

OWLs' Outlook

Vol. X No. 1

Fall 2004

Nontraditional Student Week Plans

November 8–12, 2004, has been designated as National Nontraditional Student Week. Colleges and universities all over the United States will have special programs and activities designed to make people aware of the adult learners on their campuses. MTSU will celebrate with a variety of activities.

Essay Contest for Nontraditional Student Week! One of the ways that we can help faculty and staff members and traditional-age students understand nontraditional students is to share the experiences of nontraditional students. We are seeking short essays that could be published in campus publications that illustrate the life of nontraditional students for others on the campus. E-mail your essay to owls@mtsu.edu by Oct. 29.

We will host Night Owls Receptions especially for our evening students Monday through Wednesday. The Adult Services Center stays open regularly until 6:30 p.m. We invite those enrolled in evening classes to come by KUC 320 before class. Have a cup of hot cider and some seasonal goodies to hold you over until you get home! Learn where the Adult Services Center is located and about the various services offered at MTSU.

On Tuesday, November 9, the OWLs will sponsor an all-day Faculty and Staff Open House at the Adult Services Center in KUC 320. All MTSU faculty and staff members are invited to drop by for hot cider and seasonal goodies. They will be able to tour the Adult Services Center and learn about the services provided. Since adult learners total nearly 50% of our students, learning more about nontraditional students and the

Adult Services Center

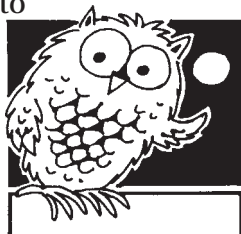
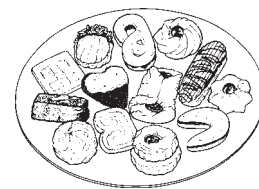
services offered here at MTSU will help faculty and staff members better serve those whom they encounter in their own jobs.

Wednesday, November 10, will be Nontraditional Student Day in KUC, in front of the bookstore between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. There will be an opportunity for all nontraditional students to find out more about the OWLs student organization, to join OWLs, and to receive the OWLs pin and an OWLs t-shirt. Plan to come by the OWLs table on November 10 to join in the fun!

Nontraditional Week Dinner will be held on Thursday, November 11, in the Adult Services Center, KUC 320. Our traditional holiday dinner for nontraditional students always features good food and lots of good conversation. Since it is a potluck meal, all participants bring salads, vegetable dishes, and desserts that will accompany the turkey and ham provided by the OWLs.

The initiation for new Pinnacle Honor Society members takes place following the dinner. December graduates will also be honored and the Pinnacle Award of Achievement will be presented. We will also announce the winner of the Nontraditional Essay Contest.

New this year, a **DVD player** has been contributed to OWLs as an incentive for course evaluations for our Adult Services resource book. You will receive a ticket for each course evaluation you turn in. The more you turn in, the better your chance to win!



Dr. Carol Ann Baily, director

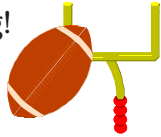
Middle Tennessee State University

Fall Events

Oct. 31 Deadline for Pinnacle applications and the nontraditional Student Week Essay Contest.



Oct. 30 Homecoming! Plenty of fun for the whole family with the parade, bands, tailgating, the Homecoming game, and the crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen at halftime.



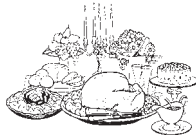
Nov. 8-10 Nontraditional Student Week. Open House each evening in KUC 320.



Nov. 10 Nontraditional Student Day Celebration in front of the bookstore in KUC.



Nov. 11 Annual OWLs and Pinnacle Dinner in KUC 320, 5:30-7:30 p.m. Bring your favorite dish to serve 8-10 to go along with the turkey provided by OWLs. Pinnacle initiation and awards will be announced as well as collection of canned goods for our fall service project. Also the DVD drawing will be held—submit course evaluations to our resource book to get your tickets for the drawing.



Nov. 24 Santa's Little Raiders. Each year we adopt a child and provide clothing, toys, and books for that child through the Santa's Little Raiders program. You may **contribute money or buy new items** and bring them to KUC 320 no later than November 24 so we can wrap them. *Thanks for your help!*



President's Perspective

MTSU's Older Wiser Learners (OWLs) welcome our nontraditional family back to school for yet another Fall semester!

The Adult Services Center, also known as the OWLs office, located in KUC room 320, provides older students with a warm adult atmosphere, equipped with kitchenette, computers, fax, and phone as well as our high standard of advocacy and support. We strongly encourage all who consider themselves to be nontraditional students to come by our office and explore our valuable resources, as well as meet our student/staff family.

Our office offers support to students typically above the age of 23 who juggle outside adult responsibilities, thereby complicating their college journeys. Since we realize how difficult college can be, especially for those of us who are returning after years of being out of school, we're eager to share our

experiences and to extend our guidance to ease your path through these pivotal years.

