

Middle Tennessee State University Center for Economic Education 2009-2010 Annual Report

Dr. Robert B. Blair, Director

Ms. Maria L. Edlin, Assistant Director

Robert B. Blair, director, and Maria L. Edlin, assistant director, worked diligently to fulfill the CEE mission to promote economic education across Tennessee, emphasizing Rutherford and surrounding counties. Major funding for the CEE's programs is provided by the Jones College, Jennings and Rebecca Jones Foundation, First Tennessee National Corporation, and the Foundation for Teaching Economics. Over \$75,000 was contributed to the CEE through grant or matching grant sources during 2009-2010 to promote economic education.

The Tennessee Stock Market Game (SMG) stimulates learning about economics, finance, and the American economic system. In a 10-week simulation, participants invest a hypothetical \$100,000. State coordinator Maria Edlin conducts nine SMG workshops hosted by seven regional newspapers annually. The program is funded through a partnership with First Tennessee Bank, and Newspapers in Education's promotion of the SMG in grades 4-12. The Securities Industry Association Southern/South Central District Grant provided additional funding. In 2009-2010, a total of 1565 teams (7,548 students) and 193 teachers from 179 schools across the state participated in the SMG.

Economic Perspectives: Globalization, Trade, and Culture workshops were conducted in Nashville, Greeneville, and Knoxville in partnership with the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch. The workshops were partially funded by the Council for Economic Education's International Education Showcase grant. A total of 68 teachers participated in these workshops.

The Foundation for Teaching Economics provided a generous grant for the CEE to co-sponsor the HSBC Institute on the Environment & the Economy in January. The program incorporates a blend of practical learning activities, including hands-on classroom activities and simulations. Two hours of graduate credit in economic education was available for participants through Florida Gulf Coast University. Twenty-one teachers participated in this institute.

Personal Finance Teacher Employment Requirement: A Two-Day Workshop series was conducted in partnership with Tennessee Jump\$tart Coalition members including the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta-Nashville Branch during July and October. A total of 46 teachers participated in these workshop. The CEE also actively participated in the Tennessee Jump\$tart 2010 Annual Conference in Gatlinburg, providing financial and academic support.

In keeping with MTSU's mission, the CEE maintains active partnerships with the following organizations not previously mentioned: UT Extension, TVA Credit Union, Belmont University College of Business, Foundation for Investor Education, and the Tennessee Council for the Social Studies.