

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION NEWSLETTER | 2012

CHANGING TOMORROW THROUGH EDUCATION TODAY



MISSISSIPPI STATE
UNIVERSITYTM



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN

I am constantly amazed at the dedication and hard work of our faculty, staff, and students here in the College of Education. Their efforts underscore our tagline, which is “Changing Tomorrow Through Education Today.” The pages of this newsletter are a testament to this fact, and are merely a subset of our total impact. The COE’s 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 4th in the number of African-Americans granted baccalaureate degrees
- Continued increases in enrollment
- The growth of the College of Education Faculty/Student Research Forum
- Progress toward the initiation of a Professional Development School

As you are aware, the College of Education has dealt with significant budget limitations over the last few years. 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 kind generosity of our loyal alumni and friends. We humbly ask for your continued support.

Best Wishes,



Dr. Richard Blackbourn
Dean and Professor



Blackbourn



CAMP JIGSAW HELPS ADOLESCENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

For adolescents with autism spectrum disorders, a new summer camp at Mississippi State combines fun activities with exercises designed to help participants overcome common communication and socialization effects. Camp Jigsaw, now in its second year and named after the puzzle piece symbol associated with autism awareness, involves boys ages 12-19. It is a week crammed with experiences designed to help them make eye contact during conversations and maintain a positive tone of voice, among other concepts. The experience also enables university graduate students serving as staff members while studying emotional and behavioral disorders to earn credit toward their internship requirement.

Sandy Devlin, Professor in Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education, oversees the camp and teaches the internship course. Throughout her special education career, the autism spectrum has been of special interest, the 22-year MSU faculty veteran said. With Mississippi reportedly experiencing a staggering 369% rise over the past decade in children diagnosed with autism, more families than ever are in need of help, Devlin emphasized. "This is all about social skills training," she said. "Eye contact, sharing ideas in



Camp Jigsaw helps autistic adolescents with communication and socialization skills.

conversation, being pleasant in tone of voice; those are types of things that are really hard within the autism spectrum." Devlin said Camp Jigsaw provides help along two primary tracks. First, there are the measurable improvements in social skills and self-determination skills the campers achieve during the short but intense period. Secondly, the support and friendships developed during the week give families an extra resource, including an online social network that Devlin monitors specifically for the program.

The summer 2012 camp, which included both autistic adolescents and non-autistic peers, was free to all. Campers who did not have autism enjoyed all the same activities, but took away a different experience usually an increased understanding and empathy for others, Devlin said. At the conclusion of Camp Jigsaw, Devlin said she felt confident the experience accomplished all the goals set out for campers and graduate interns.

MSU PROVIDES NON-CREDIT PIANO LESSONS

Continuing from the fall semester, Mississippi State's music department is offering individual non-credit piano lessons to students in the Starkville community.

A limited number of spring semester slots remain available.

Faculty members in the university's music department are overseeing the individual lessons given by MSU junior and senior piano majors.

Lessons will take place in Music Building A, located on Morrill Road across from the T.K. Martin Center parking lot. The curriculum follows requirements of the Mississippi Music Teachers Association, state division of the Music Teachers National Association.

"This program allows us to train our students, as well as provide piano lessons to our community," said associate professor Rosângela Y. Sebba.

Participants in the 12-week program may choose between either a one-hour lesson or two half-hour lessons weekly. Lessons will begin after Monday's [Jan. 16] Martin Luther King Jr. national holiday.

MSU RECEIVES \$3.7 MILLION GRANT TO AID HIGH-NEED SCHOOLS

A major U.S. Department of Education award to Mississippi State's College of Education will aid in recruiting and training new middle school teachers from some of the state's poorest, most rural areas.

The department's recent five-year Transition to Teaching grant for the Teacher Education for Rural Middle Schools (TERMS) program is designed to provide an alternative route for those interested in teaching in rural middle schools. The university has received \$446,893 for the first year, with more than \$3 million to be distributed over the remaining four years.

During that time, the two-pronged goal will be to train 125 Mississippi teachers and establish a self-sustaining program.

The Transition to Teaching program specifically recruits mid-career professionals, as well as recent graduates with degrees outside of education. It also assists participants to become teachers through alternative certification routes and helps place them in high-need schools. A unique feature of the program is its distance-learning structure. All of the classes are provided online, beginning with the summer of 2012.

Prior to entering the degree program, participants must take the state licensure examination in middle grades content knowledge.

The middle school alternate route degree program will be available to anyone eligible, and special incentives will be offered through the TERMS

program to match interested new teachers with high-need schools in Mississippi. These incentives include a \$5,000 scholarship and two years of mentoring after completion of the degree. TERMS participants also will receive \$5,000 worth of equipment for their classroom, which will stay with the school. Scholarship recipients are required to teach in the schools for at least three years.

As they enter the degree program, participants will be hired in teaching positions in fourth through eighth-grade classrooms. They may remain in those positions after completing the degree.

Teresa Jayroe, Devon Brenner, and Anastasia Elder are co-principal investigators for the grant. Jayroe is Associate Dean of the College of Education; Brenner, Professor and Department Head of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education; Elder, Associate Professor of Educational Psychology.

A primary reason MSU received the TERMS grant was its administration of an earlier Transition to Teaching program, which was created three years ago for high school teachers.

Well-documented needs of the state and an established record of success with the Learning and Educating through Alternative Programs were among major reasons the 133-year-old land-grant institution's education college received the grant.

"There is a recognized need for a degree program

such as this, because of a teacher shortage, particularly in rural areas," Brenner said. "Many of the school districts we are working with are in the Delta." She said MSU will work with a consortium of 19 school districts to recruit and train new teachers. The program targets individuals with roots in their local communities, making it a "homegrown" effort that encourages teachers to remain in the area.

Faculty and staff from across the education college currently are focused on creating a strong degree program during the grant's first year. The program's classes involve collaborations between elementary education faculties on both the Starkville and Meridian campuses.

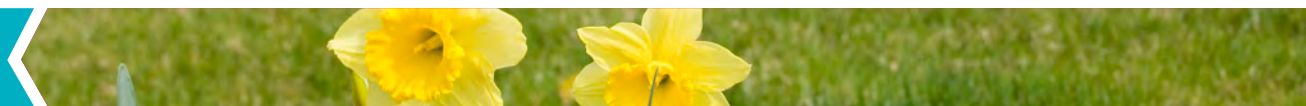
Program evaluations will be conducted by the MSU-based Research and Curriculum Unit.

MSU's TERMS grant is among 30 national teacher training projects funded this year. By the end of the five-year period, a total of nearly 4,800 new teachers are expected to be certified throughout the country.

"Talented teachers come from all walks of life, and life experiences can enhance a teacher's abilities in the classroom and rapport with students," U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan said of the program's intent.

"These grants will encourage more interested professionals to transition to teaching and increase our cadre of teachers for schools that need them the most," the secretary added.





DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM PROVIDES ANOTHER ROUTE TO DEGREE

Facing busy schedules, many people struggle to find time for anything beyond the careful balance of work and family. But, living in a digital age makes higher education more attainable for those seeking an elementary education degree from Mississippi State.

“Without Mississippi State’s distance education program, it would have been impossible for me to further my education,” said Kim Stone, a Booneville School District teacher.

Stone was part of the first group to participate when the university offered the full-time online option for elementary education majors, which she credits for helping her achieve her goals.

“Only two years after graduating from the program, I am currently in what I once called my ‘future dream job,’” she said.

Like Stone, many others today are trying to balance work and family obligations with earning a degree. A collaboration between the curriculum, instruction, and special education department and the Division of Academic Outreach and Continuing Education, the College of Education’s online distance education

program provides a good fit for both traditional and non-traditional students, such as Stone.

“We wanted to provide potential students the option to attend Mississippi State University even if they didn’t have direct access to a physical campus,” said **Courtney Vines**, Instructor and Recruiter in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education.

Participants receive a bachelor’s degree in elementary education, with an emphasis in either early childhood or middle school education. Much like traditional teacher education programs, participants must complete field experience requirements, including methods classes and student teaching internships.

The 92 students currently enrolled keep in touch with the program’s instructors and advisors over the telephone, through e-mail, and by Skyping. While offered as a completely online degree program, the courses actually can be completed either in part or in whole online. Students may take 12 to 15 credit hours a semester.

“The instructors and professors in the distance

education program are flexible and strive to fit the needs of the students,” Vines said.

Students must meet the requirements of the College of Education’s teacher education program. To be eligible, they must have all of their core classes already completed, as well as a minimum 2.75 grade point average. Other requirements include two letters of recommendation, verification of 40 hours of work experience with children, Praxis I or ACT scores submitted, and a complete background check.

For those unsure about a bachelor’s degree because of the cost, Mississippi provides three separate incentive options for educators: the critical needs teacher scholarship program, the William F. Winter scholar loan program and the Mississippi teacher fellowship program.

The Mississippi Teacher Center also identifies critical shortage areas in several subject areas across numerous areas of the state: special education; mathematics; science, including biology, chemistry and physics; and foreign language, including French, German and Spanish.



THE COLLEGE KNOWLEDGE PROJECT GIVES MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS PERSPECTIVE ON THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

The College of Education's College Knowledge Project (CKP), established in 2011 and funded through the College Access Challenge Grant, focuses on educating students, their families, school staff, and community partners about the services available to students to help them successfully complete high school and attain college access. The goal of the CKP is to increase the availability of college support systems for students by forming partnerships with local schools and community organizations.

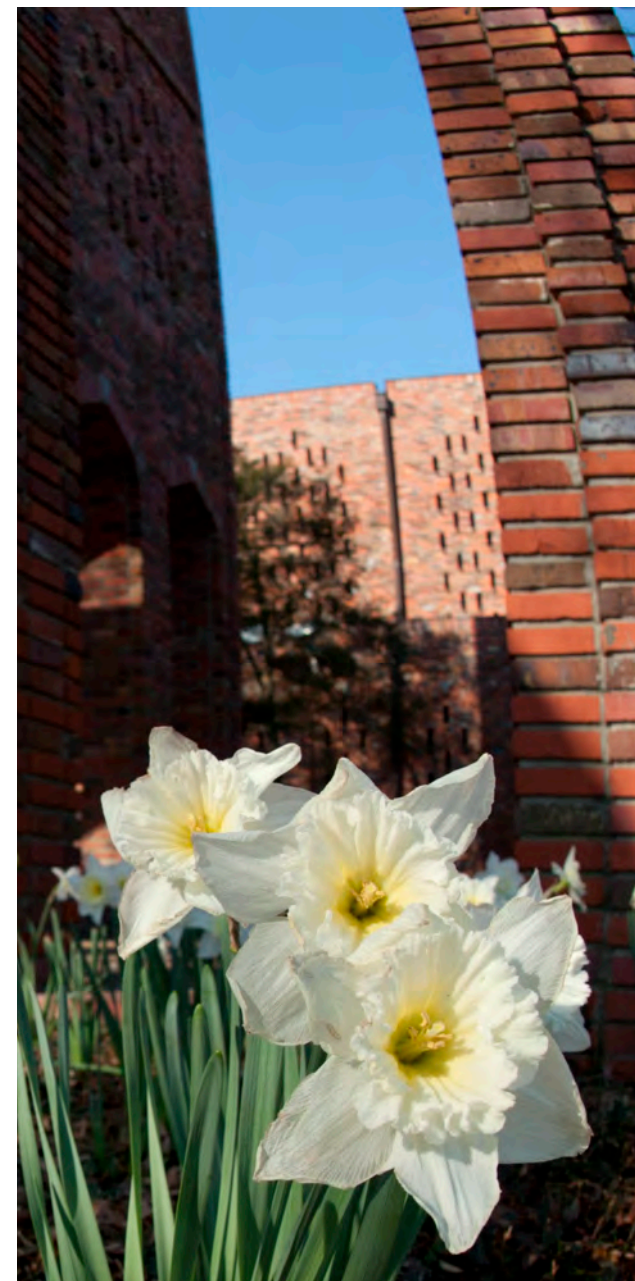
Central to the success of the CKP is a network of near-peer mentors comprised of college sophomores and juniors. **Shane Davis**, project coordinator, stated, "These near-peer mentors will work closely with middle school students conducting college knowledge workshops, providing information on college access resources, and conducting campus tours of local colleges and universities. We want the students being served to know they have a support network aimed at preparing them for the complete college experience."

"Currently we are working in five schools in Okolona, West Point, and Louisville where approximately 525 students are being served," said Davis. The CKP has also partnered with two other grant programs

to extend the range of its outreach. The CKP staff work with students enrolled in the Changing Academic Progress and Promoting Success (CAPPS) afterschool program in Louisville and with the Okolona Community Learning Initiative. According to Davis, both of these programs have strengthened the presence of the CKP and provided opportunities for one-on-one and small group interaction with students.

Beginning fall 2012, the CKP staff will also conduct professional development workshops for middle school teachers, counselors, and administrators to better educate and equip them to advise students on college and career decisions. Near-peer mentors will also host parent nights and student events in each of the schools to introduce students, their parents, and the community to various aspects of college life.

