



Excelling through the generosity of our loyal alumni and friends

As the conclusion of my second year as dean approaches, the experiences I have encountered continue to reaffirm the appreciation that I have for the College of Education at Mississippi State. Clearly, we are blessed with a talented and dedicated group of faculty, staff and students as the pages of this newsletter document. Furthermore, the College of Education has alumni and friends who have a deep admiration for our work and are committed to the college's continued success. We strive to provide instruction, service and research to state, national and international audiences which significantly impact educational attainment, economic development and quality of life issues.



Blackbourn

In addition to the numerous individual successes occurring throughout the college this year, we take pride in the following accomplishments:

- Positive review by NCATE board of examiners who visited our campus this spring
- Impending completion of the band/choral facility
- Selection of a full-time director of development for the COE
- Selection of an associate dean for research and assessment
- Establishment of an external advisory board to the COE
- Securing of more than \$18 million in external funding (a record for the COE)

It is important to note that the two positions mentioned in the preceding bullets were recaptured after having been previously lost to budget cuts.

Additionally, the college has heightened its recruitment of quality students through both increased activities and enhanced materials. We ask for your assistance in this endeavor.

A major emphasis for the upcoming year will be the continued development of the COE strategic plan. In addition, we plan to initiate a research forum to further enhance our skills in the research area and to showcase the research activities being undertaken by our faculty and students.

Accomplishments, such as those outlined in the pages of this publication, are extremely difficult during a period of limited state assistance for higher education. However, the College of Education continues to excel through the generosity of our loyal alumni and friends. We humbly ask for your continued support as we progress.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Blackburn". The signature is fluid and cursive.

DR. RICHARD L. BLACKBOURN

*Dean and Professor
College of Education*

Children, teachers enjoy visit with author

Children's author **Kathleen D. Lindsey** visited Mississippi State in April to participate in the Children's Reading Conference.

Lindsey ("Miss Kat") shared her critically acclaimed *Sweet Potato Pie* (2003) and other original stories with preschool-aged children, MSU students and other members of the MSU community.

Read and performed by Lindsey, her inspirational stories emphasized the importance of strong family ties, teamwork and creative problem solving. She also shared her own original quilts and the technique of quilt-making as she guided the pre-schoolers through the process of constructing paper quilts.

Lindsey's visit was sponsored by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, the College of Education, the Richard Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, and MSU Libraries.



Kathleen Lindsey, children's book author and speaker for the Children's Reading Conference.



Skills program completes fourth year

The Learning Skills Support Program completed its fourth semester at the end of spring 2007. It has served approximately 349 students who were in danger of being suspended from the university.

The LSSP, created by the Office of the Provost and The Learning Center, which is housed in the College of Education, allows students to remain in school by taking a learning skills course and meeting regularly with the LSSP coordinator and with their advisers.

Participants must achieve at least a 2.0 grade-point average for the semester in which they are enrolled in the program.

Anna Dill, director of The Learning Center, said "The success rate for the program has been outstanding, with more than 70 percent of the at-risk students achieving the required GPA to remain in school the following semester."



Tracy Sempier, coordinator and instructor for the LSSP

Five COE doctoral students recently were inducted into Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society. Honorees and COE administrators are (left to right) Linda Coats, curriculum and instruction; Patricia Miller, Sudduth Elementary; Emily C. Cappleman, Starkville High School; Niki Malrooney, Armstrong Middle School; Niya Smith, SHS; Janessa Alexander, Overstreet Elementary; and Dean Richard Blackburn.

College of Education External Advisory Council

MICHAEL GANDY

Director

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
for the Blind

RANDY MAPLES

Director, Rehab Services

Oktibbeha County Hospital

PHYFA EILAND

Superintendent (retired)

Hinds County School District

JOYCE POLK

Director of Curriculum (retired)

Starkville School District

JOANNE HUNT

Choral Director (retired)

Meridian Central High School

CELIA THOMASON

Principal (retired)

Red Hook, N.Y.

C.D. SMITH

Executive

AT&T

RICK YOUNG

President

East Mississippi Community College

FRANK CHILES

Owner

Frank Chiles State Farm Insurance

VIVIAN PRESLEY

President

Coahoma Community College

PAUL CUICCHI

Physics Teacher

Starkville High School

RANDY MCCOY

Superintendent

Tupelo School District

KIM LAFONTAINE

Teacher

Pearl High School

DAPHNE BUCKLEY

Assistant Superintendent for Quality

Professionals and Special Schools

Mississippi Department of Education

JUDY COUEY

Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum

and Instruction

Starkville School District

BEVERLY KEMP

Administrative Assistant for

Elementary Education

Oktibbeha County School District

STEVE MONTGOMERY

Superintendent

West Point School District

JENNIFER CHANDLER

Teacher

Pierce Street Elementary, Tupelo

School District

MARTHA D'AMICO

Elementary Principal

Madison Crossing School, Madison

County School District

BETH SEWELL

Executive to the Superintendent

Mississippi Department of

Education

CHARLOTTE TABEREAUX

Education Director

MSU Riley Center

MSU-Meridian

MARTHA UELTSCHHEY

School Counselor (retired)

Jackson Academy

Resource and referral system started

With a startup grant of \$368,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission and the Day Foundation, Mississippi State's Extension Service and Early Childhood Institute, working with community colleges, established a child care resource and referral



system in 24 Northeast Mississippi counties. **Cathy Grace**, director of the ECI, noted that with additional support from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the Northeast Mississippi Child Care Resource and Referral Center was able to support the coastal area with child care provider training and materials.

Foundation adds new fundraiser



Jenkins

Robert E. Jenkins Jr., has been named College of Education fundraiser by the MSU Foundation. A 1992 business administration graduate from Starkville, he previously was an AmSouth Bank branch manager. Jenkins will work with the dean's office and the five departments, the Meridian campus and three research centers within the College of Education. Jenkins will be a liaison to alumni and friends of the college, seeking to secure financial support.

The department's **two bachelor's degree programs** are fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

High brass assistant professor **Michael Huff** is listed on the 2005-06 Mississippi Arts Commission roster.

Rosangela Sebba is included in the 60th edition of "Who's Who in America," profiling the country's most accomplished men and women in all fields. She also is listed in the Mississippi Arts Commission roster.

Bruce Lesley, director of choral activities, in 2005 was selected for the Ernestine Ferrell Award for Excellence in Choral Music by the Mississippi Music Educators Association.

Mississippi State students took four first-place awards, as well as second place and honorable mention, in annual competition sponsored by the Mississippi Music Teachers Association.

The Magnolia Trio, a woodwind chamber ensemble that includes bassoonist **Elaine Peterson**, clarinetist **Sheri Falcone** and flutist **Lana Johns**, made its debut appearance in 2005 at the University of Texas at Austin. The group's repertoire ranges from Bach to ragtime.

Elaine Peterson, woodwind instructor, initiated a **Double Reed Day**, providing specialized instruction in oboe and bassoon. It is in its second year and features performing ensembles and master classes.

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
Points of Pride

Teacher Education Council

PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL

JANICE HAMILTON

East Oktibbeha County, Reading

JUNE BARNETT

Starkville High School, Library

ROSEMARY CUICCHI

Armstrong Middle School, Math
(retired)

MARTY FRIEND

Starkville High School, Social Studies
(retired)

JANET HENDERSON

Starkville Public Schools, Assistant
Superintendent of Curriculum and
Instruction (retired)

BRENDA JACKSON

Starkville High School, Biology

AMY MARTIN

Cook Elementary, Physical Education
(Columbus)

BETTYE SWIFT

Southside Elementary

LINDA DAVIS

Starkville School District, Band
Director

PEGGY ROGERS

Lowndes County Schools, Assistant
Superintendent

NORMA JACKSON

Fair Elementary School, Principal

ARTS AND SCIENCES FACULTY

GISELLE MUNN

Science

KIM WALTERS

Math

DAVID FOOTE

History

GARY MYERS

Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences

RICHARD WOLF

English

RICHARD DAMMS

History

MARIANNE ULMER

Communication

PAUL GRIMES

Finance and Economics

TEACHER EDUCATION FACULTY

CONNIE FORDE

Teaching Technology

KENT COFFEY

Special Education

MICHAEL HUFF

Music

LINDA MORSE

Educational Psychology

WANDA CHEEK

Human Sciences

KAY BROCATO

Curriculum and Instruction

RANDALL FOXWORTH

Teaching/Coaching

BURNETTE HAMIL

Science Education

TERESA JAYROE

Elementary Education

SUSIE BURROUGHS

Social Studies Education

MISSY HOPPER

English Education

DANA FRANZ

Mathematics Education

CHAIR

SUE MINCHEW

Associate Dean

Teacher Education Council continued

EX-OFFICIO

RICHARD BLACKBOURN

Dean of Education

LINDA COATS

Interim Department Head,
Curriculum and Instruction

LINDA CORNELIOUS

Interim Department Head,
Instructional Systems, Leadership,
and Workforce Development

JOSEPH CHROMIAK

Interim Department Head,
Kinesiology

THOMAS HOSIE

Department Head, Counselor
Education, Psychology and Special
Education

MICHAEL BROWN

Department Head, Music

GEORGE THOMAS

Chair of Education, Meridian

GARY JACKSON

Director, School of Human Sciences

DINETTA KARRIEM

Assistant to the Dean of Education

IVA B. BALLARD

Bureau of Educational Research
and Evaluation

LEE NAPIER

Recording Secretary

PURPOSES AND PROCEDURES

The primary purpose of the Teacher Education Council is to aid in the design, assessment and approval of curricula related to undergraduate and graduate teacher education programs.

Although the council meets only once or twice each semester, program review/approval is sought from council members on a regular basis. Representative practitioners from the Teacher Education Council meet with the Box Curriculum Council to review curriculum proposals on a rotating basis.

Analyses of assessments, such as teacher intern evaluations, exit surveys, PRAXIS results, and the First Year Teacher Performance Report, are routinely shared with the council. The advice and recommendations of the members are carefully considered by the dean and department heads as they strive to improve programs that prepare teacher candidates.

According to TEC chair **Sue Minchew**, the TEC also supports the NCATE accreditation process in a variety of ways. For example, council members participate in discussions related to the conceptual framework and mission of the college, and they help prepare and review documents, such as program reports, that are submitted to NCATE.

Beginning fall 2003, K-12 practitioners who serve on the Teacher Education Council became rotating members of the Box Curriculum Council; each TEC practitioner meets with the Box Council at least once per academic year.

The dean provides funds in the COE budget to accommodate the financial needs of the council. Superintendents furnish the substitute teacher pay for the practitioners who serve on the council.



The new band and choral rehearsal hall.

Construction of music facility under way

Mississippi State broke ground in 2006 for a new, much-anticipated 21,500-square-foot band and choral rehearsal hall.

