MISSISSIPPI State UNIVERSITY



GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN

s the pages of this newsletter will attest, the College of Education has had a banner year. What is particularly noteworthy is the fact that the accomplishments within



Blackbourn

this document are but a fraction of the impact the COE is having throughout the state, nation and world. The college excels in the preparation of highly qualified professionals, both within the field of education and external to it. Furthermore, we provide quality service and technical assistance to constituents in a variety of settings. I believe that it is particularly significant that the College of Education maintains a presence in all 82 Mississippi counties. Additionally, the COE is conducting cutting-edge research that

positively impacts educational practice, economic development and quality of life. We gain our strength through a network of outstanding faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends.

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

- Continuing accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- Continuing accreditation from the American Psychological Association (APA)
- Continuing accreditation from the Council on Rehabilitation Education (CORE)
- A positive Process and Performance Review from the Mississippi Department of Education

- Completion and occupation of the new band/choral facility
- Addition of the T.K. Martin Center as a unit within the College of Education
- Initiation of the annual College of Education Research Forum
- Initiation of the Summer Research Support Program (a program providing faculty with financial research support during the summer)
- Restructuring of the college, including the creation of a new department (the Department of Leadership and Foundations)

The College of Education now may look forward to completing the work on our strategic plan and increasing our collaborative research activities, both internally and externally. Additionally, the COE is planning some regional meetings to showcase our activities and interact with our many alumni and friends.

It should be noted that accomplishments such as those outlined in this publication are difficult during a period of limited state assistance for higher education. However, the support of loyal alumni and friends has enabled the College of Education to meet the demands of the 21st century. We humbly ask for your continued help as we strive to make the College of Education both bigger and better. The college is extremely grateful for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Dr. Richard L. Blackbourn

R. Blackbourn

Dean and Professor

College of Education again receives continuing NCATE accreditation after two-year review

Following a two-year review process, Mississippi State's education programs-both at the main campus in Starkville and at the Meridian campus-are receiving continuing accreditation from the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education.

The voluntary assessment, which includes a site visit by an accreditation team, affirms that the college and its programs meet the rigorous standards of the national professional organization. Accreditation is designed to ensure that colleges of education produce teachers who meet the highest standards and who successfully help students learn, said MSU Dean of Education Richard Blackbourn.

"This process allows us to demonstrate that Mississippi State is responding to the needs of in Teacher Preparation teachers and students in today's classrooms," he said. "NCATE accreditation is a nationally-recognized benchmark that says our programs are achieving the highest professional standards."

NCATE currently accredits 623 institutions which produce twothirds of the nation's new teacher graduates each year. Mississippi State has continuously received accreditation since 1961, with its next accreditation assessment in 2014.

"The organization revises its standards every five years to incorporate best practices and research," Blackbourn explained. "Institutions must adjust and demonstrate that students have in-depth knowledge of subjects they will teach, that the college has partnerships with public schools, that resources-including technological resources-are adequate, and that professors model effective teaching practices."

Among the areas emphasized by the national accrediting body are content knowledge, professional knowledge and practice in the classroom. Meeting the standards also helps students prepare for rigorous licensing standards in many states, Blackbourn said.

"We're very pleased that our college has worked so hard to demonstrate its commitment to education in Mississippi," said Blackbourn. "We're especially appreciative of the efforts of Dr. Sue Minchew, associate dean, who led our on-campus assessment effort."

> MSU's College of Education includes the departments of curriculum and instruction; counseling, educational psychology and special education; Division of Education (Meridian);

instructional systems, leadership and workforce development; kinesiology; music; and field experiences and licensure.

NCATE currently accredits 623 institutions which produce twothirds of the nation's new teacher graduates each year.

FOCUS ON THE COLLEGE

Mississippi Power + MSU = power kids

The Mississippi Power Education Foundation has partnered with Mississippi State's Early Childhood Institute to establish the appropriately named Mississippi Power Early Learning Program (Power Program) to serve more than 200 child care centers throughout Mississippi Power's service territory.

The Power Program, launched in fall 2007, addresses a critical need to keep Mississippi child care centers ahead of new early childhood education standards being passed down by the state Department of Human Services Office for Children and Youth.

"Now that the State of Mississippi has launched the Mississippi Child Care Quality Step System, there are clear standards and incentives for higher quality in early care and education," said Dr. **Cathy Grace**, founding director of the Early Childhood Institute.

"Thanks to Mississippi Power, we will be able to work closely with participating child care centers to help them prepare to earn high-quality ratings from the Quality Step System as it takes effect," she added.

The early learning program demands a dedicated commitment to quality care for each student from a selected child care center. Each center will move toward a higher level of quality care during the course of the program through its participation.

The program begins with 22 centers in Hancock, Harrison and Jackson counties and will expand throughout the service territory over the next three years. The MSU Early Childhood Institute will use evidence-based methods for on-site technical assistance and professional development of early childhood teachers and caregivers.

Children's Reading Conference held

The spring 2008 Children's Reading Conference, sponsored by the department of curriculum and instruction, Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, Mitchell Memorial Library, and the College of Education, celebrated reading with the launch of the MSU President's Book Club for children.

Prior to the conference, which was

organized by Dr. Nancy

Verhoek-Miller, Mississippi State faculty and staff submitted titles of their favorite children's stories and books; a list of these favorites was compiled and shared with participating schools.

During the conference, 4- and 5-year-old children from area

preschools and members of the MSU community attended sessions which included book conversations, displays and other literacy-celebrating activities, as well as a visit from MSU mascot "Bully." A selection of favorite children's books/stories submitted by MSU faculty and staff was displayed in the library's Grisham Room.

The conference concluded with a presentation in the Colvard Student Union by dancer and kinesiology instructor **Debby Funderburk** and artist Brent Funderburk, entitled "The Fine and Performing Arts, Literature and Journaling," which combined literature, art and dance.

College holds first faculty/student research forum: 'Future for Evidence-based Research'

The first College of Education Faculty/Student Research Forum was held in April and headlined by Steve Fleischman, vice president of public affairs and communications for the American Institutes for Research in Washington, D.C.

Fleischman addressed the "Future for Evidence-based Research." The forum, whose theme focused on "Promoting Collaborative Research," attracted almost 100 participants and approximately 35 posters. Organized by the COE Research Committee, the forum was designed to highlight research activities in the college and to provide an environment that promotes discussion and fosters collaboration.

A panel discussion focused on strategies for "Promoting Interdisciplinary Collaborative Research." The panel was made up of Dr. Cathy Grace, director of the Early Childhood Institute; Dr. Julia Porter, associate professor of counselor education at MSU-Meridian; and Dr. Sandra Harpole, associate vice president for research at MSU.

Following the morning presentations, departments and units displayed research posters produced by faculty, research staff and graduate and undergraduate students. Dr. Elton Moore, associate dean for research and assessment, said, "I was very pleased with the turnout and was very much impressed with the variety and quality of the applied research being conducted in the college."





William Sansing and B.J. LeJeune discuss their research with a forum attendee during the research forum poster session.



Steve Fleischman, vice president of public affairs and communications for the American Institutes for Research

FOCUS ON THE COLLEGE

Learning Skills Support Program wins state award

A new program designed by the Office of the Provost and The Learning Center, located in the College of Education, recently took top honors in a state College Board competition.

MSU's Learning Skills Support Program (LSSP), coordinated by **Jency Hill**, won first place in the academics category of Best Practices for its conception



Jency Hill

as an alternative to traditional academic suspension. In most cases, students who are declared to be on academic suspension are required to stay out of school one regular semester, either fall or spring. For students suspended at the end of a spring semester, the suspension precludes enrollment in any summer school session, as well as the following fall semester.

The LSSP allows suspended students to re-enroll early in school, provided they follow requirements outlined in

the program. The LSSP is designed to improve their progress by specifically focusing on individual obstacles to academic success. According to Dr. **Anna L. Dill,** director of The Learning Center, "Persistence is being tracked and there is a significantly higher percentage of participants remaining in school at MSU as opposed to those who sit out a semester and do not participate."

The Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning implemented the Best Practices award program to highlight efforts that create efficient and effective practices initiated at institutions in the following four categories: Academics; Finance, Business and Administration; Student Services; and Technology.

Summer research program initiated

A College of Education summer research program was initiated for 2008 to provide funds for faculty development of proposals for external funding.

The program is designed to support two kinds of projects: seed research and development of research grant proposals. Those receiving seed research grants included Drs. **John Wyatt** and **Kui Xie** in the department of instructional systems, leadership and workforce development.

The result of their research projects completed during the summer months will be used to apply for external funding.

Dr. **Missy Hopper** in the department of curriculum and instruction received a grant to develop a proposal for external funding. The summer research program is supported by the Office of Research and Economic Development and is restricted to faculty in the COE academic departments.

The result of the research projects completed during the summer months will be used to apply for external funding.

