Dear Members of the East Tennessee State University Family,

It is a wondrous and invigorating time to be on the campus of ETSU. On October 1, 2010, we will officially begin our yearlong 100th anniversary. Programs and events will be taking place throughout the day and evening, all in celebration of “Partnerships, Promise, and Hope for a Hundred Years,” our centennial theme. After a year of activity, the celebration will conclude in October of 2011, as we look back on the time when 29 students began their studies at East Tennessee State Normal School.

The staff in the Division of University Relations and the Centennial Steering Committee have been working for months to shape the celebration. Work on centennial activities is literally occurring every day.

A major beginning was the unveiling of the centennial logo on April 28. The logo was designed by Amy Light-Karlsson, who is currently enrolled in our Master of Arts in Teaching program, on the way to her third degree from ETSU. Letterhead and business cards featuring the new logo have been designed, and I encourage you to use that logo widely in promoting the centennial. You may download the logo at: www.etsu.edu/100years. Centennial logo lapel pins are now available in limited quantities and can be obtained by contacting University Relations.

The creativity of ETSU faculty, staff, and students is boundless, and I encourage each unit on campus to seek out its own unique ways to mark our 100th year.

The Centennial Steering Committee is making available a series of 10 mini-grants, of up to $1,500 each, to assist departments in commemorating the 100th anniversary of ETSU. Send a brief, one-page proposal explaining how these funds would be used by your department, to Fred Sauceman, Centennial Steering Committee Chair (sauceman@etsu.edu), by July 15, 2010. The committee will then evaluate the proposals and make the awards.

Please follow the centennial on Facebook (etsu100years) and check the centennial Web page (www.etsu.edu/100years) often for updates on events that will be taking place.

Seek out your own ways to tell the ETSU story as we reflect on the people who have made this university a symbol of hope for so many since 1911.

Yours in Celebration,

Paul E. Stanton, Jr.
President
Downtown Clinic marks 20th anniversary of providing health care, hope

This spring, ETSU’s Johnson City Downtown Clinic (JCDC) is marking a milestone: The clinic has been supplying health care, and hope, to patients for 20 years.

The ETSU College of Nursing manages the clinic, which is located at 207 E. Myrtle Ave. The JCDC is no longer located in the place where it began, and the scope of the clinic has broadened far beyond that of its earlier years.

The clinic first opened in 1990 and was established originally to serve the needs of the homeless population in Johnson City. But it has expanded over the past 15 years to serve the health care needs of the uninsured, the underinsured, TennCare enrollees, medically indigent individuals and a growing Hispanic population.

No one is turned away due to inability to pay for services.

“I’m proud of our university’s commitment to the Downtown Clinic and the work that our college does there,” said Dr. Wendy Nehring, dean of the College of Nursing. “The most important facet about the Downtown Clinic is that it truly is all about the patient and about service to the patient in its purest form. Some who come to us are able to pay for services, while others do have some form of insurance or TennCare. But not all do.

“Without the Downtown Clinic, there would be a huge hole in the fabric of health care for our community. And without the community support we have received the past 20 years, there would be no Downtown Clinic.”

ETSU nurse practitioners manage the clinic, which provides health care services including primary care for adults and children, prenatal care, behavioral health counseling, case management, laboratory assistance and patient assistance for medications. Demand for all of those services skyrocketed in 2009, as the JCDC saw 1,087 new patients – and 985 of them were newly insured but had lost their insurance because of the downturn in the economy,” said Dr. Patti Vanhook, associate dean of Practice and Community Partnerships for the College of Nursing. “We’re seeing more patients than ever, and as health care reform takes effect, we will probably become even busier. Our expectation is that people who may have never accessed health care before, other than the emergency room, will begin to seek out more services, and some of them will come to the Downtown Clinic.”

Sue Reed, an ETSU family nurse practitioner who is clinical director at the JCDC, said the growth of the center means that it has again outgrown its home. The JCDC started 20 years ago in one room in the basement of a Salvation Army center before moving to a building on Fairview Avenue, which still serves as a satellite clinic.

“Remember that within six to 12 months of our move to Fairview we had already outgrown our space, and now we’re in that situation again here at Myrtle Avenue, even with this being a bigger facility,” Reed said.

“We need more treatment space to keep up with the demand for services.”

Reed still recalls a survey of the homeless population that predated the JCDC and underscored the importance of access to care, a fact still relevant today.

“They identified their number one need, and it wasn’t shelter and it wasn’t food – it was health care,” Reed said.

The JCDC is one of the few nurse-managed community health centers (CHC) in the nation to be designated as a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC), and its operation in conjunction with the College of Nursing makes it unique among CHCs.

“There are about 1,200 community health centers in all of the 50 states, and the primary health care they provide is vital to those communities served, just as the Downtown Clinic is vital to our community,” Vanhook said.

Along with maintaining an open-door policy so treatment is provided regardless of an individual’s ability to pay, CHCs are further defined by these national statistics:

- The 1,200 CHCs provide primary care to 20 million Americans with limited financial resources.
- Seventy percent of patients live in poverty.
- CHCs save the national health care system between $9.9 billion and $17.6 billion a year by helping patients avoid emergency rooms and making better use of preventive services.
Traveling exhibit at Natural History Museum focuses on Ice Age elephants

“Tusks! Ice Age Mammoths & Mastodons,” a new temporary exhibition at the ETSU and General Shale Brick Natural History Museum at the Gray Fossil Site, gives a rare opportunity to appreciate and enjoy the world of prehistoric elephants and their relatives.

The traveling exhibit, produced by the Florida Museum of Natural History, is on display through Sept. 6.

“Tusks!” features 80 fossil specimens, replicas and artifacts from Florida Museum of Natural History collections, thematically organized to show the process of science, from discovery to research to exhibition. It also includes graphic panels, murals and “hands-on” exhibit and video interactive modules.

“Tusks!” is the first exhibit to assemble such a large collection of North American proboscidean and other Ice Age fossil specimens.

