

## City businessman Louis Gump is spring commencement speaker

Louis H. Gump, president of Impact Management in Johnson City and the founding contributor of the Roan Scholars Leadership Program at ETSU, will deliver ETSU's spring commencement address on Saturday, May 7, at 10 a.m. in Memorial Center.

A 1961 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a B.A. degree in economics, Gump was a U.S. Naval Reserve officer from 1961-63, serving aboard the destroyer *O'Brien*. His formal continuing education includes the renowned Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, the Young Executives Institute at UNC (1971) and the Young Presidents Seminar at Harvard (1976).

Gump began his career as treasurer of two family-owned finance companies, serving from 1963 to 1971. The family then



Gump

acquired Smith-Higgins Company Inc., a wholesale pharmaceutical distribution firm, and Gump became its president, devoting full time to its management. Between 1971 and 1986, Smith-Higgins grew approximately 20 times in sales and expanded to cover a seven-state area. As chairman of Smith-Higgins, Gump concentrated on business strategy and asset management at the corporate level.

In 1988, he resigned to launch Impact Management, a company working primarily with owners and managers of closely held companies and professional corporations to enhance profits through improved business planning, better organizational design, and increased operational efficiency. Impact Management also conducts first-line supervisor training in principles of management.

Having been a Morehead Scholar at the University of North Carolina, Gump envisioned a similar program for ETSU. The result is the university's unique Roan Scholars Leadership Program focused on retaining some of the region's best and most talented young people who have demonstrated, among a variety of attributes,

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### NIH awards \$1.4 million for cutting-edge heart research

Among the cascade of events that occur during a heart attack is an increased amount of stress. In some patients, the nervous system around the heart will respond normally, but in others – for unexplained reasons – there is an elevated or “highly excited” reaction.

And that can be deadly.

Dr. Jeff Ardell, a neurocardiology researcher at ETSU's James H. Quillen College of Medicine, aims to help unravel this mystery as part of a \$1.4 million grant he has received from the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Scientists have numerous unanswered questions about the complex and highly significant role of this ner-

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## Commemorative piggy banks being given to supporters of ETSU pharmacy school

Several adorable little “pigs” are in need of a good home, and those who “adopt” them will be helping to support ETSU's proposed College of Pharmacy.

ETSU is presenting piggy banks to individuals who make substantial gifts toward the development of the pharmacy school. The university is in the process of raising \$5 million to secure approval for the program from the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission this summer.

An additional \$2.5 million will be needed prior to the arrival of the first class.

Three different sizes of piggy banks will be distributed to persons whose contributions for the pharmacy school reach the \$1,000, \$5,000 and \$10,000 levels.

“These will be commemorative items for many years to come,” said Dr. Ronald D. Franks, ETSU dean of Medicine and vice



**The piggy bank features this drawing of pharmacy-related items on one side, with “ETSU College of Pharmacy” on the other.**

president for Health Affairs. “They also make wonderful gifts for kids and grandchildren that will forever represent the ef-

**Continued on page 2**

## Take a walk!

*ETSU Accent*, for and about university activities and employees, is published by News and Information Services in the Office of University Relations. News items for upcoming issues should be typed and double-spaced, and forwarded to Jennifer L. Hill, Coordinator, Box 70717, 300 Burgin E. Dosssett Hall, telephone 439-5693, e-mail [hill@etsu.edu](mailto:hill@etsu.edu).

### Contributing writers this issue:

Nancy Fischman, public relations coordinator, Center for Appalachian Studies and Services  
Carol Fox, coordinator, University Relations  
Kristin C. Fry, director, News and Information Services  
Jennifer L. Hill, coordinator, News and Information Services  
Dr. Pamela Plotkin, director, Sponsored Programs  
Pamela Ripley, executive director, University Relations  
Fred Sauceman, executive assistant to the president for University Relations  
Joe Smith, coordinator, University Relations  
Michael White, assistant athletic director for media relations, Intercollegiate Athletics

### Photographs by ETSU Photo Lab

Larry Smith, director  
Jim Sledge, photographer

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](http://www.etsu.edu/dps/security_report.asp).*

TBR #220-002-04

## ETSU faculty to sign books as part of CASS anniversary celebration

ETSU's Center for Appalachian Studies and Services (CASS) will hold a book signing and reception on Wednesday, April 27, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the Reece Museum.

This event is part of the center's 20th anniversary celebration and features recent publications by various CASS faculty and associates. Copies of all the books for the signing will be available at the ETSU Bookstore prior to the event, and the bookstore will also sell copies at the museum.

