Technology and Beyond

We all know technology is advancing rapidly throughout the entire world, but are you prepared for what’s to come? I’ve been researching different trials and updates of technology advancing and I’ve discovered some interesting facts. Handheld devices such as cell phones and tablets are becoming more and more integrated within our day to day lives. By touching a screen you can look at exactly where you are, know the stock market values, the latest news and weather, and so much more.

Another form of up and coming tech that will soon become a huge part of our lives is Artificial Intelligence. AI is the intelligence exhibited by software or machines. The two AI’s I’d like to touch on are Cortana and Siri. Cortana is embedded into Windows phones only, and she does everything you ask of her. It is almost like having your own personal assistant. You can tap her on your home screen and simply talk to the phone. She picks up all you say and rarely makes a mistake. Siri does similar things as Cortana and is only available for IPhone users.

Not only are AI coming into our daily lives, but we are now beginning to see cars that can park by themselves! There are several cars that feature parking assistance. The company Valeo is behind these incredible self-parking vehicles. Valeo has embedded cameras, sensors, and an app into cars enabling it to park itself as well as to come pick you up in front of the store when you finish shopping! They have a really cool, and informative video that shows what the cars are capable of. This company has 18 car manufacturers with this feature already compatible with cars and will be able to be upgraded at the car dealership.

The future of technology is very bright with numerous advances in anything from robotic limbs controlled by brain waves to electronic paper. It use to be the idea of a family computer was preposterous, now we have smartphones with the internet at our fingertips, technology will only keep advancing at an alarming rate, just imagine what technological advances we have in store for us over the years!

Written by: Kieara A. Clark

Honors Academy Fellows Presentations

As another semester comes to an end, the Honors Academy will once again host the Honors Academy Fellows Presentations on Thursday, December 4th, 2014. The presentations will be held at 3pm at Macon Campus in the library (L-234). This is a great time to come support the Honors Academy or to check out what makes honors classes unique. Director Douglas Branch, along with Associate Director MaLinda Wade and Secretary Irina Alekseyeva-Logsdon, works hard to ensure the success of the Honors Academy and its students. Each honors class usually contains a presentation project during the semester about various topics. This is a time when instructors encourage individual thought and creativity. The students then present their completed projects to the honors class and each professor chooses the best projects to be shared at the Fellows Presentations. The Fellows Presentations consist of a cumulative group of students from various honors classes who come together to share their projects with each other and with the student body and faculty. Honors classes this semester include English Composition, Survey of World Civilization II, The U.S. to 1877, Music Appreciation, American Government, and General Psychology. Students are also able to contract any class to become an honors class, and by doing so will present their work at the Fellows Presentations as well. Previous projects have been outstanding and truly reflect the scholarly work being achieved in honors classes. Come see what fellow students are doing and see if the Honors Academy is right for you! Be sure to check out the list of spring honors classes and register early, they fill up fast!

Written by: Darrell Watson
Just a Friendly Reminder

Are you wondering when and how you are supposed to register for next semester? Are you freaking out or do you just want to get on top of things? Well, this is a friendly reminder to fellow students that it is time to meet with your advisor. Yes, it can be a pain to schedule an appointment because it takes time away from schoolwork, and maybe even our job, but it ultimately benefits us. At most it will take an hour out of our day, our week, and our month; let’s calm down get on top of making this appointment. Another benefit of meeting with our advisor and registering early means that we get to set the class schedule that works for us, because classes aren’t full yet. Score! I mean, who doesn’t love having options? So, here are some more details to help you out:

Our wonderful Faculty has been available to advise us since September 15, 2014
(According to our Southwest Calendar found on the school’s website)

Priority advising and registration for spring continuing students starts November 10, 2014.

Early registration for spring begins on November 17, 2014.

Remember that school is an investment in ourselves, so let’s all make these appointments and get advised for the spring semester!

Food Drives around Town!!!!