“This facility is a dream come true for our department,” said **Michael E. Brown**, head of music. “It will provide much-needed space for our band, symphonic band and choral programs.”

In use for decades, the current band hall is a renovated campus maintenance building with only about 4,100 square feet of assignable space. It was constructed in 1939.

Designed by Eley Associates/Architects of Jackson, the new \$3.8 million facility will include practice areas, as well as room for storage and two music libraries. Construction is expected to be completed some time this summer.

MSU 69th in African-American degrees

Mississippi State ranks among the top 100 institutions across the country in the number of bachelor’s degrees awarded to African-Americans.

During the 2004-05 school year, the university ranked 69th in the nation with the awarding of 405 degrees to black students. The new overall rankings from *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine included the nation’s historically black institutions.



Among traditionally white universities only, MSU ranked 44th in the nation.

By category, among all institutions awarding bachelor’s degrees to African-Americans, MSU is ranked:

- ninth in education, with 71 degrees;**
- 20th in agriculture and related fields, eight degrees;
- 23rd in engineering, 32 degrees; and
- 27th in mathematics and statistics (tied with several others), five degrees.

For the complete list, visit www.diverseeducation.com/top100undergraduate2006.asp.

COE faculty members elected to senate

The Robert Holland Faculty Senate has two new leaders for the 2006-07 school year, but it took a combined total of 10 votes to get them in office.

Robert E. Wolverton Sr. of foreign languages had been chosen to succeed Mark Goodman of communication as president of the body representing teaching and extension professionals on the Starkville and Meridian campuses.

Jeanne Swafford of curriculum and instruction is vice president. She succeeds Dr. Peter Wood of sociology, anthropology and social work.

Carlen Henington of counseling, educational psychology and special education was unopposed for a second term as senate secretary.

Over his MSU career, Wolverton, the only campus specialist in the classics, has received several major honors, including the John Grisham Master Teacher and MSU Alumni Association Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching awards.

Swafford, who joined the curriculum and instruction faculty in 2001, is a doctoral graduate of the University of Georgia. She is a specialist in elementary education literacy.

Henington, a Texas A&M doctoral graduate, joined the COE faculty in 1995. Her specialties are child development and interventions.

Held a week earlier than normal because of a holiday, the April 2006 faculty meeting also saw Dr. Charles Lee's final appearance as the land-grant institution's chief executive. His leadership tenure included one year as interim and four years as the 17th president.



College of Education Ambassadors pose with their poster.



Cindy Ward talks with NCATE team member Michael Moorhead during the poster session.



Dean Richard Blackbourn congratulates NCATE Coordinator Sue Minchew

NCATE board of examiners visit campus

The board of examiners of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education, which reviews and accredits teacher education programs nationwide, visited the College of Education in early March to evaluate its programs.

The visit resulted in positive reviews from the NCATE team. Sue Minchew, NCATE coordinator, said the result is a testament to the outstanding quality and performance of the COE faculty and staff. Dean Richard Blackbourn echoed those sentiments and praised the efforts of the NCATE Committee, faculty and staff for their role in preparing for the visit.

The college expects to receive the final evaluation of its programs in the fall after the unit accreditation board meets and reviews all pertinent documentation.

Faculty Convocation and Awards Program



Retiree Joe Ray Underwood (right) is congratulated by Dean Richard Blackbourn.



Retiree Linda Walker, an assistant professor in Curriculum and Instruction at MSU-Meridian campus.



Cynthia Stevenson, recipient of the Outstanding Staff Award, is congratulated by Dean Blackbourn.

Devon Brenner, who won the Lucinda Rose Teaching Award, and Dean Blackbourn.



Teresa Jayroe, recipient of the 2007 Clyde Muse Service Award, is congratulated by Dean Blackbourn.



Charlotte Tabereaux addresses the audience at Spring Awards Convocation.

Carl Sheperis was honored with the Herbert Handley Research Award.



The College of Education hosted its annual convocation and awards program in April, featuring an address by Charlotte B. Tabereaux, education director of the MSU Riley Center. Tabereaux holds a doctorate from MSU in education administration.

Music prof awarded Fulbright



Patilla

Michael Patilla, assistant professor in the music department, has received a Fulbright Award for the 2007-08 academic year. He will teach at the National Autonomous University in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and will work with composers to publish a collection of Honduran guitar music. Patilla holds a doctorate in musical arts from the Eastman School of Music

and performs regularly as a classical guitarist throughout North America, Central America and Europe.

Damm wins higher education award

Robert J. Damm received the Mississippi Alliance for Arts Education's 2007 Higher Education Award from Dr. Charlotte Tabereaux, MAAE president, MSU Riley Center in Meridian. The award recognizes outstanding contributions to arts education. The three considerations in selecting the honoree are superior teaching, including arts education leadership and research, professional activity beyond the local campus, and evidence of modeling best practices of arts education through teacher education courses and programs.



Tabereaux and Damm

Amy Prisock was elected to the board of directors for Mississippi Professional Educators.

A College of Education intern, **Joe Benefield**, received the MPE Outstanding Intern Award.

Jennifer Bryan received the Frank Elrod Award as the outstanding teacher intern in special education for Fall 2006.

Jack Blendinger was elected an officer in the American Education Research Association. He served as program chair of the Fiscal Issues, Policy and Education Finance SIG, Division L: Educational Policy and Politics of the American Education Research Association for 2006-07.

Jason Bahr was selected as guest composer at the 2007 Western Illinois University New Music Festival. As a part of the festival, he gave a presentation on his work *Golgotha*, participated in a panel discussion on issues in contemporary art music, and three movements of his brass quintet, *Divergence*, were performed. Bahr also was awarded an ASCAPLUS Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.

Linda Morse received the Harry Bowman Award from the Mid-South Educational Research Association.

Meagan Medley won the graduate student research award from the MSU Graduate Student Association.

Scott Young received the 2007 Meritorious Service Award from the Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling at the American Counseling Association Convention, Detroit, Mich.

Joseph Chromiak, interim kinesiology department head, was elected to full membership in the Sigma Xi Scientific Society. Membership in Sigma Xi is for recognition of "noteworthy achievement as an original investigator in a field of pure or applied science."

Awards & Honors

Selected Presentations

Beasley, R., Schmitz, J., May, J., **Hamil, B.** (2006). An experimental design for identifying students' naïve concepts about groundwater movement and storage. Paper presented at the Association of Environmental & Engineering Geologists 49th Annual Meeting. Boston, Mass.

Brocato, K., & Brenner, D. (2006, April). Movie making 101: Design thinking in studio-based learning for better study of classroom management and diversity. Paper presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association.

Brocato, K., Prince, D., Franz, D., & Pepper, K. (2006, April). Accomplished teaching takes time: Alternate routers talk about their first year. Paper presented at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association.

Brocato, K., Prince, D., Franz, D., Pepper, K., & House, A. (2006). Accomplished teaching takes time: First year teacher discourse measures accomplished teaching practice. Paper presented at American Association of Educational Research, San Francisco, Calif.

Burroughs, S., Webeck, M., Sanders, A., & Nance, J. (2006, May). Democracy camp for teachers: A model for cross-cultural professional development. Paper presented at the World Congress on Civic Education, Warsaw, Poland.

Burroughs, S., & Webeck, M. (2006). The promise and practice of civic education: A comparative study of selected teachers from two European countries, two Latin American countries, and three U.S. states. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council for the Social Studies College and University Faculty Assembly, Washington, D.C.

Cornelious, L., & Alexander, M. (2006, December). Integrating technology into the curriculum: An imperative for educational administrators. Paper presented at the 2006 Association of the Career and Technical Education Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Ga.

Cornelious, L., Alexander, M., & Yang, Y. (2006, January). Assessing the technological needs of educational administrators. Paper presented at the proceedings of the 4th Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Forde, C.M., & VanHuss, S. (2007, April). What's new for 2007 and keyboarding. National Business Education Association, New York, N.Y.

Foxworth, K.R., & Rukavina, P.B. (2006, October). NCATE accreditation: embracing change with a web-based tool. Paper presented at the National Association of Physical Education and Sport Physical Education Teacher Education Conference, Long Beach, Calif.

Franz, D., & Maynard, S. (2006). Making math day fun. Paper presented at National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, St. Louis, Mo.

Grace, C., & Osofsky, J.D., (2006). Katrina more than one year later: Working to support infants, toddlers and families on the Gulf Coast. Paper presented at Zero to Three National Training Institute, Albuquerque, N.M.

Grace, C., & Thompson, N. (2006). The early childhood Native American curriculum tool kit. Paper presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu.

Selected Presentations

Holt, B.J. (2007, January). The irony of teaching-learning affect in physical education higher education. Paper presented at the annual National Association of Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education Conference; Clearwater, Fla.

Hoyt, G.L., Joe, L.A., Chromiak, J.A., Lamberth, J.G., Fisher, G., Chromiak, A. Willard, S., & Ryan, P.L. (2007, June). Relationship between digital infrared thermal imaging determined knee temperatures and knee pain in distance runner during a three-month cross-country season. Paper presented at the 33rd Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Thermology and the International College of Medical Thermology, Auburn, Ala.

Lamb, J., & Franz, D. (2006). Implementing technology in the mathematics curriculum: experiences of pre-service and in-service elementary teachers. Paper presented at Association of Mathematics Teacher Educators, Tampa, Fla.

McCorkle, S.M., Chromiak, J.A., Byrd, S.H., Fountain, B.J., & Hoyt, T. (2007, June) The relationship between body mass index, body fatness and waist:hip ratio of teachers and staff at a Mississippi elementary school. Paper presented at the American College of Sports Medicine annual meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Minchew, S.S., & Hopper, P. (2007, January). Humor and fun in the language arts classroom. Paper presented at the Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Peterson, E. (2006, November). "Swamp Song" by Michael Burns. Paper presented at Society for Electro-Acoustic Music in the United States(SEAMUS) sponsored Electro-Acoustic Music Concert at La Salle University, Philadelphia, Pa.

Rukavina, P.B., & Li, W. (2007, March). A service learning based project to change implicit and explicit attitudes toward obese individuals in kinesiology pre-professionals. Paper presented at the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, Baltimore, MD.

Thompson, N., Grace, C. & Sempier, T. (2006). Early childhood Native American curriculum toolkit. Paper presented at Zero to Three National Training Institute, Albuquerque, N.M.

Xu, J., Yuan, R., & Coats, L. (2007, April). Homework attitudes and management strategies reported by middle school students. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of American Educational Research Association, Chicago, Ill.

Zullo, R. (2006, November). Corporate naming rights in division I-A intercollegiate Athletics. Paper presented at the South Carolina International Conference on Sport & Entertainment Business, Columbia, S.C.

Selected Publications

Baker, J. (2006, June). The history and significance of the noble snare. *Percussive Notes*, 44(3), 72-77.

Blendinger, J. (2006). Catching respect through service learning. *New Teacher Advocate*, 13(3), 4-5.