The books include *The Serpent and the Spirit* by Dr. Tom Burton; Dr. Jack Higgs' *An Unholy Alliance, God in the Stadium, Appalachia Inside Out* (Volumes I and II),

and *Touching All Bases*, co-authored with Dr. Mickey Braswell, Dr. Dan Brown and Doris Wyatt; *Seekers of Scenery* by Dr. Kevin O'Donnell and Dr. Helen Hollingsworth; and Dr. Ted Olson's *The Bristol Sessions, Blue Ridge Folklife* and the premier issue of *Crossroads: A Southern Culture Annual*.

Dr. Don Johnson and Anita DeAngelis collaborated on a broadside in honor of the center's anniversary, and copies will be available for purchase.

The event is coordinated by the ETSU Bookstore and CASS. For more information, call 439-7865.

## NIH grant for heart research

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vous system of the heart. Called the intrinsic cardiac nervous system (ICNS), it acts in many ways as a "mini-brain" for the heart that controls cardiac function, such as giving the command to beat stronger.

Ardell says the stress of a myocardial infarction or ischemia can trigger the ICNS to have a "nervous" response and can potentially cause the patient to go into fibrillation, which is a leading cause of death following a heart attack. Other times, the ICNS is able to control this stress appropriately and the patient's chances of survival are much improved.

"If we can explain at the basic science level why the ICNS has this nervous reaction, then specific therapies to prevent the excessive response can be developed," said Ardell, professor of Pharmacology at ETSU.

Already, some medications, such as beta-blockers and ACE-inhibitors, attempt to treat

such cardiac disease by acting both on heart muscle and the ICNS. In addition, Ardell and his collaborators are exploring new avenues, including the use of spinal cord stimulation to treat heart attacks. Spinal cord stimulation has proven successful in Europe for treating cardiac pain. Work done here at ETSU has indicated that it may also reduce damage to the heart associated with heart attacks.

But "why" the stimulation therapy works is still unknown, and part of this new NIH grant will allow Ardell to study the approach and explain its relationship to the ICNS.

Since 1984, Ardell has maintained steady funding from NIH and the American Heart Association to support his research on the intrinsic cardiac nervous system. He was among the first group of scientists to explain the organization of the ICNS and is regarded as one of the pioneers in this field of study. His new grant is funded at the R01 level, the highest status given by NIH for a research study. Dr. Donald Hoover, also a professor of Pharmacology at ETSU, will serve as a co-investigator on this project.

Ardell also recently co-edited a textbook, *Basic and Clinical Neurocardiology*, which was published by Oxford University Press.

For more information, call the Department of Pharmacology at 439-8866.

— Joe Smith, Coordinator  
University Relations

## Piggy banks

Continued from page 1

forts and contributions of loved ones who made the creation of the ETSU pharmacy school possible."

The piggy banks were designed by Kingsport artist Sarah Pope and made by Piggybank Express, a Division of the Southern Blue Ridge China Company Inc.

To reserve a piggy bank, contact University Advancement at 439-4242.

## Warren-Greene Golf Center garners AGC award

The Tri-Cities Branch of the Association of General Contractors of Tennessee recently awarded its 2004 Construction Project of the Year honor to ETSU's Warren-Greene Golf Center (WGGC).

The \$2.4 million WGGC, which employed the talents of Johnson City's Ken Ross Architects and Burleson Construction Co. Inc., as well as world-renowned golf course architect Tom Fazio, sits on 14 acres overlooking the ETSU campus.

"There's nothing like this facility on any other campus in the country," said Tommy Burleson, president of Burleson Construction. "The detail of this building is remarkable and we were glad to be associated with it."

Named in honor of longtime ETSU men's golf coach Fred Warren and ETSU golf supporter William B. Greene Jr., the site includes six target greens, two bent-grass greens (one for putting and one for short-game work), three tee areas, a fairway bunker and four greenside bunkers. The accompanying 3,000-square-foot, two-story building contains coaches' offices, meeting rooms, the Hal Morrison Hall of Fame room, players' lounge, two indoor hitting bays and an observation deck.



**The Warren-Greene Golf Center**

A number of individuals have observed that the WGGC provides ETSU players with one of the best on-campus practice facilities in college golf.

"This was truly a project that required partnerships," said ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr. "I especially appreciate the involvement of several community leaders in making this a reality. It's an example of what can be accomplished when the university and the local community work together."

The WGGC was selected from approximately nine nominated projects throughout Northeast Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. Eight members of the AGC's Tri-Cities Branch, which included contractors, architects and engineers, made up the selection panel and visited the ETSU campus to get a closer look at the WGGC. They then compared all the nominated projects and selected a winner.

"Because this award is given by our peers it means even more," Burleson said. "We've been doing this for 10 years and we've won it twice, so it is a special honor."

Warren said the project has been immeasurably valuable to the ETSU golf program, saying that both the men's and women's programs are now able to recruit some of the best players in the world because of the practice facility.

