

THEC approves ETSU plan to divide College of Public and Allied Health

Another step toward the establishment of a College of Public Health at ETSU was taken Thursday, Jan. 25, when the Tennessee Higher Education Commission approved the university's proposal to divide its current College of Public and Allied Health into two separate colleges.

This means that ETSU can now present the request to the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) for final authorization.

"In order for ETSU to have a College of Public Health, we must first separate our current public health programs from those in the allied health sciences, which include audiology, physical therapy, dental hygiene, radiography, cardiopulmonary science, and speech-language pathology," said Dr. Randy Wykoff, dean of Public and Allied Health. "Those will become the foundation of a new ETSU College of Allied Health Sciences."

If CEPH approves ETSU's request, the university will then begin working toward transitioning its accredited program in public health into an accredited College of Public Health.

"There are currently only two universities – the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Alabama at Birmingham – in the Appalachian region that have a CEPH-accredited public health college, so the need remains great," Wykoff said. "It will be the first of its kind in Tennessee and will focus on education and research aimed at improving our understanding of various diseases and ways these may be prevented."

Wykoff added that having a College of Public Health would allow ETSU to expand its educational offerings, as well as the scope of its research, and to better address some of the health challenges

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Hungarian scientist holds Basler Chair of Excellence this spring

Dr. György (George) Kampis of Budapest, Hungary, is chairholder of ETSU's Wayne G. Basler Chair of Excellence in the Arts, Rhetoric and Science this spring semester.



Dr. George Kampis

Kampis is professor and founding chair of the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at Eötvös University, Budapest, Hungary's premier research university. He is founding director of the Budapest Semester in Cognitive Science and co-founder of the Ph.D. School in the History of Science at Budapest Technical University (BTU), as well as an advisory board member for both the Center for Cognitive Science

at BTU and the Center for Complex Systems Studies at Kalamazoo (Mich.) College.

Kampis has won many awards and grants, including a Prize of the Academic Research Groups of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, an Ervin Bauer Prize of the Hungarian Biological Society, an Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship in Germany, a Fujitsu Research Professorship in Japan, several guest professorships, and more.

Kampis' areas of expertise range from evolution theory and modeling to consciousness and the philosophy of causality. Evolution, however, is a unifying theme of his work, and he has become a translator of Darwin. His 2000 Hungarian translation of

Darwin's *The Origin of Species* is currently in its third edition. He makes frequent media appearances in his native Hungary, and a recent one-hour lecture on "Evolution and Intelligent Design" was

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Has spring arrived at ETSU?

Sorry ... not just yet! This lovely flowering apricot tree is just one of several winter-blooming species in the ETSU Arboretum. For an article on this and other plants that add color (and fragrance!) to the otherwise dreary winter landscape, see page 8.

Basler Chair of Excellence

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featured on national television channels in that country.

Kampis holds a master's degree in technical physics from BTU and doctoral

degrees from Eötvös University and the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in the fields of cognitive ethology, philosophy and theoretical biology. He has completed numerous editing projects and assisted in organizing various conferences in his field.

As the Basler chairholder, Kampis is teaching two special courses this semester in ETSU's Department of Biological Sciences — "Complex Biological Systems," co-taught by his faculty sponsor, Associate Professor Dr. Steve Karsai, and "The Biology of Consciousness"; these courses are designed not only for biology students, but for psychology, philosophy and mathematics students, as well. He will also teach part of the "Great Ideas in Science" course for ETSU honors students and co-chair three students' honors theses.

Kampis and Karsai are working on research on biological complexity and the role of phenotype plasticity in evolution.

In addition, Kampis is presenting a series of free public lectures. "The Evolution of Species in Artificial Life Models" is the topic

of his Feb. 6 lecture, in which he will discuss the enterprise of artificial life in general and the challenges it poses for evolutionary modeling, and review work on the FATINT system, an interaction-based evolutionary model. His other lectures include "Complexity Theory in Biological and Social Systems" on March 14 and "Consciousness in the Body" on April 12. Each begins at 7 p.m. in the Brown Hall auditorium.

Created in 1994, the Wayne G. Basler Chair of Excellence for the Integration of the Arts, Rhetoric and Science is named in honor of a longtime member of the ETSU Foundation who is a strong advocate of programs at the university. Basler has a deep commitment to the liberal arts, which was instilled in him by his mother, who taught music, and his father, who taught industrial arts.

Through Basler's generosity, the Chair of Excellence brings a variety of scholars to the community to broaden opportunities for students and the general public in the arts, humanities and science. The chair is intended to show the unity of knowledge, to bridge gaps among disciplines, and to help university students, faculty and staff, as well as students and teachers in public schools and the general public, to move beyond the narrow focus of a single discipline or vision.

For more information, call the College of Arts and Sciences at 439-5671 or the Department of Biological Sciences at 439-4329.

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Photographs to accompany the article, "Winter Blooming at the ETSU Arboretum," courtesy of Drs. Foster Levy and Timothy McDowell, Biological Sciences, unless otherwise noted.

East Tennessee State University is a Tennessee Board of Regents institution. The TBR is the nation's sixth largest higher education system, governing 45 post-secondary educational institutions. The TBR system includes six universities, 13 two-year colleges and 26 technology centers, providing programs to over 180,000 students in 90 of Tennessee's 95 counties.

Accreditation

Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

East Tennessee State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Ga., telephone number 404-679-4501) to award certificate, associate, bachelor's, master's, educational specialist, doctor of education, Ph.D. and M.D. degrees.

East Tennessee State University is fully in accord with the belief that educational and employment opportunities should be available to all eligible persons without regard to age, gender, color, race, religion, national origin, disability, veteran status or sexual orientation.

