

Nathan B. Stubblefield Centennial Celebration Update

It has been four months since TSM started the Nathan B. Stubblefield Centennial Celebration of the Wireless Telephone Patent. There was a great turnout to Rotary for the kickoff of the celebration on April 5 where Stubblefield was “resurrected” for his first of many appearances around Murray. MSU Faculty Bob Valentine, as Stubblefield, spoke



MSU Faculty Bob Valentine portrays Nathan B. Stubblefield in front of the Murray Rotary for the kick off of the year long celebration.

to the crowd about his life and how he could “see the electricity.” The Rotary responded in a standing ovation as Stubblefield left the room and everyone had the opportunity to view artifacts from the Wrather Museum and Pogue Library Stubblefield collections including the original patent, writings and photos. Following Rotary, Stubblefield appeared again at the TSM Awards Luncheon on April 19 as

the key note speaker. After his presentation, Stubblefield presented Hilda Legg with a plaque recognizing her as the first in the Nathan B. Stubblefield Lecture Series.

The next event for the celebration, the Nathan B. Stubblefield Centennial Celebration High School Competition, will be on Oct. 25, 2007. This competition will include high school students from all over the region who will create devices based on today’s form of Stubblefield’s invention, Near Field Communications. Students will work in teams with guidance from teachers to complete research and development. On the 25th, they will present their solutions at Murray State University to a panel of judges and then discuss their projects with other teams in a poster session. Lunch will be served for all participants and families and then Stubblefield will make an appearance to talk directly about his invention.

Other events being planned right now include a collaboration between TSM and the Jackson Purchase Historical Society for a community event in January of 2008 and an interactive telecommunications museum to be located in the Industry and Technology building on MSU’s campus.

For more information on the Stubblefield Celebration, visit our website at www.murraystate.edu/tsm/ctsm/stubblefield

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Convergence

News from
The Center for Telecommunications Systems Management
Spring 2007

TSM named Best Undergrad Program of the Year

The International Telecommunications Education and Research Association (ITERA) selected Murray State’s Program of Distinction in Telecommunications Systems Management (TSM) as the Best Undergraduate Program in the country for 2007. This was the first year for the ITERA distinguished undergraduate and graduate program awards, announced at the 2007 ITERA Educational Conference at the Galt House in Louisville, Ky., on March 24. MSU Provost Gary Brockway, along with 24 other faculty, staff and students of Murray State’s TSM program were in Louisville to accept the award. The competing programs were evaluated by proposals explaining program strengths on topics like: special projects, administrative support, enrollment increase and retention, organization, outreach and national recognition. The MSU TSM Program continues to grow annually in all of these areas.



TSM faculty, staff and students stand with Provost Gary Brockway while holding the ITERA Program of the Year Award and Student Competition Award.

Two TSM students were also individually honored the same night of the conference. Graduate students Carlos Lopez and Valerie Thompson won \$1,000 for first place in a student case study competition called Crisis Florida. Students researched and created ways to update a small town’s communication process during crisis situations and then presented a solution at the conference. Lopez and Thompson competed in the finals against students from University of Colorado, Ball State University and James Madison University by presenting before a panelist of six industry guests acting the part of Crisis Florida’s community leaders and decision makers. Several other MSU students and faculty members were in Louisville to not only support the Crisis Florida team, but to present their own accepted research papers at the conference.

Started in 2004, ITERA is focused on the development

and the advancement of telecommunications as an academic discipline by creating a forum for academics and industry to collaborate. Murray State has been a key player in founding the ITERA organization as it was formed from the original MSU TSM annual conference in Louisville, Ky., when many academic attendees recognized the need for a working association between universities with telecom programs. The 2008 ITERA Educational Conference is already planned for March of 2008 in Louisville.



ITERA provides opportunities for TSM faculty to share ideas with faculty from universities all over the nation.

