **Dennis Karwatka** and **Edward Nass** for being granted emeritus status at Morehead State University upon their retirement during the summer of 2003. Karwatka and Nass will both return to teach part-time in technology courses in manufacturing and graphics this fall. Both faculty members have spent many years (Nass – 40 years and Karwatka – 33 years) at Morehead State University and have contributed to the department’s success. Their tremendous experience and their dedication is a tremendous asset to students.

The Kentucky Manufacturing Assistance Center (KMAC) is working in conjunction with the Department of Industrial Education and Technology to offer seminars on Lean Simulation, Value Stream Mapping, and Workplace Organization on Morehead State University’s campus this fall. The Lean Simulation Overview will cover the principles and techniques of lean manufacturing and continuous improvement. These processes assist manufacturers in waste elimination and increased productivity. Value Stream Mapping is a tool that can be used to map a company’s current state, analyze and find non-value-added activities, and draw a future state map that eliminates waste. The Visual Workplace Organization, or SS System, is a series of activities designed to improve workplace organization and standardization with a focus on communication, organization, efficiency, and productivity. KMAC offers seminars and workshops aimed at helping small manufacturing companies in Kentucky to increase competitiveness, reduce costs, and improve profit margins. KMAC also encourages faculty and graduate students to participate at no cost. Earlier in the year, IET entered into a collaborative arrangement with KMAC and currently hosts Jerry Duncan, director of operations for KMAC and IET Advisory Board member, on campus in order to enhance existing relations between the two organizations and assist each other in meeting some of the goals they share. Mark Henry, KMAC marketing coordinator, has worked very closely with IET to prepare for the fall seminars which could bring as many as 30 industrial managers and leaders to visit MSU’s campus.

The IET Advisory Board includes a group of area business and industry professionals who advise and guide the department. They provide feedback on current technologies which can improve instruction and the employability of our graduates. The board had its most recent semi-annual meeting on March 21 in the Lloyd Cassity Building. Dr. Gerald DeMoss, dean, spoke to the group about future possibilities for IET, including an online Master’s program and Ph.D. Consortium membership. Vic Venetotozzi of Groupe Schneider was elected Chair of the Board, and **George Harperink** of Mazak Corporation of Florence, Kentucky, was elected Vice Chair. The Board’s discussion primarily centered on the current economic crunch, how it will affect local industry, and how IET can help.

For the summer of 2003, IET was awarded a $50,000 grant from TECH PREP. The TECH PREP program, directed by **Dr. Ahmed Sabie**, executive assistant to the commissioner in the Department of Technical Education, is intended to encourage technology education in Kentucky. The funds were awarded to IET with its mission of providing professional and technical skills to area technology teachers. More than twenty teachers from MSU’s service region participated in workshops this year.

The IET department welcomes **Dr. Rachmawati Wangsaputra** as a new faculty member. She will be teaching courses in the manufacturing/robotics option. Dr. Wangsaputra has a MS in Mechanical Engineering and a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from New Mexico State University. She has written papers on detection of tool collision and gouging, dynamics simulation, and adaptive resonance theory. Some of her professional interests include computer aided manufacturing, artificial intelligence for manufacturing systems, and industrial automation. Originally from Indonesia, Dr. Wangsaputra earned her undergraduate degree at the Institut Teknologi Bandung where she studied the kanban system of production. IET is pleased to welcome her to the department and to the MSU community.

**Department of Mathematics & Computer Science**

Three MSU Mathematics graduates received their Ph.D. degrees this year. This fact speaks highly of our undergraduate program in mathematics.

**Michele DePoy Smith**, of Allen, (“94) received her Ph.D. degree in statistics from UK in August.

**Greg Hicks**, of Webbville, (“98) received his Ph.D. degree from North Carolina State University in applied mathematics. He has accepted a post-doctoral position at Kirkland Air Force Base.

**Brian Lewis**, of LaVerne, OH, (“98) has received his Ph.D. degree from North Carolina State University in applied mathematics. He has accepted a position at the Lincoln Laboratory in the Ballistics Laboratory at MIT.

