





focus on the college



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# Greetings from the Dean

The experiences that I encounter while working in the College of Education continue to affirm my appreciation for the dedication and hard work of our faculty, staff, and students. The pages of this newsletter are a testament to this fact. Additionally, the College of Education can count on alumni and friends who are committed to its continued success. Our mission is to provide instruction, research, and service to state, national, and international audiences, which significantly impact educational attainment, economic development, and quality of life issues. In addition to the numerous individual successes occurring in the College of Education this year, we take great pride in the following accomplishments:

- A national ranking of fourth in the number of African-Americans granted baccalaureate degrees
- A student group repeating as national champions in a robotics competition
- Continued growth in external funding
- Continued increases in enrollment
- The growth of the College of Education Faculty/Student Research Forum
- A positive process and performance review by the Mississippi Department of Education

As you read this, the College of Education will be dealing with significant budget cuts that are in place with the prospect of additional ones in the near future. Accomplishments, such as those outlined in this publication, are extremely difficult in the current budgetary climate. However, the College of Education continues to excel through the generosity of our loyal alumni and friends. We humbly ask for your continued support.

Best wishes,



Dr. Richard Blackbourn  
Dean and Professor



Blackbourn



## The Dawg House

In fall 2009, MSU presented the Maroon Edition First-Year Common Reading Experience, inviting all freshmen to read John Grisham's *A Painted House*.

One part of that program involved a community service project coordinated by Dr. April Heiselt, assistant professor in the counseling and educational psychology department, and Melissa Sharp, graduate student in the student affairs program in the department and graduate assistant in the Maroon Volunteer Center.

During the fall semester, some 700 faculty, staff and student volunteers from across the university came together to put in more than 2,000 hours of work on the Maroon Edition Starkville Area

Habitat for Humanity House. In the College of Education, faculty, staff and students worked side by side to complete the house, with several departments managing shifts.

Volunteers on the project worked so diligently that the home was finished three months prior to the deadline, making it the fastest home ever built for the Starkville Area Habitat for Humanity.

This event not only involved faculty, staff and students from the COE, but also helped students make connections between their contributions to the community and what they were reading in the book.



Drs. Wong, Elder, Wolverton Jr., Hendren, Palmer, Goldberg, Heiselt, and administrative assistant Beth Robinson, along with MSU students, work on the house.



President Mark Keenum, Dr. April Heiselt, and homeowner, Mr. Harvey



# Education for Democracy Camp

Under the directorship of **Dr. Susie Burroughs**, interim head of curriculum, instruction, and special education, Civitas: An International Civic Education Exchange Program hosted the 2009 Democracy Camp for teachers on the MSU campus.

The group hosted 28 visitors from Florida and Mississippi, as well as Hungary, Panama, Peru, and Romania, for educational and professional development experiences related to teaching and learning about human rights.

At MSU, the group attended a lecture by Dr. Rick Travis, associate professor of political science, on the topic of international human rights, and a presentation by Dr. Martin Wiseman, director of the Stennis Institute of Government, which showed how decisions are made in a representative democracy.

The group also visited the Mississippi Capitol in Jackson and met with Mississippi Supreme Court Justice James Graves, who led the group on a tour of the new Supreme Court building. He also spoke on the history of the civil rights struggle in the United States.

The visitors also toured some cultural venues, including the Old Capitol Museum, the MSU Wildlife Research and Education Facility, the Virtual Reality Center, and the Mississippi Blues Museum.





ECI



## ECI produces curriculum for classrooms of infants and toddlers

The College of Education's Early Childhood Institute has published a complete curriculum for classrooms of infants and toddlers, with seven thematic units, such as "Babies and Children" and "Outside," that will help teachers follow the new Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Infants and Toddlers.

With the help of funding by the Mississippi Department of Human Services Office for Children and Youth (OCY), ECI developed and produced the classroom curriculum and distributed copies to 1,800 licensed child care centers.

Dr. Jill Dent, director of OCY, said the curriculum should "give those working with infants and toddlers valuable information to easily plan their day." The curriculum is available on ECI's website, [www.earlychildhood.msstate.edu](http://www.earlychildhood.msstate.edu).

Called "Learning in a Baby's World: Using the Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines; A Complete Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers," the curriculum includes experiences in literacy, math, science, and art. It emphasizes the one-on-one attention of caregivers that is essential to development of young children. Teachers can download colorful charts of activities for each 34-day thematic unit, along with short explanations of all the activities.

The curriculum is the latest of three the institute has published as companions to the Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines. ECI also produced and distributed the 2010 Mississippi Early Learning Guidelines for Infants and Toddlers, funded by the state Head Start Collaboration Office. Available on the institute's website, the guidelines include competencies and objectives in six domains: Language, Vocabulary, and Literacy Development; Mathematical Development; Scientific Development; Social-Emotional Development; Physical Development; and Self-Help Development.



Dr. Kay Brocato, assistant professor in the department of leadership and foundations, holds the PREPS Community Involvement Award recently presented to MSU's Early Childhood Institute for partnering with the Corinth Public School District. The alliance was through the statewide Program for Research and Evaluation of Public Schools or PREPS. Also shown are Dr. Lee Childress, superintendent of the Corinth Schools, and Dean Richard Blackbourn of the MSU department of Education.

## Early Childhood Institute named PREPS Community Involvement Award winner

The Early Childhood Institute was recognized at the recent statewide PREPS (Program of Research and Evaluation of Public Schools) conference for receiving a Community Involvement Award.

This award is given to a school, district or organization that actively is involved in one or more projects designed to enhance opportunities for students and/or educators that result in making individual lives and ultimately the community a better place.

The Early Childhood Institute was one of only two recipients of the PREPS Community Involvement Award presented during the PREPS Conference in winter 2009.

## MSU Jazz Ensemble performs at state convention

The MSU Jazz Ensemble I, under the direction of Dr. **Clifton Taylor**, associate director of bands, performed for the Mississippi Bandmaster's Association Clinic in December 2009.

The audience for the event, held at the BancorpSouth Center in Tupelo, was made up of high school and middle school band directors and their top students from throughout the state. Students performing in this concert included music education majors **Erica Adams** of Carriere, **Fred Hadley** and **Joseph Moore** of Tupelo, **Eric Henderson** of Forest, and **Justin Robinson** and **Greg King** of Collierville, Tenn.

The MSU Jazz Ensembles exist to perpetuate the study and performance of big band jazz, to serve as a laboratory for the development of improvisation skills, and to prepare future music educators to initiate or maintain jazz programs in the K-12 schools. Membership in the ensembles is open to any MSU student by audition, regardless of his or her major field of study.





## EDI hosts first facility planning and operations conference

The first Educational Design Institute (EDI) Facility Planning and Operations Conference was held at Meridian's MSU Riley Center in March of 2010.

The goal of the conference was to help school administrators with their plans for building and maintaining facilities.

**Larry Morgan**, director of EDI, which is part of the College of Education's Center for Educational Partnerships, believes this is the right time to think about building facilities, despite the current economy and the ongoing dilemma of budget cuts.

"First, good facility master planning often takes time," Morgan explained. "Although you may not be building now, it is likely that you will be building soon. This is an excellent time to put plans in place for future construction. Second, this economy demands that organizations operate as efficiently as possible. Right now is the time to look at operations and maintenance, particularly as related to energy efficiency. One of the hottest topics in educational design is 'greening' existing buildings—both to save money and to improve student performance."

Dr. Kenneth Tanner from the University of Georgia was the keynote speaker. Tanner is a nationally recognized expert in the influence of the school's physical environment on student learning, behavior and attitude, and he is the co-author of Educational Facilities Planning: Leadership, Architecture and Management.

Session topics included Energy Efficiency and Green Design, 21st Century Classroom Design, Educational Facilities in the (Funding) Interim, Federal Initiatives, and Safe & Orderly Schools.

The Educational Design Institute is a collaboration among the MSU College of Education; the MSU College of Art, Architecture and Design; and the state Department of Education's Office of Safe and Orderly Schools.



Left, Dr. Ed Davis, Chris Cosper, Steve Hudson (Hydrotep), Anisa Baldwin-Metzger (U.S. Green Building Council), Dean Richard Blackbourn, Mr. Larry Morgan



Dr. Ed Davis, Dr. Kenneth Tanner (University of Georgia), Dean Richard Blackbourn



## Teacher Education Council provides advice

Twenty-three Mississippi teachers participated in the Mississippi State Writing/Thinking Project program, Middle School Institute, which began summer 2009 and continued throughout the 2009-10 school year.

Middle School Institute is an intensive program for teachers of grades six-eight, where the educators learn research-based instructional strategies and assessment practices appropriate for middle-level students. The institute is led by Evelyn Clay, a national board-certified teacher who serves on the professional staff of the Writing/Thinking Project, housed in the Center for Educational Partnerships in the College of Education.

The institute provides teachers with the right tools to meet the increasing demands of state assessments and No Child Left Behind legislation. The program equips teachers for rigorous, standards-based instruction, while incorporating brain research as it

applies to the young adolescent. The program also includes motivational classroom practices.

MSU's Writing/Thinking Project is a part of the National Writing Project, whose purpose is to improve writing in America.



## SA honors counseling and educational psychology student, teacher

The MSU Student and Teacher Recognition program, sponsored by the Student Association Academic Affairs Committee, honored students and teachers whose work and dedication greatly enhanced the learning environment at Mississippi State.

Dr. **April Heiselt**, assistant professor in the department of counseling and educational psychology, was nominated

by students and selected as the faculty honoree for the College of Education.

**Melissa Sharp**, a master's level student in student affairs in the department of counseling and educational psychology, was nominated by faculty and selected as the student honoree for the COE.



## Band program works with high schools

The MSU band program worked throughout the year with high school students and band directors from across the region in a variety of activities.

The program hosted the annual Honor Band Clinic in January 2010, where more than 375 students auditioned for placement in the three clinic bands, jazz band, and percussion ensemble.

Dr. Jason Baker, assistant music director, conducted the Honor Band Percussion Ensemble and Dr. Clifton Taylor, associate director of bands, conducted the Jazz Ensemble. Clinicians for the Honor Bands included Mark Camphouse, professor of music at George Mason University; Dr. Jeff Matthews, associate director of bands at Northwestern Louisiana University; and Kathy Williams, band director in West Memphis, Ark.

During the annual High School Band Day, more than 250 high school band students performed with the Famous Maroon Band at halftime of the MSU vs. Georgia Tech football game in October 2009. These students represented Mississippi, Louisiana, Florida, Alabama, and Tennessee.

The annual Summer Band Camp attracted 140 junior high and high school band students to the MSU campus in July 2010. During the camp, music students and alumni taught and supervised the visiting students. Courses included concert band, jazz band, music theory, instrument classes, chamber ensembles, and auxiliary classes.

The band also hosted the annual Band Director Workshop in June 2009. Music educators from across Mississippi and Alabama attended the event. Presenters included veteran music educator Johnny Folsom, director of bands at Cairo High School in Cairo, Ga., and Stephen Krupicka, director of bands in the Shiner Independent School District in Shiner, Texas.







PREPS Director Dr. Cindy Ward (left) talks with keynote speaker Rosalind Taylor, Turnaround Schools Specialist from Richmond Virginia Public Schools, following the opening session presentation of the December 2009 PREPS Conference.



## PREPS develops podcasts for Mississippi Center for Education Innovation

The Program of Research and Evaluation for Public Schools (PREPS) in the College of Education's Center for Educational Partnerships has contracted with the Mississippi Center for Education Innovation (MSCEI) to develop podcasts for math and English/language arts over a two-year period.

The program is based on a critical analysis of the most challenging competencies as reflected by student performance statewide tests (Mississippi Curriculum Test, 2nd Edition, and the Subject Area Testing Program). As the podcasts are developed and approved, they

are placed on the MSCEI eResources portal for use by both the "Early Educators" grant recipients and by teachers across Mississippi and the colleges of teacher preparation.

Ten high schools in the Delta and surrounding area have received instructional equipment and 30 iPod touch units to use in tutorial programs between high school students and younger students. Delta State and Mississippi Valley State universities also have received the same instructional components for use in their teacher preparation coursework and in their students' field experiences.

## 2009 PREPS Annual Conference held

More than 400 educators gathered at Pearl River Resort in December 2009 to hear presentations, participate in sessions, enjoy the Second Annual Education Showcase, and visit with exhibitors and sponsors. Networking and sharing ideas for improving Mississippi schools were top priorities at the PREPS Annual Conference, whose theme was "Education on the Cutting Edge."

