Some of the students, faculty, and staff of the Patterson School of Accountancy celebrate a national Top 10 ranking from the Public Accounting Report, above. At left, Mary and Lucian Minor of Memphis visit with Dean of Accountancy Mark Wilder, far left, and UM Chancellor Dan Jones about their new gift and longtime commitment to the Patterson School. A strong contributing factor to the program’s outstanding ranking is the generous private support the Patterson School has received from dedicated alumni and friends.
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Using your smart phone, scan the QR code above to visit the Foundation’s website.
In our new national television spot, we define the spirit of an Ole Miss Rebel from researchers, visionaries, innovators, business professionals, leaders and more. This year’s $122.6 million in private support—the second best period in giving in the University of Mississippi’s 165-year history—reflects another important definition of an Ole Miss Rebel: loyal supporters.

We are so grateful for your tremendous contributions, which allow us to continue to move the university forward in our rightful role as the flagship university of Mississippi. Your gifts are essential to delivering on our promise to Mississippi of national leadership in higher education and service programs that advance society at large.

Ole Miss students, faculty, staff and administrators join me in thanking you for your generosity and involvement. The stronger our alumni and donor base, the stronger our university will be. Your gifts are playing a vital role in the remarkable times we are experiencing: another record enrollment this past academic year, another record number of applications for this fall, and an impressive array of national accolades.

Our Patterson School of Accountancy and our Sally McDonnell Honors College are considered in the country’s very top programs in these areas, and many of our other programs have also gained significant national prominence. At the 2012 Olympics, the world joined us in watching our own Brittany Reese and Jennifer Gillom capture gold medals in the long jump and in coaching women’s basketball, respectively, and our Isaiah Young competed well in the 200-meter event. What a great year to be an Ole Miss Rebel on so many levels!

Excitement for the 2012-13 academic year has been building for weeks. Our students are bright and talented, our facilities are expanding and improving, and we’re leading the nation in so many areas that define a great American university.

Your commitment to private giving encourages all of us to continue to move forward with excellence in everything we do. We have the responsibility to transform individual lives and the lives of people in this state, region, nation and world. The opportunities are endless, and because of your outstanding private support we have the resources to make the most of them. At the University of Mississippi, we want to excel in everything. Let’s go forward and do great things together.

Truly great things are happening at the University of Mississippi! At the top of the list is the extraordinary $122.6 million in private gifts that you have provided this year. As you read this publication, you will be inspired by the stories of incredible generosity to our university. You will also learn of the university’s recent prominent national rankings and honors that not only make us proud but also assure us that our gifts are being used effectively.

When we think of Ole Miss, visual images that evoke strong, positive emotions come to mind. It is a beautiful, special place, but as alumna Karen Moore suggests on page five, a deeper look reveals so much more. The educational opportunities we offer are phenomenal, and our innovative programming, personal mentoring and beneficial leadership training are all working together to produce outstanding graduates.

Thoughts of you—Ole Miss alumni and friends—bring to mind gracious, enthusiastic supporters who are fiercely loyal and deeply committed to this university. You are willing to do whatever it takes to create an environment on this campus that continues to enrich individual lives, advance our state and impact the world. As Chancellor Jones often says, “We are all pilgrims on this journey to make the world a better place.” Our investments in this place that we love will make a difference for future generations.

Thank you for your passion! We are Ole Miss, and the Rebel Spirit is alive and well!
1937 graduate helps play role in school’s national top 10 ranking

In the mid-1930s when money was tight and few part-time jobs were available, Lucian Minor struggled financially as a University of Mississippi student. The Ole Miss cafeteria had to rearrange its food line, in fact, because the creative young student would choose a five-cent bowl of soup and load it up with vegetables before he reached the cashier.

Minor’s $12-a-month meal ticket lasted longer with the addition of the hearty vegetables. Cafeteria workers finally caught on and moved the soup by the cashier. Today that frugal student is one of the major benefactors of UM’s Patterson School of Accountancy and has committed a new gift.

Minor and his wife, Mary, have recently provided more than $5 million in gift annuities to the Patterson School, further defining their dedication to the school and university. Minor’s support over three decades has included a trust to establish the Lucian S. Minor Endowment for the accountancy school in 1996 and a trust of $1 million in 2007 as well as generous contributions to other initiatives across the Oxford campus.

“I’ve enjoyed my relationship with Ole Miss for many, many years,” said Minor, now retired from a stellar career in accounting and investments. “Many of the courses I took at Ole Miss contributed to my success in the business world, particularly the accounting field. I’m glad to share some of my success. Hopefully some needy students will benefit from our gifts.”

Minor’s family was able to provide only $600 a year for his freshman and sophomore years on the Oxford campus. He ultimately used a personal loan to finance his last two years at Ole Miss, and his dedication to his alma mater has been evident.
The 

Public Accounting Report, the independent newsletter of the accounting profession, has named the Ole Miss accountancy undergraduate program among the nation’s best. In addition, the publication ranks the accountancy master’s and doctoral programs at Nos. 11 and 12 respectively in their categories. The 30-year-old PAR Annual Professors Survey bases its results on votes from professors of accounting at U.S. colleges and universities.


Lucian’s loyalty to Ole Miss has not been equaled by anything else in his life,” Mary Minor said. “Lucian and I wanted to set up this new fund during our lifetimes to ensure it would benefit Ole Miss.”

Mark Wilder, dean of the School of Accountancy, called the Minors’ “cornerstones” of the school, with their gifts impacting generations of accountancy students. When the Minors’ trust and annuity are eventually brought into their endowment, the school plans to expand the Minor scholarship program to also include a named faculty position in their honor.

“Mary and Lucian Minor have been some of our most faithful supporters for many years and we are humbled by their generosity,” Wilder said. “We appreciate so much the vision that the Minors have for our accountancy school and for their great interest and concern for our students. Their support will help to further strengthen the Patterson School and enable us to continue building on our strong teaching and mentoring tradition, a trademark of our program and a vital reason for the successes we enjoy. Generation upon generation of future accountancy students will benefit from their generosity.”

The Public Accounting Report has ranked the Patterson School’s undergraduate program No. 10 in the nation—the only Southeastern Conference school placed in the top 10. (Texas A&M, a new member of the SEC, is in the top 10 and would be considered in the specific SEC rankings next year.) The master’s and doctoral programs are ranked No. 11 and 12 respectively in their categories. This is the seventh consecutive year the school has been ranked among the nation’s top 30 and the fourth consecutive year the school has been ranked among the top 10. (Future generations of accountancy students should follow Lucian’s philosophy of client service. If you take care of the clients and put their interests first, positive financial results will follow. We should also follow his example in returning to the school a portion of the monetary rewards we have received from having excellent educational foundations obtained at Ole Miss,” Hardy said.

The Minors worked with Wendell Weakley, president and CEO of the UM Foundation, to structure a gift that would accomplish their goals of benefitting Ole Miss and meet their personal financial goals. The gift annuity is held permanently and invested by the foundation while providing income to the couple.

“We were able to help ease the Minors’ concerns over the volatility of the market,” said Weakley. “They wanted both peace of mind concerning their resources as well as a way to continue their support of Ole Miss. The foundation takes a long-term approach to investments and is well positioned to withstand the current market volatility. The Minors already have had positive experiences with the foundation, and they know we will continually make decisions in their best interests. We appreciate their continued trust.”

A native of Macon, Miss, Minor was recruited by General Mills Inc. in Minneapolis upon his Ole Miss graduation. He joined the company’s internal audit staff, where he was employed until his service in the U.S. Navy in 1942. He was placed with Douglas Aircraft Co. in Los Angeles as a cost inspector and passed the CPA exam during his enlistment.

Minor, a Lieutenant Commander in the Navy, was discharged in 1946 and soon resigned from General Mills to open his own accounting firm in Memphis. By 1967, his operation had grown to some 40 employees, large enough to interest the then Big Eight firms. He merged with Ernst & Ernst (now Ernst & Young) and became partner in charge of the Memphis office, a position he held until he retired in 1978.

Minor was inducted into the Ole Miss Alumni Association’s Hall of Fame in 2005 and the Patterson School of Accountancy’s Hall of Fame in 1997.

The Minors’ trust and annuity are eventually brought into their endowment, the school plans to expand the Minor scholarship program to also include a named faculty position in their honor.

The Minors’ trust and annuity are eventually brought into their endowment, the school plans to expand the Minor scholarship program to also include a named faculty position in their honor.
The Leonard Melvin family’s belief in an Ole Miss education runs deep and wide. In fact, the family is so committed that they have established five endowments for scholarships and faculty recruitment and retention.

Four endowments support the School of Law, with two gifted from the estate of Leonard B. Melvin Jr. by his son, Leonard B. Melvin III of Laurel. The Leonard B. Melvin Jr. Memorial Endowment Scholarship in Law earmarked for veterans and the Leonard B. Melvin Jr. Endowed Fund of Excellence in Clinical Legal Education were established with a $100,000 gift.

“The Melvin family legacy is defined by service,” Jamie White, development officer for the law school, said. “Leonard’s service in the military during World War II and his lifetime of devoted service to his clients, his profession and his school, demonstrate his personal character and commitment. In recognition of this service, Leonard’s son, Len, established a scholarship … and an endowed fund to support clinical legal education.”

Deborah Bell, founder of the Civil Legal Clinic, said the support enriches the law student experience and the school’s service.

“The clinic endowment was such a generous and meaningful gift …. With this gift, the Melvin family is supporting student learning through experience. But they also are recognizing the law school’s effort to reach out to those who lack access to the justice system and to train students to recognize the need for service,” she said.

Not only did the family honor Melvin but he likewise gifted the law school. After earning undergraduate and law degrees, he began practicing law in 1948 in Jones County. His scholarship is designated for full-time law students from Jones County or surrounding counties. Melvin also established a lectureship endowment for faculty support.

Finally, the Jamie McCown Melvin Scholarship, established by Len Melvin in honor of his mother, is designed for full-time, undergraduate students who are active in community service and reside in Tippah, Jones or Forrest counties or those affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The generosity is a family affair. “By the time I began working with the law school on its alumni and development activities in 1991, Leonard had already established lectureship and scholarship endowments to benefit the law school,” said Tim Walsh, executive director of alumni affairs. “He was equally interested in helping us recruit and retain outstanding students and faculty. From my perspective, his passions were his family, the practice of law and Ole Miss.”

Leslie Melvin Smith, the daughter of Leonard Melvin Jr. and sister of Len Melvin, said Ole Miss has always been part of their lives.

“The Melvin family legacy is defined by service. Leonard’s service in the military during World War II and his lifetime of devoted service to his clients, his profession and his school, demonstrate his personal character and commitment. In recognition of this service, Leonard’s son, Len, established a scholarship … and an endowed fund to support clinical legal education.”

Jamie White, law school development officer

“What can I say about Ole Miss and Oxford?” she said. “It’s just a wonderful place with the happiest of memories. Even amid all the positive change going on in both Oxford and at Ole Miss, there is a calm constant about the place. Mom and Dad are now gone but incredible family memories, of which Ole Miss has played an integral part, live on. That’s why we are proud—and feel privileged—to be a part of gifts to fund permanent endowments.”

For information on beginning a tradition of giving to Ole Miss, contact the University Foundation at 800-340-9542 or 662-915-5944.
When Karen and Bruce Moore of Nashville talked with UM Chancellor Dan Jones and Dean of Business Ken Cyree to determine where their investments would have the greatest impact, the answer was straightforward: faculty support.

The Moores took that to heart and committed $1 million to endow the Bruce Moore Scholar in Finance in the School of Business Administration. The new endowment will provide salary supplements as well as research and creative activity support.

"Like many non-profit institutions, faculty members at Ole Miss are called to be educators and have a passion for molding young adults into individuals who will positively impact society," said Bruce Moore, who is group president of operations and service lines group for the Nashville, Tenn.-based HCA, one of the nation’s leading providers of healthcare services.

"Many of our educators and administrators would receive higher compensation in the private sector or at other educational institutions but love Ole Miss like we do. Our dedicated and passionate teachers continue to make a difference in the lives of students. This gift is meant to build on this long-standing tradition of Ole Miss," he said.

UM has launched the Barnard Initiative to encourage gifts for faculty support.

"In order to sustain excellence in our programs, we must have the right leaders in place," said Moore. "When I was a student, there were many professors who challenged me to think creatively and beyond what was found in the textbook—to contemplate how everything fits together and why CEOs make the decisions that they do. Many also took time after class to explain why they took a certain position on a topic or my answers to questions, and this quality of teaching and personal attention made such a big difference in my education."

Chancellor Dan Jones praised the Moores.

"Bruce and Karen Moore are outstanding alumni," he said. "We are deeply grateful for this exceptional faculty support and also for their many other investments in Ole Miss. They assist with numerous university events hosted in Nashville and are passionate about helping students and recruiting young people to our university. Bruce and Karen are talented, thoughtful leaders who always have the best interests and the future of this university uppermost in their hearts and minds."

Moore, a native of Laurel, earned an undergraduate degree in managerial finance from the business school, while Karen Bell Moore, a native of Springfield and Franklin, Tenn., received an undergraduate degree in applied sciences. Bruce has served on the UM Foundation Board of Directors and Karen participates in the Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy. Bruce also funded a Women's Council scholarship endowment in Karen's honor.

Another parent recently asked Karen Moore if she is in "sales," due to her enthusiasm about UM.

"I told her it is really easy to sell Ole Miss," she said. "It's a beautiful, friendly campus and everyone loves the Grove. However, Ole Miss is like a cake. The Grove is the icing, but then when you cut into it, you find that it is so much more. There are many schools and programs at the university that are absolutely soaring in national recognition. Young people are looking at state universities for great bargains in higher education. With Ole Miss' strong academic programs, beautiful campus, great size, inclusive community and vibrant town, it just cannot be beat."