MSU breaks ground on new therapeutic playground for its T.K. Martin Center

Teachers and therapists at the T.K. Martin Center for Technology and Disability soon will have another tool at their disposal to help children with developmental delays.

The center.

which provides state-of-theart clinical. research and training programs focused



The new outdoor laboratory will enhance the T.K. Martin

Center's ongoing efforts in its Project Impact for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. **Project Impact provides** evaluation and intervention services for those with

> cognitive, language, social skills, motor development, and self-help needs.

T.K. Martin Director

Janie Cirlot-

New said having the new motor lab, essentially a highly specialized playground, will provide an outside environment for children enrolled in the program to work on motor therapy goals such as running, climbing and walking in a lowstress atmosphere.

"Most of the children in our program have developmental

disabilities and many have delayed gross motor skill development," Cirlot-New said. "This will allow them to work on their motor skills and balance in a play environment by giving them a safe place to do many of their normal play activities, as well as a place to learn to ride tricycles and bicycles."

She added that another component of the playground would be socialization. "This setting also will give youngsters a place to work on social and interaction skills development outside of the classroom."

The motor lab will include a rubber play surface, as well as a wheelchair-accessible main playground structure.

Primary funding for the project was provided by a grant from Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation of Mississippi and

individual fundraising efforts spearheaded by Jim Wilson of Columbus.

"Jim's child participates in Project Impact, and he was assisted by staff and other parents whose children have benefited from the project," Cirlot-New explained.

The Project IMPACT Team works under the auspices of the state Department of Health, First Steps Early Intervention System, and the Mississippi Department of Education.



FOCUS ON THE COLLEGE

College of Education restructures some departments

The College of Education has undergone some restructuring that will better align its program areas. The changes result in the growth of one department and the creation of an entirely new one.

The department of curriculum and instruction has absorbed the special education program area (formerly housed in counseling, educational psychology and special education) to become the department of curriculum, instruction and special education. This merger will benefit the secondary and elementary education teacher candidates by providing them with greater exposure to the knowledge and skills necessary for educating students with exceptionality.

The program areas of educational leadership and community college leadership (formerly housed in the department of instructional systems, leadership and workforce development) and the area of educational foundations (formerly housed in the department of curriculum and instruction) have merged into the new department of leadership and foundations. The new department will add greater visibility and accessibility to the high-demand areas of leadership and foundations.

The six departments of the newly restructured College of Education are as follows:

- Counseling and Educational Psychology
- Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education
- · Instructional Systems and Workforce Development
- Kinesiology
- Leadership and Foundations
- Music

Dean **Richard Blackbourn** said that the College of Education expects to reap many benefits from this restructuring as the students become better prepared and more marketable, faculty gains increased opportunity for collaboration, and program areas are better positioned to generate internal and external funding.



New band hall opens

The band and choral programs moved into a new facility in summer 2007. A formal ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house was held the following fall. The evening began in McComas Hall with a joint concert featuring the Wind Ensemble and Concert Choir.

Those in attendance then moved to the new rehearsal hall for the ceremony and open house. They viewed displays of printed music used in the early years of the band program, instruments and uniforms from the past, as well as a slide show with photos and film of band performances and activities from the 1930s to the present. These activities coincided with the annual Alumni Band and Parent Day activities of the band program.

Summer band camp brings 150 students to campus

The MSU Summer Band Camp in July 2007 brought 150 junior high and high school students onto campus for a week of intensive instruction and immersion in campus life.

In addition to MSU band director Elva Kaye Lance, associate director Cliff **Taylor** and assistant director **Craig Aarhus**, assistant directors of the MSU Band, the camp staff featured students in the MSU music department, as well as music education alumni from across the South. Those educators returning to campus included:

Jim Gassaway - Kosciusko High School

Juanita Proffitt - McLaurin High School

Jerry Pickering - Northwest Rankin High School

Kevin Poe - La Porte High School, La Porte, Texas

Harold Boler - Ackerman High School

Nic Williams - Clay-Chaulkville High School, Birmingham, Ala.

Jamie Williams - Oak Grove Elementary, Birmingham, Ala.

Phil Martin - Starkville High School

Adam and Katie Devenney - Union High School

Michael Berryhill - Southern Baptist Educational Center-Southaven

Nicole O'Neill - Pensacola, Fla.

Jill Shumaker - Philadelphia High School



Wind Ensemble is featured

The MSU Wind Ensemble was the featured university band at the Mississippi Bandmaster's Association Clinic in Tupelo in December 2007.

The audience included band directors and more than 400 students from public high schools and junior highs in Mississippi.



The Famous Maroon Band took its show on the road and performed in exhibition for the DeSoto County Marching Band Festival in September 2007.

IN MEMORIAM



Thomas W. Hosie

The College of Education mourns the passing of Dr. Thomas W. Hosie, a professor and head of the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology, and Special Education at Mississippi State University, who died unexpectedly on February 21, 2008. He came to MSU in 1996, after serving as professor and Coordinator of Counselor Education at Louisiana State University, where he was also named Professor Emeritus. Dr. Hosie

earned his Ph.D. from State University of New York at Buffalo.

Dr. Hosie's contributions to the field of counseling included tenure as president for both the national and Louisiana chapter of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision. He also served on editorial boards of several professional journals. He was honored with numerous awards for his research and service to professional organizations at national, regional and state levels. Noteworthy among his awards was the Distinguished Professional Service Award that he received from The American Counseling Association in 2002.

A former high school counselor and teacher, Dr. Hosie was a counselor educator for more than 35 years. His outstanding service to the field of counseling and his positive impact on students and colleagues will be widely remembered.

The College of Education is saddened by the loss of Dr. Joseph Chromiak, who died January 25, 2008, after a long battle with cancer. Born in Pennsylvania, Dr. Chromiak earned a bachelor's degree from Clarion State College. He obtained a master of science degree in kinesiology from the University of Michigan in 1984. In 1990, he earned a doctoral degree in physiology from Auburn University.

Dr. Chromiak subsequently served



Joseph Chromiak

as National Institutes for Health post-doctoral fellow at Miriam Hospital, department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine in Providence, R.I.; he also served as a research associate and instructor at Brown University.

He joined the faculty of the department of sport health science at Life University in Georgia in 1996. While there, he became associate professor and served as department head. In 2000, Dr. Chromiak came to Mississippi State, where he achieved the rank of associate professor in the department of kinesiology and served as the department's graduate coordinator and interim department head.

Dr. Chromiak will be missed for his meritorious research activities, for his dedication to his students, and for his commitment to his department and profession.

National organization makes MSU prof 'rare' honoree

Dr. Lynne S. Arnault has been honored by a national teaching association for her dedication in helping provide quality education to students preparing to teach in the field.

Arnault, special education professor, recently received the Association of Teacher Educators' 2008 Distinguished Clinician of the Year Award at the organization's national meeting in New Orleans.

The award recognizes education professionals with demonstrated histories of service to current teachers, pre-service teachers and others working with students in the kindergarten-12th grades.

Robert Schuck, a past ATE president who nominated Arnault for the award, said selection of a university faculty member is rare. Typically, the honor goes to a

public school teacher, he added.

Lynne S. Arnault

"I am impressed by Lynne's dedication to the MSU community and to the children and educators of the state of Mississippi," said Schuck, who was a distinguished visiting professor during the mid-1980s in MSU's department of counseling, educational psychology and special education.

Arnault, who holds a doctorate from the University of Memphis, is a specialist in early-childhood special education services and the use of assistive technology with children and youth with disabilities. She joined the MSU faculty in 1980.

The Association of Teacher Educators is a national organization composed of professionals in the education field, including school administrators, kindergarten-high school teachers, and faculty and administrators at colleges and universities.

Music faculty premiere 21st century work

Soprano Eleanor McClellan Bulathsinghalage and pianist Karen Murphy premiered American composer Lori Laitman's song cycle "The Blood Jet," based on the poetry of Sylvia Plath, in late winter on campus.

Following Giles Distinguished Professor and English Professor Nancy D. Hargrove's fall 2007 class on American Poet Sylvia Plath, the vocal chamber-music recital programmed by Murphy was given by faculty and students who performed song settings of Plath's poetry.

In conjuction with the premiere, Hargrove made a presentation on Plath's life and poetry for the music department.



FOCUS ON FACULTY AND STAFF

College holds annual convocation

The annual Faculty Convocation and Awards program, held April 24, 2008, featured Dr. **Beth Sewell**, executive to the State Superintendent's Office of Instructional Programs and Services, Mississippi Department of Education. She delivered the keynote address, entitled "Successful Schools for 21st Century Education."