From 15 million years ago until the end of the last Ice Age – 10,000 years ago – elephants and their relatives (proboscideans) inhabited prehistoric North America. These large beasts named for their long, flexible trunks – proboscides – originated in northern Africa and southern Asia. The first proboscideans to arrive in North America 15 million years ago included mastodons, shovel-tuskers, spiral-tuskers and gomphotheres, with mammoths arriving only 3 to 4 million years ago.

The rich fossil deposits throughout Florida preserve an extraordinary assemblage of these fossilized proboscideans, and “Tusks!” includes unique specimens, such as the extinct, 10 million-year-old Florida shovel-tusker and other animals that lived alongside them.

Visitors will learn how scientists collect and study fossils, how research on ancient climates is done, and what is known about why proboscideans became extinct in North America 10,000 years ago – and whether humans played a role in the extinction of these colossal creatures.

This skull and mandible cast of an Ice Age American lion (above) is one of the specimens in the carnivore display of the “Tusks!” exhibition. Dima (right), a male baby Woolly Mammoth (Mammuthus primigenius) was found in Siberia in 1977 and is about 40,000 years old. The animal’s soft tissues were preserved in the extremely cold climate of the Siberian permafrost.

Staff Awards Picnic

The annual ETSU Staff Picnic will be held Friday, June 4, from 2-4 p.m.

Free to all staff, the meal includes hamburgers, hot dogs and all the “fixin’s,” along with baked beans, potato chips, cookies and beverages. It is sponsored by the ETSU Staff Senate and catered by ARAMARK.

During this event, the Distinguished Staff Awards will be presented to employees in several EEOC categories, as well as an overall Career Award.

In addition, the Jonesborough Novelty Band – led by Dr. Terry Countermine, chair of ETSU’s Department of Computer and Information Sciences and an alderman for the Town of Jonesborough – will perform and accept donations for Habitat for Humanity.

Door prizes from a variety of regional businesses – including five flat-panel monitors from Dell in addition to gifts from museums, theaters, restaurants, theme parks, medical practices and others – will be given.

For more information, contact Jamie Simmons, president of the ETSU Staff Senate, at 439-4364 or simmons@etsu.edu.
Steinway Performing Artist Lenore Raphael will join Dr. David Champouillon and The Jazz Doctors in the third annual LaFaye Vickers Ross Scholarship Benefit Concert on Tuesday, July 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Carnegie Hotel.

This concert will benefit students attending ETSU’s Summer Piano Camp. It is co-sponsored by the American Piano Gallery of Knoxville, Jim and Sandy Powell, Harold and Nancy Dishner, Dr. James A. Ross and the Carnegie Hotel.

Tickets, which will be available starting June 1 by calling the ETSU Department of Music at 439-4276, are $50 and include an artists’ reception with heavy hors d’oeuvres after the concert.

Raphael is well-known to regional jazz patrons, having performed at ETSU several times as a solo artist, with her trio, and with the ETSU Jazz Ensemble. She is a frequent performer at major international jazz festivals and jazz clubs, and conducts jazz workshops and master classes around the world.

The ASCAP award-winning artist now has her own radio show – “Lenore Raphael’s JazzSpot” – in which she chats and performs with guest artists in an hour-long program on www.purejazzradio.org, and her critically acclaimed CDs include “The Whole Truth,” “Reflections,” “Wingin’ It” and “A Beautiful Friendship.”

Raphael, who graduated from the High School of Music and Art in New York City, went on to major in music education at New York University. Also an accomplished author, she co-wrote a jazz theory book, Jazz Master Class, with Sid Schwartz.

In addition, Raphael was asked by the New Jersey jazz society to develop a program on the history of jazz for elementary school students. She and vocalist Janet Lawson combined ideas and invited guests Clark Terry, Arnie Lawrence, Ray Drummond and Billy Drummond to participate in the videotaped program, which has become a model for teaching jazz to young people in several European countries.

The Jazz Doctors are known as “the premier straight-ahead jazz group in the region,” according to band leader Champouillon. After establishing individual careers as nationally known performers and recording artists, these musicians have earned critical acclaim as a group over the past several years, appearing at jazz festivals, clubs and special events. The performers are jazz faculty in the ETSU Department of Music. In addition to Champouillon, who is a Performing Artist for Bach Trumpets and director of the department’s jazz program, members include Justin Stanton on piano, Martin Walters on bass and Dr. Rande Sanderbeck on percussion.

The ETSU Summer Piano Camp, which will be held on campus from July 12-16, is designed for students in grades 7-12 who have studied piano for at least two years. This summer’s special focus is jazz piano, and Raphael will serve as a special guest instructor.

The camp features private lessons, master classes in solo classical and jazz repertoire, piano ensemble/piano four-hands, music theory, piano literature, percussion ensemble, and supervised practice sessions, with classes taught by guest artists and full-time and adjunct piano faculty in the ETSU Department of Music. Students have the opportunity to perform in a solo, jazz trio and ensemble recital.

For more information on the concert, contact Champouillon at 439-6955 or champou@etsu.edu. For more information on the Piano Camp, contact Jerilyn Paolini at 439-4418 or paolini@etsu.edu.

Child speech disorders focus of upcoming lectures

Dr. Sharynne McLeod, a professor and expert in child speech and language disorders from Charles Sturt University in Australia, will present two lectures at ETSU June 10-11.

While visiting campus, McLeod will discuss the outcomes of her sounds effects study in which she investigated the prevalence and severity of speech impairment, risk and protective factors associated with speech impairment, and the impact of speech impairment on the child’s development. The program will offer a worldview of child speech acquisition and provide recommendations for examining speech acquisition in multilingual contexts.

The Thursday, June 10, lecture will be held from 5-8 p.m., while the Friday, June 11, presentation will be from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Both events include a light meal and an opportunity to view the “Children Draw Talking” exhibit on display in Slocumb Galleries, located in Ball Hall. The exhibit will be open to the public June 7-11.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Julia Herwig at 439-7614 or herwig@etsu.edu.