**Dr. Dora Ahmadi**, associate professor, taught mathematics as part of the Governor’s
Scholars Program at Centre College this summer.

Dr. Kris Thompson, assistant professor, Dr. Vivian Cyrus, associate professor, and Dr. Rodger Hammons, chair, are participating in The Appalachian Mathematics and Science Partnership (AMSP) and The Appalachian Rural Systemic Initiative (ARSI) grant opportunities.

Dr. Kris Thompson and Dr. Edna Schack presented “Preservice Mathematics for Elementary Teachers: Course Revision” at the AMSP & ARSI Summer Academy held in Lexington on July 15.

The name of the Department of Mathematical Sciences has been changed to the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science to better reflect the incorporation of the new Computer Science program which was recently implemented.

**Department of Physical Sciences**

Charles E. Mason along with Dr. David Work published an article in the Journal of Paleontology titled Mississippian (middle Osagean) ammonoids from the Nada Member of the Borden Formation, Kentucky.

Mason also organized and led a geological field trip on the Morehead and Cave Run Lake area with Drs. Tom Lierman and Steve Reid for the first ever reunion for the Geology alumni. Twenty-seven people attended the trip.

Mason and Dr. Tom Lierman, from EKU, organized and taught a travel study class, the Geology of Newfoundland and Labrador, for upper division geology majors. Thirteen students from Morehead and EKU attended the two and a half week class. They visited many classic and spectacular geological sites such as the oldest known multicellular animals site (being proposed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site) in the Avalon Peninsula of Newfoundland, an ophiolite sequence (cross-section of oceanic crust) found in Gros Morne National Park of Newfoundland, and the 540 million year old Archaeocyathid reef site in southern Labrador. They were joined by geologists from the Newfoundland Geological Survey and National Park Service. Other sites visited were the Bay of Funday National Park in New Brunswick (where they observed a fifty foot tidal fluctuation), Acadia National Park in Maine, and the world famous Sideling Hill Geological site along US 40 in Maryland. The students were able to collect numerous first hand experiences, specimens, and photographs which will greatly enhance their knowledge and understanding of geology.

Dr. Robert Boram taught two courses for Kentucky teachers in Costa Rica as part of the Kentucky Institute for International Studies (KIIS). He received a grant to develop and teach an online integrated math and science course for middle school teachers using a project-based approach. Other faculty in this project are Dr. Dan Seth in mathematics and Dr. Karen Lafferty in elementary education.

Dr. Mark Blankenbuehler received a $21,592 grant from the KY NSF EPSCoR for his proposal titled “Synthesis of Cyclopentadienyl Complexes and Pyridazines.”

Another EPSCoR grant for $24,897 was awarded to Dr. Kent Price entitled “Study of Electroluminescence and Stability of CdTe Solar Cells.”

Drs. Ignacio and Jennifer Birriel held a Teacher Workshop on Stellar Astrophysics for high school physics teachers, June 11-13. Eric Thomas and Ray Shubinski (assistant director and director, respectively) of the East KY Science Center were also instructors for the workshop. Participants from across the state learned about the physics of the stars and the use of telescopes to observe the stars during the three day workshop held at the Morehead State University campus. The workshop was jointly funded by both the Kentucky Space Grant Consortium (KSGC) and Morehead State University.

Drs. Ignacio and Jennifer Birriel have received additional KSGC funding for a Solar Astrophysics workshop for middle and high school teachers. This latest workshop is also a collaborative effort between the Birriels, Eric Thomas and Ray Shubinski. The workshop was held June 2004, at the East Kentucky Science Center in Prestonsburg. Participants spent three days learning about the physics of the Sun and the interactions between the Sun and the Earth’s environments.

**COMING IN 2004: SPACE TRACKING SYSTEM**

**Space Science Center**

Supporting world class research in radio frequency astrophysics and satellite telecommunications.

Thanks to our partners in this $3 million project:

- EPSCoR
- Kentucky Science Educational Foundation
- Kentucky Transportation Cabinet
- NASA National Science Foundation
- U.S. Small Business Administration