Brenner, D., & Apol, L. (2006). Constructing readers and reading: Depictions of learning to read in children's literature. *Journal of Children's Literature*, 32 (1), 37-50.

Brenner, D., Pearson, P.D., Beers, K., Probst, B., & Reif, L. (2007). Assessment: What is the responsible measure of a student's success? In K. Beers, R. Probst & L. Reif (Eds.), *Adolescent Literacy: Turning Promise Into Practice*. Porstmouth, N.H: Heinemann.

Brown, M. (fall 2006). Mountain music: Appalachian music for brass. Farmington, N.M., *Brassworks 4 Publishing*.

Capella-McDonnall, M.E. (2006). Use of the homemaker closure with consumers who are blind or visually impaired versus consumers with other disabilities. *Journal of Rehabilitation Administration*, 30(4), 229-240.

Cavanaugh, B.S., Giesen, J.M., & Steinman, B.A. (2006). Contextual effects of race/ethnicity on vocational rehabilitation acceptance of legally blind consumers. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 100(7), 425-436.

Coffey, K.M., & Obringer, S.J. (2006). Strattera: An important update. *Physical Disabilities: Education and Related Services*, 24(2), 3-6.

Damm, R. (2006, November). Education through collaboration: learning the arts while celebrating culture. *Music Educators Journal*, 93(2), 54-58.

Doggett, R.A., Sheperis, C.J., Eaves, S., Mong, M., & Erford, B.T. (2006). Selecting, administering, scoring, and interpreting assessments instruments

and techniques. In B.T. Erford (Ed.), *Assessment for counselors* (pp. 159-188). Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Du, J., Durrington, V.A., & Olinzock, A.A. (2006). Dynamic online learning environment: Task-oriented interaction for deep learning. *Open Education Research*, 12(4), 75-79.

Dufrene, B.A., & Henington, C., Townsend, A. E. (2006). Peer tutoring for reading fluency: Student implementation and effects on reading fluency. *Journal of Evidence Based Practice for Schools*, 7, 118-141.

Durrington, V.A., Berryhill, A., & Swafford, J. (2006). Strategies for enhancing interactivity in an online environment. *College Teaching*, 54(1), 190-193.

Erford, B.T., Salisbury, C., McNinch, K., Sheperis, C.J., Doggett, R.A., & Ota, M. (2006). Clinical Assessment. In B.T. Erford (Ed.), *Assessment for counselors* (pp. 207-220). Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Franz, D., & Hopper, P.F. (2007). National impact: Creating teacher leaders through the use of problem-based learning. *National Forum of Applied Educational Research Journal*, 20(3), 1-9.

Grace, C., Todd, L. & Darling, L. (2006). Embracing the children of Katrina. *Young Children*, 61(6), 88-93.

Hall, K.R. (2006). Using problem-based learning with victims of bullying behavior. *Professional School Counseling*, 9(3), 231-237.

Holt., B.J., & Hannon, J. (2006). Teaching-learning affect in physical education. *Strategies*, 20(1), pp. 11-13.

Johnson-Gros, K.N., & Shriver, M. (2006). Compliance training and positive peer reporting with a 4-year-old in a pre-school classroom. *Journal of Evidence Based Practice for Schools*, 7, 167-185.

Selected Publications

Kane, H.D., & Oakland, T.D. (2006). Cognitive differentiation: Evidence from the United States. *Journal of Genetic Psychology*, 167, 3, 5-15.

Kozol, S., Stallworth, B.J., & Tompkins, R.H. (2006). Candidate and program assessment in English education: A framework for discussion and debate. *English Education*, 38(4), 370-383.

McGrath, L., & McGrath, V. (Summer 2007). Non-food rewards for good behavior and academic achievement. *KDP The New Teacher Advocate*, 2-3.

Moore, J.E. (2006). A look back: 100 years of trends and issues in employment, rehabilitation and legislation. *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, 100, 453 - 458.

Obringer, S.J., & Coffey, K. M. (2006). Diabetes mellitus and the insulin pump: What teachers need to know. *Physical Disabilities: Education and Related Services*, 25(1), 51-60.

Peterson, E. (2005). Second annual double reed day at Mississippi State University. *The Double Reed Journal*, 28(3), 39-40.

Porter, J.Y. (2006). Using learning communities to enhance counseling curriculum. *Vistas 2006*, American Counseling Association, <http://counselingoutfitters.com/Porter.htm> (Refereed).

Prince, D.L., Pepper, K., & Brocato, D.K. (2006). The importance of making the well-being of children in poverty a priority. *Early Childhood Education Journal*, 34(1), 21-28.

Prince D.L., Brenner, D., & Brocato, D.K. (2006). Possibility or problem? Who's to say? *Academic Exchange Quarterly*, 10(1), 197-201.

Robertson, A., Baird-Thomas, C., Dill, P., & Morse, D.T. (2006). Brief STD/HIV intervention in a juvenile detention center: Sexual risk behavior and risk reduction. *International Journal of Crime, Criminal Justice and the Law*, 1(1), 15-29.

Sheperis, C.J., Doggett, R.A., Ota, M., Erford, B.T., & Salisbury, C. (2006). Behavioral assessment. In B.T. Erford (Ed.), *Assessment for Counselors* (pp. 303-318). Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

Smith, C., & Rukavina, P.B. (2006). "TaskStream": Implementation issues of a new technology tool in teacher education. *Chronicle of Kinesiology and Physical Education in Higher Education*, 17(2), 1, 14-15.

Thompson, N., & Hare, D. (2006). The American Indian and Alaska Native curriculum toolkit. *Zero to Three*, 20(4).

Xie, K., DeBacker, T.K., & Ferguson, C. (2006). Extending the traditional classroom through online discussion: The role of student motivation. *Journal of Educational Computing Research*, 34(1), 68-78.

Xu, J. (2006). Gender and homework management reported by high school students. *Educational Psychology*, 26(1), 73-91.

Xu, J. (2006). Worldview of one black family in a middle school inclusion program: An Ethnographic Study. *Teachers College Record*, 108(7), 1496-1530.

Young, J.S., Wiggins-Frame, M., and Cashwell, C.S., (2007). Spirituality and counselor competence: A national survey of American counseling association members. *The Journal of Counseling and Development*, 85, 47-52.

Yu, C., & Durrington, V.A. (2006). Technology standards for school administrators: An analysis of current and future administrators' perceived ability to perform the standards. *NASSP Bulletin*, 90(4), 301-317.

PREPS has breakthrough year

Without a doubt, 2006 was a breakthrough year for the Program of Research and Evaluation for Public Schools (PREPS).

During the last 30 years, PREPS has established and maintained its reputation as a landmark educational consortium among its peers in Mississippi, striving to offer new and innovative ways to meet the demands of a successful and competitive educational system, in Mississippi and abroad.

In the summer of 2006, PREPS set the precedent once again for meeting the needs of educators and teachers by introducing new opportunities for Mississippi's own. PREPS had the privilege of hosting the state's first ever Test Item Review with the Mississippi Department of Education working in conjunction with Harcourt Assessment on the campus of Mississippi State.

In October, PREPS again set the standard for furthering

education in Mississippi by working with facilitators from Washington, D.C., in establishing the state's first IPAL Conference with the Mattie T. Technical Assistance Center, a part of PREPS and one of only three in the state. The IPAL Conference reached out to educators and teachers who work with students with special needs.

PREPS continues to be on the lookout for newer and better ways to accommodate today's classroom. In February 2007, PREPS held its annual Winter Conference, hosted by Scholastic Inc., at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian. With almost 300 participants, PREPS' tradition of offering high-quality conferences and workshops continued successfully.

PREPS' partnership with Metamatrix has great potential for success. Coming soon for PREPS' members are workshops through Metamatrix that will be made available to educators and teachers



Cindy Ward, director of the Center for Educational Partnerships, speaks at the PREPS Winter Conference.

to learn Lexiles, and eventually Quantiles, both of which are engineered and have been proven to garner better student achievement in the classroom. PREPS also will be partnering with Pearson Educational Measurement, the K-8 Access Center, and Teachers-N-Tools.

PREPS is always growing, and nothing says success like growth! In the 2005-06 school year, it worked with 84 school districts serving

approximately 278,000 students and 22,000 instructional staff.

This year, the program is working with nearly 60 percent of the public school districts in Mississippi. For PREPS, that means it is personally serving 91 out of 152 school districts, approximately 308,700 students and nearly 23,000 instructional personnel.

Funded Research Grants and Contracts

Faculty from the departments of kinesiology and of food science, nutrition and health promotion, recently received more than \$500,000 in funding for a project to improve the health of residents in the Mississippi Delta through implementation of a coordinated school health program in elementary schools and social marketing in the community.

Joseph Chromiak of kinesiology is collaborating with Sylvia Byrd and Brent Fountain from food science on the research and service grant to improve the quality of life in the Mississippi Delta region through an integrated approach that addresses the health of children and their families. Goals of the project are to address healthy eating and physical activity through the program and social marketing to generate awareness of the importance of healthy eating and physical activity in homes, schools and work sites

It is well documented that quality of life is enhanced by healthy eating habits in combination with physical activity. Not only do the Mississippi State faculty members hope to improve the quality of life of people living the Delta region, but Chromiak noted that the benefits of increasing physical activity and physical education for children also include better academic performance and reduced absenteeism.

Better health for people living in the Delta could have a huge positive economic impact for the state. The grant is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration Delta Health Initiative.

Byrd, S.H., Chromiak, J.A., & Fountain, B. Improving Health in the Mississippi Delta through a Coordinated School Health Program. Delta Health Initiative; Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), Office of Rural Health Policy; Grant period: August 1, 2006, to July 31, 2007. Amount Funded: \$533,138.00.



RRTC awarded national research grant

The Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness & Low Vision received a Disability and Rehabilitation Research Project grant award of \$450,000 from the National

Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research in the U.S. Department of Education.

The three-year award of \$1.35 million will focus on vocational rehabilitation transition services that lead to competitive employment outcomes for transition-age individuals with blindness or other visual impairments. The project was the only one funded by NIDRR and involves four major research projects and a plan of dissemination to begin October 1, 2007.

The RRTC on Blindness and Low Vision is the only center of its kind in the United States and was founded at MSU in 1981.

For additional information, contact the center at 662-325-2001 or visit its Web page at www.blind.msstate.edu.

Educator, alumni and local librarian produce children's book

The collaborative effort among a Mississippi State education professor, Columbus librarian and two alumni of the university has resulted in a new addition to the world of children's literature.

My Little Story Book II, which chronicles the adventures of Kathleen Cat and her animal friends, recently was completed by **Nancy Verhoek-Miller** of the department of curriculum and instruction and Edwina Williams of Columbus.

