Health insurance issue OK for now; may be studied

By President Ronald G. Eaglin

With the 2002 session of the General Assembly into its final month, the latest news on employee health insurance is that it appears that our faculty and staff members will not be forced into state government’s group health insurance coverage, at least in the next year or so, if at all.

However, it is almost a certainty that the legislature will order a study of the issue and revisit it in the 2003 session. A bill to authorize the study is being supported by the regional universities, cities and counties, none of whom currently have active employees in the state plan. Like us, these other public employers feel strongly that most of their employees get better coverage in a more cost-effective manner under our own group health insurance plans.

At issue is the cost of supplementing the medical benefits of nearly 6,000 university, city and county retirees who, by law, go into the state plan when they leave active service. Although the universities received most of the attention in initial discussions and statewide news coverage, less than 400 of those retirees actually worked at our institutions under coverage of the Kentucky Employees Retirement (KERS) or Kentucky Teachers Retirement System (KTRS).

I am proud of the fact that this institution was a catalyst in getting the universities, the state personnel cabinet and the two retirement systems to the negotiating table on this issue. State Personnel Secretary Carol Palmore has been very complimentary of the willingness of the universities to help find a reasonable solution for all parties.

The matter is complicated by the involvement of several entities and the pressure exerted by certain outside influences who claim active state employees are subsidizing the costs of these other retirees in the state health plan.

Interestingly, our figures show that the two retirement systems collect more than enough from our active employees and institutions to pay health insurance costs for the retirees and their dependents.

As for the primary issue, we have public assurances from the state personnel cabinet that no group will be forced into the state plan. The attempt to solve all of the related issues in this legislative session ended, however, when agreement could not be reached on how the additional costs for retirees would be calculated and then assessed to the public employers affected. Sharing those costs will be the focus of the study we believe will be ordered by the General Assembly.

The best news is that we apparently will be allowed to continue to maintain our own health insurance plan for active employees, hopefully for as long as we can afford to do so.
Space Science Student Wins Research Award

Christopher Young, Pike County senior majoring in computer information systems, was recently awarded the Kentucky Academy of Science Undergraduate Research Competition Award in Physics for his work at the Morehead State University Astrophysics Laboratory.

The award was made based on work presented at the joint meeting of the Kentucky Academy of Science and the Tennessee Academy of Science at Middle Tennessee State last November.

His research project focused on the development of pointing and tracking algorithms for the Morehead Radio Telescope culminating in the development of the MRT Operator Program version 7.0.

Malphrus wins award

Dr. Benjamin Malphrus, professor of science, won the governor’s 2002 Science and Engineering Award for his work at MSU and NASA in satellite telemetry and radio frequency astrophysics. The award carries with it a $120,000 grant to establish a Radio Frequency Research Laboratory at Morehead State Space Science Center.

Chemistry to add NMR Spectrometer

Physical Sciences will receive a new, 90 MHz, Fourier Transform nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer in June 2002. Dr. Mark Blankenbuehler, assistant professor of chemistry, and co-investigators Dr. Richard Hunt, Dr. Ann Macintosh, Dr. Wade Cain, and Dr. Herb Hedgecock received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Course Curriculum and Laboratory Improvement grant for $53,757 and matching funds from MSU Research Grants and Contracts to purchase the new instrument.

The new NMR will affect a range of chemistry courses, such as Survey of Organic, Analytical, and Inorganic Chemistry. Students at all stages of their academic careers with majors primarily in nursing, agriculture, biology, and chemistry will have the opportunity to use the instrument.

Students from Maysville and Prestonsburg Community colleges will also have an opportunity to come to MSU and participate in joint experiments with MSU students. NMR is an essential tool for chemical analysis, and the new equipment will allow students to obtain hands-on experience with current NMR techniques, including 2-dimensional NMR and magnetic susceptibility experiments.

The instrument will also provide experience with the basic scientific principles behind Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Faculty and student research projects will benefit from enhanced capabilities of the new instrument, which allows analysis of nuclei, including carbon, in addition to hydrogen analysis.

One such application is the study of the structure of small organics as potential pharmaceuticals.
Department Reports...

Agricultural & Human Sciences

• Five faculty in the department are involved in the Professors in Schools program. The faculty involved and the participating schools include: Dr. Brent Rogers at Montgomery County High School, Dr. Phil Prater at Bath County High School, Jane Ellington at Bath County High School, Dr. Charles Baker-Clark at Fleming County High School, and Barbara Lewis at Rowan County High School with Melissa Marcum & Amy Turner.

• The department participated in the Kentucky Opportunity Marketplace: Increasing Agricultural Profitability Conference hosted by the governor’s Office of Agricultural Policy in Frankfort on Jan. 29-30. Eddie Lundergan, Dr. Donald Applegate, Dr. Phil Prater, and Mike Petitt manned an exhibit to showcase MSU activities and projects that have been funded by local and state agricultural development boards. Some of the projects include beef genetics, meat and dairy goats, horticultural projects, and shrimp production.

• Eddie Lundergan, Bobby Lecompt and four students in the department participated in the Kentucky Beef Expo in Louisville on March 1-3, 2002.