In Memory

East Tennessee State University extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of

Marcia Kenny,

who died Sunday, May 16, in Vass, N.C. Kenny, a native of LaFollette, was a graduate of ETSU and worked as a secretary in the Women’s Resource Center. She was an active member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church. She was also an animal and nature lover, an avid reader and a caring wife and mother.
Louw edits book on communicative disorders associated with HIV/AIDS

An ETSU professor has co-authored a comprehensive new book to help health care professionals who work with HIV/AIDS patients who have disorders in communication, hearing or swallowing.

Dr. Brenda Louw, who is chair of the ETSU Department of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology in the College of Clinical and Rehabilitative Health Sciences, co-edited HIV/AIDS Related Communication, Hearing, and Swallowing Disorders with colleague Dr. De Wet Swanepoel. She and Swanepoel wrote chapters for the book and edited submissions from several other experts in communicative disorders.

Before she came to ETSU in the fall semester of 2009, Louw was a professor of speech-language pathology for 30 years in her native country of South Africa and a department chair at the University of Pretoria, where Swanepoel is an associate professor.

Louw is especially renowned for working with children with cleft palate or those who face difficulties in communicating because of HIV/AIDS, and she is the author of many published studies in her field.

Louw and Swanepoel were approached to create what they had not seen before: a comprehensive resource that focuses on the entire range of communication, auditory, balance and swallowing disorders associated with HIV/AIDS in children and adults. Louw said such a book is needed now more than ever.

“With medical advances in recent years, HIV/AIDS has become a chronic condition that can be managed,” Louw said. “People are living longer with the disease, and HIV/AIDS can affect every aspect of communication. I think our impetus for this book is that there has been abundant research – and medical advances – on the life-threatening medical conditions associated with HIV/AIDS. The disease’s effects on communication have been largely overlooked, and although communication disorders may not be life-threatening, communication is central to quality of life.”

The book not only includes sections on the diagnosis and treatment of communication, hearing and feeding disorders, but also explores the psychosocial implications for those who suffer from communicative disorders caused by HIV/AIDS. Louw and Swanepoel drew international experts from the clinical realm and academia to construct a book that would be useful for a wide range of health care professionals, from primary care physicians and nurses to speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

“We wanted to offer a unique and useful resource and training tool for professionals,” Louw said, “but we hope that the people who will benefit most from this are those living with HIV/AIDS.”

Longtime director of operations and conferences earns professional honor

Jacque Hamilton Mullins, who recently retired as director of operations and conference director after a 37-year career at ETSU, has been awarded a lifetime honorary membership to the Association of Collegiate Conference and Events Directors-International (ACCED-I) in honor of her contributions to the profession.

“Jacque was an essential part of the university during her long and distinguished career here, so we’re pleased at ETSU that she has received this honor,” said Dr. Wilsie Bishop, ETSU vice president for health affairs and university chief operating officer. “The fact that Jacque has been recognized by her professional colleagues says a lot about the respect she earned from her peers. She is very deserving.”

ACCED-I is the only independent educational association dedicated to professional growth and development in the collegiate and events profession. In lauding Mullins, the organization noted that she not only was an advocate for promoting the conference and events profession at ETSU, but also actively recruited new members to join ACCED-I and encouraged them to become involved at the regional and national levels.

Mullins has been a member of ACCED-I since 1987 and has held a number of leadership positions within the association, including regional director, treasurer and board member. She served as president from 2001-2002. Mullins received the Jack Thornton Distinguished Service Award in 2002 for her service to the association.

Student Ryan Mills to take his ideas for the U.S. economy to Washington

At a time when the nation’s economy needs help, students are offering their suggestions and assistance.

Ryan Mills, an ETSU junior economics major, has earned the distinction of being one of 12 students nationwide to present his ideas at the National Economics Insider Symposium in Washington, D.C., in early June.

Mills, a Chattanooga native, entered the Pearson’s Insider Contest to gain this honor. Pearson’s, the publisher of higher education books, will fly the 12 finalists to the Symposium where they will meet with top economics policy makers, researchers and government leaders. Among the Pearson’s Economics Insiders are Ben Bernanke, Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; Olivier Blanchard, Director of the Research Department of the International Monetary Fund; and Princeton’s Paul Krugman, winner of a Nobel Prize in Economics.

ETSU economics professor Dr. Gary Shelley will accompany Mills. Shelley and Dr. Richard Gregory mentored Mills throughout the project.

Mills learned of the contest two weeks before the deadline. “I knew this was right up my alley,” Mills explains. “I was able to identify a unique topic that I thought needed to be addressed.”

His proposal, entitled “Addressing America’s Financial Policies,” suggests the gradual elimination of the tax advantages of debt in order to put debt and equity financing on a more level playing field. This would encourage more solid financial decisions by firms, removing an incentive for firms to over-leverage and resolving one of the causes of the economic crisis on 2008, when many firms used more debt than they had cash. Mills also addresses potential pitfalls of his recommendation and how those difficulties could be resolved.

Mills adds, “Having the opportunity to present my proposal in Washington, D.C., in front of the movers and shakers of our economy, is both exciting and personally rewarding.”
Quillen ranks in top 10 for number of grads entering family medicine

For the second straight year, the James H. Quillen College of Medicine has received a prestigious award that recognizes Quillen as one of the top 10 schools in the nation for producing family medicine physicians.

The Quillen College of Medicine received the “2010 Family Medicine Top Ten Award” from the American Academy of Family Physicians during the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine conference, held recently in Vancouver, British Columbia. ETSU also received the award in 2009.

The AAFP chose ETSU and nine other medical schools across the nation for its “Top Ten Award” based on the percentage of alumni entering an accredited family medicine residency training program from 2006-2009. Quillen’s three-year average was 15.5 percent.

“We’re honored again to receive an award that strikes to the heart of our mission at Quillen, to educate more primary care physicians,” said Dr. John Franko, chair of ETSU’s Department of Family Medicine. “Our college was built on the foundation that we need an increasing number of primary care doctors to improve our region’s health care, and that fact is more relevant now than ever.

“This reward is reflective of the continued commitment our college leadership, faculty, staff and resident physicians have to family medicine.”

