

Random Bytes

Computer Science Department
College of Basic and Applied Sciences

MACK THWEATT RETIRES AFTER 40 YEARS IT'S NOT GOODBYE – IT'S SEE YOU LATER!

Family, friends and colleagues gathered at the home of Richard and Carol Detmer to honor Dr. Joe Mack Thweatt for his 40 years of service to the Computer Science Department and the MTSU community. He was presented with a scrapbook, pocket watch and other gifts to mark this memorable occasion.

Mack began his 40 year teaching career at MTSU in 1965 in the Mathematics Department, which split to form the Computer Science Department in 1986. Nearly every weekday morning, you would see Mack in his Kirksey Old Main office by 7:00 AM.

Before joining MTSU, Mack was a high school math teacher and Department Head at Hillwood High School in Nashville, TN. Born and raised in Tennessee, Mack attended Isaac Litton High School in Nashville, studied electrical engineering for two years at Vanderbilt University and transferred to David Lipscomb College where he received his B.A. degree in mathematics. He received his M.A. from Middle Tennessee State College in mathematics, Ed.S. from Middle Tennessee State University in administration and supervision and Ed.D. from Tennessee State University in educational administration.

The youngest of three sons, Mack was born shortly before World War II broke out. His mother, Eloise, was a homemaker, songwriter of religious songs and artist of children's religious literature. His father, Enoch, Sr. was the regional Vice President for Keith Simmons Hardware Stores. Mack has two brothers, Enoch, Jr. who lives in



Nashville, Tennessee and Dan who resides in Vero Beach, Florida.

Mack is married to Sandra Zapp Thweatt. She is a retired registered nurse from the Coronary Care Unit at Middle Tennessee Medical Center. They have three children - LeAnn, Shawn and Manly (all of whom graduated from MTSU) and nine grandchildren whom they love dearly.

Mack is a man of many interests and very high moral character. He has been a speaker, teacher, writer, and consultant. His research areas include microcontrollers, simulation, ethics and computer science education. He enjoys golfing, hunting and ministering at his local church. Mack has coached a lot of sports throughout the years and is a great example of a team player. He was awarded Tennessee's Outstanding Achievement Award by Governor

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Top 10 New Year's Resolutions

- Spend more time with family & friends
- Get fit
- Quit smoking
- Tame the bulge
- Enjoy life more
- Quit drinking
- Get out of debt
- Learn something new
- Help others
- Get organized

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THWEATT RETIRES (CONT.)

Lamar Alexander in 1981 for being head coach of the USSSA National Champion Girls Softball Team two years in a row.

Over the years, Mack has proven himself to be flexible, willing and able. When Paul Hutcheson retired, Mack revamped the micro-processing class. Then Jim Gonce (Industrial Studies) retired, and Mack became the new faculty advisor for the Raider Radio Club. Mack took over the duties as Chair of the Computer Science Department when Tom Cheatham received a non-instructional grant for one semester. Later, when Homer Brown retired, Mack began teaching the numerical analysis class and when Nancy Wahl retired, Mack began teaching the ethics class. He is truly a man of many talents.

Mack was an integral part of the annual high school computer contest at MTSU for 21 years, serving as co-director for approximately ten years. In 1999, he received the Edwin S. Voorhies Award for his support of the Cooperative Education program at MTSU and for assisting students in finding internships. Most recently, he served two years as Chair of the Mid-



football, basketball and baseball. A long-time MTSU supporter, Mack has established the Mack Thweatt Scholarship that will help enable a brighter future to computer science majors. Donations may be sent directly to the Computer Science Department. Mack will continue serving MTSU while teaching under the post retirement program in the Computer Science Department for four years. You may contact him at csmack@mtsu.edu or his ham radio sign is KX4L. His web page can be found at <http://www.mtsu.edu/~csmack>. Feel free to send him a note. Mack will be happy to hear from everyone. We thank him and wish him many fruitful years to come!

