



# Discover

THE MAGAZINE OF TRI-STATE UNIVERSITY

## **FORGING THE WORLD**

TSU's cast metals department is best of the best

## **LEAVING A BRIDGE-BUILDING LEGACY**

'32 CE alum's bridges withstand test of time

## **GIVING HOMES A LIFT**

Graduate students design wheelchair lift

## **NEW MICROSCOPE PUTS TSU ON CUTTING EDGE**



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## LEAVING A BRIDGE-BUILDING LEGACY

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*Curb appeal.* Successful institutions know that marketing to today's students—the Millennial Generation—means understanding that their college selection begins not so much with the strength of the curriculum but with the accommodations and amenities offered on campus, often referred to as curb appeal.

These students do not know a life without computers or microwaves or cell phones. They certainly cannot image a college, especially a private one, without the comforts of home. For this generation, curb appeal includes a welcoming atmosphere, clean and well-kept grounds and buildings and high-tech amenities. Without curb appeal, they are not going to look at what we have to offer in terms of a quality education.

What were merely aesthetics to prior generations are now deciding factors in college selection. That means we can't rely only on our excellent reputation for producing top-notch graduates from our schools of engineering, education, arts and sciences and business. Rather, we need to capitalize on that legacy with an appealing campus that exudes life and growth and energy. That's the curb appeal.

Once we get this generation past the curb, they will discover that we not only have exemplary programs—such as the cast metals department featured within these pages—but that we also have alumni who hold hundreds of patents among them, who have worked on every space program NASA ever offered, who have achieved the highest accolades in their respective fields, who are CEOs of major corporations and owners of businesses. They are entrepreneurs, authors, professors, military officers and private citizens with the highest work ethics, and more.

As you look through this magazine, you'll notice we've made significant advances in curb appeal at TSU. It began with "A Vision for the Future" capital campaign and continues with this magazine. Discover, with its new name and new format, creates an inviting window into the energy and activity of TSU. It brings to life the great stories of this 121-year-old institution; it captures the success of faculty and alumni; and it showcases the appeal of TSU, curb and beyond.

As Discover goes to press, we learned of the passing of Dr. Robert E. Turner '41, a loyal supporter and trustee. Our sympathy goes out to his wife, Mary, and family. He was a good friend who will be missed. (A brief tribute can be found on page 27.)

*Earl D. Brooks II*

Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D.  
President



Just a glance at the cover tells you that this TSU magazine is different from all those you've seen in the past. Bold photos. Vibrant colors. From the cover to the back page, this magazine boasts a variety of stories that feature impressive photography and graphics. But that's not all. Also beginning in this issue is a new format in writing with content that will leave you not only informed about what's happening at Tri-State, but thrilled at how far we've come and where we're going. We'll do this through themed issues that spotlight various aspects of campus academics and activities, as well as alumni. This issue's theme, metal casting, begins on page 12 with a synopsis of a speech President Brooks gave in November at the Foundry Educational Foundation's College Industry Conference and leads into a splashy, but meaty, center spread feature that invites you to re-discover—or Discover—what Tri-State is all about.



Our cast metals program is the best in the country. Literally. Our recent accreditation team scored Tri-State University at the highest level an institution granting bachelor's degrees has ever received. Of the doctorate degree-granting institutions, only one in the nation has ever scored higher. This is something to shout to the world about, something to write home about and, indeed, something to include in the magazine of TSU. And we have, in detail and with pride. Not only that, we've interviewed alumni who have done well in the cast metals industry, who agree that TSU has earned its respect as a best-of-the-best leader in cast metals education.

On page 22 is a profile of a 1932 civil engineering alumnus who built bridges in Noble County, Indiana, from 1938 to 1968. Warren Miller, 94, is proud to tell people he received his bridge-building training at Tri-State University, where his professors taught him what was important when it came to concrete construction, even when nobody else was doing it. Like our cast metals program, Miller's story is a legacy that illustrates the foundation upon which Tri-State University is built.

The rest of the magazine showcases a potpourri of campus news that will give you new insight on what we're doing, from academics to sports to our new graduate program, and more.

We enjoyed putting this magazine together. We hope you'll let us know what you think.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy Bevington". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Cindy Bevington  
Editor

# Discover

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# COMMENCEMENT

## CLASS OF 2005

A picturesque morning was the perfect backdrop for the 121st commencement ceremonies held on Saturday, May 7. More than 275 members of the Class of 2005 participated in the pomp and circumstance of graduation.

TSU honored two men with honorary degrees, Mr. John McBride and Dr. Hans Mark. Mark also served as this year's commencement speaker.

"We were pleased to welcome Dr. Hans Mark and our friend, Mr. John McBride, to this year's Commencement," stated

President Brooks. "Dr. Mark's career is exemplary, and I hope his career and his commencement address inspired our graduates to achieve greatness in their lives."

Andrew J. Rekeweg was recognized as this year's R.B. Stewart Award Winner.

Five retiring faculty were recognized with Professor Emeritus status, including Albert A. Guilford (Civil Engineering), Pete Hippensteel (Environmental Science), Sushil Kumar (Civil Engineering), Ronald E. Scheffer (History), and James A. Zimmerman (History).

### GRADUATE DEGREES MAKE HISTORY

For the first time in its history, Tri-State University conferred a graduate degree. Gordon Cooper and Troy Neuenschwander both earned a Master of Science in Engineering Technology degree.

"This is a historic moment for the university," stated President Brooks. "As a full-fledged graduate institution, TSU joins a select group of institutions dedicated to advanced learning. We are excited about awarding our first master's degrees, and I congratulate Gordon and Troy for their accomplishment."



Photo by Scott Crawford

## TSU Commemorates 15th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION

Najja Nwofia Modibo, an assistant professor of labor studies and an adjunct faculty member of African-American and African Diaspora studies at Indiana University, Indianapolis, delivered the keynote speech at TSU's 15th annual Martin Luther King Jr.-Black History Celebration on Feb. 3. Modibo was born and educated in Trinidad. He earned his Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Toronto, Canada. His research focuses on women workers, globalization, immigrant labor and gendered racism. He spoke on Dr. King's views on affirmative action and education. "Many people saw Dr. King as soft and compromising," Modibo said. "But, he was ahead of his time and people saw what he was attempting to do in the wrong manner." The evening's entertainment included presentations from the TSU Multicultural Student Organization and the inspirational sounds of The 52 Voices of the Unity Youth Choir, a performing arts organization based in Fort Wayne.

## FINLEY PROMOTED TO VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. David R. Finley has been promoted from acting vice president of academic affairs to vice president of academic affairs. His job includes the evaluation and supervision of all full- and part-time university faculty and academic staff. He also is the dean of the Allen School of Engineering and Technology. "TSU is so fortunate to have someone with the skills, knowledge and ability of Dr. Finley," President Earl D. Brooks II said in making the announcement. "He has played an active role in admissions and fund raising, in addition to developing, enhancing and strengthening the programs of the Allen School of Engineering and Technology while serving as dean. He now brings all of these skills and abilities along with others to help shape the overall future of the university. Dr. Finley's energy and enthusiasm is contagious and healthy for our institution as we move forward."

In his role as vice president, Finley said he is looking forward to helping the university move into exciting educational opportunities that will solidify TSU as a regional educational leader with premier academic programs that address critical needs of industry, commerce and society. As vice president, some of Finley's goals include establishing educational offerings that meet the needs of a rapidly changing workplace at all levels throughout the institution: master's, bachelor's, and associate degrees, as well as professional certifications. He also wants to provide innovative curricular offerings which enhance the reputation of TSU's professional programs, including those in business, engineering, teacher education and criminal justice, and others.



## BUCK, TRINKLE ELECTED TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

In May, TSU welcomed Tobias Buck and Dennis Trinkle as its newest trustees. "We are fortunate to have this caliber of leadership join our board," Board chairman John Pittman '58 said. Buck is Chairman, President and CEO of Paragon Medical Inc., an Indiana-based global supplier to the medical device industry. He was named 2004 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in life sciences and 1998 Indiana Entrepreneur of the Year for small manufacturing firms. Trinkle is Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, Chief Information Officer and Tenzer University Professor in Instructional Technology at DePauw University. The author or editor of a dozen books, he publishes and speaks widely on technology, teaching and learning, and IT planning and management.

## DESIGN EXPO FEATURED SENIOR PROJECTS

From a portable disaster shelter to a new church design to a hydronic simulator and an aircraft design, the third annual Engineering Design Expo, sponsored by the Allen School of Engineering & Technology on April 29, showcased 20 projects that students have been working on this year. Many of the projects involved cooperative agreements with local industries that plan to utilize the design in their production lines, such as the residential wheelchair lift (see page 20) designed by two master of science in engineering technology students. Seven ME students worked on a Basic Utility Vehicle as part of a national competition sponsored by the Institute of Affordable Transportation; and a project offered by chemical and bio-process students involved a system to reduce hazardous waste, just to name a few.

## SCHOLARSHIP GALA IS RESOUNDING SUCCESS

Tri-State University's second annual Scholarship Gala was an outstanding success, generating more than \$60,000 for the TSU Annual Scholarship Fund. A wine-tasting event sponsored by Gay's Hops-N-Schnapps and a matching \$5,000 contribution by TSU's newest trustee, Jack Shaw, helped boost the figures.

The gala featured live and silent auctions, with Indiana Senator Dennis Kruse as auctioneer. The event was co-hosted by TSU President Earl D. Brooks II and his wife, Melanie, and Drs. Ralph and Sheri Trine.