## College holds third annual faculty/student research forum

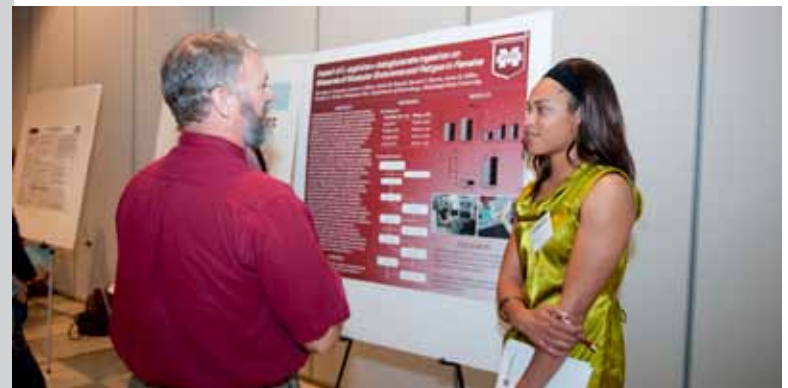
The third annual College of Education Faculty/Student Research Forum was held in April and headlined by Oleta G. Fitzgerald, director of the Children's Defense Fund Southern Regional Office in Jackson.

Fitzgerald discussed strategies for building relationships with foundations in a presentation entitled "Foundations and Community Partnerships in Education Research." The forum, whose theme focused on "Research in Education—Making Maximum Utilization of Foundation Resources," attracted some 115 participants and 30 posters by students and faculty. 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 "Building Relationships and Promoting Educational Research." The panel was made up of Mike Clayborne, director of the CREATE Foundation in Tupelo, and Becky Montgomery, director of the Mississippi Power Education Foundation.

Following the morning presentations, COE departments and units displayed research posters produced by faculty, research staff, and graduate and undergraduate students. Awards were given for the best graduate student posters (**Rebecca Roberts**, **Sheri Anders** and **Susan Beveridge**) and for the best undergraduate poster (**Derek Crenshaw**).

Dr. **Elton Moore**, associate dean for research and assessment, said he was "very pleased with the record turnout and impressed with the quality of applied research being conducted in the college. This quality will lead to higher levels of external funding and more scholarly publications in nationally recognized refereed journals."





# Vision Specialist in Vocational Rehabilitation Certificate

Mississippi State's Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision recently received a five-year renewal of the federally funded graduate certificate program for vision specialists in vocational rehabilitation.

The program provides specialized training for vocational rehabilitation counselors from around the country. The Vision Specialist in Vocational Rehabilitation Program consists of four graduate courses designed to train effective counselors of consumers who are blind or visually impaired. These professional skills enable graduates to help consumers with vision loss learn independent living skills and assist them in becoming employed. The program is rigorous, requiring weeks of intensive online study, but the three-week intensive residency program includes lighter moments, too, such as the simulation exercise of bowling under blindfold.

Students learn medical aspects of blindness and low vision; adjustment to blindness counseling strategies; the basics of low vision;

career development; applications for current assistive technology; resources for helping consumers through the adjustment to blindness process; and effective casework with special populations such as persons who are from minority populations, deaf-blind, or who have traumatic brain injury or chronic diseases such as diabetes.

Through the assistive technology class, students learn about various types of assistive technology for individuals who are blind, as well as ergonomics, job analysis and casework strategies. During one aspect of the program related to job placement strategies, students have the opportunity to talk with employers and design accommodations for workers who are blind. The field experience class gives students a variety of opportunities to work directly with persons who are blind when back in their own communities.



MSU vision specialist graduate students go on group outings to explore what future clients who are blind may experience. During this expedition, April Merrill of Florida prepares to bowl blindfolded while her classmates wait for their turn to try for a strike.



MSU's 2009 vision specialist students traveled to Tupelo and Memphis, Tenn., in April 2009 to visit several agencies for the blind that use diverse rehabilitation methods.

## COE holds awards convocation

The College of Education held its annual awards convocation in April in the John Grisham Room of Mitchell Memorial Library.

The keynote speaker was Provost and Executive Vice President Jerry Gilbert who spoke on the topic of "Academics at MSU." Music was provided by Claude Boling, who played "Toot Suite," and Michael Brown, Lauren Zumwalt and James Nail, who performed "I. Allegre'."

A number of faculty members were recognized for years of service to MSU.



**Dr. Devon Brenner**, winner of the Lucinda Rose Teaching Award, is congratulated by Dr. Jerry Gilbert (l) and COE Dean Richard Blackbourn (r).



**Dr. Joshua Watson**, the Herb Handley Research Award winner, is congratulated by Gilbert (l) and Blackbourn (r).



**Dr. April Heiselt**, the Clyde Muse Service Award winner, is congratulated by Gilbert (l) and Blackbourn (r).

# awards convocation





Dr. **Dana Franz**, the Diversity Award winner, is congratulated by Gilbert (l) and Blackbourn (r).



**Jeanne McWilliams**, the Betty Purvis Staff Award winner, is congratulated by Gilbert (l) and Blackbourn (r).

## Professor's book encourages educators to improve literacy

A new book by a Mississippi State education professor is urging school administrators, teachers and others in the field to personally lead in improving community literacy by becoming good writers themselves.

*Walking the Talk: Modeling Literacy* is the 256-page creation of **Jack Blending**, a member of the College of Education's leadership and foundations department, and James L. Nicholson, a retired newspaper editor, English instructor and Blending's former California high school classmate.

"Simply put, our thesis calls for the adults working in a school to truly improve the literacy proficiency of students by becoming writers themselves," Blending explained. "After personally making the commitment to become writers, they must then invite students attending school to join them as members of the community of writers."

The authors conclude their collaboration with an emphasis that persons of all backgrounds and experiences "have stories locked away in their psyches just waiting to be told." Blending said readers also are provided with "tips on how to roll up their sleeves, put pen to paper and start writing essays, short stories, scripts, novels, and poems."



Jack Blending

## Grant promotes academic success

The grant, Changing Academic Performance and Promoting Success (CAPPS), is a collaborative endeavor between the College of Education, Louisville School District and Winston County Boys & Girls Club.

CAPPS, which provides an after-school academic/tutorial and summer enrichment program, serves at-risk students in 5th to 12th grades. CAPPS personnel include a program director, four MSU professors, 14 teachers, 15 paraprofessionals/tutors, a graduate assistant, and a student worker.

Dr. **Teresa Jayroe**, project coordinator, understands the importance of providing opportunities for at-risk students to achieve academic success. Having taught in the Louisville School District for 12 years, she has a passion not only for the students in the Louisville schools, but also for the communities who support these schools.

Now a professor in Mississippi State's department of curriculum, instruction and special education, Jayroe serves as director of the Office of Clinical/Field-Based Instruction, Licensure, and Outreach. Jayroe, along with Drs. **Margaret Pope**, **Rebecca Robichaux** and **Kent Coffey**, was awarded a five-year, \$1.8 million 21st Century Community

Learning Center Grant through the Mississippi Department of Education.

"These students are our future, and we need to do everything we can to bring them to a level of academic achievement that will allow them to be successful adults," Jayroe said. "An added benefit is the participation of teacher interns (future teachers) from Mississippi State. MSU students are given an opportunity to engage with the CAPPS students and figure out how to differentiate instruction to help individual students be successful," she added.

This grant also allows undergraduate students (future teachers) an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge in planning and implementing individualized lessons that meet the needs of at-risk students. This is a hands-on approach which has real life benefits. The MSU students who participate in CAPPS have an opportunity to work with smaller groups of students, build relationships with the 5th to 12th grade students and, ultimately, have an impact by assisting with raising academic achievement and providing a better chance of future success.





## Grace to guide Children's Defense Fund early childhood agenda

Dr. **Cathy Grace**, founding director of MSU's Early Childhood Institute, recently joined the national Children's Defense Fund in Washington, D.C., as director of early childhood development policy.

Marian Wright Edelman, director of the fund, said, "CDF is excited to have Cathy Grace lead our efforts to advance a positive agenda to promote a long overdue early childhood development system to meet young children where they are, to support their healthy development and to ensure school readiness and successful school advancement."

CDF is a major advocacy organization with a policy portfolio that includes child welfare, health, poverty, education, and juvenile justice.

Dr. **Richard Blackburn**, COE dean, said, "Dr. Grace's appointment to the Children's Defense Fund is a significant accomplishment and recognition of her expertise in early childhood education. She is one of the most gifted individuals that I have had the pleasure of working with. While we will certainly miss her during her absence, the nation's children will benefit from her policy work at the national level."

Grace, who is on leave to direct early childhood development policy for the Children's Defense Fund, spoke on behalf of the proposed Child Safety, Care and

Education Continuity Act of 2010 at a news conference with Sens. Mary Landrieu, D-La., and Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn.

"This bill will ensure our country remembers children in the future if anything ever happens that requires massive emergency recovery measures be taken quickly," Grace said on Capitol Hill. "Time was our enemy in the days following Katrina. The passage of this bill will ensure a quick response so a natural disaster is not compounded by man-made failure to use the country's resources to help its children."



Cathy Grace and Sen. Mary Landrieu

## Grant provides assistance to Masters in Teaching-Secondary program students

LEAP: Learning and Educating through Alternative Programs, a grant funded by the U.S. Department of Education, provides qualifying students on the Starkville and Meridian campuses a \$5,000 stipend and use of a laptop computer as they complete an MAT-S degree.

The Master of Arts in Teaching-Secondary program incorporates academic coursework, classroom internship, and mentoring. LEAP is a partnership with the state Department of Education and a consortium of 42 high-need rural school districts.

Drs. **Matt Boggan**, **Terry Jayroe**, and **Susie Burroughs**, along with **Connie Forde**, **Linda Cornelious**, **Dinetta Karriem**, and **Margaret Pope**, were awarded approximately \$3.2 million by the DOE for the LEAP grant.

**Susan Steward**, who has 24 years of teaching experience and serves as the LEAP project coordinator, focuses on recruiting and training LEAP participants for critically understaffed positions in high-need schools throughout Mississippi.

"More than 450 people have contacted the LEAP staff about the MAT-S/LEAP program since the implementation of the grant," Steward said. "We are so excited that we can offer students the \$5,000 stipend and the use of a laptop. It certainly helps offset the cost for many of the students who really want to work in the Mississippi educational system."

Steward is also working with school administrators and LEAP personnel to enhance the working relationships between the COE and the partner school districts.

During the 2009-10 academic year, nine students were

awarded approximately \$40,000 in scholarships. Those students were: **Glenda Cater** of Decatur, **Melony Dees** of Meridian, **Kerri Estes** of Walnut Grove, **Scott Farmer** of Meridian, **Clinton Hughes** of Meridian, **Kristi Jernigan** of Louisville, **Delois Samson** of Lauderdale, and **Crystal Zanders Holder** of Starkville.

LEAP personnel will continue to work to provide scholarships for 35-40 students a year over the next four years. With input from the partner districts and the project participants, LEAP staffers will work to improve education in Mississippi. The data collected from the LEAP grant will serve to enhance the quality of the alternate route program at MSU.

LEAP





## New Administrators



DR. **FRANKIE K. WILLIAMS**, associate professor of leadership, has been named department head for leadership and foundations. She received a Ph.D. in educational leadership from the University of South Carolina in 1996. Williams has experience as a teacher and administrator and has served as an administrator at the high school, community college and university levels. In addition, she served as a senior level administrator in South Carolina in the area of academic affairs at the college and state levels. Her research agenda includes leadership preparation and diversity issues throughout the P-16 educational system. She has established an extensive record of scholarly research, demonstrated by her more than 30 publications in refereed journal articles, book chapters and encyclopedia entries. She was honored as the 2008 recipient of the Award of Excellence in Graduate Student Advising and the 2006 Award of Excellence in Service and Outreach for the College of Health, Education and Human Development at Clemson University. Williams has presented her research at national and international conferences, including the American Educational Research Association, the National Council on Race and Ethnicity, the University Council for Educational Administration, and the Annual Women in Educational Leadership Conference. She has served on the editorial board of the Educational Administration Quarterly, Journal of the Professoriate and National Association of Student Affairs Professional Journal. Williams holds memberships on several committees and task forces committed to improving educational leadership.