Southeast ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) Conference and three years on the Faculty Senate. Upon retirement, Mack received the distinction of Professor Emeritus.

You will continue to see Mack at the MTSU ball games with family and friends, as he has season tickets for



ZHIJIANG DONG JOINS COMPUTER SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Please welcome our newest and youngest faculty member to the Computer Science Department, Dr. Zhijiang Dong.



Zhijiang joined the Computer Science Department this fall as an assistant professor. He completed his Ph.D. in computer science from Florida International University in Miami. His research area is software

engineering. Other interests include database and data mining.

Dr. Dong attended Huazhong University of Science and Technology in China. There he received both his Bachelor of Science degree in applied mathematics and his Master of Science degree in computer science.

Zhijiang is married to Yujian Fu and has a two year old son named Sherwood. He loves to play soccer, watch NBA games, travel and hike. Recently, he has been learning to play tennis.

Zhijiang was raised in Yichang, China, a 2000-year-old city near the world famous Yangtze Three Gorges scenic zhoe. His two brothers still live there with his parents.

We're very happy to have Zhijiang with us!

SEO RECEIVES TENURE AND PROMOTION

Suk Jai Seo started working in the Computer Science Department in the Fall of 2002. She had just completed her Ph.D. from the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

While at MTSU, Dr. Seo has taught a variety of courses including Computer Orientation, Computer Science I, Advanced Data Structures, Introduction to Assembly Language, Selected Topics in Computer Science, Analysis of Algorithms, Introduction to Symbolic

and Algebraic Manipulation.

Before coming to the United States, Suk taught secondary education in Korea.



Suk is married to C.H. who is President of his own electronic company. Both of her grown children are Harvard University graduates. She enjoys a bit of competition while playing tennis and golf. She also enjoys traveling.

Join us in congratulating Suk on her promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor and for receiving tenure! She is a valuable member of our department.

UNTCH RECEIVES PROMOTION



Congratulations go out to Roland Untch on his recent promotion to full Professor! Roland has been in the Computer Science Department for

12 years. He received his Ph.D. from Clemson University in 1995. Before joining MTSU, Roland taught at Clemson University and Purdue University Calumet.

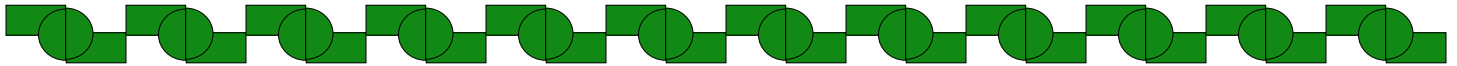
Dr. Untch will be teaching one of our newer graduate courses in the Spring, Research Methods. He is currently teaching Computer Science I and Operating Systems. Roland's areas of

expertise are software engineering, software testing, program analysis and videoconferencing. He is a great teacher and has a wit that won't quit!

Roland is married to Sandra who is a Registered Nurse working in the pediatric unit at the University Medical Center Hospital in Lebanon. They have one twelve year old daughter named Michelle.



joy
grace
hope - love
faith - peace
honor - purity
courage - loyalty
goodness - prudence
sympathy - humility
fortitude - temperance
brotherhood - cooperation
and
God
is
love.



CHRISTMAS REMINDERS

May the Christmas presents remind you of God's greatest gift
--- His only begotten Son.

May the Christmas feast remind you of Him who is the
--- Bread of Life.

May the Christmas season remind you in every way of
--- Jesus Christ the King.

May the Christmas candles remind you of Him who is the
--- Light of the world.

May the Christmas snow remind you of the cleansing power
--- of Christ.

~~Author Unknown~~

May the Christmas tree remind you of another tree on which
--- He died for you.

May the Christmas bells remind you of the glorious proclamation
--- of His birth.

May the Christmas cheer remind you of Him who said,
--- "Be of good cheer."

May the Christmas carols remind you of His glad tidings which we proclaim --- to all mankind.
