

A Special Invitation



(See inside for details)

ion News

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Castellow Ford Center for the Performing Arts:

Announcement to Construct 1,200-Seat Auditorium



Chancellor Robert C. Khayat addresses a crowd gathered for the announcement of a \$20 million gift from the Gertrude C. Ford Foundation for a 1200-seat center for the performing arts. Dr. Lee Bolen, chair of the planning committee (back center) and Provost Gerald Walton, a committee member, look on while the announcement is made.

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Continued next page

America's Great Public Universities

FoundationNews



The University of Mississippi Foundation

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The Gertrude Castellow Ford Center for the Performing Arts:

Foundation Gives Ole Miss \$20 Million to Construct 1,200-Seat Auditorium

The Gertrude C. Ford Foundation of Jackson has turned a longtime dream into an exciting reality for The University of Mississippi, with a gift of \$20 million for a 1,200-seat center for the performing arts.

Joined by Ford Foundation directors, Chancellor Robert C. Khayat announced the gift to Ole Miss faculty members involved in the arts. Work should begin this year on the 90,000-square-foot structure, which will be named for the late Gertrude Castellow Ford.

"Gertrude Ford was a truly remarkable lady who had a compelling interest in the performing arts and literature," said Khayat. "We are overwhelmed by the magnitude of the Ford Foundation gift. A performing arts center will add a tremendous dimension to the University community and will be beneficial to the cultural life of Mississippians and residents of the Mid-South."

The Ole Miss chancellor continued, "The Gertrude Castellow Ford Center for the Performing Arts will make a clear statement about our commitment to the arts to all who enter our Oxford campus. We feel very strongly that a well-rounded educational environment should include the finest cultural opportunities."

Providing \$20 million for the building on the Oxford campus is the inaugural gift awarded by the Ford Foundation, which was established in 1991 and was later funded by the estate of Ford, who died in 1996. The foundation is led by three directors: Anthony T. Papa, president; Leon E. Lewis Jr. and Cheryle M. Sims, all of Jackson.

"Mrs. Ford would have been extremely pleased with this gift going toward the creation of this center for the performing arts," said Papa, who is an Ole Miss alumnus. "She was an intellectual, and the arts and



Chancellor Robert C. Khayat addresses a crowd gathered for the announcement of a \$20 million gift from the Gertrude C. Ford Foundation for a 1200-seat center for the performing arts. Dr. Lee Bolen, chair of the planning committee (back center) and Provost Gerald Walton, a committee member, look on while the announcement is made.

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Committed to Being One of America's Great Public Universities



Jim Eley, architect with Eley Associates/Architects P.A., unveils sketches of the Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts.

Performing Arts continued...

line of humanitarians, said Ford Foundation Director Sims.

"Through the years, Mrs. Ford and Chancellor Khayat shared many conversations about the need for a performing arts center at the University. The foundation directors intend to pursue Mrs. Ford's interests. We are exuberant over this auditorium and feel this is an historic announcement not only in the life of Ole Miss but also for Mississippi and the region," said Sims, who managed Ford's affairs for many years.

The Ford Center is the first step in what the University envisions as a performing arts complex located on both sides of University Avenue on the eastern edge of the Oxford campus. With the help of a \$500,000 appropriation from the Mississippi Legislature, a committee at Ole Miss began working on plans for the complex well over a year ago. A joint-venture by two Mississippi firms — Eley Associates/Architects P.A. and Dale and Associates Architects P.A. — provided architectural services for the entire complex.

The Ford Center will serve as the centerpiece of the complex, providing a state-of-the-art auditorium for performances by the University's students, faculty and staff; artists in the Oxford com-

munity; and guest performers worldwide. Constructed at the intersection of University Avenue and Old Taylor Road, University planners say the auditorium will provide an inspiring image to campus visitors.

Completing the complex will be a

new 68,000-square-foot building for the Department of Theatre Arts, a 32,000-square-foot proscenium theatre, and a renovated and expanded School of Education building for the home of the Department of Music. The School of Education would then be moved to Meek Hall, and plans call for the expansion and acoustical modification of Fulton Chapel.

The University will seek resources for the other components of the performing arts complex, Khayat said, praising committee members whose work he presented to the Ford Foundation directors.

"In addition to the academic functions of the Ford Center, we anticipate the structure being filled with culturally enriching activities for the state and region," said Dr. Lee Bolen, chair of the planning committee and a professor of physics who has expertise in the field of acoustics. "We put in many, many hours planning how this building would fit the site, be accessible and serve the needs of the University and Oxford communities, as well as surrounding areas.

"We are ecstatic and very pleased that the Ford Foundation has chosen to support the University, as we take the arts to a new level," Bolen said. ■



The Ford Foundation gift announcement was made at a campus press conference. Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (right), expresses appreciation for the gift to Jay Travis III (far left) legal counsel for the foundation; Judith Travis, Leon E. Lewis, Jr., foundation director; Beth Threadgill, James Sims, Cheryle M. Sims, foundation director; Gayle Papa, and Anthony T. Papa, foundation president.



A Message From:

Don L. Frugé

Vice Chancellor for University Advancement and President/CEO
of The University of Mississippi Foundation

It is better to give than to receive. Through your generosity private support at The University of Mississippi continues to increase along with the total endowment. These resources provide the margin of excellence which helps strengthen Ole Miss each day as we stand firm in our commitment to being one of America's great public universities. And as I have had the opportunity to assist many of you in your gifts to the University, I have witnessed a true joy in your giving. It is heartwarming to see.

As loyal alumni and friends you have consistently and generously given to the University of Mississippi and your gifts are making a tremendous impact. We seek to encourage and to provide a means for all of our 89,000 alumni to be a part of making a difference at Ole Miss. With this in mind, we wish to stress to you the importance that "every gift counts". Whether you are an annual fund contributor to the Ole Miss Partners, the Ole Miss Associates, the Order Programs or whether you are able to make a gift that qualifies you for the Pacesetters, Chancellor's Trust or the Lyceum Society, we appreciate you.