TSM staff in Korea

This past May, two TSM staff members enjoyed traveling with a group of MSU staff, students and faculty from other departments on campus in South Korea. Center for TSM Director Jim Gantt and PR/Marketing Coordinator Dana Howard went on a two-week adventure half way around the world. The Discover Korea group stayed on the Daegu University campus and were escorted by the Daegu University staff. They attended classes in Korean culture, etiquette, language, music and dance, as well as Tae Kwon Do. They participated in a traditional Korean tea ceremony, mask and pottery making, and traveled extensively throughout the cities of Daegu and capital, Seoul. Howard and Gantt were not just there to participate in all of the activities. They had the opportunity of a lifetime to produce the first known daily video blog from a Murray State International Studies trip. Every day, Howard would record, edit and publish the diaries over the web using technology from StreamerNet. Although the time difference didn’t allow for live shows, everyone in the U.S. would wake up to the video that had just been published that night in Korea. With over 10,000 hits in three weeks, six percent of those from outside the U.S. and 20 states plus Washington D.C. watching the group’s daily activities, “Dana’s Diaries from Korea” was a success. The most popular of the videos featured the group learning



The MSU Discover Korea team stands in front of the Bulguksa Buddhist temple on one of their sight-seeing trips.

Tae Kwon Do, which ended up being a bit comical. Since the blog was such a success, the Institute for International Studies has decided to work with Howard and StreamerNet to start training students signed up for trips on editing video and publishing their own blogs. Copies of Dana’s Diary can be found on the CTSM website.

The Director’s Chair

Things just seem to be getting better each time we do another issue of the *Convergence*. This spring and summer has been great for the Program of Distinction in TSM at Murray State. The foundations of this program were laid by the Kentucky Legislature almost 10 years ago. Our program has attained regional and national recognition as a leader in telecom education.

Undergraduate Program of the Year! The MSU TSM program was selected as the first program to receive the ITERA (International Telecommunications Education and Research Association) Undergraduate Program of the Year. Dr. Gary Brockway, MSU provost, accepted the award at the ITERA national conference held in Louisville. ITERA represents some 18 telecom programs and ours was selected as the best. **National Champions!** During March Madness when many were thinking about basketball, we were thinking about telecom. Valerie Thompson and Carlos Lopez brought home the national championship to Murray State. Valerie and Carlos beat out teams from the University of Colorado, Ball State University and James Madison University to bring home the honors.

Gifts! This spring has been a time of corporate gifts. We have received almost a MILLION dollars in software and hardware since our last newsletter. OPNET Technologies, Adtran and Cisco have all made major contributions to the TSM program. Their technology gifts will enhance research and teaching. These gifts allow us to keep our laboratories up to date and give our students access to the latest items on the market. **Scholarships!** Six students will be on campus this fall with

scholarships that didn’t exist last year. This is great news that we need to build on so that next year the number can even be larger.

Celebration! Nathan B. Stubblefield spoke at two of our events this spring. Our centennial celebration of Stubblefield’s Wireless Telephone Patent has gotten off to a good start. More activities are planned during the year so keep your eyes open. You never know when or where Nathan will show up again. **Awards!** Brian Mefford, Eddy Roberts and Jeff Harlan were all recognized at the TSM Awards Luncheon for their contributions to the field of TSM. Look at the article inside to get the complete story. Hilda Legg was the first person to be named a Nathan B. Stubblefield Lecturer. Hilda was the keynote speaker at the Patterns of Distinction program. Our plan is to have two to four lectures per year as part of this program. **More to Come!** Women in Telecom Golf Day, Homecoming, Nathan B. Stubblefield high school competition, Patterns of Distinction 2008 and many more things are coming. Watch our website for the latest from the TSM program at Murray State.



Jim Gantt



Patterns of Distinction

GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Patterns of Distinction 2007 on April 19 was once again a success with its 2007 theme of Global Telecom. The Kentucky World Trade Center, the MSU Regional Business and Innovation Center, ConnectKentucky and the Program of Distinction in Telecommunications Systems Management at Murray State hosted the event for its second year, hoping to top last year's events. The four hosts, along with the first-ever corporate sponsor, Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), brought in a great lineup of speakers from all around the country. With key note speaker Hilda Legg, the 15th administrator of the Rural Utilities Service under President Bush, kicking off the day's events, it was sure to be a success. Other great speakers followed like TVA's own Jim Keiffer who is a senior vice president of marketing along with Lana Porter, former VP of Ameritech and member of MSU's Foundation Board as well as ConnectKentucky's Laura Taylor and MSU's David Shideler to discuss cooperative research in the telecom field. The afternoon panels included companies from all over the region who are involved with global telecom and MSU TSM faculty that represented several different areas of the globe.