"We would not have the team we have today without this facility," Warren said. "And the future looks even brighter because of the kinds of players we can recruit. We are very grateful for all the help."

*— Michael White, Assistant Athletic Director for Media Relations, Intercollegiate Athletics*



From left to right, ETSU Director of Intercollegiate Athletics Dave Mullins, ETSU men's golf coach Fred Warren, Ken Ross of Ken Ross Architects, ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr., and Burleson Construction Co. Inc. President Tommy Burleson receive the award for 2004 Construction Project of the Year from the Tri-Cities Branch of the Association of General Contractors.

## BCBS makes half-million dollar gift to ETSU College of Pharmacy

One of the state's leading insurance companies has given \$500,000 to ETSU for the development of a College of Pharmacy.

The half-million dollar gift was made by BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee and is 10 percent of the amount ETSU will need to seek final approval from the Tennessee Board of Regents and the Tennessee Higher Education Commission this summer.

"Each year, millions of Tennesseans are aided by prescription medications," said Dr. Steve Coulter, president of government business and emerging markets for BlueCross. "By supporting the development of quality pharmacists, we can help

ensure the delivery of quality pharmaceutical care and, in turn, protect and enhance the health of our state."

Dr. Ronald Franks, ETSU dean of Medicine and vice president for Health Affairs, says this gift is also a huge investment in Tennessee.

"BlueCross BlueShield understands firsthand the pivotal role of pharmacists in the delivery of health care, and this display of generosity by BCBST will ultimately go far beyond the campus of ETSU as our pharmacy graduates will improve and enhance the lives of countless Tennesseans," Franks said.

*— Joe Smith, Coordinator University Relations*

WETS-FM and Down Home  
present the 15th annual

## ***Little Chicago Blues Festival***

**April 28-30  
8 p.m.**

**Down Home  
300 W. Main Street**

### ***Thursday***

**Bleu Jackson  
Bobby Knight  
B-Team Blues Band  
Ghost Mountain Rhythm  
and Blues**

### ***Friday***

**Jimmie D.  
Blue Rapture  
The Nomadz  
The Hoodoos**

### ***Saturday***

**Grady Musick  
Bleu Jackson  
Jenna and the Joneses  
Blue Mother Tupelo**

Tickets are \$14 per night. Proceeds from this annual event benefit WETS-FM (89.5), ETSU's public radio station. Be there as Johnson City, once known as "Little Chicago" for its bootlegging activity, becomes the destination for regional blues fans!

Call WETS-FM at 439-6440 or Down Home at 929-9822 for more information.

## **Roan Scholars founder to speak at commencement**

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strong leadership skills, exemplary character and intellectual curiosity.

The Roan Scholars Leadership Program advanced from concept to reality in less than three years, according to Gump, who, upon the introduction of the inaugural class of four students in 2000, credited the university administration, the program's steering and selection committees, the ETSU Foundation staff and donors, and overwhelming regional acceptance and financial support. "The interactions between the Roan Scholars, the ETSU faculty, and regional leaders offer possibilities for unlimited innovation and progress," he then predicted for the program now enjoying its sixth successful year.

An Honorary Alumnus of ETSU, Gump has an extensive history of involvement in various civic and professional activities, including current service as a regional director of First Tennessee Bank, chair of the Roan Scholarship Steering Committee, and membership in the ETSU Distinguished President's Trust and on the Milligan College President's Advisory Council, the Northeast State Technical Community College Foundation, the Tri-Cities Foreign Trade Zone Board, the ETSU Foundation and Boy Scout investment committees, the ETSU College of Business and Technology Advisory Board, the James H. Quillen College of Medicine Board of Visitors and the Johnson City Kiwanis Club.

Gump holds numerous awards, including designation as a 2004 Rotary Harris Fel-

low, a Kiwanis George F. Hixson Fellow (2002), a 2001 Tri-Cities Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame Laureate and membership in the ETSU College of Business and Technology Hall of Fame (Excellence in Business-2003). A 1994 *Business Journal* "Health Care Hero," he received the 1998 Northeast Tennessee Philanthropist of the Year Award, the 1992 Johnson City Medical Center "Spirit of Johnson City" Award, and the 1991 Tennessee Hospital Association Community Service Award.

Gump and his wife, Lucy, are the parents of three sons and one daughter, and they have four grandchildren.

During the ceremony, the Distinguished Faculty Marshals will be **Dr. Gary D. Henson** and **Dr. James J. Fox**, recipients of the 2004 Distinguished Faculty Awards in Service and Research respectively, and **Dr. Larry S. Miller**, recipient of the 2004 Distinguished Faculty Award in Teaching, will be the Mace Bearer.