ETSU makes available to prospective students and employees the ETSU Security Information Report. This annual report includes campus crime statistics for the three most recent calendar years and various campus policies concerning law enforcement, the reporting of criminal activity, and crime prevention programs. The ETSU Security Information Report is available upon request from ETSU, Department of Public Safety, Box 70646, Johnson City, TN 37614-1702. The report can be accessed on the Internet at: http://www.etsu.edu/dps/security_report.asp.

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Public Health

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of East Tennessee and the region. Last year, the university received approval for two new doctoral degrees in public health and environmental health sciences.

It is anticipated that ETSU will present its proposal to CEPH in October.

Celebration of Life

Dr. Jay Boland

Feb. 8, 5 p.m., D.P. Culp Center, Martha Street Culp Auditorium

All faculty, staff, students and alumni are invited to celebrate the life of Dr. Jay Boland, director of University Honors Programs and professor of Mathematics, who passed away Dec. 16.

Anyone who wishes to share their memories of Dr. Boland or condolences to the family may write them in a card or letter, one for his wife and stepchildren, and one for his parents and siblings. These will be placed in memory boxes and presented to his family after the service. Cards and letters may be mailed to the Honors College, Box 70589, or University Honors Programs, Box 70294; or they may be brought to the Honors House at 914 W. Maple Street, the Honors College office in 129 Yoakley Hall, or to the Celebration of Life.

For more information, call 439-6456 or 439-6076.

ETSU, Eastern Band of Cherokee sign instructional credit agreement

ETSU and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI) in Cherokee, N.C., have renewed their instructional credit agreement allowing EBCI members to attend ETSU at in-state rates.

EBCI members who enroll for courses must meet standard admission and registration requirements for the university.

Principal Chief Michell Hicks formally signed the agreement for the EBCI, and Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Bert C. Bach signed on ETSU's behalf, as did Dr. Norma MacRae, vice provost for Academic Support and Public Service, and dean of the School of Continuing Studies.

As MacRae noted, "ETSU is renewing a long-standing partnership with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and we're very proud to do so. We have had a number of EBCI members attend ETSU in the past, and we currently enroll several students."

While expressing appreciation to the university on behalf of the EBCI, Hicks mentioned that one tribe member is an ETSU alumna who owns a construction business in Cherokee for which she recently received the Minority Business Enterprise Award for Western North Carolina.

Attending the campus signing ceremony with Hicks were Annette Clapsaddle, assistant to the principal chief; Brently "Tate"



ETSU Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Bert C. Bach signs the agreement with Principal Chief Michell Hicks, Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indians.

McCoy, program manager; Rachel Mathis, education program supervisor; Leann Reed, education program specialist; and Lynne Harlan, public relations coordinator for the EBCI.

Center of Excellence in Mathematics and Science Education works to close science achievement gap in Northeast Tennessee

"Reaching for Excellence in Middle and High School Science" is a partnership among the Tennessee Department of Education (TDOE), 11 school districts in Northeast Tennessee and ETSU, designed to bring improvements to the region's science programs for middle and high school students.

In the College of Arts and Sciences, the departments of Biological Sciences, Chemistry, and Physics, Astronomy, and Geology, along with the Claudius G. Clemmer College of Education's Department of Curriculum and Instruction, are the university's major entities within this partnership.

During the last three years, over 75 regional science teachers for grades 6-12 have completed the final leg of a professional development journey into science education leadership by participating in summer institutes at ETSU with follow-up activities during the academic year.

ETSU has received TDOE funding for a new project involving an additional 90 science teachers to be trained over the next 36 months, bringing the total funding commitment in the past four years to nearly \$1.4 million for the improvement of science education in the region's schools.

Throughout the past two decades, 475 science and math teachers have been trained with funding from various agencies totaling more than \$6 million.

"Due to the hard work of all the partners, teacher participants are poised to lead improvements in science teaching and learning in their own schools," said Dr. Jack Rhoton, executive director of

ETSU's Center of Excellence in Mathematics and Science Education and principal investigator for the new project.

Co-principal investigators are Dr. Timothy McDowell, associate professor, Biological Sciences; Dr. Gary Henson, assistant professor, Physics, Astronomy, and Geology; and Dr. Chu-Ngi Ho, associate professor, Chemistry.

Rhoton says the project provides training in both content and instructional strategies; prepares teachers to become "highly qualified" in science teaching as defined by the state; increases achievement and reduces achievement gaps in middle and high school science for students in grades 6-12 in partner school districts; and provides each partnering school appropriate resources and science tools to implement the project goals.

Experiences designed to advance that learning initiated in the summer institutes continue well into the school year. Returning to their schools and applying what they learned in their own classrooms raises new questions by the teachers. The ETSU project staff then provides follow-up activities by visiting middle and high school classrooms and role-modeling effective science teaching.

"A major asset of the project has been establishing partnerships and collaborative relationships with educational institutions and other groups interested in improving science education and assisting schools in reducing the science achievement gap," Rhoton adds.

For more information, contact Rhoton at 439-7589 or rhotonj@etsu.edu.

ETSU performance score at top among state public four-year universities

ETSU earned a score of 96 out of a possible 100 in the 2005-2006 Tennessee performance funding program, tying Tennessee Tech for the top spot among the state's public four-year universities.

Performance funding is an incentive-based initiative for Tennessee public higher education that financially rewards universities and community colleges for results on selected measures of achievement. Institutions can receive up to 5.45 percent over and above their annual state appropriations.

The performance funding evaluation measures improvements in the following: student learning in critical thinking and the major field, student satisfaction, accreditation and academic program reviews, retention and graduation, strategic goals, articulation and transfer, use of national benchmark data in institutional planning, and assessment of the university quality enhancement plan.