The Moores are the parents of UM graduates Tyler Moore of Nashville, who has joined Ernst & Young, and Margaret Anne Moore of Washington, D.C. Their younger son, Mitchell Moore, is a freshman this fall.
Sneeds Fund OMWC Scholarship to Help Expand Opportunities

As a youngster, Harry Sneed sat on a stool selling popcorn outside his father’s hardware store on the northwest corner of Oxford’s Courthouse Square. Vicki Sneed started working at part-time jobs as soon as she was “small enough to see over the counter.”

The Sneeds—fifth-generation Lafayette countians—believe in individuals having strong work ethics and are equally passionate about people having exceptional educational opportunities. In their latest gift to UM, the two have committed $100,000 to create an Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy (OMWC) scholarship endowment.

The Sneeds call growing up in Oxford, home of their alma mater, “a phenomenal experience.” Harry Sneed is owner of Sneed’s Ace Hardware, while Vicki Sneed is city president of Regions Bank in its three Oxford offices. They have also established a School of Business Administration scholarship for graduates of local high schools and hold membership in the Chancellor’s Trust, providing unrestricted funds.

“Vicki and I have watched the complexion of Ole Miss and Oxford change, and we feel that it has all been positive. The growth and progress have expanded excellent opportunities for students and residents,” said Harry Sneed.

“However, through our business interactions, we have gained insights as to how families often struggle with the costs of college,” he said, “Our goal is to try to help students benefit from the unique foundation gained from an Ole Miss education.”

Vicki Sneed said, “We feel (giving back) is a habit that should be exercised throughout our lives. Just as giving to our church, Oxford-University United Methodist, is important, so is it with helping young people gain education.”

Mary Ann Frugé of Oxford, the OMWC chair, said, “The values of Vicki and Harry are exemplified through this scholarship, especially the values of education, leadership and mentorship. …They are recognized as respected, altruistic leaders in the Oxford, Lafayette County and university communities.

“Furthermore, the Sneeds have reached out with caring support to others as personal mentors throughout their entire lives,” Frugé continued. “We thank Vicki and Harry for this scholarship, for their personal involvement with the OMWC as well as generously living their values.”

Vicki Sneed joined with others to endow the OMWC Oxford Business Women’s Initiative Scholarship. She is now a member of the Women’s Council and its Executive Committee, chairs its Leadership Committee, mentors students and recruits others to join the council’s Rose Society.

“It’s a worthwhile effort to give of your time to these energetic students who hold the future of our university, state and nation in their hands. We try to be mentors—trusted friends who give feedback and encouragement. Harry and I also like the fact that … recipients are challenged to ‘give back’ when they become established in their own careers,” she said.

Both Sneeds are past presidents of the Oxford-Lafayette County Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club. Harry is the past chair of the Economic Development Foundation, and Vicki serves on the foundation board. She is seated on the board of the Oxford Medical Ministries Clinic, was recognized as one of Mississippi’s Leading Business Women by Mississippi Business Journal and was named Woman of Distinction 2011 by Girl Scouts Heart of the South. They are the parents of two daughters and a son and are grandparents to 10.

The Vicki L. and Harry A. Sneed Council Scholarship Endowment is open to accept gifts from individuals or organizations. To contribute, send a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, Oxford, Miss. 38677; contact Sarah Hollis, associate director of development at 662-915-1584 or shollis@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

Emmerich Estate Gift Endows OMWC Scholarship for UM Journalism Majors


These are some descriptions used to paint the vibrant life of Celia Buntin Emmerich of Jackson, who died in March. A $100,000 gift from her estate has funded the Celia and John O. Emmerich, Jr. Council Scholarship Endowment, which will provide assistance to journalism majors in UM’s Meek School of Journalism and New Media.

John Emmerich, her husband and owner of 13 daily and weekly newspapers in Mississippi and Louisiana, died in 1995. After earning undergraduates at Ole Miss, the two returned to John’s hometown of McComb to work on the family’s McComb Enterprise-Journal, and they were instrumental in helping the community overcome racial issues during the 1960s. John was then selected as a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, and Celia earned a master’s degree in American history from Johns Hopkins University.

The couple lived in Cambridge, Baltimore and Houston before returning in 1973 to Mississippi, where they settled in Greenwood and purchased the Commonwealth newspaper. Celia Emmerich founded Communities in Schools of Greenwood, a dropout prevention program that has had, and continues to have, a significant impact on the lives of hundreds of young people. She was also a mental health volunteer, human interest writer and community theatre director.

The Emmerich Scholarship was created under the umbrella of the Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy, which provides mentorship and leadership training to scholars. To contribute to the Emmerich Scholarship, send a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; contact Sarah Hollis at 662-915-1584 or shollis@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
Expanding Susan Barksdale Howorth’s Legacy
OMWC Scholarships to help art majors, provide mentoring

Susan Barksdale Howorth of Oxford had decided to pursue a master’s degree in art when her life was cut short. Her great interests and passions in both creating art and providing educational opportunities for others will live on through UM students who receive scholarships in her name.

The Susan Barksdale Howorth Council Scholarship Endowment has been created under the umbrella of the Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy (OMWC). The $100,000 fund was created with a gift from her husband, Circuit Court Judge Andrew K. Howorth of Oxford, as well as memorials from family and friends.

“Susan had a thirst for knowledge,” Howorth said. “She attended law school for the academic enterprise, not for the profession. She loved to explore and experiment with art …. She was naturally gifted with watercolors, moved on to other mediums and had made the decision to pursue a master’s in fine art.

“Susan came from a family with a very strong commitment to education. I think she would be pleased with this scholarship, and she would want to make art education more accessible,” he said.

Susan Howorth, 44, a graduate of the UM School of Law, died in February. The artist pursued ceramics, pottery and painting. She was also a talented decorator and collector of art, photography and antiques. In the late 1990s, she restored and opened the Barksdale-Isom House, a historic house just off the Oxford Square.

She was an avid supporter of the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council and UM’s Center for the Study of Southern Culture and the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College named for her late mother. After her mother passed away, Howorth took her place on the OMWC and joined with siblings Betsy Barksdale Pokorny and David Barksdale to fund a scholarship.

When interviewed at the time, Howorth said, “Both of my parents taught us at early ages that giving starts in small steps. If you learn early that philanthropy is really just the ability to give a part of your time, worth, energy and effort, then you realize how large or small your gift is doesn’t really matter—it’s the act of giving that is important.”

Howorth’s irrepressible sense of humor and unmistakable laugh will be missed, along with her connections with people. Her untold number of small, anonymous kindnesses will never be forgotten by their beneficiaries.

OMWC Chair Mary Ann Frugé of Oxford said the scholarship is a fitting tribute.

“Providing this scholarship carries forward in a concrete way Susan’s belief in the importance of the positive ways art contributes to life as well as to the values symbolized by the OMWC scholarship. We are fortunate that Susan Howorth was an early member of the Ole Miss Women’s Council and embraced the values of our philanthropic group. Her contributions both as a member of the council and now as one whose scholarship carries her name forever leave a mark on the University of Mississippi and reflect her commitment to education, excellence and her caring and generous spirit.”

Susan was the daughter of Jim Barksdale and the late Sally Barksdale. She earned an undergraduate degree from George Washington University. During law school, she made Oxford her permanent home and later focused her energies on being a dedicated wife and mother to children Marian and Stewart Howorth.

The Susan Barksdale Howorth Council Scholarship is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations. To contribute, mail a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; contact Sarah Hollis, associate director of development, at 662-915-1584 or shollis@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

You’re Invited!
Women’s Council issues invitation for membership in Rose Society

“The fragrance always remains in the hand that gives the rose.” Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy (OMWC) members are experiencing the “fragrance” or rewards of helping students along their life journeys. So much so, in fact, they have expanded their goal of attracting private scholarship support by creating additional avenues for individuals to become involved with OMWC Scholars.

The Rose Society 100 membership is one such way, and membership may be designated for the donor or as a gift to honor a special woman in his or her life. Annual membership in the Rose Society requires a $1,000 tax-deductible contribution. Members are invited to all OMWC events as well as the signature event limited to Rose Society 100 membership. Rose Society members are recognized publicly in OMWC communications and at the Legacy Award event.

For more information, mail a check designating the OMWC Rose Society to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38675; or contact Sarah Hollis at 662-915-1584 or shollis@olemiss.edu.
A pair of generous gifts, totaling $50,000, from the Madison Charitable Foundation will help support two worthy UM programs with very different missions: The Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts and the Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy (OMWC).

The Madison Charitable Foundation, founded by Houston, Texas, businessman and Mississippi native Wiley H. Hatcher, recently contributed $25,000 to the OMWC, a group that attracts scholarship funds for students, pairs recipients with mentors and provides leadership training. The foundation gave another $25,000 to the Ford Center, which offers quality live performing arts experiences.

“The foundation supports a wide variety of charitable organizations ranging from children’s hospitals, universities and food banks to after-school-care organizations for underprivileged children,” said James “Joc” Carpenter, Hatcher’s longtime friend and business partner and a member of the Madison Charitable Foundation’s board of directors.

Carpenter, an Ole Miss alumnus, said he and his wife, Leigh Anne, admire the work of both OMWC and the Ford Center.

“Leigh Anne and I believe the arts are a very important part of our society and have supported them personally as well as through the foundation,” he said. “We believe what the Ford Center for Performing Arts contributes to the university, Oxford and the state of Mississippi is immense and deserves our support.”

Norman Easterbrook, director of the Ford Center, expressed gratitude for the $25,000 gift. “These funds will underwrite performance activity in the Ford Center to include events presented by the University’s departments of Music and Theatre, our Student Programming Board and other student organizations as well as the performances that we bring from the Broadway touring circuit and the classical music community.”

Such gifts allow the center to “bring the campus experience to a higher level and lift up our performing arts programs,” Easterbrook added. “Endowments of this nature give us the financial resources to provide the very best programming at an affordable cost to our students, faculty, staff and the surrounding region.”

Created in 2000, the OMWC helps students develop life skills.

“Leigh Anne and I believe the work done by the Women’s Council is so unique and cutting-edge that it was a very easy call to want to participate,” Carpenter said. “Their scholarship and mentoring program should be a model for others.”

Sarah Hollis, associate director of development in the UM Office of Development, said the Madison Charitable Foundation gift has established a permanent endowment to benefit the OMWC’s Leadership Series. “The Leadership Series was developed not only for OMWC scholars but also for students outside of the program,” Hollis noted. “Between 50 and 60 students from OMWC, Ole Miss First, the Lott Leadership Institute and the Office of Student Affairs participate in the program.”

The Madison Charitable Foundation has been a generous supporter of Ole Miss since its inception. It has given other support to the Ford Center and Ole Miss Opportunity and established an endowment for the Ole Miss First scholarship program. The foundation also donated $1 million to the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

The Ole Miss Women’s Council for Philanthropy and the Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts are open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by sending a check with the programs noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677, or by visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
Outpouring of Love, Support Builds KA Scholarship

Like many UM students, Mason Wilbanks, Sam Clayton Kelly and Walker Kelly enjoyed the Grove on Saturdays during football season. They graduated from Madison Central High School, attended Broadmoor Baptist Church and pledged the same fraternity.

Their legacies will continue together thanks to the many lives they touched and to a memorial scholarship created in their names. Family, friends and the Kappa Alpha Order have contributed $81,000 to an endowment that will begin awarding scholarships this fall. The Kappa Alpha Order continues to seek contributions for the endowment to expand the three students’ legacies.

Sam Kelly of Madison, father of Sam Clayton, spoke about the students’ priorities. “It is not often that you hear the term ‘legacy’ used in regard to 18- and 19-year-old boys, but the term clearly fits Mason, Walker and Sam Clayton. They left a legacy of what it means to be true friends, humble servants and avid Ole Miss Rebels. As parents, we are humbled that our boys made, and continue to make, such an impact on so many. Through the overwhelming support of the Kappa Alpha Order and many friends, this scholarship endowment will allow (their) legacy to continue well into the future.”

According to the losses, the KAs contacted its national organization for support as well as members, parents and friends across the Southeast, said President Matthew Jones of Birmingham. The chapter also hosted events to contribute to the scholarship.

“We’re pleased that the scholarship endowment has reached this level, but it’s something we hope will continue to grow long after the current members have graduated and new faces take our place,” Jones said. “We feel the amount of support we’ve received not only reflects on these three young men, their families and our chapter but also on the university, its administration and alumni. The Ole Miss family cares. … These were three really great guys who were basically getting their lives started, but so many people knew them.”

That sentiment was echoed by Chris Kelly of Madison, the father of Walker.

“The scholarship endowment was established to make sure that their enthusiasm for helping others continued. With the support of the university, the KA fraternity, and countless friends and family this has become a reality. Though (they) were only able to participate in just over two months of their Ole Miss dream, these scholarships will assist in making sure that other students have the ability to make their Ole Miss dreams come true. And at the same time, the scholarships will keep the contagious spirit of Mason, Sam Clayton, and Walker alive …”

“The generosity and support … have been unequalled, and for that I want to thank everyone for making these scholarships become reality,” Kelly said. “Due to the generous donations, the annual scholarship awards will be of an amount that can make a difference in recipients’ college careers.”

The Wilbanks family was often on campus. “Having taken Mason to Ole Miss sporting events his entire life, I am just so thankful he got to experience life as an Ole Miss student, albeit brief,” Ken Wilbanks said. “Mason once expressed his feeling … in a high school English paper: ‘If my family were a color, it wouldn’t be just one. It would be both red and blue because my whole family bleeds Ole Miss.’ We want God to be glorified through all this. More than anything else, that’s what we want.”