Davis indicated his gratitude to **Dr. Teresa Jayroe**, Associate Dean of the College of Education. Davis noted, "Dr. Jayroe's guidance with this grant has been most valuable. Her input and expertise have been instrumental to its success, and I am fortunate to be able to work with her."



MISSISSIPPI BUSINESS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION BOARD ELECTS FOUR FROM MSU



Fifth from left, **Brookes Mayes**, secretary and a business teacher at Tupelo High School; 10th from left **Morgan Sims**, high/middle school representative and ICT I teacher at Tupelo Middle School; 11th from left **Courtney Coleman**, student representative and doctoral student in instructional systems and workforce development at MSU; and 12th from left **Connie Forde**, university representative and professor and department head of the Department of Instructional Systems and Workforce Development at MSU.

The 2011-12 Mississippi Business Education Association Board was installed on Sept. 16, 2011, at its annual fall conference at Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond. The newly-elected board includes two recent graduates of the Technology Teacher Education degree at Mississippi State University, one current MSU graduate student, and a MSU professor and department head.

MSU 'FLIGHT' CLASS HELPS EDUCATION MAJORS THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX



Junior kinesiology major Byron Robinson, of Mound Bayou, launches his paper airplane during the event.

A Mississippi State faculty member's method for teaching creative writing involves an innovative--some might even say, soaring--style to help students learn the material.

Jack Blending, an educational leadership professor at the university, teaches a graduate-level course in school administration. During the spring semester, he also leads "Writing for Thinking," a creative writing course for undergraduate majors.

A 22-year College of Education faculty member, Blending is an advocate of the Montessori approach to learning. All of his classes are very hands-on, he explained.

"Students learn best when they can get involved and find meaning in what they see in their textbooks," Blending said. "It's one thing to accrue knowledge, but it's another thing to put it to practice."

To provide both memorable and applicable learning experiences for both of his spring classes, Blending created "The Great Bullyland Paper Airplane Competition."

Blendinger said his inspiration for the non-traditional teaching tool evolved from the story of a paper airplane competition told in a book his granddaughter gave him five years ago. Since then, the hand-made creations have served as props in all of his classes, the University of Northern Colorado doctoral graduate explained.

The project put school administration graduate students in charge of planning the event, with the undergraduates responsible for building--and successfully flying--their paper projectiles. In addition to an academic grade, the class effort also featured a trophy and gift cards for the winners.

"I am a hands-on learner, so to be able to get an assignment where I can apply what I've learned is great," said senior Sonya McLaughlin, a kinesiology major from Ecru.

"The event is really beneficial to those of us on the administration side," agreed graduate student R.J. Morgan, an award-winning Starkville High School teacher. "It's a very involved undertaking, and we will be doing all of this and more as school administrators."

While paper airplanes serve as the basis for class activities in research and essay writing, they were designed by Blendinger do more than help students absorb curriculum subject matter. They also help demonstrate how to approach teaching from different angles, a valuable skill that will help the future teachers excel in their professional careers.

"Being a teacher involves thinking outside of the box to better help students learn," Morgan said. "This class gives undergraduate students a great example of how to do that."

With final examinations under way at MSU, Blendinger's students soon will be getting their class grades.

For senior Charles Roberson, of Brandon, and junior Amy M. Wilson, of Grenada, however, one class achievement already has been realized.

They are the competition's top winners, along with junior Lauren M. Seal, of Bay St. Louis, who finished in second place but won the best in show award for her creative design. All are kinesiology majors.

MSU-MERIDIAN ANNOUNCES NEW SPECIAL EDUCATION DEGREE

Starting this fall, students can earn a Bachelor of Science degree in Special Education at Mississippi State University-Meridian.

In 2010, U.S. News and World Report ranked special education #6 in a list of best career opportunities.

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that the number of special education opportunities nationwide will increase 17% by the year 2018.

Dr. Matt Boggan, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership at MSU-Meridian, is serving as chair of the search committee responsible for hiring the new faculty for the program. He is also qualified to teach undergraduate and graduate programs in special education in addition to educational leadership.

"There really is a need for qualified special education teachers," said Boggan.

"The trend right now in many districts across the state is to certify applicants on a one year emergency license. This is a short term solution only. We hope by adding this degree, we will attract students who have a desire to teach

children with special needs," he added.

Earning a degree in special education not only qualifies someone to teach K-12 in a public or private school setting but there are other job opportunities available.

"Many people don't realize that places like East Mississippi State Hospital and Hudspeth Regional Center hire special education teachers as well as residential treatment facilities like Alliance," noted Boggan.

The state of Mississippi also offers financial aid from the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) in the form of MS Teacher Grants/Scholarships/Loans. Students interested in teaching in a critical need area of the state and/or in a critical need subject area, which includes special education, foreign language, math, or science may apply at www.riseupms.com. This program is only available to Mississippi residents. The deadline to apply is March 31.

"We are really excited about this new degree and feel it will complement our existing degree programs we already offer in education at MSU-Meridian," he said.





LEADERSHIP AND FOUNDATIONS DEPARTMENT REDESIGNS MASTER'S PROGRAM IN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

In an effort to build leadership capacity in P-12 schools, Mississippi was one among several states in the nation to begin to require universities to evaluate and redesign school administration programs in fall 2010. The Department of Leadership and Foundations at Mississippi State University (MSU), under the direction of Dr. Frankie Williams, began its program redesign process by organizing a redesign team composed of faculty, practitioners, and a national consultant in educational leadership. The faculty viewed the process as an opportunity to make significant changes in MSU's existing school leadership preparation program by creating strong partnerships with area school districts, which focus on practical, research-based instructional content, field-based assignments, and clinical experiences. Numerous practitioners were engaged in the redesign process, including superintendents, principals, and other district-level practitioners. Primary work included reviewing related research; collecting data and dialoguing with practitioners to identify program goals and recommendations; setting the curriculum content and general program design to include embedded clinical experiences and two redesigned internships; and writing course syllabi, assignments, and assessments.

The redesigned program mission states,

Our mission is to develop visionary school administrators possessing knowledge and skills to serve as instructional leaders and managers who motivate and inspire others for the purpose of creating high-quality school experiences where all P-12 students are academically successful. By participating in a positive and rigorous leadership preparation program that is embedded in practical field settings, our graduates learn to be creative problem solvers who can build professional learning communities in their schools. Our graduates are advocates for school success and champions for social justice for P-12 students, their families, and communities.

The Mississippi Department of Educational Licensure Certification Commission and the Mississippi Department of Education approved MSU's redesigned educational leadership preparation program in April 2012. The Department of Leadership and Foundations anticipates final approval to offer the redesigned program during fall 2012 and will admit its first cohort for the summer 2013 enrollment.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION HOLDS AWARDS CONVOCATION

The College of Education hosted its annual Awards Convocation in April in the John Grisham Room of Mitchell Memorial Library. Dr. David Shaw, Vice President of Research and Economic Development, was the keynote speaker for the event. The college honored several members of its faculty and staff for their service and dedication to MSU.

James Adams, Diversity Award (second from left);

Lorie White, Betty Purvis Staff Award;

Dana Franz, Clyde Muse Service Award;

Anastasia Elder, Lucinda Rose Teaching Award.



Congratulating the winners are Associate Dean **Teresa Jayroe** (far left) and Dean **Richard Blackburn** (far right).
Not pictured: Jianzhong Xu, Herb Handley Research Award



James Adams



Lorie White



Dana Franz



Anastasia Elder

MSU MUSICAL AMBASSADORS PERFORM AT MAJOR EUROPEAN VENUES

MSU Wind Ensemble



The Wind Ensemble of Mississippi State University completed a two-week performance tour in Germany and Austria in May.

The 44-member instrumental group is led by Elva Kaye Lance, director of bands. After a concert on the 11th in St. Gilgen, Austria, the ensemble traveled to Germany for seasonal events in Grainau on the 14th and the twin cities of Garmish-Partenkirchen the following day.

“The Wind Ensemble is the premier group in our band program,” Lance said. “It has established a reputation locally and nationally for outstanding performances of both contemporary and traditional band literature.

“This tour to Germany and Austria represents the second time since 2008 we have taken our MSU musical ambassadors to international locations,” she added, noting that the earlier tour included Ireland and England.

Program selections this year included the works of German composer Richard Strauss, along with Americans Clifton Williams and John Phillip Sousa, among others.

Assistant band director Craig Aarhus served as conductor for “Caccia and Chorale.” Associate director Clifton Taylor and trombonist directed “A

Salute of American Jazz,” a Deep South spiritual, as well as “Slidin’ Down the Mississippi,” an arrangement he created especially for the tour.

Lance said the MSU ensemble joined with students from the Alpine Lakes Music School for the St. Gilgen event being held in the former residence of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart’s mother, now a museum and performance hall. Students from the prestigious St. Gilgen International School were in attendance.

In Grainau, the concert was hosted by the municipal band as part of its weekly musical series. The Garmisch event will be part of that city’s 2011 Music in the Parks Festival.

When not performing, the students, faculty, and accompanying parent chaperones had the opportunity to visit Germany’s Miraphone Brass Instrument Factory in Waldkreiburg and a violin-making school in Mittenwald. In Austria, the students attended a performance of the Salzburger Kammermusik, one of Salzburg’s top chamber music ensembles.

The MSU group concluded the tour with two days of sightseeing in Munich, Germany, one of Europe’s major cultural centers and home over the centuries to numerous well-known composers and artists.

COLLEGE HOLDS FIFTH ANNUAL FACULTY/STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM



The fifth annual College of Education Faculty/Student Research Forum was held on March 30 and was headlined by **Dr. Martha J. Kanter**, Under Secretary for the U.S. Dept. of Education. Dr. Kanter discussed a variety of issues facing the field of education in her address entitled “Affordability, Quality, and Completion for an America Built to Last”.

The annual research forum, whose theme of “In Pursuit of External Funding: Lessons Learned”, attracted over 100 participants and over 25

poster presentations. 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 research collaboration,” said **Dr. J. Elton Moore**, Associate Dean for Research.

A panel presentation focused on “Tips from Successful PI’s”. The panel was made up of three top College researchers and included **Dr. Devon Brenner**, Department Head for the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education, **Dr. Michele McDonnall**, Interim Director of the RRTC on Blindness and Low Vision, and **Dr. Lynn Darling**, Director of the Early Childhood Institute.

In addition to the Keynote address and the panel presentation, COE departments and units displayed research posters produced by faculty, research staff, and graduate and undergraduate students. Awards were given for the top three graduate student posters:

- 1st place - **Peyton Groff**, “Functional behavioral assessment: Exploring validity in the school”
- 2nd place - **Kathryn Hoseney**, “Difference in landing kinetics during simulated ankle sprain motion between chronic ankle instability and health participants”
- 3rd place - **Carlos Crutch**, **Sara Hickerson**, and **Umbreen Iqbal**, “Benefits of pivotal response training on children with Autism and children with behavioral concerns”

An award was also given for the top undergraduate student poster: **Rachel White** and **Molly Butts**, for their research on the following: “What is the relationship between productivity on online academic assignments and distractions on the computer?”



MISSISSIPPI WRITING/THINKING INSTITUTE WINS AWARD

The partnership between the Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute, housed at the Center for Educational Partnerships, and the Yazoo County School District was selected for a 2012 Partnership Excellence Award by the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education (MAPE). This award recognizes the partnership between the Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute and the Yazoo County School District that has resulted in an improved atmosphere of collaboration where both students and teachers have benefited from the instruction of expert instructors of reading and writing.

The partnership's emphasis on student achievement in writing has yielded positive results and paved the way for future collaboration between the two partners. Activities sponsored through the partnership have encouraged a continued effort to improve the reading and writing skills of students and will provide teachers with the necessary tools to impact students through positive academic enrichment.

MSU FUTURE EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Mississippi State University chapter of Future Educators Association (FEA) had a very productive year. In September 2011, the group started the year with a membership meeting where over 100 students joined the organization. In October 2011, members participated in Read for the Record, a nationwide day set aside to promote reading for young children. Members visited area preschools where they read Llama Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney to the students and donated a copy of the book to each classroom for their library collection. During Mississippi State University's Fall Festival, which drew area children for an evening of games and activities, the FEA chapter participated by sponsoring a "Bean-Bag Toss" booth.

The spring 2012 semester opened with a meeting where Dr. Karen Coats from the Graduate School and **Dr. Dinetta Karriem** from the College of Education (COE) met with FEA members to discuss graduate school options and available scholarships. Also during the spring semester, FEA members provided refreshments to graduating COE students during the wrap-up session that followed their teaching internships.

The Mississippi State University chapter of FEA was chartered in 2007. The organization goals are to:

- Strive to interest students in the field of education early in their school experience
- Place a strong emphasis on the recruitment of students with diverse ethnic, racial, social, and economic backgrounds
- Strive to promote excellence in students interested in the teaching profession by promoting academic achievement, developing a positive self-image, and encouraging leadership responsibilities
- Enhance the quality of the college's educational programs by fostering an appreciation for teaching
- Promote a positive image of education to students, parents, and the community and disseminate information about the teaching profession
- Encourage members to be positive role models in their colleges, the organization, and the community.