The following five areas contributed

most to ETSU's success in the performance funding evaluation:

- ◆ The critical thinking skills and knowledge of seniors in their major fields were better than comparable groups in the areas examined for 2005-2006 (special education, elementary education, dental hygiene, nursing and speech).
- ◆ All programs that are eligible are accredited, and reviewed programs (General Studies and Liberal Studies) met standards.
- ◆ ETSU achieved annual benchmarks of targeted strategic goals: Increasing dual enrollment opportunities, the number of scholarships, and the opportunities to improve student preparation.
- ◆ The university successfully used national benchmark data for institutional planning and improvement.
- ◆ ETSU reported efforts to help students succeed academically through its Quality Enhancement Plan, especially in the

areas of course improvements and access to quality advisement.

Dr. Cynthia Burnley, ETSU assistant vice president for Assessment and Performance Funding, carries responsibility for the university's participation in the program. "Our performance funding success is a result of many faculty and staff focusing on improving our academic programs while the students are working hard to achieve the knowledge and skills in the academic programs," she says.

"ETSU is gratified that it received 96 points on the state's assessment of educational quality," said Dr. Bert Bach, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs. "We believe our score is a visible testament to the quality of ETSU's academic programs, our student learning, and institutional services provided to students. This score also represents external confirmation of the quality of this university's planning, evaluation, and commitment to public accountability."

Now & Then magazine celebrates regional institutions

The last interview ever done with the late novelist Wilma Dykeman is featured in the newest issue of *Now & Then*, a magazine published by the Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (CASS) at ETSU.

In an interview with Linda Behrend of Knoxville, on the porch of Dykeman's girlhood home in Asheville, N.C., the venerated writer explained why she continued the practice of keeping a journal until the end of her life and recounted her first words, "Wadie (water) comin' down." Dykeman's first book, published in 1955, told the history of the French Broad River.

Dykeman would go on to write nearly two dozen books, before her death on Dec. 22, 2006, at age 86. She was chosen for inclusion in the magazine since its theme is "Celebrating Appalachian Institutions."

Elsewhere in *Now & Then*, retired Virginia Tech theatre professor Barbara Carlisle examines the history of The Barter Theatre

in Abingdon, Va., tracing its evolution from emulating New York City stagecraft to embracing the artistry of Appalachia.

Other Appalachian institutions profiled in the magazine are North Carolina's Crossnore School, the Appalachian League, the YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly, the Southern Appalachian Labor School, the Ciderville Music Store near Knoxville, and United States Sen. Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia.

Writer Katey Schultz reflects on her experience as a teacher at the Arthur Morgan School in Burnsville, N.C., where middle-school-aged children are guided by the teachings of Gandhi and the philosophy of the Quakers.

Odessa Woolfolk, founding director of the Birmingham (Ala.) Civil Rights Institute, tells of her personal journey from segregation to reconciliation and how the creation of the institute helped Birmingham overcome its painful, racist history once enforced by water hoses and police dogs.

Music editor Wayne Winkler visits three of the region's shrines of live music, and heirloom recipes direct readers in the preparation of turtle stew and homemade tomato ketchup.

Upcoming themes include "Digging Appalachia," and "Wildness in Appalachia."

The new *Now & Then* is available in Johnson City at The Shamrock Beverage and Tobacco Shop, 300 W. Walnut St.; the ETSU Bookstore in the D.P. Culp Center; and Barnes & Noble, 3030 Franklin Terrace Drive; in Jonesborough at the Historic Jonesborough Visitors Center, 117 Boone St.; in Kingsport at Wallace News, 205 Broad St.; in Bristol at Fandango, 511 State St.; in Abingdon at the William King Regional Arts Center, 415 Academy Drive; and in Asheville at Downtown Books and News, 67 N. Lexington.

To subscribe, contact CASS at 439-7994 or nowandthen@etsu.edu.

ETSU celebrates Black History Month

February is Black History Month, and ETSU has a full line-up of activities to celebrate the observance. The following events are open to the public and free unless otherwise noted.

Black History Month Ribbon Giveaway

Feb. 1-2, 27-28, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.,

D.P. Culp Center, second and third floors

Red, black and green ribbons will be given in commemoration of Black History Month. Information about African Americans' contributions will be distributed. Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Black Affairs Association.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

Feb. 6

In observance of this day, red ribbons will be distributed to symbolize the fight against HIV/AIDS. Information will be available at educational booths on the second and third floors of the D.P. Culp Center from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. From 3-4:45 p.m. in meeting room 6 on the third floor of the Culp Center, OralQuick HIV testing kits will be provided by Hope of Tennessee; confidential results will be ready within 20 minutes, and counseling will also be available. Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

African and African American Studies Lecture: Adam Dickson on 2006 Congressional Elections

Feb. 6, 7 p.m., Carroll Reece Museum

"An Analysis of the 2006 Congressional Elections and the Consequences for African Americans" will be addressed by ETSU alumnus Adam G. Dickson, who will focus on several races in the 2006 elections and the role African Americans will play in the new Congress. For more information, see the article on page 7. Sponsored by African and African American Studies.

Contact: Dr. Dorothy Drinkard-Hawkshawe, 439-6688 or drinkard@etsu.edu



The Black History Month Ribbon Giveaway



Rev. Vincent Dial, an area pastor, educator and musician, performs with the Mass Choir of Johnson City's Friendship Baptist Church during "A History of Gospel Music," a 2005 Black History Month program presented by the African and African American Studies Program.