The College of Education awards ceremony included recognition of faculty and staff for their years of service and for outstanding contributions to the College. Award winners included three faculty and one staff member. Dr. Joshua Watson of the department of counseling, educational psychology and special education (Meridian division) was awarded the Lucinda Rose Teaching Award. Dr. Jianxia Du of the department of instructional systems leadership and workforce development received the Herb Handley Research Award. Dr. Nancy Verhoek-Miller of the department of curriculum and instruction was awarded the Clyde Muse Service Award. Betty Purvis of the College of Education Dean's Office received the Outstanding Staff Award. Special music for the program was provided by the Golden Triangle Brass, with Drs. Michael Huff and Michael Brown on trumpets and Dr. Richard Human on trombone.



Dean **Richard Blackbourn** (far right) congratulates award winners (from left) Dr. Beth Sewell, speaker; Dr. **Jianxia Du**, research; Dr. **Nancy Verhoek-Miller**, service; **Betty Purvis**, staff; and Dr. **Josh Watson**, teaching.

Faculty Kudos

Jason Bahr was awarded the Reasons to Believe Alumni Honor from the Kansas City (Kan.) Public Schools, USD 500.

Terri Brandenburg received the Award for the Outstanding Senior College/University Educator of the Year for 2007 from the Mississippi Business Education Association.

Susie Burroughs was selected to serve on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Civics Standing Committee, which will meet periodically over the next two years to review and recommend test items for the 2010 NAEP Civics Test.

Tony Doggett served as the past president and research chair for the Mississippi Association for Psychology in the Schools (MAPS).

Anastasia Elder and Dr. Jim Dunne (of the College of Arts and Sciences) were awarded a grant through the state College Board as part of the NCLB act to support a Summer Institute for in-service teachers on physical science this June.

Dana Franz organized and led the statewide mathematics symposium for middle and secondary mathematics teacher education professors. The department of curriculum and instruction and the College of Education hosted the event in May 2008.

Debby Funderburk serves as faculty adviser and choreographer for the Terpsichore Dance Theatre, which held its first public performance in Lee Hall in April 2008.

Kimberly Hall has been awarded a research initiation grant to study the effectiveness of problem-based learning as a counseling intervention in the K-12 school setting.

April Heiselt and Kay Brocato received a community action grant from the American Association of University Women Educational Foundation in support of their project, "Studio School: Helping Girls Reach their Potential in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematic Fields."

Carlen Henington directed the summer academic clinic for the sixth year. The clinic serves more than 25 first through fifthgrade students experiencing difficulties in reading, writing and mathematics.

Michael Huff, Michael Brown, Rosangela Sebba, and Richard **Human** were listed on the 2007 Mississippi Arts Commission Artist Roster.

Kristin Johnson-Gros directed the second annual Summer Institute of the South during two weeks in Hattiesburg and Columbus for more than 200 educators and administrators. Johnson-Gros, Tony Doggett and Carlen Henington provided workshops on curriculum measurement, interventions and management techniques.

Harrison Kane was appointed president of the International Society of Individual and Group Differences. Kane also received a Fulbright Award to India.

During spring 2007, Harrison Kane and Sandy Devlin integrated components of two courses, Teaching Individuals with Emotional and Behavioral Disorders (EDX), and Integrated Assessment (EPY). Under their supervision, students enrolled in both courses engaged in intelligence testing, academic assessment, personality assessment, and behavioral assessment in public school settings.

Elton Moore has been named editor of the Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness.

Julia Porter is serving as president-elect of the Mississippi Counseling Association.

Rebecca R. Robichaux has been awarded a research initiation grant to assess teachers in Mississippi. Her project will measure the mathematical content knowledge, instructional strategy knowledge and changing beliefs of K-8 Mississippi teachers.

Rosângela Sebba, who chaired the Independent Music Teachers Forum of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association, has been included in Who's Who in America and Who's Who in Higher Education.

Carl Sheperis serves as editor of The Journal of Counseling Research & Practice for the Mississippi Counseling Association.

Holly Wiley won the Outstanding Faculty (Non-Tenure) Woman Award for 2008 at the annual awards celebration sponsored by the President's Commission on the Status of Women.

Cathy Grace, director of the MSU Early Childhood Institute, has been appointed by Gov. Haley Barbour to serve as chair of the State Early Childhood Advisory Council.

FACULTY KUDOS

FOCUS ON FACULTY AND STAFF

Jayroe named to 'Dynamic Women' listing

Dr. Teresa B. Jayroe, director of the Office of Clinical/Field-



Based Instruction and Licensure in the College of Education, was among four Mississippi State professional women selected to receive a statewide honor coordinated by the City of Madison's Chamber of Commerce.

In addition to Jayroe, also recognized as 2008 Dynamic Women of Mississippi are faculty member Barbara A. Spencer and staffers Ann Carr and Laurie J. Todd.

Teresa B. Jayroe

Initiated last year, the special chamber program seeks to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of state women in 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. They will be featured in a desk calendar to be produced by the economic development organization of the bourgeoning Madison County Municipality that adjoins the state's capital city.

Jayroe, an associate professor of curriculum and instruction and MSU doctoral graduate, directs the college's clinical and field-based instruction program, which includes student teaching. She has received numerous grants for projects related to teaching and learning. She also has conducted considerable research on Mississippi teacher retention and produced publications on elementary education teacher preparation and language arts and reading.

The 'Delta Suite' premiered at fall recital

A fall faculty recital at Mississippi State featured the world premiere of "The Delta Suite," composed by Louisiana native Tucker Robinson. Part of the university's Lyceum Faculty Chamber Series, the musical event featured flutist Dr. Lana Johns (right) and pianist Dr. Jackie Edwards-Henry, with assistance from percussionist Dr. Robert Damm. "The Delta Suite" features musical styles which originated in the South, including African-American fife and drum music, New Orleans jazz, Cajun dance music, blues and gospel.



Work begins to establish study abroad relationship

Faculty members in the department of curriculum and instruction are currently working with the Social Sciences Research Center (SSRC) to establish a study abroad program for students and faculty in the College of Education (COE).

Program planning began in fall 2006 by building on the program established by the SSRC with the University of Catania, Italy. After providing collaborative seminars for the visiting University of Catania students and participating in other associated events, two COE faculty members, Drs. Missy Hopper and Burnette Hamil, visited the University of Catania in May 2007.

During this visit, several successful meetings were held on the Catania campus to discuss possible collaborative ventures with MSU faculty and students. The visiting COE faculties were hosted for receptions, formal dinners and travel opportunities. University of Catania officials and students returned to MSU in January 2008 and were once again hosted by the COE and the curriculum and instruction department for seminars and luncheons.

As planning for the COE study abroad program continues to develop, COE faculty are seeking ways to prepare for future successful collaborations with the University of Catania students and faculty. For example, as a result of a grant from the MSU Office of Research and Development, five faculty members from the COE are taking lessons in beginning Italian to overcome language barriers.

Brown-bag lunches have been hosted in the department to keep faculty apprised of program developments and participation opportunities.





Gayle Hodge, who retired from the Learning Center after 18 years of service, is congratulated by her husband Keith during her retirement reception.



College of Education Award winners at the annual university research banquet include (from left), Dr. Joshua Watson, Faculty Research Award winner, counselor education, MSU-Meridian; Elizabeth Shores, Research Support Staff Award winner, Early Childhood Institute: Nicole Miller, Graduate Student Award winner, doctoral student in curriculum and instruction; and Angela Walker, Undergraduate Student Award winner, junior educational psychology major.

FOCUS ON FACULTY AND STAFF

Selected presentations for 2007-08

Abadie, **B.R.** (2007). *Physical Fitness: The gateway to preventive health*. Paper presented at the 2007 Oxford Round Table International Forum on Preventive Health in Oxford, United Kingdom.

Bahr, **J.** (2007, July). *Soliloquy* (*solo English Horn*, 6 *min*) *by Krista Riggs*. Performed at the College Music Society International Conference, Bangkok, Thailand.

Brenner, **D.**, **Tompkins**, **R.**, Riley, M., Holland, J., & Miles, R. (2007). *Eyes on the page: A large-scale intervention to increase time spent reading accessible texts*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the International Reading Association, Toronto, Canada.

Brocato, K., Monson, C., Prince, D., & Brenner, D. (2007, April). Classroom management as a design issue: Aspects of studio based learning which deepen understanding of professional practice. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

Damm, **R.**, & Marshall, S. (2007). *Music collaboration: Celebrating African music*. Performed at the Churchill Elementary School National Association for the Study and Performance of African American Music (NASPAAM) Professional Conference, Jackson, MS.

Du, J. X., Adams, J., & Brandenburg, T. (2007, April). *Are racial and cultural dimensions affecting our African American female students' participation in online collaborative learning activities?* Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

Du, **J.X.**, Durrington, V., **Mathews**, **J.**, & **Yu**, **C.** (2007, April). *Creating flexible online collaborative learning environments to meet students' needs*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

Edwards-Henry, **J.**, & **Levinsky**, **G.** (2007). Premier of "*Tipping Point*" for saxophone and piano by Jason Bahr. Performed at Mississippi Music Teachers Association Convention, Hattiesburg, MS.