We have come so far in such a short period of time. When I first came to the Foundation in 1984, we had 2,000 annual donors. Last fiscal year, over 17,500 of you made contributions. The final phase of the Sesqui-centennial Celebration will include the announcement of a capital gifts campaign. While this will be an ambitious endeavor with a significant overall goal, we are confident through the active participation of all of our alumni and friends the Commitment to Excellence Campaign will achieve the success you desire for your beloved University. When asked, please respond to what ever level of gift is appropriate for you, but please do respond so all 89,000 alumni will be counted in the campaign.

Don L. Frugé



GIFT RECOGNITION CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Message from the Chancellor

We are pleased to announce that we have been selected for a site visit by the Phi Beta Kappa team. In 1995, we established a number of goals — we defined a path for our destiny. With those goals in mind, we decided to pursue a chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. Shakespeare would have agreed with our plan of action: "See first that the design is wise and just; that ascertained, pursue it resolutely; do not for one repulse forego the purpose that you resolved to effect." With that in mind, let's review the goals and the effect.

We resolved to:

- Increase Mississippi enrollment
- Enhance the teaching and learning environment by improving the appearance and condition of the buildings and grounds
- Improve the residence halls, food service, bookstore, and fitness center
- Establish an Honors College
- Strengthen the Library
- Increase faculty and staff salaries and improve the morale among faculty and staff
- Increase private support

As a united university community — faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends — we have made significant progress toward these goals that is exciting and compelling:

Mississippi Enrollment

In 1997, enrollment increased from 12,453 in 1995 to 13,178 (all campuses). On the Oxford campus, our increase was from 10,180 in 1995 to 10,600 in 1997. The current composition of the student population is 62.6% Mississippians and 37.4 % non-residents. In 1995, the percent was 55% Mississippians and 45% nonresidents. This spring we began the Mississippi Initiative, an aggressive recruiting plan within the state.

Enhance the Teaching and Learning Environment by Improving the Appearance and Condition of the Buildings and Grounds.

Significant progress has been made to enhance the teaching and learning environment through a campus-wide restoration, renovation, and new construction program which includes over 30 buildings/facilities. Examples include the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, Ventress, Conner and Holman, the J.D. Williams Library, Triplett Alumni Center, Women's Athletic Center, George Street University House, the Old Gym, Nation-



al Food Service Management Institute, Lawrence-Fortune Galleries, and the Vaught-Hemingway stadium expansion. The Y Building will be restored and will be the home of the Croft Institute for International Studies; the Gertrude Castellow Ford Center for the Performing Arts will be under construction in early 1999; the long-awaited Chapel should be completed by the year 2000. State funds will enable us to make improvements to Rowan Oak and a number of academic buildings.

Improve the Residence Halls, Food Service, Bookstore, and Fitness Center.

Plans are underway for repair and renovation of existing dorms and for new construction of others. We remodeled the Ole Miss Union, adding a new food court and small convenience store. Barnes and Noble completely renovated the bookstore and added a browsing area with a Starbucks coffee shoppe at the Ole Miss Cafe, located in the former Ole Miss Ballroom. With funds generated by student fees designated specifically for the Turner Fitness Center, this facility has been completely updated and now provides state-of-the-art fitness equipment.

Establish an Honors College

Thanks to the generosity of Jim and Sally Barksdale, we were able to move from an Honors Program to an Honors College, and the results have been dramatic. Last year's class included 122 students with an average ACT of 31.1, 80% of whom were from Mississippi. This year's class will invite 150 new scholars into the challenging curriculum.

Strengthen the Library

The Library has been strengthened with reallocation of internal funds, the generous Donald W. Reynolds Foundation gift which designated \$8 million to the Library, and the establishment of the Julia H. Wilcox Library Society which has already generated needed funds. The acquisition budget has now reached \$1 million annually, and the Library is completely on-line.

Increase Faculty and Staff Salaries and Improve the Morale Among Faculty and Staff

We have strengthened faculty and staff salaries with the commitment from the Mississippi Legislature to provide salary increases averaging 3% per year in 1997, 1998, and 1999. Addi-

tionally, our faculty has made a significant commitment in the areas of teaching and research, recruiting and retention, academic advising, and help with our efforts to attract private support. Staff have provided important expertise in technology that has given us national recognition, and they have dedicated themselves to meet the needs of additional services required by the increase in student population, new facilities, and campus activities and events.

Increase Private Support

Our Margin of Excellence has truly come from the generosity of our alumni and friends. The Sesquicentennial Campaign is reaching across the spectrum of our University community at all levels of giving. In 1995, our endowment was at

\$114.3 million; on December 31, 1997, it was at \$192 million. Annual private support grew from \$17.7 million in 1995 to \$39.9 for 1997, and we are keeping pace with that amount in 1998. These figures have attracted national recognition. Over 17,500 individuals generously donated to Ole Miss in 1997 with gifts ranging from \$1.00 to millions of dollars. Every gift is vital to the success of Ole Miss.

The entire University community responded to our call to work together for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. United, we have accomplished a great deal and are much closer to realizing our dream. We appreciate your continued support that touches every area of this great university, and we look forward to working with you as we continue our relentless pursuit of excellence.

Robert C. Khayat

Passing the First Mark

Phi Beta Kappa Notifies Ole Miss of Site Visit in Early 1999

University of Mississippi Chancellor Robert C. Khayat describes the birthday gift he received this week as “extremely special”: a call that Ole Miss will be visited by a Phi Beta Kappa team — the next step toward gaining a chapter of the prestigious academic honor society.

Dr. Douglas W. Foard, secretary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, notified Dr. Ronald A. Schroeder, chair of Ole Miss’ Phi Beta Kappa Faculty Application Committee, that The University of Mississippi had been selected for a site visit during the 1998-99 academic year.