DR. **DANIEL W. WONG** is professor and head of the department of counseling and educational psychology. Before joining MSU, he was a professor and director of the doctoral program in the department of rehabilitation studies, College of Allied Health Sciences, and an adjunct professor in the department of physical medicine and rehabilitation at Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, N.C. Since 1987, Wong has taught at the University of North Texas and San Jose (Calif.) State University; as department chair and associate professor in the department of counseling, research, special education, and rehabilitation at Hofstra University in N.Y.; and as acting chair and associate professor at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Hawaii.

## New Faculty

### KINESIOLOGY

**DR. STAMATIS AGIOVLASITIS,**

assistant professor of kinesiology, graduated from Oregon State University in 2007 with a Ph.D. in movement studies in disability. He then spent two years in post-doctoral training at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign working under Dr. Bo Fernhall where he worked on several studies applying exercise physiology protocols in persons with disabilities, most notably Down Syndrome. Originally from Greece, Agiovlasitis graduated with bachelor's and master's degrees from Queens College, City University of New York.

His current areas of research include physiological and biomechanical aspects of gait in persons with Down Syndrome and intellectual disability, physical activity and physical fitness in individuals with Down Syndrome and intellectual disability, motor control of persons with Down Syndrome and intellectual disability, and self-organization of



movement and physiological complexity in individuals with disabilities.

Agiovlasitis' professional memberships include the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance; American College of Sports Medicine; International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity; and North American Society for the Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity.

**DR. ADAM KNIGHT,** assistant professor of kinesiology, graduated from Auburn University in 2008 with a Ph.D. in biomechanics. He is also a 2004 graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi with a bachelor's

degree in athletic training and a 2006 graduate of Auburn with a master's in exercise science. His current areas of research include latency of the ankle musculature, balance at height and prevention of ankle sprains.

Knight's professional memberships include



the American Society of Biomechanics, National Athletic Trainers' Association, and the National Strength and Conditioning Association.

### COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

**DR. TAWNY MCCLEON**

is an assistant professor of school psychology in the department of counseling and educational psychology. She received a Ph.D. in educational psychology with an emphasis in school psychology from Mississippi State. McCleon completed her pre-doctoral internship training at Houston Independent School District in Houston, Texas, an APA-accredited site. Prior to joining MSU, McCleon served as a district test coordinator and school psychologist in public education.

McCleon's research interests include multicultural issues in assessment, crisis prevention and intervention, and academic assessment and interventions.





Professional memberships include the National Association of School Psychologists, Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs-Trainers of School Psychology, and Mississippi Association for Psychology in the Schools, where she is membership chair and president-elect.

**DR. CHERYL A. JUSTICE**

is an assistant professor in counselor education in the department of counseling and educational psychology. She received a Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision at the University of Mississippi. She came to MSU from the University of Mississippi, where she served as a graduate assistant at the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning.

Justice has more than 20 years of experience in teaching, counseling, group, and therapy work with children, adolescents and adults. She has worked extensively in mental health, criminal justice, non-profit, and social jus-



tice settings. Her research interests focus on advocacy and empowerment of individuals. Justice is interested in research that includes increasing personal, interpersonal, and political power so that individuals, families, and communities can take action to improve life situations. She is skilled in qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-method research.

**DR. REBECCA M. GOLDBERG**

is an alumnus of the University of Florida, where she received her graduate degrees in mental health and marriage and family counseling. She is an assistant professor of clinical mental health counseling in the department of counseling and educational psychology. She is the director of the Grief Counseling and Client Support Services program at MSU's College of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Health Center.

Goldberg's research interests include women's studies, relational aggression, disordered eating, grief counseling and the human-animal



bond, effective supervision practices, and multiculturalism in counselor education.

**DR. CARMEN D. REISENER**

is an assistant professor in the department of counseling and educational psychology with a doctorate in school psychology from the University of Southern Mississippi. She is committed to advance the field of school psychology by strengthening the link between science and services, and by helping future and current school psychologists enhance the learning and mental health of all children.

Reisener's research interests include autism, applied behavior analysis, and pediatric feeding disorders. She is currently an executive committee member of the Mississippi Association for Psychology in the Schools, and holds active memberships in the National Association of School Psychologists and Trainers of School Psychology.





## New Faculty

### ISWD

**CHRIS MELBY-CODLING** has taught art for 30 years at all levels. She received her master's of art education degree from Lindenwood University in St. Louis, Mo. For 10 years she taught in the department of curriculum and instruction at MSU and taught adjunct at Mississippi University for Women in the art department before joining ISWD.

Melby-Codling is a full-time lecturer in the department of instructional systems and workforce development. She teaches history and appreciation of art crafts to four sections of 24 students, including one honors class. Her students are introduced to a variety of arts that have them creating one multi-media exploration, multiple ceramics projects, and a stained glass mosaic. The students' works are displayed throughout the building. This semester's classes created individual fiber sculptures that will be displayed permanently.

DR. **JOANNE BERISWILL** joined the faculty as an assistant professor and program coordinator for the MST and MSIT master's degree programs in the department of instructional

systems and workforce development. She received her Ph.D. in instructional systems technology from Indiana University in 2007. Her dissertation focused on the way visual designers create websites, and won the IST Dissertation of the Year Award.

Believing that teaching and research are symbiotic, she applies the design processes from her research agenda to the courses she teaches. Likewise, through her teaching of topics such as multimedia and instructional design, she discovers areas in need of further research.

An award-winning teacher, Beriswill has taught at the middle-school and university levels for 22 years. With extensive experience in large-scale curriculum design, she is spearheading the re-design of the master's degree program in ISWD.

### LEADERSHIP AND FOUNDATIONS

DR. **STEPHANIE KING**, assistant professor in the department of leadership and foundations, earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Mississippi University for Women and master's and doctorate degrees from Mis-

issippi State. King has held teaching and research positions at Wood College, East Mississippi Community College, and Mississippi State. Her teaching responsibilities at MSU include community development and resources, community college instructional assessment, and history and philosophy of the community college.



King's research agenda focuses on articulation and transfer to and from the community college, community college student persistence and completion, and meeting the needs of non-traditional students. She is a member of the editorial board for the Community College Journal of Research and Practice and is active in the Council for the Study of Community Colleges.

### MUSIC

DR. **BRIAN NEDVIN** is a lecturer in the department of music. His career includes work as a performing musician, teacher, and ad-



ministrator. He has appeared at the New York City Opera as the "Duke" in Verdi's "Rigoletto," Washington Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, and Edmonton Opera as "Count Almaviva" in Rossini's "Il barbiere di Siviglia," Arizona Opera and Cincinnati Opera as "Edgardo" in Donizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor," Connecticut Opera as "Don Ottavio" in Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and "Tamino" in Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte," BonnStadtOper as "Don Ottavio" in Mozart's "Don Giovanni," and the Dortmund Oper as "Julien" in both operas by Charpentier, "Louise," and "Julien." Nedvin has been involved with four world premieres, including Hans Schaeuble's "Dorian Gray," in which he sang the title role.

He has performed numerous times as a soloist at Carnegie Hall with Opera Orchestra of New York and has sung as a soloist with the American Symphony Orchestra in Avery Fischer Hall. Nedvin was a member of the Lyric Opera Center for American Artists at the Lyric Opera of Chicago for three years, and earned his doctorate at the University of North Texas. He received his master of music degree from the Eastman School of Music, and a bachelor of music degree from Bucknell University. Nedvin's major teachers

included Bill Schumann, Margaret Harshaw and Lynn Eustis. He has recently been seen in an updated version of Donizetti's "L'Elisir d'Amore," in Strauss' "Die Fledermaus," as well as several concerts and lecture-recitals. Future engagements include Oskar Nedbal's "Polenblut" in the Czech Republic and numerous presentations of his lecture-recital: "Music of the Holocaust."

## CIRRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

**DR. JOHNETTA WADE MORRISON** is an associate professor in the department of curriculum, instruction and special education. She earned degrees from Tougaloo College, the University of Mississippi, and Syracuse University.

Morrison's research interests include early childhood curriculum development and teacher professional development, nationally and internationally. Research work done internationally occurred in Ghana, Jamaica and South Africa. She has



held and presently holds elected and appointed positions in the Association for Childhood Education International, National Association for the Education of Young Children, National Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators, and World Organization for Early Childhood Education.

**ANGELA MULKANA**, an instructor in CISE, holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in elementary education from Mississippi State. She is currently pursuing a doctorate in curriculum and instruction from the College of Education.

Mulkana's teaching experience includes more than five years of teaching in public schools in Mississippi and one year of teaching in higher education. As a research specialist for the research and evaluation section of the Research Curriculum Unit, Mulkana worked closely with the faculty and staff on its research and evaluation agenda, as well as working with public schools on implementing their research agendas.

## New Faculty

DR. **KARA ROSENBLATT** is an assistant professor of special education in CISE. She received undergraduate and master's degrees from Florida State University and a doctorate from the University of Central Florida.

Rosenblatt's primary research focuses on the effects of technology and 21st century learning at the secondary level with a specific interest in the academic achievement and post high school outcomes of students with learning disabilities. She also has a passion for teacher preparation and focuses on the use of technology to prepare pre-service educators to meet the needs of their students. Rosenblatt has collaborated on a number of grant projects, including national, state, and local, and has led and evaluated professional development projects on the implementation of research-based reading strategies, parent-school collaboration, and the legal aspects of special education. She teaches courses on learning disabilities, evaluation and assessment, and secondary methods for special education teachers. Rosenblatt is a former middle school special education teacher.

### MERIDIAN-CISE

DR. **LINDON RATLIFF** is an assistant professor of secondary education in CISE at the Meridian Campus. He comes to the university from Delta State University where he served as assistant professor of secondary education, as well as the coordinator of the Master's of Arts in Teaching program. His research interests include alternative methods for teaching social studies and effective Civil Rights instruction.

Ratliff earned his Ph.D. in social science education from the University of Mississippi and, prior to moving into higher education, taught high school social studies.



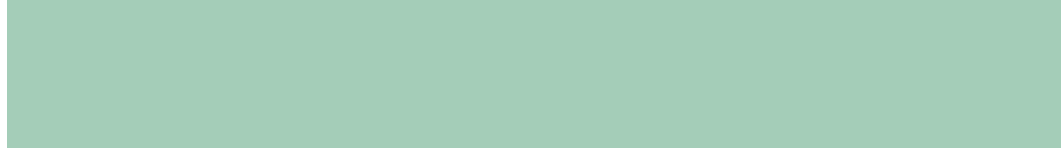
### THE LEARNING CENTER

**LAURA MARIE MORAN**, coordinator of the Learning Skills Support Program, earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology, focusing on cultural anthropol-



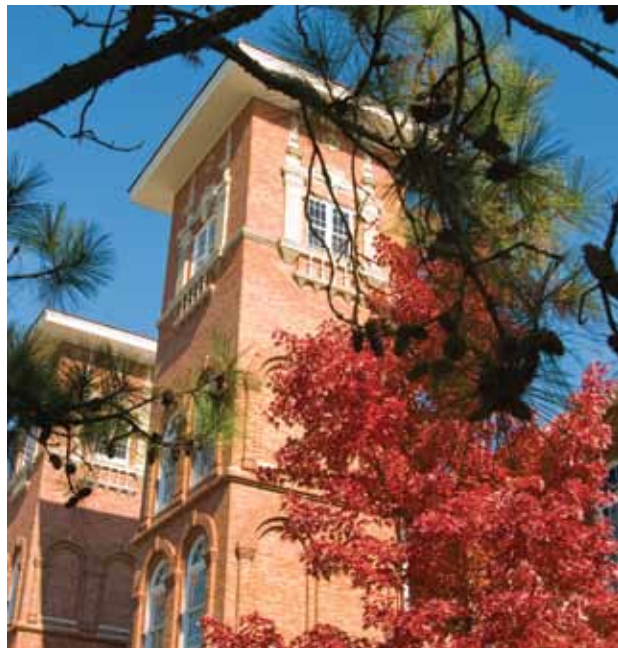
ogy, and a master's in English, focusing on medieval through 19th century literature, both from Mississippi State. Moran began her teaching career in MSU's English department, where she taught English Composition I and II during her graduate assistantship. She also held the position of online instructor teaching English Composition I and II for Itawamba Community College in Fulton. Her teaching responsibilities at MSU focus on the Learning Skills Support Program (LSSP), which was developed for students who have been placed on academic suspension due to failing to achieve successful grade-point averages. She is also responsible for meeting with the students in the program and monitoring their progress throughout the course of the semester.

