Dr. Tom Meservy wins University Award
MIS Assistant Professor Tom Meservy was awarded the University of Memphis Distinguished Teaching Award. This award is given to only four University of Memphis faculty each year, and is funded by the Alumni Association.

Dr. Janz Honored
Professor Brian Janz was recently named First Tennessee Professor. It is a rare distinction, awarded periodically to a very few faculty. The First Tennessee Professorships were established early in 2005 as part of a partnership between the First Tennessee Foundation and the U of M to help the University recruit and retain outstanding faculty.

Dr. Poston’s Sabbatical
Associate Professor Robin Poston was on faculty development leave recently. She spent her time working in Silicon Valley with companies following agile testing methods to learn current software development techniques.

Dr. Simon forges important DoD alliance
The Department of Defense is a major supporter through research grants and scholarships for Simon’s Center for Information Assurance, which fosters a research atmosphere on matters of computer and information security awareness and professional careers.

Dr. Jackson takes important Executive Committee post on Faculty Senate
Associate Professor Wade Jackson, who has been our regular presence on the Faculty Senate for years, has been elected Parliamentarian for the 2012-2013 year.

Institutional Review Board Appointment
Associate Professor Tom Stafford has joined the University of Memphis Institutional Review Board, applying his research methodology skills to the review of University of Memphis research on Human Subjects.

Dr. Brooks is funded for dual-enrollment program
Dr. Lloyd Brooks was the Principal Investigator (PI) on a sponsored federal grant under the Carl Perkins Act. Judy Brown and Brian Janz also participated in this initiative. The MIS Department partnered with Shelby County Schools to offer MIS 2749, Foundation/Information Systems, for dual enrollment/dual credit during the Spring 2012 term. High school students in three high schools were permitted to enroll in MIS 2749 on a dual enrollment basis (earning credit for a college course and a high school course at the same time) providing they meet University admissions standards and complete all activities normally required for this course. This program was the first one of its type offered in the State of Tennessee.

Dr. Simon earns Federal grant for Information Assurance
Dr. Judy Simon served as Principal Investigator on a federal grant sponsored by the Department of Defense. The grant’s purpose was to increase student awareness of Information Assurance topics (e.g., security and privacy). Student participants were recommended by faculty and approved as student workers. They spent the past year studying a wide range of relevant topics and developing materials for potential use in future courses. Six undergraduate students and two graduate students participated.

Dr. Richardson wins eHealth grant
Dr. Sandra Richardson, in collaboration with the University of Memphis’ School of Public Health, received a grant from the State of Tennessee’s Office of eHealth Initiative, through the State’s funding from the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC). The goal is to evaluate the TN Health Infor-
Faculty Activities and Accomplishments, Contd.

information Exchange Evaluation Program (TNHIE) and provide feedback and guidance to the State for the future of the TNHIE program. The TNHIE program was established to ensure that providers have affordable and usable options to meet new federal requirements for health information exchange.

**Dr. Dhaliwal receives Federal funding for STEP**
MIS faculty, Jasbir Dhaliwal—Director of STEP, Robin Poston—Associate Director of STEP, Mark Gillenson and Tom Meservy worked with the Department of Defense to share knowledge about systems testing. During Fall 2011 and Spring 2012, the University of Memphis STEP team completed a skills and competency analysis of 203 Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) Test and Evaluation (T&E) professionals. This effort involved customizing knowledge areas through site visits and administering a survey that would form the basis of customized training modules. By improving the performance of the DISA T&E workforce, T&E professionals will become better equipped with the skills and competencies required to serve the Warfighter of the future. Over 250 DISA T&E professionals and their associates have received STEP Certification in Systems Testing from the University of Memphis.

**Department Hosts Guidance Counselors**
The MIS Department hosted guidance counselors from the Memphis City Schools in Spring 2012 to better acquaint them with careers in the IT field and the academic program offered by the department. Approximately 100 guidance counselors attended, and they indicated that they now feel more informed about the IT field and the programs offered by the MIS Department. Lloyd Brooks, Brian Janz, Mark Gillenson and Shelley Bennett provided presentations during this important event.