This year there were 173 registered guests for Patterns of Distinction and that is not counting the 32 viewers watching the live stream online. The video stream started at the first speaker and was viewable throughout the day. Virtual guests joined in watching P.O.D. from Kentucky, Tennessee and Florida. The streams are now available online and are free to watch at <http://www.murraystate.edu/tsm/ctsm/pod>.

Participants in attendance at Murray State included a variety of Murray State faculty, staff, administrators and students along with industry and government guests.

Other new features to Patterns of Distinction included a student research poster session at the start of the day. Three posters were awarded monetary prizes for their work on topics including telecom related emergency response, honeynets and root kits. The students who participated in the poster session had done extensive research for their TSM classes, choosing the topics they would most enjoy. James Copeland, one of the winners of the poster session enjoyed talking with Patterns of Distinction guests about his topic. "I met several attendees at the forum that were very interested in the results I had found and had some great input. It was very interesting hearing from individuals who had actually worked with some of the technology I had researched."

Plans for the 2008 Patterns of Distinction and TSM Awards Luncheon are already underway. To continue the trend, next year's event will have a new theme and new features. At the end of four years, the four themes will be continued through a rotation starting again with Entrepreneurship. More information pictures on the follow-up of Patterns of Distinction can be found at www.murraystate.edu/tsm/ctsm



TVA's Jim Keiffer speaks to the crowd about the impact of telecommunications in the electricity industry.

CyberCave marks four years with students from five states

The TSM program finished the fourth year of CyberCave Academies. The CyberCave Academy had students from five states this year: Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, Illinois and an overwhelming amount of students from Missouri. The Second Year Academy was such a success last year that it was decided to continue having three first-year camps and a second-year camp. TSM faculty member Marcia Combs led TSM student workers Ben Hocker, Allan Hendricks, Forrest Carver and Skyler Julian throughout the summer. Second-year campers, which had attended first year camps in either 2005 or 2006, got an in-depth look at protocol analysis, network security along with topics explored in the first year camps. Second Year campers also enjoyed taking a field trip to AgConnections, a company bringing agriculture and technology together by creating database software for farmers all over the nation. The AgConnections crew showed the students how the mix of business and technology is an asset to any kind of industry, including farming. They showed the students how information about crops, chemicals and equipment is stored and processed. After their field trip, second-year students had another treat by visiting the Dick Anderson Learning Center to video conference with Diverse CTI owner, Josh Cochran in Oklahoma who taught the students about Voice Over IP (VoIP). All together, 55 students attended camp this year from 29 different schools over the five states. In Kentucky alone, there were 14 counties represented. CyberCave field trips will start in September with an expected 21 schools and possible 500 students to attend. For more information about CyberCave field trips and CyberCave Academy, visit our website at www.murraystate.edu/tsm/cybercave



The Second Year Academy students went out to AgConnections where they learned about telecommunications in agriculture.

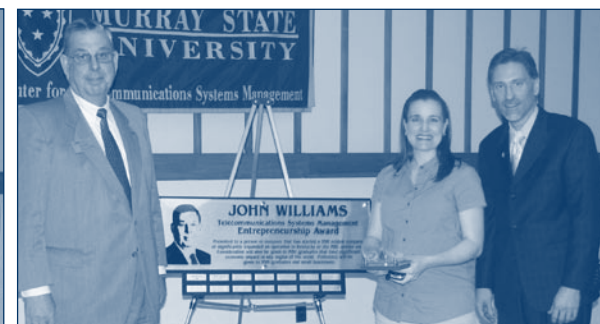


The 2007 TSM Awards Luncheon

This year's Patterns of Distinction also included the TSM Awards Luncheon. Started last year, the TSM Awards Luncheon honors three prestigious winners in the telecom field along with several student awards, scholarships and company partners. The three larger awards are open to nominations throughout the year and then are chosen by a board of TSM faculty and staff along with advice from the other hosts of the Patterns of Distinction. The Dick Anderson TSM Leadership Award went to Brian Mefford for his leadership with ConnectKentucky. Mefford has been a key asset in the continuing success of the organization as it grew from a very small group of people with a dream of state-wide broadband to the large company it is today. The John Williams TSM Entrepreneurship Award was given to Jeff Harlan, USA CEO of Winscribe. Winscribe just bought out the company that Harlan started a few years back called WWL. Now an international company, Harlan travels overseas to keep on track with New Zealand partners. The Dr. Gene Wells Ray TSM Lifetime Achievement Award was given to Eddy Roberts, former BellSouth Kentucky president. Roberts just recently retired from BellSouth during the BellSouth/AT&T merger, but has been a leader in the field for one of the now largest companies in the U.S. Other awards were announced for TSM students, and scholarships and company partners to the TSM program were recognized.