Fisher, G., Hoyt, III, G.L., Lamberth, J.G., Joe, L., Chromiak, J.A., Chromiak, A.B., Willard, S.T., & Ryan, P.L. (2007, May). Determination of the typical digital infrared thermographic profile of the knee of distance runners. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the American College of Sports Medicine, New Orleans, LA.

Forde, **C.M.**, & VanHuss, S. (2007, April). *What's new for 2007 and keyboarding*. Paper presented at the National Business Education Assocation, New York, NY.

Grace, C., & Thompson, N. (2007). Growing and learning with native young children: Leadership for native language learning and using native languages and traditions in everyday activities. Paper presented at the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies & Professional Development Institute, Las Vegas, NV.

Graves, E. S., & **Henington**, **C.** (2008, February). *Treatment acceptability behavioral interventions and secondary teachers*. Paper presented at the annual convention of the National Association of School Psychologists, New Orleans, LA.

Selected presentations for 2007-08 continued

Hall, K.R. (2007, November). Embracing the ASCA national model. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Counseling Association, Choctaw, MS.

Hendren, G., & Cook, G. (2008, May). An interdisciplinary approach to teaching landscape design courses. Paper presented at the Environmental Design Research Association, Vera Cruz, Mexico.

Heiselt, A., & Hall, K. R. (2007, March). Putting the "sell" in counseling: Marketing your counseling program in K-12 and university settings. Paper presented at the annual F.E. Woodall Spring Conference for Helping Professions, Cleveland, MS.

Holland, J., Hare, D., & Grace, C. (2007, April). Are Mississippi students achieving at a higher rate as a result of national board certified teachers? Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

Holt, B.J. (2007, October). An examination of adult swimming novice's perceptions of stroke difficulty. Poster presented at the annual meeting for Western Society for Kinesiology and Wellness, Reno, NV.

Human, R., & Waage, C. (2007, October). Juried recital. Performed at the University of Central Missouri, Warrensburg, MO.

Jayroe, T., & Coghlan, B. (2007, March). Research findings: Impact on learning (Mississippi LEADS). Paper presented at the 2007 Professional Development Schools National Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Lance, E.K. (2007, February). African-American women

composers. Lecture recital presented at Bellarmine University, Louisville, KY.

Morse, D.T., Swain, S., & Graves, R.L. (2007, November). Scaling writing proficiency via prominent features of essays. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Educational Research Association, Hot Springs, AR.

Patilla, M. (2007, March). Presentation at the American String Teachers' Association National Conference, Detroit, MI.

Peterson, E., & Sebba, R. (2007, June). Performance at the International Double Reed Society Conference, Ithaca, NY.

Pope, M., & Franz, D. (2007). Integrating technology into education courses: Faculty changing teaching practices, faculty changing teacher candidates' teaching practices. Paper presented at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Robichaux, R.R., Smith, W., & Guarino, A. J. (2007). The impact of hurricane Katrina: Teachers' intent to remain in teaching. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.

Sebba, R. (2007, December). Emperor. Beethovan Series. Concert performed at the Universidade Catolica de Goias Auditorium, Goiânia, Brazil.

Stumpf, A.D. (2007, April). *Policy archaeology in relations to* foundations of modern ethical thought: Symposium on Fiscal Issues, Policy, and Finance Education. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

FOCUS ON FACULTY AND STAFF

Selected presentations for 2007-08 continued

Ussery, S., Coats, L.T., Verhoek-Miller, N., Groce, R., & Prince, D. (2007). *The girl in the book looks like me: The impact of the portrayal of storybook characters on student learning*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, IL.

Vickers, **B.**, Schempp, P.G., & McCullick, B.A. (2008, January). *Perceptions of self-development through the spectrum of coaching expertise*. Paper presented at AIESEP World Congress, Sapporo, Japan.

Wozny, D.A., Porter, J.Y., & Watson, J.C. (2007, October). *Implementation challenges of a commuter campus suicide prevention program*. Session presented at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision National Conference, Columbus, OH.

Wyatt, **J.E.**, Berry, J.T., & Westfall, A.H. (2007, July). *Surface mapping of residual stresses*. Paper presented at the 5th International Conference on Materials Processing Defects, Cornell Center for Materials Research, Cornell University, NY.

Xie, K., Durrington, V. & **Yen**, **L.L.** (2007, October). *Investigating students' motivation in asynchronous online discussion*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Education Communication and Technology, Anaheim, CA.

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

ECI produces book on risk factors

The Mississippi State Early Childhood Institute released the first edition of the Early Childhood Disaster Risk Index, a chartbook that identifies risk factors for early childhood services and scores counties by the disaster preparedness of their early childhood sectors.

The index is a tool for state and federal child care and emergency management agencies and for nongovernmental organizations concerned with disaster response. It contains tables of risk factors for 11 states at high risk for hurricanes, earthquakes or both. It also contains tables with details of child care capacity in counties found to have highly vulnerable early childhood service sectors. The chartbook contains maps of the 11 states, showing natural disaster risk areas.

"We are pleased to be able to release the first edition of the Early Childhood Disaster Risk Index during National Preparedness Month," said Dr. **Cathy Grace**, professor and institute director. "Our experience in Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina taught us that there is much the early childhood sector, including government and nongovernmental agencies, can do to reduce the risks for young children in congregate care.

"Because of the need to reduce the disaster risks for young children, the MSU Early Childhood Institute launched the Early Childhood Emergency Preparedness Initiative," she continued. "That initiative involves collaborations with Save the Children, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, and other agencies and organizations, as well as the index project."

Selected publications

Abadie, **B.R.** (2007). Effect of cigarette smoking thirty minutes prior to submaximal exercise testing on the prediction of maximal oxygen consumption. Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise, 39, S345.

Blendinger, J. (2007). Write like a pro! Dubuque, IA: Kendall-Hunt.

Brenner, **D.** (2007). Strategies for becoming involved in policy: What was learned when faculty opposed a stand-alone course in phonics. Journal of Literacy Research, 39(2), 163-171.

Doggett, R.A., Sheperis, C.J., Eaves, S., Mong, M., & Erford, B.T. (2007). Selecting, administering, scoring and interpreting assessment instruments and techniques (pp. 159-188). In B.T. Erford (Ed.), Assessment for counselors. Boston, MA.: Houghton Mifflin.

Du, **J. X.**, Pate, G., & Sherrod, D. & **Yu**, **W.C.** (2007). Barriers facing African American women in technology. In M. Quigley (Ed.), Encyclopedia of information ethics and security (pp. 1-6). Hershey, PA: Idea Group Inc.

Forde, C. M., & VanHuss, S.H. (2007). Opportunities and challenges for business communication: Mastering Word 2007. Business Education Forum, 62(1), 27-30, 44.

Franz, D., & Hopper, P.F. (2007). Technology in mathematics: Issues in educating teacher candidates for rural math classrooms. Issues in the Undergraduate Mathematics Preparation of School *Teachers: The Journal, 3:* http://www.k-12prep.math.ttu.edu/ journal/technology/franz01/artistic.pdf Goodman, M., Adams-Price, C., Oppenheimer, B., Codling, J., Vuk, J. & Wheeler, T. et al. (2007). Lucy, Angela, Maureen, Jane and

Katherine: Perceptions of actresses as they age. Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities, 1(2): http://www.scientificjournals.org/ journals2007/articles/1253.pdf

Havard, B., Du, J., & Xu, J. (2008). Online collaborative learning and communication media. Journal of Interactive Learning Research, 19(1), 37-50.

Henington, C. (2007). Review of the Joseph Picture self-concept scale. In K. Geisinger, R.A. Spies, J.F. Carlson, & B.S. Plake (Eds.), The seventeenth mental measurements yearbook (pp. 454-456). Lincoln, NE.: Buros Institute.

Hoyt III, G.L., Joe, L.A., Chromiak, J.A., Lamberth, J.G., Fisher, G., Chromiak, A. Willard, S., & Ryan, P.L. (2007). Relationship between digital infrared thermal imaging determined knee temperatures and knee pain in distance runners during a 3-month cross-country season. Thermology International, 17(2), 71-72.

Johns, L., & Edwards-Henry, J. (2007). 20th century Czech music for flute and piano. (CD). Centaur.

Kane, H.D., & Devlin, S. (2007). A comparison of differential reinforcement techniques in reducing inappropriate verbalizations: A case study from Thailand. Journal of Research Methodology, 20, 492-502.

Obringer, S.J., & Coffey, K.M. (2008). Neurologists' views of current medications: Spasticity and athetosis, Physical Disabilities: Education and Related Services, 26(2), 33-42.

Okojie, M.C.P.O, Olinzock, A.A., Adams, J., & Okojie-Boulder, T. C. (2007). Technology training dilemma: A diagnostic approach. *Journal of Instructional Media*, 35(3), 66-71.