Moran's scholarly interests include the writings of Geoffrey Chaucer, John Milton, the Brönte sisters, and Jane Austen. Her focus combines her background of anthropology with her English studies by examining the works from a cultural standpoint. She is also the author of several short works of fiction, which include "To Stand Up and Be Seen," "The Haunting," "Thursdays," and "Wisteria, Lilacs, and Lace." "Thursdays" is currently entered in the Press 53 Open Awards.



She is a member of the Lambda Alpha National Anthropological Honor Society. Moran's current focus with the students of the LSSP is to provide them with the tools and habits that enable them to be successful students here at MSU.

Currently, Moran is completing her short story, "Mahogany Prison," and beginning to look at the cultural implications and backgrounds of students who have been placed on academic suspension and who chose to enter into the LSSP rather than sit out for a semester.



## MSU begins effort to increase math, science teachers

A Mississippi State associate professor is the principal investigator for a new National Science Foundation grant of more than \$880,000 to increase the number of talented mathematics and science teachers.

Dr. **Linda Coats** of the College of Education's department of leadership and foundations is lead researcher for the NSF-funded Robert Noyce Scholarship Program at the university.

The program is designed to increase science, technology, engineering, and mathematics professionals teaching in the 7th-12th grades. Those selected for the awards and stipends are required to complete two years of teaching in a "high-need" school district for each year of support received.

During the grant's five years, 20 undergraduate scholars will receive \$10,000 per year. They also must double-major in chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics or engineering, and science or math education. Additionally, the grant funds six \$15,000 stipends to professionals in those fields pursuing a master of arts degree in teaching at the secondary level.

"This project displays our passion about ensuring that every classroom in Mississippi has a highly qualified and effective teacher," Coats said. "This can be achieved with teachers who are intimately aware of educational theory, equipped with appropriate pedagogical skills, and are thoroughly familiar with science and math content."

Overall, Coats said the program has the potential to reach about 7,000 students in high-need Mississippi public schools.

Researchers from the College of Education, Bagley College of Engineering, and College of Arts and Sciences are collaborating on the grant. Co-project investigators include Dr. **Burnette Hamil**, professor of curriculum, instruction and special education; Svein Saebo, professor of chemistry; Dr. **Dana Franz**, associate professor of curriculum, instruction and special education; and Tommy Stevenson, the engineering college's assistant dean of diversity programs and student development.

Coats said area school districts involved in the project include Noxubee and Oktibbeha counties, Starkville and West Point. Summer internships at the schools, as well as university summer and community educational programs, will be used to assist with recruiting students into the scholarship program.



## Faculty and Staff Kudos

DR. **CARLEN HENINGTON** of Counseling and Educational Psychology (CEP) serves as the Mississippi Delegate and was recently elected by the nine other delegates from the region as the Southeastern Delegate Representative on the Executive Board for the National Association of School Psychologists.



DR. **BRUCE LESLEY**, director of choral activities, will be the Senior High and Senior High Chamber Choir Director for the 2010 Montreat Conference on Worship and Music in Montreat, North

Carolina. This national conference theme is "Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith" and is sponsored by the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

DR. **JOSHUA WATSON** of Meridian CEP has been appointed executive editor of the Journal of College Counseling for a three-year term beginning July 1, 2010. Joshua Watson has also been awarded a contract by Pearson Publishing to author a new text entitled "Clinical Mental Health Counseling: Fundamentals

in Applied Practice," which is scheduled for a winter 2011/spring 2012 release. Watson was also the winner of the American Counseling Association's Ralph E. Berdie Memorial Research Award.

DR. **KATHERINE DOOLY** of CEP was recently appointed to the Task Force for Racial Reconciliation for the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi by The Reverend Duncan M. Gray, III, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Mississippi.



**ELVA KAYE LANCE**, director of bands at MSU, was selected by the Alabama Bandmasters Association to present a clinic at the Alabama Music Educators Association 2010 In-Service Conference at the Uni-

versity of Alabama. The clinic presentation, The First Ten Minutes: Developing Procedures focused on curriculum development and effectiveness in the rehearsal through appropriate daily procedures to ensure student success.



DR. **CONNIE FORDE** of Instructional Systems and Workforce Development (ISWD) serves as the president-elect of the National Council of Pi Omega Pi, honor society for business teacher education. She will assume the office of president for 2011-2013.



DR. **APRIL HEISELT** of CEP was named Most Influential Teacher for the College of Education for 2009 by the MSU Student Association.



DR. **JACKIE EDWARDS-HENRY** of Music received a \$5,000 grant from the James W. Criss Christianity Trust fund for her proposed project, "Improvisation and the

Piano in Christian Worship,” to bring pianist-composer-pedagogue Phillip Keveren to Mississippi State University Sept. 16-18, 2010, to conduct master classes and perform a concert. The Criss Christianity Trust fund is a private fund set aside for the use of promoting Christianity at Mississippi State University.

**LINDA R. IRBY**, communications coordinator for the Center for Educational Partnerships and the Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute, has been appointed to serve as a member of the Achievement Awards in Writing Advisory Committee for the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE).



**DR. ROBERT DAMM** of Music was awarded the International Fiesta Certificate of Appreciation (2010) in recognition of years of service, support, and contributions to the promotion of intercultural relationships in the Starkville–MSU community.



**DR. NANCY VERHOEK-MILLER**, of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education (CISE), is serving as editor for the Mississippi Reading Journal.



**DR. CATHY GRACE**, director of the Early Childhood Institute, was named the 2009 recipient of the Winter-Reed Partnership Award. The award, created by the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education in 2007, honors those who exhibit the ideals and partnership exemplified by the lifelong commitment to education demonstrated by the two for whom the award was named, Governor William Winter and Tupelo businessman Jack Reed, Sr.

**DR. MICHAEL BROWN**, head of the Department of Music, joined with John Coble, of Covenant Presbyterian Church, to present an organ and trumpet recital at Starkville’s First United Methodist Church to benefit Haitian students. Persons attending the free concert brought donations of used musical instruments and related equipment, as well as cash gifts.

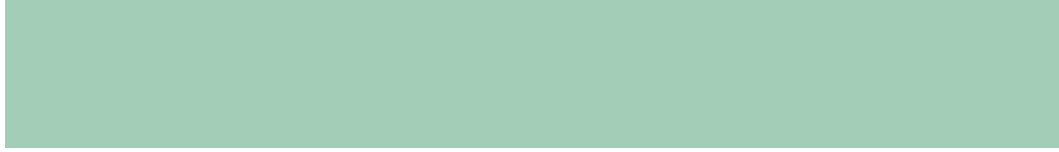
## Faculty and Staff Kudos

**ROSÂNGELA SEBBA** of the Department of Music has released a two-CD album entitled "Sonatinas and Sonata by Camargo Guarnieri." The project is partially funded by Mississippi State University and the Instituto Casa Brasil de Cultura, a non-profit organization involved in the rescue and development of Brazilian culture, music, architecture, and art. The eight Sonatinas and the Sonata featured on the album have never before been recorded as a group. Sebba also presented in two College Music Society Regional Conferences during the spring semester: the Southern Regional Conference in February, with Drs. Elaine Peterson and Michael Huff on Paul Hindemith's Double Concerto for Bassoon and Trumpet; and the South Central Regional Conference, with Andrea Teixeira in a lecture/recital entitled "Brazilian Nature in Almeida Prado's Music for Piano Four Hands."

**SHERI FALCONE, ROBERT DAMM, ELAINE PETERSON** and **ROSÂNGELA SEBBA** of the Department of Music were invited to perform as a part of the "Mississippi Artists Recital" during Clarinet Day held at the University of Mississippi. Students and faculty from Tennessee, Louisiana, Alabama, and Mississippi gathered for the event to perform and give master classes to high school and college students.







## Retirees



**CATHY GRACE** Professor of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education & Director of Early Childhood Institute



**Vince McGrath**  
Professor of Leadership and Foundations



**Nancy Verhoek-Miller**  
Professor of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education



**Kathy Forrester**  
Administrative Secretary, The Learning Center



**Sue Minchew**  
Professor of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education & Associate Dean



**Dr. Bruce Lesley**  
Associate Professor of Music & Director of Choral Activities



**Stephen John Obinger**  
Professor of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education



Not Pictured

**Pam Mottley**

Technical Assistant, Early Childhood Institute

**Cheryl Mueller**

Coordinator, Early Childhood Institute

**Betty Purvis**

Business Manager, Dean's Office

**Beth Robinson**

Administrative Secretary, Counseling & Educational Psychology





## Selected Publications

- Agiovlasitis, S.**, McCubbin, J.A., Widrick, J.J., Yun, J., & Pavol, M.J. (2009). Walking economy and preferred walking speed in adults with and without Down Syndrome. *Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly*, 26(2), 118-130.
- Baker, J.C.** (2009). *Un Dia de Noviembre*. Portland, OR: Tapspace Publications.
- Bedford, A.W., & **Brenner, D.** (2009). Making contact in times of crisis: Literacy practices in a post-Katrina world. In MacGillivray, L. (Ed.) *Literacy in Times of Crisis: Practices and Perspectives* (pp. 15-31). New York: Taylor and Francis.
- Brocato, K.** (2009). Studio based learning: Proposing, critiquing, iterating our way to person centeredness for better classroom management. *Theory into Practice*, 48(2), 138-146.
- Burroughs, S., Hopper, P.F., & Brocato, K.** (Fall, 2009). Democracy camp for teachers: Cross-cultural professional development for preparing educators to create social justice-minded citizens. *International Education*, 48-63.
- Coffey, K.M., & Obringer, S.J.** (2009). Diastat: A necessary related service. *Physical Disabilities: Education and Related Services*, 27(2), 7-17.
- Damm, R.** (2010). *Improvisation for Six Timpani*. New York: HaMaR Percussion Publications.
- Elder, A.D.** (2010). Children's self-assessment of their school work in elementary school. *Education 3-13: International Journal of Primary, Elementary and Early Years Education*, 38(1), 5 - 11.
- Franz, D.P.**, Vannest, K. J., Parker, R. I., Hasbrouck, J. E., Dyer, N., Davis, J. L. (2009). Time use by special educators and how it is valued. *Journal of School Leadership* 18, 551-576.
- Hall, K.R.**, Rushing, J.R., & Owens, R. (2009). Anger in middle school: The solving problems together model. *Journal of School Counseling*, 7(39). Retrieved from <http://www.jsc.montana.edu/articles/v7n39.pdf>
- Heiselt, A.**, & Wolverton, R. (2009). Librarians: Linking college students and their community through service-learning. *Reference and User Services Quarterly (RUSQ)*, 49(1), 83-90.
- Hoyt, T.** (2009). Skeletal muscle benefits of endurance training: mitochondrial adaptations. *AMAA Journal*, 22(3), 14-16.
- Huang, C.J., **Webb, H.E.**, Garten, R.S., Kamimori, G.H., Evans, R.K., & Acevedo, E.O. (2010). Stress Hormones and Immunological Responses to a Dual Challenge in Professional Firefighters. *International Journal of Psychophysiology*, 75, 312-318.
- Jayroe, T., Pope, M., McCarra, J., & Hamil, B.** (2009). Enhancing science knowledge using literature based centers. *The Electronic Journal of Literacy Through Science*, 8, 1-17.



Kane, H.D., & **Devlin, S.D.** (2009). A comparison of differential reinforcement techniques in reducing inappropriate verbalizations: A case study from Thailand. *Journal of Research Methodology*, 20, 492-502.

Ke, F., & **Xie, K.** (2009). Toward deep learning in adult-oriented online courses: The impact of course design strategies. *The Internet and Higher Education*, 12(3-4), 136-145.

**King, S.B., & Minchew, S.S.** (2010). Comparison of community college transfer and university native students' participation in teaching. *The Community College Journal of Research and Practice*, 34(3), 267-276.

**Love, A.,** Lim, S.Y., & DeSensi, J.T. (2009). Mianne Bagger: A transitioned woman's efforts for inclusion in professional golf. *Women in Sport and Physical Activity Journal*, 18(1), 68-77.