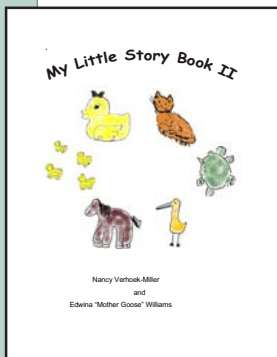
Williams, a children's librarian at the Columbus-Lowndes Public Library, long has been recognized throughout the Golden Triangle area for her continuing, full-costumed role as "Mother Goose," the fictitious author of 18th century English children's books.

A year in the making, the 22-page edition is published by the MSU-based Early Childhood Institute and printed by the university's Learning Center.

Verhoek-Miller said the book was designed to promote both learning activities and lessons of friendships among young children.

"This book shows how much we love children and wish to do what we can to help them with literacy," she added. "The stories can be used in a variety of settings."

Artwork was provided by Verhoek-Miller and MSU alumna **Rosann Daniels** of Tupelo. MSU alumnus **Stephen Westerfield** of Brandon designed the publication with assistance from the Learning Center staff.



Institute offers developmental workshops

During the 2006-07 academic year, seven professional development workshops were offered by the Expressive Therapy Institute, Mississippi State University-Meridian, on the following topics: Crisis Counseling, Horticulture Therapy, Legal and Ethical Issues, Life Coping Skills,



Psychopharmacology, and the Stigma of Mental Illness.

Topics for the workshops were identified by evaluations from the 129 helping professionals who attended the first series of Expressive Therapy Institute workshops in 2005-06.

Julia Porter started the Expressive Therapy Institute at MSU-Meridian to provide training opportunities for graduate students in the counselor education graduate program, to offer research opportunities for counselor education faculty, and to have professional development training for helping professionals in the region.

Through a collaborative effort between Porter and Rhonda Carr in social work, continuing education and social work units, which are required for license renewal for helping professionals, were made available for the workshop series.

Regional clinic held for top musicians

Some 350 skilled high school musicians from around the Southeast attended Mississippi

State's 2007 Honor Band Clinic.

Fred J. Allen, Lance Britt and Carol Jacobs were guest conductors. Though clinic sessions were limited to

participants, three free concerts were open to all.

Elva Kaye Lance, MSU director of bands, said the clinic is among the oldest of its kind in the region.

"It began in the 1950s as a new materials clinic," Lance said. "At that time, its purpose was to introduce directors to newly published music. Over the years, it has evolved into its current format."



Presentation at National Conference

Robert J. Damm, associate professor of music, and Susie Marshall, elementary music specialist in West Point, were co-presenters of "A Celebration of African Heritage" for the Biennial meeting of the National Association for the Study and Performance of African American Music. The national conference convened on the Jackson State University campus in Jackson in March. The performance included nearly 100 second-grade general music students, 14 fourth-grade drummers, and five MSU music majors. The performance was offered as a model for providing valuable multicultural music education experience for future educators while supporting music in a local public school.

Katrina benefit held for high school



In the foreground are (left-right), Gail Levinsky, Lana Johns and Jackie Edwards-Henry; in rear is Robert Damm. The quartet held a concert to benefit Gulfport High School's band program, a victim of Hurricane Katrina.

Studio School working to become reality

The College of Education is leading a new effort to address school dropout concerns in the Golden Triangle. Together with the colleges of Architecture, Art and Design; Veterinary Medicine; Forest Resources; and Bagley Engineering, the COE is partnering with the Starkville, Oktibbeha County, and West Point school districts to build Studio School. Kay Brocato, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, is leading the initiative.

Studio School will provide a rigorous learning environment for middle and high school students who have been underserved in typical schools. Students will work alongside Mississippi State researchers and local professionals, as learners propose design solutions to ambiguous issues, critique and refine those proposals, working toward more effective design solutions. A projected start date for the opening of Studio School is fall 2008.

During the spring 2007 semester, Mississippi State bolstered the College of Education efforts toward Studio School by awarding one of only two university-wide grants through its Mississippi State Community Action Team office. However, to make Studio School a reality, funds are still needed.

For information on the Studio School effort, contact Rob Jenkins, development officer in the College of Education. Information is available on the Web at <http://www2.msstate.edu/~dkb3/studioschool.htm>.

Playground restoration project is under way in region devastated by Hurricane Katrina



The Early Childhood Institute has completed installation of new fixed equipment for playgrounds at 43 child care facilities in the Hurricane Katrina region of Mississippi, thanks to federal funds allocated by the Office for Children and Youth of the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The funds are from the federal Social Services Block Grant to Mississippi.

The institute will provide fixed equipment or outdoor play materials to a total of 137 child care facilities in 15 counties and 29 communities. The facilities have a maximum capacity of 8,796 children.

Facilities that lost entire playgrounds to the hurricane received new fixed playground equipment, as well as outdoor learning materials such as easels, sandboxes and puppet theaters. Facilities that had partial damages will receive the outdoor learning materials. The fixed equipment meets Mississippi Department of Health licensure standards for equipment.

Connie Clay of the MSU Early Childhood Institute is director of the institute's Rebuilding After Katrina Initiative. Johnson, Bailey, Henderson, McNeel PA of Jackson designed the installations of fixed equipment and Kenneth R. Thompson Jr., Builder Inc. of Greenwood was the general contractor for the project.

The Mississippi State Extension Service also is helping child care providers in the Katrina region to resume offering safe, developmentally appropriate outdoor play opportunities to young children. The Nurturing Homes Initiative of the extension service is providing technical assistance to license-exempt child care providers who care for children in their homes. The extension service received a separate contract from the Office for Children and Youth of the Mississippi Department of Human Services to assist family child care providers.

Write Connection writing conference debuts

A new and exciting teaching conference debuted in June 2006.

The first statewide writing conference, “The ‘Write’ Connection: Methods for Improving Student Achievement,” was hosted by the Mississippi State Writing/Thinking Project in Starkville.

Sponsored by MWTI, the state network of writing projects, the conference was planned, facilitated and presented by teacher-consultants from around the state.

The goal of the meeting was to bring together teachers from across the state who have a common purpose: to be better writing teachers across the curriculum. One hundred thirty-five educators attended. Activities included 12 concurrent sessions, a writing

marathon, a barbecue social, general session with National Writing Project’s Mary Ann Smith, and lunch session with Ben McClelland, author, professor and former University of Mississippi Writing Project director.

Larry Strange, an MSU summer institute fellow, said the writing conference was the best conference he had ever attended,

and that this was the turning point for him as a teacher.

The second annual Write Connection conference, “Exercising Our Right to Write,” was scheduled for Hattiesburg on the campus of the University of Southern Mississippi in June. Keynote speaker was Rich Raymond, chair of the MSU English department and a former director of writing projects in Arkansas and Georgia.



Palmer

Rehab counselor slated for presidency

A College of Education faculty member is the new president-elect of the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association.

Charles D. Palmer is an associate professor and clinical coordinator in the department of counseling, educational psychology and special education’s nationally ranked and accredited graduate rehabilitation

counseling program. He joined the university faculty in 1998.

A University of Arkansas doctoral graduate, Palmer assumes NRCA’s highest elective office next year after completing his current administrative term.

The Virginia-based association is the largest organization representing professionals in the field. A division of the National Rehabilitation Association, it was founded in 1958.

In addition to his teaching and research duties, Palmer has served the rehabilitation community in numerous capacities at the local, state and national levels. He has been a member of NRCA’s board of directors since 1999 and most recently was the Southeast regional representative.

He also is a member of the Council on Rehabilitation Education’s Commission on Standards and Accreditation, the national accrediting organization for graduate counseling programs. Additionally, he is a member of the editorial board of the Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin, a professional journal.

Lesley wins awards



Bruce Lesley, associate director of choral activities, won Best Supporting Actor at the Mississippi Theatre Association competition, as

Lesley well as seven out of 10 of the company's awards for his performance in February.

He played the role of the Rev. Mervin Ogleshorpe in Starkville Community Theatre's production of "Smoke on the Mountain."

Lesley also participated in the Southeastern Theatre Conference in Atlanta in March.



Alexander

Alexander honored by state College Board

A higher education professional at Mississippi State is the Black History Month Educator of the Year for the state of Mississippi.

Mary Alexander, assistant to the president, received the honor in February during a monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees, State Institutions of Higher Learning. She is also an instructor in the department of instructional systems, leadership and workforce development.

"I have known Dr. Alexander for a number of years as both an Air Force officer and as a university faculty member and can attest to her character, competence and commitment to diversity," said President Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong, who first worked with her during his tenure at Columbus Air Force Base.

Alexander retired from the service in 1994 with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

She since has earned a doctorate in school administration from Mississippi State and has held positions at Columbus High School, Mid-South Partnership for Rural Community Colleges, Alcorn State University, and Mississippi University for Women.

Alexander also serves as interim director of the land-grant institution's diversity and equity programs, providing counsel and training to ensure a working and learning environment free of discrimination.

"She has an outstanding commitment to inclusiveness and has had a career in which she has repeatedly demonstrated her leadership abilities," Foglesong said. "This is a most fitting recognition."

An Alabama native, Alexander holds an undergraduate degree in biology and chemistry from Alabama State University and a master's in management from Webster University in St. Louis, Mo. In addition to her MSU doctoral degree, she has received additional graduate-level management training at the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Ala.

Alexander said she considers the honor one she shares with her colleagues at MSU.

"I must thank Dr. Foglesong for his vision for the university, his embracing diversity and his efforts to make the campus a friendlier and more pleasant work place for all people," she said. "I work with a great group of people, and it's a pleasure to come to work each day."

Coats among 'Dynamic women of Mississippi'

Linda T. Coats, interim head of the curriculum and instruction department and a 20-year teaching veteran, was among four women from Mississippi State included in the inaugural class of a statewide honor coordinated by the City of Madison's Chamber of Commerce.

Recognized as 2007 Dynamic Women of Mississippi were faculty members Coats, Nancy A. Hargrove and Sandra H. Harpole, and staff member Kristy I. Riley.

The recognition program seeks annually to spotlight outstanding accomplishments and contributions by women in the fields of business, government, the arts, education, health care, and community service.

The four from MSU are among 12 noted for enhancing the national and international prominence of the state and will be featured in a desk calendar to be produced by the chamber.

Coats' research and national presentations have focused on learning styles, learning experiences of African-American students and leadership behaviors.

Moore is new COE associate dean

J. Elton Moore has been named associate dean for research and assessment in the College of Education, effective July 1.

Moore has served as director of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center (RRTC) on Blindness and Low Vision at MSU since 1990. He has served as principal investigator and project director for a large number of federal grants and cooperative agreements funded through the

U.S. Department of Education, as well as various contracts funded by both state government agencies and the territories.

He is a Giles Distinguished Professor and holds a joint appointment as professor in the department of counseling, educational psychology and special education, where he teaches in the rehabilitation counseling program.

