



## MVSU MOCK TRIAL PAIR WIN HONORS



MVSU students Thaddeus Brooks (l) and L.E. Carter III (r), received Outstanding Trial Advocate Awards and scholarships of \$2,000 for their performances during the John Marshall Law School National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competition in Chicago, Ill. Dr. Larry Chappell (c) serves as pre-law advisor and mock trial coach.

The Mock Trial Team competed in the John Marshall National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competition held April 13 – 14, on the campus of John Marshall Law School in Chicago. The university has competed in the John Marshall Competition since last year.

Two MVSU students – Thaddeus Brooks, a senior history major, and L.E. Carter III, a senior political science major – competed in the tournament, both earning Outstanding Trial Advocate Awards and scholarships of \$2,000 for their performances over the course of three trials. Brooks is from Marks, Miss., where he attended Madison Shannon Palmer High School. Carter is from McComb, Miss., and attended McComb High School.

“I am very pleased with the performance of our mock trial team throughout this season,” said Dr. Larry Chappell, pre-law advisor and Mock Trial coach. “The students put in many hours of preparation, and it paid off. I am especially excited about the performance of our team at the John Marshall National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competition. To have L.E. Carter III and Thaddeus Brooks win outstanding trial advocate awards speaks volumes about their preparation.”

In the John Marshall Diversity format, students are assigned to teams with students from other colleges and universities. They then compete against other teams formed at the tournament. Each student must play five roles during the course of three trial rounds: 1) opening attorney; 2) closing attorney; 3) directing attorney; 4) crossing attorney and 5)

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## MILES, CORNELL PRESENT JOINT SENIOR THESIS EXHIBITION

The Department of Fine Arts is presenting a Joint Senior Thesis Art Exhibition by Jacoby Cornell and Eric Miles in the Johnston Gallery from now through June 15. The Johnston Gallery is located on the Itta Bena campus in the Walter Sillers Fine Arts Building.

Cornell is a resident of Greenwood where he graduated from Greenwood High School. His works consist of ten offensive greeting cards, created from Photoshop, in which he provides rude gestures for a mature audience in a humorous vein for various holidays and life milestones. “The figure of speech and messages conveyed are not personal feelings that I hold against anyone, but created specifically to entertain my audience, especially for those who may be concerned,” said Cornell, who is a member both the MVSU Marching and Symphonic Bands. He served as a drum major in the former and earned his educational training partially from the support of a band scholarship. In addition, he is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Fraternity for college bandmen.

Miles of Memphis, Tenn. graduated from Oakhaven High School. His works in this exhibit consist of thirteen digital images, originating from an Elandro magazine, which he created, and progressed from the cover page to page thirteen in the magazine. Created with Photoshop and InDesign, the magazine focuses on such topics as the rise in gas prices, the death of Whitney Houston, MVSU winning the SWAC Tournament, celebrities providing their input about television shows they participate in, education attendance practices in other countries and advertisements of marketable items.

According to Miles, “my work offers a bold, vibrant, and colorful blend of forms. My love and exploration of color started as a middle grade student while studying one summer at the Memphis College of Art. The use of contrast between light and dark values and a pleasant facial expression (except for the scene of the Funeral of Whitney Houston) are important to me.” Miles is a member of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.





## MS CENTER FOR JUSTICE VISITS MVSU CAMPUS

*Meigan Thompson, community organizer for the Mississippi Center for Justice, informs students on healthcare reform. The Mississippi Center for Justice carries out its mission through a community lawyering approach that advances specific social justice campaigns in partnership with national and local organizations and community leaders.*



## HANDY ACCEPTED INTO MEHARRY'S SEP

*Grenada native Tessie Handy has been accepted into the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) at the Meharry Medical College - School of Medicine in Brentwood, Tenn. Handy is a junior biology major with a minor in chemistry. She hopes to become a physician.*

## MINNESOTA LIFE INSURANCE UPDATE

Action Required - Minnesota Life, our group life insurance provider, is announcing a new online beneficiary management tool to manage your beneficiary designation. All participants should receive written correspondence from Minnesota Life and State of Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration outlining this upcoming change.

Effective September 1, 2012, your current beneficiary designation on file will no longer be valid and life insurance proceeds will be rewarded according to the plan document outlined in the policy.