McCullick, B., Mason, I., Schempp, P.G., Foo, C., **Vickers, B.,** Connolly, G. (2009). A scrutiny of the Coaching Education Program Scholarship since 1995. *Quest*, 61(3), 322-335.

**McDonnall, M.C.** (2009). The effects of developing a dual sensory loss on depression in older adults: A longitudinal study. *Journal of Aging and Health*, 21(8), 1179-1199.

Miller, N.C., **Thompson, N.L., & Franz, D.P.** (2009). Being proactive in the cyberspace: Strategies to safeguard young adolescents. *Middle School Journal*, 41(1), 28-34.

**Moore, J.E.,** Wolffe, K.E., & **McDonnall, M.C.** (2010). Employment considerations for adults with low vision. In A.L. Corn & J.N. Erin (Eds.), *Foundations of low vision: Clinical and functional perspectives* (2nd ed., 799 - 832). New York: AFB Press.

Shapiro, S., Drayer, J., Dwyer, B., **Morse, A.** (2009). Punching a ticket to the big dance: A critical analysis of at-large selection into the NCAA Division I men's basketball tournament. *Journal of Issues in Intercollegiate Athletics*, 1(2), 46-63.

Sommer, C., Derrick, E., Bourgeois, M., Ingene, D., Yang, J., & **Justice, C.** (2009). Multicultural connections: Using stories to transcend cultural boundaries in supervision. *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development*, 37, 206-218.

**Tucker, C., Boggan, M., & Harper, S.** (2010). Using children's literature to teach math. *Journal of Reading Improvement*, 17(4), 27-40.

**Watson, J.C.** (2009). Native American racial identity development and college adjustment at two-year institutions. *Journal of College Counseling*, 12, 125-136.

**Webb, H.E.,** McMinn, D.R., Garten, R.S., Beckman, J.L., & Acevedo, E.O. (2010). Cardiorespiratory Responses of Firefighters to a Computerized Fire Strategies and Tactics Drill during Physical Activity. *Applied Ergonomics*, 41, 376-381.

## Selected Publications / Presentations

**Williams, F.K., & Blackbourn, R.** (2009). School leadership: Principals' perceptions regarding caring in schools. *National Forum of Educational Administration and Supervision Journal*, 27(1), 4-17.

**Xu, J.** (2010). Homework purposes reported by secondary school students: A multilevel analysis. *Journal of Educational Research*, 103, 171-182.

**Yu, C., Williams, A., Lin, C., & Yu, W. C.** (2010). Revisit planning effective multimedia instructions. In H. Song & T. T. Kidd (Eds.), *Handbook of Research on Human Performance and Instructional Technology* (pp. 131 – 146). Hershey, PA: Information Science Reference. 131-146.

### Selected Presentations

**Adams, J.** (2009). *GED in high schools: Positive objective or negative alternative*. Paper presented at 2009 Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) Convention, Nashville, TN.

**Agiovlasitis, S., Motl, R.W., Fahs, C.A., Ranadive, S.M., Yan, H., Echols, G.H., et al.** (2010). *Energetic cost during over-ground walking in adults with Down Syndrome*. Poster presented at the American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance national convention, Indianapolis, IN.

**Bedesem, P., & Rosenblatt, K.** (2009). *Using ubiquitous technology in*

*academic and behavioral interventions for students with EBD*. Paper presented at Teacher Educators for Children with Behavior Disorders, Tempe, AZ.

**Boggan, M., Jayroe, T., & McCarra, J.** (2009) *A rural principal's best friend: Distance education programs*. 2009 Society for Informational Technology and Teacher Education International Conference, Charleston, SC.

**Burroughs, S., Braun, J., & Gotchy, J.** (2009). *NCSS professional development through powerful and authentic social studies (PASS)*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council for the Social Studies, Atlanta, GA.

**Carlyle, G., Hare, R.D., & Thompson, N.L.** (2009). *Postsecondary transitions of Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians tribal scholarship program students*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association. San Diego, CA.

**Clary, R.M., Hamil, B., Beard, D., Chevalier, D., Dunne, J., & Saebo, S.** (2009). *A research-based science teacher education program for a competitive tomorrow*. Paper presented at the American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting, San Francisco, CA.

**Coffey, K.** (2010). *Changing academic performance and promoting success: The PDS impact on students*. Paper presented at Professional Development Schools National Conference, Orlando, FL.





**Damm, R.** (2009, July). *Drum Circles*. Presented at the Mississippi Arts Commission's Whole Schools Initiative Summer Institute, Oxford, MS.

Droddy, J., Smith, W., **Robichaux, R.R.**, & Guarino, A.J. (2009). *School accountability status, student core GPA and ACT as predictors for first-year college retention*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Mid-South Educational Research Association, Baton Rouge, LA.

**Du, J.X.**, & **Cornelious, L.** (April, 2009). *Students' perceptions towards online collaborative learning effectiveness*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

**Du, J.X.**, & **Xu, J.** (April, 2009). *Factors influencing students' participation in online collaborative discussions*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

**Forde, C.M.** (2009). *Integrating 21st century learning skills in your business classroom*. Paper presented at the Mississippi Business Education Association, Hattiesburg, MS.

**Harper, S.**, **Boggan, M.**, **Bryan, L.**, **Shirley, T.**, & Bifuh-Ambe, E. (2009). *Are PK-3 educators ready to use virtual math manipulatives?* Paper presented at the International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI.

**Heiselt, A.**, Hall, S., & Wolverton, R. (2009). *Libraries on their minds from day one: A new model for freshman service-learning programs*. Paper presented at the American Library Association National Conference, Chicago, IL.

**Hopper, P.F.**, Oliphant-Ingham, R., Foster, E.J., Coskey, S. (2009). *Coke vs. Coke Classic, Ben and Jerry's vs. Bluebell, classics vs. ya literature: Is it just a matter of taste?* Paper presented at the National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention, Philadelphia, PA.

**Jayroe, T.**, **Pope, M.**, **Boggan, M.**, & **McCarra, J.** (2009). *Using electronic assessment systems to improve teacher education*. A paper presented at the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education Conference, Charleston, SC.

McLeod, K.A., Tangsilsat, S.E., Kamimori, G.H., Acevedo, E.O., & **Webb, H.E.** (2009). *Concurrent mental and physical challenge: Cardiorespiratory and neuroendocrine responses*. Paper presented at the Annual American College of Sport Medicine Conference, Seattle, WA.

**Pope, M.**, **Robichaux, R.**, **Scholtes, T.**, & **Jayroe, T.** (2010, March). *The "give and take" of the university faculty, teacher candidate, and classroom teacher professional relationship*. Paper presented at the National Association for Professional Development Schools, Orlando, FL.



## Presentations

**Porter, J. Y., Wozny, D. A., & Watson, J.C.** (2009). *Using student peer mentoring groups to promote mental wellness on a commuter college campus*. Paper presented at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, San Diego, CA.

**Robichaux, R. R., & Rodrigue, P. R.** (2009). *Using culturally relevant contexts to develop mathematical understanding*. Paper presented at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, Nashville, TN.

**Scholtes, T., & Pope, M.** (2009). *The mentoring message*. A paper presented at the Kappa Delta Pi Convocation, Orlando, FL.

**Sobaskie, J.W.** (2010). *Chopin's legacy in France: The music of Gabriel Fauré*. A paper presented at the Third International Chopin Congress, Chopin 1810–2010: Ideas, Interpretation, Influence, held at the University of Warsaw, Warsaw, Poland.

**Thompson, N.L., Franz, D.P., & Miller, N.C.** (2009). *A comparison of teacher's perceptions of perceived barriers regarding the implementation of common planning time at two middle schools*. Paper presented at the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, CA.

**Vickers, B.** (2009, November). *Modes of learning utilized by coaches to increase knowledge and understanding*. Paper presented at the International Council for Coach Education Global Coach Conference, Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Wax, B., Kinzey, S.J., Lyons, B., & Brown, S.P.** (July, 2009). *The ergogenic effects of carbohydrate on force output and slope of fatigue during a selected resistance protocol*. Paper presented at the Annual National Strength and Conditioning Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV.



## MSU industrial technology students repeat as national champions

A robot designed and built by a Mississippi State industrial technology student team retained the title as overall champions in this year's student competition sponsored by the Association of Technology, Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE).

All members of the campus ATMAE chapter, the nine-person group was among 12 university teams from around the United States involved in the challenge. The event was part of the association's 2009 convention held in Louisville, Ky.

"Each school's entry was graded in the categories of performance, construction and presentation," said Mickey Giordano, an instructor in ISWD and one of the MSU team's three faculty advisers.

In the performance section, all 12 robots were in a double-elimination bracket. With four racquetballs and a bocce ball placed in a taped-off square at the center of the 24-by-24-foot arena, the goal was to collect as many balls as possible and have them in your corner at the end of the three-minute contest. Each racquetball ball earned a point and the bocce ball was worth three points; any knocked or dropped outside the marked area brought an equal penalty in points. If your robot left the arena area you were also penalized one point. The team with the most points after three minutes was the winner.

"Last year we were hoping to do well and we won, this year we had the pressure of trying to repeat and the students did a great job and again were victorious," added the instructor in industrial technology.

In addition to a \$1,000 prize to help with next year's robot, a

\$300 training robotic kit, a trophy, and some high-end computer design software, the MSU team's victory will enable two industrial technology majors to spend a week in Dayton, Ohio, receiving specialized robotics and automation training at Rixan Associates Inc.

"The Rixan training normally costs nearly \$1,200 per person," Giordano said, adding that ATMAE also is providing each student with a \$750 travel stipend.

Other chapter advisers accompanying the team to Louisville were associate professor Dr. **John E. Wyatt** and instructor **Jerry Mize**.

*The nine students and three advisers who traveled to Louisville include:*

**Advisers:** Dr. John Wyatt, Mickey Giordano and Jerry Mize.

**Students:** Adam Brown, a junior from Lake; Trenton Cockrell, senior from Louisville; Cory Greenough, senior, Moss Point; Brad Jones, senior, Kosciusko; Andy Langford, sophomore, Starkville; Jonathan Mosley, senior, Vernon, Ala.; Richard Morgan, senior, Yazoo City; Steven "Pokey" Prewitt, senior, Winona; and Chad Stowell, senior, Starkville.



The 2009 ATMAE Robotic Manipulator winners with their competition-winning robot Fetch II are, front row, l-r, Mickey Giordano, Bradley W. "Brad" Jones, Adam A. Brown, Cory A. Greenough, and Trenton G. Cockrell. Back row, l-r, are Steven D. "Pokey" Prewitt, Jonathan W. Mosley, Andrew P. "Andy" Langford, Charles T. "Chad" Stowell, Richard L. Morgan, and Dr. John E. Wyatt.





Alpha Pi tailgate celebrates local chapter's 70th birthday.

## Alpha Pi captures fourth place in national competition

The Alpha Pi Chapter of Pi Omega Pi, business teacher education majors' honor society, ranked fourth in national competition for the 2009 competition year.

**Brookes Mayes**, national student representative and local officer, and Dr. **Connie Forde**, faculty adviser and professor in the Department of Instructional Systems and Workforce Development, accepted the award at the National Business Education Association Convention in spring 2010. Mayes also was invited to present greetings on behalf of the national society at the closing general session of the convention.

Led during the 2009-10 school year by president **Chelsea Rushing**, the 11-member organization developed service projects that included design and implementation of the National Pi Omega Pi online store for purchasing T-shirts, mugs and tote bags; hosting the Egg Bowl tailgate for alumni and members to celebrate Alpha Pi's 70th birthday; development of an Alpha Pi fan page for alumni and members; and donating benches for the portico of the Industrial Education Building.

Initiates for 2009-10 were **Nakeshea Brown**, **Crystal Craven**, **Vernita Sykes**, **Dorine Deason**, and **Trevor Portrey**. Other members include **Chelsea Rushing**, **Brookes Mayes**, **Jeff Bradley**, **Morgan Watkins**, **Samantha Wade**, and **Veronica McNutt**.

At the annual awards banquet in April, Mayes received the National Business Education Award of Merit and Watkins received the Mississippi Business Education Association Award of Merit. Rushing was honored as chapter president. Honor cords were presented to Mayes and Watkins.



## College of Education Students win Spirit of State awards

Students from the College of Education were among the recipients of the 2009 and 2010 Spirit of State awards.