“The University community has been waiting on this call to our Phi Beta Kappa faculty, and we are thrilled by this news,” Khayat said. “Phi Beta Kappa officials advised us that a team will visit our campus in early 1999. We were told our application has been well received. It outlines the tremendous work and progress made in key academic areas on our campus.”

If successful, the University will become the first public institution of higher learning in the state to be approved for a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. The rigorous process of seeking a chapter includes the site team’s making a recommendation to the Senate of Phi Beta Kappa. If the Senate supports a recommendation to approve a chapter at Ole Miss in December 1999, a membership vote by the full Council of the organization will occur in fall 2000.

Khayat and Schroeder, an associate professor of English, personally delivered the University’s preliminary application to the honor society’s Washington, D.C., headquarters in late October 1997. Schroeder and other faculty members who served on the committee are all Phi Beta Kappa alumni.

“We didn’t just make it over the first hurdle,” Schroeder said. “The favorable reaction to our application bodes well for the future. Gaining a Phi Beta Kappa chapter would give The Uni-

versity of Mississippi recognition and visibility in a group of very elite schools across the nation. Being chosen for a chapter would be an endorsement of the academic quality of our College of Liberal Arts and of our commitment to academic excellence. A chapter also serves as a powerful recruitment tool, as prospective students would find it attractive that we could send Phi Beta Kappa graduates out into the world. Phi Beta Kappa membership opens doors and greatly enhances a resume.”

Phi Beta Kappa’s evaluation will include extensive study of the University’s endowments, library holdings, technological resources, strength of the College of Liberal Arts, quality of students (based on test scores), scholarships and other considerations.

“The overriding question the site team members will ask as they examine our academic environment and resources is whether or not The University of Mississippi is committed to excellence in the humanities, arts and sciences,” Khayat said. “I think they will look favorably, for example, on the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College and the J.D. Williams Library; the strengthened (liberal arts) faculty salaries; the diversity of our faculty, staff and students; and the increase in entering freshmen’s ACT scores over a five-year span.

“Phi Beta Kappa sets extremely high standards, and for Ole Miss to be successful, we must and will continue our commitment to excellence,” said the chancellor.

Increased levels of funding from the Mississippi Legislature and private gifts — that is, more than 17,500 individuals contributing gifts of all sizes, from one dollar to millions of dollars — have been extremely helpful, Khayat said. The University’s endowment stood at \$192.6 million at the end of 1997, up from \$114.3 million in mid-1995, when Khayat was tapped for the top leadership position and outlined a plan to seek a Phi Beta Kappa chapter in his goals to the Board of Trustees of State Institutions

See Phi Beta Kappa page 9

Grisham Writer Series Brings Distinguished Writers

Robert Stone, Doris Betts and

Poet Yusef Komunyakaa to the Oxford Campus

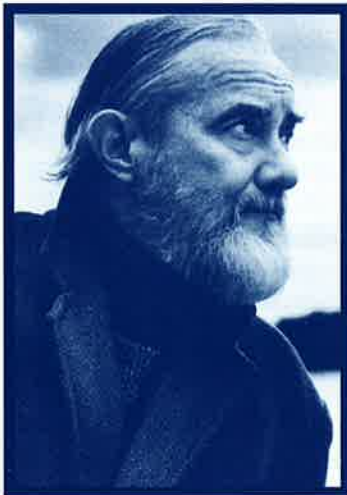
National Book Award winner and Pulitzer Prize nominee Robert Stone read from his latest novel *Damascus Gate*. Inspired by real-life events that have taken place in Jerusalem during the past 10 years, the novel tackles questions of religious faith and how people live with it and without it.

Stone's first novel, *A Hall of Mirrors*, about racial tension in New Orleans, won the William Faulkner Foundation Award. His novel *Dog Soldiers* was set partly in Saigon and explored the world of drug trade. It won the National Book Award in 1974.

Throughout his 30-year career, Stone has created memorable, if deeply flawed, characters who are forced to face ultimate questions of life and death. *Damascus Gate* is a literary thriller that combines political intrigue, religious fanaticism and the search for identity. Set in Jerusalem, where violence, ecstasy, heresy and

salvation are all to be found, it is the story of a man's search for truth — or some version of it — and the story of a city where sanity is casually traded for faith.

"He has been one of the most influential and innovative writers in American literary culture in the last two decades," said Dr. Daniel E. Williams, chair of the English Department and sponsor of the event. "We're very pleased to bring the semester to a close with such an exceptional writer as Robert Stone." ■



Robert Stone

Doris Betts, the acclaimed author of *Heading West* and *Souls Raised from the Dead*, read as part of the John and Renee Grisham Visiting Writer Series.

Betts' strengths as a storyteller and a plotter are displayed in her most recent work *The Sharp Teeth of Love*, her sixth and most current novel, according to reviews.

"We are delighted to have Doris Betts here to read," said Dr. Daniel E. Williams, chair of English. "She is one of the most remarkable novelists writing in and about the South today."

Betts is Alumni Distinguished Professor of English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she has taught since 1980. Author of over nine works of fiction, she won her first writing award at age 21 and has since received other honors including the Southern Book Critics Circle Award.

In 1993, best-selling author John Grisham and his wife, Renee, expanded the Visiting Writer Series to bring renowned authors to campus each semester for public presentations and to meet with students. "If there's one university that should have a strong writers' program, it's Ole Miss. Renee and I want to enhance the strong literary atmosphere in Oxford by having different kinds of authors come to the Oxford campus," said the author at the time. ■



Doris Betts

Pulitzer Prize-winning Poet Yusef Komunyakaa also read as part of the Grisham Writers Series this spring. Komunyakaa is a professor of creative writing at Princeton University and is the author of nine books, including the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Neon Vernacular* (1993) — which also won the Kingsley-Tufts Poetry Award from the Claremont Graduate School — *Magic City* (1992) and *Dien Cai Dau* (1988). He won the Thomas Forcade Award in 1991 and the Hanes Poetry Prize in 1997, and he was nominated for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize in Poetry in 1993.

