

# Turnham named Chair of NCAA Volleyball Committee

## Will select and seed tournament field

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**MURFREESBORO, Tenn.** - Middle Tennessee Associate Athletic Director Diane Turnham has been named the Chairperson of the NCAA Division I Volleyball Committee, effective September 1. Turnham has already served on the committee for the past two years, and will head the committee for the next two years. A native of Mt. Juliet, Tenn., Turnham joins MT President Sidney McPhee and Director of Athletics Chris Massaro on high-profile NCAA committees. McPhee is on the NCAA Executive Committee, while Massaro served on the Women's Division I Basketball Committee last year. "The volleyball tournament is in



terrific hands under Diane Turnham's leadership with the capabilities and reputation that she has," Massaro said. Turnham, who also served on and chaired the NCAA Soccer Committee in the past, is actually representing the Sun Belt Conference on the volleyball committee. "Diane is one of the best athletic administrators not only in the Sun Belt Conference, but in the NCAA as well," said Wright Waters, Commissioner of the Sun Belt Conference. "Her work ethic and previous selection committee experience will ensure that the Division I Volleyball Selection Committee has great leadership." Turnham is pleased to be representing the Sun Belt Conference and Middle Tennessee. "I think this chairmanship is great not only for the Sun Belt Conference, but for MT as well. Obviously, we have had a great volleyball team here the last few years, and that has helped. And the conference as a whole is very tough. "The Sun Belt has the opportunity to nominate someone for the committee, and the fact that we play very good volleyball has helped us. I also worked on the soccer committee, and served as its chair for a year, so I think Commissioner Waters felt that I would be conscientious, and do a good job on this committee. "Volleyball is one of my sports (as Associate AD), and one that I coached here at Middle Tennessee, so I have a love for the sport anyway. It is a lot of work, but if you enjoy what you are doing, it doesn't seem like work "It is an honor for the Sun

Belt to have someone on this committee, just as it is for MT to be represented. Turnham pointed out that her chairmanship also increases the university's visibility. "Every volleyball team in the country knows who is on this committee." Turnham will be replacing Wisconsin's Terry Gawlic, who has served as the chairman for the past two years. Turnham said that Gawlic "has done a phenomenal job, so I have big shoes to fill." For the past two years, Turnham has been the chairman of the South Region of the Volleyball committee, which includes the Southeastern, Southern, Atlantic Sun and Sun Belt conferences.

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