Sam Kelly reflected on the scholarship. “The Ole Miss alma mater reminds us that ‘There Ole Miss is calling, calling, to our hearts fond memories.’ Through this scholarship endowment, the fond memories created by Mason, Walker and Sam Clayton during their short time at Ole Miss will live forever. And, our hearts will be forever grateful to our Ole Miss, their friends and the Kappa Alpha Order for this great remembrance.”

The fraternity should begin awarding scholarships this fall. To contribute, send checks with the Kelly, Kelly and Wilbanks Scholarship noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38655; contact Sandra Guest, vice president of the foundation, at 662-915-5208 or sguest@olemiss.edu or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
An educator, prominent hydroscience and engineering researcher and administrator whose work has brought international attention to UM for more than four decades has contributed $100,000 to create an endowment encouraging other university professionals in their work.

Sam S.Y. Wang—the founding director of UM’s National Center for Computational Hydroscience and Engineering (NCCHE)—and his wife, Jine, have established a fund to provide awards recognizing outstanding contributions of deserving faculty, scientists, students and staff.

An advisory council will select in odd years, the top faculty member to receive $3,000 and the student $500, and in even years, the chosen scientist to receive $2,500 and the support staff $1,000.

“I always think of NCCHE as my child; I created it and want to see it enjoy continued growth,” Wang said. “My wife and I want to reward highly productive individuals in their work. We feel that it’s not enough to help only faculty members and researchers. To enhance overall NCCHE successes, we must also give awards to support personnel and students.”

The Wangs said they hope to build the new fund to a level that produces adequate annual income to support an endowed professorship that attracts a prominent senior scientist.

Wang has experience with positive reinforcement from professional recognition. He was one of UM’s first four Frederick A.P. Barnard Distinguished Professors in 1988, the highest faculty accolade, and received the title for life in 1998, among other UM awards.

A pioneer in applying computational modeling methodology to hydroscience research, Wang gained worldwide recognition. He received the Hans Albert Einstein Award from the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Qian Ning Prize from the World Association for Sedimentation and Erosion Research, the highest honors presented to a researcher globally for work in hydrodynamics, soil erosion and sediment transport research.

“We deeply appreciate Dr. and Mrs. Wang for generously funding this endowment to honor the work of other talented faculty, researchers, students and staff,” said Alex Cheng, dean of engineering. “His body of work has tremendously strengthened the reputation of the school and overall university community.”

Founded in 1982 as a School of Engineering research unit, NCCHE has advanced computational modeling and simulation of free surface flows, soil erosion, sediment transport and morphological processes in streams, reservoirs, and channel networks in watersheds.

Wang holds master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Rochester and a bachelor’s degree from the National Cheng Kung University. The Wangs are the parents of two: David Wang, a mechanical engineering graduate, and Susan Wang, an engineering doctoral student at UM.

The UM-NCCHE Founder’s Endowment for Excellence is open to accept contributions. Those wishing to provide support can mail a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 248, University, MS 38677; contact Kevin Gardner, development officer for engineering, at 662-915-7601 or kevin@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
TNA President Dixie Carter Salinas Gives Back to Say ‘Thanks’ for Her Education, Experiences at Ole Miss

For professional wrestling fans, names like Hulk Hogan, Ric “Nature Boy” Flair and Sting may inspire fear, awe and, in some cases, outright loathing. But even those scowling, muscle-bound titans of the ring know better than to mess with a certain Ole Miss alumna with a soft southern accent and a razor-sharp mind for business: Dixie Carter Salinas.

As president of Total Nonstop Action Wrestling (TNA), Salinas, a 1986 marketing graduate, transformed a fledgling wrestling promotion company into a sports and entertainment powerhouse with a global reach. She credits much of her success to her education and, to express her gratitude, Salinas and her husband, Serg, recently gave $100,000 to the School of Business Administration to establish the Dixie Carter Salinas Family Endowment for Excellence in Marketing.

The gift will provide support for business faculty, funding salary supplements, research, programs, creative activity and other needs.

“The Dallas native made a last-minute decision to attend Ole Miss. “I look back on that as one of the best decisions I’ve ever made. Ole Miss was one of the greatest experiences of my life.”

Salinas enjoyed her first taste of event marketing as student programming director. She even booked a wrestling event at Tad Smith Coliseum. Her experiences led to an internship at Levenson and Hill, a Dallas public relations agency, which offered her a job, she recalled. “At 26, I became a vice president of the company. I never would have gotten that job without the experience that I obtained at Ole Miss.”

Salinas worked with a variety of clients, many in the entertainment business, but her entrepreneurial spirit led her elsewhere in 1993. “Like a bad country song, I packed up a U-Haul, moved to Nashville and started my own company,” she said. After founding Trifecta Entertainment, Salinas started out working with musical artists, including Naomi Judd and Tanya Tucker, before taking on clients in the wrestling profession.

In 2002, Salinas took over marketing and promotions for TNA. Her parents, Bob and Janice Carter, purchased TNA and hired Salinas as president. After securing TNA’s first television deal for its events with Fox Sports Net, she soon negotiated a more lucrative deal with Spike TV. TNA’s programming now airs in 140 countries, and some of the sport’s biggest stars are featured on its roster.

Salinas created the faculty support endowment to help UM continue to attract the best business school faculty “I saw that the greatest need was for an endowment for the faculty,” she said. “I’m excited about the opportunity to allow the business school to have the funds to go after really top-notch marketing educators who will have a positive effect on their students’ lives.”

Business Dean Ken Cyree said the funds will be well-spent. “It is through Dixie’s enthusiasm, passion and hard work that she has been so successful, and her legacy is now being leveraged through our faculty to influence future generations of Ole Miss graduates,” he said. “Our faculty members are very thankful to have her support and, through this gift, we will continue and expand the excellent work that’s already happening in our marketing department.”

The Dixie Carter Salinas Family Endowment for Excellence in Marketing is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by sending a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; contacting Tim Noss, development officer for the business school at 662-915-5932 or tnoss@olemiss.edu; or by visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

Fiske Guide to Colleges 2013 Names Ole Miss as Top School

For the second year in a row, Ole Miss is listed as one of the best and most interesting four-year colleges and universities.

Fiske Guide to Colleges 2013 (2012, Sourcebooks) is a selective, subjective and systematic look at about 300 institutions of higher learning in the United States, Canada and Great Britain. UM is the only Mississippi institution included in the publication.

“We are pleased to be recognized again by the Fiske Guide to Colleges as one of the best universities in the country,” Chancellor Dan Jones said. “It is gratifying to see the strong academic programs at our university recognized by this authoritative source.” Colleges featured in the guide were selected with several broad principles in mind, beginning with academic quality. Other subjects considered were student body, social life, financial aid, campus setting, housing, food and extracurricular activities.

The Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, Trent Lott Leadership Institute and an exceptional Study Abroad program were mentioned as highlights, along with an active social scene and students who are "ambitious, hospitable and well-rounded.”

“This underscores the tremendous progress we’ve made at the university,” said Morris Stocks, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. “We are pleased to be included in such a prestigious resource.”

Compiled by former New York Times education editor Edward B. Fiske, the guide is the top independent voice in college admissions. Fiske served 17 years, during which time he realized that college-bound students and their families needed better information on which to base their educational choices.
A new endowment to secure the future of the Oxford Conference for the Book (OCB)—an annual event bringing together authors, publishers, editors, agents, scholars, book retailers and readers—and honor its founder has grown to more than $130,000.

Advisory committee members of UM’s Center for the Study of Southern Culture (CSSC) initiated the fund to mark the retirement of Ann Abadie, the center’s associate director and the major force behind the book conference for almost two decades. The lead gift of $100,000 for the endowment was contributed by longtime benefactors Madeleine McMullan of Lake Forest, Ill., and the late James McMullan, who died earlier this spring.

“All through the years my husband and I had faith in the stability and the dependability of Ann Abadie. The gift to secure the future of the book conference is for Ann,” said Madeleine McMullan, who has attended many conferences.

Lynn Crosby Gammill of Hattiesburg, an advisory committee member who contributed to the fund, praised Abadie.

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Lynn Crosby Gammill of Hattiesburg, an advisory committee member who contributed to the fund, praised Abadie.

“When I first met Ann Abadie in the early 1970s, she, Bill Ferris and others were busy setting up the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, which has turned out to be a national treasure. Among Ann’s many duties ... have been overseeing the Oxford Conference for the Book, editing the Southern Register, coordinating the Faulkner Conference, establishing the Blues Archive and continuing her founding work with the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters. Ann’s total devotion to spreading the word of the continued importance of the book during a computer age should be duly recognized with this endowment to assure the continuance of this important part of the university’s programs and legacy.”

The conference brings together authors and rising stars in publishing with others interested in literature and literacy. UM and Square Books of Oxford sponsor the conference. The endowment’s annual income will pay a percentage of the conference’s expenses beginning in 2013.

“With the parallel development of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and at the suggestion of Richard Howorth from Square Books, and with his collaboration, the Oxford Conference for the Book was launched in 1993. Through the generous assistance of Jim and Madeleine McMullan, Lynn Crosby Gammill, Patricia Land Stevens and numerous other friends, the continuation of the conference will be assured. For this, I am extraordinarily pleased and profoundly grateful,” said Abadie.

Individuals and organizations can make gifts to support the Oxford Conference for the Book Endowment by mailing a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift; or contacting Nikki Neely, development officer for the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at 662-915-6678 or nneely@olemiss.edu.
UM Moves Up in Forbes’ Prestigious Listing of Top College Buys

Private support is a critical factor in UM’s surge in standing among American universities. Ole Miss moved up two spots to No. 18 in Forbes’ rankings of the nation’s “Best Value Colleges,” part of the annual America’s Top Colleges section. After being ranked No. 24 in 2010, the university moved up to No. 20 last year. This year, UM—sandwiched between the University of Utah and California Polytechnic State University at San Luis Obispo—is the lone SEC school in the Top 20.

“The 18th ranking in value is particularly important in today’s environment,” Chancellor Dan Jones said. “Despite our need to incrementally raise our tuition rates because of reduced state funding, the growing strength of our academic programs maintains us as an incredibly good value for students and families. This recognition is a testament to the remarkable work of our very fine faculty and staff and the generous support of our donors.”

The America’s Top Colleges section includes several rankings and data on 650 colleges and universities. In the overall rankings, Ole Miss came in at No. 270, highest of any public university in Mississippi and sixth-highest in the 14-school Southeastern Conference. The university also came in No. 103 among research universities, highest in the state.

The Center for College Affordability and Productivity, in conjunction with Forbes, compiled the report using five categories: student satisfaction, which includes freshman-to-sophomore retention rates and faculty evaluations; postgraduate success, which measures job placement, pay and professional achievement; student debt, with penalties for high debt loads and default rates; four-year graduation rate; and competitive awards, including prestigious scholarships such as the Rhodes, Truman and Marshall.

Former UM Foundation, CSSC Board Member Built Legacy of Giving, Encouraging Support for Alma Mater

James M. McMullan of Lake Forest, Ill., embraced his Southern roots, even when his career took him to Chicago for most of his adult life. The legacy he built at UM reflected the value he placed on the study of the South within liberal arts and higher education.

McMullan passed away in April, with his and wife Madeleine’s most recent major gift supporting the Oxford Conference for the Book Endowment. His support and involvement at his alma mater helped propel UM’s Center for the Study of Southern Culture to national prominence, said Director Ted Ownby.

“Jim and Madeleine McMullan have been extraordinary leaders in supporting and encouraging support for the university and especially for the Center for the Study of Southern Culture. Their clearest contribution came when they formed the McMullan Professorships in Southern Studies, allowing us to move from having four faculty to six and to expand into new areas. They also helped in significant ways with endowments for the Future of the South and the Oxford Conference for the Book, and in many ways they encouraged support for Southern Studies faculty and students.”

The McMullans recruited friends and donors for the center, attended many of its programs and assisted in countless other ways. Their daughters became involved, too, with Carlett McMullan, a principal at William Blair & Company, joining her parents on the center’s advisory committee and Margaret McMullan, an author and a professor at the University of Evansville, making presentations on literature and writing.

“Jim McMullan lived a life that made a difference,” said UM Chancellor Emeritus Robert Khayat. “Jim and Madeleine both had a deep understanding that at the very core of a university is the faculty, and ensuring the recruitment and retention of top-quality faculty is absolutely critical to our academic reputation.”

McMullan worked in the securities business for 50 years, 41 of which were as a partner with William Blair & Company in Chicago. He served on the board of governors of the National Association of Securities Dealers and the Securities Industry Association. He also provided leadership on the Region Firms Advisory Committee to the New York Stock Exchange.

McMullan grew up in Newton, Miss. He graduated in 1956 from Ole Miss with a finance degree. He was involved in many philanthropic efforts in his native state and in Chicago. In addition to the CSSC advisory board, McMullan was a board member of the UM Foundation and a director of the Eudora Welty Foundation Board. When the McMullans’ second home in Pass Christian was lost in Hurricane Katrina, they rebuilt and donated generously to the local fire station and library.
Philanthropist in South Texas Remembers Alma Mater with Gift

Margaret Lewis Draper and her husband, L.C. Draper, were known in South Texas for their longtime support of education. The Ole Miss graduate joined her husband in making many gifts to the University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA).

When Margaret Draper of Edinburg, Texas, passed away, she remembered her alma mater with a gift of more than $108,000, which has been directed to the Barnard Endowment for Faculty Support. The Barnard Initiative is named for one of UM’s most influential leaders, Frederick A. P. Barnard, a renowned scientist who provided leadership as chancellor from 1856 to 1861, before going on to lead New York’s Columbia University.

UM faculty members have garnered international acclaim through outstanding teaching and vibrant research. Now, however, stiff competition exists among leading universities to retain and recruit the brightest scholars, said Provost Morris Stocks. To ensure that Ole Miss can successfully compete with these institutions, the UM Foundation launched the Barnard Initiative to invest $100 million in teaching and research excellence.