• The Derrickson Agricultural Complex is preparing 10 bulls for sale in the Grass Time Partners Sale to be held April 15, 2002. Several cattle breeders have a joint effort to present this auction in response to the increased emphasis that has been placed on beef genetics in the state.

• Dr. Don Applegate continues to maintain an aggressive outreach program related to his research on meat goats and his work on the foot and mouth disease eradication program in England. In the past few months, he made six presentations on meat goat production and marketing in Kentucky, Ohio and at the International Boer Goat Association.

• Dr. Lane Cowsert is currently serving on the board of directors of the American Association of State Colleges of Agriculture and Renewable Resources.

• Dr. Charles Baker-Clark has been selected to teach a course on psychology of self at the 2002 Governors Scholars’ Program.

Freshwater shrimp laboratory constructed

In response to a growing interest in freshwater shrimp production, the department constructed a pond in Fall 2001 that will be used this summer for producing shrimp and as a teaching laboratory. The department will be working with Kentucky State University and local prospective shrimp growers to determine the best production and marketing practices. The collaborative effort with researchers from KSU seeks to help producers in east Kentucky who may have an interest in raising and marketing shrimp as an alternative to tobacco.

Biological & Environmental Sciences

• Dr. Darrin DeMoss, assistant professor, has continued his active research effort from his EPSCoR Grant entitled “Does Estrogen Decrease Bone Reabsorption?” This grant was supplemented from an additional award of $8,500 from EPSCoR.

• Dr. David Eisenhour, assistant professor, presented a paper with two graduate students titled “Fish Community Structure of Morehead Ranger District, Daniel Boone National Forest, Kentucky.”

Ag alumnus wins Florida award

Lisa Smith Bynum, 1991 agricultural sciences graduate, was named the 2001 Florida Agriculture Science Teacher of the Year and finished second in a national competition of agriculture teachers.
at the November meeting of the Kentucky and Tennessee academies of science in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

• Dr. Geoff Gearner, associate professor, presented a paper at the academies of science meeting on “The Occurrence of Antibiotic-Resistant Coliform Bacteria in the Triplett Creek Watershed, Rowan County, Kentucky.” Two undergraduate biology majors, Nicki Williams and Tina Ousley, were coauthors on this paper.

• Dr. Les Meade, professor, had two articles recently accepted for spring 2002 publication in the Journal of Kentucky Academy of Science and in Herpetological Review.

• Dr. Sean O’Keefe, assistant professor, received a faculty research grant of $4,931 to “Catalog the Water Beetles of Kentucky.”

• Dr. David Peyton, assistant professor, presented at the KAS/TAS meetings an article on the “Activity of the Minimal Enhancer Region of AFP Enhancer Element III during F9 Cell Differentiation.” He has also received a MSU faculty research grant for $4,782 to study the “Regulation of the AFP Promoter.”

• Dr. Brian Reeder, professor, recently received two grants from the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, totaling about $115,000, and also received a $4,912 grant from the MSU to study “Effects of Vascular Vegetation on Wetland Pond Algae.” Dr. Reeder also had research published in Aquatic Ecosystem Health and Management, North American Journal of Fisheries Management, and Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet, Division of Water, Final Report.

• Dr. Allen Risk, associate professor, directed two undergraduate students in research that resulted in a presentation by the students at the KAS/TAS meetings in November. Their presentation was entitled “Liverworts and Hornworts of Blanton Forest, Kentucky’s Largest Old Forest.”

• Dr. Cynthia Trombino, assistant professor, was invited to attend the Appalachian Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Working Group Meeting, held in February at the North Carolina Arboretum in Asheville, NC. Dr. Trombino also received a faculty research grant for $4,998 to perform research on “Effects of Forest Management and Fragmentation on New Tropical Migrant Bird Populations of Eastern Kentucky.”

• Dr. Craig Tuerk, associate professor, and graduate student Sean Thatcher presented a paper at the KAS/TAS meetings titled “Effects of Butyrate and Exercise on Glucose Uptake in Skeletal Muscle.”

NAIT schedules accreditation visit

The National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT) confers the premier academic accreditation in the field of industrial technology. MSU’s IET department received its first accreditation in 1998 and is preparing for another NAIT visit on April 14-16. NAIT team members will talk to students, review alumni surveys, and evaluate programs and course requirements. NAIT teams make detailed investigations of specific classes including textbooks, syllabi, tests, and examples of student work. An accreditation by the organization is a significant acknowledgment of academic and technical success. Students graduating from NAIT accredited programs can be automatically endorsed as certified industrial technologists.
The department’s Master of Science in Industrial Technology Program is offering its first online course during the Spring 2002 Semester. IET 698: Research Methods in Technology, is offered by Dr. Ahmad Zargari via The Kentucky Virtual University System.

The Lexington chapter of The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) awarded the Ed Wilson Memorial Scholarship to two IET students for their hard work and dedication to the SME organization: Kyle Seibert from Bethel, Ohio, an Industrial Technology Electrical/Electronics student, and James Johnson from Clearfield, an Industrial Technology Manufacturing/Robotics student.

**Research Grant**

Drs. William Grise and Charles Patrick received a $4,800 faculty research grant from MSU’s Research and Creative Productions Committee. The project title is “Improving the Non-Imaging Concentrator and Fiber Optic Interface.” This research effort will build on aspects of their previously funded project which was partially funded by the National Science Foundation.