"I certainly appreciate all of the hard work and support of the gala committee, and of the students, faculty, and staff of TSU," Melanie Brooks said. "They deserve the credit for such a successful event. However, none of our success would have been possible without the overwhelming response of the community, friends, and alumni of Tri-State University, who so generously support this worthwhile cause."

Mark your calendars for the next gala, Feb. 11, 2006. For more information contact Julie Wert at [wertj@tristate.edu](mailto:wertj@tristate.edu) or at 260.665.4316.



## NEW MICROSCOPE PUTS TSU ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Written by Cindy Bevington • Photography by Jen Ellis

When forensic science major Audrea Knott graduated this spring, she left TSU with cutting-edge knowledge that few students in the state acquire before they graduate. That knowledge was made possible by a gift from a TSU friend, who donated \$100,000 toward the purchase of two key microscopes used in forensic laboratories that examine evidence from police and other law enforcement agencies' investigations.

Martha Rogers, of Angola, is a friend of TSU professor and chair of the science department, Ann Benson, and Benson's husband, Craig. Last year Rogers gifted the department with funds to purchase a fiber and hair comparison microscope. This spring she added a ballistics comparison microscope to the science department's

inventory. A ballistics microscope allows its user to look at two pieces of evidence with one eye piece. The microscope specifically allows the examination of bullet casings and bullets, to compare markings to see if both a casing and bullet came from the same gun.

"These two microscopes are basically what every forensic laboratory uses—they're huge with the state police," Knott says. "And when the representative from the company it came from was here to demonstrate the ballistics microscope, he said we're only the third place in Indiana to have one outside of the state facilities. That's huge. That's just really, really huge."

Knott's excitement is mirrored by Benson, who says her department's strategic plan is to outfit a complete forensic laboratory. "This really advances our goal quite a bit,

and gives our students an opportunity most students wouldn't have in a school setting," Benson says. "I would say, given that there are so few forensic programs, that we're the only school in Indiana that has both."

For Knott, the microscope came just in the nick of time: she wants to work with the state police, and she believes her hands-on experience with this microscope may give her an advantage over other new graduates applying for the same positions she wants. "These are career-oriented instruments," Knott says. "They are what's happening in the real world, and for me to walk in and say I have used both of these microscopes, that I have experience you can't get anywhere else except on the job, is just unbelievable.

"I am very happy about this, very happy."

## NEW FORT WAYNE CAMPUS LOCATION



Photography by Carla Satchwell

The TSU Fort Wayne campus will move to 9910 Dupont Circle Drive East in July. A TSU sign is already in place on the site, which faces Interstate 69. At 10,000 square feet, the new space is more than 15 percent larger than the present site and will accommodate a five-classroom facility, computer lab, conference/library space and several offices. “We have seen very positive growth in the Fort Wayne market,” said President Brooks. “With enrollment increases in recent years, and the growth of the Dupont area, we believe this is the right fit for TSU’s future.” The university is planning a mid-summer open house. TSU has been offering degree courses in Fort Wayne since 1994.

## TECHNOLOGY CENTER PARTNERS WITH FIELDBUS, RJG

The TSU Technology Center has been named a training partner for the Fieldbus Foundation and RJG Inc.

The Fieldbus Foundation provides certified Fieldbus instruction to end users of industrial controls and instrumentation. It will equip the lab with FOUNDATION-compliant host systems and Fieldbus instruments and will support the facility through the creation of a training curriculum for end users and training of the center’s instructors.

RJG Inc., a nationally recognized certified training company, has named the TSU Technology Center as its Indiana Training Partner for injection molding training. Denny Springer, director of advanced training programs at the Technology Center. “We will be offering Injection Molding Essentials and Systematic Molding I first, followed by Master Molder—Module I.” The center’s newly-equipped advanced plastics lab will house three individual injection molding work stations with state-of-the-art injection molding equipment, molds and RJG eDART systems.

## FACULTY NEWS

**Ramiro Bravo**, professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering, is leading mechanical engineering seniors on MEMS-based microscale cooling project funded by Indiana’s 21st Century Research and Technology Fund.

**Forrest Flocker**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, is conducting research entitled *Controlling Frequency Content of Inertia Forces in Dwelling Cam-Follower Systems*. The goal of the two-month project, sponsored by the Lilly Foundation,

is to reduce harmful vibrations in machinery caused by cam-follower systems.

**Craig Laker**, associate professor of criminal justice, and **John Milliken**, assistant professor of criminal justice, attended the American Criminal Justice Association’s (ACJA) regional and national conferences. At the national conference, **Laker** earned Second Place on the Police Administration written exam.

**Kenneth Meeks**, professor and chair of the Department of Civil & Environmental

Engineering, presented a paper, *A Teaching Philosophy Involving Teamwork*, at the American Society for Engineering Education 2005 Illinois-Indiana Sectional Conference. He also served as a moderator for one of the technical sessions at the conference.

**Sharon Sallot**, executive director of the TSU Technology Center, and **Jeff Sherlock**, dean of the Ketner School of Business, attended the annual conference of the United States Association of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (USASBE).

## AUTHOR ON SEXUAL PREDATORS SPEAKS AT TSU

The TSU Distinguished Speaker Series, funded in part by a grant from the Steuben County Community Foundation, featured Dr. Duane Dobbert, former TSU professor author of “Halting the Sexual Predators Among Us” on April 6.



A former TSU faculty member, Dobbert is a 35-year veteran of the criminal justice

profession. He has served in clinical, administrative, consulting, teaching, research and expert witness capacities. He currently is a professor at Florida Gulf Coast University and at Capella University. His book explains disorders from exhibitionism to pedophilia, and presents scenes that illustrate precursor behaviors shown by people preparing to act on such disordered thinking.

Dobbert also spoke to Dr. Suzanne Lenhart’s forensic science class and did book signings.

## NEW ASSOCIATION INVOLVES PARENTS IN UNIVERSITY ISSUES

A new organization designed to involve parents in University activities began this spring. The Parents’ Association, under the leadership of Deb McHenry, director of retention, will give parents a more meaningful role in the college experiences of their sons and daughters.



Members of the group not only will receive

special invitations to events, and also will have a voice in the planning of those events. Parents choose their level of involvement. Parents of current students automatically are entitled to membership in the association. “Patron Parents” can become members by contributing \$50 annually to the Association of Patron Parents. The membership includes special discounts on bookstore purchases, TSU theater productions and green fees at Zollner Golf Course, as well as season passes to all regular season athletic games, and more.

## BOOKSTORE FETES SEUSS WORKS



TSU kicked off a new program this spring that invites the community to participate in fun programs around campus and in the Bookstore. The first one, “A Seussical Celebration,” was in honor of Dr. Seuss’s 101st birthday. A second one, in March, coincided with St. Patrick’s Day. Both events included free food, door prizes and discounts in the TSU Bookstore. The Cat in the Hat was a star visitor at the Seussical Celebration. The second event, also at the Bookstore, introduced iPods to the community—the first to be sold locally. Park Avenue Café and Centennial Station joined in the fun with special treats and menus. Between the two events, more than 100 community members and their families visited the campus. Other Community Nights are planned for the future, about six per calendar year, including a TSU birthday celebration on June 17, complete with a cake.

## TUNE IN ... THE REVOLUTION 88X

TSU sports fans can catch TSU sports competitions live on the Web now, thanks to WEAX 88.3, the campus radio station. Just go to [www.tristate.edu](http://www.tristate.edu) and click on the athletics page, then on the “live broadcast” microphone icon. While you wait for the next season to begin, you also can access archived versions of past games, whether it’s the last football game of the 2004 season or the entire 2004-’05 basketball

and baseball seasons. The station also has instituted a change in its format to promote its image with the overall goal of appealing to both the student body and listeners in the community. A new logo and a new van for remote broadcasts are part of The Revolution 88X.

The logo for The Revolution 88X radio station. It features a stylized, abstract graphic in shades of orange and yellow, resembling a large letter 'X' or a similar shape. Overlaid on this graphic is the text “the revolution 88x” in a white, bold, sans-serif font. “the” is smaller and positioned above “revolution”, and “88x” is positioned below “revolution”.

# The First Flag Raisers

Two Iwo Jima vet recalls Tri-State student and historic event

Written by Cindy Bevington



Contributed by Charles Lindberg

TSU honored former student Ernest Ivy “Boots” Thomas on March 3, 2005, with a ceremony that included lowering the campus flags to half-staff and declaring the day “Boots Thomas Day at Tri-State.” Thomas was an aeronautical engineering student in 1942 when he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. On Feb 23, 1945, he was part of a unit assigned to climb and secure Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima. When they reached the top Thomas helped raise the first flag ever to fly over the Japanese empire. He was killed by enemy gunfire on March 3, 1945.

What many people don't realize is that the flag raising made famous by an Associated Press photographer and immortalized in movies and history was the **SECOND** flag raised over Iwo Jima; the first flag, the one that Boots helped set, was replaced by the one in the AP photo. Fortunately, one of the first flag raisers is still alive. He is Cpl. Charles Lindberg, of Richfield, Minn. This is his story of what happened that day.

“Boots was a platoon sergeant who was a drill instructor before that,” Lindberg says. “I had known him about a year before he went up the mountain with us and helped raise the flag that day. He did a good job. He was a good guy.”



Photography by Scott Crawford

While the battle for Iwo Jima was fierce and bloody, the actual taking of the mountain took no lives at all, Lindberg says.