“Our faculty members serve as an important conduit in our efforts to transform students’ lives. They influence students daily in classrooms and labs and through one-on-one interactions. We believe the Drapers would be pleased that their resources will help provide outstanding teachers for our students, particularly since Mrs. Draper chose a career of teaching,” Stocks said.

After they married in 1945, the couple moved to Edinburg, his family’s home, where he continued ranching and farming. Margaret Draper attended Edinburg Junior College to become certified to teach in Texas. The Draper family had joined with other Edinburg families to purchase the land that transformed this junior college into what is now UTPA.

Robert S. Nelsen, president of UTPA, told the UM Foundation, “Mrs. Draper as well as Mr. Draper had huge hearts with very special places for students and education. Their legacy will live forever because of what they have done and continue to do after their deaths for others.”

Margaret Draper was a retired teacher and was involved in the Pan American Round Table, Edinburg Hospital Auxiliary, Museum of South Texas History and Tri-Delta sorority. The Drapers were the parents of two sons, David Draper who lives in Edinburg, and Louis Draper who died as a high school student.

Margaret Draper was born in rural Alabama to parents Milton and Lucille Lewis, and the family moved to Laurel, Miss. As a young woman, Draper began her college education at Jones County Community College and finished at Ole Miss in 1942 with an undergraduate degree in education. She was active in Delta Delta Delta sorority.

She and L.C. Draper met and fell in love when he was stationed in Laurel during the end of his service in World War II. The Lieutenant Colonel had been awarded five battle stars for his time in the European Theater as part of General George Patton’s drive across Europe. He served in the XIX Tactical Air Command. Before the war, he graduated from Texas A&M University, where he had been an ROTC student.

Draper was involved in the Pan American Round Table, Edinburg Hospital Auxiliary, Museum of South Texas History and Tri-Delta sorority. The Drapers were the parents of two sons, David Draper who lives in Edinburg, and Louis Draper who died as a high school student.
Thanks to the generosity of the late Madeline O. Sciacca of Slidell, La., who remembered her alma mater in her will, generations of UM pharmacy students will receive scholarship support.

Sciacca, who obtained her pharmacy degree from UM in 1953, directed a gift of $400,000 to the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy for the Madeline Occhipinti Sciacca Memorial Scholarship Endowment.

“We are humbled by this tremendous gift,” said David D. Allen, the school’s dean. “It greatly expands our ability to help young people pursue their dreams of becoming practicing pharmacists and ensures that Madeline Sciacca’s name will remain a part of our school for years to come.”

Sciacca practiced pharmacy at Walgreens in downtown New Orleans for years. After retiring in the 1970s, she began buying rental properties and buying and selling real estate.

In 2001, shortly after Barbara G. Wells became dean of the Ole Miss pharmacy school, Sciacca contacted her and said she wanted to leave part of her estate for scholarships.

“[Sciacca] was fiercely loyal to the people and institutions that she cared about. She also cared for students and wanted to make a difference in their lives. She wanted to give back and make things better for people. She was very generous, as expressed by her gift to our school, and she is an excellent role model for our students and for all of us in pharmacy.”

- Barbara G. Wells

Pharmacy School Receives Major Gift from Estate of Slidell, La., Alumna

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In 2001, shortly after Barbara G. Wells became dean of the Ole Miss pharmacy school, Sciacca contacted her and said she wanted to leave part of her estate for scholarships.

“She wanted to help students, and that fit very nicely with our goals for the school,” said Wells, dean emeritus of pharmacy. “That began our ten-year relationship.”

During that time, Sciacca told Wells of her fondness for the school.

“She loved the School of Pharmacy,” Wells said. “She loved her time here and her memories. She also said her father valued education, and it was important to him that all his children get educated.”

Sciacca married Thomas V. Sciacca when she was 47. “Her husband was truly devoted to her, as she was to him,” Wells said. “He was a fine gentleman, and they had a genuine late-life love for each other.”

He died two years ago, and she died Sept. 5, 2011, at the age of 80.

“Madeline was Italian,” Wells said. “She was fiercely loyal to the people and institutions that she cared about. She also cared for students and wanted to make a difference in their lives. She wanted to give back and make things better for people. She was very generous, as expressed by her gift to our school, and she is an excellent role model for our students and for all of us in pharmacy.”

The Madeline Occhipinti Sciacca Memorial Scholarship Endowment is open to accept gifts from individuals and organizations. To contribute, contact Raina McClure at 662-915-6967 or rmcclure@olemiss.edu; visit http://umfoundation.com/makeagift; or mail a check with the endowment noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677.

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-Barbara G. Wells

Pharmacy Dean Emeritus
Large Gift from Estates of Alabama Educators Strengthens Library Services for UM Students

Oscar Ainsworth as a young University of Alabama faculty member

The estates of two educators—a 1946 UM graduate and his wife—have provided funds totaling almost $800,000 that will strengthen a high-impact student service area in the J.D. Williams Library and provide long-term library funding.

Oscar Richard Ainsworth of Northport, Ala., a professor of mathematics at the University of Alabama, and his wife, Edith Wetzel Ainsworth, also on the math faculty, named the University Libraries as a beneficiary in their estates. The Ainsworths had not notified Ole Miss officials about their intentions to provide the generous support.

"We are humbled by this tremendous gift from the Ainsworths who obviously were dedicated to providing outstanding opportunities that help young people in their pursuit of higher education."

- Julia Rholes
DEAN OF LIBRARIES

Part of the Ainsworth gift will be placed in an endowed fund, which will be held permanently with the annual income supporting library services. Edith Ainsworth’s family members in Washington State fully supported the estate gifts and are proud the resources will strengthen educational pursuits, said attorney Daniel C. Lemley of Tuscaloosa.

Oscar Ainsworth earned bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Ole Miss. He went on to earn a doctorate at the University of California, Berkley, in 1950. He then joined the UA mathematics faculty on the Tuscaloosa campus and spent his entire 36-year career with the UA system. He was a major contributor to the development of UA’s Huntsville campus.

Additionally, Ainsworth shared his expertise in applied mathematics with the U.S. Navy through its Mines Countermeasures Station in Panama City, Fla.; U.S. Army at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville; Douglas Aircraft Company in Long Beach, Calif.; Boeing Aircraft Company in Seattle, Wash.; and with NASA in Huntsville.

Edith Ainsworth earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Berkley. She also taught math at UA and was devoted to tutoring students for many years.

To learn more about strengthening the University Libraries with contributions of any size, contact Michael Upton, development officer for special projects, at 662-915-3027 or mupton@olemiss.edu or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

WHAT IS THE 1848 SOCIETY?

Since its founding in 1848, The University of Mississippi has benefited from the foresight and generosity of people who have invested in the future by naming the university as a beneficiary in their wills. As tax laws changed, many other gift plans emerged, and each year these planned gifts have added to the value of the university’s endowment and provided funds for professorships, research, facilities, library books, scholarships, lectureships and many other specific programs to enhance academic and athletic excellence. Those who have made commitments to the university through planned gifts have left significant legacies and have truly become partners in the growth and development of the University of Mississippi.

The 1848 Society was established in 1998, the university’s 150th year. The society recognizes alumni and friends of the university who have either funded or planned a deferred gift, such as a bequest or a life income plan.

For more information on the 1848 Society, call the UM Foundation at 800-340-9542 or go to www.umfoundation.com and click on “planning a gift.”
Cary Stovall first left his mark on UM in the late 1920s as president of the Associated Student Body, Debating Council and the School of Law’s first-year law class.

Now, more than 80 years later—and 45 years after his death—Stovall has returned to Ole Miss, in a sense, with one final grand gesture that will help his alma mater for decades to come. The Lillian Stovall Trust, established for Stovall’s wife after his death in 1967, has provided a gift of $1.35 million to create the Cary Stovall Scholarship Endowment for UM’s School of Law.

Richard Gershon, dean of law, said the gift is one of the largest donations the school has received in recent years. “This is a major gift that will provide long-term benefits for the law school,” Gershon said. “Clearly, a donor can have enormous impact on the university many years later by setting up a will or trust naming the university or the University of Mississippi Foundation as its beneficiary.”

The endowment will provide scholarships for students who demonstrate scholastic achievement and financial need. “We have not decided how many Stovall Scholarships we will award each year, but the Stovall Scholarship will have great impact and will be prestigious,” Gershon said.

A native of Lee County, Stovall graduated from law school in 1931. As an undergraduate he made substantial contributions to campus life, holding elected offices, chairing the Dormitory Council, managing the varsity track team and serving on the staffs of the yearbook, Mississippian and the Mississippi Law Journal.

He was also a member of the dance committee, athletic committee, Inter-Fraternity Council, Blue Key Honor Society, Owl Club and the M-Club.

Stovall was an attorney with Stovall and Price when he died of a heart attack in Corinth at the age of 60. His wife Lillian died in 1986 at 77 years old.

Endowment gifts have become increasingly important to the law school’s mission, Gershon said. “While our law school benefits from one of the lowest educational costs in the United States, our greatest need at this time is for scholarship support for our students,” he noted. “If we can reduce student debt loads, we can increase their options in the job market. The Stovall Scholarship will enable us to provide an outstanding legal education to deserving students at a greatly reduced cost. These students can then enter the job market unshackled from debt.”

Even with UM’s relatively low tuition, many law students struggle to make ends meet, Gershon added. “The American Bar Association does not allow full-time students to work during their first year and limits them to 20 hours per week during their second and third years. Accordingly, many students finance their educations through debt. The Stovall Scholarship will relieve that burden for those students who receive it. It is a wonderful gift that will positively affect those students’ lives and careers.”

The Cary Stovall Scholarship Endowment is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations. Those interested can mail a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; contact Jamie White, development officer for the UM School of Law, at 662-915-6881 or jamie@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
Seal of Approval
Donor recognizes benefits of journalism experiences

An anonymous planned gift to the Meek School of Journalism and New Media at UM will help prepare the next generation of journalists for the rigors of in-depth reporting, as the newsgathering profession evolves rapidly due to the Internet and the soaring popularity of mobile devices.

The majority of the gift is directed to establishing an endowment that provides income to support the Depth Reports, a capstone experience for journalism majors. A portion of the gift is also designated for journalism scholarships.

Will Norton, dean of the Meek School, has overseen the development of the program which empowers students to probe deeply into topics of statewide and national importance and produce an annual publication with articles that delve beyond the superficial, exploring the root causes of socioeconomic problems and possible solutions.

The program’s first publication, “The Roads of Broken Dreams: Can a New Delta Arise from the Rot of the Old South?” won the Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in 2011. The second dealt with issues in Greenville, Miss., and the third focuses on the Mississippi River a year after its biggest flood in recorded history. Bill Rose, an adjunct journalism professor and senior fellow at UM’s Overby Center for Southern Journalism and Politics, supervises students and manages the publications.

“In-depth journalism is tough for professionals,” said Rose. “By teaching it to students, we are giving them a powerful advantage when they go to apply for jobs in today’s professional news media.”

The donor expressed admiration for Norton and the Depth Reports program. “I have a lot of respect for Norton and what he’s doing with the program,” the donor said. “It provides a unique educational experience for the students, taking them out into the field and giving them a first-hand look at significant issues and events around the state. This type of hands-on experience is really useful for news gatherers.”

The Depth Reports Endowment is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by sending a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; contacting John Festervand at 662-915-1757 or jfestervand@olemiss.edu; or visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

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-Anonymous Donor
The late Dr. R. Faser Triplett—the state’s first board-certified allergist-immunologist and a founder of the Mississippi Allergy Clinic—is being remembered with a named faculty chair at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. A recent gift in excess of $1 million from his family foundation caps off a $2 million funding campaign for the endowed position.

The R. Faser Triplett, M.D, Chair of Allergy and Immunology will pay tribute to the physician who built a legacy of care and service. The Dr. and Mrs. R. Faser Triplett Foundation has committed the latest gift to complete funding for the chair, which was initially established by close to $1 million in gifts from individuals and organizations. Dr. Gailen Marshall, a professor of medicine and director of the UMMC Division of Allergy and Immunology, has been named the inaugural chair holder.

Triplett, who passed away in 2010, served as chair of the American Medical Association Political Action Committee and president of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, the Mississippi State Medical Association and the Hinds County Medical Society as well as an array of corporate boards.

The Louisville, Miss., native earned an undergraduate degree at Ole Miss before studying at the UM School of Medicine and completing his medical degree at Tulane University. His training included fellowships in pediatric allergy and in immunology and service in the U.S. Air Force.

“My dad was very proud of the Triplett Chair of Allergy, as he had devoted more than 35 years of his life practicing allergy,” said R. Faser “Chip” Triplett Jr. “My siblings—Diane Holloway, Suzy Fuller, Liz Walker and Lou Ann Woidtke—and I knew that the first funds we wanted to grant from the foundation would be directed to this chair. We were inspired to know this would help ensure Mississippian will have access to future allergists trained at UMMC.”

Faser Triplett served as president of the UM Medical Alumni Association and the Ole Miss Alumni Association and as a member of the UM Foundation Board. The Triplett Alumni Center on the Oxford campus was named in honor of this longtime major donor and his wife, Jackie. He was inducted into the Alumni Hall of Fame in 2000.

“Faser felt like so many things he was able to do in his lifetime were a direct result of the education he received and the friends he made on the Oxford and Medical Center campuses. If you ever met Dad, you would quickly know of his love for the two,” said Chip Triplett.