The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education has approved a new area of concentration in computer science, which will replace the existing area of concentration in mathematics and computing. The new program in CS uses existing courses from the departments of Mathematical Sciences, Computer Information Systems, Physical Sciences, and Industrial Education & Technology. In addition, six new CS courses were created within the department for the program in the areas of algorithms and advanced data structures, theory of programming languages, software engineering, operating systems, parallel and scientific programming, and computer graphics. The department is currently enrolling interested students in this new program.

**Nursing & Allied Health Sciences**

- Dr. Cyrus Whaley, department chair, has been named to the Peer Review Committee for the 2003 Allied Health Projects Awards administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Bureau of Health Professions. The review process will identify the 2003 grant awards for projects in the allied health professions.
- Shannon Harr, student services officer, will represent the department as a member of the Big Sandy Health Careers Alliance. The Alliance will meet in May 2002 to initiate a recruitment effort aimed at middle school students.
- Mattie Burton, associate professor of nursing, had a poster accepted for presentation at the 36th Biennial Convention of Sigma Theta Tau International, a nursing honor society. The juried poster presentation was titled “A Model for Retention: The Regional Collaborative Nurse Residency Program.”
- Barbara Dehner, coordinator of the radiologic technology program, has been reappointed as a site visitor for the Joint Review Committee on Education in Radiologic Technology. The committee is the official accrediting agency for RT programs.

**Mathematical Sciences**

- Dr. Dora Ahmadi, associate professor of mathematics, has been selected to teach at the 2002 Governors Scholars’ Program. She has also been reappointed by the Mathematical Association of America to the Committee on Undergraduate Programs in Mathematics.

- The first bachelor of science degrees in radiologic sciences will be conferred to nineteen students at the May 2002 commencement ceremonies. Graduates will have completed the fourth year component of the radiologic sciences curriculum in sonography or computed tomography.

  Graduates will qualify to obtain certification in their chosen advanced, medical imaging modalities.

Radiologic sciences students have state-of-the-art lab equipment.
OPPS teaches basic science to teachers

The only Kentucky team for Operation Primary Physical Science (OPPS) is based in the MSU Department of Physical Sciences. For the last five years, Dr. Robert Boram, Dr. Ronald Fiel, and Jeanetta Stacy, first grade teacher at Rodburn Elementary School, have been field-testing and conducting OPPS workshops to teach basic science principles to elementary school teachers.

As part of the OPPS evaluation process, independent evaluators have attended several of the OPPS workshops conducted by the Kentucky Team, which has received some of the top evaluations out of the 34 OPPS teams across the nation.

Workshops focus on helping teachers conceptualize basic principles to improve their teaching.

The National Science Foundation funded development of OPPS. In the past three years, over $20,000 has been granted to MSU to conduct field testing of OPPS modules.

• Faculty involved in the Professors-in-the-Schools Fellowship Program include Dr. Robert Boram, Dr. Wade Cain, Dr. Antonino Carnevali, Dr. Ron Fiel, Dr. Herb Hedgecock, Dr. Richard Hunt, and Dr. Charlie Mason.

Psychology

Faculty accomplishments

• Dr. Charles Morgan, professor, presented a paper titled “Demographic Variables and Performance on the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology” at the annual meeting of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), Quebec City, Quebec. Dr. Morgan was also awarded the Certificate of Professional Qualification in Psychology from ASPPB.

• Dr. Michael Cortese, assistant professor, recently had two research articles published in refereed journals: “Memory for the infrequent in young, old, and early stage Alzheimer’s disease: Evidence for two processes in episodic recognition performance,” in the Journal of Memory and Language, and “Subjective frequency estimates for 2,906 words,” published in Memory & Cognition.

• Dr. Laurie Couch, assistant professor, published a book chapter titled, “The Trust Inventory,” which appeared in, A Handbook of Psychological Tests by Maltby, Lewis, & Hill (Eds.).

• Dr. Dale Dickson, assistant professor, had several books and book chapters published:

Psychology students receive honors in research paper competition

Psychology students took top honors in a research paper competition conducted at the joint meeting of the Kentucky and Tennessee academies of science.

First place in the undergraduate psychology competition went to MSU sophomore David Charles of Ashland, who presented a paper titled, “Extinction during withdrawal does not attenuate the persistence of behavioral sensitization to cocaine.” His paper was based upon research funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, which he conducted under the direction of Dr. Bruce Mattingly, chair of the psychology department.

In the graduate student paper competition, MSU students took home the top three Griffith Memorial Research Awards. First place went to Yu Liu of Beijing, China, for her paper titled, “Dopamine D3 receptor function and behavioral sensitization to cocaine.” The research was conducted in Dr. Mattingly’s laboratory.

Second place honors went to Paula Pryor-Long of Columbia, Mo., and Lorilea Stegall of Sandy Hook, who presented a paper titled, “The influence of attachment style on remembering past betrayal experiences.” Their research was conducted under the direction of Dr. Laurie Couch, assistant professor.

Third place was presented to Angela Duke of Owensboro for her paper titled, “GABA-A/alpha1 receptor site involvement in the hyperphagic effect of benzodiazepine administration in squirrel monkeys.” This research was conducted at the New England Regional Primate Research Center of Harvard University under the direction of MSU alumnus Dr. James K. Rowlett, a former student of Dr. Mattingly’s.