Helping Others for a Great Holiday Season

Throughout the year there are several food drives around Memphis. Around this particular time food drives strive to help people who are less fortunate than others to have a good holiday season. Places including Mid-South Food Bank, and Memphis Food Pantries have great turn outs. There are also schools including yours truly (Southwest), and Alton Elementary school whom we take up can goods for all around the campuses.

There are multiple ways you can donate. You can drop canned goods off at schools, the Mid-South Food Bank, and Memphis Food Pantries. There is no information you have to give. Local charities like the YWCA, and Salvation Army are places to go as well.

Here at Southwest we have a competition every year where all the clubs and organizations compete to see who gives the most canned goods with the winners receiving a prize. The reigning champs is the Radiology program and we need to see some new champions. I don’t want to stir up anything but I fully believe, we the Southwest Source can definitely bring in more canned goods this year. Move over Radiology, the Southwest Source is coming to take your number one spot!

Above was a joke, but on a serious note, there are many people who are less fortunate than others. If there is any way you could help with the canned good drives it would benefit a lot of families around the Mid-South, and there are so many options as I have stated above. Let’s make this a great Holiday Season for everyone!
On October 8th, 2014, the annual Chat with the Administration took place on Union Campus. In this Q&A the students got to ask some much needed questions and receive answers from Dr. Essex and a panel of his colleagues. One student asked, “Are people working on a faster way to complete the FAFSA application?” Dr. Essex stepped in to answer stating, “Yes we are working on the FAFSA Referendum.” The Referendum is an act being put into effect so that the FAFSA application is not as long and does not ask as many questions. Another peer asked, “What is being done about the parking? I have to get to school early just to get a decent space in the morning.” The question was again answered by Dr. Essex saying, “We are currently expanding now. It is projected to be finished summer of 2015.” What a relief! One final question addressed the topic of transportation for students traveling via Mata bus. One student asked, “Has Southwest talked to MATA about making a route for students who have to travel via the bus between the Union and Macon campuses? What about the semester bus passes for $18?” Mrs. Nikita Ashford-Ashworth answered and gave insight. “We have been in negotiations with MATA for five years. MATA wants to charge $100,000 for this route, and that’s not in the Southwest budget.” Imagine everyone’s face dropping when they heard that number! She went on to answer the second question with, “MATA wants to take $18 from every student enrolled at Southwest and that’s not fair to the students who do not have to ride the bus. We cannot take that out of the students’ tuition.” Some would not mind the $18 being taken out of tuition for those needing to catch the bus, but it should be a choice for the student body. Would you be willing to give $18 per semester for a MATA bus ticket?

At the Chat with the Admin on Macon Campus different questions were addressed. A Student Veteran discussed the fact that there are over 400 Veterans in attendance at Southwest. There is currently a Veterans Club but he feels more needs to be done to implement these men and women into college life. The student asked for professor awareness so that instructors can understand what these Veterans are coming back from and the challenges they face. Secondly, the student asked for a Veterans Lounge where they can commune together. The Admin stated that they would work to accommodate these issues. Another question challenged the Admin to better train advisors. Too many students feel that they are being told false information or that they are being steered in the wrong direction. The Administration responded by saying that all advisors go through training and that students should file complaints to bring problems to their attention. Complaint forms can be found on your online student portal. The Admin will also be implementing a “What If” Program that will allow students to plan their own hypothetical program online or to keep track of their program. The Admin also told students that Microsoft programs would soon be available for download. Dr. Essex stated that the next planning meeting would examine plans for a new Student Activities Building! Also, mark your calendars for November 20th, the Grand Opening of the new Nursing, Natural Sciences, and Biotechnology Building!