Faser and Jackie Triplett established their foundation, with their children as directors. Dr. Gailen Marshall, fifth from left, is the inaugural holder of the R. Faser Triplett, M.D., Chair of Allergy and Immunology. Joining him during an announcement of the new chair’s funding at the Norman C. Nelson Student Union in Jackson are Medical Center representatives and members of the Triplett family, from left, Dr. Richard deShazo, Suzy Fuller, Dr. Shirley Schlessinger, Lou Ann Woidtke, Jackie Triplett, Dr. James Keeton, Liz Walker, Felton Walker, and Susan and Chip Triplett.
Freeland Makes Gift of Faculty Support to Help Continue Excellence in Hand Surgery at UMMC

A handshake. A pat on a shoulder. A wave “hello.” Hands help in social interactions, not to mention the critical role they play in defining skill level. Hands are instrumental for work, protection, sustenance, play and expression.

Think of the hand functions of surgeons, rescue personnel, musicians, artisans, chefs, farmers, builders, dentists, firefighters, athletes and many more. That’s what inspired Dr. Alan E. Freeland of UMMC to recently contribute $100,000 to help build an endowed professorship in hand surgery.

“It’s wonderful to be able to restore a patient’s hand function,” Freeland said of his career as a hand surgeon. “The hope is that this faculty support will help attract an outstanding hand surgeon to help train our students and residents and keep Mississippi active.”

The Alan E. Freeland, M.D. Professorship of Orthopedic Hand Surgery was established in 2000 by a $500,000 gift from the Hansjoerg Wyss AO Medical Foundation to honor Freeland and support the recruitment and retention of an orthopedic specialist. The goal of the professorship—which continues to accept gifts—is to ensure that quality teaching, clinical research and service will be available to future medical students, orthopedic residents and fellows.

“It’s wonderful to be able to restore a patient’s hand function. The hope is that this faculty support will help attract an outstanding hand surgeon to help train our students and residents and keep Mississippi active.”

-Dr. Alan E. Freeland

To begin his career, Freeland earned an undergraduate degree from Johns Hopkins University and a medical degree from George Washington University. He completed an internship and training at Baltimore’s Church Home and Hospital and Johns Hopkins Hospital.

The physician served in the U.S. Army’s 121st Evacuation Hospital in Korea. He then trained at Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco, became chief of orthopedic surgery at the Army Hospital at Fort Campbell, Ky., and completed a fellowship with University of Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital in Miami, Fla.

Freeland achieved the rank of professor at UMMC in 1986 and established the Hand Fellowship Program in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery in 1991. He is listed in the Guide to America’s Top Surgeons and Castle Connolly’s Guide to America’s Top Doctors. Although retired from clinical practice, Freeland works with residents and fellows on their research.

The physician is former president of the Southeastern Hand Club and American Association for Hand Surgery. He was selected as National Clinician-Teacher of the Year and named Vargus International Traveling Physician for the AAHS, both in 1998. He has published prolifically, served on editorial boards and lectured nationally and abroad.

His wife, Janis, is a recently retired orthopedic surgery nurse. They are the parents of four: Matthew, Jennifer, Rebecca and Michael, and grandparents of three: Carson, Conner and Parker.

The Alan E. Freeland, M.D. Professorship of Orthopedic Hand Surgery is open to accept gifts from individuals and organizations. To contribute, mail a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; contact Denson Hollis, development office, at 662-915-5092 or dhollis@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
These days, women make up about half of the UM School of Dentistry’s student body. But it wasn’t so long ago that there were only a few female students per class, recalls Dr. Karen Crews, professor of oral oncology and behavioral medicine in the Department of Otolaryngology and Communicative Sciences.

As a student herself, Crews became president of the school’s student association of women dentists. Although that student organization was short-lived, the five-year-old Mississippi Association of Women Dentists (MAWD) is going strong, and its members are determined to make a lasting impact on their profession statewide.

After a two-year fund-raising effort, the group recently reached $100,000 in pledges to establish the first endowed lectureship at the School of Dentistry.

“One of the things that we wanted to do as an organization was to have a positive impact in the community where we held our annual meetings,” said Crews. “We always donate to a local charity, wherever we are.”

But they also wanted to do something that would impact the future of the profession by benefiting current dentistry students, Crews said. That led to the idea for the lectureship. “We wanted to provide a continuing education experience with select speakers who are known and respected for their expertise and knowledge in the cutting-edge fields of dentistry,” she said. “We wanted to provide an experience that could also be open to faculty and dentists in the community.”

Crews said Dr. Mindy Austin of Tupelo was the driving force behind founding MAWD and served as the first president. All members deserve credit for making the lectureship idea a reality, she added. About $70,000 of the entire pledged amount has been raised, and almost all of that has been donated from within the group.

“We have young women who’ve just been out of dental school one and two years who’ve pledged $1,000, which is a lot of money when you’re right out of school and you’re paying back school loans,” Crews said.

Dr. Andrea Elenbaas of Gulfport, current MAWD president, said the sooner the group raises the rest of the funding, the quicker they can select the first speaker. The group plans to keep growing the endowment beyond $100,000. Five percent of the fund will pay for each event, so the higher it grows, the larger the projects it can support.

The endowment fund is open to accept contributions from individuals and organizations by visiting www.givetoumc.edu or by contacting Kay McRee at 601-984-2300 or kmcree@umc.edu.
Woodruff Endowment Helps Patients at Batson Children’s Hospital

Mary Bess Woodruff learned countless things during her only child’s battle with cancer. But perhaps the most significant was that even one hour of normalcy—free from shots, transfusions and scans—is a gift. More than a decade after her daughter, Swayze, lost her battle, Woodruff wants to give that gift to others.

The Swayze Woodruff Memorial Endowment will benefit patients and families of the Children’s Cancer Clinic at Batson Children’s Hospital at the UMMC. Woodruff hopes the planned gift from her estate, will help make life a little easier for cancer patients and their families.

“I wanted a fund that would maybe make the awful stuff you have to go through a little better,” Woodruff said. “It’s an awful journey not just for patients and parents, but for brothers and sisters too. If there’s something that can give them two hours that might make them laugh, that’s what I want it to do.”

Dr. Gail Megason, professor of pediatric hematology and oncology and director of the Children’s Cancer Clinic, said funds are essential to providing well-rounded care for patients and support both curative treatment and emotional well-being of patients and families.

“This fund may be used for anything from travel expenses and medications to books and toys,” Megason said.

Woodruff’s gift was born out of a conversation with a fellow caregiver. The woman, a single mother of two, had custody of her sister’s two children, one of whom had cancer.

“She was not whining, not complaining, she was just saying how hard it is to work, do stuff with the kids and take care of a sick child,” Woodruff said. “She said something as simple as going to Pizza Hut was a big deal for them.”

Woodruff was moved because she understood the value of normal in the all-too-abnormal world of cancer treatment. “I used to pray for just a normal day, one without shots. That’s something we all take for granted.”

Swayze’s “normal” was her horse, Two-Steppin’ Oreo, better known as J.R. Before her diagnosis, Swayze was an active 12-year-old who showed J.R. at Mississippi Quarter Horse Association events across the region. That changed in 1994, when doctors discovered Ewing sarcoma, a bone tumor in her pelvis, which had metastasized to her lungs and liver. Surgery was not an option.

During treatment, Swayze’s determination to ride grew stronger, although doctors advised against it. “The horses were Swayze’s lifeline,” Woodruff said. “We begged the doctors to let her ride.” When they agreed, Swayze’s attitude turned around.

Swayze went into remission in 1996. “I think that being on that horse was one of the reasons she did better than expected,” Woodruff said.

The next two years saw the Woodruffs getting back to being an ordinary family.

Their joy was short-lived. In late 1998, a then 16-year-old Swayze’s blood work showed she had leukemia. She postponed treatment to participate in a couple of more horse shows, which she won. Swayze died in April 1999.

These memories carried Woodruff through Swayze’s and then Garry’s death in 2009 and guided her to establish the endowment. “After I lost Swayze, I started praying that I could touch one life. Hopefully, this gift will give the patients and families just a touch of happiness for a minute.”

“I think Garry and Swayze would be proud.”

The Woodruff Endowment is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by visiting www.givetoumc.edu or by contacting Kay McRee at 601-984-2300 or kmcree@umc.edu.
Entertainer Brings ‘Goodbye Tour’ to State to Help Support Work of MIND Center

Campbell has been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s

Music legend Glen Campbell treated Mississippians to a virtuoso performance at a sold-out show earlier this year in Jackson, with concert proceeds of more than $300,000 going to the MIND Center (Memory Impairment and Neurodegenerative Dementia Research), a state-of-the-art Alzheimer’s disease research center at the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

Presented by Trustmark and supported by more than 80 other hosts and sponsors, the concert was part of Campbell’s “Goodbye Tour.” The 75-year-old entertainer is suffering from Alzheimer’s, the debilitating brain disease. His final tour has taken place with the support of his family, with three of his children performing in his back-up band.

“It’s just great to see him doing what he loves and still sharing his gifts with the world,” said Campbell’s daughter Ashley.

Campbell entertained with chart-topping classics like “Wichita Lineman,” “Southern Nights” and “Rhinestone Cowboy,” along with songs from his most recent album, “Ghost on the Canvas.”

“We are so honored to have such a legendary performer shining a light on this dreaded disease,” said Dr. Tom Mosley, MIND Center director.

“We are so honored to have such a legendary performer shining a light on this dreaded disease,” said Dr. Tom Mosley, MIND Center director. “Through his brave fight with Alzheimer’s, Mr. Campbell is showing people around the world that research needs to be a priority.”

Mosley and his team are directing one of the largest and most comprehensive studies ever conducted of mid-life risk factors for Alzheimer’s disease and related forms of cognitive decline.

As part of a $26-million, National Institutes of Health study, Mosley is leading a consortium of some of the world’s leading medical institutions in a study examining data collected from nearly 16,000 participants over two decades. The study enables MIND Center scientists to look back in time—to when study participants were middle-aged—and identify factors that predict development of dementia.

Former U.S. Ambassador John N. Palmer Sr., chair of the MIND Center Advisory Board, said the event highlighted the center’s work.

“The MIND Center is a tremendous resource for this state,” Palmer said. “It is a world-class research center. To celebrate with a world-class entertainer made for a perfect evening.”

To learn more about supporting the MIND Center, visit www.givetoumc.edu or contact Josh Cogswell, director of development, at 601-984-2306 or jcogswell@umc.edu.

Scholarship Honors Waits’ Service to Youth, Electric Power Cooperatives

Scholarship Endowment will provide income for scholarship assistance in the UM School of Business Administration. It’s a fitting homage to the Leland native, who has worked closely with the Mississippi FFA Foundation and the Mississippi 4-H Club Foundation, two organizations that offer programs and growth opportunities for youngsters throughout the state.

“It kind of recharges my battery and gives me renewed faith in young people,” Waits said, of his volunteer work. “I feel good knowing that the world is going to be in their hands.”

Waits retired as EPAM’s executive vice president and CEO in 2006, finishing a 37-year career with the Ridgeland-based service organization for Mississippi’s 26 electric cooperatives. A 1960 graduate of Ole Miss, Waits also earned a master’s degree in school administration at Delta State University before serving in the U.S. Army. He joined EPAM’s staff as director of public, member and employee relations in 1969, and rose to the CEO position in 1982.

In 2005 Waits supervised EPAM’s response to Hurricane Katrina, as his staff coordinated emergency work crews from 22 states in an unprecedented effort to restore power to about 500,000 electric meters.

MCC scholarship chairman Gary Blair said Waits’ contributions earned him the honor of a named scholarship.

“MCC has been providing annual scholarships to students for more than 20 years, and the board of directors decided this year to honor Mr. Waits for his years of service by naming this endowed scholarship at his alma mater,” Blair said. “The scholarship will assist deserving students in furthering their education at Ole Miss, honoring Mr. Waits’ legacy of service to youth and cooperatives for years to come.”
Jackson Couple Honors Khayat through Chancellor’s Trust

Jackson Couple Honors Khayat through Chancellor’s Trust

Judith and Jay Travis III

Judith and Jay Travis III of Jackson found each other, grew intellectually, became leaders and nurtured many friendships during their student days at Ole Miss. Now the couple is continuing a tradition of giving back to strengthen their alma mater.

The Travises have joined the Chancellor’s Trust with a $25,000 gift to honor their longtime friend Chancellor Emeritus Robert Khayat, the latest in their longtime support. The Chancellor’s Trust provides unrestricted funds to address UM’s greatest needs.

“We enjoyed our experiences at Ole Miss as students and through the years as alumni,” said Jay Travis. “We both were taught by our parents to give to other people. We have been blessed and want to help others with these funds.”

Travis and Khayat had similar paths as they were active in campus activities, involved in the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and then became law students. Khayat applauded the couple for their commitment to the university.

“Jay and Judith Travis are a wonderful Ole Miss couple who have consistently supported the university for many years. We have been friends for more than 50 years, and I have loved watching their personal and professional successes.

“Jay is universally respected and admired by his fellow lawyers as well as his many clients, while Judith is loved by all who know her. It is so typical for them to quietly make a significant gift … that will benefit many bright, deserving students,” Khayat said.

As an undergraduate, Judith Travis was involved with the Associated Student Body, Mortar Board and Chi Omega sorority. “Ole Miss is such a special place—it is always about family. Ole Miss has also made so much progress since we were here as students. Robert Khayat’s influence has been spectacular, and we wanted to do something to honor his contributions and also help the university,” she said.

Jay Travis has enjoyed a long law career interacting with several generations of families as clients. He graduated magna cum laude with both his undergraduate degree in banking and finance and his juris doctorate. He served as editor-in-chief of the *Mississippi Law Journal*.

Retired from Butler Snow, Travis has served in leadership positions with the Hinds County, Mississippi and American Bar associations; Estate Planning Council of Mississippi; and Mississippi Law Institute. He is a past president of the UM Law Alumni Association and has served on the UM Foundation Board of Directors and the Momentum Campaign Planned Giving Committee.