“I thought it would be a slaughterhouse, myself. But we went clear to the top with no resistance.”

Cheers from the troops waiting below signaled the flag's raising. Ships' whistles went off. The second flag went up, Lindberg says, to keep the first one from being stolen.

“The first flag came from Greenly Wells, who brought it from Pearl Harbor in a briefcase,” Lindberg says. “He gave it to the battalion commander, who gave it to Lt. Harold Shrier, who said to us men going up there, ‘*IF* you get to the top, raise it.’”

Three photographers filmed the historic event—USMC Leatherneck Magazine photographer Lou Lowery, who went up

with the first patrol; Marine Pfc. Bob Campbell, who accompanied the second patrol up the mountain; and Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal, who also went up with the second patrol, and who later won a Pulitzer Prize for his photograph of the second flag raising.

“Our flag went up about four hours before the second one,” Lindberg says. “It was a proud moment when we raised that flag—when we took that mountain we took the eyes off (the Japanese).”

Both Lowery's and Campbell's photography documented the first flag raising. One of Campbell's shots (view it and others at [www.goodolddogs.com/raisedflag2.html](http://www.goodolddogs.com/raisedflag2.html)) showed the first flag coming down simultaneously with the second one going up. “We did that on purpose so no time would go by when there wasn't an American flag there,” Lindberg says.

Lowery's photo was published in the September 1947 edition of the USMC Leatherneck Magazine. Campbell's photos include a shot of Rosenthal snapping photos of the second flag raising. Thomas was chosen the day following the flag raising to represent the troops in a worldwide live radio interview about how his patrol secured the mountain and posted the first flag. The next day, Thomas was awarded the Navy Cross for heroism.

This year, on the 60th anniversary of the flag raising, Lindberg, 84, received a letter from President George Bush thanking him for his service, and a television station did a documentary with him. He also has spoken at hundreds of events over the past 60 years.

# Me? An inventor? But of course!

When Jim Kjendalen, AM '02, graduated from the TSU Fort Wayne campus, the furthest thing from his mind was inventing something—little less applying for a patent. Yet, just three years later, Kjendalen is both inventor and entrepreneur, with a patent pending on a product designed to help persons with limited mobility.

Kjendalen's LaZee Mouse Pro is a hands-free computer mouse for use by consumers who desire an alternative method of computer access. The unit is lightweight, self-contained, needs no external cables and requires no software to install. It controls the computer's cursor movement by tilting, while right and left clicks and dragging are done by microphone. The LaZee Mouse Pro was exhibited at the Assistive Technology Industry Association in Orlando, Fla., in January and presently is available through a test marketing campaign in Fort Wayne, Ind., at a special price.

The idea for the invention came to him after he was downsized from his job in 2001. "After that I was working as a consultant in the electronics industry, which brought me into the rehabilitation industry," Kjendalen says. "From there I looked at the market for something like this and at what was available. There are other systems that do what LaZee Mouse does, but they use several boxes and cables, and I decided I could come up with something better."

With his wife, Barb, handling production efforts, including assembly, quality and inventory issues, Kjendalen spent a year developing the product. He now has several dozen demonstrator units in a test market to use with actual patient evaluations. The couple also are traveling the trade show circuit with working exhibits of their product.

"I was probably the last person who thought inventing something was in my future," Kjendalen says. "But here I am. I also



was fortunate to run across literature from the TSU Technology Center announcing their entrepreneur program last fall. And I joined. Sharon Sallot (TSU Technology Center executive director) and Denny Springer (director of advanced training programs) have been greatly instrumental in furthering the position of LaZee Tek. I can't say enough about the exceptional support that has been provided by them."

## KEEN NAMED ALUMNI DIRECTOR

Allen Keen, BSBA '03, who joined the Office of University Advancement in 2003 as regional campaign director, has added alumni activities to his duty. In his new role as Director of Alumni and Regional Campaign Activities, he will travel extensively and develop additional alumni activities, such as family gatherings. Julie Wert, formerly office manager for University Advancement, has been named Associate Director of Annual Fund and Regional Campaign.



## NOMINATIONS BEING SOUGHT FOR OUTSTANDING ALUMNI AWARDS

Each year, the TSU Alumni Board of Governors selects three alumni to honor for their achievements. Nominations are being sought in three categories:

- The **Outstanding Achievement Award** is given by the Board of Governors to one alumnus/na each year who has attained a high level of achievement in his or her profession, is well thought of in his or her community and who upholds the ideals of Tri-State University.
- The **Distinguished Service Award** is given each year to an alumnus/na who is elected by vote of the governors and who has performed outstanding service to

society in his or her profession, personal achievement and community; and who has manifest interest in Tri-State University and has supported it by contributions of time, talent and money; by recruitment of students; or by placement of graduates.

- The **Distinguished Service Young Alumnus/na Award** is presented to an alumnus who is 40 years of age or under, who is elected by vote of the governors, and who meets the standards for the Distinguished Service Award.

To submit a nomination, contact the Office of University Advancement or Bob Remington at 260.665.4103 or [remingtonr@tristate.edu](mailto:remingtonr@tristate.edu).

# An Invitation to America's Best

*On Nov. 13, 2004, TSU President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., gave the keynote address at the annual Awards and Recognition Breakfast for the Foundry Educational Foundation's College Industry Conference. Below, edited for space (ellipses indicate editing) is Dr. Brooks's speech.*

Good morning!

As president of Tri-State University, a 120-year-old institution ... that is renowned for its engineering graduates, and particularly for its mechanical engineers, I am proud to stand here today in the company of the most promising young engineers in the nation ... .

... When you enter this field, you not only join an industry that is the very foundation of this country's manufacturing processes, but you also step into the company of some of the most acclaimed and respected founding fathers of this nation. Along with seven signers of the Declaration of Independence ... are metal casters and foundry men Ethan Allen ... and, of course, Paul Revere ... .

The past two centuries, especially, have seen phenomenal discoveries, progress and change in this industry. ... Spectrography for metal analysis from University of Michigan professors in the 1930s; the high-frequency coreless electric induction furnace in 1930; the shell process, invented in Germany but discovered by U.S. officials and made public in 1947; development of ductile iron in 1948; the scanning electron microscope invented by the Cambridge University Engineering Department in England in 1965; the semi-solid metalworking process discovered at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the early 1970s, along with the development of rheocasting in 1971, also by MIT; and the electromagnetic casting processes developed by Argonne and

Inland Steel Corporation in 1997—these are all mere highlights of the impressive achievements in history by this industry.

You will notice that many of these discoveries and inventions were made at institutions of higher learning by professors and, yes, by students like you ... .

While the world outside the industry may be oblivious to the role metal casting plays in simple and common things such as X-ray machines, metal detectors, computers, or even the pens with which they write their names, we, here—you and I—know that 90 percent of all manufactured goods contain one or more cast metal components.

... We also know that because it is a small-business industry, most metal casters cannot assume the high cost and risk associated with research and development, particularly in the long-run.

That is a major reason why the Energy Department says we must depend upon the involvement of universities in exposing students to the field of metal casting and in enabling the industry to gain access to the technical expertise at the universities.

... At Tri-State University, we pride ourselves in having one of the top metal casting labs at colleges or universities in the nation. ... this lab is one factor that draws our mechanical engineering students to us.

Another draw is the emphasis we place on hands-on education in this lab, with opportunities to become involved in ground-breaking and significant research, as well as the chance to intern with local and regional companies in the foundry or metal casting business.

Not only that, many of our graduates have

gone on to make names for themselves in the industry, either as entrepreneurs who have started their own businesses, or as employees who are carving niches in their own way in the work they do.

A 2002 graduate, Matthew Pettus, ... works for Honda in high pressure die-casting, where he is in charge of casting-quality for the Civic engine block. ...

... "I think the industry is struggling to get interest from college students," Matthew said recently. "But, opportunities ARE there if you do go into metal casting. Most people want to design, but there ARE jobs in other areas that are worth looking into, as well."

Another 2002 Tri-State graduate, Meredith Naugle, works for OmniSource Corporation ... . She started as an intern with OmniSource while still at Tri-State, and she credits Tri-State for the opportunity to do that. However, the credit for the one-of-a-kind American Foundry Society Ferrous Scrap Guide that she compiled and wrote, start to finish, goes entirely to Meredith. ...

She also says that, definitely, women have a future in this business.

"As a woman you'll always have different obstacles to overcome, especially if you're in a male-dominated career," Meredith says. "But, in this industry, not focusing on being a minority is the best bet to achievement—and, it can be done.

"The most encouraging thing about the industry is that there's a lot more success to be achieved, here, than in some other types of work. And, that success can be done so very quickly—you don't have to wait 10 years for it. It's really great that young people

# and Brightest Young Engineers

can make a difference here right off the bat.”

Two of Tri-State’s graduates—Keith Turner, ’76, mechanical engineering, and Rick James, ’76, business administration—have partnered in a company whose name many of you might recognize: Metal Technologies. It is a company with five plants in the U.S., one in Germany, one in Canada and one in a joint venture in Mexico. It is a company that epitomizes the American Dream.

...Keith and Rick (acquired) an existing foundry business in 1996—and, using the knowledge that Keith says he and Rick learned while at Tri-State, in a miraculously short period of time they built up the new business to the 400-million-dollar-a-year, global company that it is today. What these two did is what lured their predecessors in metal casting to America in the first place. It is the American Dream in all its glory. It is a dream that Keith believes is still attainable for others.