Make sure you come to the next Chat with Administration!
While she is a new Professor, my classmates and I have had the pleasure of being taught Art Appreciation by Ms. Raquel Adams. Her answer to when she decided to be an artist and teacher is something most would not expect. She was originally going into Cardiovascular Surgery, but told her parents, “I want to take pictures instead.” Her college counselors encouraged her to seek an art degree, so she sent in three drawings, a critique, and a statement of purpose. She never took art classes except for summer camps and relays, “I was freaked out and scared!” Once she was on this path she realized that a stable paycheck is what she needed because of her son; this led her to teaching, “The more I got into it the more I knew teaching was what I was suppose to be doing.” Her son is also an artist who likes graffiti as well as being a musician who plays the cello, guitar, and bass guitar.

Some of her favorite artists are ones who are revolutionary, controversial, new, interesting and who make you think. Some of these include Shepard Fariey, Banksy, and Sally Mann. As far as older painters, she likes Botticelli because of all his layers and colors.

She hopes that her students learn first, not be intimidated by art, you don’t have to be an art scholar to know something about art or appreciate it. Second, Memphis has great art that you should get more comfortable talking about.

As a current student, I couldn’t ask for a better teacher than one who is passionate about what they do and teach. So if you need to take Art Appreciation definitely take Professor Raquel Adams, you will truly walk away with an Appreciation for Art.

Written By: Cassie Richardson
Hong Kong

Tens of thousands took to the streets of Hong Kong in late September concerning China’s new limitations on candidate(s) for leadership of the city. China’s National People’s Congress (NPC) will be able to vote from a short list of candidates approved by a pro-Beijing committee. Many are unsatisfied by this decision. A large portion of the protests are being headed by the pro-democracy Occupy Central Movement. The main goal of the participating organizations is to gain the ability to nominate their own candidates for the election of Hong Kong’s leader in 2017. However, a separate boycott was started when students broke into the main government compound on September 26. Fuel was added to the fire on the 29th when police used tear gas in an attempt to disperse protesters. The sit in at the Central District soon spawned more protests at three other locations throughout the city though police have begun to rapidly disperse protests. On October 17th approximately 600 Police officers carried riot shields and wire cutters into the protest site(s) in the Mong Kok district; consequently protesters were dispersed with very little resistance. C.Y. Leung (Hong Kong’s leader) has stated that he was willing to talk with the main student group. Likewise, The Hong Kong Federation of Students said that they were willing to have talks with the government -though no representatives had contacted them. Coincidently many of the protests have been calling for the resignation of Leung for how he has dealt with the protests though the Chinese government has stated their support for Leung’s decisions. So far no leeway has been given to the protesters and the movements have been losing traction as more and more stations are dissolved. All in all, it’s being decided if a compromise will be met between government officials and protesters.

Written By: Walker Montgomery

Amendment 1: Will Abortion Laws Soon

Are you pro-life, pro-choice, or neutral? On Nov. 4th many things will be decided for Tennessee, such as our Senate and House representatives, as well as a decision on Amendment 1 that will greatly affect the entire state. Amendment 1 is a proposed change to the state constitution concerning abortion and if passed would remove the protected right to abortion granted under the ruling of the TN State Supreme Court in 2000. Prior to the ruling, Tennessee was considered neutral on the matter of abortion, though for the past 14 years it has been considered a pro-abortion state. Amendment 1 doesn’t ban abortion; it simply states that the fundamental right is no longer granted in this state. The ballot at the poll reads as stated:

“Shall Article I, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated section: Nothing in this Constitution secures or protects a right to abortion or requires the funding of an abortion. The people retain the right through their elected state representatives and state senators to enact, amend, or repeal statutes regarding abortion, including, but not limited to, circumstances of pregnancy resulting from rape or incest or when necessary to save the life of the mother. □ Yes □ No [4]”

In the event that Amendment 1 is passed, the decision on abortion would no longer be left up to the discrepancy of the mother and doctor, and would now be in the hands of lawmakers as well. Many in the Pro Life campaign see this as promoting the right to life by returning many of the protections to the abortion process. However Pro Choice supporters see this as a direct infringement on a woman’s Choice to govern her own body. There are still many uncertainties about how the process will change, especially in cases of rape and incest. One thing is certain, no matter what the polls show on November 4th, the debate will surely be a social issue for years to come.