Among the university's premier student honors, the Spirit of State awards recognize exceptional personal contributions to student life at Mississippi State. Spirit of State formally honors students who have excelled in campus involvement, service to the university and impacted on their peers and the broader campus community. Winners were recognized at a public ceremony and each received a customized gift that designates outstanding Spirit of State contributions.

### THE 2009 COE SPIRIT OF STATE AWARD WINNERS WERE:

- **Jason Bertrand** of Marinette, Wisc., a graduate student in counselor education and student affairs
- **Kiona Bolton** of Hattiesburg, a senior majoring in psychology and kinesiology
- **Haley Haynes** of Starkville, a junior majoring in sports communication
- **Shelley Pensworth** of Decatur, Ala., a sophomore majoring in sports communication and general business
- **Braxton Stowe** of Fayette, Ala., a senior majoring in secondary education
- **Randy Williams** of Rienzi, a junior majoring in technology teacher education and business technology

### THE 2010 COE SPIRIT OF STATE AWARD WINNERS WERE:

- **Tiffany Jackson** of Carriere, a senior majoring in elementary education
- **Arsenio Perry** of Columbus, a senior majoring in educational psychology
- **Thomas Sellers** of Canton, a senior majoring in physical education

## College of Education Ambassadors named

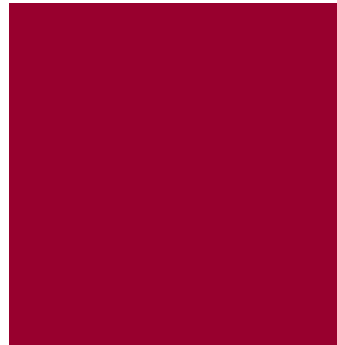
The College of Education Ambassadors are a group of students who assist in recruitment, orientation and development activities. As representatives for the college, they serve as liaisons to prospective students, alumni and benefactors.

### THE 2009-10 AMBASSADORS INCLUDE:

<b>Dailey Evans</b> (Tupelo)	Special Education
<b>Hannah Grace Walker</b> (Collierville, Tenn.)	Elementary Education
<b>Whitney Graham</b> (Grenada)	Clinical Exercise Physiology
<b>Olivia Boatman</b> (Eupora)	Music Education
<b>Sharon Davis</b> (Starkville)	Elementary Education
<b>Chasidy Smith</b> (Noxapater)	Secondary Biology Education
<b>Troy Yarbrough</b> (Louisville)	Secondary Biology Education
<b>Jonathan Mosley</b> (Vernon, Ala.)	Industrial Education
<b>Thomas Sellers</b> (Canton)	Kinesiology
<b>Stella Turman</b> (Cedar Bluff)	Elementary Education
<b>Jordan Villarreal</b> (Decatur, Ala.)	Elementary Education



Ambassadors are (l-r) Dailey Evans, Hannah Grace Walker, Whitney Graham, Olivia Boatman, Sharon Davis, Chasidy Smith, Troy Yarbrough, and adviser Dr. Terry Jayroe and Amy Prisock. Jonathan Mosley, Thomas Sellers, Stella Turman, and Jordan Villarreal were unavailable for the photograph.





## Engineering Saturday

Students from Dr. **Dana Franz's** Secondary Mathematics Education methods course assisted with Engineering Saturday at Armstrong Middle School, a joint effort between the College of Education and the Bagley College of Engineering.

Mathematics methods students led the middle schools students in activities such as "Sports and Conversion Factors Using Distance Problems," "Very Large and Very Small Numbers," "Area Under the Curve," and "How Fast am I Moving: Velocity." Franz's students worked with small groups of AMS students, not only to complete the activities, but also to help the students deepen their understanding of mathematics and its relationship with engineering.

Franz is an associate professor in the department of curriculum, instruction and special education.



Dana Lancaster of Corinth received a \$1,000 community grant from Wal-Mart to support counseling activities for Caledonia Elementary School in the Lowndes County School District. Lancaster served as a school counseling intern for the fall 2009 and spring 2010 semesters, completing more than 1,200 hours of service. She provided classroom guidance lessons, individual and group counseling and organized parent and teacher workshops and school-wide events.



### FALL 2009 OUTSTANDING TEACHER INTERN AWARDS

Lindsay Goodson of Tupelo  
Rachel Gaskin Alsup of Aberdeen  
Elyse Reider of Hattiesburg  
Blair Porter of Clinto

Elementary Education  
Elementary Education  
Social Studies Education  
Elementary Education



## Future Educators Association

The Future Educators Association had a very productive 2009-10 year. During the fall semester, members participated in "Read for the Record," a national program to promote reading.

FEA members read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* to local preschools and donated the book to the classroom following the mini-lesson. Members also had a game booth set up at the MSU Fall Festival held in October.

During the spring semester, a recruiting event was held at MSU. The MSU chapter of Future Educators Association hosted

the Starkville High School-Millsaps Vocational Center chapter of FEA on campus this spring as part of the effort to recruit high school students into the field of education. In addition to a tour of campus, the high school students had the opportunity to meet with MSU FEA members to discuss possible majors in the field of education. The MSU chapter also participated in a Walk for Education fundraiser held on the Drill Field. Money raised will go towards starting a scholarship to be given to an FEA member at MSU.





# Students learn about applications of materials through multi-media explorations

Industrial Technology instructor **Christine Melby-Codling** has introduced a fine art aspect to the basic history and appreciation of artcrafts class taught in the department of instructional systems and workforce development (ISWD).

Using her background in art, Melby-Codling teaches how basic industrial materials can become fine art products. The three-hour course covers the growth and development of art and crafts throughout the ages, using instructional applications, practical designs, demonstrations, and projects in metal, leather, ceramics, stained glass, and other handicraft areas.

Melby-Codling explains the processes as a journey toward creating multi-media explorations, and it becomes a layered progression with multiple steps and with constant student decision making. Before starting the projects, Melby-Codling demonstrates each step, allowing the novice art student to be able to keep up and comprehend the creative process.

Students begin with a watercolor exploration and develop layering of at least three colors. Then other media are added to complete the first step with the design. Next, the students must design their piece using visual and compositional techniques they have learned. Once their design is approved, they can begin cutting their relief from matte board. The exploratory pages are added to each cut piece and then raised to form a relief. Lastly, fused glass pieces are made and added to the final product before the work is framed for display.



Above: Examples of student work in industrial technology





## Four College of Education students selected for first Tillman Military Scholarships

Four College of Education students are among the inaugural group receiving national university scholarships awarded in memory of the late NFL player and Army Ranger Pat Tillman.

Tillman was a starting safety with the Arizona Cardinals from 1998-2001. In mid-2002, he placed his professional football career on hold to become a U.S. Army Ranger. Two years later, the San Jose, Calif., native was killed on active duty in Eastern Afghanistan.

"Mississippi State University is recognized nationally as a strong military- and veteran-friendly university," said MSU President Mark E. Keenum. "We are extremely grateful to be among the first schools selected to receive these special Tillman Military Scholarships in memory of a young soldier who fought valiantly for his country.

"The MSU students who are linked

to these inaugural awards will carry the imprint of Pat Tillman with them as they pursue their academic goals," he added.

The scholarships support the education of both veterans and their families.

"The goal of the Tillman Military Scholars program is to assist service members and their families in pursuing their educational goals, and to help them continue their service to this nation while honoring the legacy of Pat Tillman," Marie Tillman said.

Candidates for the awards may be affiliated with any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. They also must be enrolled full time, maintain a 3.0 grade-point average and demonstrate financial need, among other criteria. Tillman Military Scholars also must complete at least 10 hours of community service each semester.



**The first College of Education  
Tillman Military Scholars include:**

**MARKUS L. EDWARDS** of Brandon, a sophomore instrumental music education major and the son of Melvin and Vicki Edwards. He is a member of the Famous Maroon Band and Kappa Kappa Psi band fraternity.

**SAMANTHA B. HILL** of Flowood, a freshman secondary English education major and the daughter of Terry and Geraldine Hill. She was an honor graduate of Northwest Rankin High School.

**AMY J. MCNISH** of Meridian, a senior secondary education major. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa and Kappa Delta Phi honor societies and was selected for Who's Who among American College Students.

**CATHERINE C. TURNER** of Tupelo, a freshman secondary education major and the daughter of James and Cathy Turner. She also is an ACT Scholar.



Inaugural MSU Tillman Scholars include (l-r) Jordan Lohman, SaraRose Knox, **Samantha Hill**, Melody Corbitt, **Markus Edwards**, Frank Wills, Keeley Tatum, **Amy McNish**, and **Catherine Turner**.



# Theta Chi chapter of Kappa Delta Pi inducts approximately 150

During the 2009-10 academic year, approximately 150 education majors were inducted into Theta Chi chapter of Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society.

Founded in 1911 at the University of Illinois, Kappa Delta Pi is the first and largest honor society in education, representing 572 undergraduate and professional chapters and more than 45,000 active members. Its most distinguished members over the last century have included Margaret Mead, Albert Einstein, George Washington Carver, and current leaders in education Howard Gardner, Maxine Greene and Carol Gilligan.

The College of Education chapter is Theta Chi 214, one of 800

nationwide. It was installed March 10, 1958. Some 2,500 students have been initiated into the chapter since 1989 when it was revitalized and detailed recordkeeping began.

Current officers include: **Meade Ayer**, president; **Cody Smith**, vice president; **David Barrett**, secretary; **Leslie Wray**, treasurer; **Amber Hamilton**, historian; and **Tanisha Cooperwood**, membership. Chapter counselors are Dr. **Margaret Pope**, former president of Theta Chi, and Dr. **Tina Scholtes**.

## 2009 Fall Initiates

Courtney Allen	Jesslyn Boren	Lauren M. Clark	Camon Franklin	Jessica A.J. Jordon	Anna Grace McFerrin
Justine M. Antoine	Megan Breter	Mary K. Corban	Kyle Franklin	Megan L. Kinsley	Zachary R. McLeod
Candace L. Avants	Brittany D. Brewer	Benjamin C. Cork	Miari Franklin	Allison Lucas	Lindsey C. McMahon
Alexandria J. Bainbridge	Mallory Bricka	Nathan T. Cothern	Jessica Galloway	Tanisha Copperwood	Veronica McNutt
Alison Barnes	Christopher J. Bridges	Steven Covington	Lindsey Garner	Molly L. Malone	Antonio Magee
Susan Barnett	Blaire Brignone	Lindsey A. Crenshaw	Olivia E. Griffith	Rachel C. Malouf	Ann Mink
Mark Benedict	Debora Brown	Kasey Crutcher	Kirsten C. Cole	Molly Martin	Hannah Moore
Lisa N. Bennett	Shannon N. Bugg	William H. Curry	Jeremiah L. Harris	Justin Martin	Jennifer Morton
Jacqueline Bergstrom	Courtney Burns	Sharon E. Davis	Andrea J. Harrison	Kasi Massey	Courtney B. Nesbit
Ariel Biholar	Margaret O. Burns	William Davis	Cal Henderson	Claire Lynn Mattox	Emily Newman
John B. Bishop	Megan Campbell	Joshua B. Doyle, Jr.	William Hendrix	Audrey McCleney	Allison K. Ogg
Olivia S. Boatman	Emily Cayson	Amanda D. Easley	Lana Hill	Carmen McCool	Haley Overby
Christie Bond	Marisa L. Chaffin	Matthew Fortenberry	Megan R. Hopkins	Matthew D. McCrory	Caysee L. Owens
	Phillip Chambers	Chelsey Fouche'	Meta Johnson	Pamela A. McDaniel	Jalessa J. Pates



# Miss MSU is Education Major

Jeffrey Pilgrim  
Sarah M. Prevost  
Jennifer L. Rabideau  
Katherine Ross  
Brittany Rushing  
Chelsea Rushing  
Gracie Schaffhouser  
Ashley Simmons  
Carolyn C. Smith  
Thomas Cody Smith  
Lindsey Southward  
Brittany J. Stanfield  
Kylie G. Stanford  
Kelly Sterling  
Keely Tatum  
Stephen Grant Taylor II  
Susan Taylor  
Katelyn Treadwell  
Bonnie A. Tullus  
Mark A. Turner, Jr.  
Sunny L.  
Vanlandingham  
Shelley Varnon  
Jordan Villarreal  
Clay Warden

Joy Kate Waterer  
Marlee Kate West  
Robert B. Westbrook  
Megan Westmoreland  
Dashanique Wiggins  
Anita Wofford  
Will Woodall  
Elaine J. Wright

## 2010 Spring Initiates

Vanessa Anderson  
Cayla Brooks  
Megan Buffman  
Justin Bussey  
Taja Butler  
Erica Chen  
Anna Crossley  
Jason Edwards  
Michael Evans  
Carmen Ezell  
Shawanda Gray  
Lauren Grisham  
Kayla Gun  
Roshell Harris

Ashley Hemphill  
Craig Howard  
Allison Johnson  
Jana Johnson  
Justin Knight  
Bethany Little  
Kimberly Lofton  
Ashleigh Michael  
Stephen Page  
Charles Pease  
Jo'Neice Phillips  
Jill Pouncey  
Erica Rollins  
Kass Sharp  
Kelsey Clayborne  
Megan Cockrill  
Brooke Collins  
Martha Kirkpatrick  
Jessica Laxer  
Bradley K. Long  
Katie Ray  
Laura Beth Roby  
Annah E. Rooker  
Terry Silva  
Timothy Warren



Mr. and Miss. MSU

Seniors Blake Jeter of Brandon and **Tiffany M. Jackson** of Ocean Springs are the 2009 Mr. and Miss Mississippi State University. Chosen in a campus election, they were introduced formally during halftime of the MSU-University of Houston football game at Davis Wade Stadium at Scott Field. Jackson is an elementary education major and the daughter of James and Connie Jackson. Jeter, president of the MSU Student Association, is a biomedical engineering major and the son of James and Peggy Jeter.