“There’s always a place for entrepreneurship within this industry, even though in 1980 we had 5 or 6,000 companies, and now are down to 3,000,” Keith says. “What you need to understand is that the future is in a targeted market and very niche-oriented. And, it is dependent upon your capability—you have to be somebody who’s good at what you do.

“First and foremost, what I learned at Tri-State was the ability to go out and develop and find answers. Applied math and sciences bear fruit in this industry in practical application. I sincerely believe that.

“For young people who are going into this business in the future, my belief is that, in this industry, you will have more opportunity to foster the growth of your career far



more than through what I call the more romantic and trendy professions, such as in computers. What I’m saying is that metal casting is not romantic, but it will give you a promise for the future.

“It is a competitive industry, but there is a wealth of opportunity associated with this industry because it is competitive.”

This is what a self-made man, who once was a college student just like you young men and women in this room today, has to say about the future of this industry and the future that young people have in it. ...

... what Keith and Rick and Matthew and Meredith are all saying is that it CAN be done—that you, here, all of you, the best and the brightest of the foundry’s future, CAN have hope that the American Dream is as attainable for YOU as it was for them: In every way, their example is an invitation to you to act with the same spirit and drive and determination that made metal casting

and the foundry industry what it is today. It is an invitation to reach out and achieve the same dream that made Paul Revere and seven signers of the Declaration of Independence successful.

And, it all begins right here, where over 75 percent of FEF scholarship holders report full-time employment in metal casting, where research at FEF schools has become the core of important accomplishments and developments in cast metals, and where dreams are born in people just like you.

As president of a university that encourages young people to dream dreams and then gives them the tools to realize those dreams through their own talents and education, I invite you to follow in your foundry forefathers’ footsteps and pursue the American Dream, too, in your own way, with the knowledge that is yours already.

Dream it. Believe it. Work at it. Achieve it. And forge on into the 21st century.



## TSU earned the highest score ever achieved by a non-doctoral school

It's the pen in your hand, the cell phone in your pocket. It's a microwave oven or the doll in a child's playbox. From computers to X-ray machines to race cars and space rockets and countless other products, 90 percent of all manufactured goods contain one or more cast metal components.

The history behind the cast metal industry and metallurgy goes back beyond 20th century foundries, beyond the forgers of this nation's Declaration of Independence—seven signers of the Declaration were metal casters and foundrymen—beyond France's development of malleable iron in 1720, and even beyond the first steel cast in India in 500 A.D. Indeed, it dates back further than the birth of Christ, all the way back to 3200 B.C., when a copper frog, the oldest known casting in existence, was created in Mesopotamia. The second-oldest industry known to mankind, metal casting plays such an integral part in human development that, without it, the modern age of man might very well never have happened.

It is on this foundation that Tri-State University has built its acclaimed cast metals program, forged over 60 years through the mechanical engineering department and producing graduates who, to this day, not only continue to earn recognition for their achievements, but who are highly recruited by industry leaders. During an October 2004 accreditation review and audit by the Foundry Educational Foundation, the TSU program earned 357 points out of a possible 420, the highest score ever achieved by a school not granting doctoral degrees. Among schools that grant doctorates, including Purdue, Ohio State, Penn State, Alabama and Michigan Tech, only one—Penn State—has ever scored higher. The coup earned Tri-State a six-year accreditation.




Photo Courtesy of Metal Technologies



“You have to have at least a 65 percent to get a three-year accreditation,” says Paul Barker, chairman of the FEF accreditation team that visited TSU. “Anything over 80 percent gets you a six-year accreditation, and Tri-State was well above that.” The next closest score, according to Barker, was 332.

As an executive member of FEF, Barker was a national trustee for the organization nine years and chairman of the group's education committee four years. He also is the director of industrial engineering at Dalton Corp., which has foundries in Warsaw and Kendallville, Indiana, and in Stryker, Ohio. “In an accreditation, what we do is a tour and an audit to evaluate the school, based on program category, curriculum, classes, labs, and practical student involvement,” Barker says. “We also look at the FEF ‘key’ professor at the school—at Tri-State during our visit that was Dr. Luis Trueba—the school's use of discretionary allocations, the number of students registered in FEF and how many end up going to work in the metal casting industry, whether it's suppliers, casting design or in the foundries, themselves.”

WRITTEN BY CINDY BEVINGTON • PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEN ELLIS & CARLA SATCHWELL



Other key scoring criteria include administrative support for the school, as well as donations that come to it, not just from companies, but from individuals and alumni. “We evaluate 20 different areas in all,” Barker says. “Alumni support is very important. So is administrative support, as well as other types of things that show support for the industry. During our visit to Tri-State we saw an outstanding effort to recruit non-collegebound students—people who have been out of school for a while—into the program and a great interest and support by the administration in recognizing the importance of the program.”

An outstanding feature at Tri-State is the enthusiasm of its students, he adds. “Not just for the school and the program, but for the total package that will help them four years down the line. I’ve been a member of a lot of accreditation teams, and the enthusiasm of the students, administration and professor really stands out at Tri-State.”

Interestingly, despite its eminence within the industry itself, most of the department’s students don’t decide to go into cast metals until they get to Tri-State, Trueba says. “They usually don’t know what cast metals is about, or the opportunities that are available in the industry. What they find out after they get here is that metal casting is unique in that the industry’s people tend to be more down to earth, and that they can advance in their careers very quickly, compared to other industries. In fact, in this industry you can become a manager or supervisor in as little as one or two years.”

Not only that, as Keith Turner, BSME ’76, and his friend and business partner Rick James, BSBA ’76, can attest, the industry’s doors are still open to entrepreneurs. “Rick and I were working together at Auburn (Indiana) Foundry when I saw an opportunity through acquisitions to help them grow,” Turner says. “We took them beyond



## WHAT IS THE FEF?

- The FEF (Foundry Educational Foundation) is the cast metals industry's educational program at the college level. It includes four-year technology schools as well as traditional engineering colleges and graduate schools, and spans the broad range of higher education from production supervision to specialized research.
- The FEF was established in 1947 to assure a continuing supply of technical manpower for metal the casting industry.
- The FEF is a voluntary organization financed through annual contributions of members similar to the dues assessments of trade associations. All revenue received from annual contributors goes into the FEF's general fund and is used to support the regular scholarship program as well as other FEF activities.
- FEF scholarships in the amount of \$500 to \$2,000 are offered each year at 25 colleges and universities across North America. Scholarship recipients are selected by key professors at FEF schools. The FEF also manages many industry-related scholarship programs and endowed scholarships.
- TSU President Earl D. Brooks II, Ph.D., was the keynote speaker at the CIC (College Industry Conference) awards breakfast in November 2004. (See pages 12 and 13 in this magazine for a synopsis of that speech.)

Auburn to Mexico, England and Germany. Then, in '96, they had an opportunity to acquire Briggs & Stratton—but the Auburn shareholders decided against it and expanded in England, instead.” What happened next is the same dream that brought America’s foundry forefathers to this land in the first place: Turner and James decided to partner on the acquisition opportunity themselves and go into the foundry business.

The rest is history: their partnership business became Metal Technologies Group, which formed Milwaukee Gray Iron LLC in 1997—now the West Allis Gray Iron Plant in West Allis, Wisconsin—then acquired the former Briggs & Stratton gray iron foundry that the Auburn Foundry turned down. The men invested in facilities, increased sales, productivity and quality, and centered their trademark on customer needs and the personal growth and success of their employees.

Determined to grow their company, they next acquired Dock Foundry, now the Three Rivers Gray Iron Plant in Three Rivers, Michigan, in 1999. Today Metal Technologies is one of the largest metal casters in America, a \$400 million-a-year corporation with operations in Germany, Canada, Mexico and five plants in the U.S. Serving primarily the small engine, automotive, heavy duty truck, appliance, compressor and trailer markets, the company employs 950 and produces more than 250,000 tons of quality iron castings per year. It also has machining capabilities for its castings since acquiring the Auburn (Indiana) Clutch Company (now the Auburn Machining Plant) in 2000.

“There’s always a place for entrepreneurship within this industry,” Turner says. “The future is in a targeted and very niche-oriented capability. I believe that looking at a traditional industry like this will give young people promise for their future. There’s a wealth of opportunity associated with this industry, just because it is competitive.”

The industry also abounds with opportunities for internships and co-ops at the college level—and, coupled with scholarship monies available through the Foundry Educational Foundation and the American Foundry Society, cast metals quickly becomes a lucrative lure for goal-oriented students.

“Potentially, over the course of an academic year in metal casting at Tri-State, a student could earn as much as \$7,000 in scholarships, and that certainly helps to attract students to metal casting,” Trueba says. In October the Northeast Indiana chapter of the AFS granted three TSU students scholarships for their academic excellence and demonstrated interest in the foundry industry. At its November 2004 annual College Industry

Conference—where industry leaders from around the world congregate with 100 of North America’s best metal casting students—the FEF awarded 22 delegate scholarships and nine named scholarships totaling \$64,000. Eight of those scholarships went to TSU students. In the past 18 years, 151 Tri-State students have received FEF scholarships.

This kind of recognition doesn’t go unnoticed in the industry, particularly when it comes to seeking undergraduate interns who want to practice in the real world what they’re learning at school. Those internships often materialize into employment with the same companies after graduation.