Advisors for the MSU chapter of FEA are **Ms. Karen Brown** and **Ms. Jennifer Wofford**.



MSU BUSINESS EDUCATION HONOR SOCIETY NAMED TOP IN NATION

The Mississippi State chapter of business education honor society Pi Omega Pi now is ranked No. 1 in the nation.

The honor society's purposes include the promotion of scholarship, service, and high ethical standards in business education, as well as the creation of fellowship among teachers of business subjects.

"The Alpha Pi chapter has been in the top ten chapters for the last 15 years," said Connie Forde, adviser of the university chapter. "This is our first time to have been selected as the number one chapter.

We are so excited; year after year our students work diligently to complete three outstanding service projects at the local, community, and national levels that truly make a difference," added Forde, who also is national Pi Omega Pi president.

At the community level, Forde said chapter members collected books for the Smithville and East Webster County schools that lost their libraries during last spring's devastating tornadoes.

At the local level, they staffed a variety of support roles during the fall semester for the Future Business Leaders of America-Phi Beta Lambda Leadership Conference. Last year, members also assisted at the national Pi Omega Pi convention in New Orleans, La.

Members of the award-winning MSU chapter include:

BRANDON--Chelsea M. Rushing, a 2011 Summa Cum Laude graduate of the College of Education and counselor education graduate student, the daughter of Kenneth and Margaret Rushing and a Brandon High School graduate.

COLUMBUS--Senior Dorine J. Deason, an information technology services major, the daughter of William Richards and Lou Ann Hudson. [High school information not provided.]

CORINTH--Courtney L. Coleman, a 2011 master's degree graduate of the College of Education and doctoral student in instructional systems and workforce development, the daughter of Chris Coleman and a Corinth High School graduate.

HOUSTON--Senior Letitia Pickens Porter, an interdisciplinary studies/business and technology major, the daughter of Jack and Cassandra Pickens and a Houston High School graduate.

MABEN--Senior Terasa A. Sanders, a technology teacher education major. [Parent and high school information not provided.]

MADISON--Morgan Sims Watkins, a 2011 master's degree graduate of the College of Education, the

daughter of Ralph and Melinda Sims and a Madison Central High School graduate.

MERIDIAN--Senior Brian K. Gaddie Jr., a technology teacher education major, the son of Brian Gaddie and Charleen Gaddie and West Lauderdale High School graduate.

MERIGOLD--Senior Crystal E. Price, a technology teacher education major, the daughter of Chester and Verlie Price and a Cleveland High School graduate.

TUPELO--Senior Kimberley D. Boyer, a technology teacher education major, the daughter of Joe and Betty Upton and a Tupelo High School graduate; Jeffery M. Bradley, a 2011 Magna Cum Laude graduate of the College of Education, the son of Steven and Debbie Bradley.

STARKVILLE--Senior Crystal R. Craven, a technology teacher education major, the daughter of Renee' Clark and a Starkville High School graduate.

WESSON--Trevor Portrey, a 2011 graduate of the College of Education, the son of Michael and Angela Portrey and a Loyd Star High School graduate.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION NAMED A PREPS PARTNERSHIP AWARD WINNER



Picture (from left to right): Dr. Richard Blackburn, Dean of the College of Education; Dr. Teresa Jayroe, Associate Dean of the College of Education; Dr. Bill Wade, Superintendent of Louisville Municipal School District; and Lee Childress, Superintendent of Corinth School District

The Program for Research and Evaluation of Public Schools (PREPS, Inc.) selected the College of Education as one of five recipients of the PREPS Partnership Award during the 2011-2012 PREPS/MAEP Conference. The Partnership Award is given to a school, district, or organization for active involvement in partnerships designed to enhance educational opportunities for students and teachers. This award recognizes the college for its outstanding partnership with Louisville Municipal School District Professional Development School.

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING MIDDLE LEVEL PROGRAM GETS AN EARLY START

The new Master of Arts in Teaching Middle Level (MAT-M) program is piloting its first cohort in the summer of 2012. The MAT-M degree is an online Master of Arts in Teaching degree program that provides an alternate route to teacher licensure and is designed to produce highly qualified middle level educators for 4th – 8th grade classrooms across the state of Mississippi. The creation of this degree program was supported by the \$3.7 million Teacher Education for Rural Middle Schools (TERMS) grant, which was awarded in October 2011 to **Dr. Teresa Jayroe**, Associate Dean of the College of Education; **Dr. Devon Brenner**, Department Head of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education; and **Dr. Anastasia Elder**, Associate Professor of Educational Psychology. TERMS is funded by the federal Transition to Teaching program which aims to address teacher shortages in high-need areas across the US.

In addition to supporting the creation of the MAT-M degree, the TERMS grant provides scholarships and incentives to new teachers who are hired to teach in high-need partner districts across Mississippi. TERMS currently has 18 partner school districts, with more schools joining the program this summer. There are 108 districts in the state that qualify to be a TERMS partner district. Participants enrolled in the MAT-M degree program who commit to teaching for three years in one of the partner districts will receive \$5,000 tuition

assistance, and the district they work for will receive a \$5,000 technology package to be used in that teacher's classroom.

Initially, the first year of the five-year TERMS grant was expected to be used for planning and recruitment. However, after word of the grant award was publicized in local and state media, interest in the degree program skyrocketed. Dr. Brenner reported, "We were amazed at how many people wanted to serve as upper elementary and middle school teachers in rural areas of Mississippi." In response to the demand, faculty in CISE worked through the spring semester to develop courses and gain approval to offer the degree program. The new MAT-M program started its first annual cohort in June 2012. Partnering districts are already calling to secure participants for positions in the fall.

The TERMS program is overseen by two directors: **Dr. Mathew Alred** and **Ms. Dana Seymour**. Both are experienced alternate route teachers who have worked on other federal grants and with other alternate route programs. **Stephen Lancaster** is the TERMS office assistant. For more information please contact the TERMS office at (662) 325-0366, (662) 325-0372, by visiting at room 319 Allen Hall on the Starkville campus, or by going to the website at <http://distance.msstate.edu/silo.php?matm/home>

EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP COURSES OFFERED IN LOUISVILLE

In addition to our traditional programs in educational leadership offered at the Starkville and Meridian campuses of Mississippi State University, the Department of Leadership and Foundations began offering classes for the M.S. degree in School Administration 2012 cohort at Louisville Municipal School District. Dr. Williams, Department Head of Leadership and Foundations, stated, “We are extremely fortunate to have a strong partnership with Dr. William Wade, Superintendent of Louisville Municipal Schools.”

The program offers students the opportunity to take courses close to home and work while receiving one-on-one attention from mentors and professors along with learning support within their cohort. Participants in the cohort will also have the opportunity to develop lifelong connections with fellow cohort members as they earn a degree from a high research level university whose educational leadership program is nationally recognized by NCATE and ELCC. Graduates of the Educational Leadership programs are prepared to serve in positions such as program directors, assistant principals, principals, assistant superintendents, and superintendents.

PREPS HOSTS 2012 PREPS/MAPE CONFERENCE

The 2012 PREPS/MAPE Conference was a great success this year in Jackson. Over 650 teachers, administrators, and superintendents were in attendance this year along with 22 exhibitors, making this year’s conference the largest in PREPS history! The theme for this year’s conference was “Making Common Core Work For All.” In preparation for the implementation of the new Common Core State Standards Curriculum, participants attended various sessions designed to better prepare them for and strengthen their knowledge of the Common Core Curriculum.

This year’s keynote speaker was Dr. Tom Burnham, State Superintendent of Education. Dr. Burnham addressed the topic of Transitioning Mississippi Education and the Mississippi Economy into the International Economy.

An addition to this year’s conference included the participation of student interns through Mississippi State University’s College of Education.

Student interns were afforded the opportunity to attend the many sessions offered at the conference. As an added benefit, several sessions were designed specifically for interns who are about to enter their teaching careers. Student interns also enjoyed a special breakfast on the last morning of the conference where they were introduced to many superintendents of Mississippi school districts. The breakfast proved to be a success where some of the MSU interns received invitations to interview for teaching positions.

In 2011-2012 PREPS was honored to serve 91 of Mississippi’s 152 school districts. The 2012 PREPS/MAPE Conference could not have been such a success without these districts and their involvement in PREPS throughout the year!

You can find more post-conference information at www.preps.msstate.edu.



EARLY CHILDHOOD INSTITUTE RECEIVES GRANT AWARD

The Early Childhood Institute has been awarded a grant for \$2,048,248 by the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Early Childhood to continue its administration of the Mississippi Child Care Quality Rating System. Known as Quality Stars, the program is designed to measure the quality of care provided by licensed child care centers across the state in the areas of Professional Development, Program Administration, Classroom Environments, Evaluation, and Parent Education. The current participation rate in this voluntary program is 33%, the second highest rate in the south among states with voluntary tiered quality rating and improvement systems.

Children who experience long-term sustained high quality early learning experiences are more prepared socially, emotionally, and academically for kindergarten than their peers who are in low-quality centers, or children who have no early learning experience at all prior to kindergarten. High-quality early childhood care and education is associated with grade-level performance on standardized tests, improvements in grade retention, and reductions in behavioral problems and teen pregnancy. These children are also more likely to complete high school and seek higher education. The Quality Stars was developed to provide early care and education centers with benchmarks of quality. This is one of the largest single grant awards ever received in the College of Education.



MSU COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH GRANTS RETURN FOR SECOND YEAR

A mini-grant program funded by the Office of Research and Economic Development at Mississippi State is back for a second year after a productive launch to the program last fall.

The cross-college grants are designed to bring together researchers from throughout campus and across academic disciplines to foster collaboration, according to the university administrator overseeing the effort.

"We have been pleased with the results so far, and are excited about the possibilities of year two," said Ray Vaughn, associate vice president for research.

"Last year's efforts have yielded funded research proposals of approximately \$1.2 million with \$29 million pending from external sources, which makes the initial cost well worth our investment," the Giles Distinguished Professor of computer science and engineering added.

A \$2,000 grant to each of the 40 teams will support the initiation of new proposals, as well as help enhance multi-disciplinary collaboration of existing projects. A second year of funding to 12 of the initial grant recipients also is provided.

"We are committed to growing our research portfolio for the benefit of every Mississippian," said David Shaw, the land-grant institution's vice president for research and economic development. "Providing faculty members additional opportunities to share ideas and work together to move their research forward is a priority for us."

Participating teams from the College of Education include (alphabetically by principal investigator and department, with proposal title):

--**Linda Coats**, Leadership and Foundations, "Nurturing Students of Color Academic Potential";

--**Rebecca Goldberg**, Counseling and Educational Psychology, "Year 2: The Human-Animal Bond: An Interdisciplinary Research Grant";

--**Andreas Kavazis**, Kinesiology, "The Effects of Obesity, Limb Immobilization and Exercise on Muscle Dysfunction";

--**Mabel Okojie**, Instructional Systems and Workforce Development, "Expanding Access in Technical Education among Women, Veterans and Minority Groups in the State of Mississippi";

--**Kui Xie**, Instructional Systems and Workforce Development, "Improving Learners' Problem Solving Skills with Games and Simulations";

--**Chien Yu**, Instructional Systems and Workforce Development, "Using Technology to Enhance Facilitating of Learning for Women and Minorities in Science and Engineering".





RESEARCHER TAKES IN-DEPTH LOOK AT HOMEWORK DISTRACTIONS

A new regional study by a senior learning researcher and Mississippi State faculty member is the first to link homework distraction to a wide range of variables.

The multi-level analysis by **Jianzhong Xu**, a professor in the College of Education, examined a range of variables affecting homework distraction, at both the student level and the class level. He hypothesized that homework distraction is affected by such variables as gender, academic achievement, and student attitudes toward the work.

A member of the college's Leadership and Foundations Department, Xu also included numerous types of distractions in his analysis.

"The distractions I considered ranged from the conventional, such as watching television or daydreaming, to the high-tech, such as text messaging and playing video games," he said.

Xu surveyed 1,800 eighth- and 11th-grade students from nearly 100 classes across the Southeastern United States. Students were asked about the frequency of family help with homework, extracurricular activities, and parents' education levels, among other variables.

Xu, a Columbia University doctoral graduate, said the study found those less likely to be distracted while doing homework scored higher in affective attitude, academic achievement, learning-oriented reasons, homework interest, and adult-oriented reasons. "Most of the variance in homework distraction occurred at the student level, not at the class level," he added.

While it may be a common assumption that many students tend to think of homework as boring, Xu's investigation indicated affective attitude toward homework, like the favorability of homework as compared with other after-school activities, affect homework distraction the most.

The study also yielded two surprising results:

--Girls were more likely to be distracted than boys, and

--11th graders were more likely to be distracted than younger students while doing homework.

Xu said the study's results have both research and practical implications. "This line of research needs to be continued," Xu said. "Other school levels, how different genders handle distractions, and how certain attitudes toward homework play a role in coping with distraction need to be examined."