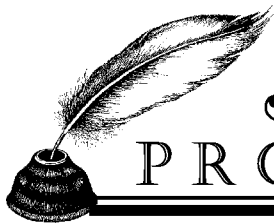
Banner carriers will be **Dr. Benjamin D. Caton**, Arts and Sciences; **Dr. W. Joe Mason Jr.**, Business and Technology; **Dr. Eric S. Glover**, Education; **Dr. Susan P. Sloan**, Medicine; **Dr. Abigail A. Gerding**, Nursing; **Dr. Ranjan N. Chakraborty**, Public and Allied Health; **Tamara A. Curtis**, Continuing Studies; **Dr. Lee M. Pike**, Graduate Studies; **Stephen A. Patrick**, Library; and **Lawrence Counts**, Alumni.

### ***In Memory***

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

#### ***Robert Darling,***

*who died Tuesday, April 5, at his home. Darling, who came to ETSU in 1955, founded and chaired the ETSU Department of Geology and directed the university's planetarium. He retired in 1986. The U.S. Army veteran fought in New Guinea, the Philippines and Japan during World War II. A former park ranger and Boy Scout and Explorer Scout leader, Darling was a certified scuba diver and private pilot, and his hobbies included square dancing, stamp collecting, woodworking, and collecting and designing mechanical puzzles.*



# Faculty/Staff

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## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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**Dr. Leslie Anne Perry**, Curriculum and Instruction, had an article, "Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf? A Comparison of 15 Versions of 'The Three Little Pigs,'" published in *The Dragon Lode*.

"Learning and Loafing at Tennessee's Oldest Business," an essay by **Fred Sauceman**, executive assistant to the president, University Relations, was included in *Cornbread Nation 2: The United States of Barbecue*, published in 2004 by the University of North Carolina Press in partnership with the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. The essay explores the history and culture of Tennessee's oldest business, St. John Milling Co., in Watauga.

**Joyce Duncan**, Cross-Disciplinary Studies, conducted a symposium, "Teaching by Indirection: A Games Approach to Diversity Training," at the National Youth Leadership Council's annual service-learning conference in Long Beach, Calif. She also successfully defended her dissertation, *Historical Study of The Highlander Method: Honing Leadership for Social Justice*, to complete her doctoral requirements in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis.

**Jerry Nave**, Technology and Geomatics, gave two presentations: "Ethics and Rules of Professional Conduct" at the Tennessee Association of Professional Surveyors conference in Nashville, and "Riparian and Littoral Rights in the Southeastern United States" at the international conference of the American Congress of Surveying and Mapping in Las Vegas.

### Sponsored Programs Report

The following proposals and contracts by ETSU personnel have been selected for funding:

♦ "Project ASPIRE: Teachers Succeeding with Students with Asperger's Syndrome

and High Functioning Autism" by **Drs. Martha Coutinho** and **Jesse Johnson**, Human Development and Learning, for \$67,774 from the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC).

♦ "Project ASSESS: Asperger's Syndrome and Special Education Services" by **Coutinho** and **Johnson** for \$85,186 from the U.S. Department of Education.

♦ "Content Area Reading in ESL (English as a Second Language)" by **Dr. Rosalind Gann**, Curriculum and Instruction, for \$40,493 from THEC.

♦ "Tennessee Small Business Development Center (TSBDC) 2005" by **Robert Justice**, director, TSBDC, for \$137,706 from the Small Business Administration.

♦ "BASE-TN Teaching Program at ETSU" by **Dr. Lori Marks**, Human Development and Learning, for \$74,754 from the Tennessee Department of Education.

♦ "L'Anguille River Project for Environmental Health Sciences Lab, Arkansas State University (ASU)" by **Dr. Phillip Scheuerman**, chair, Environmental Health, for \$2,500 from ASU.

♦ "Support for Center for International Business and Entrepreneurship" by **Dr. Jon Smith**, director, Bureau of Business and Economic Research, for \$2,500 from the Tennessee Valley Authority.

♦ "International Storytelling Center Support" by **Dr. Joseph Sobol**, Curriculum and Instruction/Director, Master's Degree Program in Storytelling, for \$1,500 from the International Storytelling Center.

♦ "East Tennessee Autism Training Project" by **Dr. Clarissa Willis**, Center for Early Childhood Learning and Development, for \$55,533 from THEC.

**Dr. Vida J. Hull**, Art and Design, presented a paper, "The Single Serpent: Family Pride and Female Education in a Portrait by Lucia Anguissola, a Woman Artist of the Renaissance," at the annual conference of the Midwest Art History Society in Cincinnati.

### Department of Mathematics News

**Dr. Robert Davidson** and **Daryl Stephens** presented "Teaching Mathematics Using History and Fairy Tales" at the annual conference of the National Association for Developmental Education (NADE) in Albuquerque, N.M. **Stephens** was re-elected to serve a third one-year term as chair of NADE's Mathematics SPIN (Special Professional Interest Network). **Davidson** and **Stephens** presented the same program at Pellissippi State Technical Community College at the conference of the Tennessee Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges. At the same conference, **Davidson**, **Stephens** and **Jamie McGill** presented "Creative Graphing Techniques Using the TI-83/89 Calculator," and **D.C. Smith** presented "What Causes Fear and Anxiety Toward Math Among Developmental Students?"