One such intern and FEF scholar is Meredith Naugle, ’02, who interned for OmniSource Corporation while at Tri-State, then went to work there after graduation. OmniSource is one of the largest scrap recycling firms in North America. During her internship, Naugle began compiling an American Foundry Society ferrous scrap guide, a first of its kind in the industry. The book provides a glossary authored by Naugle, also a first of its kind. In 2004 Naugle was named the Outstanding New Member, Division 8, of the American Foundry Society. “Basically, the book became my project, start to finish,” Naugle says. “Probably the hardest thing to learn in this industry is all the vocabulary, so one of the cool parts about doing this scrap guide was the glossary I made.”

Naugle’s work as an intern, which earned her a job offer from OmniSource when she graduated, is indicative of the type of students the industry has come to expect from Tri-State, says Ben Eisbart, executive vice president for administration at OmniSource. “Whether it be as interns or full-time employees, OmniSource has been pleased with the caliber of candidate provided by Tri-State University,” he says. “In addition to being well prepared, their work ethic and dedication to our company soon become evident.”



Metal Technologies, Inc., Corporate Center, Auburn, Ind.

Naugle, now a metallurgical/quality engineer for OmniSource, credits her TSU education for laying the foundation for her success. “Tri-State is widely recognized in the industry as having a very strong technical and hands-on metal casting program, and when I say I graduated from Tri-State, it’s like people assume automatically that I know what I’m talking about,” she says. “More importantly, rather than just the recognition and respect you get after you graduate, it’s also the attention you get from the professors at Tri-State that’s so important, especially if you aren’t sure what you’re going to do.”

Naugle, herself, hadn’t decided what she wanted to do with her degree until she was introduced to molten metals in her sophomore year at TSU. “And then I knew it was the metal casting industry that I wanted to go into. We went on a field trip to a Coldwater (Michigan) foundry and I saw metal poured for ductile iron. It was the first time I ever saw a magnesium flash. The trip was good in that I could see what a future job could be and how it could apply to

your life—that’s what got me interested in metal casting.”

Because Tri-State prides itself in offering hands-on experiences that include field trips like this as well as real-world laboratory experiences, the University has a reputation that not only is known among the cast metals industry, but in all fields of engineering, says Dr. David Finley, TSU vice president for academic affairs and dean of the Allen School of Engineering & Technology. The school’s reputation for producing quality cast metals graduates extends throughout the nation, and reflects positively on all Tri-State students, he adds.

“Our cast metals program is, perhaps, our brightest star and what we’re best known for,” he says. “In fact, I was in California recently and someone came up to me and said, ‘Tri-State—you’re the place with that awesome foundry on campus.’ With the support of a phenomenal industrial advisory board, we have built the top undergraduate cast metals program in the country.”

# THUNDER NEWS

## FROM THE FIELD

Written by Melissa Cope BS '01, Sports Information Director

### BERGMAN, FUNKHOUSER NAMED TOP STUDENT ATHLETES

**Nikki Bergman**, a physical education major from Howard City, Mich., and **Ryan Funkhouser**, a sport management major from New Paris, Ind., were named TSU's 2005 most outstanding student athletes.



Bergman received the Shari Coons Award for her achievements in basketball. She was named third team all-conference and helped her team to a WHAC conference championship as a sophomore. She was named to the NAIA All-Independent team as a junior and the MIAA second team all-conference as a senior. She finished her career seventh all-time with 1,157 points and sixth all-time with 630 rebounds. She

also was on the Dean's List twice and the President's List once. She was involved with the Special Olympics as a volunteer.

Funkhouser received the Robert L. Greim award for his achievements in baseball. As a sophomore he was named most improved pitcher; as a junior he led the team in saves and was named team most valuable pitcher, and as a senior he was a team captain. He was the Student Athletic Advisory Committee president; a MIAA student representative; Health, Physical Education, and Sport Science Club president; and a Shape Up Indiana leader. He is listed in Who's Who Among America's College Students. He was a resident assistant in 2003.

The Shari Coons Award honors the memory of the four-year softball and basketball player who helped lead women's basketball to two consecutive championship seasons. The Robert Griem Award honors the decorated WWII veteran and successful engineer who played basketball and baseball.

### SOCCER PLAYER HONORED

TSU senior men's soccer player Ben Shaw was named the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association's Dr. Marvin A. Zuidema Award winner for 2004. The Dr. Marvin



A. Zuidema Award was first presented in 1999 in honor of Dr. Marvin Zuidema, a longtime men's soccer coach and athletic administrator at Calvin College. The recipient is to be a senior selected for his contributions to team play, leadership qualities, demonstration of ethical virtues, and excellence in athletics and academics.

Shaw is a mechanical engineering major from Hastings, Mich. He started in 19 games this season, while playing in all 20, without getting a yellow or red card. While a student-athlete at TSU, Shaw has been selected as a member of Pi Tau Sigma, a national mechanical engineering honors fraternity.

## FROM THE NEWSROOM

**Three-point success ...** The TSU men's and women's basketball teams spent the past season raising money for the Steuben County Big Brothers/Big Sisters with a 3-point charity challenge. The teams fell five baskets short of their goal of 650 made 3-point shots and collected \$1,137. The Thunder will continue the charity challenge next season.

**Thunder kickin' in Brazil ...** Three TSU women's soccer players have been invited to participate in a team that will represent the United States in an international tour in Brazil. Jennifer Sharkey (Battle Creek, Mich.), Nichole Stringham (Plainwell, Mich.), and Stephanie Vogelpohl (Cincinnati, Ohio) will travel to Brazil for a series of games between May 26 and June 10.

**Kudos, Kyle ...** TSU junior Kyle Stoops was named the MIAA Pitcher of the Week for his performance on the mound the week of March 21-27. Stoops (Elkhart, Ind.) pitched a complete game three-hit shutout with four strikeouts as the Thunder won their first-ever conference game with a 5-0 decision over Albion College.

## TSU's first graduate students create residential wheelchair lift



# GIVING HOMES A LIFT

When Tri-State University's first two graduate students presented their master's degree research projects for review this spring, they not only were defending their work toward their degree, but also were unveiling a new product for Vestil Manufacturing Corp. in Angola, Ind.

Gordon Cooper and Troy Neuenschwander, both Vestil employees, received their master's of science in engineering technology at graduation in May. They teamed up in their Applied Research Thesis course to develop a residential wheelchair lift, including a full-size prototype of it as a collaborative between the University and Vestil.

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**Initial marketing response was so positive they began receiving orders for the lift even before they finished the research.**

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"Basically, what the men did was modify an industrial lift that uses scissor action to lift the wheelchair," says Dave Wagner, director of the master's program and adviser to Cooper and Neuenschwander. "The industrial collaborative takes a full year to complete, and gives students a chance to try a new

venture or to take an existing product and make it better."

Vestil already was building a standard scissor-style lift. But, the company was seeing an increase in requests for specially-modified versions that could be adapted for home use with wheelchairs.

"So we decided to create a lift specifically for that purpose, that could be manufactured at Vestil," Neuenschwander says. "Probably the most challenging part of the project was meeting all the standards for compliancy by the American Society for Mechanical Engineers."

Neuenschwander concentrated on the mechanical design; Cooper addressed the marketing.

"We already knew there was a market for it," Neuenschwander says. "We received about 50 orders this year to modify the scissors lift for a standard residential design, for example, a lift that allows people access to their porch or front stoop of their house without a long ramp. Our project then had to consider the manufacturing process and federal government requirements, along with the user."

Initial marketing response was so positive they began receiving orders for the lift even



From the left: Troy Neuenschwander; Gordon Cooper

before they finished the research.

"They've come a long way," Wagner says. "It was a discovery-type thing, all trial-and-error, to eliminate the ramp in favor of the scissors lift. They not only went through a design entrepreneurial project, complete with surveys, demographics, manufacturing and assembly, but also are successful at marketing it."

"As a part of the graduate program, we are always looking for more topics like this that we can collaborate."

Wagner can be reached by phone, 260.665.4265, or e-mail, [wagerd@tristate.edu](mailto:wagerd@tristate.edu).

WRITTEN BY CINDY BEVINGTON • PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEN ELLIS & CARLA SATCHWELL

— Engineering technology projects —

# PROVIDE PRACTICAL TRAINING

Engineering technology students in Denise Wagner's measurements labs capitalized on real-world industrial needs to gain hands-on experience in creating design solutions for automotive gauges and artificial hip and knee joints.

Working with guidelines provided by companies that include Zimmer, an orthopedics manufacturer in Warsaw, Ind., and Tenneco Automotive of Angola, the students experimented with various design ideas and then presented their projects to the manufacturers. They also did conceptual vehicle designs for Mopar of Detroit, Mich. Since the engineering technology program is 50 percent theory, 50 percent applied practice, Wagner says these coop programs are especially helpful in preparing students for work in their chosen careers.

**“I learned a lot about the outside world and professionalism. Plus, the hands-on practice we get in the classroom is really necessary, and especially great to do with real-world companies.”**

—Lindsay Fisher, '05

The fall 2004 project for Zimmer was a tibia plate used in total knee replacement, with three student groups designing different concepts incorporating two geometric tolerances. This spring, students worked on parts and instruments used in minimally invasive hip replacement surgeries. When Zimmer representatives visited TSU in late March to evaluate the designs, they found



From the left: David Perry; Jane Schlegel; Marion Nisley, Zimmer; Andrew Steiner; David Glass, Zimmer; David Willard, Zimmer

that at least one was nearly identical to something Zimmer already had explored—indicating that the students were right on.