He is a former director of Mississippi Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind and a past president of the National Council of State Agencies for the Blind.

As associate dean for research, Moore will be actively involved in coordinating the COE research agenda and assessment activities. He will assist faculty, including faculty at the MSU-Meridian Campus, in grant writing and publication activities. He also will act as liaison for the dean's office, the MSU Office of Institutional Research, Sponsored Programs Administration, and the associate deans for research in other colleges.



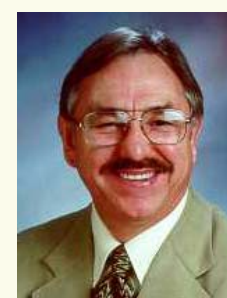
Coats



Iwao Asakura,
assistant professor of
voice



Brett J. Holt,
assistant professor
of teaching and
coaching



Elton Moore,
associate dean for
research and
assessment

NEW FACULTY AND
Administrators

Music faculty members sing praises of department and its varied outreach efforts

Michael Brown, the head of Mississippi State's music department, directs the MSU/Starkville Symphony, as well as maintaining an active concert and

ensemble schedule. In addition to his administrative duties in a department of 19 faculty members, Brown teaches regularly, including a completely online version of music appreciation.

In collaboration with the university's Lyceum Series, he has launched a Faculty Chamber Series that features MSU faculty members, and he is the force behind an annual community performance of Handel's "Messiah" that attracts standing-room-only crowds.

At Mississippi State, Brown's passion for music is shared by the 19 colleagues whose talents

cover a wide spectrum: piano, woodwinds, brass, percussion, guitar, voice, and—just as important—the teaching of music.

Crossing cultures also is the goal of a Brazilian Music Festival launched in 2003 by pianist **Rosangela Sebba**, a native of that country and a frequent guest soloist both in Brazil and across the Southeastern U.S.

In other departmental outreach activities, the annual Piano Showcase—now in its 22nd year—brings talented high school pianists to campus to participate in intense European-style master classes with accomplished guest and faculty artists. For area audiences, the showcase offers several concerts during the week-long event.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for the students, and it's an equally exciting opportunity for audiences to experience remarkable musicianship," said director Jackie Edwards-Henry.



Brown

The Summer Band Directors Institute, headed by **Elva Kaye Lance**, director of bands, brings about 20 state band directors to campus to learn more about the latest techniques and musical literature. A 50-year tradition, the annual Honor Band Camp attracts approximately 200 youngsters to campus for clinics that culminate in public concerts. A January state band clinic draws an additional 400 high schoolers.

Also, part of its outreach efforts is the department's Web site (see music.msstate.edu), coordinated by **Richard Human**, assistant professor of trombone. Human also is the founder and publisher of the Online Trombone Journal, free to those interested in the exchange of information about the instrument.

To accommodate rehearsal needs for a diverse department with large performing groups, the university is building a new \$3.5 million band and choral facility, funded primarily through private donations. Located at the intersections of Hardy and Blackjack roads, the new facility will house both the band and choral programs and will include several large rehearsal halls. An added feature will be a new, adjacent practice marching field for the Famous Maroon Band.

As part of its annual spring tour, the MSU Wind Ensemble recently performed for the Mississippi All-State Concert Band. The ensemble and its conductor, Elva Kaye Lance, performed for an audience that included the top high school wind and percussion players in the state. Dr. Clifton Taylor, associate director of bands, and Dr. Michael Huff, instructor of trumpet, also appeared with the group as guest soloists.

Honor society nationally ranked again

Mississippi State's business education honor society finished third in national competition in 2006, marking the 10th straight year of a top-10 ranking among university chapters across the country.

The campus chapter of Pi Omega Pi national honor society competed over the school year against more than 35 other collegiate groups. Judging was based on the number and quality of projects designed to promote scholarship and service in the academic major.

MSU and the other winning chapters were recognized at the National Business Education Association convention, held in spring 2006 in Tampa, Fla.

Chartered at MSU in 1939, the student organization finished second in 2004, its highest-ever ranking.

Connie M. Forde, professor of instructional systems, leadership and workforce development, has been adviser for the past 19 years.

"Their outstanding participation at the NBEA convention and their

ranking once again in the top five are major contributors to the excellent reputation of our technology teacher education degree at Mississippi State," said Forde. "Serving as an adviser for these outstanding honor students is very rewarding."

Representing the chapter at the convention were president **Shelley L. Johnson** of Hickory, vice president **Bethany C. Walker** of Booneville and secretary **Lindley E. Simpson** of Macon. Also attending were members **Jacqueline D. Brown** of Okolona, **Krystle M. Dixon** of Louisville and **Marcus D. Henley** of Brooksville.

Though not members of the campus chapter, three other technology teacher education majors accompanied the six students to the convention. They included **Avis C. Bell** of Shuqualak, **Amy L. Beach** of Eupora and **Sundra M. Williams** of Kosciusko.

Forde said the department of instructional systems and workforce development provided financial support for the student trip.



Hattiesburg residents Lee Norman and Allison Blackwell were elected Mr. and Miss Mississippi State University for the 2006-07 school year. Chosen in an election, the campus favorites formally were presented Oct. 14, 2006, during MSU's Homecoming football game with Jacksonville (Ala.) State University. Norman, a junior management of construction and land development major, is the son of Clifton and Julie Norman. Blackwell, a senior elementary education major, is the daughter of Rodney and Ann Blackwell.

Kinesiology majors to teach volleyball skills

Students from Mississippi State's kinesiology department helped local children develop their skills at volleyball during a special summer program at the Starkville Boys and Girls Club.

The training session took place at the club's facility at 911 Lynn Lane.

"The goal is to teach children skills that will help them lead a more active lifestyle, thus reducing the risk for health problems caused by being overweight," said Paul Rukavina, an assistant professor in the department.

"Not only will the children benefit from the opportunity, but the MSU students will get valuable teaching experience and the opportunity to be a role model," added Rukavina. "The MSU students plan to be teachers and coaches."

Nationwide, 16 percent of youth 6-19 years of age are overweight, he observed.

"Teaching children skills and how to live a physically active lifestyle is important—especially in Mississippi, which has one of the highest obesity rates in the country," Rukavina added.

Student, faculty member representing state

A Mississippi State senior from Macon is a new representative for Mississippi students to the National Business Education Association's board of directors.

Lindley E. Simpson recently was elected to the position at the Mississippi Business Education Association's fall conference in Biloxi. A technology teacher education major and President's Scholar at the university, she is the daughter of James and Linda Simpson.

Also during the coast meeting, assistant professor **Teri L. Brandenburg** was chosen to succeed professor Connie Forde as the state's senior college representative to the national organization's governing board. Both are faculty members in MSU's department of instructional systems, leadership and workforce development.

With offices in Reston, Va., NBEA is the largest professional organization serving individuals and groups engaged in instruction, administration, research, and

dissemination of information for and about business and business education.

The state organization represents academic programs at the high school-senior college levels.

Future Educators Association chapter formed

A new university chapter of Future Educators Association was formed at MSU.

The FEA, sponsored by Phi Delta Kappa International, is an international network of nearly 1,000 chapters around the world. The MSU chapter is open for membership to all students enrolled in the college.

Elementary education major Maggie Chancey, chapter president, said, "As president of the MSU chapter of Future Educators Association, I am very excited about what this organization has planned for the upcoming school year."

The junior continued, "Some of the activities we hope to be involved in are state and national conferences, starting FEA chapters at local schools, helping various charity organizations, and broadening the views of students who are pursuing teaching as a career.

"Our team of officers is working diligently to ensure that this organization grows successfully."

Students create announcements

Elementary education students in Devon Brenner's "Exploring Diversity through Writing" course

spent several weeks creating "public service announcements" about a hypothetical school that would have a studio-based curriculum and would serve diverse learners who've been failing, much like the "Studio School" that is being proposed for the Starkville community.

The PSAs were developed to recruit students to attend the school, to ask the school board and benefactors to fund the school in an effort to help close the achievement gap, and/or to recruit families to allow their students to attend "Studio School."



Miss MSU named

Sophomore Danielle Smith of Meridian is the new Miss Mississippi State University. The clinical exercise physiology major and daughter of C.D. and Linda Smith will represent the 129-year-old land-grant institution in the 2007 Miss Mississippi Pageant this summer in Vicksburg.

A member of the MSU Pom Squad, she is planning a career as a physical therapist or dance choreographer.

Listen up! Podcasting brings new dimension

With a headset microphone, computer connection and the desire to expand the concept of “classroom,” several Mississippi State professors are taking their lectures to cyberspace with the help of the university’s information technology experts.

Podcasting, launched in 2005 with three pilot classes, expanded in fall 2006 to 14 classes enrolling more than 1,400 students, said Kathleen Olivieri, lead consultant with MSU’s information technology systems office.

Since students now can receive lectures on their MP3 media player or desktop computer, podcasting technology essentially is delivering “lectures-on-demand,” she explained.

“We knew we wanted to develop a system that was really simple to use and provided a teaching complement,” Olivieri said. “Our goal was to create a stress-free system for faculty members, because we know their classroom time is limited.”

Because existing technologies are so expensive, the campus ITS team created its own technology

infrastructure, said system services manager Jay Burrell. “Faculty members are in the classroom to teach and we don’t want technology to get in their way.”

Michael Brown, head of MSU’s music department, taught a class in the history and appreciation of music, with nearly 300 students enrolled. He is among those who began using podcasting last fall.

“I’ve been very committed to integrating the technology into my teaching, because I believe it’s the wave of the future,” Brown said. “I think it is a tool we’ll continue to see grow in usefulness.”

Olivieri said the ITS program’s ultimate goal is to enhance the overall learning experience at Mississippi State. **Missy Hopper**, assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, also taught a class to English education students using podcasting. Both Hopper and Brown were among the faculty who began using podcasting in fall 2006.



Aiken Village Preschool attended MSU’s 129th birthday celebration, where they met MSU President Robert H. “Doc” Foglesong.

Education honor society again in top tier

A team of Mississippi State technology teacher education majors is continuing the university’s top standing in Pi Omega Pi national honor society.

Marcus D. Henley and Lindley E. Simpson, both of Macon, Emily B. Roberts of Brandon, and Bethany C. Walker of Ripley finished second in competition held as part of the National Business Education Association’s recent convention in New York City.

Henley is president of the campus chapter; Simpson, immediate past president; and Roberts, secretary. All are seniors. Walker is a graduate student. She completed her undergraduate degree, cum laude, in December 2006.

Pi Omega Pi was founded in 1923 to promote scholarship in business education. The MSU chapter was chartered in 1939.

Chapter entries in the competition are judged on the quality of their programs, presentations and projects.

“This is our 11th consecutive Top 10 ranking and our second time to place second,” said chapter adviser **Connie Forde**. “These students have gained invaluable professional experience that is preparing them very well to enter the teaching profession,” she said.