Written By: Walker Montgomery
Ethics—And Why They Matter

Here at Southwest, nearly every student is required to take a humanities course for their major. After looking over the offered humanities courses, I chose Ethics, because it sounded interesting. Ethics are the moral principles that govern a person or group's behavior. In this course, you study different moral philosophies and debate their validity in ways that aren't present in day to day life. After I had been attending the class for just a little while, I asked my Professor, Mr. Joseph Tolomei, if I could interview him about the course. The following Q and A comes from my interview with him.

Q. As an Ethics Professor, what do you think the value of ethics in society is? A. If philosophy is the examination of human reasoning, than ethics is the examination of what is good. When society ceases to ask “what is good” or “why is this good?”, then one of two things has happened: either it believes the question is no longer worth asking, or it no longer understands the question.

Q. How do you think Ethics could be implemented more so into our country and society? A. A possible reason why ethics is not more implemented in society is a fear of what ethics requires, and that is, as John Stuart Mill famously said, “the moral courage of mind” to be criticized. In order for ethics to become a cultural phenomenon, we must become a people willing to suffer the possibility of being questioned and being shown our shortcomings.

Q. Do you think ethics could help students in their daily lives? A. I certainly hope so, if (for) nothing other than the mental acuity of weighing ourselves! Still, it is important to understand how arguments work and how people defend their ideas. The study of ethics in conjunction with logic provides you the tools to distinguish good reasons from bad ones, which can assist people in all manner of everyday events.

Q. Do you think it should be a required course? A. The dilemma with requiring an ethics course is that it implies, as I’ve already said, that either people don’t find it valuable or that they don’t know what it is. If I make something required, the weight of the idea requirement comes to modify ones attitude toward it, bringing in psychological withdrawal and disinterest and dislike.

Q. What impact do you think philosophy has had on society? A. Philosophy is both excavation into the hidden influences in language and history of philosophers, and also the advancement of new ideas for problems that cannot be solved by empirical means alone.

Ethics is a course that will broaden the minds of students on the different views of social issues. It teaches you how to ask questions about your views of morality, as well as about the views of others. By far, it's one of the most interesting classes offered at Southwest.

A Whole New Government

No, our government isn’t changing, but there is a student government called Tennessee Intercollegiate State Legislature otherwise known as TISL. TISL allows college students to come together and express ideas, exchange opinions, and learn how government works. This year marks TISL’s 45th General Assembly and is being held November 13—16, 2014. There are five different areas in which students can participate; Senate, House of Representatives, Lobbyist, Media, and Appellate Moot Court Collegiate Challenge (AMC3), which allows students to argue appellate cases. The 45th General Assembly will take place in the real legislative chambers of the State Capital building. TISL is governed by the state constitution and a legal code. Each school participating is known as a delegation consisting of one Senator, a number of Representatives based on the school’s population, Lobbyist, Media personnel, and their AMC3 team. The bills each delegation submits will go through each chamber just like in real life as the media reports on the progress and outcome. Our school along with our advisor Dr. Patricia Nozinich is taking a delegation this year and here they are:

Senator: Ashley Shores
Representatives: Elizabeth Tunstall, Carolyn Wilson, and Natalie Wyse
Lobbyist: Antonio Burton
Media: Mary Jean Hall, who is also the Media Director for TISL and Cassie Richardson
AMC3: Carrie Huggins and Dee Owens

Our team is also taking a total of seven bills with them to the 45th General Assembly. So look out for more news about our team and bills on Southwest’s social media pages like Facebook and Twitter. If you’re interested in TISL contact Dr. Patricia Nozinich at pnozinich@southwest.tn.edu or check out tislonline.org for more information.
Epilepsy Awareness Month