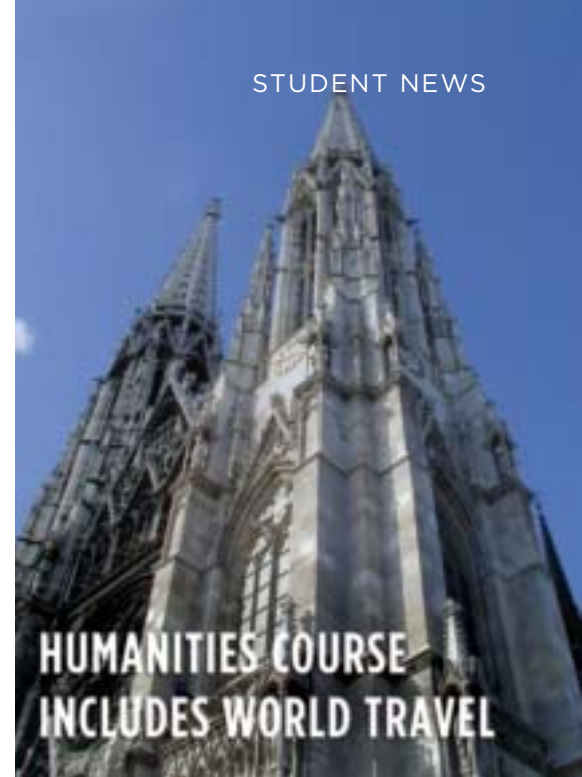
“These are good jobs done by all,” said David Willard, associate manager of technical services at Zimmer. “I’ve always believed that the best way for college students to get accustomed to real life is through intern programs or a coop such as this in the classroom—you can have a college degree but with no experience, it doesn’t help.”

Zimmer hired one of TSU's graduating design students, Lindsay Fisher, after she interned for the company last summer. “She was already ‘Zimmerized,’ so when we needed to hire



someone and her name came up, it was at the top of the list,” Willard said of the Eaton, Ind., native.

Fisher started her job May 23. “The people were great and I liked working there for my internship,” Fisher said. “I learned a lot about the outside world and professionalism. Plus, the hands-on practice we get in the classroom is really necessary, and especially great to do with real-world companies.”



From the rising spires of centuries-old cathedrals to narrow streets that afford barely the space for a single car to travel alongside pedestrian traffic, Vienna, Austria, is an epicenter of history, art, music, architecture and culture. During spring break 2005, it was a classroom for 17 TSU students.

“Vienna: Castles, Cathedrals and Culture” offered for the first time this spring with the help of a Lilly Endowment grant incorporated Internet research with classroom activities that included culture, language, architecture, art, and music history, as well as commonsense knowledge about traveling abroad. The course was the culmination of a plan nearly three years in the making by Dr. Dolores Tichenor, dean of arts and sciences, and professor Dr. Tom Enneking.

The course helped the students plan their itineraries and to come home with a wealth of knowledge they wouldn't have had, if they'd only studied the city in a book. Just learning the ins and outs of global travel was an important component of their education, Tichenor says.

“We're in a global world, and today travel is part of the real world. We wanted to provide that type of experience to our students.”



# LEAVING A BRIDGE-BUILDING

## Legacy

*Sixty-one bridges span the rivers and tributaries of Noble County, Indiana, some of them dating back almost 100 years when the railroad was coming through and the only entity building bridges in any substantive form was the railroad, for the railroad. After the railroad was done, however, the business of constructing bridges fell to county politicians who left their personal stamps on the bridges' designs as the century—and bridge blueprints—evolved. From 1938 to 1968, Warren Miller, BSCE' 32, built 13 bridges that still stand so strong today that the only parts needing serious repair are their timber piles. It is a legacy that Miller attributes to his Tri-State training.*

“Originally, I went to Tri-State because I wanted to be a doctor,” Miller says. “At that time they got all their professors from Michigan University—it was not Michigan State then—and if you got a B or better at Tri-State, you were automatically in the medical school at Michigan. I had wanted to go to Massachusetts Institute of Technology, but it was 1929, the start of the Depression, when I was making up my mind, and things were tough. Tri-State was closer and cheaper than MIT.”

Always at the top of his class, Miller never worried about the B average requirement. Financing his education was another matter. His father was a Pennsylvania Dutchman who was from the old European school of thought that the entirety of an inheritance goes to a man's firstborn son—and Miller was the second-born.

“My father never got past second grade, so when he got me through eighth grade, he said that was it,” Miller says. “I said I wanted to go to high school. But he said, ‘You don't need it.’”

When Miller argued, his dad relented, but with a caveat: he would furnish a place to live and food to eat, but that was all. “I was 14,” he says. “And I knew right then if I ever got to college it would be tough, so I said every dollar I earn is going in the bank.”

He enrolled in Kendallville High School, in Noble County, Ind., four miles from his father's farm. “And I worked from age 14, on, and started my first bank account the next day,” he says. The deposit totaled \$5.13—income derived from the sale of a skunk and two muskrats.

For two years, before his family moved into town, he rode a bike or hitched a ride to school. In the summer, he hauled yard gravel for the township trustee, whose job it was to take care of the county roads. He picked strawberries, too, and raspberries. He graduated in 1929 and worked a year at Atz Furniture Company and, finally, with \$1,200 in the bank, he enrolled in Tri-State.

“That was a lot of money back then,” he says. “But even so, I knew I had only so much money I could spend a week. Tuition was \$12.50 a semester for each course, and I knew I couldn't vary the budget much, or I'd go hungry. It usually cost me \$50 to sign up, more for extra subjects, which I took.”

He brought a sack of apples from home every Monday morning to help him last the week. A dime a day bought him a glass of milk and an egg sandwich. If he didn't need to buy supplies, such as protractors and mechanical drawing kits, sometimes he could spend a quarter—two glasses of milk and three eggs.

“I took regular courses until I got my B average, and then Professor (George) Niehous let me take anything I wanted,” Miller says. “He was a wonderful man who took me under his wing, although I never had him in an actual class. He was a good engineer, a real mathematician, and one of the smartest men I ever met.

“I ended up getting my degree in civil engineering—I knew by then I couldn't go on and be a doctor. In those days you had to pay \$10 for your sheepskin. And that was like \$1,000 now, so not a lot of kids got anything more than a piece of paper saying they'd taken the courses. But I had an aunt who paid the \$10, so I have mine.”

After graduation, it was 1932 and the country was in the depths of the Great Depression. Miller had a degree. But he didn't have a job and he still lived at home. He had a sweetheart, but he didn't feel it was fair to marry her with no income. Then, in the spring of '34, all that changed: his mother and the Republican county chairman decided to put him on the ticket for county surveyor—and the rest is history.

WRITTEN BY CINDY BEVINGTON • PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEN ELLIS & CARLA SATCHWELL



Miller won against an incumbent who'd held the position for 12 years. And, finally, he married.

As surveyor, Miller's job was to take care of the county's 1,200 miles of ditches. Two years later Roosevelt swept the county and the county commissioners gave Miller the highway superintendent's job, an appointive position. In 1938 he ran for surveyor again, and not only won, but also volunteered to work both jobs for one salary, which he did for the next 28 years, for a total of 30 years of service to Noble County.

During that time he earned his professional engineer's license (in 1940) and rebuilt all but 40 of the 400 miles of township roads,

widened existing bridges and blacktopped them, and built 13 new bridges. Nine of those bridges either span the Elkhart River or cross a north or south branch of it. Most of them went up in the early 1960s. Using his Tri-State education, he insisted that the contractors utilize a pre-stress concrete box beam design on all but one of the 13.

"And when I finished we had some of the best roads and bridges in the state," Miller says. "When you build a road you have to set the grades, stake fence lines and know how to do concrete bridges. I built the first river bridge in Noble County that wasn't engineered by an outside firm. It was in downtown Ligonier with a pier in the middle of the river."

When commissioners found out he knew how to build bridges, they asked if he was aware that the federal government would help finance them, but only if he hired an outside agent. "But I answered, 'I can do it cheaper this way'—and I did."

Today the state has a list of bridges in need of repair in every county, including six in Noble County that need replacing. But, according to Keith Lytton, Noble County engineer, the bridges that Miller built are in overall, good quality condition. He doesn't know Miller personally. "But if he's the one responsible for what I've seen, he did a pretty good job," Lytton says. "A good bridge does take a good design and supervision. We have several bridges from the early '60s that are still in service, and the things in most need of repair are the end bents, which are made of wood, and are expected to wear out."

Richard Gardner, professional engineer for WTH Engineering, which does bridge inspections for the state, says Noble County's average sufficiency rating—which mathematically judges the stability of the state's bridges—is 78.99. "And I'd say that's pretty good, especially for the age they are. All but one of the bridges is of the same concrete design," Gardner adds. "The load ratings are all still good, too."

For Miller, who just celebrated his 94th birthday, his secret to success is one he enjoys sharing: "Work hard and be honest," he says. "If you want to live to be 100, you have to work hard. And, if you're not honest, you won't hold a job."

"The thing about Tri-State is we had a good education. We learned how to rebar the concrete, something not everybody was doing at that time. And, as far as I know the bridges I built like that, they've never had any problem with. That's what I'm proudest of."

*"The thing about Tri-State is we had a good education."*

# MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR STUDENT CENTER WILL TRANSFORM TRI-STATE'S CAMPUS

WRITTEN BY KEVIN LICHLYTER, CO-EDITOR, THE TRIANGLE



A Tri-State University senior engineering design project that began as a wish and a dream several years ago is becoming a reality, with the plans for a new student union in the works.