Faculty members from the Department of Family Medicine who delivered presentations at the conference in Vancouver include Drs. Franko, Connie Hixson, Glenda Stockwell, Greg Clarity, Fred Tudiver, Bruce Bennett, Beth Fox, Jason Moore, Mike Floyd, Forrest Lang and Peter Bockhorst.

Quillen’s family medicine program was also recently recognized by U.S. News & World Report in the 2011 list of “America’s Best Graduate Schools” for ranking 20th in the nation for family medicine education.

The ETSU rural programs division, which is housed in the Department of Family Medicine and emphasizes medical training and practice in rural areas, placed sixth in the nation for rural medicine education in the U.S. News rankings.

Quillen ETSU Physicians serves the family medicine needs for patients in the Tri-Cities through three practice offices that operate under the ETSU Department of Family Medicine: ETSU Family Medicine Associates in Johnson City, ETSU Family Physicians of Bristol and ETSU Family Physicians of Kingsport.

All three offices offer family medicine residency programs that are accredited by the American Council for Graduate Medical Education.

ETSU students, Bristol Herald Courier partner for latest issue of El Nuevo

On May 19, the Bristol Herald Courier published El Nuevo Bristol Herald Courier, the culmination of an annual project involving ETSU Spanish and journalism students.

The project was inaugurated over 10 years ago as the dream of Dr. Jack Mooney of the Department of Communication, and this eleventh edition is a tribute to Mooney, who recently retired.

This year’s edition addresses many issues of interest to local readers and the area’s Hispanic community.

Max Hrenda, an ETSU 2009 fall graduate, wrote about attitudes toward the terms “Hispanic” and “Latino.” Students who came to this country to play sports discussed the rewards of being an athlete with reporter Jennifer White, another fall graduate. ETSU May graduate Eileen Rush explored the stories of two women who survived domestic violence. Senior Kimberly Foli examined the DREAM Act, a proposed law that would open educational opportunities to immigrant children, while her classmate Amanda Marsh wrote about workplace pain and injuries, and how to avoid them. Another senior, Jessica Harbin, explored the slow economy and its effects on people who wire money to relatives in their home countries.

The Bristol Herald Courier distributed the paper to its subscribers and copies may also be available from the Department of Communication and the Language and Culture Resource Center (LCRC) at ETSU. El Nuevo can also be viewed online at http://etsujournalist.com.

In past years, other newspaper partners have included Kingsport Times-News, Erwin Record, Greeneville Sun, Johnson City Press, Citizen Tribune, Rogersville Review and the Tomahawk in Mountain City.

Dr. Ardis Nelson of the LCRC says, “This year’s edition, under the leadership of Mary Alice Basconi of the Department of Communication, has seen a shift in focus to more in-depth coverage of timely issues. The newspaper project provides a meaningful service-learning experience in cultural competency to our students as well as practical know-how that will serve them well in careers in translation and interpreting.”

Spanish students did interpreting and translating, while journalism students handled reporting, photography, writing and layout. Diego Soriano, who recently graduated from ETSU with a master’s degree in public administration, served as Spanish editor.

For more information, contact Basconi at 439-7563 or the LCRC at 439-8342.

The Bristol Herald Courier distributed the paper to its subscribers and copies may also be available from the Department of Communication and the Language and Culture Resource Center (LCRC) at ETSU. El Nuevo can also be viewed online at http://etsujournalist.com.
Noted author Dr. Neil Isaacs to speak at Buffalo Mountain Writers Workshop

Dr. Neil Isaacs, professor emeritus at the University of Maryland, retired psychotherapist, and prolific author, will speak at the final session of the Buffalo Mountain Writer’s Workshop on Tuesday, June 15, at 7:30 p.m. His topic will be “valuing,” or coherence in writing.

The free public presentation will be held in the Brown Hall auditorium, followed by a reception and book signing.

Isaacs has contributed commentary on sports and other subjects to the Washington Post, Boston Globe, Baltimore Sun, Washington Star, Sports Fan Magazine, Washingtonian and Harvard Magazine. He has written more than 20 books on subjects ranging from Old and Middle English to Southern and modern American literature, as well as on gambling, contemporary sports, J.R.R. Tolkien and various films.

The speaker’s two most recently published books are the novel The Doaker’s Story and The Package and the Baggage: Help for Couples and Their Counselors.

The Buffalo Mountain Writers Workshop, to be held June 8-15, is based on the book Touching All Bases: A Rhetoric for Self-Discovery, an innovative course designed for both the experienced writer and the novice, with an emphasis on four strategies for thinking and composing. Copies of the book will be provided for everyone attending the workshop sessions.

One of the editors of the book is ETSU Professor Emeritus Dr. Robert J. “Jack” Higgs, a Pulitzer Prize nominee and prolific author, who will introduce the four writing strategies at the workshop.

For complete information on the weeklong Buffalo Mountain Writers Workshop and registration and fee details, visit http://etsumw.etsu.edu/wconnect/ace/home.htm or contact Darla Dye in the Office of Professional Development at (800) 222-3878 or dyed@etsu.edu.

Reece Museum to hold second annual summer workshop series on collecting, preservation

Building on the success of its summer program started last summer, the Reece Museum will hold three workshops in June on topics related to collecting and preservation.

“The popularity of last summer’s workshops reinforced for us the regional need for informative, engaging, educational programming,” said Theresa Burchett, the museum’s director. “It is certainly part of our mission to meet such needs.”

The first workshop, “Family Collections and Scrapbooks,” will take place at the Reece Museum on Monday, June 7, from 1-4 p.m. This hands-on experience for those interested in archiving their family collections and memorabilia will be led by Carol Roberts, director of preservation services, and Amber Barfield, documents conservator, both with the Tennessee State Library and Archives in Nashville.

Attendees will learn basic archival “best practices” for preserving and caring for personal and family collections, such as photographs, letters, diaries, journals, business papers and scrapbooks. Topics will include proper archival storage, basic clearing techniques and advanced archival scrapbooking techniques.

“COLLECTING: How to Manage a Collection with Limited Resources,” the second workshop, will be led by Reece Museum staff on Monday, June 21, from 1-4 p.m. Designed for individuals who enrolled in last year’s “Collections Management” workshop and for museum staff, volunteers and board members who have some experience with managing their collections, this session will demonstrate the step-by-step process of managing a collection, from signing the Deed of Gift to basic cleaning, photographing and storing.