I open my eyes and look around me. Everything I see is blurred for a moment. As the world comes into view focus I do not recognize where I am. I see the Styrofoam ceiling and fluorescent lighting. I see familiar faces standing around me looking over me. I see the cement brick walls painted white. I see wooden desks with plastic blue chairs attached to them. I see people moving their mouths and hear static noises coming out instead of words. I simply look at them confused and try to figure out what is going on. I sit up and keep trying to speak to them to figure out what is going on, but I realize that nothing is coming out of my mouth. Gibberish is all I hear. It is all they hear. My face ties into a knot in frustration and I throw myself back onto the ground. At this point I look up, and see a familiar face. I know it is my mother’s face. I recognize the dark hair, the round shape, and the comforting eyes. She comes straight to me and sits beside me. She caresses my face and soothingly says to me words that I still don’t understand. I can pick out words like “school,” and “home,” and “ambulance,” but most of all “seizure.” At that, I laid back. I knew what was happening now, and with my heroic mother, I knew it was all okay.

That’s what a seizure feels like. When a computer reboots and is slowly trying to figure out what the heck happened. That’s what happens to me on a pretty regular basis. 1 in 26 people in America suffer from seizures of some kind, and you can do something about it. Be an open ear, if one of your friends suffers from a seizure, ask them what to look for.

The main things to remember when you see someone have a seizure are:
1. Lay them on the ground and let the seizure take its course
2. DO NOT hold them down as they seize
3. DO NOT put something in their mouth or in between their teeth
4. Try to time the seizure
5. Look for a medical bracelet, call that number first
6. You may roll up a jacket or place a backpack under their head to keep it from hitting the ground
7. When they stop convulsing, turn them on their sides to keep them from aspirating.
8. As they wake up, calmly tell them that they just had a seizure.
9. Repeat to them things like “you’re okay,” “you just had a seizure, but you’re okay,” “you’re at school, and you just had a seizure, but you’re okay,”
10. As they start to wake up and try to talk, ask them common knowledge questions like “What’s your name?” “Do you know where you are?” “What year is it?” “Who’s the president?”

But most importantly, stay calm. You could help someone feel more comfortable in a scary situation. It would’ve made a difference if my teachers knew that when I had a seizure in my classroom. November is National Epilepsy Awareness Month so spread the word!

Everyone knows about the Internet – but have you heard of the Outernet?

In today’s society, the Internet is a part of our everyday life – and many of us can not imagine lives without it. It makes it easier to communicate, learn, and buy goods, but sadly not all countries have this tool in their lives. Dozens of third world countries only have Internet access in the homes of the rich and powerful. They don’t know the simple pleasures of surfing YouTube or checking social media for messages. But what if Wi-Fi Internet was possible anywhere in the world – regardless of financial standing – for free? This is what the Outernet is trying to accomplish.

A New York City based company called Media Development Investment Fund is planning to launch hundreds of small satellites into Earth orbit to create the Outernet. These satellites would broadcast wireless Internet for free everywhere in the world. This program would make access to the Internet a human right; the vast amounts of information on the web would be available to everyone on the planet. This would be the biggest way to promote education across the world. The Outernet would bypass censorship of the Internet in countries like Russia, China, and the UK, making freedom of speech a human right for all. As of now, the company is working on prototype satellites, while simultaneously testing long-range Wi-Fi casting. The Outernet is set to launch as early as June 2015. It will be interesting to see how countries across the world react to the program.
4798 Summer Ave
Memphis, TN 38122
(901)842-5500
Or
2562 Frayser Blvd.
Memphis, TN 38127
(901)358-2511

New Donors

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You can earn up to $260 per month donating plasma

Requirements

18-65 YEARS OLD
WEIGHT AT LEAST 110 POUNDS
HAVE PROOF OF SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER,
CURRENT PICTURE I.D. AND CURRENT ADDRESS
BE OF GOOD GENERAL HEALTH

Business Hours

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