The Tri-State University Student Center and Center for Technology and Online Resources will be built on the intramural fields on the west side of the railroad tracks.

It is a project that not only turns rumors of a planned student union into fact, but also promises much more, according to Michael Bock, vice president for student and university operations.

Planned in three phases, the student center will cost approximately \$9 million—with no student funds used to finance it.

The first phase will include a dining area, post office, executive dining area, community dining and a deli. The second phase includes a movie theater, hair salon, game room, fitness area, climbing wall, bookstore, alumni suites and conference area. The

third phase is a state-of-the-art technology and research center.

The entire facility will be powered by an economical cogeneration energy system that recycles power and is environmentally friendly. When completed, the plant not only will give Angola the highest concentration of cogeneration power in the United States, but also will serve as a classroom that allows students to study cogeneration power, Bock said.

“All of the money for this center is being raised through grants and donations,” he said. “No student tuition money will go to the construction of this building, and none has gone to any of the current building projects on campus, either.”

Design Collaborative of Fort Wayne, which also designed Taylor Hall’s renovation, the remodeling of Forman Hall and the Trine Villas, won the student center design contract.

The estimated completion date of construction for phases one and two is spring 2006, or

earlier, Bock said. “The main factor in this time frame will be raising the \$9 million, and solving whatever other problems that might arise in building such a large facility.”

Once the new center is open, the current dining area in Stewart Hall, Park Avenue Café, will be remodeled into quad living facilities with a small kitchen area in the center of the building. The Comfort Zone also will become a living area. The radio station will remain with a few other offices as the only other remaining present occupants.

The intramural fields that the student center is displacing will be relocated, Bock said. “At this time the university is looking for a new location for the fields with plans to have them usable by fall semester 2005.”

Besides the student center, the university has other plans to build a field house with a 200-meter indoor track and a new football stadium with an access bridge from the student center across Park Avenue.

**Chris Bixler, BSME '04**, was hired a market applications engineer by Applied Process in February 2005. Bixler is a Foundry Educational Foundation scholar who was interviewed by Applied Process just after the College Industry Conference this past winter. His new position includes working on Austempered components and acting as the key interface in-house keeper of Applied Process's technical marketing program and the company's Web site ([www.appliedprocess.com](http://www.appliedprocess.com)), as well as keeping the AFS 5M [www.ironcastings.org](http://www.ironcastings.org) Web site. He also will be giving presentations and doing technical marketing visits all over North America. "We selected Chris because we felt that, of all the candidates, his background, values and desires 'meshed' the best with those of Applied Process," said John R. (Chip) Keough, PE and CEO of Applied Process Inc.

**Gordon Cooper, BAM '03**, earned a Master of Science in Engineering Technology from TSU during Commencement 2005. Currently, he is Distributor Sales Manager at Vestil Manufacturing Corp. in Angola, Ind.

**Cherie Ditto, BSBA '03**, has been promoted to manager of processing services at Kaman Industrial Technologies Accounting Center in Fort Wayne, Ind. On Dec. 1, the company, which employees 1,500 people in 200 locations across the U.S., also recognized her for her leadership of three departments, her involvement in numerous Kaisen events focusing on lean processes, and for developing a procurement card program to pay suppliers via credit card.

**Bob Fallon, BSChE '78**, this spring received the Eli Lilly & Company 2004 Engineering Excellence Award. This prestigious award is given each year to an engineer within Lilly who has demonstrated a long-term, high level of technical

performance and innovation, and who has had a significant impact on the engineering profession and the success of the company. Fallon was recognized for excellence in the application of engineering skills during 26 years at Lilly in a broad range of areas including manufacturing, solvent recovery, health and safety and environmental operations. "In addition, he is recognized as the company's cleaning technology expert, developing best practices for the cleaning of multi-use chemical processing equipment," said Jeffrey T. Vincenzi, process engineering consultant for Process Research and Development at the Lilly Corporate Center. "The techniques he has developed substantially reduce the time and cost and waste involved with cleaning, while ensuring the equipment is cleaned to the very highest of standards." In 1998 Fallon received the Indiana Governor's Award for Pollution Prevention for the implementation of aqueous-based cleaning process in Lilly's bulk pharmaceutical facilities.

**Allen Keen, BSBA '03**, has been named Director of Alumni and Regional Activities at TSU. Previously, he served as Director of Annual Giving and Regional Campaigns.

**Dr. Anne Reifel Miller, BS '78**, and TSU Board of Trustees member since 2000, received the 2004 Endocrine Merit Award for Leadership from the Endocrinology Division of Lilly Research Laboratories, Eli Lilly and Co. Miller received the award for implementing an innovative approach for the identification of new targets for the discovery and development of novel oral agents for the treatment of type 2 diabetes. Miller joined Eli Lilly and Co. in 1991 and has risen through the scientific ranks to senior research adviser. Her research efforts



have contributed to the identification, development and testing of five clinical candidates for the treatment of diabetic complications and type 2 diabetes.

**Troy Neuenschwander, BSCADD '99**, earned a Master of Science in Engineering Technology from TSU during Commencement 2005. Currently, he is Design Engineer at Vestil Manufacturing Corp. in Angola, Ind.

**Craig W. Nevels, BSME '04**, has been hired by Boeing Integrated Defense Systems in St. Louis, Mo., as an engineer/scientist working with the F/A-18 training systems. He will begin studying for his master's degree in systems engineering in fall 2005.

**Khalid Pervaiz, BSME '79**, was named vice president of engineering and product integrity at Ameriwood Industries in Wright City, Missouri. He had been director of TQM and director of engineering prior to this promotion. He received his MBA in executive management from Ashland University in 1985 and have completed the doctoral work except for his dissertation in operation management.

# IN MEMORIAM *(Current as of March 28, 2005)*

**James W. Axmacher**, EE '58, of Lititz, Penn.; Sept. 23, 2004  
**Chalmers Ayers**, ME '38, of Silsbee, Texas; Sept. 27, 2004  
**J. Kenneth Baxter Jr.**, ME '47, of Marblehead, Mass.; Feb. 23, 2005  
**Raymond G. Brady**, EE '52, of Lowell, Mass.; Jan. 17, 2005  
**J. Allen Brookes**, CE '30, of Sumter, S.C.; Nov. 13, 2004  
**Leon J. Buividas**, CHE '42, of Houston, Texas; Jan. 13, 2005  
**Willard B. Burgess**, AE '61, of Vero Beach, Fla.; Jan. 24, 2005  
**Joseph L. Chamnes**, EE '49, of Sacramento, Calif.; June 24, 2004  
**Edward F. Chase**, ME '42, of Avon, Conn.; Nov. 26, 2004  
**Paul F. Clawson**, AE '61, of Bainbridge, Ohio; Jan. 5, 2005  
**Michael R. Crowe**, BAD '72, of Columbus, Ind.; Dec. 6, 2004  
**Samuel W. Daskam**, RE '56, of Stamford, Conn.; Jan. 13, 2005  
**Wallace V. Deluca**, ME '49, of Damon, Texas; Dec. 20, 2004  
**Raymond E. Denny**, ME '48, of Jackson, Mich.; Jan. 29, 2005  
**James C. Diehl**, AE '71, of Hicksville, Ohio; Nov. 28, 2004  
**Richard L. Ditmer**, RE '50, of Dayton, Ohio; Nov. 23, 2004  
**Kenneth R. Fortman**, EE '30, of Albuquerque, N.M.; Jan. 24, 2005  
**John L. Garvin**, ME student, of Wolcottville, Ind.; June 1, 2004  
**Terrence J. Haas**, ME '40, of Mendon, Mich.; Aug. 20, 2004  
**Robert L. Hall Man**, BAD '55, of Gettysburg, Penn.; Aug. 1, 2004  
**Weikko W. Haapanen**, CHE '49, of Bath, Maine; Jan. 15, 2004  
**Donald W. Harrington**, CE '50, of Lynchburg, Va.; July 17, 2004  
**Vernon L. Hart**, ME '53, of Brighton, Mich.; Oct. 20, 2004  
**Bertil H. Hedlund**, CE '57, Feb. 1, 2004  
**Helen L. Hegner**, BAD '34, of Sewickley, Penn.; March 10, 2005  
**Irving Huffman**, EE '55, of Richmond, Ind.; April 25, 2004  
**Clarence E. Humphreys**, ME '31, of Hillsboro, Ohio; Nov. 1, 2004  
**Paul R. Keller**, ME '81, of Downingtown, Penn.; Jan. 5, 2005  
**Malcolm H. Kidd**, ME '51, of North Fort Myers, Fla.; Oct. 18, 2004  
**Joseph B. Kolb**, BAD 35, of Orlando, Fla.; Feb. 23, 2005  
**Agnes M. Kopp**, BAT '25, of Lansing, Mich.; July 16, 2004