Ms. Duke served as a research intern at the center during the summer of 2001.
professor, was elected as chair of the psychology section of the Kentucky Academy of Sciences for 2002.

• Dr. Lynn Haller, associate professor, and Dr. Brian Reeder, professor of biology, had a research paper titled, “My computer feels like a rock, it just sits there: Children’s production of metaphor,” accepted for presentation at the 15th Biennial Conference on Human Development, Charlotte, NC.

• Dr. Shari Kidwell, assistant professor, had a paper titled, “Children’s emotional experience and adjustment: An attachment perspective,” accepted for presentation at the meetings of the 15th Biennial Conference on Human Development, Charlotte, NC.

• Dr. Bruce Mattingly, professor and chair, along with students and colleagues published two research articles, one abstract, and presented five research papers during the Fall semester. Research for the papers, related to his research on the behavioral and neurochemical consequences of chronic psychostimulant abuse, was funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

• Dr. David Olson, associate professor, and four students presented three research papers at the joint meeting of the Tennessee and Kentucky academies of science, the Kentucky Psychological Association meeting, and at the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association. Dr. Olson was also elected as secretary of the psychology section of the Kentucky Academy of Science for 2002.

• Dr. Ilsun White, associate professor, recently published a research article titled, “Neuronal activity in dorsomedial prefrontal cortex and prefrontal cortex reflecting in location of conditional visual instructions in monkeys” in the journal, Experimental Brain Research.

• Dr. Wesley White, associate professor, recently had a research manuscript titled “Withdrawal and recovery rapidly develop during periodic amphetamine administration as indicated by continuously monitored locomotor activity of rats,” accepted for publication in the journal Psychopharmacology.

Science & Technology students participate in Posters-at-the-Capitol

Three psychology students and one pre-veterinarian medicine student were among 54 undergraduates from the state regional institutions who presented posters of their faculty-sponsored research at the Posters-at-the-Capitol event on Jan. 10 prior to Governor Patton’s State-of-the-Commonwealth address. The event showcases research of undergraduate students to legislators and emphasizes the educational importance of funding undergraduate research at the regional institutions.

• David Charles, psychology sophomore from Ashland, presented a poster titled, “Factors Affecting The Persistence of Behavioral Sensitization to Cocaine,” based on his research with Dr. Bruce Mattingly.

• Brian Foudray, psychology senior from Flemingsburg, presented a poster titled, “Depressive Personality Styles and Coping Strategies,” based on research conducted under the supervision of Dr. David Olson.

• William T. McVey, pre-veterinarian medicine senior from Mt. Sterling, presented a poster titled, “Effects of Melengestrol Acetate on Estrous Synchronization in Goats,” based on research conducted under the supervision of Dr. Phillip Prater.

• Melissa Whitaker, psychology senior from Morehead, presented a poster titled, “Behavioral sensitization to Cocaine and Dopamine D3 Receptors,” based on research conducted with Dr. Mattingly.

• Dr. Ilsun White, associate professor, recently published a research article titled, “Neuronal activity in dorsomedial prefrontal cortex and prefrontal cortex reflecting in location of conditional visual instructions in monkeys” in the journal, Experimental Brain Research.

Spring Gala theme is Wizards, Wands & Wonders

This year’s Spring Gala has the theme of A Magical Night of Wizards, Wands & Wonders. Attractions will include a castle and mystical forest, the traditional silent auction, and a variety of entertainment. The Gala is schedule for April 27, with a reception at 6 p.m. and dinner at 6:30 p.m.

Ticket prices are $1,500 per table for corporate sponsors reserving tables for eight, and $125 for single patron tickets. Individuals who do not wish to attend the reception and dinner can purchase tickets for $50 each, which includes a light buffet and reception at 7 p.m.

Since its inception, the annual Spring Gala, organized by MSU First Lady Bonnie Eaglin, has raised more than $500,000 for academic programs at the University. Proceeds for this year’s gala will be eligible for state matching funds.
Family Dollar partnership established

The College of Business has established a partnership with the Family Dollar Distribution Center in Rowan County to deliver a series of management and leadership training programs.

The programs, titled “Learning to Lead,” are a part of the Achieve Global training system, which provides a foundation of one-on-one interpersonal skills, plus the enhanced skills that support team initiatives, quality improvements, and process improvement efforts. The program will provide the employees of Family Dollar with the skills required to help create a collaborative work environment where decision-making is shared by employees and managers and where every person needs to take initiative.

This program, which began in November 2001, will take about two years to complete and will involve a total of 45 managers at the local distribution center.

The College of Business is actively seeking other partnerships with organizations within the MSU service region that may benefit from this type of training. The goal is to secure two additional partnerships within the next year.

College of Business wireless lab hosts leadership planning session

Prior to this session, the EKLN students participated in a conference where an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis was performed on their respective communities. From the analysis, 19 critical issues were identified. Using the Group Systems collaborative software, the students then decided which five issues are most critical to east Kentucky and discussed strategies for addressing these issues.

The resulting “Strategic Plan for East Kentucky” will be presented to attendees at the East Kentucky Leadership Conference in April, including the governor and key leaders from east Kentucky.