Komunyakaa delivers powerful meditation on American, and particularly African-American, life in the wake of Vietnam. His poems overflow with memories of childhood tinged with memories



Yusef Komunyakaa

of war. According to reviews, Komunyakaa's recent work centers around the disorienting experiences of the returning soldier.

"We are extremely grateful to the Grishams for establishing this program," said Dr. Daniel Williams, chair of the English Department. "It enhances our long tradition of making quality writers and poets available to Ole Miss students and the University community." ■

Accountancy Professor Receives Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher Award at Honors Day

Dr. Morris Stocks, associate professor of accountancy, said he is "tremendously surprised and humbled" to be named the Elsie M. Hood Outstanding Teacher at The University of Mississippi.

Was shocked. There are so many really good teachers at Ole Miss," said the 15-year teaching veteran who came to Ole Miss in 1991 after earning a doctorate at the University of South Carolina. The award was announced at recent Honors Day ceremonies.

Stocks had never visited Oxford or Ole Miss before coming to his job interview with the University, but he canceled all other interviews immediately and accepted the position in the School of Accountancy. "It was exactly what I envisioned a college campus looking like," he said.

Teachers are nominated for the Elsie M. Hood Award by students and alumni, and a winner is chosen from a panel of past recipients of the award. Stocks received a plaque and \$4,000, and his name will be engraved on a plaque that hangs in Chancellor Robert C. Khayat's office.

Dr. James W. Davis, dean of the School of Accountancy, described Stocks as one of the bright, young professors on the Ole Miss campus who is destined for great things.

"Morris is an inspiration to all of us who love teaching. I hope we can keep him for his entire academic career, because I know he will encourage new faculty to continually

pursue excellent teaching," Davis said.

Stocks doesn't consider his teaching methods to be unique or extraordinary, but one thing he does is try to keep the material fresh in his mind. This

means preparing for each chapter in the same manner that he expects his students to prepare. This can add quite a load of work to an already busy schedule, but Stocks considers it one of his responsibilities. "I believe what I do is very important, and I want students to believe what they're doing is important. I work hard to be prepared and organized," he said.

Stocks also believes there's more to teaching than classroom performance, and this philosophy shows in his efforts to know each student personally and to know what can motivate each one.

"We are preparing every student for an exam down the road. I approach my work very diligently," Stocks said, referring to the certified public accountant exam students must take after completing a master's program. However, some Ole Miss accountancy majors have a job lined up as early as their junior year in college.

"People want to hire our students," Stocks said. "(Teaching) is the best job you can have. It's very rewarding."

Stocks is married to the former Cindy Parrott of South Carolina. They have four children — Meredith, Sarah, Michael and Kathryn. ■



Dr. Morris Stocks



Nashville Talent Director Receives Otho Smith Medal

Tandy Rice (left), president and chief executive officer of Top Billing International in Nashville receives the Otho Smith medal from Dr. Randy Boxx, as Dr. Bill Rayburn (right) looks on. Rice, who twice has been named "Man of the Year" by the Nashville Associate of Talent Directors, was a guest lecturer in the School of Business Administration's Otho Smith Lecture series.

Parcher Named Coulter Professor of Chemistry at Ole Miss

As a young college student, Jon Parcher decided he wanted to spend the rest of his life in the teaching profession.

More than three decades and many students later, Dr. Parcher has been named the Margaret McLean Coulter Professor of Chemistry at The University of Mississippi.

The four-year appointment caps a distinguished career, said Dr. Charles Hussey, chairman of chemistry. "Jon Parcher has compiled an outstanding record of teaching and scholarship since joining the University in 1968, and I am pleased that he has been recognized with this professorship. We are very fortunate to have him as a member of our faculty."

The four-year Coulter Professorship includes an \$8,000 yearly stipend: \$5,000 is used for a salary supplement and \$3,000 is provided to support research activities.

This latest award for research is at the "opposite end of the spectrum," said Parcher, from the Cora Lee Graham Award for Outstanding Teaching of Freshmen, which he received at Ole Miss a decade ago. "Some believe that people who conduct research can't teach, but the two go hand-in-hand," he said. "It has been a very rewarding career; I wouldn't have any other job."

An analytical chemist who specializes in chromatography research, Parcher says he's "pretty demanding in the classroom."

"I have high standards for my students," he said. "I treat them like they're university students and expect a lot from them."

Parcher, himself, was swayed by professors during his undergraduate career. "I attended a small school where the faculty encouraged their students to prepare for graduate programs," he said. "I went in knowing I wanted a bachelor's degree in chemistry, and after deciding to go on to graduate school, I never considered anything else (except teaching)."

The professor earned his doctoral degree from the University of Colorado. He studied at the University of Edinburgh under a postdoctoral fellowship sponsored by the Public Health Service. He holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Lafayette College in Easton, Pa.

As the fourth Coulter Professor at Ole Miss, Parcher says he is proud to be associated with the Coulter name. "That's another thing that makes this appointment especially rewarding. I



Dr. Parcher, the Margaret McLean Coulter Professor of Chemistry at The University of Mississippi.

knew Dr. Coulter, although I never had the privilege of working with him. He was quite a remarkable man."

The Coulter Professorship was established following the death of Victor Aldine Coulter in 1982. Dr. Coulter had a distinguished career at Ole Miss, having served as a chemistry faculty member from 1920-60 and as dean of the College of Liberal Arts from 1936-58. According to the terms of his will, the estate was to be used to endow a trust fund for the Ole Miss chemistry department, including a professorship named in honor of his beloved wife, Margaret. ■

Proffitt's CEO Receives Otho Smith Medal

Brad Martin (right), chairman and CEO of Proffitt's Inc., receives the Otho Smith Lecture medal from Dr. W. Randy Boxx (left), dean of the School of Business Administration at The University of Mississippi. The businessman recently spoke to students in Boxx's leadership and executive decision-making class. Martin joined Proffitt's in 1989 and has since helped expand its annual revenues to over \$3.7 billion. The Otho Smith Lecture Series is funded by the Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian. The series was created in memory of the late Otho Smith, a Meridian businessman and philanthropist, to bring national and international leaders to the Oxford campus.