Education honor society taps new members

More than 100 academically achieving juniors, seniors and graduate students in Mississippi State's College of Education are new members of the university chapter of Kappa Delta Pi honor society.

Founded in 1911 at the University of Illinois, the international organization works to promote excellence in all areas of collegiate teacher training. KDP's 55,000 members are spread among more than 400 campus and alumni chapters.

According to sponsor **Vince McGrath**, in addition to scholastics, membership requires the demonstrated commitment to a career in education and a personal attitude that assures steady professional growth.

MSU student members inducted at the conclusion of the 2006 spring semester include Kristen M. Ables, Lindsay A. Adams, Sarah A. Adams, Melanie J. Arnold, Ashley S. Baker, Mary K. Ballew, Lauren E. Blumkin, Ashley L. Boyer, Marshall T. Bratton, Samantha L. Breshears, Brittany N. Broadus, Elisa M. Brooks, Tasha M.

Brown, Mary M. Cariker, Claire D. Carlisle, Erin N. Carmichael, Jonathan E. Chaney, Carrie E. Clark, Darrow T. Clark, Leslie A. Clement, Sheila D. Coleman, Sadie M. Corban, Denise C. Counts, Katherine E. Cox, Laura L. Crews, Lydia R. Crouch, April N. Davis, John M. Davis, Aprillee P. Dozier, Kala E. Dye, Katelyn J. Earley, Allan D. Evans, Amber L. Farris, Cortney J. Fielder, Amanda L. Fondren, Lauren E. Ford, Meryl M. Fulgham, Mary M. Furr, Carrie A. Gammill, Serena N. Gann, Robert L. Gardner, Valerie A. Gibbs, Alexis R. Gosselin, Jessica L. Green, Vickie S. Harris, Ettaronda L. Hogan, Danielle L. Hood, Kristen D. Hopper, Erin N. Horne, Holly S. Jackson, Martha T. James, Jenifer E. Johnson, Jessica E. Johnson, Melanie L. Johnson, Teresa M. Johnson, Mary K. Jones, Taneshia N. Jones, Emily C. Kee, Taylor M. Kozielski, Richard E. Latham, Priscilla A. Lee, Sheila B. Loper, Paula A. Malone, Ginger M. Mattox, Carissia L. Mayes, Sharone D.

McCaskill, Leston C. McGarrh, Amanda K. McMillan, Toni L. Moore, Kathleen A. Munn, Jennifer R. Murphy, Katherine S. O'Mire, Martina M. Patton, Mary A. Potts, Amanda R. Powell, William M. Rhodes, Analee A. Rice, Brittney N. Robertson, Genetrice G. Robertson, Kristen C. Robinson, Timothy K. Rutledge, Cara S. Satterfield, Spencer S. Segrest, Brittany L. Shaw, Jessica L. Sheehan, Beverly L.

Shideler, Betsy B. Spinks, Megan K. Staub, Anna K. Stennett, Kylie R. Stewart, Ronda G. Stroud, Michael D. Talbot, Douglas D. Thaggard, Ashley D. Tolleson, Kristi N. Tomlinson, Myra R. Waldrop, Teri B. Walker, Jessica N. Walley, Amy L. Warner, Megan S. Wassner, Leigh A. Weaver, Cynthia M. Wharton, Amanda S. Wilbanks, Beth M. Wilbanks, and Dustin M. Youngblood.

Department of Kinesiology • NEWS •

It was a record year for undergraduate students in the clinical exercise physiology program in the department of kinesiology.

Forty-two students were accepted into various professional school programs in the allied health sciences. This includes 27 students accepted into physical therapy schools and 12 headed for schools of occupational therapy.

Graduates of the clinical exercise physiology program will be attending outstanding schools, such as the University of Pittsburgh, which is ranked third among physical therapy programs nationwide. Other prestigious programs MSU students are attending include those at Duke University, the University of Alabama at Birmingham and St. Augustine (Florida).

In addition, many students will enroll in the excellent physical therapy and occupational therapy programs at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson and the University of Tennessee at Memphis.

Other graduates will enroll in programs such as nursing and respiratory therapy.

2006–07 College of Education scholarship recipients named

MUSIC

ADAM DE VENNEY (MUED) *Merrill and Carrie Hawkins Scholarship*—(Lowndes)
 KATHERINE M. WALLACE (MU) *Katherine Gardner Thomas Scholarship*—(Okitbbeh)
 VALENCIA C. PLEASANT (MU) *Cheryl Prewitt Christian Scholarship*—(Jackson)
 EMILY MURINE DENING (MU) *Cheryl Prewitt Christian Scholarship*—(Monroe)
 Other MU scholarship recipients—*Music Ed/Faculty Scholarship in the department.*

COUNSELING, EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

LASHONDA WOOTEN (EPY) *Merrill and Carrie Hawkins Scholarship*—(Clay)
 ANGELA K. ODLE (EXED) *Nancy Kubin Wallner Martin Scholarship*—(Arkansas)
 MONICA KOEHN (EXED) *Ellen Curtis Ricci Scholarship*—spring only (Monroe)
 TIFFANY COLLINS (EXED) *McClendon and Holliman Scholarship*—(Harrison)
 CRYSTAL M. EFFLER (EXED) *McClendon Holliman Scholarship*—

KINESIOLOGY

KEVIN DONALD COPE (TCED) *Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Memorial Scholarship*—(Okitbbeh)
 JOHN M. DAVIS (TCED) *Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Memorial Scholarship*—(Okitbbeh)
 BEVERLY LAUREN SCHIDELER (CLEP) *Durwood Dunn Physical Education Scholarship*—(Tate)

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

JESSICA SHEEHAN (ELED) *Herbert M. Handley*—(Newton)
 RAMON FORBES (MAED) *Herbert Handley*—(Madison)
 MARY H. ARANT (ELED) *Dewey and Marie Malouf*—\$800 (Leflore)
 MALLIE BLAKELY (ENED) *Dewey and Marie Malouf*—(Leflore)
 GEORGE E. STANSBERRY (TCED) *Dewey and Marie Malouf*—(Leflore)
 LAURIN RACHELLE ISHEE (ELED) *Merchant and Farmers*—(Rankin)
 HEATHER D. HOLLIS (BGED) *Jack L Beall*—(Alabama)
 CARRIE N. CUPIT (MAED) *Jack L Beall*—(Scott)
 LOGAN E. RHYMER (MAED) *Jack L Beall*—(Desoto)
 MAGDALYN S. HERBERT (MAED) *Jack L. Beall*—(Attala)
 KATHERINE ARTHUR (ELED) *George Walker Bush*—(Neshoba)
 MELANIE JOHNSON (ELED) *Barry Box*—(Okitbbeh)
 SARAH HALBROOK (ELED) *Barry Box*—(Tennessee)
 KATHERINE MCPEAK (MAED) *Barry Box*—(North Carolina)
 ELISABETH R. BROOKS (ELED) *Barry Box*—(Greene)
 JULIE NELSON (ELED) *Charles and Wilma Havens End. Scholarship*—(DeSoto)
 PAIGE HOLDINESS (ELED) *Merrill and Carrie Hawkins*—Winston)-fall only
 KYLIE STEWART (BIOED) *Merrill and Carrie Hawkins*—spring only
 JONATHAN HUNTER (TCED) *Merrill and Carrie Hawkins*—spring

INSTRUCTIONAL LEADERSHIP WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

JACQUELINE BROWN (TTE) *Francis N. Matthews*—(Chickasaw)
 JOHN R. COX (INDT) *Nan Carpenter Cain*—(Attala)

2006 Spirit of State Awards honor contributions of students to quality of university life

Nineteen students were honored with a new award for their contributions to the quality of university life.

Called the Spirit of State Award, the accolade is considered the premier student recognition each school year. Winners are publicly recognized and receive a special customized gift designating their achievement. The honor is sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs.

The 2006 Spirit of State Award winners were recognized in April. They include Matt Bramuchi of Madison, graduate student in microbiology; Caleb Butts of Decatur, Ala., senior political science major; Jon David Cole of Brandon, senior history major; **Stephanie Dallas** of Snellville, Ga., sophomore clinical

exercise physiology major; Bethany Doyle of Canton, junior accounting major; Jeffery Ellis of Biloxi, senior mechanical engineering major; Claire Fellman of Ocean Springs, senior biological engineering major; Megan Fly of Birmingham, Ala., sophomore communication major; Jennifer Glaze of Birmingham, Ala., junior marketing major; Brian Maran of West Monroe, La., veterinary medicine student; **LaRea “Pepper” McWilliams** of Ruleville, senior elementary education major; Ben Mims of Kosciusko, junior journalism major; Jennifer Rupinski of Homewood, Ala., junior biological sciences major; Karolina Sarnowska of Diamondhead, senior computer science and mathematics major;

Keyyon Scott of Gulfport, senior communication major; Lokesh Shivakumaraiah of Bangalore, Karnataka, India, graduate student in computer engineering; Josie Smith of Columbus, junior industrial and

systems engineering major; Lauren Springer of Columbus, junior English major; and Alicia Wiseman of Shannon, senior wildlife and fisheries major.



2007 COE Spirit of State winners

From left are Sherman Green, counselor education; Barbara Daniel, elementary education; Justin Castanya, counselor education; Janice Hicks, educational psychology; Dean Richard Blackbourn; Rebecca Warden, secondary education; Jonathan Parker Jones, sports communication; and Darrow Clark, elementary education.

Phi Kappa Phi society names inductees

The College of Education had 25 students inducted into Phi Kappa Phi honor society.

Liam Leightley, president of the MSU Alpha Chapter, and the College of Education welcomed new members of Phi Kappa Phi this spring.

New members at the junior level include Katy Ballew, Megan Bradley, Kylie Estes, Avery Ezell, Sarah Gasparrini, Tracie Lyons, Mary Beth McGough, Neelie Owen, and Michael Wilkerson.

Senior-level inductees include Lance Dickerstaff, Christopher Cain, Ashley Dean, Susan Ellard, Blaine Parker, Bethany Spidle, Megan Stewart, Casey Vinson, and Dusti Youngblood.

Inductees at the graduate level were Shawn Hardin, Tina Harrison, Leigh Ann Hussey, Kenneth Jocques,

Joe Moncrief, Teresa Moore, and Kelli White.

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi is the oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society in the nation.

Eaves receives counseling award

Susan Eaves, a doctoral student in community counseling, has been awarded the American Counseling Association's Glen Hubele National Graduate Student Award, which recognizes outstanding scholarship by an ACA student member.

The award was presented at ACA's recent annual convention in Detroit, Mich.



Eaves

For her dissertation, Eaves researched attachment style, self-esteem and perceived peer norms as predictors of sexually risky behavior among 17-24-year-old college students.