The Travises are parents to Dr. Kathy Gregg of Jackson, a University of Mississippi School of Medicine graduate; and John Travis of Phoenix, Ariz., and William Travis of Jackson, both Ole Miss graduates. The couple also has four grandchildren.

For information on the Chancellor’s Trust, contact Debbie Vaughn, senior executive director of development, at 662-915-1687 or dvaughn@olemiss.edu or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

Endowment for Museum

During a recent ceremony at the University Museum, retired education professor and Ole Miss alumna Lynton Dilley, second from right, was honored by friends, family and UM leaders, including Chancellor Dan Jones and Provost Morris Stocks, for her gift to create the Dilley Museum Education Endowment for educational outreach programs. The fund also memorializes her late husband, Norm Edward Dilley (as seen in the portrait), who was an education professor. Joining her were her sons and Ole Miss alumni, from left, James M. Dilley of Cordova, Tenn., and Lawrence C. Dilley and John E. Dilley, both of Oxford. In 1981, Lynton Dilley helped establish what grew to become the museum’s Traveling Trunk Program which sends materials to classrooms throughout the state and region. This gift will help assure its continuation in the future. She also has designated a planned gift for the School of Education.
Donors React to Forward Together with Gifts, Optimism for Programs

With $75 million contributed—half of the total goal of $150 million—Rebel supporters have demonstrated overwhelming support for the largest, most comprehensive fund-raising campaign in Ole Miss Athletics history.

Reflecting more than a bricks-and-mortar investment, university leaders say the Forward Together campaign symbolizes “shared values, commitment to excellence and an unwavering resolve to win championships.”

“This campaign has galvanized the fan base,” said Chancellor Dan Jones. “We are grateful to see the flood of support that has poured in since the launch of the campaign. We are in the midst of a monumental investment in the future of our athletics programs, one that demonstrates our unequivocal commitment to excellence. It’s great to witness the strength of the Rebel family moving forward together.”

This unprecedented campaign represents both facility construction and existing facility enhancements, with the most prominent construction project being a basketball facility to replace C.M. Tad Smith Coliseum.

The arena will feature seating for around 10,000; an exclusive student entrance with adjoining pre-game tailgate area; courtside and baseline seating for students close to the action; more than 1,500 premium seats; two exclusive club areas offering exceptional amenities; and a Hall of Fame exhibition to showcase history, traditions and achievements.

To bring these initiatives to fruition, Ole Miss is calling on the Rebel Nation. The Vaught Society, the leadership fund-raising catalyst under the UMAA Foundation, is driving Forward Together.

“This campaign has galvanized the fan base,” said Chancellor Dan Jones. “We are grateful to see the flood of support that has poured in since the launch of the campaign. We are in the midst of a monumental investment in the future of our athletics programs, one that demonstrates our unequivocal commitment to excellence. It’s great to witness the strength of the Rebel family moving forward together.”

-Chancellor Dan Jones

New leaders in Ole Miss Athletics—Stephen Ponder, senior executive associate athletics director for external affairs, from left; Hugh Freeze, head football coach; Ross Bjork, athletics director; and Keith Carter, executive director of the UMAA Foundation—extend thanks to dedicated members of the Rebel Nation for their support of the Forward Together campaign. They encourage others to become involved in this ambitious initiative to strengthen athletics programs for years to come.
last few months, several have stepped forward with pivotal, major gifts:

- An anonymous donor has provided $3.7 million to the campaign. This gift is the largest in the history of the Ole Miss Athletics Department by a single individual or organization.

- The FedEx Corp., a longtime corporate partner, has directed a gift of $2.5 million to the campaign.

- Lloyd family members—Cosmo, Bob, Ben and Ted—also of Jackson have committed $1 million, making them the first to join the Builders Circle. This exclusive group of no more than 20 members will play a crucial role in the campaign’s success.

- The M-Club Chapter of the Alumni Association announced its decision to provide a $1 million gift.

- Ben and Hilary Craddock of Jackson have committed $500,000 to the Vaught Society.

“The impact of these extremely generous gifts cannot be overstated,” said Ross Bjork, director of athletics. “The commitment of these individuals and organizations to Ole Miss Athletics is absolutely critical in helping achieve our goals, and we cannot thank them enough. They are giving all they can to Ole Miss Athletics, which is what we are asking the Rebel Nation to do: Give what you are capable to support our student-athletes. These donors have answered this call in a big way, giving Forward Together a significant boost.”

UMAA Foundation Executive Director Keith Carter echoed Bjork’s praise. “We are so grateful to our anonymous donor, FedEx, the M-Club, the Lloyds and the Craddocks for their exemplary commitment to Ole Miss Athletics and the campaign. This leadership and commitment to our programs’ successes are paramount to our pursuit of excellence on and off the playing field. We hope this generosity will resonate with our donor base and others in Rebel Nation will answer the call as well.”

For more information, please visit www.forwardtogetherrebels.com or contact the UMAA Foundation at (662) 915-7159. For details on the Vauht Society or naming opportunities, please ask to speak with a member of our major gifts staff.

Tennis Court’s Naming Reflects Will Galtney’s Generous Support

The Ole Miss tennis program has become the beneficiary of a $1 million gift made by alumnus and longtime athletics supporter Will Galtney of Houston, Texas. In recognition of the generosity, the courts at the Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center have been named the William F. Galtney Courts.

“We are deeply grateful for Will Galtney’s tremendous support,” said Keith Carter, UMAA Foundation executive director. “Will has provided support to the tennis program as an enthusiastic fan and as a donor who understands the great investments needed to maintain and continually strengthen a nationally prominent program. His commitment to our program significantly impacts current student-athletes, coaches and fans as well as future generations.”

The gift has served to fund a significant expansion to the Palmer/Salloum Tennis Center. Already among the nation’s best collegiate tennis facilities, the tennis center is benefiting from a number of improvements, including the addition of more spectator seating and enhancements to the locker rooms, study areas and coaches’ offices.

“It’s my pleasure to be able to contribute to the tennis center expansion,” Galtney said. “Ole Miss has built a solid track record in both men’s and women’s tennis. In order to sustain what we have built and to compete for the best recruits we must have state-of-the-art facilities.”

“My relationship with Coach Chadwick goes back many years to the days we competed against each other in junior tennis,” Galtney continued. “I am very proud to tell people about Ole Miss tennis and the success we have achieved over the years in both men’s and women’s programs. I look forward to watching them continue to compete for championships year after year. I’m happy to have the opportunity to continue to give back to Ole Miss.”

A native of Jackson, Miss., Galtney earned his bachelor’s degree in political science in 1974 and his master’s degree in public administration 1976, both from Ole Miss.

“Will was an outstanding tennis player for Ole Miss. In fact, his 1974 team held the record for the most wins for nearly 20 years,” said Rebel men’s tennis head coach Billy Chadwick. “This gift to our tennis center will enable our program to remain one of the nation’s finest.”
“We are thrilled with Will’s generosity and continued support of Ole Miss tennis,” said women’s tennis head coach Mark Beyers. “It will ensure that our facilities can compete with the very best in the nation.”

The Galtney family previously provided a major gift to create the Galtney Center for Academic Computing in Weir Hall, used by thousands of Ole Miss students and faculty.

Galtney has given his time to serve on the UM Foundation and Ole Miss Alumni Association boards and on the Campaign for Athletics. The president of Galtney Enterprises was inducted into the Ole Miss Hall of Fame in 2007.

“Ole Miss has built a solid track record in both men’s and women’s tennis. In order to sustain what we have built and to compete for the best recruits we must have state-of-the-art facilities.”

-William F. Galtney
Individuals whose college careers may have been interrupted by family responsibilities or life circumstances may have a second chance to pursue degrees at Ole Miss, thanks to a $50,000 gift from the Bernard Osher Foundation of San Francisco.

Students can apply for the Osher Reentry Scholarships, with the inaugural recipients chosen for the 2012-13 academic year. When the Osher Foundation provides funding to an institution, it often considers following with resources for the scholarships to continue for additional years. Upon the program’s demonstrated success, the foundation may consider establishing an endowment at the institution for a permanent stream of scholarship support.

“The Osher Reentry Scholarship Program is one of our most important initiatives,” said Mary Bitterman, Foundation president. “We are delighted that Ole Miss has already recognized the particular challenges facing non-traditional students, and we look forward to cooperating with the university in assisting these students to complete their baccalaureate degrees and realize their dreams.”

Reentry students are defined as individuals who have experienced an interruption in their education for five or more years and who now want to resume their undergraduate studies and complete their degrees. This scholarship is intended to benefit students who have considerable years of employability ahead of them—ideally aged 25 to 50.

Recipients must demonstrate financial need, academic promise and a commitment to completing their degrees. The foundation requires that awards be applied exclusively to recipients’ tuition.

“We are grateful to the Osher Foundation for providing this wonderful support. Particularly during this time when many are facing economic difficulties, this support is critical in helping individuals earn degrees and increase their competitiveness in the job market,” said UM Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Carol Anne Miconi. “We look forward to building a long-term relationship with the Osher Foundation centered on helping these students succeed.”

Reentry students often have special needs including matriculation and career counseling, familiarization with new information technology used in higher education, and balancing the requirements of their families and employment. Ole Miss has numerous established services on both the Oxford and satellite campuses that address these needs.

The UM School of Pharmacy is one of 13 pharmacy schools in the nation selected to receive funding from the new $1.1 million Cardinal Health Pharmacy Scholarship Program.

Universities selected to participate in Cardinal Health’s scholarship program offer strong nuclear, independent or hospital pharmacy curricula. Each school received an endowed scholarship ranging from $50,000 to $125,000.

“Cardinal Health serves more than 7,000 community pharmacists across the country, and we’re one of the nation’s largest employers of nuclear and hospital pharmacists,” said Mike Kaufmann, chief executive officer of Cardinal Health’s pharmaceutical segment. “We passionately believe in the essential role [that] pharmacists play in making sure patients receive safe, high-quality healthcare. That’s why we’re proud to partner with the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy to invest in developing tomorrow’s pharmacy leaders.”

The UM pharmacy school recently implemented a new, state-of-the-art curriculum, enabling its students to spend more time with patients as integral members of health-care teams. Its students’ pass rate on the national licensure exam is among the nation’s highest.
these needs and aid in the success of reentering students. In addition, UM’s Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning will feature a learning specialist specifically assigned to facilitate the success of the Osher Reentry Scholars.

Ole Miss is the first Mississippi institution selected for the Osher Reentry Scholarships. Founded in 1977 by respected businessman and community leader Bernard Osher, the Osher Foundation provides funding to colleges and universities across the nation, with special attention to reentry students.

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institutes operate on 116 college campuses, and a National Resource Center is headquartered at the University of Southern Maine. An array of performing arts organizations, museums and selected educational programs in Northern California and in Osher’s native state of Maine receive foundation grants.

For more information about the Osher Reentry Scholarships at UM, call the Office of Financial Aid at 800-891-4596 or visit www.olemiss.edu/depts/financial_aid/.

Family of Pharmacists Give Back With Endowment Gifts to School

As children growing up in Pascagoula, Kenny Clark and his sister Rhonda Clark experienced first-hand the golden age of the small-town drugstore — those idyllic days of cherry Cokes served from soda fountains, milkshakes in tall, curved glasses and a kindly, wise pharmacist who knew every customer by name.

For Rhonda and Kenny, that pharmacist was their father, McKinley Clark, a 1960 graduate of the UM School of Pharmacy. And, when they grew up, they wanted to be just like him.

Today, both siblings are pharmacists who have created a way of honoring their dad for decades to come: a $50,000 gift creating two endowments at Ole Miss to benefit pharmacy professors and students.

The McKinley R. Clark Faculty Support Endowment will provide funds to the pharmacy school for faculty support while the McKinley R. Clark Scholarship Endowment will offer financial assistance to students, with first preference going to residents of Jackson, Harrison and Hancock counties.

The siblings worked after school in the pharmacy founded by their dad and their late mother in 1964. Kenny Clark graduated from UM’s pharmacy school in 1980, and his sister in 1986. As the family business expanded, the three of them owned, at one point, seven stores incorporated under the name Sav-Rex.

For McKinley Clark, the health of his customers took priority over profits, Rhonda Clark said. “He’s one of the most honest people I know, a man with high moral standards. I’ve seen him give medicines to families when they’ve been laid off from their jobs and can’t afford to pay. He’d just let them pay for it later, and if they didn’t come back, he wouldn’t go after them. It was just forgotten.”

The elder Clark has fond memories of Ole Miss. “I owe my success to the School of Pharmacy,” he said. “It’s done so much for me and my children. Ole Miss has been nothing but supportive of us, and that’s why we’ve all been so successful.”

The siblings felt inspired by their UM professors to create the faculty support endowment. “With the current economic situation, universities have to rely more on these types of gifts rather than state and federal money,” Kenny Clark said. “So we felt this was something we needed to do. There comes a point when you need to start giving back to those who have helped you in your own livelihood.”

McKinley Clark’s daughter from his second marriage, Amanda Erin Clark, also earned her degree in pharmacy administration from UM as did her mother, Nanette Clark, and Dempsey Levi, the Clark family’s business partner in the Sav-Rex stores.

The endowments are open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by sending a check with the funds noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; contacting Raina McClure at (662) 915-6967 or rmclure@olemiss.edu; or visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

The pharmacy school provides scholarships to all of its Doctor of Pharmacy and Bachelor of Science students who maintain a 3.5 grade-point average, Wilson said. “Basically, we reward our students for academic performance.”