FOCUS ON FACULTY AND STAFF

Robichaux, **R.R.** (2007). Predicting students' spatial visualization ability: A path analysis. *Contemporary Issues in Education Research*, 1(1), 2-11.

Sheperis, **C.J**., Davis, C., & **Doggett**, **R.A.** (2007). How tests are constructed. In B.T. Erford (Ed.), *Assessment for counselors* (pp. 189-206). Boston, MA.: Houghton Mifflin.

Thompson, **N.L.**, **Hare**, **R.D.**, Sempier, T.A., & **Grace**, **C.** (2007). The development of a curriculum toolkit with American Indian and Alaska Native communities. *Early Childhood Education Journal*. http://www.springerlink.com/content/4844x13h85450443.

Vickers, **B.** (2008). Health Promotion in Coaching: Possibilities for Improving the Profession. *International Electronic Journal of Health Education*, 11, 57-68.

Vozzo, R., Hare, R.D., & Minchew, S.S. (2007). Agricultural managers and Hispanic agricultural workers: The impact of cultural differences. *International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Sciences*, 2. www.socialsciences-journal.com.

Watson, **J.C.**, & Kissinger, D.B. (2007). Athletic participation and wellness: Implications for counseling college student-athletes. *Journal of College Counseling*, 10(2), 153-162.

Wozny, D.A., Porter, J.Y., & Watson, J.C. (2007, October). *Implementation challenges of a commuter campus suicide prevention program.* Session presented at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision National Conference, Columbus, OH.

R.K. Yep (Eds.), VISTAS: *Compelling perspectives in counseling best of 2008*. Alexandria, Va.: American Counseling Association.

Wyatt, **J.E.**, Berry, J.T., & Williams, A.R. (2007). Residual stresses in aluminum castings [Special Issue]. *Journal of Materials Processing Technology*, 191, 170-173.

Xie, **K.**, & Gu, M. (2007). Advancing cooperative extension with podcast technology. *Journal of Extension*, 45(5). http://www.joe.org/joe/2007october/tt2.shtml

Xu, **J.** (2007). Middle school homework management: More than just gender and family involvement. *Educational Psychology*, 27(2), 173-189.



Dr. Nancy Verhoek-Miller's Teaching of Adolescent Literature class enjoyed a literary visit during the fall with author and curriculum coordinator, Jo Prather. With the students are Prather and Verhoek-Miller (center front), Associate Dean Sue Minchew (rear far left), Dean Richard Blackbourn (left rear), and department of curriculum and instruction interim department head Linda Coats (rear, center).



Dr. Glen Hendren

Dr. Glen Hendren, who joined the MSU faculty in 1988, has been named interim department head for counseling, educational psychology and special education. He previously served as interim department head for counseling and educational psychology during 1990 and 1991. During his tenure at MSU, he also has served as coordinator of the rehabilitation counseling program and as graduate coordinator for the department of counseling, educational psychology and special education. During 2005, he served as interim associate dean for the College of Education. A certified rehabilitation counselor and licensed professional counselor, Hendren earned a doctorate in counseling psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Dr. Stanley P. Brown

Dr. Stanley P. Brown, head of the department of kinesiology, graduated from Louisiana State University in 1980 (B.S.) and 1982 (M.S.), and from the University of Southern Mississippi in 1989 (Ph.D.). He began his career as an assistant professor of exercise science at the University of Mississippi, where he received tenure and was promoted to associate professor in 1995. There, he received the 1998 School of Education Alumni Association Researcher of the Year award. He has more than 40 peer-refereed scientific publications and two college textbooks to his credit.





Dr. Matthew Boggan

Dr. Matthew Boggan is an assistant professor in educational leadership at Mississippi State-Meridian. He holds degrees from Mississippi State, the University of Mississippi and Nova Southeastern University. He completed additional graduate studies at the UM and Harvard University. His research interests include educational leadership, technology integration, teacher recruitment, induction programs, special education, alternative programming, student behavior, and education in Mississippi. Boggan, who serves as reviewer for several journals, has been honored for his work and research by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) and the Association of Positive Behavior Support (APBS).



Dr. Kimberly R. Hall

Dr. **Kimberly R. Hall** is the school counseling program coordinator and an assistant professor in the department of counseling, educational psychology and special education. With a doctorate in school counseling from MSU, Hall is interested in helping future and current school counselors demonstrate the important role that school counselors play in helping children succeed academically and personally. Her research focuses on the application of problem-based learning as a counseling and instructional strategy, as well as accountability for school counselors.

Dr. Karen Murphy

Dr. **Karen Murphy**, with performance degrees from Indiana University, Arizona State University and the University of Minnesota, has joined the music department as departmental collaborative pianist and instructor. Performing in venues across the United States, Canada, France, and Spain, Murphy is committed to the training of future collaborative pianists. Her research topics include keyboard gendering, pedagogical aspects of Mendelssohn, life and works of Ernst Bacon, and a contextual view of the national anthem.





Dr. Rebecca Robichaux

As an assistant professor in the department of curriculum and instruction, Dr. Rebecca **Robichaux** teaches the mathematics methods course for elementary education majors. She obtained degrees from Nicholls State, Louisiana State and Auburn universities. Robichaux's teaching experience spans all grades, K-12, in both the United States and abroad. Her research agenda primarily involves investigating the mathematical content knowledge of elementary and middle level pre-service and in-service teachers. She also researches instructional strategies for teaching discrete mathematics topics to elementary and middle school students, the reflective practices of pre-service teachers, changes in elementary teachers' mathematical anxieties, and beliefs about teaching mathematics. Robichaux also is an associate editor of Contemporary Issues in Education Research.

Dr. Brad Vickers

Dr. Brad Vickers joined the department of kinesiology as an assistant professor in teaching and coaching. He earned degrees from Delta State University and the University of Georgia. His research interests include studying communities of practice in coaching clinics, the development of coaching expertise and the role of physical education in combating obesity. Vickers previously taught physical science, earth science, biology, and anatomy and physiology in Mississippi public schools. He has coached five high school and age-group state swimming championship teams, as well as individual state, regional, junior national, and national champions.



MSU Wind Ensemble tours British Isles during nine-day overseas trip

In an inaugural overseas road trip, Mississippi State's Wind Ensemble spent nine days performing in Ireland, Wales and England.

The students were accompanied on the tour by Director of Bands **Elva Kaye Lance**, Associate Director of Bands **Clifton Taylor**, and Assistant Director of Bands **Craig Aarhus**.

Lance said the trip greatly expanded the musical experiences of members, while helping showcase university music programs to an international audience. In all, nearly 60 musicians, faculty members and support personnel took part in the trip.

"It's a wonderful opportunity for our students to work with musicians in other countries," she said. "Any time students can travel, it broadens their perspectives on many levels."

Lance noted that many of the performances shared the stage with local bands and choruses. After first visiting Dublin, the MSU travelers left by ferry for Wales and then England.

In Ireland, the ensemble's performance locations included Dublin's historic St. Patrick's Church, formally known as the National Cathedral and Collegiate Church of Saint Patrick. The St. Patrick's Choir School was part of the premiere performance of George Frederic Handel's oratorio "The Messiah" in April 1742, Lance explained.

She stated that another major highlight of the trip came when the students displayed their talents in London at the British Royal Military School of Music, which trains musicians for the British Army's 29 bands. While not performing, students toured the Irish countryside, Dublin and London where they visited such landmarks as Trafalgar Square, Westminster Abbey and Buckingham Palace.

Lance said the trip is the first effort by the MSU band program to provide members with at least one travel-abroad opportunity as a group during their time at the university.



Members of the MSU Wind Ensemble pose in front of London's Kneller Hall.

College of Education Ambassadors named



The College of Education Ambassadors serve as liaisons for the faculty and staff to students, prospective students, alumni, and benefactors of the college. Dr. Terry Jayroe is the sponsor for the organization. The Ambassadors represent the college in developmental activities which foster lifelong relationships with alumni and friends, advise the dean on matters affecting the college, and assist in recruitment activities.

The 2007-08 College of Education Ambassadors included the following students:

Mary Hunter Arant-Elementary Education, Ruleville Davida Barrett-Elementary Education, Jackson Parker Black-Physical Education, Madison Heather Blackwell (president)-Biology Education, Union Tiffany Collins-Special Education, Gulfport Kenley Cunningham-Physical Education, Hattiesburg Stephenie Elmore-Physical Education, Columbus Lindsay Farris-English Education, Bartlett, Tenn. Leslie Hollingsworth-Elementary Education, Brandon Kelsey Jack-Special Education, West Point Jasmin Lewis-Elementary Education, Richland Reva Lewis-Physical Education, Natchez Audra Long (vice president) -Biology Education, Pontotoc Alicia Mathes-Educational Psychology, Gautier Kaycee McCartie-Special Education, Memphis, Tenn. Molly Moak-Special Education, Clinton Rebekah Moore (treasurer)-Elementary Education, West Point Sara Savoy (secretary)-English Education, Tishomingo Tyler Smith-Physical Education, Hattiesburg Mary Tackett-Physical Education, Starkville Blair Trusty-Elementary Education, Memphis, Tenn. Jordan Villarreal-Elementary Education, Decatur, Ala. Simeon Weatherby-Math Education, Starkville Virginia Wegener-Physical Education, Cordova, Tenn.