### University Libraries News

**Jerry Shuttle** received the Tennessee Library Association's James E. Ward Library Instruction Award for 2005. Presented during the TLA annual conference in Nashville, this award recognizes leadership in the promotion of library instruction on the local, state, regional or national level; outstanding and sustained work on continuing programs or projects concerned with library instruction; innovative and creative achievement in the development of library instruction programs or projects; and contributions to the knowledge of instructional librarianship through publications, lectures and other professional activities.

At the same gathering, **Marie Jones** gave a pre-conference presentation, "New Additions and Marketing Tools for the Tennessee Electronic Library," and **Kelly Hensley** and **Debbie O'Brien** presented "To Borrow or to Buy: Integrating Acquisitions with Interlibrary Loan in a University Library."

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## GOING PLACES

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Dr. Bruce Selman is an assistant professor in the Department of OB/GYN in the Quillen College of Medicine and the newest member of ETSU Physicians and Associates-OB/GYN.

He comes to ETSU from the University of Wisconsin and recently completed a one-year fellowship as a 2004 Solvay Scholar, an impressive and highly selective appointment from the Association of Professors of Gynecology and Obstetrics (APGO). He is the third Quillen professor to receive this prestigious honor.

Selman is accepting new patients. To schedule an appointment, call 439-7272.

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### Digital media students accept four-day 'Cartoon Challenge'

A five-member team of ETSU digital media students has been selected as one of 10 groups to participate in the Kalamazoo (Mich.) Animation Festival International.

Team members Chris Haga, Collin Fannon, Daruth Padilla, Jeffery Moore and Joshua Shelton will travel to Michigan's Kalamazoo Valley Community College, and on the morning of Monday, May 9, all participants will be given the subject matter to create an animated public service announcement.

From that moment, students will brainstorm, work, eat and create together, following the format of popular television reality shows. The sponsors promise each competitor a bed in a barracks, plenty of food and many types of software. The teams' final creations must be submitted at 6 p.m. on May 12.

On May 14, a special screening of the entries will be held as part of the international animation festival and festival attendees will select the winner.

To enter this contest, ETSU students compiled a 10-minute video, half showing samples of their work and a second half devoted to each team member explaining why the team should be selected to enter the challenge.

— Carol Fox, Coordinator  
University Relations

## Plotkin assists with book on sea turtles

ETSU's director of Research and Sponsored Programs, Dr. Pamela Plotkin, has many talents. Her research and grantsmanship skills led to her current position as an administrator, assisting members of the university community as they write grant proposals and contracts.

Her first love, however, is marine turtles. After receiving a bachelor's degree in wild-life science from Penn State University, she earned master's and doctoral degrees in zoology from Texas A&M University. Following a post-doctoral position at Drexel University, she taught at the University of Delaware and used state and federal grants to study the behavioral ecology of marine turtles.

Maintaining her own research skills, Plotkin has provided information and content review for James R. Spotila's recently released book, *Sea Turtles: A Complete Guide to Their Biology, Behavior, and Conservation*, published by The Johns Hopkins University Press. The volume, filled with full-color photos, describes these unusual marine creatures, which have populated the sea for a hundred million years, and calls for measures to ensure their safety from extinction.

Plotkin's own book, *Biology and Conservation of Ridley Sea Turtles*, will be released by The Johns Hopkins University Press in the spring of 2006.

— Carol Fox, Coordinator  
University Relations

## Kamolnick releases book challenging contemporary American social policy

Associate Professor Dr. Paul Kamolnick of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology in the College of Arts and Sciences has written *The Just Meritocracy: IQ, Class Mobility, and American Social Policy*, recently released by Praeger Publishers.

Looking at social and economic class, Kamolnick postulates that an individual's access to class mobility is "significantly mediated by inherited variations in individual mental ability."

He argues that a society striving for true equality of opportunity must take into account the inheritable variable of intelligence, and that "by suggesting new types of environmental and genomic intervention, we may more fully realize our ethical ideals."

According to Kamolnick, both liberal democratic and libertarian conservative policy must be revised to satisfactorily meet these challenges.

## Sloan named a 'Local Legend' by AMWA

Dr. Susan Sloan, associate director of internal medicine residency training and an internist with ETSU Physicians and Associates in the Quillen College of Medicine, is the recipient of the Local Legends award from the American Medical Women's Association. She was nominated for this honor by U.S. Congressman William L. Jenkins.