According to Dr. Hunt, this technology has already been used as a rich venue in both the colleges of Education and Business for strategic planning, curriculum development, program assessment, electronic focus group sessions, pre-service teacher training, and Web survey development. Other electronic brainstorming agendas are planned for future site-based council meetings in Rowan County.

Landrum participates in Magellan Exchange Program

Dr. Nancy Landrum, assistant professor of management, spent two weeks in Finland during December 2001 where she taught organizational behavior to students at Rovaniemi Polytechnic University as part of the Magellan Exchange Program sponsored by Cultural Exchange Network. The program involves 12 American and seven European universities and seeks to promote cultural awareness among students and faculty.

Established in 1996, RPU is the European Union’s norther-
Students finish in top 10 in national competition

A group of seniors in the College of Business finished 10th in a national business competition in a field of more than 1,500 teams in the Capstone Business Competition in December 2001.

Students in Strategic Management and Industry Analysis classes, taught by assistant professor of management George Tanner, were given complete decision-making responsibility for a $100 million firm. They planned the firm’s management and growth over an eight-year business cycle. Each team of students made executive-level decisions regarding manufacturing capacity, research and development, marketing and product placement, finance, human resources, labor negotiations, and total quality management. Corporate performance was evaluated on the basis of stock price, profitability, return on equity, assets, and sales.

The top performing MSU team, the Andrews Corporation, was managed by Annette Crawford, Rebecca Greenhill, Josh McClearn, Melissa Roberts, Stacy Willoughby, and Joy Wilson. This company increased its stock price from $38 per share to over $337 over the eight-year cycle — far exceeding the average annual growth of firms listed on the New York Stock Exchange or the NASDAQ.

Crawford, who served as CEO of the simulated company, attributed the firm’s outstanding performance to “a positive corporate culture that led to solid teamwork, a commitment to high quality manufacturing that gave the firm a competitive advantage through cost leadership, and an entrepreneurial leadership style that encouraged innovation and risk taking.”

All five of Tanner’s student-managed companies were ranked in the top 25 percent of competitors. “I am very pleased with the results posted by all of my students. Their efforts and outcomes demonstrated a commitment to excellence and a thorough understanding of business strategy. I expect these students to be high quality performers as they enter the business world,” Tanner said.

Small Business Development Center hosts Big Sandy Women’s Symposium

The Big Sandy Women’s Business Symposium is a forum for existing and prospective businesswomen to network, share ideas, and develop entrepreneurial skills. The annual event is sponsored by MSU’s East Kentucky Small Business Development Center, the Floyd County Chamber of Commerce, and the Floyd County Extension Service.

This year’s symposium was held at Jenny Wiley State Resort Park on Feb. 26. About 75 women attended the event. Keynote speakers were Dr. Mary Pauline Fox and Janet Stumbo.

Dr. Fox, a retired health educator, entertained the audience with her mountain humor and experiences as a female physician in a world dominated by males.

Dr. Fox was selected as one of Pike County’s 100 most significant people and is a popular motivational speaker at schools, civic organizations, church groups, and medical societies.

Stumbo, a Kentucky Supreme Court Justice, encouraged those in attendance to take chances and strive for their goals in life even if it meant making sacrifices. She provided them with a glimpse into her life complete with career achievements, family, and husband. In 1993 Justice Stumbo, an MSU graduate, became the first woman elected to the Supreme Court of Kentucky, without first having been appointed, and was re-elected to a full eight-year term in 1996.

Carol Hatfield, an SBA Business Development Specialist in Louisville, presented a program on small business loans for women entrepreneurs. Becky Naugle, Kentucky SBDC State Director, introduced various business opportunities that are proven to be successful for women and discussed the concept of grants.
Class project helps CKBC

Undergraduate students in the Market Research and Analysis course, taught by Dr. Stacy Vollmers, assistant professor of marketing, are conducting a research project for the Central Kentucky Blood Center (CKBC).

The project will provide CKBC with relevant “donor” information. CKBC is a non-profit community blood center providing blood and blood products to 70 hospitals and clinics in 56 central and east Kentucky counties.

The primary objective of the course is “to teach students the terminologies and concepts of marketing research and to provide them with the skills necessary to conduct market research projects,” Vollmers said.

Students learn how to administer surveys, input data, and analyze results. Also, they gain first-hand experience by working with organizations.

Information Systems faculty report

Recent Information Systems faculty publications and research include the following:


- G. Edward Harris, Impact of the Western Governors University on Distance Education, has been accepted for presentation at the 6th World Multiconference on Systemics, Cybernetics and Informatics (SCI 2002) to be held in Orlando, USA, in July 14-18, 2002.


Department Reports...

Art

Emma Perkins, associate professor of art, and Ginger Tyree, elementary music teacher, will coordinate the “Bath County Elementary School Art Ala Carte Day” on March 22. MSU art students will present the “Elements of Art and Principles of Design” in mini lessons to elementary students throughout the day long event.

The department will be hosting a Spring Mini Conference for the Kentucky Art Education Association on May 18. The title is “Spring Into Art,” and workshops will include African Myths and Stories, Handmade Journals, the Marco Polo Internet Based Humanities Training, and Writing Across the Humanities in Middle School.