“Planning Interpretive Exhibitions,” the last workshop, will be held Monday, June 28, from 1-4 p.m. Under the tutelage of Myers Brown, curator of extension services at the Tennessee State Museum, participants will gain hands-on experience in planning and coordinating exhibitions. Topics include planning themes, story lines and exhibition context. Each participant will receive a book on exhibition planning.

Registration is required, and each workshop is $50 per person. For registration or more information, call the Reece Museum at 439-4392.

ETSU hosts annual STEM education conference

The importance of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) education was the focus for speakers and attendees alike at last week’s fourth annual Math and Science Education Conference sponsored by ETSU.

More than 200 participants heard from national, regional and local leaders stressing the ongoing need for a strengthened education system — kindergarten through college — that will better prepare students with the knowledge and skills to survive in the globalized economy.

Held May 25-26 at The Millennium Centre, the conference was sponsored by ETSU’s Center of Excellence in Mathematics and Science Education, Claudius G. Clemmer College of Education and College of Arts and Sciences.

According to Dr. Jack Rhoton, executive director of the Center of Excellence, the conference theme — “21st STEM Education: The Local, State, National and Globalized Challenge” — provided “a forum to think through the STEM challenges laid down for education and the next steps for school-led transformation.”

Rhoton explained that this conference — held at the beginning of the new decade and in the midst of a rapidly changing national and international context — was designed to “promote greater awareness about the critical role that STEM education plays in enabling this region and the state to maintain their economic and technological vitality.”

“To prepare our students for tomorrow’s jobs, we need to provide them with an understanding of the opportunities they have in a global employment marketplace,” he continued. “Our schools will play a critical role in equipping our students with the talent and skills to succeed in the 21st century economy. Our economic vitality will depend upon a well-prepared workforce.”

The conference brought together educators, administrators, policymakers, and business, school and community leaders to share successes while addressing challenges associated with math and science education.
ETSU Foundation endowments remain stable in uncertain economy

Even though national and international economies have remained turbulent, giving to the ETSU increased and investments remained relatively stable during the past year, Foundation members learned during the organization’s recent annual business meeting at The Millennium Centre.

In remarks by Dr. Richard A. Manahan, ETSU vice president for University Advancement and Foundation CEO/president, the membership heard that the university will have received more than $17.5 million in private giving during 2009-10, compared to $13.2 million in 2008-09. This includes $6.2 million from the University Foundation, in addition to $8.5 million in planned estate gifts and $2.8 million from private gifts and contracts generated by university faculty and staff.

Manahan said the current market value of the Foundation’s and university’s endowments, including the Chairs of Excellence, exceeds $82.8 million. Presently, there are 416 endowments in the ETSU Foundation, an increase of nine endowments – or 2.2 percent – through March 2010.

“We have been able to honor our commitments when many university foundations have discontinued their payouts,” he said, explaining that as a result of the economic downturn, the Foundation’s endowment reserve policy of 20 percent of the endowment principal is currently at 18.6 percent, which will allow the Foundation to continue payout rates at 4 percent for 2010-11.

“We thought … that 1999 through 2002 (when the 20 percent policy was enacted) was the worst economic crisis we would ever face, and that the 20 percent rule might be too conservative,” Manahan said. “That rule has served the Foundation well in these times.

“The Foundation Investment Committee continues to review the current investment environment and remains cautious in this time of economic uncertainty,” he added. “The Foundation has no debt and a strong cash flow.”

Manahan said the market value of the Foundation’s investments reached its lowest point in February 2009 with an unrealized loss of $20.9 million, or 34 percent. However, he said, “with the Investment Committee’s conservative policy and management philosophy, the Foundation’s unrealized loss as of April 1, 2010, was $3.8 million, or 6 percent. This has resulted in a $17.1 million, or 82 percent, turnaround from 2009.

ETSU continues to be a leader in private giving among colleges and universities in the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) system – the sixth largest system of higher education in the nation and the largest in the state. The TBR goal for private giving among four-year institutions is five percent of a school’s budgeted Educational and General (E&G) Expenditures. According to Manahan, ETSU’s private giving compared to E&G is 10.2 percent, while the four-year colleges and universities show an average of 7.4 percent.

The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) endowment study ranks ETSU 407 out of 863 institutions reporting, based on endowment value.

Foundation dollars continue to expand scholarship, teaching, research and service opportunities. Manahan noted that over $1.7 million in scholarships was awarded to approximately 800 students in 2009-10 – an increase of 120 scholarships from the previous year – enabling students to pursue their degrees at ETSU. Over the past decade, the Foundation has given more than $12.9 million in scholarships to ETSU students.

Funds raised to date for the ETSU Bill Gatton College of Pharmacy exceed $10.4 million from nearly 1,200 donors, and scholarship endowments for the college are in excess of $769,000 with an additional $570,000 in planned gifts for future Pharmacy scholarships. The university needs an additional $5.6 million to reach the fundraising goal of $16 million for the college, which already enrolls 360 students.

“These students marked another milestone for the college as the first class of pharmacy students graduated last week,” Manahan said. “The continued vision and leadership of ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr., founding Dean Dr. Larry Calhoun, and key regional partners working together are improving health care and providing a positive economic impact on local economies and additional educational opportunities in our region.”

The 11th class of students in the renowned Roan Scholars Leadership Program, envisioned and established by regional business entrepreneur and Foundation member Louis H. Gump, will enter ETSU this August. Previous entering classes were comprised of four scholars each, but annual scholarship sponsors this year allowed the addition of a fifth scholar for the incoming class. Commitments to the endowment for this innovative program to develop future community, regional and national leaders total $6.5 million, including $2.4 million in planned gifts. The goal for the endowment is $10 million. These funds will enable the Roan Scholars program to fulfill its mission of attracting and educating the region’s most promising young leaders.

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ETSU Foundation
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“This very important program is a shining example of ETSU’s commitment to the future of this region by emphasizing a leadership-focused educational experience for the Roan Scholars,” Manahan said.