Eaves, who has held a demanding position as counseling laboratory coordinator conducting individual and group counseling sessions, conducted initial psychological

evaluations of clients and managed the day-to-day operations of the facility. Her pursuit of academic excellence is evidenced by her presidency of Mu Sigma Upsilon chapter of Chi Sigma Iota.

Founded in 1952 and now headquartered in Alexandria, Va., the American Counseling Association is the world's largest private, not-for-profit organization for professional counselors. Dedicated to promoting public confidence and trust in the counseling profession, the ACA

provides leadership training, continuing education and advocacy services for its more than 45,000 members.

Society of Scholars inductees announced

Four students from the College of Education were inducted into the prestigious Society of Scholars honor society in April.

Inductees included Mary Burks, Sarah Craven, Andrew Hammond, and Stephani Mathews.

The students were introduced at the ceremony by Karen Brown, curriculum and instruction; Elva Kaye Lance, MSU Maroon Band; and John Lamberth, kinesiology.



Three university students receive Montgomery leadership awards

Three Mississippi State seniors are the first recipients of the university's G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery Leadership Award.

The annual \$5,000 scholarships were presented in April by representatives of the Meridian-based Montgomery Foundation and MSU President Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong.

The recognition program was initiated by the foundation earlier this year both as a memorial to the longtime congressman and a way to honor outstanding students in the Air Force and Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps, as well as the recently formed Appalachian Leadership Honors Program.

Montgomery, a 15-term U.S. representative from Meridian, was a 1944 Mississippi State graduate. He died in 2006.

Selected for the inaugural scholarships are Joshua S. Burnett of Saucier, Aaron R. Rice of Sumrall and **Christopher S. Walker** of Newton.

"This honor encourages leadership development and recognizes

leaders with an academic scholarship," said foundation president Robert "Bob" Bailey.

Foglesong said he is proud to have the scholarships honor a longtime friend and MSU alumnus who was a champion of military veterans' rights.

To be nominated for Montgomery Awards, students must meet academic qualifications, demonstrate leadership abilities and be committed to continuing personal development, among other qualifications.

Rice, a member of MSU's Shackouls Honors College and a political science major, was one of 65 students in the nation named a 2007 Harry S. Truman Scholar, recognizing a commitment to public service. An Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran who received a Purple Heart and Combat Action Ribbon, he served as 2006-07 attorney general for the Student Association. He is an inaugural fellow in the Appalachian Leadership Honors

Program and one of 13 members of the group's advisory board.

Walker is a kinesiology major who graduated, with honors, from East Mississippi Community College. A Newton native, he attended the University of Mississippi before transferring to MSU last fall. He has completed the highly competitive Leadership Development Advanced Course with an overall "excellent" grade. Walker currently serves as Battalion Cadet S-3 training officer and commander in chief of physical training.

Burnett, an MSU Presidential Scholar and political science major, ranked among the top 24 cadets in the nation and is in the top 7 percent of his academic class. He serves as director of operations for AFROTC's Arnold Air Society and is the training flight commander for sophomore cadets preparing to attend summer field training. This summer, he will attend a select leadership conference at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.



Rice



Walker



Burnett



Three graduate sports administration students and two undergraduates majoring in sports communication—two academic programs in Mississippi State’s kinesiology department—attended a national sports management conference last fall. The trip is the result of a partnership between the two MSU programs and

the nationally known TEAMS (Travel, Events and Management in Sports) Conference and Expo hosted annually by Sports Travel magazine. The MSU representatives (left to right) are graduate students April Berry of Arlington, Texas; Emily Meyers of Bay St. Louis; Mike McDonald of Rockaway, N.J.; sophomore Jamila Thompson of Edwards; and freshman Haley Haynes of Starkville.

Tulane AD speaks on campus

Tulane University Athletics Director Rick Dickson (left) chats with Mississippi State first-year sports administration graduate student Marquase Lovings prior to last year’s football game between the Bulldogs and the Green Wave on the Starkville campus. Dickson was the second presenter of the fall semester in the College Speaker Series sponsored by the Sports Professional Organization for Research, or SPORTS, a student group within the MSU kinesiology department. He discussed the impact of 2005 hurricanes Katrina and Rita on Tulane athletics programs.



Student group hosts sports night

Undergraduate students Jan Blaine and Christina Hilliard, sports communication majors, led the effort to host the inaugural “Media in Sports” night in conjunction with local communication experts.

Guest panelists included representatives from Tupelo TV station WTVA, MSU Athletics, Dawg’s Bite, Maroon & White Magazine, Southeastern Drive Time, and the Clarion-Ledger newspaper.

Each participant brought a wide range of answers to the table to help undergraduate students find direction in pursuing career fields.

Students get up-close look at sports industry

A group of Mississippi State sports communication undergraduate and graduate students received hands-on knowledge of the sports industry from professionals in the business during a recent trip to Atlanta, Ga., through SPORTS.

SPORTS—Students Professional Organization for Research and Training in Sports—is an organization for students who aspire to work in the sports industry.

The students spent four days touring and listening to individuals talk about all aspects of sports management, including financial issues, strategic planning, sales and marketing in sports, facility management, branding and licensing on the intercollegiate level, and human resource management.

Clubs gain support from sports admin students

MSU’s sports administration organization, SPORTS, donated \$1,000 to the local Special Olympics and the Boys and Girls Club of Starkville.

The graduate students earned the funds through securing sponsorships of and participants in their sponsorship of a 5-K race and tennis tournament held in April.

2007 Education Alumna of the Year named



O'Kelly

This year's College of Education Alumna of the Year is **Patricia J. O'Kelly**.

O'Kelly, who is managing director of National Symphony Orchestra Media Relations, has been involved in numerous areas of NSO management during her 29 years with the organization.

Born in Memphis, Tenn., she grew up in Weir and graduated from Mississippi State in 1975 with clarinet and voice as her areas of study within the College of Education. She attended graduate school in musicology at the University of Maryland (College Park campus), where she served as manager of the University of Maryland Chorus.

O'Kelly began work for the National Symphony Orchestra in 1976 and has since gained experience in program editing, artistic administration, publications, promotions, public affairs, and national and international media relations. So far, she has worked in 23 countries with the NSO—highlights include the return of former music director Mstislav Rostropovich to Russia (1990), the NSO's 1993 performance in Red Square (the first orchestral concert ever given there), and the NSO's first trip to China, led by Leonard Slatkin in 1999.

O'Kelly also is active as a free-lance writer, speaker and program annotator. Her clients have included the Smithsonian Institution, National Public Radio, the Kennedy Center's Performance Plus program and Education program, and the Rostropovich/Vishnevskaya Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to improving children's health in Russia. She has participated in panels for the Conductor's Guild and the American Symphony Orchestra league. In addition, she annually presents an image and public speaking workshop for the National Conducting Institute.



Gandy

COE Alumni Fellow named

Michael J. Gandy of Ridgeland is the Alumni Fellow for the College of Education.

Gandy earned an Ed.S. and an Ed.D., both in counselor education, from MSU in 1981 and 1985, respectively. He also holds three degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi.

He has some fond memories of Mississippi State, not the least of which was meeting his wife Susan Neral in an advanced statistics class. A key in his ability to obtain two degrees from the university, Gandy explains, was the flexibility of Mississippi State in arranging its classes.

Gandy's dissertation, which examined factors impacting the earnings of blind persons in Mississippi, remains of personal interest to him. His grandfather J. Maury Gandy Sr. lost his sight due to complications following cataract surgery.

"The years I spent with him, reading and helping with mail, were a direct influence," he explains. "Also, blind friends and colleagues over the years, as well as four very supportive supervisors," motivated him in his quest.

Gandy considers being appointed twice as director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind, and having been chosen by two executive directors of the Mississippi Department of Rehabilitation Services, as his greatest professional accomplishments.

He holds a number of professional affiliations, but is proudest of the fact that he is the first director in the 78-year history of the Vocational Rehabilitation for the Blind Services in Mississippi to join consumer organizations for the blind and to participate regularly in their activities.

2006 Milken recipients honored

A Mississippi State education graduate was one of two 2006 recipients of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards.

Announced as Milken Educators last October, MSU alumna **Jennifer Chandler** of Tupelo and Emilia Bankston of Gulfport were honored at a luncheon hosted by the state Department of Education. They are the latest Mississippians to join an elite group of teachers and continue a tradition begun by the Milken Family Foundation more than 15 years ago. Each year, the Milken Family Foundation recognizes outstanding educators for their dedication to student learning, presenting them with \$25,000 and the opportunity to attend a national professional development conference.

“I appreciate all that Emilia and Jennifer do for their students,” said Dr. Hank M. Bounds, state superintendent of education. “They are two shining examples of the many excellent teachers we have in Mississippi that change and save lives every day.”

Chandler has been selected Pierce Street Teacher of the Year twice and also has been named the Tupelo Public School District Teacher of the Year. In addition, she has received the Association of Excellence in Education Innovation Award and served on a national panel for the U.S. Department of Education and the Arts Education Partnership. She serves as the project director for the school’s Whole School Arts Integration Program, enabling Pierce Street to receive the Model School Award for Excellence in Arts Integration for the past five years, the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Arts Education and the Mississippi Alliance for the Arts Education School of Excellence Award. She conducts summer training for the Mississippi Arts Commission Whole School Institute. Chandler earned a bachelor’s degree from Mississippi State in 1996 and currently is pursuing a master’s degree.



State Superintendent of Education Hank M. Bounds (right) presents an award to Jennifer Chandler, (second from left) a teacher at Pierce Street Elementary School in the Tupelo School District, for being named a 2006 Milken Educator, as Tupelo Superintendent Randy McCoy and Pierce Street Principal Deborah Davis look on.

MSU Society honors local educator

Gary O. “Neil” Parker of Hattiesburg received the 2006 Counselor of the Year Award from a prominent Mississippi State student leadership group.

The Forest County Agricultural High School administrator was honored by the university’s Ottilie Schillig Leadership Scholars Society, which represents some of the top students at the land-grant institution. A \$500 check accompanied his award.

Society members created the homage in 1999 to recognize “the significant contributions of high school counselors to the academic progress of their students.”

In addition to his role as a nationally certified counselor and psychometrics coordinator, Parker is the Brooklyn-based school’s tennis and dance team coach, cheerleader sponsor and statistician for the basketball and baseball teams.

He completed a master’s degree in counseling at MSU.

Parker previously was employed at Oak Grove High School, where he received master teacher and teacher of the year awards, as well as recognition as Mississippi’s cheerleading coach of the year and one of the Top Three Volunteers of the Year.

Since coming to FCAHS, he has enhanced students’ likelihood for college scholarships by reorganizing counseling center operations to provide year-round assessments. He also has received approval to restructure the grading system so students will be more academically competitive.

CLASS NOTES

’51

SARA CRAWFORD, a retired teacher from Marion High School, Marion, Ark., is serving as vice president of the Crittenden County Retired Teachers Association, the membership chairperson of the Marion Rotary Club, and the correspondence secretary of Delta Kappa Gamma.