National Center Groundbreaking



A recent campus ceremony marked the beginning of a new home for the National Food Service Management Institute and included principals (from left) Chancellor Robert C. Khayat, U.S. Sen. Thad Cochran, James Luvene, IHL board members, Under Secretary of Agriculture Shirley R. Watkins; Dr. Jane Logan, NFSMI executive director; and Dr. Jeanette Phillips, NFSMI associate director emerita. The new \$6 million building was designed by the architectural firm Foil Wyatt of Jackson, who worked with University officials and food service representatives. NFSMI was established at Ole Miss in 1989 by Congress to support Child Nutrition Programs across the nation through applied research, education and information services, using appropriate technologies.

Phi Beta Kappa continued...

of Higher Learning.

Since work on a Phi Beta Kappa application began, some of the gifts have included:

The Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund in McComb set up a support trust equivalent to a \$60 million endowment to establish the Croft Institute for International Studies. The new Institute will offer \$28,000 scholarships annually to 10 entering freshmen pursuing degrees in international studies.

The Gertrude C. Ford Foundation of Jackson announced a \$20 million gift to Ole Miss to build the Ford Center for the Performing Arts. The state-of-the-art 1,200-seat facility will be the first step toward establishing a performing arts complex on the University Avenue entrance to campus.

The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation of Tulsa, Okla., gave the University a gift of \$16.5 million, with \$8 million designated for the J.D. Williams Library, \$6 million for the School of Accountancy and \$2.5 million for administrative restructuring. The gift honors Ole Miss alumnus E.H. "Pat" Patterson, who served as the foundation's trustee and vice chairman.

Netscape President and CEO James Barksdale and his wife, Sally McDonnell Barksdale, presented their alma mater with \$5.4 million to establish the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College. The endowment also provides \$24,000 scholarships annually to four entering freshmen.

The Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation of Jackson

announced a \$5 million grant to assist the Ole Miss School of Business Administration in its march toward national prominence. The grant will create up to seven Hearin Chairs in Business Administration, as well as provide resources for general faculty development and infrastructure services.

The Eugenia Pichitino Estate of New Orleans provided \$4.5 million to establish the Donald S. Pichitino Memorial Honors Scholarships. Each year, four top high school scholars receive the \$24,000 scholarships.

The Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian provided \$24,000 to cover a number of expenses associated with the actual Phi Beta Kappa application process and then announced a \$450,000 challenge grant to help ensure that Ole Miss meets the honor society's criteria.

"We are deeply appreciative for the enormous private support provided by alumni and friends in critical areas," Khayat said. "The University community also is grateful to Dr. Schroeder and other Phi Beta Kappa faculty for their dedicated work toward the pursuit of a Phi Beta Kappa chapter."

"We are indebted to the nucleus of Phi Beta Kappa faculty, to the entire faculty, to the administration, and to alumni and friends of Ole Miss for the support the committee has received," said Schroeder. "Many offered to do anything they could to help with the application, and others lent moral support. This process has been very gratifying, with virtually everyone wishing us success." ■

NIH Announces Largest Study Ever Undertaken of Cardiovascular Disease in African Americans

State and federal officials announced a one-of-a-kind federal grant to three Mississippi institutions of higher learning that marks the beginning of a long-term look at vascular disease in 8,000 Jackson residents—the largest study ever undertaken of cardiovascular disease in the African-American population.

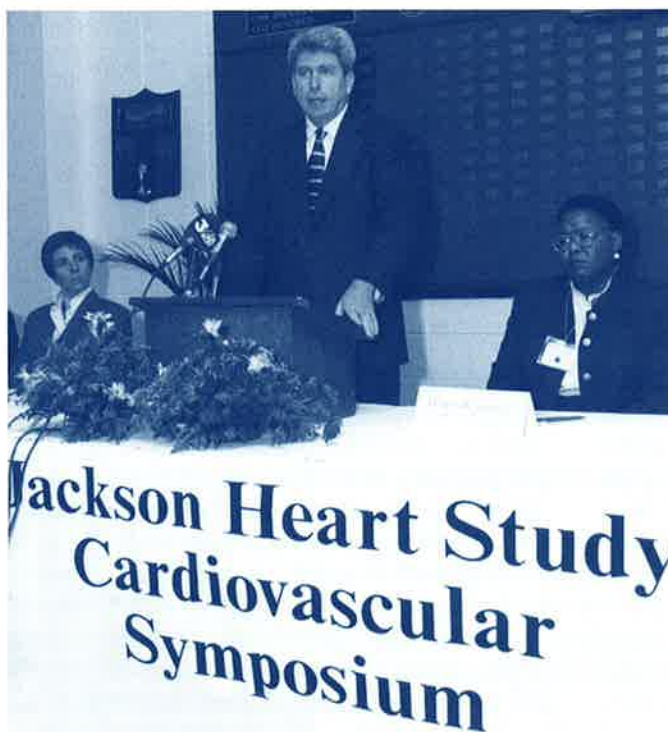
Jackson State University, Tougaloo College and the University of Mississippi Medical Center are partners in the Jackson Heart Study—to be funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) and the Office of Research on Minority Health (ORMH) of the National Institutes of Health.

U.S. Senator Trent Lott (R. Miss.) called the project “yet another example of the superior work and research underway at the universities in Mississippi. It is important to study the causes and effects of certain diseases in all populations, and I commend our Medical Center, JSU and Tougaloo for pioneering this particular long-term study.”

NHLBI director Dr. Claude Lenfant said, “We believe that this cooperative effort will help scientists understand why African-Americans are more prone to cardiovascular disease and the other health complications it causes. Earlier NIH-funded research that took place in Jackson indicates that by studying more people over a longer period of time we hope to have an even better understanding of the relationship.”