Our annual Nontraditional Student Week Dinner is an ideal opportunity for older students to mingle with other adult students to share their campus endeavors. So, bring your family and introduce them to your new college family. We can't wait to meet you! Remember to bring some canned goods and other nonperishable food items for the local food bank along with your dish to go along with turkey.

Each year we also collect presents and/or money to purchase presents for a child of a student living in campus Family Housing. If you can contribute to make a better Christmas for this child, come by KUC 320 to see what our Little Raider wants and what sizes he or she needs. We hope you can help out.

Calley Stroud, OWLs President



Scholarships Awarded through OWLs

We award **ten OWLs Academic Service Scholarships** each year. They pay \$1,000 per semester and require five hours per week of work on campus, plus they are renewable for up to eight semesters if you maintain a 2.5 semester GPA and a 2.9 cumulative GPA.

We also have **two Enrichment Scholarships** for one year only. They are available for students with a 2.5-2.9 GPA or better.

There are also two privately endowed scholarships for seniors who are women in transition or seniors who are majoring in elementary education. They require a 2.9 GPA or better.

If you qualify for any of these scholarships, you will want to join OWLs so that you can apply for them. Scholarship applications are taken in January for the 2005-2006 year.



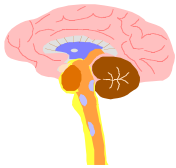
Reach for the Pinnacle

Student Success Workshops



Five Steps to a College Paper

Tues., Oct. 26 1:00–1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Oct. 28 5:30–6:00 p.m.



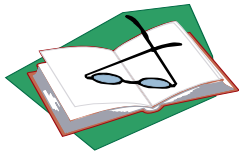
Using Your Whole Brain

Tues., Nov. 2 1:00–1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 4 5:30–6:00 p.m.



Improving your Memory

Tues., Nov. 16 1:00–1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 18 5:30–6:00 p.m.



Five-Day Study Plan

Tues., Nov. 30 1:00–1:30 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 2 5:30–6:00 p.m.

Call 898-5989 to sign up for any of these workshops.

Pinnacle Award of Achievement

One Pinnacle member graduating in December will be the recipient of the Pinnacle Award of Achievement.

We seek to honor those who have achieved academic success despite many obstacles encountered and overcome during their academic careers. **Apply for this award in KUC 320 or online at www.mtsu.edu/~owls/pinn.htm.**

Join the Pinnacle Honorary

If you are a junior or senior with a 3.0 GPA, you are eligible for membership in Pinnacle, the national honor society for nontraditional students. Graduate students with 3.4 GPAs may also join this honorary.

You should have received an e-mail invitation to join. The deadline for applying is October 29. **You may apply online. Just go to www.mtsu.edu/~owls/pinn.htm.** Call us at 898-5989 if you have questions.

OWLS Awards

At the end of each Spring semester during our annual picnic, the OWLS present awards to people who are notable for their support and to those who are examples for all OWLS members. Here are OWLS Award winners for 2004.

The Best OWL Professor went to Lisa Rollins, adjunct in Mass Communication. Other professors nominated for this award included Dr. Hari Garbharran, Geosciences; Dr. Gloria Hamilton, Psychology; Dr. Ronald Kates, English; and Dr. Larry Mapp, English.

The Best OWL Husband was Ken Garrett, husband of Tonya McLaughlin, and **Best OWL Wife** went to Katherine Arnold, wife of John Arnold.

The Best OWL Daughter, was presented to Corinne McNutt, daughter of Kelly Mangino.

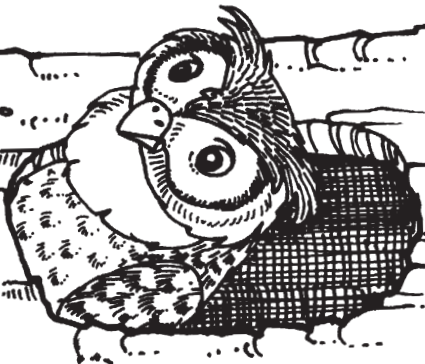
The Best OWL Family went to the Farr Ferrelli family: Mark, Jake, Joey, Seth, and Kira, husband and children of Christy Farr Ferrelli.

The Best OWL Friend was awarded to John Arnold, nominated by Julie Adams and Megan Corbin for being a helpful and deserving friend.

The Best Juggling OWLS went to two members again this year—Kelly Mangino, who serves as the Pinnacle Honor Society president, and Wendy Craven, who is balancing her family and pre-med studies.

Best OWL Volunteer this year was given to David DeLeon who, in addition to his scholarship hours worked in the Adult Services Center, was always enthusiastic and willing to help out around the office, delivering things across campus, and general toting.

OWLS' Outlook — Fall 2004



L-O-O-O-K WHAT'S INSIDE

Nontraditional Student
Week -- Nov. 8-12

Essay Contest

OWLS Service Projects

Check out our Web site
www.mtsu.edu/~owls

MIDDLE
TENNESSEE
STATE UNIVERSITY

OWLS' Outlook

A Publication of the Adult Services Center
Middle Tennessee State University
P.O. Box 646
Murfreesboro, TN 37132
2-50700