Theatrical Production: 'Chocolate on the Outside'

Feb. 9, 10 a.m., D.P. Culp Center,

Martha Street Culp Auditorium

This theatrical play, written by April Turner and presented by Life as Art Productions, concerns four African American coworkers who set out for a team-building workshop retreat in the snow-blown Appalachian mountains. The roads soon become impassable, leaving them stranded in a dusty, ill-equipped cabin, where they embark on a path of greater understanding through the power of forgiveness. For more information, see the article on page 7. Free to ETSU students and sponsored by the Black Faculty and Staff Association.

Contact: Lea Brown, 439-7842, and Joy Fulkerson, 439-6633

Black Faculty and Staff

Association Dinner and Play

Feb. 10, 6:30 p.m., D.P. Culp Center ballroom

The evening begins with the Black Faculty and Staff Association's annual awards dinner in the ballroom, followed by the play, "Chocolate on the Outside" (see page 7), at 8 p.m. in the Culp Center's Martha Street Culp Auditorium. The cost for both the dinner and the play is \$30 per person, with proceeds going to the BFSA student book fund. Call for tickets.

Contact: Edith Tillman, 439-4280, or Taste Budz, 926-9304

Traveling Exhibit: 'Eyes Wide Open'

Feb. 12-16, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Sherrod Library, Borchuck Plaza

The American Friends Service Committee's widely acclaimed exhibition on the human cost of the Iraq War features a pair of boots honoring each U.S. military casualty. The boots that will be displayed on campus represent soldiers from Tennessee who have fallen in the line of duty. Families, friends and the general public

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Black History Month Schedule

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Black History 'Jeopardy!'

are invited to honor and grieve those who gave their lives far from home in the war against terrorism. An opening program will be held Feb. 12 to detail the significance of the week-long exhibit; soldiers, veterans, and families of fallen soldiers are welcome to share their experiences and stories with the campus community. Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

Theatrical Production: 'The Meeting'

*Feb. 13, 7 p.m., D.P. Culp Center,
Martha Street Culp Auditorium*

This play depicts what might have happened if Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr. had met before they were assassinated, just three years apart. This critically acclaimed, powerful drama explores the lives, philosophies and times of these two Civil Rights leaders. Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Black Affairs Association.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

Semi-Formal Dance: 'An Evening of Elegance'

Feb. 17, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., D.P. Culp Center ballroom

This annual dance gives students an opportunity to dress up, dance and enjoy the evening. All students are welcome, and refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, Black Affairs Association and Residence Hall Association.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

Multicultural Career Fair

Feb. 20, noon-3 p.m., D.P. Culp Center ballroom

Businesses, corporations and organizations from surrounding states visit to recruit students and allow them to explore the opportunities they have to offer. Students are encouraged to bring resumes, dress professionally and be prepared for interviews. Co-sponsored by the offices of Multicultural Affairs and Career Placement and Internship Services.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

Black History 'Jeopardy!'

Feb. 21, 7 p.m., D.P. Culp Center, meeting room 6

Do you know who created the stoplight? What year was the March on Washington? Come test your Black History knowledge and watch contestants compete for prizes. Organizations are welcome to participate. Those interested must sign up and receive an informational packet by stopping by the Student Organization Resource Center on the lower level of the Culp Center or by e-mailing mcstaff@etsu.edu. Sponsored by the Black Affairs Association.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu

African and African American Studies Lecture:

Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth on Civil Rights Movement

Feb. 22, 6 p.m., Carroll Reece Museum

"The Civil Rights Movement: The Struggle and Consequences" is the topic of this lecture by Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth, a leader of the Civil Rights Movement during the late 1950s and 1960s and a co-founder of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Shuttlesworth is considered one of the "big three" of the Civil Rights movement, along with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Rev. Ralph Abernathy. See the next issue of *ETSU Accent* for more information. Sponsored by African and African American Studies.

Contact: Dr. Dorothy Drinkard-Hawkshawe, 439-6688 or drinkard@etsu.edu

Gospel Extravaganza

*Feb. 25, 3:30 p.m., D.P. Culp Center,
Martha Street Culp Auditorium*

This spring concert features performances by the ETSU Gospel Choir and other local choirs.

Contact: Multicultural Affairs, 439-6633 or mcstaff@etsu.edu



Gospel Extravaganza

ETSU alumnus to speak on role of African Americans in new Congress

ETSU alumnus Adam G. Dickson will give "An Analysis of the 2006 Congressional Elections and the Consequences for African Americans" in a talk on Tuesday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. in the Carroll Reece Museum.

His free public appearance, held in conjunction with Black History Month, is part of ETSU's African and African American Studies Lecture Series.

Dickson will focus on several key races in the 2006 elections and the role African Americans will play in the new Congress. He

believes they will play a very strong role and points to the record number of African Americans now chairing congressional committees, including Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., Ways and Means; Rep. Bennie Thompson, D-Miss., Homeland Security; Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., Judiciary; and others.

"About 35 years ago, when the Congressional Black Caucus was formed, there were 13 members," he said. "Now there are 43. So this indicates substantial progress and substantial clout that they've acquired over those years."

Dickson, who holds a B.A. in political science from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, and earned a master of public administration degree from ETSU in 2004, is state advocacy manager for the American Association of Ambulatory Surgery Centers in Boones Creek.

For more information, contact Dr. Dorothy Drinkard-Hawkshawe, ETSU professor of History and director of African and African American Studies, at 439-6688 or drinkard@etsu.edu.

'Chocolate on the Outside' to be performed at ETSU

"Chocolate on the Outside," a critically acclaimed play by April Turner, will be performed at ETSU as part of Black History Month activities.