Ranked No. 19 on the Fortune 500, Cardinal Health is a health care services company that improves the cost-effectiveness of health care. As the business behind health care, Cardinal Health helps pharmacies, hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers and physician offices focus on patient care while reducing costs, enhancing efficiency and improving quality.
Insight Park Fosters Interactions Among Research Clients

UM’s new Insight Park provides a collaborative and resource-rich environment for its tenants. The stunning building is open on Insight Park Avenue (formerly Hathorn Road), right past the Ole Miss soccer facility.

The new Insight Park, a world-class research park on Insight Park Avenue (formerly Hathorn Road), is providing the environment for technology and research-based companies to work with UM’s research faculty and students to take advantage of opportunities for collaborative research and easy access to academic resources, equipment and services.

“The purpose of Insight Park is to enhance the commercialization of the university’s research, to establish partnerships with the private sector to encourage innovation, and to become an economic node for the state and region,” said William Nicholas, assistant director.

 Besides attracting established firms and startup companies, Insight Park accelerates the creation and growth of new commercial enterprises emerging from the university’s research.

“I think that one of the most interesting aspects of Insight Park is the timing,” Nicholas said. “There is an entrepreneurial and innovative spirit at the University of Mississippi, and we provide a collaborative and resource-rich environment in a state-of-the-art facility to allow new or experienced entrepreneurs the opportunity to pursue commercialization of university research.”

MMA Celebrates 60 Years
Gift for CME Scholarships marks anniversary

In commemoration of its 60th anniversary, the Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA) has contributed $60,000 to build a scholarship endowment at UM, assisting students enrolled in UM’s Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME)—the only program of its kind in the nation.

The new 47,000-square-foot CME was created by Ole Miss and the State of Mississippi, in association with the Toyota Motor Corp. plant in Blue Springs and offers cross-disciplinary academic programs for undergraduates to learn to be effective accountants, business managers, and engineers in the manufacturing industry. CME brings together the schools of Accountancy, Business Administration and Engineering to provide students with skills needed to be effective professionals in manufacturing.

“When businesses around the globe—such as Toyota, Nissan and a variety of others—look to locate somewhere in the United States, the workforce quality is the number one resource they examine,” said Jay C. Moon, president and chief executive officer of the Mississippi Manufacturers Association.

“The CME is a very valuable marketing tool the Mississippi Manufacturers Association, Mississippi Development Authority and local development officials will use. We will be able to talk about the quality of this program and the preparation students receive. That will resonate with the manufacturers looking to locate here and those planning to expand. Mississippi will have a significant advantage over other states, particularly in the southeastern region where we most often compete,” Moon said.

The CME Advisory Board includes executives from Toyota’s plant in Blue Springs, Miss., and other manufacturing and industry experts. Research support will be an important component of the program as well as industrial extension services to provide training. The CME features a 12,000-square-foot “factory floor,” with three manufacturing lines and assembly and final finishing areas.

The new MMA fund will provide two scholarships annually to eligible Mississippi students with declared degrees in CME.

“MMA believes in supporting the next generation of leaders,” Moon said. “We anticipate the scholarships will provide an incentive for young people to pursue the education and training required to take advantage of the opportunities available in advanced manufacturing.”

For 60 years, the MMA has represented the interests of Mississippi’s manufacturers at both the state and national levels and promotes a strong manufacturing environment within the state.
West Virginian Directs Estate Gift to Strengthen Law School

With deep roots of poverty all around him, Ralph Dickerson was an anomaly in small Kenova, W.Va., when he decided to pursue a college degree. His first stop was Marshall University with the help of a baseball scholarship, and after military service, his destination was the UM School of Law.

The 1949 graduate then returned to his hometown, where the 3,500 residents depended upon him for legal help and community leadership. After leading a frugal lifestyle, Dickerson directed more than $280,000 to the UM law school from his and his wife’s estates.

“Ralph Dickerson’s passion for Ole Miss ran very, very deep,” said his nephew Roger Dickerson of Pointe Vedra Beach, Fla. “He loved the school and what it stood for. If you ever had a conversation with him, you would walk away knowing he had graduated from the University of Mississippi. The school was the one thing that really touched his heart. The experiences he had through higher education were unheard of in Kenova.”

The major part of the estate gift created the Ralph S. and Della W. Dickerson Memorial Endowment, with annual income addressing school needs. The remainder of the gift has been placed in an account for the same purpose, with resources directed at the law dean’s discretion.

“My uncle had all the confidence in the world that the university would be a good steward of his gift,” Roger Dickerson said.

Dean of Law Richard Gershon said the gift will help train other lawyers to serve their communities, as Ralph Dickerson did during his lifetime.

“We will use this wonderful gift from the Dickerson estates to enhance educational opportunities for our students and to continue building the law school’s reputation of developing leaders for Mississippi and the nation,” said Richard Gershon, dean of law. “Such gifts are a way for the current generation of lawyers to help the next generation.”

Dickerson’s legal education served him well, his nephew said. “He enjoyed the law and being a litigator. He was very knowledgeable, and his community leaned on him. He was the youngest of seven children and grew up in an underprivileged environment, where many people only had eighth-grade educations. My uncle rose above that and was successful.”

Ralph Dickerson served in the U.S. Marine Corps after earning an undergraduate degree. A relative recommended the UM law school, where he attended on the G.I. Bill. He married his wife, Della, also from Kenova, and Roger Dickerson described the couple as “synonymous.”

“They walked everywhere they went. They lived a simple life. My uncle didn’t even own a car until the late 1980s; he always made arrangements to travel with county employees to the county seat eighteen miles away from Kenova. Even that distance was challenging in that mountainous area,” the nephew said.

Ralph and Della Dickerson, who died in 2004 and 2009 respectively, will be linked to Ole Miss in perpetuity as their endowment provides resources for legal education.

To learn more about helping future generations of students through a planned gift to the university, contact Sandra Guest, vice president of the University of Mississippi Foundation, at 662-915-5944/800-340-9542 or sguest@umfoundation.com.

Beloved English Professor Leaves Legacy as ‘Steadfast Champion’ for University Libraries, Worked Tirelessly to Attract Resources

During his 33-year teaching career at UM, John Pilkington influenced hundreds of students, inspired faculty colleagues and filled key leadership roles. Following his retirement in 1985, he continued his early mission of raising funds and friends to help make the university library the best that it can be.

Pilkington, 93, distinguished professor emeritus of English, died in June.

“It’s hard to imagine Ole Miss without John Pilkington,” said Chancellor Emeritus Robert Pilkington, “in addition to being a much-loved and respected professor, he and his longtime friend Dr. (Charles) Noyes were the leaders in seeking much-needed support for the J.D. Williams Library, and it’s hard to remember a time when we were not receiving letters asking for donations for books and other support. I knew many of his students, and they loved and respected him.”

Pilkington was the Department of English’s senior professor of American literature from 1960 to 1985. He taught one of the first university courses devoted solely to William Faulkner and was a moving force in establishing the annual Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference. In 1977, Pilkington was named one of UM’s first two Distinguished Professors.

When Pilkington joined the faculty, he was alarmed at the state of the library and wasted no time in remedying the situation. His contributions were honored in 2009 with dedication of the library’s John Pilkington Study Room.

“(Dr. Pilkington) was a steadfast champion of the libraries. As a scholar and teacher, Dr. Pilkington believed that you could not have a great university without a strong library collection, and as president of the Friends of the Libraries, he worked tirelessly for years to help build our collections,” Dean of Libraries Julia Rholes said.

Pilkington held a bachelor’s degree from Centre College and attended Johns Hopkins University as a graduate student. Early in 1942, he was commissioned in the Naval Reserve and served throughout the war. He continued his studies at Harvard, earning both master’s and doctoral degrees.

Pilkington is survived by his wife, Lillian (Lolly) Kirk Pilkington; son Charles Kirk Pilkington and his wife, Annie Lee, of Charlottesville, Va.; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be sent to the John Pilkington Library Endowment Fund by mailing a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677, or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
Engineering School Benefits from Costner’s Tribute to Husband

Before his death in 2009, Charles Lynn Costner found himself posing the question: “How do you leave something behind to make the world better than you found it?” His widow, Sara, recently answered that question by donating $50,000 to benefit the UM School of Engineering.

Half the gift is designated for an endowment in the Department of Civil Engineering. The other portion will be used as unrestricted funds within the engineering school.

“Although I always marveled at people who gave large amounts to their alma maters, Charles and I had never discussed doing anything like this while he was alive, mainly because we weren’t financially able,” Costner said.

That changed when she sold her late husband’s home place in Calhoun County.

“I knew that I wanted to do something to honor Charles and that the School of Engineering was most reflective of what he would want to be remembered by,” said Costner.

“Think he would be very proud of what I’ve done.”

Alex Cheng, dean of engineering, expressed appreciation.

“Alumni donations have always been the major support for the School of Engineering, funding such things as facilities, software and other necessary equipment,” Cheng said. “We are deeply grateful for this timely and generous gift.”

Christopher Mullen, interim chair and associate professor of civil engineering, said, “The way (the gift is) set up, our department can make equipment purchases which we would not be able to do otherwise on a recurring basis. We’ve had a need for something like this for a long time. These funds are very beneficial for both undergraduate labs and graduate school research.”

A native of Banner, Charles Costner graduated from Bruce High School before enrolling at UM. His career spanned four decades and included appointments with the Mississippi State Highway Department, Mississippi State Fish and Game Commission, U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Soil Conservation Service and the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Costner also worked with privately owned construction firms in Delaware, Texas and Louisiana.

Sara Costner worked in the engineering school while her husband was in graduate school. Their son, Jeffrey Costner, is on staff of Ole Miss Athletics’ Grounds and Maintenance.

For information about supporting engineering school initiatives, contact Kevin Gardner, development officer, at 662-915-7601 or kevin@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.
Chisholm Foundation Supports Academic Study of Foodways

The Chisholm Foundation of Laurel has contributed $103,000 to support the academic study of foodways at UM’s Center for the Study of Southern Culture (CSSC) and Southern Foodways Alliance (SFA).

UM officials describe the support as a key step toward establishing an endowed professorship in the emerging cultural studies field of foodways, a discipline in which SFA is recognized nationally. Featured by major media outlets, SFA has been described by the *Atlantic Monthly* as “this country’s most intellectually engaged (and probably most engaging) food society.”

The Chisholm Foundation resources will support a postdoctoral fellow, with the recipient teaching foodways classes within the Southern Studies curriculum and foodways-focused courses in other disciplines. For example, the inaugural holder of the fellowship, Assistant Professor Angela Jill Cooley—who earned her doctorate at the University of Alabama—taught an undergraduate history class earlier this year using foodways to understand home-based race relations. The course “Historicizing ‘The Help’” contextualized Katherine Stockett’s novel “The Help,” the basis of a movie that earned critical acclaim.

“Of late, more and more students have arrived at the Center for the Study of Southern Culture with an interest in foodways,” said John T. Edge, director of the SFA, which is supported by more than 1,000 academics, chefs, artisans, farmers and others. “This gift from the Chisholm Foundation ensures that we will be able to serve their classroom needs and, in turn, inspire a new generation of scholars.”

Individuals and organizations interested in providing private gifts to a permanent endowment for the faculty position in foodways studies may contact Development Officer Nikki Neely at nlneely@olemiss.edu or 662-915-6678.

Anonymous Donor Honors Teacher, Researcher with Major Gift for Faculty Support in Biology

As a UM biology professor from 1976 to 2005, Edmund Keiser loved the traditional classroom setting—with its blackboards, books and attentive students at their desks—as much as he enjoyed his field research, trudging through bayou swamps and hiking verdant forests in search of unique specimens of frogs, snakes and lizards.

Now, even in retirement, Keiser’s dedication to students and research continues to pay dividends for future generations, thanks to a $100,000 faculty support endowment recently established in his name by an anonymous donor.

“An endowment such as this will allow us to support a faculty research project each summer, which is very helpful particularly to new faculty who are trying to get their research programs up and running,” said Paul Lago, chair of biology. “From the research mission standpoint, these grants are invaluable.”

The honoree, who also served as biology chair for a decade, said he was “stunned” to learn of the endowment established in his name. “I’m very flattered and feel a bit undeserving,” he said. “It was a great honor to me. I can’t imagine anyone doing something like this. People often give that kind of money for athletics but not for academics. I appreciate it very, very much.”

Keiser, who earned two degrees from Southern Illinois University and a doctorate from Louisiana State University, has continued his research in wildlife biology for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks (MDWFP), working on a comprehensive inventory of mammals, reptiles and amphibians in North Mississippi’s Upper Sardis Wildlife Management Area.

A renowned expert on amphibians and reptiles, Keiser has helped demonstrate the profound influence of those animals on woodland and aquatic ecosystems and on other species populations. He served as commissioner of the MDWFP under two governors and was recognized by as the College of Liberal Arts’ Outstanding Teacher of the Year in 2000.

The educator has made an impact, Lago said. “Dr. Keiser was the first chairman in biology to emphasize the importance of research in our mission. … This department began moving in the right direction in terms of a three-pronged mission: research, teaching and service.”

The Edmund Keiser Faculty Support Endowment is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by sending a check to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677, contacting Denson Hollis at 662-915-5092 or dhollis@olemiss.edu, or by visiting www.umfoundtion.com/makeagift.
Thompson Creates Ole Miss First Scholarship to Pay Tribute to His Mother’s Self-sacrifices

Honoring thy mother is a commandment Gordon Thompson has taken to heart. When he decided to establish a scholarship in honor of his mother, who was also an Ole Miss student, Thompson followed the spirit of the commandment to a T.

The $100,000 Claude P. Thompson Ole Miss First Scholarship is for full-time entering freshmen in the School of Accountancy who are from a non-traditional (one parent) background and have financial need. The scholarship was started in 2002 and will be fully funded in December 2013.

“My mother’s self-sacrifice, as well as various types of financial aid, allowed me to attend Ole Miss and receive an educational experience, academically and culturally, which has shaped my life and career,” Thompson said. “It is with gratitude to her and the university that I pledge this support.”