Endowments for the ETSU Honors College exceed $1.3 million. The college was created in 2005 as a result of growth in the Honors Program, originally established in 1993 from seed money provided by the Woodrow W. and Margaret T. Catherman Scholarship Endowment from the Catherman Estate. The college provides “a wide array of quality educational opportunities,” including study abroad, undergraduate research, performing arts opportunities, and internships in Washington, D.C.

This year, two new Honors Scholarship endowments are being established in memory of two generous benefactors and past members of the Foundation board of directors, Dr. Shelton Reed, Kingsport, and Ken Simonds, Indian Wells, Calif. “Both gave tirelessly and selflessly of their time, talents and resources to the ETSU Foundation,” Manahan said.

This year, $34,000 was provided for the ETSU Foundation Distinguished Faculty and Staff Awards Program with recipients selected by their peers. These annual awards serve as an additional incentive and recognition for faculty and staff excellence in the classroom and the workplace as well as for service in the broader community.

In addition, giving levels to the Foundation from ETSU faculty, staff and retirees continue to grow. In the past five years, 1,196 employees contributed over $1.74 million to the Foundation, with this year’s gifts already exceeding $225,000. “This unified commitment to the betterment of the university will assist ETSU in achieving its mission and demonstrates the strong commitment of the faculty and staff to this university,” Manahan said.

Planned gifts to the “ETSU Legacy Circle Program” have exceeded $33.4 million these past seven years, with over 245 donors indicating the ETSU Foundation is included in their estate or financial planning through wills, charitable remainder trusts, life insurance or other methods. This year, pledges of more than $8.5 million have been received, with many others in process.

The ETSU PRIDE Walk was dedicated in October 2007 during the annual Homecoming celebration, when inscribed bricks, purchased by alumni and friends of the university, were installed in a special inaugural section. The opportunity was conceived as a way for individuals to leave a permanent mark on the university’s walkways for future generations to read and enjoy, and over 2,000 of these bricks now make up this monument.

Manahan announced that the second phase of the ETSU PRIDE Walk is currently being installed between Burgin E. Dossett Hall and the 26-bell ETSU Foundation Carillon, which was dedicated in 2005. The walk should be completed this summer, resulting in over 4,600 inscribed bricks and the completion of the link between Dossett Hall, the current administration building, and Gilbreath Hall, the oldest building on campus.

“As ETSU begins its university centennial yearlong celebration, the completion of this gift will clearly demonstrate the commitment and unique legacy of the people in this room and the entire ETSU Foundation and Alumni Association,” Manahan said.

Manahan noted that ETSU is in the sixth year of Reaching Higher, a non-traditional, comprehensive, needs-based, 10-year capital campaign encompassing “an evolving list of projects.” Private giving in this strategic plan exceeds $93.6 million, or 61.2 percent of the $152.9 million goal.

Donald R. Raber, chair of the Foundation’s Investment Committee, reported that for the 23rd consecutive year the Foundation achieved an “unqualified” audit report without any findings or recommendations. Manahan said the audit report “is a demonstration of the integrity and dedication of the Board of Directors and ETSU personnel in managing the private funds entrusted to the Foundation.”

The Foundation also remembered members who had passed away since the 2009 annual meeting: Reed; Simonds; Jim Allen and Ben Scharfstein, Johnson City; and Tom Lyle, Vienna, Va.

Manahan expressed appreciation for the work done by the Foundation membership.

“You have heard me say many times that our success in fundraising can be attributed to three principles: longevity of key volunteer leadership and university personnel working together as a team; strong, expert volunteer involvement in investment policies of the ETSU Foundation; and active involvement of academic leaders throughout the institution,” he said. “Our success is a direct reflection of your loyal and continued support. Thank you for all you do for your university.”

For more on the Foundation annual meeting, see page 10.

Child Study Center teacher earns national award

Stephanie Stephens, a teacher in the Child Study Center, recently received a 2010 Terri Lynne Lokoff/Children’s TYLENOL® National Child Care Teacher Award during a ceremony in Philadelphia.

The awards are presented annually to child care teachers from around the country who are selected through an application process. Applicants submit educational, age-appropriate projects they have designed for their classrooms. Each award recipient receives funds to implement the project, plus an individual cash award.

Stephens’ project was “Creating a Natural Outdoor Playscape,” which incorporated a variety of natural materials to an outdoor play area for children to independently investigate. Her plans called for increasing the size of the existing sound garden by including a willow hut, adding a permanent sand area, providing places for water and mud exploration, and planting trees and flowers.

“By adding these natural materials, I hope that the children will have more opportunities to use their imaginations and creative abilities,” she said.

Stephens, who holds a bachelor’s degree in early childhood development and a master’s degree in education from ETSU, began her professional career in the Child Study Center working with children ages 9-12 months. After earning her master’s, she

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Foundation elects 2010-2011 officers, recognizes new members

During its recent annual membership meeting, the ETSU Foundation announced the election of officers for its fiscal year beginning July 1.

Leslie Parks Pope, Kingsport, was re-elected as chair of the Foundation’s Board of Directors for 2010-11. The chair of The Parks Group, LLC, Johnson City, previously served as head of the Foundation’s board from 1991-94. Tim P. Jones, Johnson City, will continue on the board as immediate past chair.

Other officers re-elected for 2010-11 include D. Roger Kennedy, vice chair, Jonesborough, and several who will continue in their existing roles: Dr. Steve Conerly, Management Services/Strategic Planning, Johnson City, treasurer; M. Thomas Krieger, retired business executive, Jonesborough, secretary; Donald R. Raber, president, Aldebaran Financial Inc., Kingsport, chair of the Investment Committee; and Wayne G. Basler, Kingsport, representing past chairs of the board.

The late Stuart E. Wood Jr., who was president of Holston Distributing Co., Johnson City, had been re-elected chair of the Planned Giving Committee at the meeting, two weeks prior to his death on May 28. (See memorial on this page.)