## Music students win at Mississippi Music Teachers Association conference

At the annual Mississippi Music Teachers Association Collegiate Competition, part of a three-tiered national competition, the following music students won awards.

**Dustin Hazlett**, clarinet, a freshman music education major, took first place in the Freshman/Sophomore Woodwind Solo Division.

**DeAundrae Clayton**, saxophone, a junior music education major, first place in the Junior/Senior Woodwind Solo Division and honorable mention in the Woodwind Orchestra Concerto Division.

**Allen Sanders**, saxophone, a senior music education major, honorable mention in the Junior/Senior Woodwind Solo Division.

**John Oeth**, guitar, a freshman music major, first place in the Freshman/Sophomore Guitar Solo Division and first place in the Guitar Orchestra Concerto Division.

**Dustin Cartee**, guitar, a sophomore secondary education major and music major, second place in the Freshman/Sophomore Guitar Solo Division.

**Jay Gandy**, guitar, a junior music major, second place in the Junior/Senior Guitar Solo Division.

**Nicolas Zabrodiec**, guitar, a senior civil engineering major and music major, first place in the Junior/Senior Guitar Solo Division.



# New MSU Student Association president elected

Thomas Sellers of Canton, a senior majoring in kinesiology with a concentration in clinical exercise physiology, has been elected to serve as president of the MSU Student Association.

Sellers previously served the SA as a member of the executive council and the cabinet.

"I feel extremely blessed and honored to have the opportunity to serve the student body this year," he said.



Sellers was among the winners of the 2010 Spirit of State Awards and enjoys numerous extracurricular activities, both on and off campus. He has served as an Orientation Leader for the university and as an Ambassador for the College of Education. A member of the Order of Omega Honor Society, Sellers also has served as a conversation partner for English as a Second Language students and has made contributions to Habitat for Humanity.

"Thomas has been one of my advisees for nearly four years now, and he has been a student in several of my classes," said Lee Ann Joe, an instructor in the department of kinesiology. "In the time I have known Thomas, he has demonstrated a high level of integrity in all of his endeavors. He is very honest and his behavior shows that he has high moral values and is a respecter of all people, regardless of physical characteristics or station in life."

## Get with the hype--join the PIPE!

Mississippi State graduate students in the student affairs internship and practicum classes from the counseling and educational psychology department, under the leadership of Dr. **April Heiselt**, assistant professor, and Dr. **Deb Wells**, instructor, formulated a new program to assist their graduate colleagues in finding internship and practicum experiences across the South.

Students founded the PIPE (Practicum Internship Placement Exchange) program for the Southern Association of College Student Affairs (SACSA) which provides graduate students with an opportunity to conduct their internship or practicum experience at a college within the SACSA region. Mississippi State students contacted colleges and universities and helped them develop internship and practicum experiences that provided free dining, housing and other amenities in exchange for a student intern. These stipends provided opportunities for students to live virtually free, while having an

internship or practicum experience at another institution.

Several colleges signed up to sponsor the PIPE experience, including the universities of Alabama and West Georgia, St. Leo University, and Austin Peay. At the conference, the students presented their proposal, hosted an information table about PIPE, and held a reception where interested graduate student interns and potential employers could meet.





## 2009-10 Scholarship Recipients

### Kinesiology

**Merry Casey Carter** – Merrill Hawkins Scholarship – Senatobia

**Jonathan E. Fandel** – Billy and Vivian Moss Scholarship – Belden

**Peyton Fandel** – Durward Dunn Scholarship – Belden

**Benjamin W. Kinsey** – Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship – West Point

**Criston Lewis** – Billy and Vivian Moss – Mathison

**Stephen Root** – Bert Jenkins Scholarship – Gulfport

**Trey B. Ward** – Wilburn Pearson Sudduth Scholarship – Booneville

**Ashley White** – Billy and Vivian Moss Scholarship – Starkville

### Instructional Systems and Workforce Development

**William D. Erickerson** – Nan Carpenter Cain Scholarship – Arlington, Tenn.

**Letitia P. Porter** – Francis Matthew Scholarship – Houston

**Brandon A. Smith** – Harold Smith-Baldwin Piano Organ Scholarship – Olive Branch

### Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education

**Chelsi Anderson** – Merrill and Carrie Hawkins – Starkville

**Davida Barrett** – Henry and Ruby Davis Scholarship – Jackson

**Lisa Bennett** – Susan McLauren Brooks Scholarship – Eupora

**Christie M. Bond** – Nan carpenter Cain Scholarship – Powder Springs, Ga.

**I-Chun Erica Chen** – Charles and Wilma Haven Scholarship – Huntsville, Ala.

**Lauren Clark** – Merchant and Farmers Bank Scholarship – Gulfport

**Laura E. Coats** – Frank and Ann Chiles Scholarship – Starkville

**Megan J. Cockrill** – Jack L. Beall Scholarship – Laurel

**Nathan T. Cothorn** – John Albert Bodron Scholarship – Gulfport

**Mary K. Entrekin** – College of Education/Herbert Handley Scholarship–Laurel

**Kelsie B. Fennell** – McClendon Holliman Scholarship – Philipp

**Jessica Fulgham** – Billy and Vivian Moss Scholarship – Starkville

**Sammantha Graft** – Nancy Kubin Wallner Martin Scholarship – West Point

**Lindsey Gardner** – Thomas McKnight Scholarship – Nesbit

**Sammantha Hill** – Billy and Vivian Moss Scholarship – Flowood

**Leigh E. Holland** – George Walker Bush Scholarship – Hattiesburg

**Jessica L. James** – Billy and Vivian Moss Scholarship – Columbus

**Shobal Johnson** – George Walker Bush Scholarship – Columbus

**Christina Jones** – Jack L. Beall Scholarship – Littleton, Colo.

**Courtney Nesbit** – McClendon and Hollimon – Acworth, Ga.

**Antonio McGee** – E.F. Mitchell Scholarship – Okolona

**Paige McIlwain** – Max and Patricia Jobe – Waynesboro

**Lori Mitchell** – Eloise C. Sheely and Reuben Dilworth Scholarship – Louisville

**Kathleen J. Patten** – Ellen Curtis Ricci Scholarship– Collierville, Tenn.

**Sachia E. Poole** – Nancy Kubin Wallner Martin Scholarship – Starkville

**Apryl Powell** – Dewey and Marie Malouf Scholarship – Greenwood

**Whitney J. Schilling** – Henry and Ruby Davis Scholarship – Nesbit

**Lindsey Southward** – Quay Webb Camp – Brandon

**Catherine Turner** – Barry Box Scholarship – Tupelo

**Katherine Garth** – Julia Higgins Carskadon Scholarship – Mobile, Ala.



## Counseling and Educational Psychology

**Lauren Hardy** – American School Counselor Association Scholarship – Columbus

**Robika Modak Mylroi** – Mississippi Counseling Association Jane G. Rugg Scholarship – Starkville

## Society of Scholars inducts education students

In fall 2009, the Society of Scholars inducted College of Education students **Merry Carter**, a clinical exercise physiology major, and **Laura Loftin**, an elementary education major.

In spring 2010, the society inducted **Elisabeth Brewer**, a music education major; **Lyndon Chumbley**, double majoring in microbiology and music; and **Travis Pace**, an exercise science major.

Modeled after Phi Beta Kappa, the society, based in the College of Arts and Sciences, requires that students demonstrate the highest levels of academic excellence and also possess a broad and rigorous exposure to courses in the arts, sciences and humanities.





## Student Kudos

Dr. **Kellie Shumack** is this year's recipient of the Delta Pi Epsilon Outstanding Dissertation Award, the highest research honor bestowed on a business education professional. Dr. **Connie Forde** served as Shumack's major professor.

**Jeffrey Leng** has been accepted into the graduate program at the University of Alabama, where he will be pursuing a master of music degree in percussion performance under Professor Beth Gottlieb.

**Jessica Sherer** is currently serving as a teaching assistant in the percussion studio of the University of Florida, where she is pursuing a master of music degree in percussion performance under Dr. Kenneth Broadway.

**Brookes Mayes**, senior technology teacher education major, was selected to bring greetings at the National Business Education Association Convention in San Diego, Calif., in April. Mayes serves as the

national student representation of Pi Omega Pi, the honor society for business teacher education.

**Whitney Alexander**, an elementary education major at the Meridian Campus, has received the Praxis Series Recognition of Excellence for exceptional performance on the Praxis II: Principles of Learning and Teaching (Grades K-6) test, earning a score which placed within the top 15 percent of all test takers from previous years.

**Amy Bullington**, a music and industrial engineering major, was selected to present a paper under the student section at College Music Society South/Central Chapter in San Antonio, Texas, in March. The paper was a description of African dances influencing classical Brazilian music. As part of the presentation, she performed "Dansa Negra" by M. Camargo Guarnieri. Bullington is a student of Dr. **Rosângela Sebba**.

## In April, 13 voice majors competed at the Mississippi State conference for the National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS).

**Stephen Kelly, Canassa Phillips, Jacqueline Sherer, Shannon Barton, Lily Hudson, and Elizabeth Jones** advanced to the semi-final round, with Phillips, Sherer, Barton, and Jones advancing to the finals. Jones took second in graduate women, Barton was second in sophomore women, Phillips took third in sophomore women, and Sherer was first in sophomore women.





Music major Lily Hudson sings in the fall 2009 Opera Review.



State NATS winners Jacqueline Sherer, Shannon Barton, Canassa Phillips, and Elizabeth Jones

## Studio School

Students who participated in Studio School learning experiences at West Oktibeha High School during the school year kept learning at MSU during the summer.

These middle schoolers participated in three experiences. They improved their reading and writing skills by participating in one-on-one tutoring with master's students in Dr. **Devon Brenner's** Teaching Struggling Readers and Writers course in the department of curriculum, instruction and special education. During morning tutoring, the students wrote, revised and finally shared drafts of writing. The students also engaged in a variety of learning and fitness experiences at the Sanderson Center on the MSU campus, including swimming, wall climbing, and learning about physical fitness in sessions led by Dr. **Brendan Hale** in the department of kinesiology.

Finally, the students came to campus for an overnight camp led by Dr. **Kay Brocato** in the department of leadership and foundations, where they designed posters to create the STEM Women's Walk of Fame, celebrating local women with careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

After multiple drafts and revisions during fall 2009, the final versions of the students' STEM Women's Walk of Fame posters were highlighted at the Girl Power STEM Extravaganza event, where Girl Scouts and other community members participated in a hands-on day of STEM learning and patch earning at the Starkville Sportsplex.



## David A. Chandler named Alumnus of the Year

State Supreme Court Justice **David A. Chandler** was named the 2009 Alumnus of the Year for the College of Education.

Chandler graduated from Weir High School in 1964 and took a job at a steel company to pay his way through college at MSU. He earned a bachelor's degree in guidance education in 1972, a master's in counselor education in 1974, and a doctorate in vocational education in 1988. His doctoral thesis on the effects of teaching work values to junior high school students influenced his subsequent work at MSU's Research and Curriculum Unit, where he was a curriculum specialist.