- Gary Mesa-Gaido, associate professor of Art, has been awarded an Al Smith Fellowship of $7,500 for Mixed Media 3-D through the Individual Artist Program of the Kentucky Arts Council. The award selections were based on the quality of the artist’s work and professional commitment.

- Joy Gritton, assistant professor of art, Jennifer Reis, gallery director, and Stephen Laboueff, adjunct instructor of art, will be jurying the “Lexington Art League Summer Open 2002 Exhibition” in May.

- Dixon Ferrell, associate professor of art, is exhibiting work in the “Gate City Fine Arts Guild Annual Exhibit” in Mount Sterling through March 30. The exhibit is in the Montgomery County Council for the Arts Gallery.

- Greg Penner, adjunct professor of art, is exhibiting his artwork this month in the annual “Waterfront Exhibition” hosted by the Louisville Visual Arts.

Communication & Theatre

The MSU Ad Club will be sponsoring the “First Annual Statewide Collegiate Advertising Competition” on April 26. All major 2-year and 4-year colleges and universities in Kentucky have been invited.

The competition will include the following categories: overall/complete media campaign, magazine advertising, billboard design, newspaper advertising, television commercial, radio commercial, direct mailer, and web advertising.

The department is sponsoring a contest for high school students in the region in the following areas: acting, news writing, photography, poster design, public speaking, and video production.

Steve Kazee, a senior majoring in theatre, is a finalist for a place in the MFA Program at NYU for the Fall Semester.

More than 250 students auditioned in Chicago, and only three of those will go to New York to finish the audition process.

The MSU Speech Team won second place overall (large team division) in the Kentucky State Speech Tournament held at Northern Kentucky University.

Jessica McCarty won the state championship in rhetorical criticism, and Steve Black was named the ninth best overall speaker in the State of Kentucky.

Several other students placed high in the competition. The MSU Speech Team will next compete at the Central Forensic Association Tournament in Ocean City, Md.

Breckinridge Hall will be rededicated on Founders Day, April 4, and the faculty of the department has begun moving back into the building.

College sponsors grant writing workshop

The Caudill College of Humanities and Office of Research, Grants & Contracts recently co-sponsored a two-day grant writing workshop for 40 faculty members in the humanities and social sciences.

Consultants from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities’ Grants Resource Center conducted the workshop.

The newly created College Teacher Education Council and College Planning Task Force initiatives are progressing well.

In addition, the Interdisciplinary Women’s Studies Program has been transferred into the College, and planning is taking place to establish an Interdisciplinary Appalachian Heritage Program by the start of the fall semester.
Dr. Sylvia Hennenberg, assistant professor of English, is presently at The Ohio State University on an American Association of University Women grant to pursue publication of her dissertation “Aging in Modern American Women Writers.”

Dr. Sheri Joseph, assistant professor of English, will have a collection of fiction published in April by the Atlantic Monthly Press, one of the leading publishers of fiction in the United States.

Dr. Claire Foley, assistant professor of English, has a book contract with Blackwell’s, a leading British publisher, to co-edit a collection of essays on childhood language acquisition.

Dr. Jack Weir, professor of philosophy, is approaching completion of his second doctorate degree, this being a prestigious Ph.D. in Philosophy from Rice University.

Elizabeth Mandrell, instructor of English, is touring the region and recording public school students who read their original writing. The National Writing Project, in collaboration with National Public Radio, will produce a CD of these readings to be distributed nationally.

Dr. John Secor, associate professor of romance languages, received a grant from HEH to oversee development of an International Studies Minor at MSU. The grant was coauthored with faculty colleagues in other departments.

A group of 25 students and faculty from the department and the Interdisciplinary Women’s Studies Program attended a lecture by a nationally known African-American author, Bell Hooks, at Marshall University.

Military Science established a computer lab in Button to support an Army online initiative. “Enhanced Skills Training Program” focuses on improving basic skills in reading, writing, and mathematics. The self-paced program provides students with an interactive learning experience that specifically addresses their weaknesses.

The department met, or exceeded, enrollment objectives in all categories for 2001-02, a first in over a decade. The department is projected to meet the commissioning mission for 2002 and 2003, another first in a decade.

The department had all of its faculty complete the PT3, “Technology in the Classroom” course and has applied for a “group” grant through the PT3 initiative to support Military Science’s educational, marketing, and online initiatives.

The first members were elected to the newly formed Military Science Alumni Association, “The Eagle’s Nest,” during Homecoming. The current membership of the association is about 120 alumni.

Many MSU students have a need to delay payment of their fees until after the start of the semester. Prior to the Spring 2002 Semester, that process required the student to be physically present either on the main campus or at an extended campus center.

In January 2002, the Office of Accounting and Budgetary Control implemented an online fee deferment process, and students have access to the process 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Online deferment was the last link in a total on-line registration and fee payment process. Students can apply for admission, housing, and financial aid, register for classes, pay fees and buy their textbooks on-line.

Most fee deferments are requested because of financial aid that has not been finalized.
copy of the CD will be donated to the campus library upon completion of the project.

Marty Perry, director of the Kentucky Heritage Council, visited the department to meet with faculty and students and to present two programs on local history and culture and its preservation.