The following were elected to serve a three-year term on the board of directors ending June 30, 2013: Dr. James W. Gibson, Richard L. Green, Sonia King and Dan Mahoney, Johnson City; and Dr. Roberta Herrin, Jonesborough.

Elected to fulfill the unfinished term on the board of directors of the late Kenneth Simonds was Sally Simonds, Indian Wells, Calif.

Elected to serve a second three-year term on the board of directors ending June 30, 2013, were: K. Newton Raff and Dennis L. Vonderfecht, Johnson City; Frederick “Pal” Barger, Kingsport; Dr. Susan Gentry Williams, Nashville; and David A. Ogle, Sevierville.

Five members who are retiring from the board of directors were recognized for their service: M. Scott Niswonger, Greeneville; Art Powers, Johnson City; Janey Diehl, Jonesborough; Eleanor Yoakum, Knoxville; and Michelle Livengood, Winston-Salem, N.C.

The membership of the Foundation is comprised of 450 individuals from throughout the region and across the nation who devote their time and financial resources to the continuous improvement of educational opportunities at ETSU. The Foundation welcomed 40 new members, including Sam Brumitt, Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Gary Harrell, and Mitzi W. McNab, all of Gray, and Loretta Belle Lyle of Greeneville. From Johnson City are Dr. Jeffrey Bieber; Dr. Virginia Bieber; Charlene Ehret, director, James H. Quillen Veterans Affairs Medical Center; Vickie Hinton; Dr. Art Hougland; Dr. Margaret Hougland; Valda Hicks Jones; Dr. Flora Joy; Henry Joy III; Jerome Julian, regional president, SunTrust Bank; Jim King; Dr. Mike Marchioni; Gerlad Medline; Martha Nan Meredith; Sarah G. Pope; Dr. Janice Shelton; Dan Simerly, president, Keller Glassco; Paul W. Stamm; David W. Wharton, Northeast Tennessee president, Regions Bank; Dr. Bettie Wilson; and Debra Wilson.

Other new members are Dr. Nancy Dishner, The Niswonger Foundation, and Kathy Linebarger, Jonesborough; William Argabrite, Hunter Smith & Davis, L.L.P., and Ron Bennett, president, Brock Services, Ltd., Kingsport; Dr. Robert F. Elder and The Honorable David Torbett, Knoxville; Dr. Harold Naramore, medical director, Blount Memorial Hospital, Maryville; Pearl Carrier, Piney Flats; Ellen Wilhoit, LeConte Medical Center, Sevierville; Dr. Harry Lee Williams, president, Delaware State University, Dover, Del.; James B. Brinkley, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mark Thomas, Mark Thomas & Associates, Atlanta; Sharon Clarke, Robbinsville, N.J.; and Cheryl Lang, CPA, Spartanburg, S.C.

In addition, 19 individuals renewed their membership in the Foundation through June 30, 2017: Dorothy Lee-Grisham and James A. Miller, Chattanooga; John Seward Jr., Elizabethton; Dr. Marc Aiken, A.R. “Freddy” Gonzalez, Richard L. Green, Dr. T. Watson Jernigan, Dr. Barbara Kimbrough, Dr. William R. Kincaid, Terry Muse, Arthur S. “Art” Powers and Dennis Vonderfecht, Johnson City; Dr. James W. Gibson and Dr. Roberta T. Herrin, Jonesborough; C.M. Boggs and Allan Rothwell, Kingsport; Kenny Chesney, Nashville; Mike Hulbert, Orlando, Fla.; and Gene Burleson, Atlanta, Ga.

University President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr.; ETSU Foundation Chair Leslie Parks Pope; Dr. Richard A. Manahan, vice president for University Advancement and Foundation president/CEO; and the Foundation Board of Directors expressed their appreciation to all these individuals for their support and service to ETSU.

In Memory

East Tennessee State University extends its deepest sympathy to the family and friends of

Stuart E. Wood Jr.,

who died Friday, May 28, at his Blountville home at the age of 72. The prominent Johnson City businessman, who founded and operated Holston Distributing Co. and numerous other businesses, was a longtime benefactor of ETSU and a member of the ETSU Foundation, serving the organization as president, chairman of the Foundation’s Planned Giving Committee, and co-chair of the Campaign for ETSU Tomorrow, which raised over $106 million in private support. Wood, a Platinum Society member of the ETSU Distinguished President’s Trust, received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Philanthropy in 2004 from Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor Dr. Charles Manning. The 1960 graduate of ETSU and U.S. Army veteran was named an Outstanding Alumnus in 1998.
ETSU Alumni Association honors 2010 Alumni Award winners

The ETSU Alumni Association announced recipients of the 2010 Alumni Awards, top honors that are presented to outstanding alumni and friends of the university, during the recent Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting.

Outstanding Alumni

Ann Nicks is the 2010 Outstanding Alumna. The Texas native entered North Texas State University at the age of 34, becoming a mentor to her younger peers before graduating with a bachelor’s degree in business. She then began working with “at risk” students at the high school level and grew to love working with young women who had life skills challenges. Within two years, she moved into the private school field, where she felt she would have more opportunities to work with women in transition. Nicks joined the Executive Secretarial School in Dallas as an instructor, and held several other positions within the school before ultimately being named dean.

While working with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), she met and married Dr. Roy S. Nicks, and moved to Nashville, where she became director of Academic Affairs at the corporate office of Education Corporation of America. In that position, she oversaw the academic success of 10 career schools and the SACS reaccreditation of seven of those schools. When her husband moved to Johnson City to become the seventh president of ETSU, she soon followed to serve as the city’s mayor in the early 1990s. He was president of the ETSU Alumni Association from 2004-06 and held a variety of roles on the association’s board for 13 years. He is one of the founders and creators of the annual ETSU PRIDE program and a member of both the ETSU Foundation and the College of Business and Technology Board of Advisors.

Distinguished Alumnus in Higher Education

Dr. Harry Lee Williams was named a Distinguished Alumnus in Higher Education. He earned his bachelor’s, master’s and education specialist degrees from Appalachian State University, Boone, N.C., before coming to ETSU to pursue his doctoral degree in educational leadership and policy analysis.