’63

LARRY J. HOWELL of Louisville, a retired band director, has been inducted into the Mississippi Bandmasters Hall of Fame.

’76

JOHN W. JORDAN (M.Ed. ’80, Ed.D. ’82) of Madison, a longtime educator and school administrator, has been named the first executive director of the Mississippi Children’s Museum. Jordan was named Mississippi Superintendent of the Year in 1998.

’78

PEGGY LONG of Owens Cross Roads, Ala., a special education teacher for Huntsville City Schools, has received the 2005 Alabama Elementary Conservation Teacher of the Year Award.

’90

MARIE GREEN of Lucedale, a teacher at George County Middle School, took part in the BellSouth Mississippi Master Teacher in Economics program.

Alumni,

It has been my pleasure for the past several months to be able to get out and meet many dedicated College of Education alumni. If you haven't seen me yet, I'm still making my rounds and look forward to visiting you soon.

I often tell people I meet, "The greatest thing about my job is getting out and visiting with people who love Mississippi State University as much as I do." We share a common bond and have walked the same grounds many times. As I often look out over the Drill Field, I watch the students and wonder if they have the same love for MSU that I have. I'm guessing the answer would probably be "yes."

Mississippi State University has grown in so many ways over the past few decades. New academic buildings, renovations of old buildings, attractive landscaping, warm friendly people, and many other things are just a part of what makes this campus feel like home.

As part of the MSU family, I encourage you to come back and visit campus as often as possible. When you do visit, I hope that you will bring other people along and show them why you are an alumnus of the College of Education at Mississippi State University.

I take great pride in being your development officer and working with you to make our college even stronger.

Let's talk some time about MSU and the College of Education!

Sincerely,



Rob Jenkins, Director of Development
College of Education
rjenkins@colled.msstate.edu
662-325-6762



Jenkins

Endowing the gifts

An endowment to Mississippi State and the College of Education is a charitable gift that is intended to forever support a program or scholarship, which you, the donor, designate.

Endowments allow Mississippi State to establish and maintain academic excellence beyond what is accomplished with state funding. We would like to recognize the current endowments within the College of Education and thank you for your continued support and dedication to MSU.

For more information regarding endowments and how to establish a scholarship, contact Rob Jenkins, director of development for the College of Education, 662-325-6762, rjenkins@colled.msstate.edu.

New College of Education endowments for 2006-07

Dr. Susan McLaren Brooks Endowed Scholarship
Cox, Mills, and Tingle of Rehabilitation Inc. Endowed Fund for Excellence

John A. Bodron Memorial Scholarship Endowment

Maroon Band Endowed Fund for Excellence

Joe and Catherine Fortunato Family Endowed Scholarship

Clara Adele Self Andrews Endowed Scholarship

MSU—College of Education endowments

Jack L. Beall Memorial Scholarship Endowment

Barry F. Box Memorial Scholarship Endowment

E.B. and Faith Martin Endowed Fund for Excellence

George Walker Bush Endowed Scholarship

Nan Carpenter Cain Endowed Scholarship

Durward Dunn Physical Education Endowed Scholarship

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MSU—College of Education endowments*(continued from previous page)*

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 Ellen Curtis Ricci Special Education Scholarship Endowment
 Lucinda H. Rose Endowed Scholarship
 Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Memorial Scholarship Endowment
 Lisa Blendinger-Bell Endowed Scholarship
 Holland “Music for All” Fund Endowment
 Katherine Gardner Thomas Memorial Scholarship Endowment
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 Cox, Mills and Tingle of Rehabilitation Inc. Endowed Scholarship
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 Carey P. Vaderford Endowed Scholarship Fund
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We apologize if your name has been omitted from this list. Please contact us and let us know if your name was omitted so we can correct the error. Contact Rob Jenkins at 662-325-6762 or by e-mail at rjenkins@colled.msstate.edu.

"I was in Coach (Ron) Polk's first recruiting class in '77. I signed two contracts when I left MSU: one with my parents and one with the Yankees. One was to finish school, the other was to hopefully make a contribution to the Yankees. I'd like to think I lived up to both of them. I don't think I'm more proud of anything in my life than my degree."

NAT "BUCK" SHOWALTER,
*Major League Baseball
 manager and former player,
 Education 1981*



Showalter



Parker

"My favorite recollections all revolve around Mitchell Memorial Library—the OLD library—where I was a student worker for four years. I met a lot of people there, and I have fond memories of a time and place when the card catalog still existed!"

LAURIE PARKER
*children's book author
 Education 1985*

ALUMNI QUOTES

Letter to the College of Education from alumna Betty Latimer Black

I was born in Tupelo on January 14, 1951. My parents are Winnie Ray Latimer and the late John Carroll Latimer Sr. My dad went to MSU after WWII, while my mother worked in Perry Cafeteria. Mother received her master's of education degree from MSU in 1967.

My husband Mike got a marketing degree from MSU in January 1969, just eight months before I was an entering freshman. I graduated in May 1974, with a degree in music education. I have one brother, John. He and his wife Kathy Oliver Latimer both have degrees from MSU. In my extended family, there are 14 MSU degrees, including five master's degrees.

While at MSU, I was an active member of the Famous Maroon Band, Clarinet Choir, Chorus, Small

Chorale, Sigma Alpha Iota, and Music Educators National Conference.



Black

In 1974, I went with the Clarinet Choir to Arnhem, Holland. We were the United States representatives at a World Music Conference, and our concert was well-received. Our brass soloist was Elva Kaye Lance, now MSU's director of bands. It was quite a trip and so special to go with college friends.

Over the years, I have taught band, chorus and piano. I have sung in my church choirs for over 30 years. I still play the piano and substitute occasionally.

My first piano lesson was when I was 5 years old. I still have my piano that my Daddy bought me when I was in the second grade.

Mike's family owned Black's Department Store in Tupelo. After we married, I worked on and off in the business. We closed the store in 2001, after 56 years, and Mike and I "retired."

After two-and-a-half years, we moved to Starkville to enjoy our retirement even more. We both started new careers. I worked as a barista at Strange Brew Coffeehouse, then got a job with BankFirst Financial Services. We both love living in Starkville.

I represented Lee County on the national board of directors of the MSU Alumni Association for six years. In 2004, I was elected second vice president of the association and have worked my way "up the ladder" to president.

As national president of the MSU Alumni Association, I have met so many great Bulldogs. I have been fortunate to go to many places for alumni meetings. One of the fun

things is meeting up with people who were here when I was a student. I've connected with former Maroon Band members, classmates and others I knew as a student.

This past January, it was really a treat for me to present the Outstanding Education Alumni Award to Patti O'Kelly. We were in the band, choir and Clarinet Choir together.

The highlight of this year has been watching the construction of the Band/Chorus Rehearsal Hall. What a joy it will be for future students to have such a wonderful building.

On July 1, I will sadly pass the presidency to David Jones of Jackson. Thanks to all the Bulldog Nation for supporting me this past year. I have enjoyed every minute—except 2.1 seconds in New York in March!

COE graduate is teacher of the year

Trish Ashmore Cunetto, a 1986 graduate of the College of Education, is the Starkville School District Teacher of the Year for 2007.

Cunetto will represent the district at the state level next year for the state Teacher of the Year awards. A 20-year teaching veteran, she teaches kindergarten at Sudduth Elementary School.

Cunetto said she makes learning fun through special events, such as a teddy bear picnic, cowboy day and an annual Fairy Tale Ball. She incorporates educational objectives into these events with interesting learning activities related to math, reading, science, language, and art.

In addition to her teaching duties, Cunetto serves as a classroom supervisor for MSU COE teacher interns.



THREE SMILES FOR MSU — Miss Mississippi State University Danielle Smith, a clinical exercise physiology major, smiles with two of the university's favorite dogs, Bully and TaTonka. All three have plenty of reasons to smile, including that they represent Mississippi State.

STATE OF THE FUTURE

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2007 College of Education Ambassadors

The College of Education Ambassadors is an organization that serves as a liaison between College of Education faculty and students, prospective students, alumni, and benefactors of the college.

In addition to advisers Dinetta Karriem and LaSondra Addison, members of the 2007 Ambassadors include:

Mary Hunter Arant, junior, elementary education, Ruleville; Davida Barrett, freshman, elementary education, Jackson; Heather Blackwell, junior, biology education, Union; Tiffany Collins, treasurer, junior, special education, Gulfport; Kenley Cunningham, sophomore, kinesiology, Hattiesburg; Alison Elmore, freshman, kinesiology, Columbus; Stephenie Elmore, president, junior, kinesiology, Columbus; Elizabeth Entekin, senior, kinesiology, Meridian; Lindsay Farris, junior, secondary education, Bartlett, Tenn.; Robert Gardner, senior, secondary education, Madison; Marcus Henley, senior, teacher technology, Brooksville; Leslie Hollingsworth, junior, elementary education, Starkville; Kyleen Kilcline, senior, kinesiology, Shreveport, La.; Reva Lewis, junior, kinesiology, Natchez; Alicia Mathes, sophomore, teaching and coaching, Gautier; Katie Orr, sophomore, special education, Brandon; Leslie Purvis, senior, elementary education, Corinth; Sara Savoy, sophomore, secondary education, Tishomingo; Jessica Sheehan, senior, elementary education, Little Rock; Tyler Smith, junior, kinesiology, Hattiesburg; Mary Tackett, sophomore, kinesiology, Starkville; Blair Trusty, sophomore, elementary education, Memphis, Tenn.; Destin Wanker, secretary, junior, elementary education, Wayside; and Courtney Wechsler, vice president, senior, kinesiology, Collierville, Tenn.



Front row (l to r) are Karriem, Wechsler, Elmore, and Collins; second row (l to r) are Henley, Hollingsworth, Arant, Purvis, Lewis, Gardner, and Blackwell; third row (l to r) are Farris, Trusty, Elmore, Kilcline, Tackett, Orr, Barrett, Cunningham, and Smith.

Send us your news!

We would like to include news of alumni accomplishments in each issue of the College of Education newsletter. Please use the form below to send us information about career changes, recognitions received, and other news you would like to share with your former classmates, friends, and professors.

Clip and mail to: Dr. Sue Minchew, P.O. Box 9710, Mississippi State, MS 39762; sminchew@colled.msstate.edu

Name: _____

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The College of Education newsletter is published once a year for the alumni and friends of the College of Education at Mississippi State University. If you would like more information about the programs in the College of Education, have any questions or suggestions, or if you have a submission for the newsletter, please contact:

Dr. Sue Minchew, Associate Dean, College of Education | Box 9710 |
Mississippi State, MS 39762 | telephone: (662) 325-3717 |
fax: 662-325-8784 | e-mail: sminchew@colled.msstate.edu

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