



For Immediate Release
September 20, 2010

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Fifth Annual AT&T Women in Telecom Golf Day Has Record Attendance

The Program of Distinction in Telecommunications Systems Management (TSM) at Murray State University hosted the Fifth Annual AT&T Women in Telecom (WIT) Golf Day to raise money for TSM scholarships. Because of the support of several companies around the region and the generosity of AT&T, two young ladies will have scholarships for the 2011-2012 school year. The golf day began in 2006 to raise scholarship money for females entering the TSM program at Murray State. The event is one of kind in the region for women in the telecom field to network and learn how to play golf. Attendees were given basic golf instruction by MSU Women's Golf Coach Velvet Milkman and Miller Golf Course Pro Will Snodgrass.

After instruction, the attendees had lunch provided by AT&T and homemade ice cream from the Center for TSM while they listened to guest speakers. This year's key speaker, Mary Pat Regan, President of AT&T Kentucky spoke to the group about her experiences as a lady in business and experiences in her career. The attendees also had the opportunity to hear from Ann Cherry, a recent graduate of the TSM Masters Program and a City Council representative for Hopkinsville, KY. Cherry spoke about her accomplishments throughout her career and her love for the telecom field.

Sarah Kennedy, senior TSM student and a 2010-11 WIT scholarship recipient, commented, "Over the past four years I have watched the Women in Telecom Golf Day grow and evolve. Every year I gain more insight into what it means to be a successful woman in the field of telecommunications. I get to learn from their experiences and stories and truly understand what skills I need to develop to succeed in this industry. My Papaw always told me that the best business is done on the golf course and through this event I can develop skills that will stay with me the rest of my career."

After lunch, the women headed back out on the golf course for putting contests and finally 9 holes of golf using the skills they had learned earlier that morning. Approximately 60 women attended the day with more than 12 companies/organizations and Murray State University that were represented. The participation this year was an all time high for the golf day. Several businesses pitched in to support the event by sponsoring the 9 holes of golf, or providing gifts for prizes: AT&T, Newwave Communications, Western Baptist Hospital Foundation, West Kentucky Rural Telephone, Purchase Area Communications, Computer Services Inc., IRIS Networks, Tacticon Research Corporation, CFSB, C.A. Jones Management Group LLC, Hawkins Research Inc., and Cornerstone Information Systems and Murray State's College of Science Engineering and Technology. Many companies also pitched in to provide goodies for attendee goody bags.

The Sixth Annual AT&T Women in Telecom Golf Day is set for September 15, 2011. Any lady who is interested in receiving information about next year's event, please contact Amber Anderson at amber.anderson@murraystate.edu. Information about this year's event can be found on the Center for TSM website at www.murraystate.edu/tsm/ctsm



Caption: Guest speaker Ann Cherry (pictured left) and AT&T Women in Telecom scholarship recipient Sarah Kennedy (pictured right) listen to some instruction in the morning activities.