Teacher intern awards presented

Several teacher interns received Outstanding Teacher Intern Awards at Wrap-up Day events held by the Office of Clinical/Field-based Instruction and Licensure in the College of Education in December 2007 and May 2008.

The Outstanding Teacher Intern Awards are given to those teacher interns who go above and beyond expectations. They are nominated by their supervising classroom mentor teachers. Recognition is based on each individual's accomplishments. One supervising classroom teacher noted she was amazed by the teacher intern's dedication to the students. Another supervising classroom teacher stated that the teacher intern exceeded expectations in every aspect of teaching internship. Still another supervising classroom teacher explained that she had worked with many teacher interns, but the one she nominated for the award was by far the best she had ever mentored.

Fall 2007 teacher interns recognized as outstanding in December 2007 included Katie Cantrell of Tupelo, Ashley Allen of Philadelphia, Blaine Parker of Houston, Brittany Walker of Madison, Katie Johnson of Birmingham, Ala., Shelly Goodman of Starkville, and Leslie Purvis of Corinth.



Spring 2008 Outstanding Teacher Interns include (front row, from left), Josh Dodd of Winona, Sara Williams of Kosciusko, Farris Green of Booneville, Dawn McLellan of Kosciusko, Emily Yow of luka, and Jodie Goss of Cordova, Tenn. Back row, (from left, are John Whitehead of Hernando, Beth Chrestman of Hernando, Lisa Pruitt of Ackerman, Lauren Blumkin of Huntsville, Ala., Sarah Bateman of Jackson, and Mary Hunter Arant of Ruleville.

Student Kudos

Bethany Spell received the Frank Elrod Award for fall 2007. The award each semester recognizes outstanding teacher interns in special education.

The Society of Scholars inducted four students from the College of Education in fall 2007.

This is the highest honor offered to MSU undergraduates, and only a small number of scholars meet the qualifications. The inductees include Lauren Blumkin, secondary education (social studies); Hunter Cohern, music education; Douglas Thaggard, clinical exercise physiology; and Summer Young, mathematics with teaching certification.

The MSU Alpha Pi chapter of Pi Omega Pi (Business Teacher Education honor society) landed second place at the National Pi Omega Pi Convention in 2007. It has ranked in the top 10 for the past 11 years.

The student organization, Student Affiliates in School Psychology, held a fundraiser in the fall to provide Christmas gifts for students at Paul's Home.

Susan H. Eaves and Misty Robertson-Smith were chosen as the 2006 winners of the Student Research Award by the International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (IAMFC). Their article, "The Relationship Between Self-Worth and Marital Infidelity: A Pilot Study," was published in The Family Journal in October 2007.

Three of Dr. April Heiselt's Counselor Education graduate students, Justin Castanza, Leigh Ann Hussey, and Jennifer Reese, submitted a design to the 21st Century Project of the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I) Design Competition. The competition is a multi-phased initiative leading to the construction of a new, state-of-the-art residential facility for colleges and universities. Although their design did not win, it was the first MSU had entered into in this type of competition.

Eric Smith won one of the Mississippi Professional Educators' (MPE) Student Scholarships for 2008.

Mary Ann Hollingsworth received the Martha Garrett Research Scholarship for 2007.

Melissa Flint was elected president of the Mid-Eastern Region of the Mississippi Counseling Association.

Sheri Anders presented a content session "Children's Literature in Therapy" at the 2007 Mississippi Counseling Association Conference in Choctaw.

Ulissa Coburn presented a content session, "Saying It with Play," at the 2007 Mississippi Counseling Association Conference in November at Choctaw, MS. Coburn is a graduate student on Mississippi State University's Meridian campus.

Julia M. Cole presented a content session, "Helping Counselors Sensitivity Approach Race, Ethnicity, and Culture of the American Indian in Counseling," at the 2007 Mississippi Counseling Association Conference.

Marquase Lovings recently was awarded the 2008 MSU Sport Administration Student of the Year Award. A full-time graduate student, he served as the executive director of the Mississippi State Special Olympics.

Master's students Adam Robertson and James Orr, took third place in the 2007 Southern Association for College Student Affairs (SACSA) case study competition.

Amanda Blount received the Courtland C. Lee Multicultural Excellence Scholarship Award from the American Counseling Association at the ACA Conference in Hawaii in March 2008. Blount, who is currently a Career Center counselor in the Newton County Public School system, has also been elected secretary of the Mississippi Vocational Counselors Association.

John Edwards won first place in the social sciences category of the poster competition in the 2008 MSU Graduate Student Symposium.

STUDENT KUDOS

Kappa Delta Pi initiates 40+

More than 40 academically achieving juniors, seniors and graduate students in the College of Education were initiated into the university chapter of Kappa Delta Pi honor society in March.

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.

In addition to scholastics, membership requires the demonstrated commitment to a career in education and a personal attitude that ensures steady professional growth.

The chapter officers for 2008 include Jordan Fesmire, president; Vickie Harris, vice president; Sheila Coleman, secretary; LaCourtney Landfair, treasurer; Josh Latch, historian; Jennifer Virdin, foundations; Megan Pope, membership.

MSU student members inducted at the conclusion of the 2008 spring semester include the following:

Kelsey Artman, Vicksburg Sophia Bailey, Durant Ann Blair, West Point Samantha Book, Yazoo City Stephanie Boyer, Corinth Rachel Brocato, Muscle Shoals Brittany D. Butler, Meridian Trevor Caulkins, Clewiston, Fla. Kady Chandler, Philadelphia Katie Corley, Carthage Payton Crawford, Inverness Sara Rebecca Crow, Belden **Julie Cummins**, Grenada Kara M. Davis, Clinton Kyle Davis, Smithville Tara Suzanne Dewberry, Maben Brett R. Dyess, Kosciusko Jordan Claire Ernest, Woodland Jeanna C. Edwards, Starkville Maggie Ford, Hattiesburg Daniel B. Fulton, Bruce Misty L. Gatlin, Mantachie Chelsa Deann Gladwell, Decatur, Ala. Lindsay C. Goodson, Tupelo Brian S. Gray, Mooreville Jennifer Herrington, Sturgis Melissa Hobby, Jackson Whitney Hobby, Jackson Sara Huddleston, Baldwyn Rachel Ingram, Vaiden

Melissa H. Johnson, Hollandale

Kristin King, Philadelphia Krista Lea Kirkpatrick, Cordova, Ala. Carina Nicole Lindsey, Jackson Tonya Teresa Mason, Macon Lisa May, Starkville Kristen McClellan, Tupelo Gina L McCloud, Monticello Allison Brooke McDaniel, Union Dawn McLellan, Kosciusko Jennifer Mikul, Starkville Mary Claire Mills, Brookhaven Meagan Mills, Carthage Jeffrey Ralph Mitchell, Winona Wes Myers, Kosciusko Kimberley L. Neal, Madison Ann Catherine Oswalt, Fulton Susan Leigh Phillips, Star Julie Lynnette Pitts, Waynesboro Sachia Poole, Starkville Blair Porter, Clinton Kathryn N. Renfro, Amory Michael Shaun Riley, Nettleton Whitney Saxon, Vicksburg LaWhitney J. Shelton, Caledonia Lindsey McKay Shepard, Forest Diamond Brooke Sibley, Batesville Jennifer Terrill, Fulton Daniel A. Thomas, Philadelphia Kari Wallace, Smithdale Morgan Walters, Laurel

KAPPA DELTA PI



The Kappa Delta Pi chapter recognized the following educators (from left), Dr. Phil Burchfield, outgoing superintendent of the Starkville School District; Sharon Frey, grant coordinator for Starkville School District Abstinence 'Til Marriage grant; and **Devon Brenner**, associate professor of curriculum and instruction. Also pictured are speakers Amy Tuck, assistant to the president, and Dr. **Sue Minchew**, associate dean of education. Also honored, but unavailable for a photograph, was Theresa Pitts, coordinator of the Professional Development Center for the Starkville School District.



Lishu Yin

Yin wins research award

A recent Mississippi State University doctoral graduate originally from China has earned top honors from a regional education association.

Lishu Yin, a former Starkville resident, recently won the Mid-South Educational Research Associations' 2007 Herbert Handley Dissertation Award.

Formed in 1972, the organization represents professional educators in Mississippi, Alabama,

Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Tennessee.

