

Student forum raises some good questions

By **KIMBERLY WALKER**
Staff Reporter

The cafeteria was packed mostly with faculty and staff members for the student forum held April 5th. The forum is a tradition started by Vol State President Dr. Warren Nichols.

One of the most entertaining parts of this event is watching the faces from members of the administration, faculty, or staff looking at each other trying to figure out who should go up to the podium and answer the question that has just been asked. Most of the questions are usually answered by the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Charles Lea and this time was no different. He not only informed those participating at the forum but, entertained them as well with a bit of humor.

Student questions ranged from several concerning financial aid, access to daycare, snow days and spring break coinciding with those of local public schools, as well as, questions concerning the distance nursing majors have to travel for clinicals, to the variety of night classes available to students.

The first question came from newly elected SGA Secretary of State, Alice Benischek. She asked, "Are you all trying to do anything about getting any

kind of daycare system in here for students who have children?"

Patty Powell, vice president of student services, came up to the podium and explained that this issue has come up before and said, "In the past and

over the years we have talked off and on about having a daycare center on the campus." Powell also said, "We have not be able to make that happen and a part of that is because of a

place to have a daycare center, the costs, and the liabilities involved in having a daycare center." Espey added, "The SGA is actually right now doing some research related to what it takes to get a daycare on a college campus. We are talking to other colleges across the nation and across the state who have daycares currently to see how they have it set up." He also mentioned that soon students will be hearing more about surveys to help get a daycare center established for students who have children at Vol State.

Lea explained that snow days and spring break for public schools were not unified. "Vol State serves 12 counties, and because each county has jurisdiction within their own school systems, it is impossible to match our schedule with any or all of theirs,"

Also, Lea said that the Tennessee Regents Board in which Vol State is a part of decides the academic calendar two years in advance.



PHOTO BY SARAH KINGSBURY



ASK ABOUT THE TUITION REDUCTION PROGRAM

50% REDUCTION

**AVAILABLE TO GRADUATES OF
VOLUNTEER STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR TSU FALL 2006 ADMISSION IS
JULY 1, 2006**

CALL NOW!

For more information please contact:

Adrian H. Miller
Off Campus Programs
Tennessee State University
Phone: 615.353.3577
Email: amillers@tnstate.edu

Or Call
Local: (615) 963-7003
Toll Free: (877) 881-0011

Avoy Williams Campus
Office of Off Campus Programs
330 10th Avenue North
Nashville TN 37203