The department began offering a new minor in Legal Studies in the Fall 2001 Semester. Designed to provide students with a basic foundation in several aspects of law, the minor will be useful for Pre-Law students in all majors and will serve a wide variety of majors, including those in business, marketing, real estate, and the human and applied sciences.

Music

Two faculty win KMEA awards

Eugene Norden, assistant professor of music, received this year’s highest honor from the Kentucky Music Educators Association, the “Distinguished Service Award,” presented during the organization’s annual in-service conference banquet held this past February in Louisville. At the same event, Dr. Greg Detweiler, assistant professor of music and director of choral activities, was named the “2002 College Music Teacher of the Year.”

The department will perform “Musicians on the Loose” at the Vern Riffe Center for the Performing Arts on the Shawnee State University campus in Portsmouth, Ohio, on April 18. The musicians are scheduled to perform at the Opera House in Lexington and the Paramount Theatre in Ashland during 2002 Fall Semester.

Four students from the department were winners at the State Convention and Competition of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, held recently on campus. The students and their awards include: tenor Stephen Brashear, first place in the Advanced Men’s Division; tenor Christopher Conley, second in Senior Men; mezzo-soprano Andrea Trusty, first place in Junior Women; and tenor Brandon Thompson, third in Sophomore Men. Dr. Roma Prindle, associate professor of music, teaches Brashear, Conley and Trusty. Dr. Detweiler teaches Thompson.

Sociology, Social Work & Criminology

The faculty in the MSU Social Work Program is completing the first of a three-year initiative to offer the Bachelor of Social Work degree program to two separate cohorts of students at MSU at Prestonsburg.

The first cohort group began in the Fall 2001 Semester, and the second cohort will begin in the Fall 2002 Semester. This effort is specifically for students who have completed two years of courses at Prestonsburg Community College and who wish to complete the four-year degree.

Ted Marshall, professor of social work, was the keynote speaker at the Texas Child Abuse Prevention Conference in San Antonio last month.

Dr. Christopher Hensley, assistant professor of sociology/criminology and director of the Institute for Correctional Research and Training, has recently published an edited book and submitted several journal articles, in which several chapters and sections were co-authored by current and former students majoring in criminology.

Dr. Clarendra Phillips, assistant professor of sociology, Dr. Robert Bylund, professor of sociology, and Dr. Ed Reeves, professor of sociology and department chair, are serving as project evaluators for a program to establish after-school learning centers in seven schools in Boyd County, Ashland Independent, and Fairview Independent School districts.

Women’s Studies

Dr. Rebecca Katz, associate professor of sociology, is serving as interim director of the Interdisciplinary Women’s Studies Program while a campus-wide search for a permanent director is being conducted.

The program co-sponsored a reception and performance by Abbie Conant, internationally known trombonist and activist, in February. The Program is also providing financial support to activities that include the play, “A Letter to Ruth,” co-sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs; a reading by nationally-recognized poet, Karen Kovacik; and a lecture on “Women and Religion,” by Janet Sevre-Dejvensky.

The program is also sponsoring “Movie Night,” a series of films dealing with women’s issues and is supporting the professional development of faculty presenting or publishing in the field.
University meets CPE diversity goals

Morehead State University has met six of its eight objectives designed to make the campus more diverse.

The Council on Postsecondary Education used data from the 2000-01 academic year to determine if the University has increased minority visibility on campus.

The CPE noted that MSU has shown “continuous progress” in Kentucky resident African-American undergraduate enrollment; retention of first-year Kentucky resident students; retention of Kentucky resident undergraduate students, six-year graduation rate for degree-seeking Kentucky residents; fall 1995 cohort; employment of African-Americans in executive, administrative and managerial positions, and employment of African-American faculty members, according to the report.

Recruitment and retention efforts for African-American students have been intensified in the last year, according to Dr. Francene Botts-Butler, affirmative action officer. “Establishing a multicultural student services center increased awareness for current students while providing a location for educational and social events,” she said. “This will be a good recruiting tool for future students.”

A survey, compiled by the Campus Environment Team/Affirmative Action Committee, is currently being distributed to University students and employees, as well as local business and government leaders. The data will be used to assess the social and psychological environment of the campus and the community.

Fall 2000 statistics showed 3.7 percent of the undergraduate population enrolled on a full-time basis and 3.7 percent of the faculty members were African-American. By meeting the goals, MSU is eligible to submit new programs.

MSU is continuing to work on the remaining two goals: Kentucky resident graduate student enrollment and employment of African-Americans as other professionals.

A five-year initiative established by the CPE in 1997 encouraged all state universities to diversify faculties and student bodies. MSU will be reevaluated in 2002 when the plan ends; a new plan will be established at that time.

Athletes have successful year

In volleyball, the Lady Eagles finished the season 23-10, enjoying the school’s best record since the 1990 season. Morehead State University swept all postseason awards, earning the Ohio Valley Conference Coach of the Year (Mike Swan), Player of the Year (Amy Almond) and Freshman of the Year (Casie Garland).

Cherelle Lampkins and Almond were recognized as first team All-Ohio Valley Conference performers, while Tiffany Peters earned second team recognition and Garland received honorable mention designation. The Lady Eagles also achieved the fourth highest team grade point average among all Division I schools.