Steps to Access Minnesota Life Online Beneficiary Management Tool:

1. Log into your myBlue site, <https://myblue.bcbsms.com>, as usual and click on the My Benefits tab.
2. Click the Life Benefits section, which is right below Medical Benefits. This section will show you the effective date and amount of life insurance coverage you have.
3. Click the link in the Life Benefits section and you will be redirected to Minnesota Life's online beneficiary management tool. Follow the instructions on Minnesota Life's site to submit your beneficiary designation.

After submission, a confirmation page will be mailed to each participant outlining your new designated beneficiary(s). Please keep for your personal records.

## MVSU SPONSORED PROGRAMS NOW ON FACEBOOK



Mississippi Valley State University's Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) has joined Facebook in an effort to connect with the Valley community as well as faculty, staff, students and alumni. The Facebook page will share grant opportunities, links and updates from funding agencies, success stories from our programs and much more.

Visit the link to view OSP's Facebook page - <http://www.facebook.com/MVSUOSP>



## NEW STUDENT EARLY REGISTRATION

### Registration Session

### Registration Dates

Session One	Friday, June 22, 2012 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Session Two (Non-Traditional Students)	Thursday, July 12, 2012 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Session Three	Thursday, July 26, 2012 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Session Four	Friday, August 10, 2012 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.





# RETIREMENT AND YEARS OF SERVICE LUNCHEON

Several retiring MVSU employees were honored during the annual Retirees and Years of Service luncheon on May 3. Retirees not pictured include Mr. Robert E. Collins, Facilities Management; Dr. Juho Kim, Business Administration; Mrs. JoAnn Lawson, Men's College; Mr. Clinton Powell, Facilities Management; Mrs. Maxcine Rush, Office of Student Records; Mr. Charles C. Ruth, Men's Track and Field; and Mr. James Thurmond, University Police.



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*Information Technology*



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## MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY RECYCLING CENTER

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and surrounding communities



witness. If a team is successful, it can compete in quarterfinal, semifinal and final rounds for the national championship.

Brooks was a member of a team that qualified for quarterfinals. His team won the first two rounds and advanced to the national championship round. In a very close match, his team finished second in the national championship round. For that stellar performance, he and his two teammates from LeMoyne Owens College and Lewis University earned law school scholarships of \$9,000, bringing Brooks' winnings to scholarship waivers of \$11,000 for law school at this tournament. "Brooks is especially to be commended for his participation in the finals of the national championship round, and his work with teammates from other schools," said Chappell. "Since he had won an outstanding witness award in an earlier tournament, he will need his own trophy case."

MVSU President Donna H. Oliver said, "The entire Mississippi Valley State University community is very proud of our team, the only one of its kind at a Historically Black University in Mississippi, and one of the very few in the nation. Thanks to our outstanding students, and the excellent coaching of Dr. Larry Chappell, they are fierce competitors who exemplify the Valley spirit of excellence in all that they do."

The MVSU Mock Trial Team has been participating in sanctioned competition since 1998, winning the award for "Best New Team" at the Birmingham Regional of the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) at

Samford University in its first year of regional competition. Since securing consistent funding in 2005, the Mock Trial Team has garnered numerous individual and team awards, competing in both the AMTA invitational regional and national competitions. In 2011 and 2012, the team has competed in the John Marshall Regional and National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competitions, which are sanctioned by AMTA, securing awards there as well.

"The most impressive team award with AMTA occurred in 2010, when the team qualified for the opening round of the national championship tournament," explained Chappell. "The following year, the team garnered honorable mention for its performance in the AMTA regional tournament in Jackson, Miss. Team awards also include Spirit of AMTA Award for invitational tournaments at Eastern Kentucky Mock Trial Invitational Tournament in Richmond Kentucky in 2006 and the Polar Bear Tournaments at Ohio Northern University in Ada, Ohio in 2009 and 2010. The Spirit of AMTA Award is granted to the school that best exhibits the values of civility, fair play and justice. This is the only award given at the tournament based on evaluations from other schools," said Chappell, who has been a Professor of Political Science since 1988, and Coordinator of the Political Science Program at MVSU since 2006.

Since 2005, the team has also won numerous individual awards with AMTA in invitational, regional and national competition.

# CommuniQue'

The CommuniQue is published for faculty, staff, alumni and supporters of Mississippi Valley State University by the Office of Public Relations.

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