Yin, who received a doctorate in curriculum and instruction in May, completed her required research on the reading achievements of students in English-as-a-second-language programs. The former public school teacher focused specifically on "pullout programs"—those taught in separate settings—in one Midwestern school.

"I wanted to know more about how ESL programs affect students," she said. Traveling at her own expense, she conducted a two-year study in the school district and developed recommendations for more effective programs.

While at MSU, Yin worked as a lecturer in the College of Education, as well as a Chinese language lecturer in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Handley Award is a memorial to a former MSU education professor who was widely recognized for his research leadership in the field.

2007-08 scholarship recipients

CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

Mary H. Arant of Ruleville-Dewey and Marie Malouf Scholarship
Candace Corbitt of Mobile, Ala.-Jack L. Beall Scholarship
Lindsey Farris of Bartlett, Tenn.-Barry Box Scholarship
Ramon Forbes of Madison-Jack L. Beall Scholarship
Elizabeth Fox of Batesville-Thomas McKnight Scholarship
Jason Gipson of DeSoto County-Merchant and Farmers Bank Scholarship
Shobal Johnson of Columbus-Barry Box Scholarship
Jonathan Jordan of Clinton-Merchants and Farmers Bank Scholarship
Angela Leflore of Carthage-Herbert Handley Scholarship
Savannah K. McClinton of Meridian-Herbert Handley Scholarship
Julie Nelson of Southaven-Charles and Wilma Havens Endowed Scholarship
Emily Robison of Hattiesburg-E.F. Mitchell Memorial Scholarship
Sara Savoy of Tishomingo-Merrill and Carrie Hawkins Scholarship and
Barry Box Scholarship

Renee Smith of Louisville–George Walker Bush Scholarship
Margaret C. Smylie of Starkville–Merchants & Farmers Bank Scholarship
Meredith S. Smylie of Madison–Jack L. Beall Scholarship
Ian Walker of Brandon–Merrill and Carrie Hawkins Scholarship and
Barry Box Scholarship

KINESIOLOGY

Kelsey M. Artman of Vicksburg-Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship Maren K. Beasley of Brandon-Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship Peyton M. Fandel of Belden-Merchant and Farmers Bank Scholarship Sarah Gasparriini of Biloxi-John Albert Bodron Scholarship Jonathan Hunter of Louisville-Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship Jarred Hutto of Starkville-Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship Landon D. Ingram of Madison-Durward Dunn Scholarship Candace McGee of Starkville-Durward Dunn Scholarship

Martin A. Taggart of Biloxi–Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship Douglas D. Thaggard of Raymond–Durward Dunn Scholarship Bethany Workman of Springtown, Texas– Durward Dunn Scholarship

INSTRUCTIONAL SYSTEMS, LEADERSHIP AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Marcus Henley of Brooksville–Dewey and Marie Malouf Scholarship Heather Hudson of Thaxton–Francis Matthew Scholarship Mallorie Hutcheson of Pontotoc–Francis Matthew Scholarship

MUSIC

Andrew Hammond of Collierville, Tenn.-Music Faculty Scholarship
Ronnie Holder of Brighton, Tenn.-Music Faculty Scholarship
Elizabeth Jones of Starkville-Cheryl Prewitt Vocal Scholarship
Phashun Veheer King of Starkville-Cheryl Prewitt Vocal Scholarship
Emily Sawyer of Brandon-Katherine Garnder-Thomas Piano Scholarship
Tekela Spraggins of Woodland-Hal and Joyce Polk Scholarship
Derek Taylor of Meridian-Hal and Joyce Polk Scholarship and
Music Faculty Scholarship
Bonnie Sue Wimmer of Columbus-Cheryl Prewitt Vocal Scholarship

COUNSELING, EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY AND SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Kristi Campbell of Starkville–Thomas McKnight Scholarship Tiffany Collins of Gulfport–McClendon Holliman Scholarship Susan Phillips of Star–Emma Hayes Memorial Scholarship LaQuanta Watson of Starkville–Thomas McKnight Scholarship

Spates receives graduate student award

Jennifer Cummings Spates was selected to receive the Delta Gamma Foundation Graduate Student Stipend Award to attend AFB's 2008 National Conference (JLTLI).

Spates is a graduate student in the rehabilitation counseling program at Mississippi State, where she is pursuing a master's degree. She is legally blind from diabetic retinopathy

> and is committed to working in the field of blindness rehabilitation. Spates has maintained a 3.4 gradepoint average (on a 4.0 scale) in the MSU Vision Specialist academic certificate program.

Spates is an Auburn University graduate (B.A. Social Work) and served for some three years as a disability services volunteer at the Alabama university. She subsequently served as a paralegal/ social worker for the Bexar County District Attorney in San Antonio, Texas, and as a claims analyst for the East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika. Spates was a member of the Omega Phi Alpha service sorority at Auburn and was involved in a variety of service projects for students with disabilities.



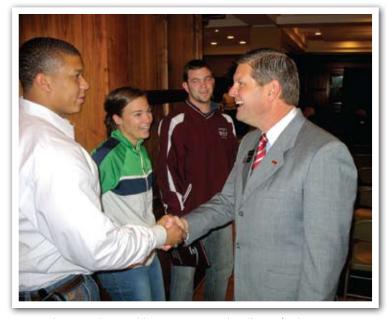
Kinesiology students gained experience in professional sports event management, corporate sponsorship and media relations as part of a grant from the PGA Tour's Viking Classic Golf Tournament in Jackson.

Teacher Candidates study intervention strategies through filmmaking

Elementary education majors in the class, "Exploring Diversity through Writing," created movies in fall 2007.

During the course, they studied the multiple causes of the achievement gap. "Achievement gap" is a term used to describe the disparity of results of assessments, particularly standardized tests, between different groups of students. Low-income and minority students typically receive lower scores than their white and middleclass peers on most standardized tests. During the class, teacher candidates studied the causes of low performance and took a field trip to visit two high-performing schools in Memphis—the Memphis Academy of Science and Engineering and the Soulsville Charter School.

After weeks of study, the teacher candidates used their technology skills and the support of the Instructional Media Center at Mitchell Memorial Library to create movies illustrating teaching practices to help close the achievement gap and improve the learning of all students. The movies focused on strategies for engaging students in learning, ways to increase family involvement, arts integration in the classroom, creating small schools and schools-within-a-school to build student-teacher relationships, improving academic rigor, and more. The student-made movies were presented to a group of teachers and others from Starkville and Oktibbeha County and were posted to Youtube.com for easy sharing.



Birmingham Southern Athletic Director and College of Education Alumni Fellow Joe Dean visits with sport administration students.

Alumna of the Year named for college

This year's College of Education Alumna of the Year is Dr. Maxine **Harper** of Greenwood who received a master's degree in education from MSU.

Her 1979 graduation ceremony was certainly memorable. Because of her accomplishments, her degree was awarded by then-MSU president McComas who came down from the podium and handed it to her.

Harper is an extraordinary individual who was born with severe cerebral palsy which caused multiple disabilities. Initially, she was not allowed to attend public elementary school. However, due to her persistent parents, she was eventually allowed to enter the local public high school and graduated valedictorian of her class.

She was a special education teacher at Leflore County School for Handicapped Children and has been a research analyst for the Center of Educational Research and Evaluation at the University of Mississippi. She is currently the associate director for the center and also serves as an adjunct instructor.

Harper received her undergraduate and doctoral degrees from Delta State University. She is the author of numerous scholarly articles and has been successful in obtaining a number of major grants.

Harper works to make a difference in her life and in the lives of students regardless of their physical capabilities. In a letter supporting her nomination, Professor John Obringer of MSU's College of Education referred to Harper as "one of the most impressive graduate students I have taught in my 35 years at the university."



COE Dean Richard Blackbourn, left, and Alumni Association National President David Jones congratulate Dr. Maxine Harper.

FOCUS ON ALUMNI

Dean named Alumni Fellow for College of Education



Joe Dean Jr.

Joe Dean Jr., athletic director at Birmingham-Southern College, was recognized as the 2007 Alumni Fellow for Mississippi State's College of Education. While at Mississippi State in the late '70s, Dean won major honors as a student-athlete and began a career path in athletics.

A Baton Rouge, La., native, Dean is currently in his ninth year as athletic director at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Ala. During his tenure, Dean has led BSC's move to NCAA Division I athletics competition, assisted the college in developing and upgrading its

athletic facilities.

As a three-year basketball letterman at Mississippi State, Dean received several honors including 1976 Academic All-SEC and was the first recipient of the James H. "Babe" McCarthy Award for leadership, scholarship and citizenship. He earned a bachelor's degree in 1976 and a master's degree in 1977, both in physical education.

Dean began his coaching career as a graduate assistant coach at Mississippi State in 1976. He then served as an assistant basketball coach at the University of Kentucky from 1977-1983, which included an NCAA championship in 1978. Dean was named head basketball coach at Birmingham-Southern in 1983. He was named conference and district coach of the year three times, and finished his tenure at BSC with a 137-45 overall record. He coached Division I basketball at the University of Central Florida from 1989-1993.

