



# TASSR Newsletter

Newsletter of the Tennessee Association for Student Success and Retention  
Volume 26, Number 3 [www.tassr.org](http://www.tassr.org) September, 2012

## President's Letter

*Dr. Billy Wesson, TASSR President (Jackson State Community College)*

**Call to Conference:**  
**Theme: New Steps to Student Success and Retention**  
**24-26 October 2012**

The time is upon us for the 2012 TASSR Fall conference. There are excellent presentations that are planned in a variety of areas. The call to conference application form is on the TASSR web site.

### Special Featured Presentations

- Dinner with Dr. Robbie Melton, Associate Vice Chancellor of TBR Mobilization (Keynote) on Wednesday evening.
- Breakfast and general session with Dr. Thompson (Keynote) on Thursday morning.
- Lunch with Dr. Linda Thompson, Director, McNair Scholars Program, Harding University and a Fellow of the American Council of Developmental Education Associations (Keynote) on Thursday afternoon.
- Breakfast and closing session with Dr. Robert Eaker, Professor, Educational Leadership at MTSU on Friday morning.

### Concurrent Sessions

#### Thursday

Hourly presentations are planned.

- |   |                              |                    |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------|
| A. Assessment   | B. NADE Guidelines           | C. Reading         |
| D. Writing  | E. Smart Teaching            | F. Advising        |
| G. College Orientation                                    | H. Learning Support Redesign | I. Student Success |
| J. Speed Conferencing: Mentoring and Retention/First year |                              |                    |

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TASSR Newsletter is published three times a year (approximately February, May, and September) online at [www.tassr.org](http://www.tassr.org). Editor is Daryl Stephens ([stephen@etsu.edu](mailto:stephen@etsu.edu)).

**Friday**

- TASSR general business meeting
- Recognition of the outstanding colleague and an outstanding student.

**Registration**

The TASSR conference registration forms are now online. The form is available in two forms:

- A PDF file which you can print out, fill out by hand, and send in. Alternately, if you use Foxit reader instead of Adobe Reader, (or some other PDF reader programs will do this as well, I think) you can use the typewriter tool to type the information. (In Foxit, it looks like a notepad with a pencil on top.) That is available at <http://home.comcast.net/~dstep61/tassr/TASSR2012Registration.pdf>.
- A Microsoft Word version which has a fillable form. You can type your information in before you print it out. It will automatically calculate your total, assuming you enter the right information. It may not work correctly in other word processors which can read .doc files. This version is at <http://home.comcast.net/~dstep61/tassr/TASSR2012RegistrationFillable.doc>.

In order to better prepare for meals, Tammy Borren, our membership secretary, asks that you email a copy of your form to her in addition to sending in the paper version with payment.

**Accommodations reservations** (state government rate applies):

**Holiday Inn Express 1-800-230-4134** 100 Barzandi Dr., Dickson, TN 37055 Free Breakfast!

**Quality Inn 1-800-230-4134** 1055 East Christi Dr. , Dickson, TN 37055 Free full breakfast

**Comfort Inn 1-800-997-5148** 1085 East Christi Dr., Dickson, TN 37055 Breakfast

**Hampton Inn 1-800-997-5149** 1080 East Christi Rd., Dickson, TN 37055

There is no conference site hotel.

Please join us on October 24-26 at the Renaissance Center in Dickson, TN.

Billy Wesson

**Notice anything missing? Articles!**

Other than Brian Hale's article below and the plea for nominations for outstanding service to students and outstanding learning support alumnus/a, there were no articles submitted to be included in this newsletter. The next newsletter will come out in February, 2012. Please send any articles you have (news items from your campus, teaching tips, tips for working with students) to Daryl Stephens, newsletter editor, at [stephen@etsu.edu](mailto:stephen@etsu.edu).

## New Grammar Instruction Website

### Brian Hale, Chattanooga State CC

A new web site for grammar instruction is now available at [www.gramrtutr.net](http://www.gramrtutr.net). It was developed by Dr. Brian Hale at Chattanooga State Community College for his own students, and faculty members in reading and writing at Chattanooga State have used the software for several years, but it is now publically available. The site includes instruction with user friendly interactive reading, writing, and grammar exercises that provide plentiful and carefully designed practice as well as instant feedback and, where possible, a running grade of the student's performance.