Even though the findings show family homework help is not directly related to homework distraction, parents may still play an important role in helping children cope with distraction through influencing their attitudes toward homework. And students can take responsibility toward decreasing distraction while doing their homework by arranging a conducive homework environment and prioritizing and structuring other activities.



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION RESEARCHERS HONORED FOR ACHIEVEMENTS

President Mark E. Keenum and other senior administrators were in attendance at a recent campus banquet to extend the land-grant institution's congratulations for the accomplishments.

"Research and service go hand in hand at our university," Keenum told the large audience of faculty, staff, students, friends, and family gathered at the Hunter Henry Center.

"I greatly appreciate your hard work and dedication to our state. Congratulations on a job well done," he said.

The annual awards program honors individuals who contribute significantly to the land-grant institution's mission of research. In addition to faculty, it recognizes and rewards students and support staff for accomplishments and creative endeavors, as well as for increasing awareness of the university's many research programs and capabilities.

The program and banquet are co-sponsored by the offices of the vice presidents for Research and Economic Development and the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine.

"Mississippi State's research enterprise is growing in a number of different areas because of the collaboration between our two divisions," Shaw said.

Greg Bohach, vice president for Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine, echoed Shaw's assessment.

"We enjoy working together, and our research is making a difference thanks to the excellence of our people," Bohach said.

The 2012 College of Education research award winners include:

David Morse, faculty; **Iva Ballard**, research support staff; **Katelyn L. Graben** of Gulfport, graduate student; **Rebecca A. Bernheim** of Gulfport, undergraduate student, and **Lindon Ratliff**, faculty, MSU Meridian.

New graduates of the campus Faculty Leadership Program also were honored. They include Ted Atkinson, Yogi Dandass, Islam El-adaway, Rafael Hernandez, Gregg Ibendahl, John Kushla, John Madsen, Jarrod Moss, Dagmar Radin, Angela Robertson, **Rebecca Robichaux**, Mark Shankle, Erdem Topsakal, John Usher, and Keisha Walters.



SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Anthony, K., & **Burroughs, S.** (2012). Day to day operations of home school families: Selecting from a menu of educational choices to meet students' individual instructional needs. *International Education Studies*, 5(1), 3-17.

Boggan, M. & Jayroe, T. (2012). Recruiting and retaining quality teachers in Mississippi through Learning and Educating through Alternate Programs: LEAP. *Literacy Information and Computer Education Journal*, 3(3), 21-28.

Brenner, D. (2012). They read and write, but do they critique? The four resources of literacy practice in Printz award winning literature. *The ALAN Review (Journal of the Assembly on Literature for Adolescents of the National Council of Teachers of English)* 39(2), 39-48.

Cannady, R. E., **King, S. B., & Blendinger, J. G.** (2012). Proactive outreach to adult students: A department and library collaborative effort. *The Reference Librarian*, 53(2), 156-169.

Carlyle, G., **Thompson, N., Hare, D.,** Miller, N., & Purvis, L. (2011). Postsecondary transitions of Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians Tribal Scholarship Program students. *Journal of American Indian Education*, 50(3), 42-60.

Coffey, K. M., & Obringer, S. J. (2011). A look back. *Physical Disabilities: Education and Related Services*, 30(1), 1-3.

Damm, R. (2011, winter). Fanga Alafia: History and meaning. Special issue: Music we bring into the classroom; *Folk. Orff Echo*, 43(2), 21-25.

Giesen, J. M., **Cavanaugh, B. S., & McDonnall, M. C.** (2012). Academic supports, cognitive disability, and mathematics achievement for visually impaired youth: A multilevel modeling approach. *International Journal of Special Education*, 27(1), 17-26.

Gilliland, K. J., & Knight, A. C. (2012). Friedreich's ataxia and gait changes through participation in therapeutic horseback riding. *Clinical Kinesiology*, 66, 1-6.

Hall, K. R., Rushing, J. L., & Khurshid, A. (2011). Using the solving problems together psychoeducational group counseling model as an intervention for negative peer pressure. *Journal for Specialists in Group Work*, 36(2), 97-110.

Hopper, P. F. (2011). Bringing culture to life through children's literature: The Mississippi Delta in the 1930's. *The Forum on Public Policy*, 2011(1).

Kirkland, A., (2012, March). Performance suggestions for two classic wind band excerpts for trumpet and cornet. *International Trumpet Guild Journal*, 36, 63-67.

Knight, A. C. & Weimar, W. H. (2011). Effects of inversion perturbation after step down task on the latency of the peroneus longus and peroneus brevis. *Journal of Applied Biomechanics*, 27, 283-290.

Lance, E. K. (2012). Listening to the band. *National Band Association Journal*. LII(3) 224-25.

Love, A., & Andrew, D. P. S. (2012). The intersection of sport management and sociology of sport research: A social network perspective. *Sport Management Review*, 15(2), 244-256.

McDonnall, M. C., & O'Mally, J. (2012). Characteristics of early work experiences and their association with future employment. *Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness*, 106(3), 133-144.

Moser, K. (2012). Does Praxis make perfect? A personal journey through the Praxis II World Language Test. *The Clearing House*, 85(4), 123-128.

Ratliff, L. (2012). The Mississippi burning murders: Teaching what should be remembered. *Journal for the Liberal Arts and Sciences*, 16(2), 112-125.

Robichaux, R. R., & Rodrigue, P. R. (2011). Dine on rich functional examples. *Mathematics Teaching in the Middle School*, 16(6), 368-373.

Robertson, A. A., St. Lawrence, J., **Morse, D. T.,** Baird-Thomas, C., Liuw, H., & Gresham, K. (2011). The Healthy Teen Girls Project: Comparison of health education and STD risk reduction intervention for incarcerated adolescent females. *Health Education & Behavior*, 38(3), 241-250.

Scott, L., **Harper, S., & Boggan, M.** (2012). Promoting of arts integration to build social and academic development. *National Teacher Education Journal*, 5(2), p. 120-134.

Sobaskie, J. W. (2012). Le sous-texte ironique de la bonne chanson de Gabriel Fauré. In P. Terrien

(Ed.) *Musique Française, esthétique et identité en mutation 1892-1992*. Paris, France: Editions Delatour. 311-336.

Taylor, C.D. (2012). Bands in the homeschool community. *National Band Association Journal*, 52(3), 15-18.

Wax, B., Brown, S. P., Webb, H. E., & Kavazis, A. N. (2011). Effects of carbohydrate supplementation on force output and time to exhaustion during static leg contractions superimposed with electromyostimulation. *Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research*, 26(6), 1717-1723. doi: 10.1519/JSC.ob013e318234ec0e

Xu, J., Coats, L., & Davidson, M. (2012). Promoting student interest in science: The perspectives of exemplary African American teachers. *American Educational Research Journal*, 49, 124-154.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Aarhus, C. H., Lance, E. K., & Taylor, C. D. (2011). Leading the band: Moving from good to great. Presentation to the Collegiate Band Directors National Association Marching and Athletic Band Symposium, Tempe, AZ.

Baker, J. C., & Taylor, C. D. (2011). Tips for arranging (or re-arranging) for your marching band. Presentation to the Mississippi Bandmasters Association State Clinic, Natchez, MS.

Ballard, I. B., Chappell, M., Johnson, S., & Ngassam, M. D. (2011, November). Parental involvement in the summer activities of four elementary students: A qualitative study. Paper presented at the annual MidSouth Educational Research Association Conference, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS.

Boggan, M., Jayroe, T., & Pope, M. (2012). Teach Mississippi Institute (TMI): An effort to address the shortage of special-needs teachers in the state of Mississippi at Mississippi State University. Presentation to the Society for Technology & Teacher Education (SITE), Austin, TX.

Braun, J., & **Burroughs, S.** (2011, December). Powerful and authentic social studies. Presentation made at the annual meeting of the National Council for the Social Studies. Washington, DC.

Damm, R. (2012). State Clinic: World drumming lecture recital with Ricky Burkhead Percussive Arts Society. Presentation at the MS Day of Percussion Jackson State University, Jackson, MS.

Elder, A. D. (2011, November). College students' cell phone use, beliefs, and effects on their learning. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Mid-South Educational Research Association, Oxford, MS.

Franz, D. P. (2011, September). Preparing to teach standards for mathematical practice in the early grades. Presented at the Mississippi Council for the Teachers of Mathematics annual conference.

Hall, K. R., & Rushing, J. L. (2011, November). Transforming minds: Advocacy for the profession. Presentation at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Counseling Association. Biloxi, MS.

Hamil, B.W., Penrod, O. H., Gainer, D. C., & Hopper, P. F. (2011). Success in the classroom: Symposium on differentiated instruction including problem solving perception, emotional intelligence, and reading strategies. Presentation to the International Mind, Brain and Education Society 2011 (IMBES) Conference, San Diego, CA.

Hopper, P.F., & Aarhus, C. (June, 2012). The importance of education and the international experience. Presentation for White Dove School, San Pedro Sula, Honduras.

Lance, E. K. (2012) Building a bridge - Recruiting is a year-round job. Presented at the College Band Director's National Association Athletic Band Symposium, Columbus, OH.

LeJeune, B. J. (2012). Profiles in Courage: Facing aging with hearing and vision loss. 14e Symposium scientifique l'incapacite visuelle et la readaptation. University of Montreal-Institut Nazareth & Louis Braille. Montreal, Quebec, Canada.

FOCUS ON THE FACULTY AND STAFF

Letson, K, & **Hare, D.** (2011). Results of a reading program in a middle school. Paper presented at the 2011 MidSouth Education Research Association. November 2, 2011: Oxford, MS

Love, A., Kavazis, A., Morse, A., & Mayer, K. C. (2012, May). The influence of soccer-specific stadiums on attendance in Major League Soccer. Paper presented at the North American Society for Sport Management Conference, Seattle, WA.

Love, A. (2012, April). Nike and corporate social responsibility: Reform or public relations? Paper presented at the Southern Sport Management Conference, Troy, AL.

Miller, N. C., **Thompson, N. L., & Franz, D. P.** (2011, November). Repeaters: Lessons learned from three non-traditional middle level education students. Presented in the Spotlight on Research at the Association of Middle Level Education, Indianapolis, IN.

Orr, A. L. & LeJeune, B. J. (2011, October) Massachusetts senior self-advocacy and aging

and depression training workshop. Sponsored by the BRIDGE program and the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind. Newton, MA.

Robichaux, R., Franz, D. P., Hailey, L. A., & Jayroe, T. (2012, March). Embracing the common core standards for mathematical practice through clinically-based preparation of elementary education teacher candidates. Paper presented at Professional Development Schools National Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

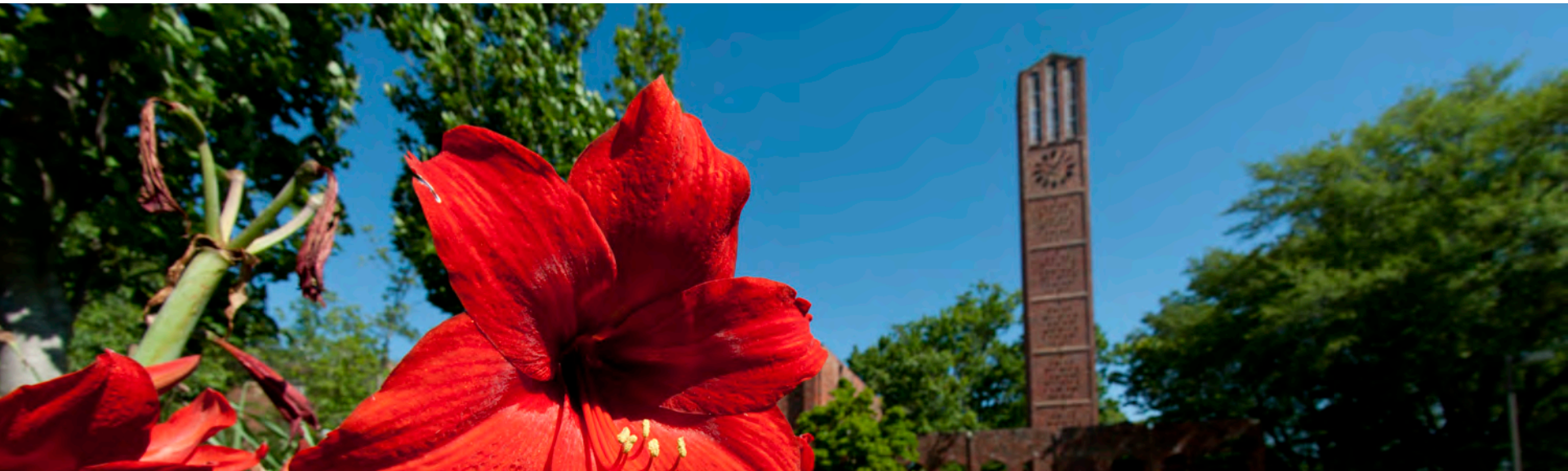
Sobaskie, J. (2011). The audacity of Pénélope: A modern re-imagination of Homer's heroine. A paper presented at the Revisiting the Past, Recasting the Present: The Reception of Greek Antiquity in Music, 19th Century to the Present international conference, Athens, Greece.