ETSU's Black Faculty and Staff Association is sponsoring this play, which will be presented by Life as Art Productions twice in the D.P. Culp Center's Martha Street Culp Auditorium. The first performance at 10 a.m. on Friday, Feb. 9, is free to ETSU students, and the second at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 10, is in conjunction with the BFSA's annual awards dinner, which begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Culp Center ballroom. Tickets to the dinner and play are \$30 per person, with proceeds going to the BFSA student book fund.

"Chocolate on the Outside" concerns four African American coworkers who set out for a team-building workshop retreat in the snow-blown Appalachian mountains. The roads soon become impassable, leaving them

stranded in a dusty, ill-equipped cabin.

Despite personality conflicts, the four eventually agree to pass the time by engaging in a series of games, through which they inadvertently confront one another and explore intra-racial issues that afflict many African Americans – matters of hair, complexion, selling out, black love and middle class guilt. They ultimately find themselves gaining the courage to embark on a path of greater understanding through the power of forgiveness.

The *Charlotte Post* calls the play "an intelligently written, well-acted drama with comedy," and Dr. Donald Mager of Johnson C. Smith University describes it as "a tightly constructed 'social problem' play in the tradition of Ibsen, Shaw, Baldwin and Hansberry ... a well-honed and vibrant piece."

This play is one of 12 penned by Turner, who is also an accomplished stage and screen actress, director and motivational speaker. Among her other plays are

"Nikky's Gone," "Starlight and Moonshine Times" and "Pickle and Lil' Junior," and her television credits include appearances on NBC's "ER" and "Surface" and WB's "One Tree Hill."

Turner frequently conducts theater and playwriting residencies for various age groups and presents workshops in theater movement, African dance and acting through her Life as Art Productions company, based in Charlotte, N.C. This full-service touring arts organization offers socially conscious plays, concerts, mini-shows and more at colleges, universities, community centers, cultural institutions, professional theaters, conferences and corporate events throughout the country.

For more information on the performance for students, call Lea Brown at (423) 439-7842 or Joy Fulkerson at 439-6633. For tickets or more information on the BFSA awards dinner and play, call Edith Tillman at 439-4280 or Taste Budz at 926-9304.

Poet, author R.T. Smith to give reading

A reading by poet and fiction writer R.T. Smith will be held at ETSU on Wednesday, Feb. 7, at 7 p.m. in room 225 of Roy S. Nicks Hall.

The author of 12 volumes of poetry, including *Messenger*, *Trespasser* and *Brightwood*, also has a highly praised, recent collection of short stories entitled *Uke Rivers Delivers*. As Lee Smith says of this latest work, "...these brilliant stories astonish with their extravagant language, piercing insights

and deep compassion."

According to LSU Press, Smith is "deeply aware of his southernness, both on the surface (pickup trucks and fiddles) and in depth (racial injustice and the peculiarities of masculinity)." And the *Richmond (Va.) Times Dispatch* declares, "R.T. Smith is simply one of the best."

The free public reading is sponsored by the Department of English. For more information, call Dr. Don Johnson at 439-6682.

On winter
**"In the depth of winter,
I finally learned that
within me there lay an
invincible summer."**

— *Albert Camus, author
and philosopher*

Winter Blooming at the ETSU Arboretum

Mid-winter is not the typical time to read a column on “What’s blooming in the garden?” But there is plenty of flowering activity happening at the ETSU Arboretum, and it is not necessarily an indicator of global warming.

By carefully selecting winter-blooming species, your garden can have attractive floral displays in January and February. Most of the winter flowering plants can be obtained locally. Because we tend to visit garden centers and nurseries in the spring, when the winter flowering species have finished their flower show, these plants can easily be missed while browsing for garden additions. So, let’s take a look at the trees and shrubs that naturally bloom during winter.

First, almost all of us notice the yellow flowers during a January warm spell that prompt people to say, “The forsythia are blooming already!” Well, there may be some stray forsythia blooms throughout winter, but take a closer look at those shrubs that are covered in yellow flowers. If the flowers have a narrow, tubular shape and they are borne on green arching stems, that is the yellow or winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*). Although not fragrant like some of its relatives, winter jasmine is fully

hardy in our area and reliably blooms in January. A show of cascading stems lines the walls along the south side of ETSU’s Burgin E. Dossett Hall administration building.

Flowering quince (several species in the genera *Cydonia* and *Chaenomeles*) is another old-timey stand-by whose white, pink or red flowers cover the sprawling bushes in mid-winter. These shrubs demand little attention other than a sunny location. Quince flowers resemble those of crabapples, pears and apples, all close relatives.

The witch hazel family is most noteworthy for the number of different winter blooming species. Our native witch hazel (*Hamamelis virginiana*), the one whose extracts are used cosmetically and medicinally, is the last woody plant to bloom in the fall, with flowering extending to around Thanksgiving.

But of all its close relatives, the Ozark witch hazel and the two Asian witch hazels are in flower now, in mid-winter. The Chinese witch hazel (*Hamamelis mollis*) has showy, bright yellow flowers on bare stems. The fragrance of those flowers can easily perfume your garden.

Most commonly offered for sale in nurseries are hybrids (*Hamamelis x intermedia*) between the Chinese and Japanese witch

hazels. Although usually not as fragrant, the flowers on hybrid plants can range from sunburst yellow to copper and crimson.

The Ozark species (*Hamamelis vernalis*) has smaller flowers, but it is very cold-hardy and is a fast grower.

All witch hazels do well on woodland edges or in full sun in a rich soil that doesn’t dry out.

