

## HOST OF THE 107th MEETING: MOTLOW STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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*Motlow State Community College*

When the doors to Motlow State Community College first opened in the fall of 1969, its administrators had a two-part vision: first, to serve the students who utilize its classrooms and the citizens of its eleven county service area, and secondly, to keep its services progressive in both scope and content.

Testifying to the success of the vision are the institution's growing enrollment figures (from 551 the first semester to 3389, fall 1996), its continued commitment to quality instruction, its service to the community through cultural events, and its support of business and industry through seminars offered by the Motlow College Industrial and Business Institute.

Located on 185 acres in rural Moore County, Motlow College offers quality, affordable education to students of all ages and backgrounds. A caring faculty and staff and varied course offerings help Motlow students earn associate degrees in such areas as nursing, education, business, biology, physics, and engineering, to name a few. Although academics come first, the college offers athletic choices to its students through baseball, women's softball, men's and women's basketball teams, and intramural sports. Also active are student clubs and organizations including the Student Government Association, Phi Theta Kappa and Gamma Beta Phi honor societies, the African-American Student Association, the Law and Government Club, and College Bowl Team.

Teaching and learning are the highest priorities at the college, and faculty and staff work diligently to assure that Motlow students are well prepared to transfer to four-year colleges and universities or enter the work force. Students transferring to Middle Tennessee State University academically outperform native students and other community college transfers to MTSU, and the placement rate for Motlow students in the career education program is 96 percent.

Under the leadership of President A. Frank Glass, the college has received the Tennessee Quality Commitment Award Level 2 and the Tennessee Quality Award Level 1, and recently received an impressive score on the Tennessee Board of Regents first "re-

port card." Motlow outscored other Tennessee two-year institutions in many areas, including core knowledge and skills, student satisfaction, job placement, and graduation rates.

Motlow College maintains accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Its nursing program is accredited by the National League for Nursing and the Tennessee State Board of Nursing, and the college's business program maintains accreditation by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs. Modern microcomputer laboratories at Motlow's primary locations, including the Computer Integrated Manufacturing (CIM) Center in Tullahoma, make it possible for Motlow students to receive training in current computer applications, and all students, faculty, and staff members have access to the Internet. Several classes are offered over the Internet and through compressed video. Also, the college has its own World Wide Web site at <http://mscc.cc.tn.us>, where students can find the student catalog, class schedule, college news and events, and almost anything else they want to know about the college and its services.

The Motlow College influence reaches across the eleven counties in its service area, and the college offers classes at the McMinnville Center, which enrolls more than 800 students; Fayetteville Center; CIM Center; and 18 community teaching sites. Last fall, Motlow offered classes in Cannon County for the first time, and this fall will bring the college to Rutherford County citizens through courses at Riverdale High School. Also under the college's jurisdiction is the Job Training Division, which serves dislocated workers, adults, youths, single parents, senior citizens, and Families First participants.

Although Motlow's scope covers a wide area, its focus remains the same as it was when it first opened its doors nearly 30 years ago—on the students, a diverse group of many ages, many races, and many lifestyles. To each student, Motlow College leaders pledge a firm educational foundation to prepare them to meet the challenges of a global economy and to make economic, social, and professional contributions to their local communities, states, and nation.