Stumpf, A. D., & King, S. B. (2012). Ethical issues involved in faculty evaluation in the community college. Presented at the Council for the Study of Community Colleges annual national conference in Orlando, FL.

Wax, B., Russell, J., Hilton, L., **Webb, H. E., Vickers, B., & Gilliland, K.** (2011). L-arginine alpha-ketoglutarate ingestion does not enhance one-repetition maximal strength and muscular endurance in trained and untrained females. Paper presented at the 34th Annual NSCA National Meeting, Las Vegas, NV.

Xu, J., & Coats, L. T. (2012, April). Promoting student interest in science: The perspectives of exemplary African American elementary teachers. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Yuan, R., Xu, J., & Du, J. (2012, April). Regulation of motivation: Predicting homework motivation management at the secondary school level. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.



FACULTY AND STAFF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Robert Damm, Professor in the Department of Music, was recognized by Board of Trustees of MS Institutions of Higher Learning In Recognition of Black History Month (2012) for serving as a role model and strong advocate for the advancement of diversity at Mississippi State University and in the state of Mississippi.

Adam Love, Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology, has been selected to serve on the editorial board of the International Journal of Sport Communication.

Ben Wax, Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology, has been named the National Strength and Conditioning Association Advisory Board Member for Mississippi.

Alan L. Morse, Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology, was recently nominated to the North American Society of Sport Management (NASSM) Nominating Committee. Dr. Morse is also serving on the inaugural editorial board for the Case Studies in Sport Management (CSSM) journal, published by Human Kinetics.

James Sobaskie, Professor in the Department of Music, composed a suite for brass quintet called Sojourns which was commissioned by the Mississippi chapter of the Music Teacher's National Association and was premiered at their annual meeting in November of 2011, where it was performed by the Golden Triangle Brass Quintet, which is the faculty ensemble in residence at Mississippi State University's Department of Music. This work is now under consideration for publication by a Canadian music firm.

Janie Cirlot-New, Director of T.K. Martin Center for Technology and Disability, was awarded a Mississippi State University Donald Zacharias Distinguished Staff Award for 2012. Recipients of this award exemplify professionalism and dedication to MSU by performing above and beyond the call of duty to improve service, quality, and the image of their departments while serving as a positive role model for other faculty, staff, and/or students. Winners demonstrate outstanding accomplishments of significance based on initiative, cooperation, and ability to perform a job successfully. They also demonstrate a high degree of competence and expertise and work beyond the boundaries of the job by participating in MSU campus activities or community service projects.

Elva Kaye Lance, Professor in the Department of Music, received the 2011 Outstanding Woman Band Director Award, which was presented at the Mississippi Bandmaster's Association Clinic in Natchez, Mississippi.

Kimberly Hall, Associate Professor in the Department of Counseling & Educational Psychology and Post-Secondary Vice-President (2011- present) of Mississippi School Counselor Association, was awarded the 2011 Mississippi State University's James W. Bagley Faculty Award.

Dr. Michael Patilla, Associate Professor in the Department of Music, has published a collection of nine solo guitar works from Honduras. The book, entitled "La Historia de Honduras", is the result of several visits to that country as a Fulbright scholar during the 2007-2008 academic year. During his time there, Dr. Patilla taught guitar courses at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Honduras in

Tegucigalpa, performed concerts in various cities, and collaborated with composers to create a collection of guitar music that represents the rich and diverse cultural heritage of Honduras.

Joshua Watson, an Associate Professor of Counselor Education in the Meridian Division of Education, was elected to the American Counseling Association Governing Council in February 2012 and will serve a three-year term from July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2015.

Dana Franz, an Associate Professor in Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, was selected to be a participant on the Conference Board of Mathematical Sciences Forum on IHL's response to Common Core State Standards: Rewriting The Mathematical Education of Teachers II.

Devon Brenner, the Department Head of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education, was elected to the International Reading Association/National Institute of Child Health and Human Development Advisory Panel, which worked to set a national research agenda for research on the relationship between reading and writing, and to the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, as a member of the Early and Middle Childhood Literacy: Reading and Language Arts standards revision committee.

Rita McReynolds, an instructor in the Learning Center, has been elected President of the Mississippi Association for Developmental Education. As President Elect, she will be hosting the fall 2012 conference at MSU.





Forde



Cunetto



Jayroe



Maynard



Shea



Hailey



Brenner

NEW ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Connie M. Forde, Professor of Instructional Systems and Workforce Development, has been named Department Head for Instructional Systems and Workforce Development. She received a Ph.D. from the University of Mississippi and bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Southern Mississippi. Before being named department head, she served as the Technology Teacher Education and Information Technology Services undergraduate coordinator and graduate coordinator in the department of instructional systems and workforce development. She continues to serve as the adviser for the Alpha Pi Chapter of Pi Omega Pi, the honor society for business teacher education and currently serves as the president of the National Council of Pi Omega Pi.

She is author of numerous books published by Cengage Publishing Co. and is a recognized speaker at state, regional, and national conferences as well as a frequent contributor to the business education literature. Forde is recognized as a leader in her profession having served as president of both the National Business Education Association and the Southern Business Education Association and chair of the Foundation for the Future of Business Education. She was the recipient of the 2006 MSU Outstanding Faculty Award presented by the President's Commission on the Status of Women and has been honored with outstanding teaching and leadership awards by her state, regional, and national associations.

Dr. Teresa Jayroe, from Starkville, Mississippi, has been appointed Associate Dean of the Mississippi State University College of Education. Dr. Jayroe spent 13 years teaching kindergarten through second grade and obtained her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction at Mississippi State University in 1999, where she became a Professor in the Department of Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education. She has also served as the Director of the Office of Clinical/Field-Based Instruction and Licensure within the College and is the current Principal Investigator on several grants. Dr. Jayroe has received a number of recognitions for her work, including receiving the College of Education Faculty research Award in 2010, being named one of the 2008 Dynamic Women of Mississippi, as well as being awarded the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Woman of Distinction in 2009 and the Clyde Muse Service Award in 2007.

Donna Shea was named Interim Director of Clinical/Field-Based Instruction, Licensure, and Outreach in January, 2012. She is a 1991 graduate of Mississippi State University and is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Elementary, Middle, and Secondary Education Administration at Mississippi State University.

During her 18 years as an educator, Shea taught biology, physics, and anatomy and physiology. She also served as a building level administrator and as Choctaw County Superintendent of Education. Shea was chosen as STAR Teacher for two consecutive years and as Ackerman High School Teacher of the Year in 2006. Shea believes in the awesome opportunity that teachers have to positively affect the future and has devoted

her life to helping teachers realize what a difference they can make in the lives of their students.

Dr. Devon Brenner, a professor of reading and language arts has been selected as head of the Department of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education in the College of Education at Mississippi State University. A former fourth grade teacher from Addison, Michigan, Devon is currently in her thirteenth year at Mississippi State University. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and PhD in Curriculum, Teaching, and Educational Policy from Michigan State University.

Brenner's research focuses on policy and practice in literacy education and teacher education, including the implementation of mandated reading programs in elementary and middle grades classrooms. She has also studied the opportunity to read that students are afforded in third grade classrooms. Another line of research analyzes images of reading and writing in children's and young adult literature.

Prior to taking over as interim department head in 2011, Brenner served as program coordinator for elementary education and graduate coordinator for Curriculum, Instruction, and Special Education. She serves as the chair of the Higher Education Literacy Council, a group of teacher educators from across the state working with the Mississippi Department of Education to set teacher education policy and to improve teacher education practice in Mississippi. She was a participant in the William Hall Smith Faculty

Leadership Program at Mississippi State University and has received the College of Education Diversity Award and the Lucinda Rose Teaching Award. Brenner is also currently a member of the IRA/NICHD Expert Panel on the Reading-Writing Connection and a member of the Mississippi State Literacy Team. She has had several poems published in literary journals.

Trish Cunetto, a 1986 elementary graduate, joined the MSU Foundation team as Development Director for the College of Education in early January. Cunetto has 25 years of experience as a public school teacher, most recently working as a kindergarten teacher in Starkville at Sudduth Elementary School. Cunetto's long list of leadership activities include serving on Gov. Haley Barbour's Teacher Advisory Committee from 2005-08, serving as a member of the Mississippi Superintendent's Advisory Committee for 2005-06, served as president, executive board member, and chair of several committees for the Mississippi Early Childhood Association. In 2007, she was selected as Starkville School District Teacher of the Year and is a past recipient of the Starkville Rotary Club Teacher Excellence Award.

Sandy Maynard, a Starkville native, has been named Program Coordinator for Assessment and Accreditation for the College of Education. Mrs. Maynard completed her Bachelor of Science in Education at Mississippi State University in 1986 and her Master of Arts in Education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham 1988. She taught in the Starkville

Public Schools as a third grade teacher from 1988-2004. In 2004, Mrs. Maynard joined the faculty in the department of curriculum, instruction, and special education at MSU as an instructor with the Senior Methods Block.

As program coordinator, Mrs. Maynard will work with the departments in the College of Education in reviewing and updating their assessment plans as well as coordinating data collection and analysis for the college's National Council for Accreditation of Teacher or Teacher Education (NCATE). NCATE is in the process of merging with the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) to form the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). Once this merger is completed, Mrs. Maynard will work closely with departments as they transition to the new accreditation process.

Leigh Ann Hailey, a Louisville native, has been named Program Manager for University/School Partnerships & PREPS. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Mississippi University for Women and her Master of Science in School Counseling and her Specialist's degree in School Administration from Mississippi State University. During her 12 years as an educator, Mrs. Hailey taught science at the middle school and high school levels, was a school counselor, and served as assistant principal. Mrs. Hailey also served as the Project Director for the Changing Academic Progress and Promoting Success (CAPPS) program, a 21st Century Grant partnership between the Louisville Municipal School District and MSU. As Program Manager, Mrs. Hailey serves as a liaison between Mississippi State University and LMSD.



NEW FACULTY

Dr. Amanda Taggart is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Leadership and Foundations. She received a competitive doctoral fellowship to complete her studies in educational leadership and policy at the University of Texas at San Antonio, where she was named a Clark Scholar by the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA) and the American Educational Research Association (AERA). She was also granted the UCEA Graduate Student Fellowship to work at the Utah Education Policy Center, housed at the University of Utah, last summer. She is originally from Ogden, Utah, and formerly taught high school Spanish and English in Las Vegas, Nevada. Her research interests include issues of social justice related to racial/ethnic minority student achievement and access throughout the P-20 educational pipeline. Her research has been published in distinguished journals such as the American Educational Research Journal and the Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences.

Dr. Chris Willis, Assistant Professor in the Department of Leadership and Foundations, comes to Mississippi State from Indiana where he worked for 18 years in the public school system. His roles included high school math teacher and building administrator position including high school principal. He completed his Ed.D. at Indiana University in the summer of 2011. His research interest focuses upon school reform and the historical barriers to reforms.

He now lives in Starkville with his wife and their 4 children.

Dr. Megan Holmes is joining the Department of Kinesiology as an Assistant Professor, after completing her doctoral studies in Pediatric Exercise Physiology and Epidemiology at Michigan State University. Her dissertation, which examined the moderating influence of physical activity and fitness on the stress-metabolic syndrome relationship in middle school-aged children, was funded by grants from the Michigan State College of Education and the Blue Cross Blue Shield Foundation of Michigan. In addition to her research efforts, Holmes' extensive teaching experiences throughout the Exercise Physiology curricula earned her the Michigan State College of Education Excellence in Teaching award. This is a competitive award primarily reserved for faculty. Holmes completed her master's work at Iowa State University, where she received the Outstanding Masters Student Award from the Department of Health and Human Performance. Prior to Iowa State, Holmes completed her undergraduate work in Exercise Science with an Emphasis in Sports Nutrition at the University of Nebraska at Kearney where she also competed for the Track team.

Dr. Chih-hsuan Wang is currently an Assistant Professor at the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology, in the College of Education at Mississippi State University. She completed her Ph.D. with a major emphasis in Educational Research, Methodology, and Analysis, and a Master's degree in Probability

and Statistics at the Auburn University. She was previously an instructor in educational psychology at Auburn University. Dr. Wang has been involved with data analysis consultation, research design, and survey development with students and colleagues from different colleges and universities. Her research interests include self-efficacy, self-regulated learning and motivation in both online and traditional settings. Her teaching interests include educational research methodology, statistics, assessment, and motivation.