Two other members of the witch hazel family also flower quite well in winter. Chinese loropetalum (*Loropetalum chinensis*) is an arching, multi-stemmed shrub with pink-purple or cream-white flowers. Forms with deep green leaves or with burgundy/purple leaves are widely available. Loropetalums usually flower several times during the year. A new addition to American gardens, also from east Asia, is *Distylium myricoides* (“myrtle-leaf Distylium”), a low-growing shrub. Our specimen is covered with flowers noteworthy for their deep red petal-like anthers (pollen sacs).

At the ETSU Arboretum, these witch hazels and relatives can be seen in the “Ancient Flowering Plants” garden on the east side of Brown Hall. A new planting of hybrid witch hazels surrounds the willow tree across the street from the west side of Brown Hall.

In addition to showy flowers, some of the winter-blooming species are exceptionally fragrant. The winter flowering daphnes include the February daphne (*Daphne mezereum*), a rounded shrub covered with aromatic flowers, and the fragrant daphnae (*Daphne odora*) which has lavender-pink flowers, also superbly scented. Be forewarned that while winter hardy to our region, daphnes have a reputation for dying for no apparent reason. But give them good drainage and fertile soil, and they do well in our region. In the ETSU Arboretum, daphnes are planted in the dwarf conifer garden surrounding the Veterans Memorial, located in front of Memorial Hall (Brooks Gym).

Strongly fragrant yellow flowers are in full bloom on the wintersweet bush (*Chimonanthus praecox*). The aptly named wintersweet, an Asian species, is related to our bubbybush or Carolina allspice (*Calycanthus floridus*) and to the magnolias. Although typically blooming in January and February, temperatures into single digits will not damage wintersweet flowers.

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Hybrid copper witch hazel

Winter Blooming

Continued from page 8

By mid-February, we can enjoy the pre-spring blossoms of the aromatic spice Viburnums, such as *Viburnum x carlcephalum* and *Viburnum carlesii*. The fragrant flowers of these small shrubs give a rich, gardenia-like perfume. The flowers are a delicate pink in bud, and the open petals are snowy white, with the flowers in tight clusters. These species can be seen in the Arboretum's "Trees for Tomorrow" plantings along State of Franklin Road across from Pal's Sudden Service.

Many weeks before our native flowering dogwoods bloom, the yellow flowers open

cornelian cherries are far from showy – they lack the big white “petals” (modified leaves) of the flowering dogwood. In February, however, the modest bright yellow blooms of the cornelian cherries (*Cornus mas*, *Cornus officinalis*) are a fine sight.

Without question, the most spectacular flowering show in winter is put on by the flowering apricots (*Prunus mume*). These small trees from Japan are covered in buds by Christmas, and flower profusely in January. Yes, some very cold temperatures will ruin the flowers that are open, but the unopened buds will produce more flowers.



Photo courtesy of ETSU Photo Lab

A close-up of the flowering apricot



The Distylium is a member of the witch hazel family.

on their European and Oriental relatives, the cornelian cherries. Their name refers to their heritage as members of the dogwood clan (genus *Cornus*, hence “cornelian”) and to their cherry-like fruits. The flowers of

Regardless, who can complain if low temperatures take out flowers after you get two weeks of vivid flowering in mid-winter? Nurseries carry selections whose flowers range from pink to maroon, with either sin-

gle or double flowers. Visit the parking lot between Brown Hall and University School to see ETSU's four Japanese apricot trees, all in full flower. These trees were planted only four years ago!

All of these winter-flowering trees and shrubs can be found for sale by mail order or at a local garden center. If they do not have the plants you want, ask about ordering them. For online shoppers, good selection and quality plants are available at Forest Farm Nursery (www.ForestFarm.com), Camellia Forest Nursery (www.camforest.com) and Greer Gardens (www.greergardens.com), to name a few. The plants can be planted whenever the ground gets above freezing. Their flowers will be a welcome sight in winters to come!

A free, detailed map of trees in the ETSU Arboretum is available at several campus locations – the Sherrod Library, Brown Hall, the Reece Museum and the Arboretum kiosk outside the D.P. Culp Center – or by request by calling 439-8635.

For more information on winter plants or the ETSU Arboretum, contact Dr. Foster “Frosty” Levy at 439-6926 or levyf@etsu.edu, or Dr. Timothy McDowell at 439-8635 or mcdowellt@etsu.edu.

Slocumb Galleries hosting SACI faculty traveling exhibit

The Studio Art Centers International (SACI) Faculty Exhibition is on display through Feb. 9 at ETSU's Slocumb Galleries.

A reception will be held Friday, Feb. 2, at 5 p.m. at Slocumb in conjunction with Johnson City's monthly First Friday celebration. Guests of honor will be ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr. and SACI-U.S. National Coordinator Jim Miller.

This traveling exhibition is part of the touring show of work by fine arts instructors from SACI-Florence, Italy, that began its journey last August. ETSU is one of seven U.S. universities, all SACI Consortium member institutions, hosting this show through June. It is co-sponsored by the Department of Art and Design in the ETSU College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of International Programs and Services in the ETSU Honors College, and Alta Cucina Italian Cuisine of Johnson City.

Artists whose creations are included in this exhibit are from many countries – Italy, the U.S., England, Canada, France, Germany, Serbia and Switzerland – and the art they have created is as varied as their nationalities. Among their ranks are painters, printmakers, sculptors, photographers, designers, architects, jewelry makers, weavers and multimedia artists. A number work with diverse materials in more than one discipline, and each artist focuses on a

striking range of subject matter.

The presence of artists and educators from so many different countries offers SACI students multiple opportunities to gain exposure to a wide array of styles, skills and ideas.