The football team finished the season sixth in the final Football Gazette Mid-Major Poll and 10th in the final Sports Network Division I-AA Mid-Major Poll. The team finished 6-5, achieving its sixth consecutive winning season. Senior defensive back Brian Davis was named to the Division I-AA Athletics Directors Association Academic All-Star Team and earned inclusion.

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Progress made on CPE goals

According to data released by the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE), Morehead State is making progress in improving the quality of life for Kentuckians through higher education.

The March 2002 report states that MSU exceeded 2002 CPE enrollment goals for both graduate and undergraduate students and also shows that MSU made good progress in its one-year retention rates and five-year graduation rates of transfer students.

Preliminary figures show 8,575 students enrolled at MSU this spring, more than 9 percent above last spring. This semester’s figure is the second-highest in MSU history, less than 40 students below the benchmark of 8,613 set in 1993.

The number of full-time students this spring climbed to 6,003. The graduate population is 1,834 students, the highest spring enrollment in more than 22 years.

More than 88 percent of the University’s graduate students and nearly 86 percent of MSU’s total student population are from Kentucky.

Spring semester enrollment follows a successful Fall 2001 semester, when the University posted its second highest enrollment ever. The fall semester also saw a record 1,590 first-time freshman enrolled.

MSU also reported its best fall-to-fall retention rate in five years for the Fall 2001 semester. Among first-time freshmen who enrolled at MSU in the Fall 2000 Semester, 67.5 percent returned for the Fall 2001 Semester, exceeding the 66 percent mark set by the CPE.

100 percent pass nursing test

For the second time in three years, graduates of Morehead State University’s Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN) program have achieved a 100 percent passing rate on the national licensing exam.

All 21 of Morehead State’s ADN graduates in 2001 passed the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses. The exam, administered by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, is used to determine entry-level nursing competency.

MSU’s 100 percent passing rate far surpassed the national average passing rate, which has remained at 83 percent for the past three years. Kentucky’s average, which was 86 percent in 2000, is expected to remain the same when all of the 2001 test scores are tabulated.

Associate degree candidates make up the largest group of those taking the test each year. In 2000, nearly 73 percent of Kentucky’s candidates had graduated with two-year degrees.

PT3 workshop hosted at MSU

MSU hosted a two-day site visit by a visiting team for the Preparing Tomorrow’s Teachers to Use Technology (PT3) grant project on March 5-6. During the two days, participants evaluated the grant program, discussed what has been accomplished, and what needs to be done. The visit was coordinated by PT3 Project Co-Directors, Dr. Dan Branham, dean of the College of Education, and Dr. Elizabeth Regan, chair of the Department of Information Systems.

Some of the unique achievements noted by the visiting team include the following:

• The in-depth level of knowledge and support of goals and objectives on the part of the provost, college deans, and education leadership, and support of public school leadership personnel participating in the PT3 grant.

• Strong leadership exhibited by project team and staff.

• A major strength is the role of the student teacher as technology mentor of his or her cooperating teacher, thus expanding technology skills of the cooperating teacher.

• Cooperation among the colleges toward attainment goals and objectives.

• The pre-student teaching Multimedia Collaborative Project with K-12 schools is an exemplary model for involving pre-service and in-service teachers.

Educators visited local schools and faculty members who have taken the course, Integrating Technology in Higher Education.
sion on the second team Academic All-American team. Senior wide receiver/return specialist Toby Moeves was named Specialist Player of the Year on the 2001 Football Gazette Mid Major All-American Team.

MSU’s all-girl and co-ed varsity cheerleading squads won the national competition in their divisions in January. It was the 12th co-ed national championship and the fourth national championship for the all-girl squad.

In the classroom, MSU athletics was represented by 113 student-athletes on the Dean’s List and 69 student-athletes on the OVC Commissioner’s Honor Roll, with 41 student-athletes earning a perfect 4.0 GPA during the 2000-2001 academic year. Nine Morehead State University student-athletes received the OVC Medal of Honor.

Basketball squads have strong seasons

The men’s Basketball team had its most successful season in eight years, finishing second in the Ohio Valley Conference with a record of 18-11 and advancing to the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament semifinals. Three members of the team were recognized as All Ohio Valley Conference performers, with sophomore Ricky Minard earning first team honors, senior Kyle Umberger selected to the second team, and junior Marquis Sykes chosen to the third team.

The Lady Eagles basketball team finished the season at 21-8, establishing school records in conference wins and victories in the Ellis T. Johnson Arena. The Ohio Valley Conference’s coaches and sports information directors named Laura Litter Coach of the Year, and selected senior Tasha Gales to the All Ohio Valley Conference First Team, while Mandy Maddox, Kelly Austin and Larry Atkins received second team honors.

Karen Lutes was named Ohio Valley Conference Female Runner of the Year after winning the Ohio Valley Conference Championship and six of the seven races she entered this year. The men’s and women’s cross country teams each placed fourth at the Ohio Valley Conference Championship meet. Lutes and Paul Gilvin were voted to the All Ohio Valley Conference First Team, while Mandy Maddox, Kelly Austin and Larry Atkins received second team honors.

Turner set an Ohio Valley Conference record with 41 consecutive free throws and finished the conference season without a miss at the foul line.

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