The Memphis resident received an undergraduate degree in accounting in 1975 and is a managing director of CBIZ MHM Thompson Dunavant and a shareholder at Mayer Hoffman McCann P.C.. He is also a member of the Advisory Board to UM’s Patterson School of Accountancy.

“We are honored to have the Claude P. Thompson name on a permanent endowment at Ole Miss and so pleased that it will be targeted towards recruiting top students into the accountancy program,” Mark Wilder, dean at the Patterson School of Accountancy, said. “This scholarship will be of great assistance to young people with financial need and may well provide the encouragement and support that enables them to attend college. We appreciate so much everything that Gordon Thompson has done and continues to do for the Patterson School of Accountancy.”

Ole Miss First is a university-wide initiative that addresses the most critical need of the 21st century—scholarships. Each Ole Miss First scholarship is based on an award of $4,500 per year for four years, for a total of $18,000 to cover eight semesters of tuition for an undergraduate student. Scholarship endowments can also be created at the $100,000 level and will be awarded in perpetuity. Ole Miss First scholarships are unique in that each scholar is assigned a mentor during his or her tenure at Ole Miss.

Ole Miss First gifts help UM achieve its goal of providing a scholarship for every deserving student and builds on the university’s academic reputation. The capacity to recruit and retain the brightest students exists because of private support from alumni and friends.

The Claude P. Thompson Ole Miss First Scholarship is open for gifts from individuals and organizations. To contribute, mail a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; contact Jennifer McMillan, development officer for the Patterson School of Accountancy, at 662-915-1993 or mcmillan@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift. To learn more about Ole Miss First, call the foundation at 800-340-9542.

New English Lecture Series Honors Edith Baine, Her Affection for UM

When young Edith Turley Baine was growing up in the Mississippi Delta, she “played teacher.” Although her real-life teaching career was cut short by multiple sclerosis, Baine’s love for teaching and learning will live on through a UM lecture series endowed in her name just prior to her April death.

The Edith T. Baine English Lecture Series in the Department of English was created to bring distinguished speakers to campus and specifically to the Creative Writing Program.

Her husband, James Baine of El Dorado, Ark., said, “Edith really loved Ole Miss and she came with family members to campus to football games many times as a child. … In fact, Edith thought Ole Miss was the greatest place on earth.”

Chair of English Ivo Kamps explained the fund’s impact on students.

“The Department of English is profoundly grateful for the generous gift and for the support of our department and Creative Writing Program. The Edith T. Baine Lecture Series will be an important new asset for the department. Students love it when speakers and writers come to campus because they open new worlds for students and connect them to their possible future careers. We’re always looking to expand our students’ horizons, and this is a very effective way of doing so. To commemorate the life of Mrs. Blaine—a University of Mississippi graduate and an educator—in this manner is wonderfully appropriate.”

A native of Leland, Miss., Edith Baine was the daughter of Edith Waits Turley and George Turley. She earned a Bachelor and a Master of Arts in education and taught English in Mississippi and Arkansas.

Edith Baine was active in her community as long as her health allowed. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son and daughter-in-law, John and Jennifer Baine. John Baine graduated from Ole Miss with a Bachelor of Public Administration degree and was recently elected to the Arkansas House of Representatives.

Gordon Thompson is paying tribute to his mother, Claude, with an Ole Miss First scholarship endowment directed to the Patterson School of Accountancy. The scholarships are designed to help students from non-traditional families. The two are pictured with Gordon’s children, Rod Thompson Jr. and Whitney Thompson.
Scholarship Pays Tribute to Retiring UM Vice Chancellor for Helping Assure Opportunities for Student Success

A retiring UM leader who dedicated his career to helping students find the resources to attend college and embrace a well-rounded college experience will continue to assist students through a scholarship created in his honor.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Larry D. Ridgeway will have a long-lasting impact through the scholarship for full-time Mississippi undergraduates who demonstrate financial need, strong academic credentials and a community service record. He completed a 39-year career in higher education and 16-year tenure with Ole Miss in June.

Provost Morris Stocks described the leader’s contributions. “Dr. Ridgeway has made a profound and lasting impact on the Division of Student Affairs and the University of Mississippi. He has been a tireless advocate for students and has contributed to student success at every level.

“Dr. Ridgeway has modeled an attitude of service to students and colleagues. We are indebted to Dr. Ridgeway for his countless contributions to student life and to the University of Mississippi,” he said.

The scholarship was created with gifts from parents, colleagues, friends and family. “I was thrilled when I learned that a scholarship had been established in my name,” Ridgeway said. “Having been the beneficiary of financial aid as an undergraduate, I am excited that this scholarship will provide financial support to deserving Ole Miss students in the future.”

Ridgeway led the Division of Student Affairs which includes Admissions and Registrar’s Offices, Campus Programming, Campus Recreation, Career Center, University Counseling Center, Dean of Students, Enrollment Services, Financial Aid, Health Services, International Programs, Luckyday Programs, Orientation and Parent Programs, Student Housing and Residence Life, and University Police.

Named vice chancellor in 2007, Ridgeway previously served as associate vice chancellor and financial aid director. He joined Ole Miss from Auburn University where he served in similar roles. His career began at the University of South Alabama. He holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from USA and a doctorate from AU.

The Larry D. Ridgeway Scholarship Endowment is open to accept gifts from individuals and organizations. Those interested can mail checks with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, Miss. 38677; contact Elizabeth Milhous, director of development for parents, at 662-915-3181 or milhous@olemiss.edu; or visit www.umfoundation/makeagift.

“Dr. Ridgeway has modeled an attitude of service to students and colleagues. We are indebted to Dr. Ridgeway for his countless contributions to student life and to the University of Mississippi.”

-Morris Stocks

PROVOST
Most poets don’t drive Porsches, but Oxford resident D.C. Berry, a retired University of Southern Mississippi professor and acclaimed author of hundreds of poems and several volumes, could if he wanted to. He even came close to buying one last year after coming into unexpected financial resources.

Instead, Berry created the Elvis Meets Einstein Award Fund, which will provide income each year to two students in the UM Department of English’s Master of Fine Arts program. He hopes others will step forward with gifts to build the endowment from its present value of $63,000 to $100,000.

“But knowing I could have a brag ride to Kroger, I didn’t want one anymore, of course. The next best way to spend money for fun, fun, fun, I thought, was to give it to Ole Miss’ MFA program, one of the top 10 in the country,” said Berry, a three-time winner of the Excellence in Teaching Award at USM, which also honored him as the Charles W. Moorman Distinguished Professor in the Humanities.

And fun is what Berry—who has twice been recognized by the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters for his work—had in mind when he conceived of the prose and poetry award.

“I was reading Albert Einstein quotations at the time, and they were funny,” he recalled. “Then Elvis’ song, ‘Burning Love,’ came on, and I thought, let’s just call it ‘Elvis Meets Einstein for Writing a Whole Lotta Funny and a Hunka Smart.’ I wanted something that would resonate for as long as people know our friends Albert and Elvis.”

Berry contacted Beth Ann Fennelly, UM associate professor of English and director of the MFA Program.

“Our hardworking MFAs are amazing,” she said. “They take three classes a semester and teach one or two classes a semester, and all the while they’re writing a book-length thesis—and they’re making $10,250 a year. It’s remarkable, but they are driven and immensely hungry for what our program can offer them. D.C. was impressed by their output and found a creative way to encourage them. It’s truly kind and generous of him.”

The Elvis Meets Einstein Award Fund is open to receive gifts from individuals and organizations by mailing a check with the fund noted to the University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677, visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift or contacting Denson Hollis at 662-915-5092 or dhollis@olemiss.edu.
Florida Family Gives Back with Liberal Arts Scholarships

Emily and Larry Furlong have helped students in Florida’s Seminole County pursue college through scholarships. Now, with creation of the Furlong Family Scholarship Endowment at Ole Miss, the Maitland, Fla., family have widened their reach.

“My wife and I met at Ole Miss,” said Larry Furlong, vice president of sales with Old Republic National Title Insurance Company. “My wife and I are proud to be longtime supporters,” Eley said. “I’m from a small town, and many young people from small towns don’t get a chance to discover the arts at a young age. That’s why having the Ford Center is so important to the state.”

As the principal of Mississippi-based Eley Guild Hardy Architects, Jim H. Eley understands the responsibility to give back to his home state. To this end, the firm has created an unrestricted endowment for UM’s Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts.

A native of Terry, Eley said that his firm has supported Ole Miss for many years.

“Our firm has supported Ole Miss for many years,” Eley said. “I’m from a small town, and many young people from small towns don’t get a chance to discover the arts at a young age. That’s why having the Ford Center is so important to the state.”

And, since his Jackson-based firm designed the Ford Center, Eley said it is important to him and his wife, Leigh, a 1975 Ole Miss graduate, to help ensure the facility remains a showcase for the state and future generations.

“Ole Miss is committed to education, research and service, but it is also dedicated to providing Mississippians with the best in fine and performing arts that connects you to the bigger world,” said Eley, a 1968 graduate of Auburn University. “It was a pleasure for me to be involved in the construction of the Gertrude C. Ford Center at Ole Miss. It is even more of a pleasure for me to be able to provide for its upkeep.”

Besides the firm’s endowment, Eley and his wife are members of the Friends of the Ford Center, which sponsors annual events to attract private support.

“Both of our daughters graduated from Ole Miss. We’re an Ole Miss family, even though none of us are from Mississippi.”

The Furlong Family Scholarship Endowment will provide assistance to undergraduates enrolled in UM’s College of Liberal Arts. First preference will go to students from Illinois, Florida, California and Nashville, Tenn.—all areas the family has called home.

“We are fortunate to have this family of graduates giving back to strengthen the College of Liberal Arts,” said Glenn Hopkins, dean of liberal arts. “It’s a reflection of their belief in the power of education and of their concern for others.”

A Chicagoan, Furlong had never set foot in Mississippi until he arrived at Ole Miss. “I thought I had landed on another planet,” he said. “It was so different .... It took me a good semester to adjust. But once I got used to the pace and the culture, I just fell in love with it.”

The political science major married Emily Caldwell, a Nashville native majoring in sociology and art. Larry entered the title insurance business with the help of a fraternity brother and also became dedicated to public service with the Seminole County (Fla.) Commission and Seminole County School Board.

“We’ve had a tradition of helping students with scholarships,” Emily Furlong said. “When Larry ran for office, he promised to give a portion of his salary back to the county for scholarships. We did that for 12 years and were able to help 72 students … in one-time scholarships for college or vocational/technical school.”

Philanthropy is also the focus of Emily Furlong’s career. She serves as the Rollins College Philanthropy & Nonprofit Leadership Center senior program manager.

Daughter Katie Furlong Ward earned theater arts and broadcast journalism degrees at UM, while Mary Furlong graduated in history and anthropology. Now an actress, Ward lives in California with her husband and daughter, and Furlong is earning a doctorate in anthropology at the University of Maryland.

The family encourages others to support UM. “If you give someone clothes or a meal, that’s great, and it helps in the near term. But if you can help give someone an education, that will benefit them for a lifetime,” said Larry Furlong.

To learn how a family can follow the Furlongs’ lead, contact Denson Hollis at 662-915-5092 or dhollis@olemiss.edu; or visiting www.umfoundation.com/makeagift.

section: News

Jackson Architectural Firm Creates Ford Center Endowment

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Besides the firm’s endowment, Eley and his wife are members of the Friends of the Ford Center, which sponsors annual events to attract private support.

“When a donor chooses to name an endowment, it represents a very special relationship—one of trust and confidence,” said Norman Easterbrook, Ford Center director. “We are very grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Eley for this generous gift.”

Founded in 1953, Guild Hardy Architects merged with Eley Associates/Architects of Jackson in 2008 to create one of the state’s largest architectural, engineering and interior design firms. Eley Guild Hardy Architects has offices in Jackson and Biloxi and is responsible for several other UM design and renovation projects, including the first Residential Colleges in the state.

Eley and his wife have three children: Caroline, Genevieve and John.

To learn more about supporting the Ford Center for the Performing Arts, visit www.umfoundation.com/makeagift; or contact Michael Upton, development officer, at 662-915-3027 or mupton@olemiss.edu.
THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 249
University, MS 38677-0249

$122.6 MILLION IN GIFTS
Support for Year Demonstrates ‘Extraordinary’ Generosity, Commitment of Alumni and Friends

THANK YOU! The generosity of University of Mississippi alumni and friends in fiscal year 2012 resulted in the second-highest year of giving in the university’s 165-year history with $122.6 million in private support.

“This is an extraordinary demonstration of the generosity and commitment of Ole Miss alumni and friends,” Ole Miss Chancellor Dan Jones said. “A tough economy makes this support especially noteworthy, as donations from our supporters came within $600,000 of the all-time record ($123.2 million) set in 2002.”

Among programs honored for national leadership in 2012 are:
• Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College
• Patterson School of Accountancy
• School of Business Administration
• School of Law
• University of Mississippi Medical Center
• School of Pharmacy
• College of Liberal Arts’ Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing program, forensic chemistry program and Army ROTC department

“Our supporters are seeing solid evidence of a tremendous return on their investments in Ole Miss,” said Wendell Weakley, president and CEO of the University of Mississippi Foundation. “Whether it is our Forbes’ ranking at number eighteen in the nation as a Best Value College or our top ten ranking in the United States for our School of Accountancy, the investments by our donors are paying huge dividends. We deeply appreciate this continued support, and we are thankful for the trust placed in our university and our foundation.”

PRIVATE SUPPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2012
$80.4 million cash and realized gifts
$21.2 million new pledges receivable payable in future years
$21 million in deferred and planned gifts

$122.6 MILLION TOTAL PRIVATE SUPPORT