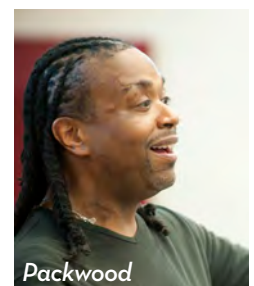
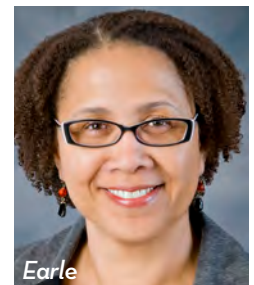
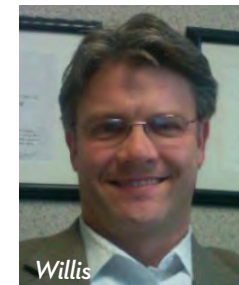
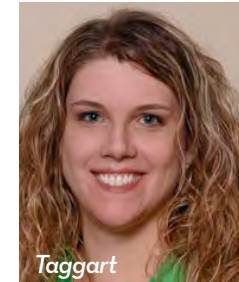
Dr. Maria T. Earle is an Assistant Professor in the Instructional Systems Workforce Development department in the College of Education in Starkville. Earle teaches courses in computer literacy and information technology. Prior to her current appointment, she worked as an Adjunct Professor at Lone Star College and Evergreen Valley College. Her research is in the computing STEM area and she investigates the effectiveness of innovative curriculum to aide in providing "computational thinking" for all. Earle received her doctorate in Education in 2011 from the University of Houston. Her doctoral degree is in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Instructional Technology. She received an undergraduate degree in Engineering from Boston University. This year she was honored as an AERA Emerging Scholar. She was also honored to serve as an NSF review panelist. She volunteers as an accreditor for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), serves as a standards reviewer

for the Computer Science Education Standards (CSTA/ISTE), serves on the Editorial Review Board for the Journal for Computing Teachers (JCT), and volunteers as a peer reviewer for American Educational Research Association (AERA), American Society of Engineering Educators (ASEE), and the International Society of Technical Educators (ISTE). Prior to her academic appointments, Dr. Earle worked in the software industry designing large-scale communication systems. In addition, she was principal of MCE Consulting Inc., a consulting company that provided enterprise software training.

Dr. Gary Packwood, Assistant Professor in the Department of Music, recently completed his first year as the program administrator and director of choral activities at Mississippi State University. He held similar positions at the University of Montevallo and LSU. He earned his Bachelor of Music Education degree from Southeastern Louisiana University, his Master of Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University, and his Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from Louisiana State University.

Choirs prepared by Dr. Packwood have performed during the refereed Alabama, Florida, and Mississippi state conferences of the National Association for Music Education (NAfME), the Alabama state conference of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA), and national conferences of

NAfME. Other peer reviewed invitational performances include many of Europe's most distinct concert venues such as Notre Dame Cathedral, Chartres Cathedral, La Madeleine Church, Sacra Coeur Church, and The American Cemetery at Omaha Beach, Normandy. In 2012, in the famed Isaac Stern Auditorium, on the Ronald O. Perelman Stage, Dr. Packwood and 60 members of the Mississippi State University Singers made their debut at Carnegie Hall, the most prestigious concert stage in the world, to a packed house. Dr. Packwood has conducted all-state and honor choirs in 19 states, on three continents, serving as guest conductor and lecturer for the 2010 Festival Internacional de Musica at the Universidade, Brazil; Visiting Professor of Music and Conducting, Sultan Idris Education University, Malaysia; 2007 guest conductor and lecturer Conservatory of Music - University of Uberlandia, Brazil; and guest conductor and lecturer for the 2006 Festival Internacional de Musica, Brazil. Dr. Packwood and the MSU Singers recently received invitations to serve as conductor/choral ensemble in residence for the Festival Internacional de Musica, Brazil, in 2013. Dr. Packwood is a member of and has served in numerous leadership roles in professional organizations. He has published articles in Choral Journal, Teaching Music, and the 2nd Edition of the AmeriGrove Dictionary.





MSU BAND DIRECTOR HONORED WITH INAUGURAL AWARD

Mississippi State University Director of Bands Elva Kaye Lance has been honored with the first Edythe McArthur Outstanding Director Award.

McArthur is considered among state pioneers in the field of instrumental music education. Entering the profession at a time when very few women were teaching band, she became recognized for her vast fundamental knowledge of the instruments and literature.

She and her husband, John, developed bands in several Mississippi communities, including a long and successful tenure in the Starkville schools.

Given by the Mississippi Bandmasters Association during its recent state clinic in Natchez, the honor is a memorial to the longtime state band director who died in 2009. It recognizes outstanding women in the field.

“Edythe McArthur was my teacher, my mentor, and my friend,” Lance

said. “Her knowledge of the instruments and her demanding style has challenged and supported me throughout my career.”

Appointed in 2002, Lance is the first woman among eight Famous Maroon Band directors in the program’s more than 100-year history. She also is the only female serving currently as director of bands at a Southeastern Conference university.

A music educator for the past 35 years, she also conducts the wind ensemble, teaches methods classes, and assists with student-teacher supervision in the MSU music department. Additionally, she serves regularly as a clinician and adjudicator for concert and marching band events throughout the country.

A 1976 MSU graduate and former Famous Maroon Band member, Lance was selected for Who’s Who and Hall of Fame as an undergraduate. She also is a Southern Oregon University graduate.





MCREYNOLDS CONTINUES PREPARING MSU AS HOST FOR MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION'S FALL 2012 CONFERENCE

Rita McReynolds, a member of the Mississippi Association for Developmental Education (MADE) for 20 years, has served the association in the capacity of Recorder, twice as Historian, and as Vice-President, and is now the President-Elect for the 2012 term. One honor of holding this office, said McReynolds, is to choose the site for the upcoming statewide meeting and work through the planning stages to direct and oversee a successful outcome for the annual conference, benefitting students and educators. She hopes to involve a broad spectrum of entities spanning Mississippi State's vast offerings as well as garner support from the city of Starkville.

McReynolds, a Starkville native, received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Mississippi State. She is in her 21st year teaching in The Learning Center. Her husband, David E., and children, Connie and Davey, are all MSU alums, in addition to her parents. She welcomes and anticipates involvement and support from the college community during the planning and hosting for the 31st year of the event, which will be the first for Mississippi State as the venue.

McReynolds shares comments related to the Mississippi Association for Developmental Education and the National Association for

Developmental Education. Meeting educators with common interests from all points of the state of Mississippi has been a wonderful networking experience during my tenure here at MSU. I look forward annually to rekindling and catching up, sharing information and strategies, and contributing as a group to the educational enhancement of student success. On a personal note, McReynolds commented on one particular favorite of MADE -- Dr. Clyde Muse, President of Hinds Community College in Raymond, has been a staunch supporter and mentor to the group for many years. "He was 'coach' Muse to me, having held the positions as head basketball coach before becoming Principal at Starkville High School during my years as a student there. I make a point to garner annual photo shoots with Coach Muse, and catch him up on happenings of several notable former students from the area. I was emotionally impressed with President Muse's address at the national conference in Washington last year. It was conclusive that state and national figures held Vashti and President Muse in high esteem. I represented the Mississippi branch at the 2012 national conference which was held in Orlando this spring. I look forward to coordinating the upcoming MADE group on our beautiful campus in the fall." Muse's wife, Vashti, deceased, played major roles heading up MADE as well as NADE, the national association.



THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AMBASSADORS



Front Row: Lindsey Franklin, Laura Hankins, Vice-President; D. J. Klein, President; Jennifer Landreth, Publicity Chairman; and Whitney Knight

Second Row: Amy Prisock, Ambassador Advisor; Sarah Beth Mills; Katie Elam; Crystal Price; and Shane Davis, Ambassador Advisor

Back Row: Morgan Hutto; Mandy Collins; Chris Jackson; and Allison McCharen

The College of Education Ambassadors is an organization that serves as a liaison for the College of Education Faculty and Staff to students, prospective students, alumni, and benefactors of the college. They assist with College of Education alumni recognition ceremonies, social events, and all university recruitment events.

TEACHING INTERNSHIP AWARDS

Outstanding Teacher Intern Awards are given to teacher interns who go above and beyond expectations. Teacher interns are nominated by their supervising classroom mentor teachers for this award.

The following Mississippi State University teacher interns received recognition for their resourcefulness, initiative, and effectiveness throughout Teaching Internship at Mississippi State University. The interns receiving the awards were selected because of their outstanding teaching performance in their assigned K-12 classrooms. Teacher interns receiving this award demonstrated a high level of professionalism and commitment to the teaching profession.



Fall 2011

(Left to right): Bartlett Kimbrough, Agriculture Ed. (Mount Hope, AL); Lauren Franks, Elementary Ed. (Plattville, AL); Hartley Wester, Elementary Ed. (Mendenhall, MS); Camon Franklin, Elementary Ed. (Starkville, MS); Bridgette Krueger, Special Ed. (Point Dacula, GA); Ali Bainbridge Watts, Elementary Ed. (Birmingham, AL); Brent Brownlee, Physical Ed. (Oxford, MS); Laura Reed, Secondary Social Studies (Cedar Park, TX); G. T. McCullough, Physical Ed. (Tupelo, MS); Drew Richardson, Secondary Math (Summit, MS); and Billy Harkins, Physical Ed. (Saltillo, MS)

Spring 2012

Row 1: Emma Fierro, Elem. Ed. (Madison, AL); Nicole Watson, Elem. Ed. (West Point, MS); Courtney Mask Glidewell, Elem. Ed. (Corinth, MS); Jennifer Tulos, Special Ed. (Clinton, MS); and Julie Ford, Elem. Ed. (Ridgeland, MS)

Row 2: Anna Morgan, Music Ed. (Saltillo, MS); Jason Keeton, Secondary Biology (Calhoun City, MS); Lori Beth Leverett, Elem. Ed. (Southaven, MS); Paige McIlwain, Elem. Ed. (Waynesboro, MS); Kelley Carroll, Elem. Ed. (Hernando, MS); Stephanie Kayma, Elem. Ed. (Brandon, MS); and Katherine Barrett, Elem. Ed. (Bay St. Louis, MS)

Row 3: Wayne Arick, Kinesiology (Starkville, MS); Jason Smith, Kinesiology (Mathiston, MS); Patrick Vincent, Music Ed. (Brandon, MS); Victoria Follett, Elem. Ed. (Starkville, MS); Rebecca Yelverton, Elem. Ed. (Clinton, MS); and Megan Schmidt, Special Ed. (Decatur, AL)

Not Pictured: Amanda French, Elem. Ed. (Starkville, MS)



SPIRIT OF STATE AWARDS

The university's premier student award, the 'Spirit of State' award, recognizes exceptional personal contributions to student life at Mississippi State. Students from all MSU campuses, freshmen to graduate, may be nominated for this Student Affairs recognition.

The 'Spirit of State' Award formally honors those students who have excelled in campus involvement, service to the university, and have made an impact on their peers and the broader campus community. Winners were recognized for their outstanding 'Spirit of State' contributions at a public ceremony.

The College of Education was proud to have 6 winners in 2012. They are:

MR. REGGIE LANE - Graduate student majoring in Counselor Education from Bradenton, FL

MS. JENNIE MASON - Senior majoring in Secondary Education & Mathematics from Macon, MS

MS. CARRIE RADKE - Graduate student majoring in Counselor Education, Student Affairs from Murray, KY

MS. HANNAH SANDERS - Senior majoring in Kinesiology from Birmingham, AL

MR. DANIEL SNYDER - Junior majoring in Industrial Engineering from Crystal Springs, MS

MS. MEG SWINDOLL - Senior majoring in Kinesiology from Oxford, MS



THETA CHI CHAPTER OF KAPPA DELTA PI INDUCTS APPROXIMATELY 150

During the 2011-2012 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.

Our Mississippi State University, College of Education Chapter is Theta Chi (Ki) 214, one of 800 chapters. It was installed on March 10, 1958. Over 2,700 students have been initiated into the College of Education chapter since 1989 when the chapter was revitalized and detailed records kept. This year's officers are Taylor Brown, President; Sara Ghaffarian, Vice President; Keosha Lewis, Secretary; Amanda French, Treasurer; Sara Webb, Historian; and Annie Goodwin, Membership. Chapter Counselors are Dr. Margaret Pope, former president of Theta Chi, and Dr. Tina Scholtes.