From 1993-1999, Dean worked as vice president for sales and marketing for the Colonnade Group Inc. in Birmingham before returning to Birmingham-Southern as athletic director.

Dear Alumni,

It's hard to believe another academic year has come and gone.

My goal over the past year has been to get out and visit as many alumni from our college as time permits. With more than 20,000 COE alums, it's a little tough.

Another goal is to get as many of you reconnected and engaged with Mississippi State University as possible. Many of you visit throughout the year, but for some it's a bit more difficult. So, the big question is—How can we better bring Mississippi State University and the College of Education to you? Whether your suggestions involve newsletters, campus and regional events, or bulletin boards, I would like to hear from you.

As your development officer, I take great pride in making this college stronger. We can't do it without your support and input. Please take a minute and let me know how you feel.

Go Dawgs!

Sincerely,

Rob Jenkins (Class of '92) Director of Development

College of Education

rjenkins@foundation.msstate.edu

662-325-6762

MSU announces creation of Bodron education scholarship in tribute to retired educator

A Lauderdale County resident has established a scholarship at Mississippi State in tribute to her late husband, a retired Biloxi educator.

A gift from Mary **Ruth Mayerhoff Bodron** of Meridian recently created the John Albert **Bodron Memorial Endowed Scholarship in** the College of Education.

Bodron, who died in late 2006, was a Vicksburg native, Korean War veteran and 1951 physical education graduate of MSU. Following graduation, he spent two years in combat as a U.S. Marine before returning to Starkville to complete a second degree in 1955 in vocational education. He later earned a

master's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi.

"Iohn loved Mississippi State, the football program and the life lessons and education he received while a student there," said Mary Ruth Bodron. "He had a modest upbringing and, without assistance, would not have been able to receive his education at Mississippi State."

Bodron attended then-Mississippi State College on a work scholarship after being recruited by Werner J. "Dutch" Luchsinger, the head athletic trainer from 1948-64 and a member of the National Athletic Trainers' Association Hall of Fame. "Bodie,"

as he was fondly known by family and friends, worked primarily as a football manager during his two stints on campus.

Bodron went on to a 34-year career with the Biloxi Public School District, serving as a vocational teacher. coach, elementary school principal, and vocational education director. He retired in 1989 as assistant principal of Biloxi High School. As a faithful supporter of the BHS Indians, he served as a volunteer athletic trainer throughout his public school career and for nearly a decade after retirement.

"Biloxi coaches soon discovered his talent as a trainer and they asked him to work with their

students, unpaid, until late in his tenure when a small supplement was added," recalled his widow, a secondary education graduate of Mississippi University for Women.

"John was an inspiring mentor to many, a real people person, and it is my hope that this scholarship will help many students continue their study in the field of education and pass their love of service on to others," she added.

The couple's son John Allen is an MSU chemical engineering graduate, while his wife, the former Andrea Ratcliff. is an English graduate. They reside in Baton Rouge, La., with their two sons.

Preference in selecting Bodron Scholars will be given to Biloxi High School graduates. Those selected must have a minimum ACT composite score of 25 and maintain a 3.0 grade-point average (based on a 4.0 scale) while pursuing their education major.

The Rodron Scholarship is an open fund in the MSU Foundation that may be increased through additional contributions.

For more information, contact Rob Jenkins, director of development for the college, at 662-325-6762 or rjenkins@colled. msstate.edu.

FOCUS ON ALUMNI

Alumni News

Patti Abraham, director of the MSU Research Curriculum Unit, received the Outstanding Executive/Administrative/Managerial Woman Award from Mississippi State's President's Commission on the Status of Women.

Mandi Alexander has been promoted to associate development director for the College of Engineering at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

Diane Gardner Baker was named the 2007 Administrator of the Year for the Starkville School District. Baker is the principal of Overstreet Elementary School.

Tracy Handley Brown is serving her first year as principal at Guin (Ala.) Elementary School. Prior to her position as principal in Guin, she taught the fourth grade for 13 years and served as the assistant principal for one year.

Kay Dee Hinkle Calloway has received the NASPE STARS award of two STARS for Auburn City Schools. Auburn City Schools is one of only 13 schools to receive the award this year.

Rita Shapley Dunn has retired after 27 years of teaching for the Greenville Public Schools system. She still serves as a tutor for the schools in the Delta city.

Susan Eaves and Joshua C. Watson presented "Informal assessment of sexually risky behaviors in adolescents: Assessment and practical applications with a clinical population" at the Association for

Assessment in Counseling and Education National Conference in Atlanta in November 2007.

Kim C. Fandel has been named a 2007 Teacher of Distinction for the Tupelo Public Schools system. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degree from MSU in elementary education. This award is indicative of her outstanding academic and classroom performance as well as her leadership and achievement within the school, the district and the community.

Ann Hollingsworth received the Martha Garrett Research 2007 Scholarship from the Mississippi Graduate Student Counseling Association.

Lindsey Joiner was elected secretary of the Mississippi Counseling Association for the 2008-10 term. She received the 2007 New Counselor of the Year Award for Mississippi from the Mississippi Counseling Association.

Christi Roby Matens is the 2007 Barton Creek Elementary Teacher of the Year. She teaches fourth grade at BCES in Austin, Texas.

Rachael McKinney received the national Milken Outstanding Educator Award for 2007. She teaches eighth-grade science at Brandon Middle School in Brandon. McKinney coordinates the BMS annual science fair, has mentored new teachers, and supervised student teachers. Chair of the seventh- and eighth-grade science department, McKinney participates in an in-house committee that works to identify at-risk students, as well as intervention measures.

John Miller has been selected as STAR Teacher of George County High School. Miller, a Lucedale native, teaches math at GCHS.

Susan Purser, Moore County (N.C.) Schools superintendent, has been named the Sandhills Region Superintendent of the Year.

Stacy Reeves has been named an Emerging Leader for 2007-08 by the Phi Delta Kappa International Education Society. She is now an assistant professor at William Carey University.

Richard Russo, head football coach at North Delta School in Batesville, has been elected Mississippi Private School Association District 1A Coach of the Year.

Felicia Simpson has been recognized by the Lucedale Intermediate School as Teacher of the Year.

C.D. Smith, **Jr.**, of Meridian, a regional manager for AT&T, has been appointed to serve on the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. Smith also serves on the College of Education Advisory Board and on the board for Meridian Community College.

Susan Steward, a teacher at Guntown Middle School, has been named the Lee County Schools Teacher of the Year.

Charlotte Tabereaux, MSU Riley Center education director, received the Outstanding Professional Woman Award by Mississippi State's President's Commission on the Status of Women.

Alan White of Burlington, N.C., has been inducted into the Elon University Sports Hall of Fame. He retired last year as Elon's director of athletics. White also is a member of the North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame.

Diane Williams received the 2007 College Counselor of the Year Award from the Mississippi Counseling Association.



ALUMNI NEWS

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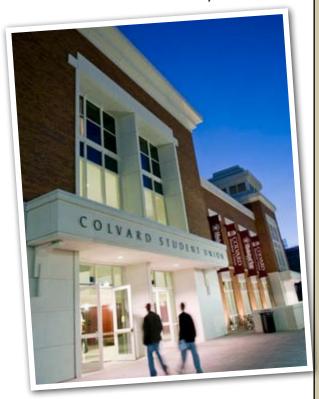
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We apologize if your name has been left off inadvertently flthis list. Please contact us and let us know if your name was omitted, so we can correct the error.

Contact Rob Jenkins at 662-325-6762 or by e-mail at rjenkins@foundation.msstate.edu.

Have you heard about the Old Main Society?

Alumni and friends may choose to support the university in a variety of ways that are most convenient for them, including annual outright gifts, multi-year commitments or even through deferred gifts.

The Old Main Society honors those generous donors who have made deferred gifts to the university-those who have named Mississippi State as a beneficiary in their wills or designated other planned gifts, such as charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, life insurance policies, and qualified IRAs/retirement plans to the university. Donors are recognized as members of the Old Main Society once they have provided the MSU Foundation with documentation of their gifts.

For more information regarding recognition in the Old Main Society or other aspects of planned giving, contact **Rob Jenkins**, director of development for the College of Education, at 662-325-6762 or rjenkins@ foundation.msstate.edu.

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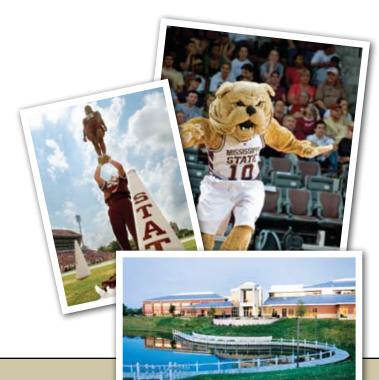
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