"Dr. Sloan is an excellent physician who demonstrates a fervent commitment to the education of future physicians," Jenkins said. "I nominated (her) for this national honor in recognition of her lifelong dream of becoming a doctor and her decision to enter medical school later in life and over-

coming the odds. The Quillen College of Medicine, and this region, are fortunate to have Dr. Sloan serving the men and women of Northeast Tennessee."

In 2003, she was named by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) as one of history's most influential women in medicine and is currently being featured in an exhibit at the NLM headquarters in Bethesda, Md. She is also secretary of the Association of American Indian Physicians and serves on an American Medical Association expert advisory panel that is preparing new guidelines for health care professionals on recommendations for addressing the childhood and adolescent obesity epidemic.

The Local Legends program spotlights women for their achievements and the challenges they face to become physicians.

— Joe Smith, Coordinator  
University Relations

**"Ideas are the beginning points of all fortunes."**

— Success/motivation author  
Napoleon Hill

# Campus News Briefs

## Alumni Awards Banquet

The ETSU Alumni Association's 2005 Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting is just around the corner – Friday, May 6 – and tickets are now available.

The banquet begins at 6:30 p.m. with a buffet-style meal in the third floor ballroom of the D.P. Culp Center.

ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr. will provide an update on the university, and a select group of distinguished alumni and friends of the university, as well as retiring faculty and staff, will be honored. Special recognition will also be given to the reunion classes of 1955 and 1960.

Tickets are \$20 per person and may be reserved by Friday, April 29, by calling the ETSU Alumni Association at (423) 439-4218 and paying by Visa or MasterCard, or by printing and completing the reservation form at [www.etsu.edu/alumni/event\\_springweekend.asp](http://www.etsu.edu/alumni/event_springweekend.asp) and mailing it with a check to Box 70709.

## Class reunions: 1955, 1960

Graduates of ETSU's classes of 1955 and 1960 are encouraged to attend the annual spring reunions hosted by ETSU President Dr. Paul E. Stanton Jr. on Friday, May 6.

Registration and a brunch will be held in the D.P. Culp Center at 9:30 a.m. During that time, the reunion classes will be honored and the Class of 1955 will be inducted into the Golden Fifties Club. Class photographs will also be taken.

Afterward, the reunion classes will take trolley tours of the campus and the Johnson City area to see all the changes that have taken place since they left the university. Following the tour, the reunion groups will return to campus for an old-fashioned ice cream social in the Carroll Reece Museum.

These groups will also be honored at the annual ETSU Alumni Association Awards Banquet and Annual Meeting that evening.

For more information, call 439-4218.

## Lunch Break Seminar

"Osteoporosis Update: Treatment and Prevention" is the focus of a Lunch Break

Seminar to be held at ETSU on Tuesday, May 10, at noon in the D.P. Culp Center forum.

This free public event is part of the Women's Health Series sponsored by ETSU's Women's Resource Center. Participants are welcome to bring their lunch; drinks and dessert will be provided.

Osteoporosis, which affects 10 million Americans, attacks mostly women, and 34 million more have low bone mass, according to Dr. Ronald Hamdy, chairholder of the Cecile Cox Quillen Chair of Medicine in Geriatrics and Gerontology in the James H. Quillen College of Medicine. Often called a "silent thief," he says, osteoporosis steals bone material as an individual ages, and by the age of 50, one in two women and one in eight men will suffer a bone fracture from the condition.

During this seminar, Hamdy will discuss bone health, current treatments and the importance of prevention at an early age.

For more information or for special assistance for those with disabilities, call the Women's Resource Center at 439-7847.

## Book Review Group

The Book Review Group sponsored by the Women's Resource Center will meet Wednesday, May 18, to discuss *The Queen's Fool: A Novel* by Philippa Gregory.

New members are always welcome, and participants are invited to bring their lunch. The meeting begins at noon in the WRC, basement suite 2, Panhellenic Hall.

For more information, call 439-7847.

## ETSU, BMS Motorsport Operations Partnership sponsors 'NASCAR Careers' program

The word "symposium" can sometimes evoke an image of a rather dry academic exercise holding little appeal for people outside of an education setting – but the recent 2005 Motorsport Operations Symposium on "Careers in NASCAR" that coincided with "Race Weekend" at Bristol Motor Speedway was a winner with more than 50 student registrants from ETSU and 15 other colleges and universities drawn from five states.

Thanks to the academic Motorsport Operations Partnership forged last spring between ETSU and Bristol Motor Speedway, panel members from various areas of the racing world spoke about their careers at the program in the Bruton Smith Building at BMS in Bristol. The majority of the day's speakers were also ETSU alumni.

The event included an opportunity for the students to observe an afternoon Busch practice session as well as all of the BMS operations in full swing for the spring race.