Seniors

Cody Ables
Ashley Allen
Gordon Arick
Laura Britt
Christina Chirinos
Jeanette Crouch
Lauren Davis
Zedia Fountain
Kiswanna Gamble
Jenna Gray
Taylor Hegwood
Warren Herron
Matt Hines
Kala Hobbs
Ashley Hughes
Shundra Johnson
Sara Kees
Kasey King
Jacob Land
Aaron Ledbetter
Sarah Love
Brittney Mansel

Jennie Mason
April Massingill
Nicholas Moore
Anna Morgan
Jarrod Moulds
Kelly Nance
Sarah Parker
Kenneth Peagler
Megan Peebles
Amber Polk
Kellie Rushing
Tyler Sawyer
Leslie Spiers
Lawrence Storey
Swayze Swindle
Courtney Swoopes
Katie Terrell
Gabrielle Thomas
Paula Usry
Katie Vandiver
Destiny Vice
Emily Wagner
Brent Walden

Carolyn Wellborn
Hollyn White
Nicholas Young

Juniors

James Adams
Christopher Alford
Victoria Allen
Charity Barnes
Britan Bolding
Sarah Bolner
Clay Booth
Magan Bruton
Joshua Busby
Caitlin Carroll
Jessica Castillo
Courtney Chandler
Amber Coggins
Sarah Coil
Christina Coleman
Amy Cotton
Kathryn Cox
Michael Crenshaw

Maddison Davis
Jessica Dougan
Mary Entrekin
Brittany Fulgham
Tricia Gillon
Erin Hardt
Kathryn Harris
Daniel Hayes
Brittany Henry
Anna Herndon
Alisha Holder
Carrie Hughes
Layne Jackson
Breanna Jamison
Haley Jones
Maxine Jones
Mary Kennedy
Whitney Knight
Megan Laird
Abby Lee
Kayla Long
Tracy Mallett
Joy Mayers

Hailey McDonald
Meredith McKee
Allyson McLaurin
Kendall Michaels
Jonathan Miles
Christina Oates
Laura Owen
Alexa Patterson
Shemeka Phipps
Jessica Pickett
Molly Pittman
Crystal Price
Anna Quinn
Hannah Real
Whitney Richardson
Hannah Roberts
Katherine Ross
Maggie Selph
Amanda Skinner
Parker Snow
Justin Sollie
Katharine St. John
Leigh Steward

Kaley Stribling
Mary Strickland
Lauren Stutts
Eryn Taylor
Emily Templeton
Catherine Thomas
Lindsey Thompson
Courtney Tucker
Sean Turnipseed
Catie Walker
Aubrey Weems
Sara Wells
Tatum West
Janis Whittle
Sarah Williams
Stephanie Williamson
Rebecca Wilson
Kelsie Young

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STUDENTS AMONG NEW ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STUDENT DELEGATES

Thirty-one Mississippi State students are new members of the university alumni association's liaison organization.

Founded in 1980, Alumni Delegates serve as liaisons between the 134-year-old land-grant institution and its more than 122,000 living graduates. Helping improve the student body's understanding of the alumni association's role and purpose is among their major missions.

Over the decades, this student branch of the association has proven invaluable in assisting with organizational programs and activities, including football tailgate gatherings, class reunions and numerous other on- and off-campus events.

Delegate officers for 2012 include president John B. Guyton of Starkville; Claire Faccini of Moss Point, vice president for public relations; Rivers Uithoven of Brandon, secretary; and Jacob T. Kent of Tupelo, vice president for education.

Members are selected through a highly competitive interview process. This year's group was chosen from among nearly 270 applicants, and joins 13 returning delegates.

The new members from the College of Education are (by hometown):

ACKERMAN--Junior **Jennifer E. Cooper**, a Physical Education/Kinesiology major, the daughter of Jean and Tom Cooper. She is a graduate of Ackerman High School.

GERMANTOWN, Tenn.--**Gracy E. Hewes**, a junior Kinesiology/Physical Education major, the daughter of Susan and Collins Hewes and a Houston High School graduate; and Catherine A. Waddell, a junior accounting major, the daughter of Anne and Mike Waddell, and a St. Benedict High School graduate.

HELENA, Ala.--Sophomore **Kelsey E. Dewberry**, an Elementary Education major, the daughter of Jeanie and Mark Dewberry and a Pelham High School graduate.

MERIDIAN--Sophomore **Jourdan L. Schulte**, an Elementary Education major, the daughter of Lee and Lynn Schulte, and a West Lauderdale High School graduate.

MOUND BAYOU--Junior **Shemeka S. Phipps**, Special Education and Educational Psychology major, the daughter of Alonrica Sandifer, and a John F. Kennedy High School graduate.

PONTOTOC--Sophomore **Whitney Ray**, a Kinesiology major, the daughter of Bob and Debbie Ray and a Pontotoc High School graduate; and junior Adam C. Roye, a biochemistry major, the son of Suzan and Allen Roye, and a South Pontotoc High School graduate.

MSU INDUSTRIAL TECH STUDENTS GET SOME REAL ‘COMPANY’ TIME

Learning by doing in classroom and laboratory settings is an essential part of student growth in any university academic major.

At Mississippi State, students in industrial technology have been obtaining their hands-on experiences this semester with a real manufacturing project for an area company.

When 2008 industrial technology graduate Justin McDonald--now plant engineer with Polo Custom Products in Louisville--needed 80 wooden carts for the company, he realized current students at his alma mater might be the perfect partners for a mutually beneficial project.

The Industrial Technology field of study is designed to prepare students for technical and management employment careers in manufacturing and distribution industries, as well as government. At MSU, this primarily focuses on the management, operation, and maintenance of complex technological systems.

Polo specializes in custom industrial sewing, radio frequency welding, and thermoforming for the medical, safety, military, industrial, and electronics markets, among others.

“This project comes as close to a real-life manufacturing situation as we could ever get,” said MSU instructor Jerry Mize. “It encompasses motion-and-time studies, line-and-cell manufacturing, cost,

and quality assurance, as well as plant layout.”

Mize involved students from two courses--motion and time study and industrial materials--to create a simulated company that mimicked employment challenges they would face after graduation. Polo provided a cart design, from which the students were able to prepare drawings, develop cutting sketches, and create fixtures, he explained.

While industrial technology graduates typically go on to post-graduate jobs involving highly technical and computerized operations, the production of wooden carts provided some basic and invaluable experiences. The participants took the project from beginning planning stages all the way through the final quality assurance phase.

As instructor, Mize gave himself the head position of CEO. Students “applied” for other positions such as general manager, a position that went to senior Lara Threet of Eupora.

“I think this project was a good opportunity because of the fact two classes played roles, industrial engineering and manufacturing engineering. We, as students, were able to see how in a real manufacturing organization, industrial engineers are responsible for time standards and upholding these standards and how the manufacturing side had to implement new ideas. Those in production had to communicate the effectiveness, or sometimes the lack of



MSU Industrial Technology majors (front, l-r) Cory Bynum of Southaven, David Wallace of New Orleans, La., and Lara Threet of Eupora, with Polo Custom plant engineer Justin McDonald and wooden carts their class produced. Photo by: Russ Houston

effectiveness, of the ideas,” Threet said.

Mize said the classes were designed as a company with a complete organizational chart. “It came closer to a real manufacturing operation than anything we’ve done in the past,” he said.

Mize explained that industrial technologists serve as a critical link between senior management and the production environment of a company. Manufacturing processes, quality control, management, human relations, maintenance, and computer applications are among the variety of careers in the profession.

“Overall, the project was a great chance to develop team work, communication, trouble shooting, and engineering skills,” Threet said.

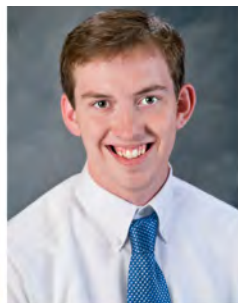
MSU STUDENTS RECEIVE NOYCE HIGH-NEED SCHOLARSHIPS



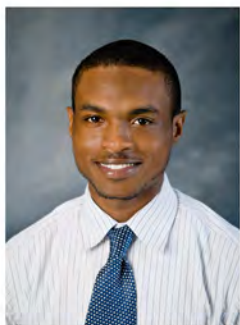
REID



BARAKAT



WIMBERLY



SAVAGE



STUTTS



DOUGLAS

Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship recipients include, top from left, Derick Reid, Sumer Barakat, and Guy Wimberly; bottom row from left, Kendrick Savage, Lauren Stutts, and Chase Douglas.

Three undergraduates and three graduate students at Mississippi State University are receiving national Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarships.

Administered through the College of Education, the scholastic recognition

program encourages talented MSU majors in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics--often called STEM--to become K-12 teachers in the math and science disciplines. The National Science Foundation-funded program involves a two-year

teaching commitment in a high-need Mississippi school district for each year of support received, according to campus scholarship administrator Linda Coats.

"Service must be completed within eight years after graduation from the degree program in which the scholarship was awarded," added the associate professor in the college's Leadership and Foundations department.

She explained that availability is limited to undergraduate juniors and seniors pursuing a double major, with one in chemistry, biology, physics, mathematics, or engineering and the other in mathematics education or science education within a STEM field.

Graduates already holding a bachelor's degree in a STEM field are eligible for professional stipends.

Qualifying undergraduates receive up to \$10,000 each year for a maximum of three years, while qualifying STEM professionals with a degree receive \$15,000 for one year toward an advanced degree.

This year's MSU group includes (by hometown):

ENTERPRISE--Graduate student **Derick M. Reid**, pursuing a master of science degree in general biology;

MADISON--Junior **Sumer Barakat**, a double-major in chemistry and secondary education, with a minor in biology;

NATCHEZ--Junior **Guy W. Wimberly**, majoring in mathematics and secondary education;

OXFORD--Graduate student **Kendrick L. Savage**, pursuing a master of arts degree in secondary teacher education;

SHEFFIELD, Ala.--Junior **Lauren A. Stutts**, majoring in secondary education with an emphasis in chemistry education;

VICKSBURG--Graduate student **Chase Douglas**, pursuing a master of arts degree in secondary education.

To be considered for the scholarships, undergraduates must have a 3.0 grade-point average or higher (based on a 4.0 scale), be a U.S. citizen interested in pursuing a double major, and provide documentation of at least 40 hours working with children, among other requirements.

The professional stipends require at least a bachelor's degree in a STEM field from a regionally/nationally accredited institution, U.S. citizenship, a minimum 2.75 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale), and documentation of at least 40 hours working with children, among other criteria.

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Elizabeth Anderson was selected for the Spotlight on Research Presentation for her presentation with Dr. Franz, entitled Common core state standards initiative: An overview with implications for research, given at the Spotlight on Research at the Association of Middle Level Education, Indianapolis, Ind.

Anderson Repsher has been named as a Mid South Educational Research Association 2011 Research in Progress Presentation Award recipient.

Michael Ray received his PhD in Elementary, Middle, and Secondary Education Administration in May 2012. In November 2011, he was awarded the Mid South Education Research Association 2011 Research in Progress Presentation Award at the annual meeting of MSERA. The award is in recognition of a student entering the journey to academic scholarship.

Rebecca A. Yelverton, an elementary education major and daughter of Joel and Cheryl Yelverton, has been inducted into the prestigious Society of Scholars. Established in 1981 with 21 charter members, the society recognizes top students each semester from all majors who have demonstrated the highest standard of academic excellence. In addition to specific fields of study, each has completed additional coursework in the arts, sciences and humanities. Approximately 50 individuals are inducted each year out of the approximately 2,700 completing

their undergraduate degrees. Since its establishment, the Society of Scholars has inducted more than 400 members.

The Mississippi State University announced three College of Education students as inaugural members of its student service organization: **Kierra D. Taylor**, senior from Cleveland, an educational psychology major and daughter of Jerry Taylor; **Maria Schoen**, Hoover, Ala., a counselor education graduate student and daughter of George and Dalen Orphanos; and **Amari J. Jenkins**, junior from Memphis, Tenn., a kinesiology major and daughter of Joedae Jenkins and Willyn Jenkins.

Ilona Jones, an Elementary Education major from Sallis, was awarded one of the 2012 Mississippi Professional Educators Scholarships. Winners also receive complimentary membership to MPE in their first year as a teacher.

Patricia A. Pohlhaus of Clinton, a junior Special Education major and the daughter of Jackie and Charles Moody, was awarded a national Pat Tillman Military Scholarship. A member of the Famous Maroon Band, she completed a summer internship in which she directed a children's theater camp for ages 3-13. The academic award was created in memory of Pat Tillman, the late U.S. Army Ranger and former NFL football player.

TRAVIS CREEL NAMED OUTSTANDING GRADUATE AT MSU-MERIDIAN GRADUATION



Dr. Sallie Harper, Interim Associate Dean of Education; Dr. Matt Boggan, Advisor and Associate Professor of Educational Leadership; Mr. Travis Creel, Outstanding Graduate Student, MSU-Meridian; Dr. Penny Wallin, Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership

The Mississippi State University-Meridian Campus recently held graduation at the Mississippi State University Riley Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Meridian. MSU-Meridian offers undergraduate and graduate programs in Business, Education, and Arts & Sciences. During the ceremony, the Meridian Campus honored Travis Creel as the Outstanding Graduate Student. Mr. Creel was a member of the Educational Leadership Cohort in Meridian and earned accolades for his participation in the program. "As a student Travis Creel consistently exemplified outstanding leadership qualities. His thoughtful, charismatic, and attentive manner enabled him to achieve the maximum benefit from the MSU Educational Leadership Program. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with Travis and to know that he is a positive leader at Eiland Middle School in Louisville," said Dr. Penny Wallin, Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership. Mr. Creel started his work prior to the 2010-11 school year as an unclassified student before being officially admitted. Mr. Creel's advisor and cohort coordinator, Dr. Matt Boggan, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, has many positive comments to share about Travis: "The faculty and students enjoyed working with Travis and listening to his vantage points about the direction of 21st century education. It was great pleasure to have him in class as a student. I know that the future is bright for Travis as he grows as an educational leader." Mr. Creel currently serves as Lead Teacher for Eiland Middle School in Louisville.