**AACSB Assessment**
MIS Department Chair and College Assessment Director Lloyd Brooks joined the 2012 Annual AACSB Assessment Conference, held March 20–22 in Houston, Texas. Dr. Brooks presented, “Tips and Tricks for Providing Effective Assessment of Learning Programs,” in support of developing learning programs to meet AACSB accreditation guidelines. The FCBE assessment site is found at [http://www.fcbeassessment.net](http://www.fcbeassessment.net).

**Welcome!**
Dr. Ling Xue has joined the MIS Department as an Assistant Professor.

**Congratulations!**
Dr. Sandra Richardson has been awarded tenure as well as promotion to Associate Professor of Management Information Systems.
Future Business Leaders of America
The MIS Department hosted 560 high school students enrolled in Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) programs at Memphis-area high schools. The competitive events were held on February 17 with an awards banquet in the Holiday Inn on campus on February 21, where Dean Rajiv Grover provided opening remarks. MIS faculty involved included Lloyd Brooks, Bill Kettinger, Ted Lee, Tom Meservy, Margaret Schultz and Tom Stafford. Students participated in competitive business events such as database, public speaking, job interview, presentation graphics, entrepreneurship, and project management.

Organizational Affiliations
Department Chairman Lloyd Brooks has joined the Executive committee of the Society for Information Management.

AMIS Award
The MIS Department’s student chapter of the Association for Management Information Systems (AMIS) won third place in a contest in Provo, Utah, hosted by the international Association for Information Systems (AIS) in Spring 2012. Team members included Brittany Arnold, Joseph Borwick, Max Zhiglov, Nicole Smith, and Teresa Wells. Faculty sponsors were Drs. Wade Jackson, Tom Meservy, and Margaret Schultz.

MIS Advisory Council
Two companies on our MIS Advisory Council have been named to the Information Week 500 most innovative companies in the USA. First Horizon was ranked #1 in banking and #14 overall. FedEx was ranked #35 overall. Bruce Livesay has become the council chair this year, leading an extensive range of senior executives from organizations including:
- ServicMaster
- FTN Financial
- TruGreen
- Merck
- Allenberg
- EMC
- Thomas & Betts
- KPMG
- International Paper
- IBM
- First Horizon
- Methodist Healthcare
- First Horizon
- Sedgwick Claims Management
- Hashtam
- FedEx
- Hilton Hotels
- City of Memphis
- Buckman Labs
- Memphis Daily News
- Pinnacle Air
- MLGW
- Impact Counseling
- Electronic Vaulting Services
- Tenman Digital
- Evergreen Packaging
- Emerge Memphis
- Crye Leike Reality
- Morgan Keegan
- Verified Person

Stafford joins Hooks Institute
Dr. Tom Stafford has joined the Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change as an Advisory Board Member. The Hooks Institute promotes diversity and inclusion in the Midsouth Region.

Brown appointed President of Arts Council
Assistant Professor Judy Brown was elected as 2012 President of the Germantown Arts Alliance. The Germantown Arts Alliance is an advocacy and funding organization whose mission is to promote and enrich cultural arts in Germantown.

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Research Productivity

**Student Publishing**
Ph.D. student Jignya Patel, along with Drs. Poston and Dhaliwal, had a paper accepted in the 2012 European Conference on Information Systems entitled, “A Software Testing Assessment to Manage Project Testability.”


**Faculty Publishing**

Bill Kettinger, along with colleagues Chen Zhang and Don Marchand, published “CIO and Business Executive Leadership Approaches to Establishing Company-Wide Information Orientation,” in MIS Quarterly Executive (10:4).

Judy Simon, along with Kaiser, Goles, Hawk and Frampton from other universities, published “Information Systems Skills Differences Between High-Wage and Low-Wage Regions: Implications for Global Source-