The panel moderator was Kevin Triplett, BMS vice president of public affairs, who was also one of the speakers. Other panelists included Christian Byrd, account supervisor, GMR Marketing Inc.; Denny Darnell, public



Photo by Bob Plummer, Alumni

Kevin Triplett, right, speaks with participants in the "Careers in NASCAR" symposium.

relations/account supervisor, Evernham Motorsport; Chad Fleeman, marketing and sales, Bristol Dragway; David Hyatt, president, Motor Racing Network Inc.; Breon Klopp, senior director of motorsports development, PIT; and Deb Williams, director of public/media relations, Penske Racing South.

After the panel discussion, participants had an opportunity to meet with individual speakers in morning breakout sessions.

Guy Faulkner addressed the "European Perspective on NASCAR." A visiting pro-

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## Grad student takes top honors for WWII propaganda study

For his paper on World War II radio propaganda, Aaron Horton of Kingsport, a graduate student in history at ETSU, earned the top prize in European history at the recent regional conference of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, held on the campus of Tennessee Technological University in Cookeville.

Horton's paper, "William 'Lord Haw Haw' Joyce and the Ineffectiveness of Nazi English-Language Propaganda," incorporates texts of broadcasts from German radio during the war.

The son of Irish immigrants, Joyce was born in the U.S. but moved back to Ireland at age 3. A Nazi sympathizer, he became involved in various Fascist movements in England and fled the country for Germany before the invasion of Poland in 1939 out of fear of being arrested. He was hired by German radio to record broadcasts in English directed at Great Britain.

"He originally read propaganda prepared by the German Ministry of Information, but then he began writing his own," Horton said. "The British weren't fooled by his outlandish stories, including his fictional description of German paratroopers disguised as nuns landing in Scotland.

"He spoke in the accent and cadence of an upper-class British lord and, to the British, became a comic figure whose broadcasts often garnered a larger audience than the BBC."

In winning the award for the paper, Horton said he was "amazed, as I was up against a Ph.D. candidate in English history from the University of Tennessee."

Currently completing his master's thesis on "Identity and Catastrophe in Post-War German Literature," Horton will finish requirements for the master of arts degree in history in August. He earned a B.A. in history at ETSU in 2003 and is president of the university's Phi Alpha Theta chapter. The 1997 graduate of Sullivan North High School is the son of Dennis and Donna Horton of Kingsport.

— Fred Sauceman,  
Executive Assistant to the President  
for University Relations

## ETSU ROTC cadets 'occupy' Roan Mountain

On a beautiful Saturday recently, cadets from ETSU's Army ROTC program "invaded" Roan Mountain.

Every spring, a group of cadets travels from ETSU to the area state park near the North Carolina/Tennessee border to master skills in land navigation.

Before setting out, senior cadets gave brief training classes in proper pace count, planning a route, attack points and terrain association.

Seniors and military science faculty place points strategically throughout the woods for the rest of the battalion to locate. Cadets use compasses, maps and protractors to maneuver from point to point in the mountainous area.

During the land navigation exercise, participants must find four out of five points within just four hours. At night, an additional two out of three points need to be located in only two hours. The distance between markers is as much as two to three kilometers, not an easy task when traversing the difficult terrain.



Photo courtesy ETSU ROTC Program

**ROTC cadets plot points on maps before heading out to locate their objectives.**

The training exercise is integral to the education of ETSU cadets since the future Army lieutenants must be familiar with land navigation techniques to provide effective leadership and since cadets will be graded between their junior and senior years on their performance in similar exercises held at Warrior Forge, a 32-day event at Ft. Lewis, Wash.

— Carol Fox, Coordinator  
University Relations

## ETSU to host grant proposal writing workshop

While grant funds allow cash-strapped agencies to bring important services into a community and help innovative ideas "get off the ground," applying for and receiving grants is a highly competitive, and often tedious, process.

The ETSU Research Foundation will assist members of the nonprofit community and local, state or other governmental agencies with deciphering the intricacies of the grant-seeking process by hosting the Grantsmanship Training Program, May 9-13, at the ETSU Innovation Lab, 2109 W. Market St.

The five-day workshop will be conducted by The Grantsmanship Center Inc., the world's oldest and largest training organization for the nonprofit sector.

### 'Careers in NASCAR'

Continued from page 7

fessor and motorsports specialist from the University of Westminster in the United Kingdom, Faulkner is at ETSU this semester examining the university's academic partnership with BMS while also exploring other motorsports endeavors.

Closing remarks were given by Jeff Byrd, BMS general manager, and Dr. Tom Coates, ETSU Motorsport Operations.

"Anyone with nonprofit management or grant proposal writing responsibilities, including staff, volunteers and board members, will benefit from this workshop," says Dr. Pamela Plotkin, ETSU's director of Sponsored Programs.