COREY MCKERN NAMED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR



Award winning baritone Corey McKern was honored as Alumnus of the Year for the College of Education. McKern, a native of Pelham, Ala., earned his Bachelor of Music Education in 1999. McKern also holds a Master of Music degree from Indiana University.

McKern is a former grant recipient from the Sullivan Foundation. While at Mississippi State University, he won the Governor's Award at the National Association of Teachers of Singing's regional convention. In 2005, McKern also took first place honors in the Opera Birmingham, Shreveport Opera, and Mobile Opera competitions.

McKern is an active concert performer and continues to earn a great deal of acclaim as a rising New York performer where he recently debuted at Carnegie Hall as the baritone solo in Faure's "Requiem" and performed with the New Choral Society of New York in Handel's "Messiah." McKern also made his international debut with Opera Hong Kong recently.

Dr. Richard Blackbourn, Dean of the College of Education, commented that McKern "has earned the admiration of the music education faculty and his peers as a result of his outstanding work ethic and dedication". This commitment was demonstrated by McKern during his recent return to campus for a feature performance. In addition to his performance, McKern conducted workshops with students, providing them with valuable instruction on vocal performances. "The College of Education is extremely proud to have one of its music education graduates as its Alumnus of the Year," said Dr. Blackbourn, acknowledging McKern's numerous accomplishments.

McKern currently resides in Pensacola, Fla, where he serves as an adjunct voice instructor at the University of West Florida and continues to perform.



CLYDE MUSE NAMED ALUMNI FELLOW



Hinds Community College President Dr. V. Clyde Muse was honored as fellow for the College of Education. A native of Sebastopol, Muse earned master's and doctoral degrees in education in 1959 and 1968, respectively.

Muse also holds a bachelor's degree from Delta State University and associates degree from East Central Junior College. He began his career in education after graduating from Delta State, and served as a science teacher and coach at Canton High School. In 1957, Muse moved to Starkville High School where he served as a teacher, coach, and eventually principal.

Throughout his distinguished career, Muse has served in several different capacities in educational administration. He was assistant superintendent for Starkville Municipal Separate School District, and superintendent at Hinds County Public Schools and Meridian Municipal Separate School District, before being named president of Hinds Community College in 1978.

As president of the largest community college system in the state, Muse is active in several legislative groups such as the Mississippi Community and Junior College Association's Legislative, Community Colleges for International Development, Inc., American Association of Community Colleges, and American Community College Trustee's Association, among many others.

"As an educator, I remember the excellent teachers at MSU that made a profound impact on my academic career," he stated.

Muse lives in Raymond, and is active in several civic organizations such as the Diabetes Foundation of Mississippi, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Raymond Chamber of Commerce, Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce, and the Jackson Rotary Club. He is also a member of Raymond United Methodist Church.



ALUMNI NOTES

'61

Jerry Lynn Graves,

retired school superintendent, administrator, teacher, and professional basketball player, has been inducted into the Henderson County, Tenn., Sports Hall of Fame.

'75

Larry Fry,

a longtime high school principal and teacher, has been inducted into the Henderson County, Tenn., Sports Hall of Fame.

'87

Kim Correro Fandel,

(M.S. '94), a first grade teacher at Carver Elementary School in Tupelo, has been inducted into the Mississippi Hall of Master Teachers. She also has been named Tupelo's Teacher of the Year.

'91

Dale Pohl,

of Bay St. Louis, an elementary art teacher in the Bay-Waveland School District, has been named Waveland Elementary School's Teacher of the Year.

'96

Brian W. Meredith,

a master of science in Education graduate and former director of Admissions at the University of Memphis, Tenn., has been appointed as the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Ky.

'97

Samuel L. Jones,

(Ph.D. '06), dean of student affairs at Jones County Junior College, Ellisville, has published his first book titled *The Man I Never Knew: How Leadership Can Be Developed by Faith, Family, and Friends*.

George R. Schmaus,

a Master of Science in Community Counseling graduate, has recently been promoted to Regional Supervisor with the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services.

'00

Richard Russo,

football defensive coordinator of the Water Valley Blue Devils, has been elected a member of the Mississippi Association of Coaches Region 2-3A Coaching Staff of the Year.

'05

Chris Wilkins,

received his bachelor's in sports communication in 2005 and his Master's in Sport Administration in 2008. Following graduate school, he began his role as Regional Manager at the Alabama Sports Festival Foundation. In 2011, he was promoted to Communications Director.

Leigh Ann Hailey,

(Specialist '06), a Louisville native who is the former Program Manager for University/School Partnerships & PREPS and Project Director for the Changing Academic Progress and Promoting Success (CAPPS) grant (a 21st Century Grant partnership between the Louisville Municipal

School District and MSU) has been appointed principal for Fair Elementary School in Louisville, MS.

'06

Jennifer Arthur Ard,

a graduate in Elementary Education with concentrations in math and science, has been named Clinton Public School District Teacher of the Year, where she teaches Transition to Algebra. Ard received her Master's in Education degree from Belhaven University in 2010.

Andrew Vick Simmons,

a graduate in Secondary Education with a concentration in English and a Literacy Teacher at Rex Mill Middle School in Rex, Georgia, has been named the Rex Mill Middle School 2010-2011 Teacher of the Year.

'07

Ronnie McGehee,

a resident of Madison, who received his Doctoral degree in Educational Leadership, was elected as Superintendent of Madison County School District in 2011.

'11

Pam Taylor,

an Associate Professor at Seattle University, was selected as Director of the Center for the Study of Justice and Society at SU.



MSU ALUM COREY MCKERN RETURNS FOR SPECIAL VOCAL PERFORMANCE

A Mississippi State alumnus and rising New York operatic baritone, Corey McKern, gave a special recital Sept. 8 at his alma mater.

Corey McKern was featured in a free program in the Robert and Freda Harrison Auditorium of Giles Hall. His performance was sponsored by the university's music department, from which he graduated in 1999. The Pelham (Ala.) High School graduate also holds a master's degree from Indiana University's highly regarded Jacobs School of Music

In addition to the Thursday night program, McKern led several departmental workshops for current MSU music majors..

"We are delighted to welcome Corey back to campus to perform for the community and to work with our students," said Craig Aarhus, associate director of MSU bands.

"He has enjoyed great success throughout the country as a professional musician, and we are proud he is a graduate of our department," he said, adding that McKern also will be honored by the department as an alumnus of the year.

The recital included selected art songs and arias, including "Largo al factotum" from Gioachino Rossini's "The Barber of Seville"; Franz Schubert's "An die Musik," "Du bist die ruh" and "Rastlose liebe"; Ambroise Thomas' "O vin dissipe la tristesse" from "Hamlet"; and Gene Scheer's "Lean Away" and "American Anthem." Two musical theater pieces were "If Ever I Would Leave You" and "Some Enchanted Evening."

McKern debuted at Carnegie Hall as baritone soloist in Faure's "Requiem" and with the New Choral Society of New York in Handel's "Messiah" and Orff's "Carmina Burana." [For more, visit <http://coreymckern.com/>.]

Linda Karen Smith, professor emerita of music, recalled McKern enrolling at MSU as an instrumental music major who played the saxophone.

"During his first semester, he participated in a required vocal class that I taught," Smith said. "Soon, a beautiful, natural voice with amazing potential was discovered and, by the second semester, he had changed his major to vocal music education."

As a student, McKern sang male leads in campus productions of "South Pacific" and "Man from La Mancha," as well as in "Lily," an original opera written by then department head Doug McConnell that premiered at MSU.

"With his outstanding work ethic, Corey was admired by both the faculty and his peers at MSU," Smith noted. "He won the Governor's Award at the National Association of Teachers of Singing's regional convention, as well as the Metropolitan Opera's district auditions.

"The Governor's Award represents the highest honor given at that competition, and his Metropolitan Opera audition was an amazing achievement," she added.

Smith, who followed her former student's progress after his MSU graduation, said McKern earned a coveted "Young Artist" position with the Seattle (Wash.) Opera after completing his Indiana University graduate degree in vocal performance. From there, he moved on to New York City and began the current phase of his career, she said.

MAE SHAW CAN TEACH FOR 36 YEARS STANDING ON ONE LEG

Mae Shaw is an 84 year old retired teacher with a special story to tell. Born in Eupora, Mae spent over 36 years of her life teaching 4th grade at Eupora Elementary School. But the road to becoming a teacher was not an easy one for Ms. Shaw.

When Mae was very young, she came down with measles, which spread to her right leg. As she was outside playing, she fell, breaking that leg. Because of complications from the measles, her leg had to be amputated. She states that she tried a number of different prosthetics, but she didn't have enough coordination in her leg to lift the heavy prosthesis. She told herself "I guess I have to crutch it out."

After graduating high school, she enrolled in Mary Holmes Community college, where she graduated as Salutatorian of her class. Afterwards, she enrolled in Alcorn University, originally majoring in Business. Shaw noted that she didn't like business very much, and went to see an advisor to help her determine what to major in. Her advisor stated that because of her personality, he felt she could work well with children, and recommended that she try Education.

Mae was concerned at first that children wouldn't accept her because

of her handicap, but she soon discovered that the kids didn't care at all about her disability. Mae struggled financially to put herself through college. At one point, she had to take time off to go and teach, and while at Alcorn she worked part-time as a switchboard operator. In addition to financial struggles, Mae contended with logistic difficulties. For example, during her time at Alcorn, Ms. Shaw remembers having broken her crutches twice. Once, one of Alcorn's staff members had to drive out to pick her up at midnight from a bus stop. But Mae persevered, graduating from Alcorn in 1954, and immediately started teaching. She says "I had enough to discourage me, but I didn't let it."

Mae taught 4th grade for the next 36 years at Eupora Elementary, and began taking classes toward a Master's degree in the 1970s at MSU. She states that she chose MSU for its proximity to her home, which was a major concern due to her mobility, and because they were offering Reading Workshops that she was interested in, but the reason she grew to love it here was because of the people. She fondly remembers many of her professors: Dr. Craddock; Dr. Shelton, her advisor; Dr. Turner; and Dr. Wollenburg, whom she remembers being scared of at first. Ms. Shaw states that her professors were always very

friendly and very concerned that she was able to get around campus all right. During her time at MSU, she enjoyed studying in the Mitchell Memorial Library, doing research, and she worked as a Bell Girl, ringing a bell to signal the end of each class. She attended courses at MSU in the summers between school years and graduated in 1974.

Mae retired from teaching in 1990, after mobility concerns made it too difficult to get around. She mentored only a couple of student teachers during that time, but remembers encouraging them and sharing activities and exercises with them to use in their own classrooms. She remembers how rewarding it was to get through to the students and to see them become eager to learn. She fondly remembers the words of one parent, who asked "What are you doing to these students? They don't want to miss school!" Ms. Shaw noted that being a handicapped teacher was very challenging, especially in those days, before handicapped accessibility was a major concern. Moving from building to building and from school to extracurricular events was very difficult on one leg and one crutch, she says, but overcoming that difficulty was part of what made her career so rewarding to her and what made her an inspiration to so many of her students. One of her students told her "I'm a doctor because



Mae Shaw, left, and Trish Cunetto, Director of Development, right.

of you. You showed us that we could be whatever we wanted to." Although Ms. Shaw never had any biological children, she feels that each of her former students is one of her kids. She states, "I only made one doctor, but I made a lot of teachers."

Ms. Shaw gives annually to MSU, from her 13th check each year. Mae decided that after so many people had been so helpful to her throughout the years, that it was important to give back. She says she has been glad to help in any way she could, stating "If I have helped someone, then my living will not have been in vain." Teaching and helping others has been a lifelong passion of Ms. Shaw's. Outside of her work as a 4th grade teacher, she also taught piano out of her home for more than 50 years, and played the organ at church every Sunday. She offers a final word of encouragement to those who are considering a career in education: "Go for it! I loved it!"

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College of Education Alumni and Friends,

Since January, I have had the opportunity to meet so many dedicated College of Education alums. The best part of this job is talking with you – people who love Mississippi State and education. I continue to make it my goal to visit with as many of you as time permits and help you reconnect with your university and your college. If you have any ideas about how I can better serve you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Four years ago, President Keenum began the StatePride initiative to raise money for scholarships and faculty support. Thanks to your generous donations we have raised over \$90 million. MSU has seen tremendous growth over the past four years, and your continued support is needed now more than ever.

The College of Education is dedicated to providing our students with the best education possible. We are committed to recruiting the best and brightest students and faculty. Your gifts to the college help make this possible. There are many ways to give, some of which include endowed scholarships, planned gifts, charitable gift annuities, faculty support, and others.

Regardless of the size of your gift, you are impacting the lives of our students and inspiring others to do the same. We are thankful for your support and continued interest in the College of Education. If you would like additional information about scholarships, faculty support or any other giving opportunities, please contact me at 662-325-6762 or tcunetto@foundation.msstate.edu.



Trish Cunetto
Director of Development
College of Education



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.

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