Founded by artist Jules Maidoff in 1975 and incorporated as a not-for-profit U.S. institution in 1976, SACI is the oldest and most prestigious American art school in Florence and the only school administered through the Institute of International Education, the organization that manages the Fulbright Scholarship Program. SACI is distinguished not only by its remarkable breadth of course offerings – including studio art, design, crafts, art history, art conservation, and Italian culture and language – but by its commitment to ensuring that students gain maximum exposure to Italian art and culture.

In conjunction with the SACI exhibit, a series of lectures addressing international study, foreign research and other opportunities related to international education is scheduled:

- ♦ Maria Costa, ETSU director of International Programs and Services, will discuss the International Student Exchange Program on Tuesday, Jan. 30, from 2:10-3:40 p.m. in the Ball Hall auditorium.

- ♦ Also on Jan. 30, at 6 p.m., Dr. Henry Antkiewicz, ETSU professor of History, and other university faculty will present images and artifacts from the Summer 2006 China Experience at Nelson Fine Arts Center, 324 E. Main St. This session is sponsored by the Tennessee Association of Craft Artists.

- ♦ "Art Travels," a discussion by ETSU Art and Design faculty about their foreign travel and its effect on their research, will be held Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 12:30 p.m. in the sculpture area of the Art Annex building. Participants are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch; coffee will be provided.

- ♦ Jim Miller, national coordinator of SACI-U.S., will discuss SACI art programs with ETSU Art and Design faculty Don Davis and Mark Russell, who will share their experiences teaching at SACI-Florence, on Friday, Feb. 2, at 3 p.m. in the Ball Hall auditorium.

The exhibit, reception and lectures are free and open to the public. Slocumb Galleries, located in Ball Hall, is open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Karlota I. Contreras-Koterbay at 439-4291 or contrera@etsu.edu. Visit Slocumb Galleries online at <http://art.etsu.edu/slocumb>.

Naming ideas sought for museum and visitors center

The university is soliciting suggestions for the naming of the museum and visitors center now under construction at the Gray Fossil Site.

Tennessee Board of Regents policy on naming buildings and facilities reads, in part: *"In general, individuals and groups for whom buildings are named must have made a significant contribution to the field of education, government, science, or human betterment. To preserve the integrity of all buildings named in the System, this honor must be reserved for individuals of recognized accomplishment and character; no building may bear the name of an individual convicted of a felony. With respect to the naming of buildings on a particular campus, special consideration shall be given to:*

- ♦ *The historical significance of the contribution of the individual or group to the institution or area school;*
- ♦ *The association of the individual or group with the building to be named;*
- ♦ *Any financial contribution of the individual or group to the institution or area school; and*
- ♦ *State, regional, national, or international recognition of the individual's or group's contributions and achievements.*

Signed letters of nomination, including detailed justification, must be received no later than Thursday, Feb. 15. Send letters to Fred Sauceman, chair of the naming committee, at ETSU Box 70717.

Women with diabetes needed for study

Women living in the Appalachian region who have type 2 diabetes are being recruited for a research study in the College of Nursing.

The project is looking at how women with diabetes are able to manage the disease on a day-to-day basis. To be eligible for participation, the subjects must be 21 years of age or older and have had type 2 diabetes for at least six months.

Those recruited will be asked to complete three brief surveys and answer a few questions. A gift card to Wal-Mart will be given to those who complete the study.

For more information, contact Joy Magness at 747-3602.

NIH awards Quillen researcher more than \$1 million for study of sepsis prevention

Dr. David L. Williams, professor of Surgery in the James H. Quillen College of Medicine, has been awarded approximately \$1.2 million from the National Institutes of Health to continue his research on possible ways to prevent or treat sepsis syndrome and other inflammatory diseases.

The grant was funded through NIH's competitive renewal process.

"Critically ill patients, such as those



Dr. David L. Williams

involved in trauma, are at high risk for developing sepsis syndrome and septic shock. At the cellular level, there are a lot of unanswered questions about how septic injury is initiated and transmitted, as well as how the body attempts to limit inflammation and promote survival with its innate, or natural, immune system," Williams said.

In recent years, Williams and his colleagues discovered that a family of enzymes – called phosphoinositide 3-kinases (PI3K) – plays an important physiological role in decreasing the inflammatory response to sepsis. They also learned that a carbohydrate called "glucan" will stimulate the PI3K pathway, which, in turn, increases survival outcomes with sepsis.

"With this funding renewal, we will be focusing very closely on how the glucan initiates PI3K activity so that we can better understand the cellular and molecular mechanisms. Our goal is to increase our basic science knowledge of the innate response to septic and inflammatory disease, but we believe this information may result in the development of new treatment strategies for several important disease states."

Co-investigators in this project are ETSU's Dr. Tuanzhu Ha and Dr. Chuanfu Li, both in the Department of Surgery; Dr. John Kalbfleisch, Section of Medical Education; and Dr. Peter Rice, professor of Pharmacology, along with Dr. Harry Ensley from Tulane University.

Food service management students travel the country with Chick-fil-A

When ETSU's Department of Family and Consumer Sciences inaugurated a food service management program, two students were eager to enroll.

Mandy Coward and Kelly Hyatt, both of Maryville, have been employed by Chick-fil-A for the past five years. The women each received a \$1,000 scholarship from their employer to help with college expenses.

The students are using their classroom knowledge in practical ways as Chick-fil-A Grand Opening Trainers (GOT). They have traveled to Arizona, North Carolina, Virginia, Florida and California to train the staff at new outlets. Eventually, they hope to open their own Chick-fil-A restaurant on the West Coast.

When they arrive at a new location, the women meet fellow GOTs from across the country. They might participate in a Premiere Night, when community leaders are invited to a special preview of the new establishment. A Team Member Dinner may be planned at which GOTs meet new employees, or a Family Night might give new personnel an opportunity to bring family members in to dine.