Upon leaving the RCU, Chandler pursued and earned a law degree from the University of Mississippi and became an attorney, practicing in Tupelo and Ackerman.

In 2000, a position opened on the state Court of Appeals when a previous justice retired, and Chandler sought and was named to that seat. While serving on this court, he earned a master of laws degree from University of Virginia School of Law, becoming the first Mississippi Court of Appeals judge to complete the program. In November 2008, Chandler was elected to the state's highest court, and in January 2009, he was invested as a Mississippi Supreme Court Justice.



## Education Alumni Fellow named

**Dr. Regina P. Sanford** of Covington, La., supervisor of secondary instruction at St. Tammany Parish Public Schools, represented the College of Education as the Alumni Fellow for 2009.

Sanford is a 1991 MSU graduate with a doctorate in secondary education. Her undergraduate and master's degrees are from the University of Southern Mississippi.

A Laurel native, Sanford credits much of her success to the things she learned at MSU.

"My education at Mississippi State exposed me to multiple viewpoints within my area of study," she said.

Professionally, with more than 20 years of public school experience as a teacher and administrator, Sanford enjoys being able to positively influence the future through her work with high school students.

Sanford said that she owes many accomplishments to her husband Bobby who she calls the greatest influence on her life.

"Bobby is my compass for every decision whether personal or professional."

Together the two have championed the priorities of Mississippi State, working tirelessly in the Pearl River County and New Orleans chapters of the Alumni Association. Sanford gives a significant amount of time volunteering her time to Mississippi State because she believes in the power of public education and values the quality of programs that MSU offers prospective students.

Her hobbies include reading, watching MSU sports, and traveling.



Sanford





## Alumni News

'69

**LELAND MCCASLIN**, B.S. in speech, has written a book, "Secrets of the Cold War," about intelligence and counterintelligence activities against the East Germans and Soviets during his tenure as chief of security, counterintelligence and command security manager for U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army from 1979 to 1995. It is scheduled for release from publisher Casemate UK Ltd. Aug. 15.

'72

**AUDINE WHITE AGENT** has published her third book, "All is Well with My Soul: Daily Devotions," a collection of encouraging scriptures and stories of faith, published by Authorhouse. She is also actively involved in the Emmaus Movement and charities for Africa.

'75

**THOMAS MCKNIGHT** has been elected to the executive committee of the American Board of School Psychology, an affiliate board of the American Board of Professional Psychology.

'77

**LYNDA IRBY**, M.Ed. in education, was named Holmes Community College's Alumna of the Year for 2009. A 1969 Holmes graduate, she was presented the award at the October 2009 Homecoming.



'80

**LISA BRAMUCHI FAY**, B.S. in elementary education, received a posthumous honor of an outdoor science laboratory which was dedicated at Philips Preparatory School in Mobile, Ala., in her memory. Among her honors, Fay was selected as a charter teacher at the school, inaugurated the Science Olympiad Program for the Mobile County Public School System, was named Teacher of the Year at Phillips, was selected to take part in the NASA Teacher Training Program in Huntsville, Ala., and was involved in several community activities. Fay died in 2007.

'90

**THOMAS SLADE**, M.Ed. in secondary social studies education, is in his third year of teaching history at Vancleave High School. He and wife Gladys (Maples) have adopted Olivia (6) and Malachi (3) in July 2009.

'91

**CAROLYN WRIGHT-WILLIAMS** is currently serving as information aide for the Refugee Assistance Program with the Syracuse, N.Y., City School District.





'96

**SHAYNE CADE**, M.S. in educational leadership, recently was promoted to compliance manager for Full Sail University, where he will be overseeing regulatory affairs.

**ROBBIE HAYES**, who, with his wife Emily, endowed the Emma Grace Hayes Memorial Scholarship in 2007 to honor their daughter, recently partnered with Dave Rozier to establish Rozier Hayes, PLLC, with law offices in Oxford and Southaven.

'98

**AMY ELLIS**, B.S. and M.S. in elementary education, was awarded the Presidential Award for Mathematics and Science Teaching. Ellis received her award in January in a ceremony at the White House. She has taught first grade at Sudduth Elementary since 1997, and also serves as Elementary Vice President on the Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

'07

**JIM HAWKINS**, Ph.D. in K-12 school administration, has been named a national examiner for the Baldrige National Quality Award, awarded for quality and excellence in the areas of manufacturing, health care, and education.

'08

**LACOURTNEY LANDFAIR** is currently a second-grade teacher at Lexington Elementary School in Lexington. She is also pursuing a master's degree in elementary education from Belhaven University.

'09

**DELFINA WILSON**, a doctoral graduate in community college leadership, is now the dean of students at East Mississippi Community College. Wilson previously worked in the College of Education's Early Childhood Institute.



**The College of Education wishes to thank the generous donors who contributed \$100 or more to the college from January 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010.**

Mr. and Dr. Hudson Adams  
 Ms. Dolly D. Adams  
 Mrs. Jeanette R. Aday  
 Mr. John B. Adkins  
 Mr. James R. Ainsworth  
 Mr. Andrew and Dr. Alyce Alexander  
 Ms. Mandi D. Alexander  
 Dr. and Mrs. William James Alexander  
 Mr. and Mrs. Steven E. Allen  
 Mr. and Mrs. Hershel R. Anderson  
 Mr. Ashley O. Anderson  
 Dr. Scarvia B. Anderson  
 Mr. H. Flemming Andrews  
 Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Anthony  
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## Gift by daughter establishes Bert Jenkins Scholarship

A Flora resident's gift has created a new scholarship at Mississippi State to honor a prominent former high school basketball coach.

Established by Ann Campbell in tribute to her father, the Bert Jenkins Scholarship in Coaching is available through the College of Education.

Jenkins, now of Hattiesburg, spent his basketball coaching career at Gulfport High School. At one time, he held the Mississippi high school boys' team all-time winning record that included seven state championships.

GHS graduates are being given preference in the scholarship selection process.

Born in 1924, Jenkins is one of the oldest living members of the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. He also is a member of the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame.

A Starkville High School graduate who attended MSU his freshman year before enlisting in the military, Jenkins claims first loyalty to the land-grant institution. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and a master's from the University of Alabama.

"I'm very supportive of Mississippi State, and Ann knew that," Jenkins said recently.

Jenkins Scholarships are offered through the college's kinesiology department, in which the teaching and coaching academic concentration is located.

"The College of Education is deeply appreciative of friends like Ann Campbell who, like our many loyal alumni, assist us in carrying out our mission," COE Dean Richard Blackbourn said. "The Bert Jenkins Scholarship is an example of such generosity that will enable students to further their education and fulfill their dreams and goals."



DEAR ALUMNI,

Through your generous gifts and continued support, our university is seeing tremendous interest from prospective students throughout the state and region. These students are quickly seeing why Mississippi State University is the place to be.

Each year, the College of Education is dedicated and challenged to seek quality students. With the aid of a new four-year, university-wide fundraising initiative known as StatePride, we will make ourselves even more competitive in the recruitment of these prospective scholars.

The StatePride initiative will provide academic scholarship support to compete for the best and brightest students, as well as need-based scholarships for deserving students. StatePride also will include support to recruit and retain high-caliber faculty members, and increased faculty research and development opportunities in all areas of study.

In all, \$100 million is needed by way of StatePride to fulfill these university-wide goals.

If you would like additional information about student scholarships and areas of faculty support, please contact me at 662-325-6762 or [rjenkins@foundation.msstate.edu](mailto:rjenkins@foundation.msstate.edu). To see a complete listing of College of Education Endowed Scholarships, please visit our website at [www.educ.msstate.edu](http://www.educ.msstate.edu).

Go Dawgs!

Sincerely,



Rob Jenkins (Class of '92)  
Director of Development  
College of Education  
[rjenkins@foundation.msstate.edu](mailto:rjenkins@foundation.msstate.edu)  
662-325-6762



## 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. Richard Blackburn, P.O. Box 9710, Mississippi State, MS 39762.

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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. Richard Blackburn, Dean, College of Education | Box 9710 | Mississippi State, MS 39762 | telephone: (662) 325-3717**  
**fax: 662-325-8784 | e-mail: RBlackbourn@colled.msstate.edu**

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Please return this form and your contribution to: MSU Foundation, P.O. Box 6149, Mississippi State, MS 39762 or make a contribution online at [www.msufoundation.com](http://www.msufoundation.com).

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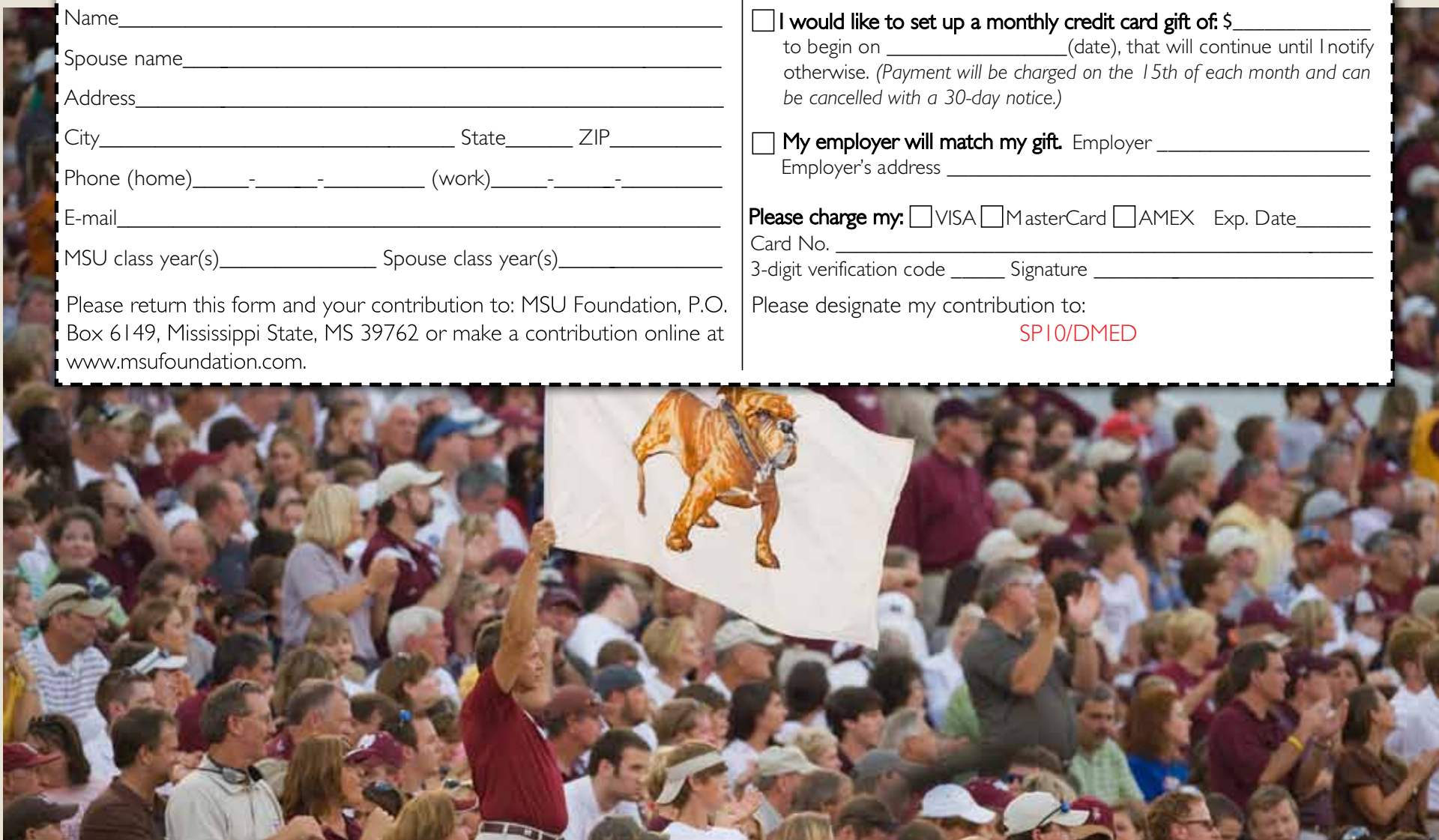
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