The Greenville, N.C., native began his career at ASU, holding positions in academic affairs, enrollment and diversity. Later, he joined the University of North Carolina General Administration, which he served as interim senior associate vice president for academic and student affairs, and also worked as a national marketing and recruitment senior associate consultant with the firm of Noel-Levitz.

Today, he is the 10th president of Delaware State University, which he had served as provost and vice president of academic affairs since 2008.

Awards of Honor

Awards of Honor were presented to Lois Carrier, Sharon S. Clarke and C. Don Royston.

An Elizabethton native, Carrier enrolled at ETSU in 1969 and graduated with a B.S. degree in music three years later. In 1977, she earned a master of arts in teaching degree. She taught high school for three years and explored other careers before becoming a certified financial planner through study at the College for Financial Planning. Today, she and her husband run an independent financial planning firm, Carrier & Maurice Investment Advisors, which she serves as president.

Clarke graduated magna cum laude from ETSU with a bachelor’s degree in microbiology and a minor in chemistry. After graduation, she joined Carter-Wallace as a pharmaceutical representative. She advanced in the company, holding the positions of manager of training and development, national sales director and vice president of sales, and when the company changed hands in 2008, she was promoted to her present position as president of Meda Pharmaceuticals. Today, she leads the multimillion-dollar organization and is a trustee for the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey.

Royston graduated from ETSU in 1973 with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. A year later, he went to work with Dent K. Burk Associates, P.C., and by 1982 he was a principal with the firm. Today, he chairs the Kingsport College Foundation, which is the advisory committee for ETSU at Kingsport, and also serves on the ETSU Department of Accountancy Advisory Board.

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Alumni Awards
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Royston also holds another important role in the community. Since 1999, he has played the role of Santa Claus on the Kingsport Chamber of Commerce/CSX Transportation “Santa Train,” and he is also actively involved in the Santa Train Scholarship Program.

Honorary Alumni

Dr. J. Scott Gentry, C. Edwin Parker, Carol Gardner Transou and Marcy E. Walker were named Honorary Alumni.

Gentry has spent his entire life tied to ETSU. His parents were long-time administrators and professors at the university, so he spent much of his childhood on campus. He earned a degree in pre-medicine biology from Wake Forest University and a doctorate in optometry from the University of Memphis before returning to Johnson City in 1981 to open a private practice, which he still operates today.

Gentry is one of the longest-serving current board members of the ETSU Buccaneer Athletic Scholarship Association. He is a member of the ETSU Foundation, Distinguished President’s Trust and Committee of 1000, as well as the ETSU sports medicine staff, where he continues to give his time and professional service in many ways.

Parker was born in Johnson City in 1919. After attending Bristol Commercial College, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps during World War II and the Korean War. When he returned to Johnson City, he earned his certified public accountant license, and in 1969, he established a firm, which later became Parker, Stewart, Shorter and Carden.

Parker later purchased Johnson City Bedding Company, which manufactures mattresses, box springs and other products. Today, the business remains in the family and is operated by his son, Robert. Parker is chairman of the board of directors.

Parker has funded scholarships for the ETSU College of Nursing and the nursing department at Carson-Newman College in memory of his late wife, Dorothy, who was a nurse and who passed away in 1983. He is also a member of the ETSU Foundation.

Transou, a native of Brentwood, graduated magna cum laude from Lindenwood College, Saint Charles, Mo., and did graduate work at Vanderbilt University, Converse College and ETSU. She taught American history for 25 years at Science Hill High School before retiring in 1992. In 1987, she was Tennessee Teacher of the Year, and she was named Tennessee’s first Teacher-Scholar by the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1990, an honor that allowed her to study the origins, experience and legacies of the Vietnam War, as well as travel to Vietnam and speak at a number of schools there.

Transou is a member of the selection committee of ETSU’s Roan Scholars Leadership Program, and also serves on the ETSU Foundation and the Johnson City Public Library Board.

Walker, who earned a bachelor’s degree in history and political science from Mercer University in 1978 and completed graduate training at the National Center for Paralegal Training in Atlanta, began her career as a legal assistant in Tampa and worked in commercial real estate and consulting in Chattanooga, Memphis and San Diego before settling in Johnson City in 1995.

Walker served two terms on the Johnson City Board of Education before being elected to the City Commission of Johnson City in 2007. She considers chairing the five-year capital campaign that culminated with the opening of the Niswonger Children’s Hospital at Johnson City Medical Center her greatest achievement since moving to the city. In addition to many other community activities, she serves ETSU as a member of the Buccaneer Athletic Scholarship Association.

Slocumb Galleries hosting variety of exhibits

A variety of exhibits are planned at Slocumb Galleries this summer.

On display now through June 4 is “Explosion of Color” by alumnus Tony Henson. He earned his M.F.A. from ETSU in 2000 and currently paints full-time while also teaching art history at Walters State Community College.

“Ambrosia Plums and Other Lovely Things” by artist and former U.S. diplomat Theresa Markiw will be shown at the Tipton Gallery, 126 Spring St., from June 3-7 during Johnson City’s Blue Plum Festival. The public may meet the artist June 4 from 5-8 p.m. and June 5 from noon-6 p.m.

For more information, call Slocumb Galleries at 483-3179.
Stephens
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began working with a new group of children, who were ages 7-21 months.

“This was the first multi-age classroom at our center, and we grew to love the multi-age concept in a child care setting,” Stephens said. “My co-teachers and I created a curriculum that was beneficial to all the children. I am currently working with the same group of children, who are now ages 2-3 (years).”

She has spoken on various topics on early care and education at professional conferences and local training sessions.

The award is sponsored by the Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Foundation (TLLCCF), which was founded in 1987 by Kay and Fred Lokoff to honor the memory of their daughter, who died in a car accident in 1986. Lokoff, who was dedicated to improving child care, “had an extraordinary sense of devotion and love for her work … (and) felt strongly about the need for high-quality child care for all children,” according to the TLLCCF.

The foundation supports nonsectarian, nonprofit child care programs dedicated to excellence and raising awareness of the critical role of high-quality early care and education plays in commerce and society.