The earlier research in Jackson was the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) project, a multi-center study in which the University of Mississippi Medical Center researchers studied the only African American population. That study enrolled 3500 Jackson residents. The Jackson Heart Study will enroll up to 8,000 with the intention of following them for many years.

The first year's budget of \$706,854 was approved October 15 and will cover the organizational phase of the study. Thereafter, each institution will be awarded separate, five-year



contracts. The University of Mississippi Medical Center will assume clinical responsibility for the study. Jackson State will coordinate the data collection, and Tougaloo will prepare an undergraduate curriculum to train minority students in epidemiological research.

The project is expected to bring in millions of dollars to the three institutions and to the community, heart study officials said. The other main goal of the Jackson Heart Study is “to enhance the ability of minority institutions to participate in medical research and to encourage the involvement of minority investigators in medical research,” according to ORMH director Dr. John Ruffin. “It will also enhance meaningful biomedical collaboration between

our minority and our research intensive majority institutions.”

The Jackson Medical Mall will be Jackson Heart Study headquarters. The NHLBI will establish a field site in Jackson similar to NHLBI field sites in Framingham, Massachusetts, and Honolulu, Hawaii. Those locations are headquarters for the long-term study of cardiovascular disease risk in majority Caucasian and majority Japanese populations respectively. Principal investigator is Dr. Dan Jones, professor of medicine at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and hypertension division director. He also chairs the study's steering committee made up of Dr. Bettye Ward Fletcher, vice president for research and development at JSU and principal investigator for the JSU sub-contract; Dr. Bam D. Mehrotra, professor of chemistry at Tougaloo and principal investigator for the Tougaloo sub-contract; and Dr. Christopher T. Sempos, NHLBI project officer. ■

Scientist Finds Cancer Markers in Saliva

Spitting in a cup to diagnose breast cancer may be years away, but current research makes it seem like a real possibility. Dr. Charles Streckfus, a University of Mississippi Medical Center scientist, has a new grant to elaborate on a pilot study that reported cancer markers in saliva for the first time.

Streckfus, professor of diagnostic sciences in the School of Dentistry, received a James A. Shannon Director's Award from the National Institutes of Dental Research (NIDR) to test saliva in 160 women to see if certain markers indicate the presence of breast cancer.

This study, funded for \$62,500 from NIDR, follows preliminary work in which 28 women were tested. Those results indicated sufficient correlation to warrant further study, Streckfus said. The pilot study, in fact, was the first report of cancer markers in saliva and the first observation of elevated levels among women with breast cancer.

The markers were at very low levels or nonexistent in women who did not have cancer and significantly elevated in patients who had cancer.

The cancer markers Streckfus is testing for are CA 15-3, a cancer antigen, EGFR, a growth factor receptor, Cathespin-D, and Waf 1, an oncogene.

Oncologists at the Medical Center enlisted their patients as volunteers.

The larger collaborative project will enroll four groups of women: those who have never had breast tumors, those who have had non-malignant breast tumors, those who have cancer in the breast only and those whose breast cancer has spread to other parts of the body.



Dr. Charles Streckfus

"Our pilot test was small. We only tested 28 women. This larger study will allow us to look at variables such as the size of the tumor. We know from our small study that the saliva test is sensitive and can detect the presence of these markers in women with breast cancer. Now we'll make sure of its specificity—whether it will pick up cancer and nothing else," Streckfus said. "That's the crux of a good diagnostic test."

Streckfus—one of several "spit doctors" in the country—decided several years ago that the same markers scientists looked for when they pulverized a tumor specimen had to be present in blood and saliva.

"The technology has just gotten so much better in the last few years. We're able to detect amounts much smaller than we've ever been able to detect before. Sometimes it's like looking for a grain of salt in a swimming pool full of water."

The Shannon award—half of which comes directly from the NIH director's budget—is designed to fund promising research projects that could be the basis for larger-scale research.

"If we get good results from this series of patients, I think we'll be in a position to do a much larger study with many more patients," Streckfus said. "And if we get really lucky, this work could ultimately mean that a home test for breast cancer could be developed."

A simpler test for diagnosis of recurrence could also be a boon for patients who've had radical mastectomies. "Obviously, those patients can't have mammograms," Streckfus said.

The results of Streckfus' preliminary study were published in the *Journal of the American Dental Association* and reported at the Southwest Oncology Group meeting in October and at a meeting of the Gerontological Society of America in November.

"Someday, women may be able to be screened for breast cancer at health fairs," Streckfus said. ■



The University of Mississippi Foundation Board of Directors



1997-1999 Officers

Left to right: Steve Owens, secretary, Bryan Barksdale, chairman, Aubrey Patterson, vice chairman, Rex M. Deloach, interim treasurer and Don L. Frugé, president/CEO.

The University of Mississippi Foundation Welcomes New Board Members

Gerald M. Abdalla (B.B.A. '69; J.D. '73) received a third degree (L.L.M. in taxation) from the University of New York Law School in 1974. He and his wife Jennifer reside in McComb, Mississippi, where he is president and chief executive officer of Croft Metals, Incorporated. He also serves as a trustee for both the Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund and the Croft Institute of International Studies. While at Ole Miss he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, Phi Eta Sigma, and Phi Delta Phi honor societies, and served on the Moot Court Board. Abdalla received the Beta Alpha Psi Award, W. Kerby Bowling Labor Law Award, the American Juris Prudence Award for Circuit Court Practice and Labor Law.

Sally M. Barksdale (B.S. S. '65) and her husband James L. Barksdale, reside in Palo Alto, California. She is a past president of the Episcopal Churchwomen of W.T.N. Diocese, and a past board member of the Memphis Carnival Board, Playhouse on the Square Board and the Seattle Lakeside School Parents Club Board. While at Ole Miss she served as president of the Kappa Delta sorority.

