

MSU moves up in magazine's annual report

MSU has been recognized for the fourth consecutive year as one of the top public universities in the South in the 2008 edition of "America's Best Colleges" by U.S. News & World Report.

"We are proud to continue to be recognized as one of the best regional public universities by this widely-used college guide," said MSU President Wayne D. Andrews. "This year's ranking is three positions higher than last year and it shows we are continuing to make progress toward our goal of becoming the best of the best."

He continued:

"Our faculty and staff are dedicated to making Morehead State the best it can be to serve our students and their families."

The rankings place emphasis on acceptance rates, graduation rates, admissions selectivity, and small class sizes. Morehead State is consistently recognized for relatively small classes and a high percentage of full-time faculty members, two important factors of student success.

Overall, Morehead State is ranked 23rd among the top public institutions which grant bachelor's and master's degrees in 12 states of the South, including Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, Arkansas and Louisiana.

MSU moved into the magazine's top tier of ranked institutions in the 2005 edition of "America's Best Colleges." The rankings are based on research on more than 1,400 institutions nationally.

"Our students continually are accepted into professional schools, including medical, dental and pharmacy programs, at rates well above state and national averages, so we know they have the opportunity to receive a quality education. We are pleased that others recognize Morehead State's strengths," Dr. Andrews stated.

Media contact

Jason Blanton has been appointed Morehead State University's news media spokesperson, effective immediately.

"His main duty will be serving as the University's principal contact for all news media organizations. An MSU alumnus, Blanton had served since April 2003 as a staff writer and photographer-videographer in the Office of University Communications.

"We are confident that Jason's broad experience as a newspaper and broadcast reporter and his familiarity with this institution will be a winning combination for MSU and the press," said Keith Kappes, MSU's vice president for university relations.

Blanton, a resident of Oil Springs, has 25 years of commercial experience as a print and broadcast journalist, including work at WSIP Radio, Magoffin County Times, Mountain Chronicle, Floyd County Times, Big Sandy News, Ashland Independent, and MSU's Eagle Sports Network.

He succeeds Pauline Young who was named University Editor in the restructuring of MSU's communications and marketing operations. Young was MSU's news media spokesperson for more than nine years.

"We appreciate Pauline's outstanding service in the press office and her willingness to take on other important duties in this new assignment," Kappes added.

Booth appointed to another term

Gov. Ernie Fletcher announced Wednesday that he has reappointed James H. Booth, of Inez, to the MSU Board of Regents.

The appointment is effective immediately and will expire June 30, 2013.

Booth, an alumnus of the University, has served on the Board of Regents since 2001 and as board chair since 2004.

"We are very pleased with Gov. Fletcher's reappointment of our board chair," said MSU President Wayne D. Andrews. "Jim Booth is a successful, respected businessman with a strong commitment to this institution. We look forward to his continued service to his alma mater."

For more than 30 years, Booth has been involved in coal mining operations in the Martin County area. As a college student, he worked weekends as an underground coal miner with Wolf Creek Collieries. After graduating from MSU with a bachelor's degree in business administration in 1971, he accepted a management position with the company.

Looking to explore new business ventures, Booth and a partner began a contract mining operation in 1975. Building on this business, he added another partner and expanded operations in 1985. He added direct marketing of his produced coal with the introduction of Beech Fork Processing Inc. in 1986.

In 1995, Booth bought the Island Creek Coal Company and renamed it Czar Coal Corporation. Five years later, he purchased Marshall Resources Inc. and its affiliate companies, which added more than 1.5 million tons of annual production through their surface, high-wall mining and underground operations. What began as a single unit, Island Creek contract mine now supplies more than 8 million tons of coal annually to electric utilities in the eastern U.S. In 2003, Booth bought Pen Coal in West Virginia, which added 3 million tons per year to the Booth Energy Group. He added Matrix Energy, LLC, to his holding in 2004 with another 1.5 million tons of coal production.

Booth and his associates branched out into the retail industry in the mid-1980s, adding 13 convenience stores, 20 tobacco shops, seven fast food restaurants, a building and mining supply store, 17 oil change outlets, an insurance agency with eight locations, a gasoline and diesel fuel distributorship and six hotels.

Active in the community, Booth serves on the Inez Deposit Bank Board of Directors, Pikeville College Board of Trustees, Honey Branch Economic Development Authority Board and Coal Operators Associates Board. Inducted into the University's Alumni Hall of Fame in 1996, he is active on MSU's College of Business Advisory Board and was named the college's outstanding alumnus in 2000.