For both novice and experienced grantseekers, this workshop covers all aspects of searching for funding opportunities, writing competitive grant proposals, and negotiating with funding sources.

"Participants will work in teams to develop a grant proposal," Plotkin notes.

To ensure personal attention, registration is limited to 30 participants. The \$825 program fee includes workshop tuition and one year of TGCI membership benefits and services. Scholarships of 50 percent may be available for organizations with annual operating budgets under \$300,000.

To register for the workshop, or apply for a scholarship, contact TGCI at (800) 421-9512 or (213) 482-9860. For local information about the workshop or for special arrangements for those with disabilities, contact Plotkin at 439-6000 or [plotkin@etsu.edu](mailto:plotkin@etsu.edu), or visit [www.etsu.edu/research/tgci.htm](http://www.etsu.edu/research/tgci.htm).

## Elisa Comer named SBA Tennessee Small Business Person of the Year

Elisa Comer, founder and chief executive officer of ELTS, has been named the 2005 Tennessee Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

She was nominated by the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at ETSU.

Comer is representing Tennessee at the SBA Expo '05 this week in Washington, D.C., where the National Small Business Person of the Year will be announced.

ELTS began in 1999 in Atlanta as a medical documentation company. Comer attributes her success to a bigger vision for patient care. She sees medical transcription as a dependable, silent partner of the total health care system. By embracing technology, she offers jobs to employees who have the option of working from home, who have the drive to meet high quality standards and who see themselves as part of the patient care team.

In response to a shortage of qualified medical transcriptionists, Comer devised two educational programs to improve skill levels: Bridge-the-Gap, an internship joining education with on-the-job experience and the SOAR Program of Transcription Instruction offering American Association for Medical Transcription (AAMT)-based curriculum incorporating the national standard of transcription.



Tennessee Small Business Person of the Year Elisa Comer, founder and chief executive officer of ELTS, with the employees who help make her medical documentation company successful.

Recognized as an outstanding entrepreneur, Comer serves the as the AAMT State Legislative Liaison for East Tennessee and is a member of the national legislative task force. She contributes clinical experience and medical documentation expertise to the Central Appalachian Regional Health Improvement Organization as they work toward President George Bush's goal of creating a

national health record for every patient.

Comer moved her company in 2004 to Johnson City from Atlanta seeking a better quality of life for her family. ELTS is housed in ETSU's Innovation Laboratory, an incubator supporting medical and technical business ventures, located at 2109 W. Market St.

— Carol Fox, Coordinator  
University Relations

## Classical Indian music concert to feature compositions of M. Dikshitar

A thematic concert of classical Indian music featuring the compositions of M. Dikshitar will be held Sunday, May 8, from 3:30-7 p.m. in the Votaw Auditorium of the Palma L. Robinson Clinical Education Center, 325 N. State of Franklin Road.

Works by this 18<sup>th</sup> century Indian composer will be performed during a 4:15 p.m. recital on the Chitraveena, a 21-stringed, fretless Indian lute, and during a vocal concert at 5 p.m. by the renowned Carnatica Brothers. This audiovisual program includes overhead projection of the song lyrics, melody, meaning and beat. A poster presentation on the life of the composer will also be displayed in the atrium.

Muttuswaamee Dikshitar (1776-1835) was the youngest of the "Carnatic Musical Trinity" that included composers Syama Sastri (1762-1827) and Tyagaraja (1767-1847). These three "combined their im-

mense knowledge, deep spirituality and profound traditional musicianship with an amazing sense of creativity and innovative spirit," according to *carnatica.net*. "This has made their contribution to Carnatic music invaluable. The art of musical composition was elevated to great heights at their hands. It can confidently be asserted that all later composers have tried to live up to the standards set by these three bright stars."

Dikshitar was brought up with two brothers and a sister and acquired proficiency in both music and Sanskrit. He learned Hindustani music, especially the Dhrupad style, as a disciple of Cidambaraanaata Yogi. According to legend, after the death of his guru, "he returned to the south and came to the holy shrine of Tiruttani to pray and meditate before Lord Subramanya. One day the lord appeared to him, asked him to open his mouth, placed a piece of sugar candy in his

mouth, and disappeared. After this, Dikshitar began composing beautiful kritis." Four hundred sixty-one of his songs are available today.

The Carnatica Brothers, "Chitravina" P. Ganesh and Karukurichi N. Shashikiran, are actually cousins who are grandsons of the legendary Gottuvadyam Narayana Iyengar. Both of these award-winning singers from South India have been involved in music since the age of two.

Admission is \$12 for the general public and free for students and senior citizens. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

This concert is co-sponsored by the Department of Music in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Classical Indian Music Association, which is part of the Regional Indo-American Community Center.

For more information, contact Dr. Guha Krishnaswamy at 439-7014.