Brian Mefford (l) was awarded the Dick Anderson TSM Leadership Award for his work with ConnectKentucky, now part of ConnectedNation. Mefford is pictured with MSU President Randy J. Dunn.



Winscribe's Amy Clevidence accepted the John Williams TSM Award for Winscribe CEO Jeff Harlan. She is pictured with John Williams (l) and MSU President Randy J. Dunn.



Hilda Legg was recognized at the TSM Awards Luncheon as the first in the Nathan B. Stubblefield lecture series for her presentation during Patterns Of Distinction. She is congratulated by Bob Valentine.

Women In Telecom Golf Day 2007

On Sept. 13, 2007, the TSM program will host the Second Annual AT&T Women in Telecom Golf Day at Murray State's beautiful Miller Memorial Golf Course. The Golf Day is known as the only event in the region developed specifically for women in the telecom industry. This is no regular golf tournament as the golfing activities are designed for women who do and do not know how to golf. Women interested in participating are asked to make a \$50 donation to the TSM Women In Telecom Scholarship, started last year through the BellSouth Women In Telecom Golf Day. Because of last year's event, Sarah Rowland, an entering freshman student from Smithland, Ky., will be starting the school year off with a \$1,500 scholarship. This year's donations will be available for females entering the program in Fall of 2008.

Women who attend the Golf Day will not only be treated to lunch with special guest speakers in the telecom field, but will also have the opportunity to network with other women from around the region during golf lessons, golf contests and a round of nine holes sponsored by

regional telecom companies. Instruction will be led by MSU Women's Golf Coach Velvet Milkman and Golf Pro Will Snodgrass from the Miller Golf Course. They will work with women on basic principles of golf such as putting, pitching and driving.

To find out more information about the AT&T Women in Telecom Golf Day, contact Dana Howard at dana.howard@murraystate.edu or 270-809-3987. Schedule information and registration forms are available at <http://www.murraystate.edu/tsm/ctsm>. Any professional woman who is interested is encouraged to participate, and golf clubs will be provided if needed. The Center for TSM is suggesting that companies sponsor their female employees as a group by allowing them to participate in the day's activities and paying a lump sum donation for the scholarship fund. Companies that would like to sponsor a hole in the golf round, sponsor prizes for the golf contests, or provide promotional items for the grab bags, please contact Dana Howard.

TSM

SPOTLIGHT

George Rice

In the fall of 1966 George Rice arrived on Murray State University's campus as a student where he would receive his B.S. in Mathematics. After completing his undergrad degree, he went on to the University of Kentucky to receive his M.S. in Mathematics and then on to Old Dominion University to receive an M.S. in Computer Science. Rice returned to Murray State in the fall of 1999 as a faculty member and has been here since. He is now director of the TSM Master's Program and a visiting assistant professor for CIS. His favorite class to teach is Systems Analysis and Design and he continues to do research on telecommunications curriculum.

Originally from Metropolis, Ill., Rice joined the TSM team just when it was getting started. He lives in Metropolis with his wife and enjoys hunting, fishing and riding horses. Although he enjoys all of these things on his days off, his favorite hobby is playing with his grandkids. Rice goes by the quote "Work first, play later."

James Weatherly

James Weatherly came to MSU in June of 1975. Before Murray, he received his B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. Originally from central Tennessee, Weatherly decided to settle down in Murray as a professor because of the reputation Murray State had already developed. Now, he enjoys teaching his favorite class, TSM 241- Networking Fundamentals.

Weatherly has been married to his wife, Patricia, for 38 years and they have two sons, Chris and Matt. When he is not at the university, Weatherly works hard as a part-time beef cattle farmer. Other hobbies he has include quail hunting, golf, reading and listening to classical music, and singing in his church's choir. Although, visiting with his children and grandchildren is on the top of his list.

Mark your calendars

- September 13, 2007
Women In Telecom Golf Day
- October 13, 2007
Homecoming Tent City
- October 25, 2007
NBS High School Competition

Freeze Frame



A group of TSM faculty and staff had the opportunity to visit the BellSouth Museum in Louisville this spring to learn about BellSouth history.

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