Booth and his wife, Linda, also an MSU alumnus, are the parents of three adult daughters and six grandchildren.

People in the News

Dr. C. Steven Hunt, professor of information systems, co-authored the article "An End-user Information Systems Curriculum for the 21st Century," which appeared in the Journal of Computer Information Systems, Spring 2007 issue. The JCIS is the official, refereed journal of the International Association for Computer Information Systems.

Dr. Ed Reeves, director, center for educational research and leadership, and graduate **Jesse Lowe**, sociology/IRAPP, co-presented a paper at the Rural Sociological Society annual conference in Santa Clara, Calif. The title was

Ratliff named director of effectiveness

MSU has announced that Jill C. Ratliff has been named director of institutional effectiveness in the Office of Planning, Budgets and Technology.

"Jill comes to this position with a strong reputation as a leader with vision and integrity," said Beth Patrick, vice president for planning, budgets and technology. "I am confident in her ability to lead our office of institutional research and assessment to the highest level of service and build the necessary analytical resources to support sound decision-making throughout the institution as we work toward our vision of becoming the top public regional university in the south."

The director of institutional effectiveness develops and manages resources and data to provide information and analyses for institutional planning and assessment at all levels.

Ratliff has been with MSU since July 2001 when she became the first-ever teacher recruitment coordinator. In 2003, she was named director of the Educational Services Unit. An MSU graduate with bachelor and master's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in educational administration, she worked as an elementary school teacher and principal in Menifee County prior to coming to the University.

New counselor

MSU has announced that Felicia Lee of Louisville has joined the University's Office of Enrollment Services as the senior admissions counselor for diversity.

In her new position, Lee will provide information on the University's programs to prospective students, parents and school administrators in the MSU service region. She will represent Morehead State in a variety of marketing activities, including college nights and fairs, high school programs, individual school visits, Meet Morehead State programs, Open House and SOAR programs. She also will plan, organize and execute special recruiting/orientation activities that will assist the University in accomplishing its educational mission.

She will assist MSU with recruiting minority students and work toward the progression of the University's diversity plan.

Lee previously worked for the Jefferson County Public Schools along with several Louisville area television stations. During her television career, she won an Emmy for the Midwestern region in 1997.

An Our Lady of Mercy Academy graduate, Lee earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in mass communication from Eastern Kentucky University.

"The Nonmetro Achievement Gap: Regression Quantiles for Two National Probability Samples of High School Seniors." Dr. Reeves also recently published a chapter, "Are Children in Poverty Closing the Learning Gap? Education Reform and Elementary School Performance in Kentucky," in Child Poverty in America Today.

Dr. Xiaolong Li, assistant professor of industrial and engineering technology, authored the paper "Modeling and Analysis of Link Stability in Mobile Ad Hoc Networks," published recently in the International Journal of Ad Hoc & Sensor Wireless Networks.

Job vacancies

EXTERNAL

Vice President for Development #1495, Office of Vice President for Development. Review of applications will begin Aug. 27, and will continue until the position is filled.

Library Specialist I (Reference) (B) #1515, Camden-Carroll Library. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 29.

Telecommunications Consultant I #1519, Office of Telecommunications. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 30.

Library Specialist I (Library Systems) #1516, Camden Carroll Library. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 31.

Instructional Support Specialist #1521, Carl D. Perkins Vocational Training Center. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 31.

Academic Departmental Specialist #1523, Department of Music. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 31.

Academic Affairs Staff Assistant #1524, Office of the Provost. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 31.

Accounting Assistant #1525 (Two Positions), Office of Accounting and Budgetary Control. To ensure consideration, apply by Aug. 31.

Police Officer #1436, MSU Police Department. This announcement is to invite applications for the purpose of establishing a pool of applicants from which to select as Police Officer vacancies that occur through Dec. 31. Applications will continue to be accepted until this date.

Search Extended. Keyboard Technician #1494, Department of Music. Review of applications will begin Sept. 15 and will continue until the position is filled.

Associate Director #1512, Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. To ensure consideration, apply by Sept. 17.

Extended Search. Assistant Professor of Nursing #1447 (Tenure Track), Department of Nursing. Review of applications will begin Sept. 30 and will continue until the position is filled.

Chair #1517, Department of Psychology. Review of applications will begin Nov. 9 and will continue until the position is filled.

Police Telecommunicator #1437, MSU Police Department. This announcement is to invite applications for the purpose of establishing a pool of applicants from which to select as Police Telecommunicator vacancies that occur through Dec. 31. Applicants will continue to be accepted until this date.