James M. McMullan (B.B.A. '56) received a second degree (M.B.A.) from the University of Chicago in 1979. He and his wife Madeleine, reside in Lake Forest, Illinois, where he is an investment banker and partner with William Blair and Company in Chicago, Illinois. He previously served as director of the Securities Industry Association, and is currently a member on the Board of Governors for the National Association of Security Dealers, the William Blair and Company Mutual Funds board, and the State Advisory Committee Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi. While at Ole Miss he was a member of the Kappa Alpha Order.

Celia Carter Muths (B.M.'59) and her husband Sherman reside in Gulfport, Mississippi. She is a member of Gulfport Junior Auxiliary, the Gulfport Jaycettes, the Four Seasons Garden Club, the Gulf coast Chapter of DAR, the TIPS Investment Club, and actively participates with the Reveler and Merry Maskers carnival organizations. While at Ole Miss she served on the Mortar Board, the Committee of 100 and was also a member of Sigma Alpha Iota (a professional women's music fraternity), the Ole Miss "Y" organization, and the Chi Omega sorority. She was recently named Co-Chair of the Sesqui-centennial "Commitment to Excellence Campaign."

Frank M. Mitchener Jr. received his B.S. in 1955 from Davidson College. He and his wife Judith reside in Sumner, Mississippi, where he is a farmer. He previously served as president of the National Cotton Council, director of the St. Louis Federal Reserve Bank, and is currently chairman of the Rhodes College Board of Trustees.



Abdalla, ('69, '73)



Barksdale, ('65)



McMullan ('56)



Mitchener



Muths ('59)

New Members *1998*

Sesquicentennial Celebration Ceremony Marks First Day of Lyceum Postal Card Issuance

University Pays Tribute to Postal Service

The University of Mississippi and the U.S. Postal Service hosted a first-day-of-issuance ceremony for a postal card with a stamp bearing an illustration of the Lyceum as part of the University's Sesquicentennial celebration.

A ceremony was held in the Circle across from the historic Lyceum, which is the oldest public higher education building in Mississippi.

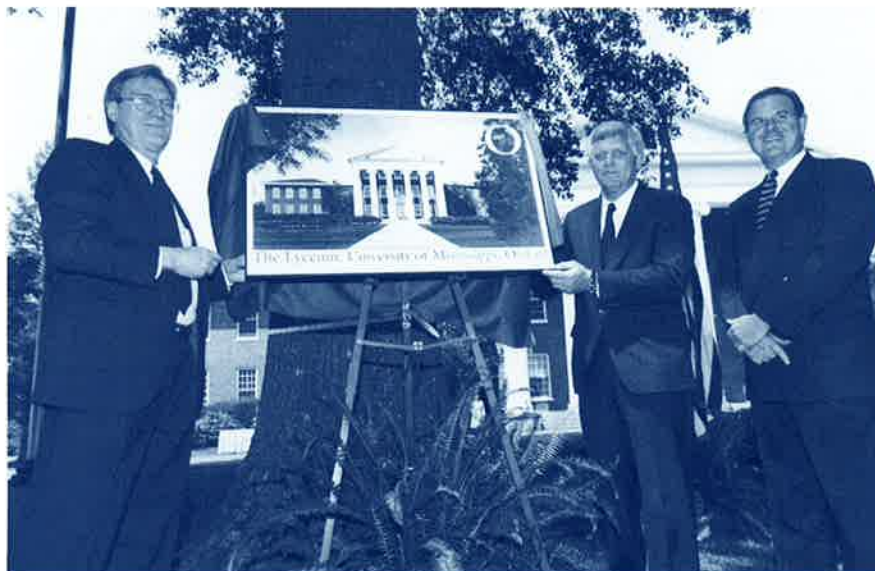
University Postmaster Eldridge H. Littlejohn presided at the ceremony, with Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat welcoming and introducing guests. Provost Gerald W. Walton provided a historical perspective on the Lyceum. Completed in 1848 and the only survivor of the five original buildings that comprised the Oxford campus, the Lyceum symbolically represents Ole Miss.

Michael P. Jordan, manager of the Postal Service's Mississippi District, dedicated the postal card. Honored guests included Harry Devlin, postal card illustrator; Gib Ford, an Ole Miss alumnus whose photograph was used for the illustration; and local, state and regional Postal Service employees.

"The U.S. Postal Service is pleased to release this attractive postal card as its contribution to the University's 150th anniversary," said Littlejohn. "There are only a small number of first-day-of-issuance ceremonies held each year, making this special and enhancing the postal card's appeal to University alumni and friends and to collectors."

The Ole Miss postal card is part of the Postal Service's Historic Preservation Series. During its Sesquicentennial celebration this year, the University will be carried across the nation and around the globe, thanks to the Postal Service's printing 27 million of the commemorative postal card.

"We are delighted that the University and Mississippi has



Provost Gerald W. Walton, (left) and Chancellor Robert C. Khayat unveiled the postal card stamp bearing an illustration of the Lyceum as part of the University's Sesquicentennial celebration. Michael P. Jordan (right) manager of the Postal Service's Mississippi District dedicated the postal card at the ceremony.

been recognized by the Postal Service," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "Sen. Trent Lott and other members of our congressional delegation played an integral role in seeing this project come to fruition and are to be commended for their continuous support of this University. Our recognition will be expanded, as people in all states see this beautiful rendering of our Lyceum accompanied by the University's name."

"The April 20 program is designed to

honor postal workers in Mississippi and the region, and particularly the U.S. postal employees on campus and the University's campus mail service," said Dr. Gloria Kellum, executive director of the Sesquicentennial. "The U.S. postal employees and the Campus Mail Service employees are important links in our communication systems. During this Sesquicentennial year, we want to honor these employees for their dedication and service. In addition, we hope everyone from private citizens to large corporations will help us celebrate the anniversary of Mississippi's first public institution of higher learning through the use of these postal cards."

The University was chartered in 1844 by the Mississippi Legislature, and the Lyceum doors were opened to the first 80 students and four faculty members on Nov. 6, 1848.

Other schools honored by the Postal Service's Historic Preservation Series include Princeton, Northeastern and Brandeis universities and St. Johns College. This is the second time the Postal Service has worked with the University on a commemorative project. In 1987, a stamp was issued in tribute to Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner.

