Faculty, Staff Honored
At 2005 Honors Day ceremonies, Distinguished Faculty Awards were given to Sarah Risdahl, associate professor of Advanced and Development Education; Jill Panter Romines, associate professor of Developmental Education; Russell Romines, associate professor of Mathematics; Victoria Whitehead, associate professor of Nursing; and Carolyn Wyss, associate professor of Nursing. Distinguished Administrator Awards went to Melissa Duff, director of Educational Services at the Greeneville/Greene County Center for Higher Education; and Drucilla Miller, dean of the Greeneville/Greene County Center for Higher Education.

Programs Improve Access
Two new Walters State programs will make college more accessible for residents in our service area. Weekend College, based at the Greeneville/Greene County Center for Higher Education, and College Express, based at the Morristown campus, will enable nontraditional students to earn an associate's degree in two years by just attending classes on the weekend or only one night a week.

Business Programs Receive Accreditation Reaffirmation
The Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs has granted full reaffirmation of accreditation to five degree programs: the associate of science in Business and in Computer and Information Science and associate of applied science in Management, Office Administration and Computer and Information Science. A panel of visitors from the association visited the college in the spring and Walters State received word of the reaffirmation this summer. All Walters State programs eligible for accreditation are accredited.

Semester Begins Without Familiar Faces
Fall semester this year will begin without some familiar faces. Seven valued administrators and faculty members (in addition to Dr. Jack Campbell) have retired.

Dr. Julian Jordan, who has steered Walters State’s business affairs for 30 years, retired June 30. Jordan was a familiar face among faculty and students. While keeping track of the college’s money was a big responsibility, he never let those details get in the way of the really important things – people.

“In this job, you couldn’t just be a numbers person. We’re here to serve our students, faculty and staff members,” Jordan said.

Dr. Jordan expected great things when he arrived in Morristown, but he had no idea how fast and how much growth Walters State would experience in the coming years. After all, the college had only one building when Dr. Jordan joined the staff.

“I don’t think anyone thought that, just 30 years later, the college would have four campuses, the Regional Public Safety Campus and the Great Smoky Mountains Expo Center.”

During his retirement, Dr. Jordan plans to be a full-time grandfather.

Library Receives National Award
A recent exhibit at the R. Jack Fishman Library has received a national award from The History Channel.

The exhibit, entitled “Franklin R. Roosevelt: A Presidency Revealed,” received the grand prize in the cable channel’s spring competition. The exhibit featured authentic moments from the Great Depression, the New Deal and World War II. Items included a flag with 48 stars, newspaper clippings and campaign buttons.

In addition to winning national praise, the exhibit was very popular with students, many of whom have seen only two presidents in their lifetimes. It was very common to see students reading newspaper clips or studying photographs located in the display cases.

The exhibit was put together by Wanda Harrell, library assistant, under the guidance of Doug Cross, dean of library services. David Knowles, assistant professor of history, also assisted.

A recent exhibit spotlighting the presidency of Franklin D. Roosevelt has received national recognition.

Calendar

Oct. 10
International Festival

Oct. 17 - 18
Fall Break
(College Open, No Classes)

Nov. 24 - 27
Thanksgiving Holiday
(College Closed)
I am pleased and honored to have this opportunity to serve as president of this outstanding college.

Thanks to the tremendous leadership of Dr. Jack Campbell, the dedication of talented faculty and staff, and the support and generosity of foundation trustees, alumni, and the community, I assume the presidency of an institution that is flourishing.

Walters State’s vitality is apparent in the growth and enhancement of its facilities. Currently, we are in a campaign to raise $7 million needed to begin construction on two new buildings, an academic building and a culinary arts/professional entertainment building, at the Sevier County Campus. The college has received $2.5 million from private individuals and $1.5 million from the Sevier County Commission.

On the Morristown campus, renovations to the College Center Building are under way, and Walters State has received $5.2 million from the state to fund improvements to the college’s East Tennessee Regional Public Safety Center.

The Public Safety Center houses our Public Safety Division, and the capital improvement funding will allow us to build state-of-the-art training facilities in which to educate public-safety staff and officials, including law enforcement, emergency medical service technicians as well as homeland security personnel.