**TASSR is on Facebook! Look for us and  Like us.**

### TASSR 2012: A Sampling of Concurrent Session Titles

- ❖ Mobilization in the Reading and Writing Classrooms
- ❖ Assessment Results of Redesigned Mathematics at MTSU
- ❖ Using the NADE Guides for Student Success and Retention
- ❖ Sea Change--The Redesigned Reading Program at Chattanooga State Community College
- ❖ Getting Off the Roller Coaster: Aiding Academically At-risk Students
- ❖ Assessing the Impact of the Complete College Tennessee 2010 Act on a four year Public Institution
- ❖ Designing an Effective Community College Orientation
- ❖ Student Engagement and Retention
- ❖ The Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence at Carnegie Mellon University: 7 Research Based Principles for Smart Teaching
- ❖ The Studio Model: Using Small Group Tutoring to Improve Student Success in English Classes
- ❖ Gear Up! They Are Coming ~ Engaging Generation X, Y, & Z
- ❖ Implementing an Intrusive Advising Program in a Faculty-Only Advising Environment
- ❖ Reading Forum
- ❖ Writing Forum
- ❖ Student Retention/FYE/Orientation/College Success Forum
- ❖ Mathematics Forum
- ❖ A Mosaic of Success Behaviors for Higher Education Learners
- ❖ APSU Faculty Teaching Program
- ❖ Pencasts and Videos: Tools for Student Success
- ❖ Developmental Studies Redesign at Southwest Tennessee Community College: Reading, Writing, Math
- ❖ Setting Up Students to PASS with Academic Coaching Sessions and Guided Study Sessions
- ❖ All-Write: Writing in Context. NSCC's solution to Learning Support Writing Redesign
- ❖ SAILS: Embedding Learning Support Math in Bridge Math
- ❖ Gauging the Effectiveness of Developmental Studies
- ❖ Climbing Mountains-Using an Academic Early Alert Program to Help At-risk Freshmen Students Reach the Top
- ❖ Redesigning Developmental Math to Increase Student Success, Satisfaction and Retention
- ❖ Student Perceptions of the Inverted Classroom
- ❖ The Studio Model: Using Small Group Tutoring to Improve Student Success in Prescribed English Classes
- ❖ Speed Conferencing: Mentoring
- ❖ Speed Conferencing: Retention & First Year Programs and Cohort Programs

## TASSR Executive Board 2011-2012

The next board meeting is during the conference on October 25. If you have an item that should receive board consideration, please contact your area representative or President Wesson.

<p><b>President:</b>  <b>Billy Wesson</b>          Jackson State Community College          2046 North Parkway          Jackson, TN 38301          731-424-3520  <a href="mailto:bwesson@jssc.edu">bwesson@jssc.edu</a></p>	<p><b>President Elect:</b>  <b>Karen Siska</b>          Columbia State Community College          104 Claude Yates Dr.          Franklin, TN 37064          615-790-5654  <a href="mailto:siska@columbiastate.edu">siska@columbiastate.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Past President:</b>  <b>Karen Siska</b>          Columbia State Community College          104 Claude Yates Dr.          Franklin, TN 37064          615-790-5654  <a href="mailto:siska@columbiastate.edu">siska@columbiastate.edu</a></p>
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<p><b>Nominations Chairperson:</b>  <b>Audrey Lukula</b>          Tennessee State University          3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.          Nashville, TN 3709-1561          615-963-5595  <a href="mailto:alukula@tnstate.edu">alukula@tnstate.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Awards Chairperson:</b>  <b>Meredeth McCoy</b>          Columbia State Community College          104 Claude Yates Dr.          Franklin, TN 37064          931-540-2698  <a href="mailto:mmccoy@columbiastate.edu">mmccoy@columbiastate.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Political Liaison:</b>  <b>Larry Glover</b>          Nashville State Community College          120 White Bridge Road          Nashville, TN 37209  <a href="mailto:larry.glover@nsc.edu">larry.glover@nsc.edu</a></p>
<p><b>Cultural Diversity Chairperson:</b>  <b>Jane Asamani</b>          Tennessee State University          3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.          Nashville, TN 3709-1561          615-963-5573  <a href="mailto:jasamani@tnstate.edu">jasamani@tnstate.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Archivist:</b>  <b>Barbara Kannard</b>          Tennessee State University          P. O. Box 9555          3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.          Nashville, TN 37209-1561          615-963-7419  <a href="mailto:bkannard@tnstate.edu">bkannard@tnstate.edu</a></p>	<p><b>Membership Chairperson:</b>  <b>Tammy Borren</b>          Columbia State Community College          104 Claude Yates Drive          Franklin, TN 37064          615-790-4417  <a href="mailto:borren@columbiastate.edu">borren@columbiastate.edu</a></p>

