
Danny Lawson finished his thesis and graduated December 18, 2010, from ETSU with his Master of Science in Engineering Technology with a concentration in Computer Science. He also obtained certification as an Accreditation team member for the Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE).

The Tennessee Alliance for Continuing Higher Education (TACHE) awarded Dr. Chris Lefler the Milton J. Phillips Jr. Award for Outstanding Leadership in Continuing Higher Education in Tennessee in November 2010. He was also admitted to the ETSU Clemmer College of Education – Alumni Hall of Fame for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Dr. Garry Grau has been selected as a 2011 NISOD Excellence Awards recipient. The accompanying medallion will be presented on May 29, 2011, in Austin, Texas. NISOD stands for the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD). This professional organization is a consortium of over 700 community colleges and universities worldwide and has a 33-year history of recognizing faculty, staff, and administrators for outstanding contribution to teaching, leadership, and learning. In addition to Dr. Grau, Josh Crowder and Angela Huddle were also selected from Northeast State. Dr. Grau’s proposed presentation for the conference has been accepted. It is titled “How to Survive Adult Learners” and will be presented at a breakout session at the NISOD’s 33rd annual International Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence, May 29-June 1, 2011, in Austin, Texas.

Magi Lewis coordinated the annual College Goal Sunday event on campus again this year. Northeast volunteers served 71 attendees in helping them complete their online applications for financial aid. This event is hosted annually by the TN Student Assistance Corporation as a free service for families to get assistance with completing financial aid applications.

Chrissie Anderson Peters was published in The Clinch Mountain Review for 2010 (published in the Fall) – four poems and one memoir piece. Also, she was selected for and attended the Hindman Settlement School’s Appalachian Writers Workshop in August (also 2010). They select approximately 80 people to attend annually.

Rickey Ray, Professor of Philosophy, was elected to serve as President of the Tennessee Philosophical Association for the academic year 2011 at the Fall 2010 meeting of that group held last November at Vanderbilt University. Rickey served as a moderator for a session at the annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy of Religion held in Hilton Head, South Carolina, at the end of February.

Dr. Carolyn McCracken and Dr. David Maldon are serving as auditors for the TBR Academic Audit process this spring. The Academic Audit is a process where Faculty and Administrators from different colleges evaluate a program from another institution. This process is performed to help all TBR programs to focus on student learning outcomes and to strive for continuous improvement.
Dr. Linda Wyatt, Adjunct Faculty, recently had an article accepted for publication in the Journal of Continuing Higher Education, winter edition, 2011. It should be published in March 2011. The major article is entitled, Nontraditional Student Engagement: Increasing Adult Student Success and Retention. She is also in the process of writing a self-help book that is intended to be a motivational, inspirational, and helpful book to assist nontraditional students in their return to the classroom. It is intended as a guide to help adult students transition into the college setting and let them know they can achieve the dream of having a college degree. The book will be titled, “You are Never too Old to Learn: How to Enjoy the College Experience as a Nontraditional College Student.”

Dayna Smithers was selected as an AMATYC Project ACCCESS Cohort 6 Fellow, 2009-2010. Smithers was accepted Fall 2009 and completed the fellowship this fall. AMATYC Project ACCCESS is a mentoring and professional development initiative for two-year college mathematics faculty sponsored by the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges (AMATYC).

Tawana C. Teague was recognized for 5 years of service to the state of TN. She is the co-chair of Northeast State’s Curriculum Subcommittee and is on the Academic Affairs Committee; Director of Northeast State Singers; Northeast State “Battle of the Bands” Coordinator; Musical Director for “The Wizard of Oz”; Pre-Nursing Advisor; New Student Advisor; and sings with Voices of the Mountains. Her volunteer activities involve the Johnson City Symphony Orchestra; Symphony of the Mountains volunteer; teaching voice and majorette conducting- (Elizabethton High School student) on a volunteer basis, and presently, she is the Vice-President of the Abingdon District United Methodist Women and is involved in her church choir.


Mahmood Sabri completed a course in Network Security offered by Cyber Security Education Consortium at Jackson State, volunteered to judge a speech contest for Skills USA at Northeast State, and judged a Video Game Design/Technology Problem Solving contest for TSA (Technology Students of America) at Daniel Boone High School. He also presented at the 7th Annual Honors Research Conference organized by Phi Theta Kappa at Northeast State. The topic of his presentation was “Information Overload - Source, Spin, and Solution.” (Continued)

Linda W. Calvert, Director of College Readiness, has been chosen as a participant in the Tennessee Board of Regents 2011 Maxine Smith Fellows Program. The Fellows program provides opportunities to participate in various working and learning environments that are designed to enhance work experience and career development.

Tempi Hale has had several poems and short stories published in literary journals. Most recently, in January 2011, she had two poems, “The Tiger” and “Had You Lived a Bit Longer,” published in the journal, Alcalines. She is also simultaneously revising her first novel, The Birds Knew, and working on her second novel, A Sense of Barbed Wire, which she expects to have completed before the end of summer. She also served as one of the editors of Echoes and Images: Northeast State’s Literary and Visual Arts Magazine for the last three years.

Northeast State’s Adjunct Criminal Justice Professor Brett Kilgore authored an article on Law Enforcement Risk Management for the National Sheriff Magazine. It was published in the January/February edition and was distributed to law enforcement agencies throughout the nation this spring.

Dr. Fay McMillan & Dr. Laura Barnett attended the Community College Humanities Association Conference in Arlington, VA., October 28-30, 2010. The conference theme was “Bridging Cultures and Fostering Curiosity.” The title of Dr. McMillan’s research and Dr. Barnett’s workshop was “Bridging assignments with fun, using activities aimed toward pleasurable learning.”

Gretchen McCroskey’s poetry has been recognized in five contests. Her poem “Guardian Angels” won first place in the Appalachian Heritage Writers Symposium contest in 2010. Recently, she won second place in the Tennessee Mountain Writers Conference contest for her poem “Camouflage” and first place in the Poem in Your Pocket contest sponsored by the Northeast Chapter of the Poetry Society of Tennessee for the poem “Against the Night.” In the Poetry Society of Tennessee’s monthly contests, her poem “As Time Goes By” was awarded first honorable mention in February, and her poem “Freedom” took third place in March.