In addition to the over $5 million in capital improvement funds, the state is in the process of acquiring the Greeneville/Greene County Center for Higher Education from the college’s foundation. Since the building would be state-owned, we would be in the position of requesting state funds for major enhancements and improvements. This will be a greater asset to the college and the Greeneville community.

The improvements under way can be seen as tangible symbols that represent Dr. Campbell’s goal of providing exemplary facilities that complement the high quality programs and services offered at Walters State. As president, I hope to build upon Dr. Campbell’s many successes by also emphasizing continuous improvement throughout all aspects of the college.

My other personal goals, which I have recently submitted to Chancellor Dr. Charles Manning, include providing leadership and direction for strategic planning and in financial resources; promoting access; sustaining quality throughout Walters State’s programs and services; establishing partnerships with business, industry and other local entities; and enhancing community and economic development.

Working with the college’s exemplary faculty and staff and supportive friends and alumni, I have no doubt that these goals will be achieved and that Walters State will continue to improve upon its mission to provide affordable higher education opportunities that exceed the expectations of the residents of East Tennessee.

Sincerely,

Wade B. McClure

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Steve Roberts, professor and head of the Art Department, judged the Juried Art Show at Johnson City’s Blue Plum Festival 2005 in June.

Sarah Risdahl, recently retired associate professor of Developmental Studies and coordinator of English as a Second Language, was named to Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers. To be chosen, a professor must be nominated by an honor student at a four-year university as the instructor who most contributed to his or her academic success.

Kay Heck, associate professor of English, served on the faculty of Knoxville’s Project Grad program this summer. Project Grad is a motivational and educational program that promotes higher education.

Dr. Marilyn Bowers, professor of Developmental Education and head of Freshman Experience and Study Skills, was named the Distinguished Alumnus in education by East Tennessee State University.

Michael Helmick, dean of Technical Education, and Marty Rucker, dean of Health Programs, are part of the 2005-06 Regents Academic Leadership Institute. RALI is a year-long leadership development program designed to provide ongoing support to academic leaders at all Tennessee Board of Regents colleges.
Alumni Featured In New Ads

Two Walters State alumni are featured in the college’s Fall 2005 advertising campaign. Cynthia Carmichael, A.S., Education, and Rick Slaven, A.S., Paramedic, appear in television and radio commercials and newspaper advertisements that further the “Invest in Yourself” campaign. The ads tell the stories of these two very successful alumni with the goal of encouraging other area residents to invest in education at Walters State.

Carmichael was a single mom who enjoyed substitute teaching when she decided to return to school four years ago. This year, she will begin her first year as an elementary school teacher in Newport.

Slaven had a four-year degree and a nine-to-five job when he began searching for a more rewarding career. He first earned a paramedic technical certificate, then returned for his associate’s degree. He’s now a paramedic at Morristown-Hamblen Healthcare System.

Other alumni are currently featured on the Walters State Web site (www.ws.edu) in an ongoing series profiling successful alumni.

These include Chuck McGaha, A.S., Pre-medicine; Willie Anderson, A.S., Business; Evonne Bennett, A.S., Social Work; Sarah Ramsey, A.S., Physical Therapist Assistant; Bridgette Thompson, A.S., Nursing; Pedro Tomas, A.S., Professional Entertainment; and Kyoung Moon Yang, Culinary Arts.

Alumni featured in the last year include Arthur Bohanan, A.S., Criminal Justice; Michael Hance, A.S., Nursing; Dr. Shelly Shaw, A.S., Pre-Medicine; Dr. Charles Southerland, A.S., Pre-Medicine; Dr. Micah Westmoreland, A.S., Pre-Dentistry; and Debbie Stump, A.S., General Studies.

WSSC Alumna Has Card Line

One Walters State alumna has gotten very creative in her efforts to pay for medical school.

Charlene Green, A.S., Pre-Medicine, has designed a line of greeting cards. The cards feature photographs Greene took while working and studying in Belize. They can be purchased at the General Morgan Inn, James-Ben Studio and Gallery, the Greeneville Farm Market, Ann’s GreenHaus and Three Blind Mice in Greeneville.