## Nominations Still Needed

### **TASSR Award for Outstanding Service to Students in Learning Support Programs**

This award recognizes long-term contribution of time and energy to students in Learning Support Programs by a TASSR member. Criteria for evaluation include the following: (a) nominee will have spent approximately half or more of their time serving learning support students through teaching and/or administration for at least five years; (b) evaluation will include both the nominee's record of service and recognition by others; (c) nominee must be a member of TASSR at the time of nomination.

The application should include the following: (1) a letter of nomination summarizing the contributions by the nominee to learning support students (limit two pages); (2) the nominee's resume reflecting the length of service and the diverse ways the nominee has served learning support students. Additional contributions that indirectly affect students, such as leading workshops, conference presentations, and articles in education journals and newsletters could also be included. The resume should contain a record of local, state, or national recognition of the nominee's service to learning support students (limit ten pages); (3) one to three letters (limit three letters and one page each) of support from individual students, advisors, administrators, faculty teaching learning support classes, or colleagues outside learning support programs.

### **TASSR Award to an Outstanding Alumnus of a Learning Support Program**

This award recognizes a student who has been in a learning support program and who has distinguished him/herself in other areas of life. Criteria for evaluation include the following: (a) the nominee must have completed at least two learning support courses or participated in at least two of the following support program activities: TRIO Upward Bound, TRIO Student Support Services, high school-to-college bridge program, special admissions program, enrollment in learning support classes (e.g., math, writing, learning strategies, reading); (b) the nominee must have outstanding accomplishments outside the classroom.

The application should include the following: (1) a letter of nomination that includes specific learning support classes taken and/or learning support programs in which the person participated and the individual's out-of-class accomplishments (limit two pages); (b) one or two letters of endorsement from college faculty, including learning support faculty (limit one page each); (c) nominee's resume summary (limit two pages); (d) one or two letters from current work supervisor and/or community leaders (limit one page each).

**Submit portfolios for either award to:**  
Meredeth McCoy  
Columbia State Community College  
104 Claude Yates Drive  
Franklin, TN 37064  
931-540-2698  
[mmccoy@columbiastate.edu](mailto:mmccoy@columbiastate.edu)



**2<sup>nd</sup> Annual TASSR Conference**  
**New Steps to Student Success and Retention**  
 Renaissance Center, Dickson, TN  
 October 24-26, 2012



**Conference Registration and Membership Form**

Title & Name \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of Interest  Administration  Advising  Retention  Learning Strategies  Learning Laboratories  
 Math  Reading  Writing  Student Success Initiatives  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Reservations for Meal Events  Wednesday Night Welcome Buffet  Thursday Morning Opening Breakfast  
 Thursday Keynote Luncheon  Friday Closing Breakfast

Meal Preference  Vegetarian Meals  No Dietary Restrictions

Dietary Restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enter the correct figures in the last column. 2012-2013 membership is required for conference participation.**

Membership Dues	\$20	
*Conference Registration Fee (postmarked by 10/11/12)	\$75	
*Late/On-site Registration Fee (postmarked after 10/11/12)	\$85	
Adjunct, GTA, and Full-Time Student Registration Fee	\$45	
<b>Guest Tickets</b> (for non-registrants only—meals are included for registered conference participants)		
Guest for Wednesday Opening Dinner	\$15	
Guest for Thursday Breakfast	\$10	
Guest for Thursday Luncheon	\$15	
Guest for Friday Breakfast	\$10	
<b>Total to be paid</b>		

*\*Conference fees are non-refundable. TASSR membership is required. **Please email form even if you are bringing your check to the conference. This is so that we will have your materials prepared for your arrival and an accurate meal count.***

Make checks payable to TASSR. Mail this form and payment to:  
 Tammy Borren  
 TASSR Membership Chair  
 Columbia State Community College  
 1665 Hampshire Pike  
 Columbia, TN 38401  
 931-540-2697  
 email: [tborren@columbiastate.edu](mailto:tborren@columbiastate.edu)

There is no conference hotel; however, there are several hotels in the area. Ask for the state rate when you register. Or look for online deals. Some online advance purchase rates can be cheaper than the state rate. See the TASSR website or newsletter for more information.