**Lee E. Korbich**, BAD '67, of Elysburg, Penn.; Feb. 23, 2005  
**Joseph W. Layden**, BAD '58, of Bone Terre, Mo.; July 26, 2004  
**Dr. Arnold M. Levine**, RE '39, of Chatsworth, Calif.; Feb. 2, 2005  
**Carl R. McClaney Jr.**, BAD '90, of Cheektowaga, N.Y.; March 11, 2005  
**Gene E. Mentzer**, ME '51, of Wilmington, Del.; March 5, 2005  
**Paul M. Miller**, CE '38, of Chillicothe, Ohio; Nov. 15, 2004  
**Willis H. Outcalt**, ME '49, of Warsaw, Ind.; Jan. 24, 2005  
**William R. Pierce**, ME '56, of Burton, Mich.; May 2004  
**Maragaret F. Powers (Field)**, '32, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Dec. 6, 2004  
**Dale W. Rexrode**, ME '59, of Davenport, Fla.; June 19, 2004  
**Paul H. Rogers**, RE '38, of Walton, N.Y.; Jan. 30, 2005  
**Joseph T. Rossien**, ME '54, of Manistee, Mich.; Sept. 23, 2004  
**William J. Russell III**, CE '59, of Murphysboro, Ill.; Dec. 10, 2004  
**Margaret B. Samsel (Bonbrake)**, '21, of St. Paul, Minn.; March 19, 2005  
**Robert F. Sawyer**, ME '53, of Buchanan, Mich.; Oct. 31, 2004  
**Jack L. Seifreit**, ME '51, of Frisco, Texas; July 19, 2004  
**Holland Earl Shaw**, EE '49, of North Fort Myers, Fla.; Oct. 13, 2004  
**Richard T. Swanson**, EE '43, of Jamestown, N.Y.; Dec. 29, 2004  
**William J. Thon**, AE '42, of Dunnellon, Fla.; September 2004  
**Conrad Urban**, ME '51, of Kingman, Ariz.; ME '51; Feb. 8, 2005  
**George W. Westphal**, AE '36, of Palm Coast, Fla.; AE '36, March 9, 2005  
**Gary A. Whitcomb**, ME '59, of Greenville, S.C.; Nov. 5, 2004  
**Bruce A. Wideman**, CE '60, of Palmyra, N.Y.; Nov. 15, 2004  
**Walter H. Winsky**, EE '49, of Easthampton, Mass.; Nov. 18, 2004  
**Leonard H. Witzke**, EE '42, of Fort Worth, Texas; Feb. 7, 2005

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In Memoriam remembers alumni and friends who have died. To include a name, we must have a newspaper obituary (photocopy or online version are permissible) from a direct relative. Every effort is made to print individuals' passings within six months, but no later than twelve months. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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## TSU FONDLY REMEMBERS ALUMNUS, TRUSTEE

Robert E. Turner '41 – alumnus, benefactor, board member, Pillar of Success recipient – passed away May 16, 2005. He was 83. He is survived by his wife, Mary, four children, ten grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Turner was born June 26, 1921, in Cambridge, Ohio. He studied aeronautical engineering at Tri-State College in 1940-

1941, shortly before entering World War II as a test pilot and Army Air Corps pilot trainer.

He served as executive vice president/COO of Mid-Continent Manufacturing Co. of Columbus, Ohio; general manager and president of Pantasote Inc.'s Plastic Division and was executive vice president/COO at the time of his retirement in 1991.

Dr. Turner joined the TSU Board of Trustees in 1994 and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Engineering in May 2001. He was respected for his passion and dedication to Tri-State.



## ENGRAVING CELEBRATES

# Art of Conversation

WRITTEN BY DR. THOMAS TIERNEY

One of the seminal pieces of the TSU Humanities Institute's collection, *A Literary Party at Sir Joshua Reynolds's*, is not widely appreciated in the United States, although the original painting is among the collection of the National Portrait Gallery. Yet the significance of the work's theme—the art of conversation—is even more timely in today's high-tech culture than it was in the mid-19th century, when one's reputation depended on its mastery.

This engraving represents the Camelot of conversation in an era when you were valued for your intellect and linguistic skills. The formidable assemblage here includes author James Boswell, lexicographer Dr. Samuel Johnson, artist Sir Joshua Reynolds, actor David Garrick, statesman Edmund Burke, musician Sir Charles Burney, political and military leader Pascal Paoli, poet and historian Thomas Warton the Younger, and physician-turned-writer Oliver Goldsmith. *A Literary Party* captures the nine in discussion.

Painted in 1851 by James William Edmund Doyle (1822-1892) and then engraved by W. Walker, these figures are some of the most prominent artistic and intellectual figures in the second half of the 18th century, members of a literary club or, as we would call it today, a reading group that Johnson and Reynolds formed in 1764. But this is no mere book club: in comparison, imagine author William Faulkner, artist Pablo Picasso, musician Pablo Casals, activist Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., scientist Stephen

Hawking, and a few others of equivalent stature settling in for a long evening of brilliant conversation.

In this painting Boswell sits on the far left. His work, *Life of Samuel Johnson* (1791), is the first great literary biography. Next to him, at the head of the table, is the leader of the group: Johnson. The greatest conversationalist of the century, his most renowned work was completed in 1755: *Dictionary of the English Language*. He was well known as a literary biographer, editor and critic of Shakespeare, essayist, poet, storyteller and playwright.

Next to Johnson, employing the high-tech hearing aid of the time—an ear trumpet—is the host of the party, Reynolds, whose full-length portraits of the wealthy hang in the great galleries around the world. Next to him is Garrick, the greatest actor of the age. A pupil of Johnson, Garrick's 1769 Shakespeare Jubilee marked the beginning of Stratford upon Avon as a tourist mecca for Shakespeare lovers.

Front and center, with legs crossed, is Burke, the statesman and political theorist who defended the rights of American colonists against the claims of the British government and later wrote about the French Revolution. Next to him is the musician and musical historian Burney, whose daughter, Fanny, was a novelist in the late 18th, early 19th century.

Across the table, between Burke and Burney, is Paoli, the twice-exiled leader of Corsica who guided his countrymen's drafting

of a republican constitution, which played a role in the U.S. Constitution.

Seated at the right end of the table are Warton and Goldsmith, both graduates of Trinity College. Warton was poet laureate of England from 1785 until his untimely death in 1790, and is known for writing the first history of English poetry. Goldsmith was an essayist, critic, poet, playwright, and novelist, whose most famous work is *The Vicar of Wakefield* (1766).

This one, single engraving—more than 100 years old—is as much historical as it is artistic. Pondering the topic of conversation at hand—indeed, the many possible themes this formidable collection of luminaries might address—is, itself, an art form and makes for an intriguing exercise. TSU students have similar opportunities in four classes: British Literature, Restoration and 18th Century Literature, History of the English Language, and Shakespeare and His Times. Although the class discussions cannot rival those of *A Literary Party*, they do offer today's generation an activity as equally interactive as any television show or computer game, which accomplishes the very mission of the Humanities Institute: to engage the campus community in collegial discussions, presentations and seminars.

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If you would like to examine this engraving more closely or peruse the entire collection, you may e-mail Dr. Tierney at [tierneyt@tristate.edu](mailto:tierneyt@tristate.edu).

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A Literary Party at Sir Joshua Reynolds's was donated to the TSU Humanities Institute by Wilson Shoup, Esq., long-time Angola city attorney and witty conversationalist, in memory of his wife.

*From the Gallery* ~ Tri-State University is home to a collection of primarily 17th and 18th century engravings and reproductions of period furniture, thanks to Board of Trustee members, alumni, faculty, administrators and friends from the community. The collection is housed in the Wells Gallery of Charles & Nancy Taylor Hall of Humanities. Dr. Thomas Tierney, professor of English whose academic specialty is 17th and 18th century literature, is director and founder of the TSU Humanities Institute. In each issue of Discover, Dr. Tierney will introduce a new piece of the TSU collection. We hope you enjoy *From the Gallery*.





## ‘VISION’ GIVES NEW LIFE TO BUILDINGS

Seventy years after the 1930 fire, Tri-State began ‘A Vision for the Future,’ which today is a \$70 million capital campaign to enhance facilities, technology, scholarships, faculty development and our endowment. Among the campaign’s priorities is the renovation of Sniff Hall.

The 1877 Sniff Hall Administration Building was once covered with ivy and three stories tall. Today, the ivy is gone and the bricks and mortar are gleaming following the replacement of all the broken bricks, complete tuck pointing and a cleaning, filling and facelift that includes new thermopane windows and doors. It also has a new north

entrance and a new roof, and, when the inside is finished, this building—now named the C.W. Sponsel Administrative Center in recognition of Dr. Clifford W. Sponsel BSCE ’31—will house executive and administrative offices once again.

Another significant change has been converting the old cafeteria building from Centennial Hall into Forman Hall. With a new façade and interior, Forman is alive with activity, serving as a reception area for visitors within the Trine Welcome Center. It also houses numerous administrative and business offices. Other projects in our Vision campaign include the construction of

apartment-style student housing known as the TSU Campus Village, including Trine and Ingledue Villas, for honors students and construction of the state-of-the-art Student Center and Center for Technology and Online Resources (see page 25).



TRI-STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI & FRIENDS 15TH

# Golf Outing

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2005

## UPCOMING EVENTS

June 17

Founders Day Celebration

July 15

Golf Outing, TSU Department of Civil  
and Environmental Engineering

August 20

Class of 2009 Move-In Day

September 16-18

Family Weekend

## FEATURE EVENT

August 5

15th Alumni & Friends Golf Outing  
\$125 per golfer

## SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

**6:30–11:30 a.m.** Registration, Silent  
Auction, Buffet lunch, Mulligans may be  
purchased (\$5 each, limit 2 per person)

**12:30 p.m.** Shotgun start

**5:00 p.m.** Dinner – Witmer Clubhouse,  
Drawing and Awards

For additional information, please call  
*Allen Keen at 260.665.4311.*

*Discover*

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