Green is attending St. Luke University Medical School.

Green graduated from Walters State in 2001 when she was only 17. In 2003, she earned her bachelor’s degree from Baylor University. She is planning to specialize in surgery and public health. She hopes to work as a medical missionary when she is finished with school.

FROM THE FOUNDATION UP

Several individuals were honored during the May meeting of the Walters State Foundation Board of Trustees for their generous gifts to the foundation with the unveiling of their portraits, which will be displayed in the President’s Trust gallery at the college.

They are the late Clarence Sams of Cocke County; Max Biery, Dr. Marilyn Bowers and Dr. Lori Campbell, all of Morristown; Jerry Fortner of Greeneville; Lena Holdway and her late husband, Ray, and Dr. Rosemary Jackson, all of Morristown; Y.J. and Barbara McAndrew of Dandridge; Stephen McClary of Talbott, and Frank McGuiффin, Patrick McGuiффin, Harrell and Anna Lee Pendleton, Ronald Perkins, and H. Scott and Carol Reams, all of Morristown.

At the meeting it was also reported that since the trustees’ previous meeting in October 2004, over $712,000 in gifts of $500 or more have been contributed to the foundation.

In other business, new officers were elected. Judge Gary Wade succeeded Judy McGuiффin as president of the foundation board for 2005-06.

Other officers include Charlie Johnson, vice president, Raymond E. Bible, secretary, and Henry Drinnon, treasurer.

Alumni News

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Years Attended Area of study Degree

Current position and/or activities

Full name of spouse No. of children

Name and address of someone who will always know your address

Return to Office of College Advancement, Walters State Community, 500 South Davy Crockett Parkway, Morristown, TN 37813 or e-mail your news to Debra.Williams@ws.edu.
Zac Bowman of Knoxville reaches for a catch during Walters State’s sweep of Young Harris College. The wins earned the Senators a berth in the JUCO World Series. Bowman plays third base and shortstop.

Senators, Lady Senators Have Big Finishes For ’05 Seasons

Walters State continued to be a strong contender in TJCCAA athletics this spring with both the Lady Senators and the Senators advancing to postseason play.

The Senators secured a spot in the JUCO World Series with a sweep over No. 2 ranked Young Harris College. The Lady Senators came very close to accomplishing the same feat. The team was only one win away from the NJCAA Softball World Series when defeated by Chattanooga State.

With nine sophomores returning, the softball team exceeded Coach Larry Sauceman’s high expectations. Returning players included the complete infield and starting batters. The team finished the regular season 32-15 and 15-5 in conference play.

The Lady Senators dropped the opening two games to Spartanburg Methodist College and split two games with Columbia State. The Lady Senators bounced back with a 12-game winning streak that included a 3-0 victory over Georgia Perimeter.

The season came to a climax when the Lady Senators met the Lady Tigers of Chattanooga State in the TJCCAA/NJCAA Region VII tournament. In what proved to be one of the most exciting games of the season, the Lady Senators defeated the Lady Tigers 2-1 and advanced to the championship game.

Chattanooga State then rebounded out of the loser’s bracket to meet Walters State in the championship game.

The Lady Tigers came back to defeat the Lady Senators in two games to advance to the World Series.

The Senators returned only four sophomores. But the young baseball team found a chemistry that allowed them to gel late in the season, leading to state, regional and district championships and the team’s second trip to the JUCO World Series.

Walters State went undefeated in the TJCCAA/NJCAA Region VII tournament outscoring their opponents 49-15. That championship led to an East Central District series with Young Harris College of Georgia. The Senators swept the Mountain Lions in two straight games played in Morristown.

Outstanding tournament play earned individual honors for several Senators. Doodle Hicks was named to the All-TJCCAA first team and the entire WSCC starting infield was named to the second team.

Walters State lost two close games in the World Series. The team ended the season as one of the country’s best teams.

The college’s outstanding spring seasons followed one of the most successful winter sports seasons at the college. Both women’s and men’s basketball teams went to the NJCAA national tournament with the women finishing eighth.

Fall sports schedules will be posted at www.ws.edu when available.