During a grand opening, Coward and Hyatt handle positions wherever they are needed while new workers shadow them until they, too, can do the work satisfactorily.

"I learned a lot from my business management and marketing courses," says Cow-

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Clinical services expanded for patients who stutter

ETSU's Speech-Language and Hearing Clinic is expanding its patient care services for patients who stutter.

"Unfortunately, there is no cure, but, through speech therapy and the use of new devices, we can make great progress in reducing the frequency of stuttering," said Dr. Vijay Guntupalli, an assistant professor of Communicative Disorders in the College of Public and Allied Health.

"People should realize that stuttering is not a disease. It is a communication disorder that approximately three million people experience."

Guntupalli says that stuttering typically begins during the developmental stage, though some adults will begin to stutter if there has been some type of brain damage. He emphasizes the importance of enrolling children in speech therapy as early as possible, but he adds that it is never too late for adults to pursue treatment.

In addition to speech therapy, one of Guntupalli's approaches will be to evaluate patients for a small device called SpeechEasy, which is worn in or behind the patient's ear.

"The foundation of SpeechEasy is what we call the 'choral speech effect,'" he said. "For years, studies have shown that when people who stutter speak the same material in unison with another speaker, they will become fluent. SpeechEasy creates the sense that another speaker is speaking at the same time. A patient will hear his or her own voice, and the brain will interpret this as someone else speaking."

"More than 5,000 people use SpeechEasy, and the outcomes are very promising."

Guntupalli recently joined the ETSU faculty from East Carolina University where he trained under Dr. Joseph Kalinowski, one of the developers of SpeechEasy. Guntupalli has fitted SpeechEasy devices for more than 200 of his own patients.

For more information, call 439-4355.

Even It Up mentors give local children valuable gifts: time and attention

January is National Mentoring Month, but local mentors celebrate all year long.

ETSU's Even It Up mentoring program targets students in 4th through 8th grades at North Side Elementary School and Indian Trail Middle School who are at risk for becoming school dropouts.

Community volunteers have lunch with an assigned child for one hour each week during the school year. By providing a constructive role model, supporting education, and offering friendship and advice, mentors have the opportunity to help direct the course of a child's life in a positive direction.

Through this affirming contact with an adult, studies show at-risk youths are less likely to become involved in substance abuse or to skip school, but instead are more apt to achieve better grades, pursue education past the high school level, and improve relationships with their parents.

Giving a helping hand to these young people does not require special training.

Volunteers are asked to encourage academic achievement and school attendance, help explore career possibilities, and offer friendship.

ETSU's Center for Community Outreach oversees Even It Up, with funding from the U.S. Department of Education.

For more information or to volunteer, contact Patricia Turner, program director,

at 232-5536 or turnerp@etsu.edu, or Kristi Lilly, mentoring coordinator, at 202-0955 or lillyk@etsu.edu.



Recent ETSU graduate Chris Smith, left, and Dr. Dorothy Dobbins, associate vice president, Office of Cultural Affairs, Division of Health Sciences, generously give of themselves to help at-risk youths as mentors in the Even It Up program.

Campus News Briefs

Entrepreneurs Club

The ETSU Entrepreneurs Club will host Dave Lawrence, director of the ETSU Innovation Laboratory, as guest speaker on Monday, Feb. 5, from 5-6 p.m. in the Innovation Laboratory Board Room. He will discuss the work of the Lab and give a tour of the building's new wing, which will have a grand opening in February.

Lawrence has been director of the Innovation Lab, a full-service small business incubator, for two years. Prior to accepting his current position, he was a business counselor in the Tennessee Small Business Development Center located within the Lab, and he served as an adjunct instructor in Management and Marketing at ETSU.

The program is free and open to the public. For more, contact Mitzi Brookshear at 439-7444 or brookshe@etsu.edu.

Prom attire needed

Head 2 Toe, the organization devoted to enhancing the self-image of teen girls by providing gowns, accessories and personalized service in a retail setting at low cost, is looking for donations of prom wear. There is a special need for sizes 0-2 and 16-26, but all gowns are welcome. Weddings by Eda

has provided 89 gowns to get the project off to a good start.

Donations may be delivered to Sears in the Johnson City Mall, Black Tie Formalwear at 200 W. Market Street in Johnson City, and the ETSU Women's Resource Center (WRC) in Panhellenic Hall.

On Saturday, Feb. 10, from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at 227 Library Lane, girls who might otherwise find attending the prom beyond their reach can purchase a formal dress for \$25 and shoes and accessories for \$5 or less. Proceeds from the sale go to Girls Inc.

Head 2 Toe is sponsored by the pre-graduate section of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences and the WRC at ETSU.

For more information, call 439-7847.

Women's health conference

Hypothyroidism, migraines, mood cycles, dementia and eating disorders are just a few of the topics to be discussed at "Women's Health Across the Life Cycle: A Comprehensive Approach," the 11th annual women's health conference hosted by the James H. Quillen College of Medicine.

The one-day conference on Friday, Feb. 16, at The Centre at Millennium Park will feature Dr. Pauline Powers, director/pro-

fessor of psychosomatic medicine at the University of South Florida in Tampa, as the keynote speaker.

Also included are small roundtable discussions during lunch on a variety of topics, as well as research posters submitted by attendees.

For registration or more information, call 439-8081.

Chick-fil-A

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ard. "That helps when I am training so many people."

Hyatt adds that, while classroom knowledge is valuable on her job, "having worked in the field makes it so much easier to relate to the information being taught in the classes."

The ETSU food service management program stresses the value of such real-life experience through field placements and internships, so that each graduate has practical experience to reinforce the concepts learned in the classroom.