Building Services Technician #1504, Office of Facilities Management. This announcement is to invite applications for the purpose of establishing a pool of applicants from which to select full-time, fixed-term Building Services Technician vacancies that occur through June 30.

Internal applicants should obtain a copy of the job opportunity posting from the Office of Human Resources indicating the applica-

UTVS festival

Morehead State University continues to host Until the Violence Stops (UTVS), a two-week festival committed to ending violence against women and girls in Kentucky, through Aug. 31, on the Morehead campus.

The Festival was founded with the core belief that education, inspiration, thought and action can have a far reaching social and cultural impact.

Kentucky was chosen as one of two locations world-wide to host this year's event because of its rich history of working to end violence against women. The main UTVS Festival site will be in Lexington, Kentucky will be a model for future festivals (Paris, France; Denver, Colo.; and Providence, R.I.) that will take place in 2008.

The Morehead UTVS festival will focus on raising awareness in the community concerning on the issue of violence against women and providing information on what action can be taken by both men and women. At each event, anti-violence literature will be available, including a declaration of facts, will be available to those in attendance.

The local festival planning committee - area community members, agencies, MSU students and staff - have planned various events.

Activities will include self-defense workshop for campus, community and middle school students; a Take Back the Night march; a Men Against Violence Breakfast; Churches Say NO to Violence sermons; and guest speaker Katie Koestner.

Other events that will occur will be a film festival featuring Anne Lewis; an art and writing contest involving MSU, the community, and high schools; tree-planting ceremonies involving elementary students and community; an Art as Activism presentation; a community drumming; a writing and art workshop; a quilts-of-hope project; and a music/performance event. All events are listed on the festival's Web site, www.moreheadstate.edu/utvs.

'Singing 101'

MSU's Dr. Roma Prindle, associate professor of music, will present a lecture-recital, "Singing 101," on Thursday, Aug. 23, at 8 p.m. in Duncan Recital Hall in the Baird Music Building.

Chia-Ling Hsieh, instructor of music, will collaborate at the piano.

The lecture-recital is free and open to the public. Additional information is available by calling 783-2481.

tion materials required for each position. Official transcripts are required for administrative positions. A keyboarding exercise is required for secretarial, clerk/typist and dispatcher positions and must be completed prior to the position closing date.

To register for this keyboarding exercise, contact the Office of Human Resources at 783-2097. MSU is an equal opportunity/affirmative action educator and employer with a strong commitment to community engagement.

Happenings

Thursday, Aug. 23

Lecture/recital: 'Singing 101,' Duncan Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 26

Until the Violence Stops Festival, including Churches Say No to Violence, community tree planting, lecture, art show, self-defense class, film festival, more; on campus and in community, through Aug. 31.

Art exhibit: "Images from the Mountains," 5th floor, Camden-Carroll Library, through Aug. 31; opening reception Aug. 28, 4-6 p.m.

Tuesday, Aug. 28

Volleyball: Eagles vs. Cincinnati, Wetherby Gymnasium, 7 p.m.

Faculty recital: Greg Wing, trumpet, Duncan Recital Hall, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Aug. 29

Art exhibit: "A Natural Order: Artists Exploring Artifice and the Organic," main gallery, Claypool-Young Art Building, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m. weekdays, through Sept. 20; opening reception 6 p.m.

Kentucky Blood Center blood drive, Button Drill Room, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.; also Aug. 30, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Guest lecture: Katie Koestner, date rape awareness speaker, Button Auditorium, 7 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 31

Concert: "Americana Crossroads Live," featured performers Vanessa Batts, Gary Ferguson and David Miner and Hollow Wood Bluegrass Band, Morehead Conference Center, 7 p.m.

Art exhibit

An art exhibition, titled "A Natural Order: Artists Exploring Artifice and the Organic," featuring work by contemporary American artists from across the country, will be on display in the main gallery of the Claypool-Young Art Building at MSU from Aug. 29 - Sept. 20.

The exhibition opens with a reception on Wednesday, Aug. 29 from 6 - 8 p.m. with refreshments and live music, performed by Carmen and Don Rogers.

In association with the exhibition, MSU's Department of Art, with support from the Office of Communications and Marketing, will host two of the artists, McFalls and Rice, for campus events. Additional information: 783-5446.

UPDATE is published weekly during each academic term by the Office of University Communications for the benefit of MSU's faculty and staff members. Material for inclusion in each week's issue must be received by noon Tuesday in AY 11; e-mail to s.smith; or call 783-2030.

Shirley A. Smith, Editor



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