The postal cards are 20 cents each and can be purchased at the University's Post Office in the Student Union. Beginning April 21, the postal cards should be available across the country. ■

Street also served Ole Miss as supervisor of housing, assistant dean of men, director of student placement, director of place-

The George M. Street University House will serve as the temporary home of the Croft Institute for International Studies. ■

State Legislature Passes Bill to Help Rowan Oak

Gov. Kirk Fordice has signed into law a bill that commits \$500,000 to Rowan Oak, the historic home of Nobel Prize-winning author William Faulkner. The bond bill, titled "1998 Rowan Oak Repair, Renovation, Restoration and Preservation Fund," will be maintained by the state treasurer.

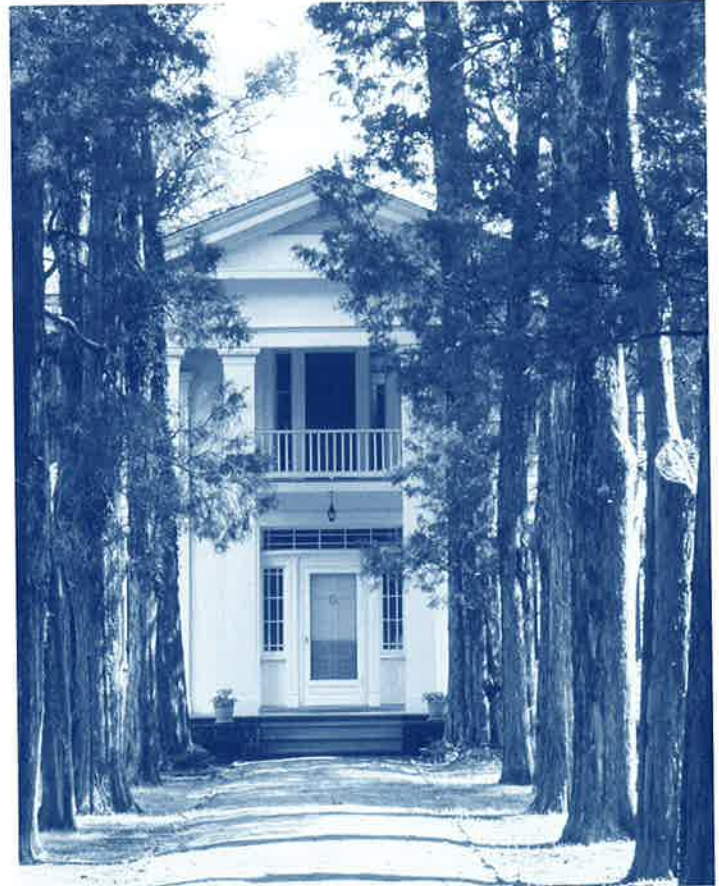
Built by a pioneer settler in the 1840s and situated deep in a grove of oak and cedar trees, Rowan Oak was purchased by Faulkner in 1930 and became his refuge from the world until his death in 1962. Ten years later, The University of Mississippi purchased the house and its 31-acre grounds from the author's daughter, Jill Faulkner Summers of Virginia.

University officials plan to help raise additional private funds to complete the needed renovation projects, according to Sen. Gray Tollison of Oxford, who along with Sen. Grey F. Ferris (District 23, Issaquena and Warren counties), Sen. John Horhn (District 26, Hinds and Madison counties) and Rep. Charlie Williams (District 8, Tate County) sponsored the bill. The Mississippi Senate originally had requested \$2 million for the project.

"We see Rowan Oak as a special Mississippi treasure, not just an Ole Miss treasure," said Dr. Andy Mullins, special assistant to Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "We thought it needed to be its own separate bond bill apart from the University's."

According to Rowan Oak Curator Cynthia Shearer, funds are needed to preserve Faulkner's belongings by providing climate control equipment at the house.

Every year an estimated 15,000 visitors tread the cedar-lined gravel drive to get to the antebellum home in Oxford, which is both a National Historic Landmark and a National Literary Landmark. ■



Rowan Oak, the historic home of William Faulkner.

Davidson Lecturer Tong Explores 'The Perfectible Child'

Rosemarie Tong — The University of Mississippi's L. Stacy Davidson Jr. Chair in Liberal Arts — delivered the public lecture "The Perfectible Child: Questioning the Ethics of Reproduction and Genetic Technology" April 21 on the Oxford campus.

Tong is author of *Women, Sex and the Law* (Rowman & Allenheld, 1984); *Ethics in Policy Analysis* (Prentice Hall, 1985); *Feminist Thought: A Comprehensive Introduction* (Westview Press, 1989); *Feminine and Feminist Ethics* (Wadsworth, 1993); *Controlling Our Reproductive Destiny: A Technological and Philosophical Perspective* (MIT Press, 1994), co-authored with Larry Kaplan; and *Feminist Approaches to Bioethics* (Westview, forthcoming). She has edited the books, *Feminist Philosophies: Problems, Theories, and Applications* (Prentice Hall, 1991), with James Sterba and

Janet Kourafy, and *Feminist Philosophy: Essential Readings in Theory, Reinterpretation, and Application* (Westview, 1994), with Nancy Tuana.

The Davidson Chair has been consultant to the American Council of Learned Societies, the Fulbright Foundation, the North Carolina Medical Society and various curricular programs involving women's studies and bioethics. She teaches courses in philosophy of law; ethics; private, professional and public morality; bioethics; genetic and reproductive technology; foundations of feminist thought; and perspectives on medicine.

Tong, who was selected as the 1986 Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, is a visiting faculty member from Davidson College in North Carolina. ■



Luckyday Foundation Gives \$350,000 to Help Combat Teacher Shortage

A Jackson-based foundation has stepped forward with a \$350,000 gift to The University of Mississippi in hopes of helping fill the critical shortage of teachers in Mississippi classrooms.

Founded by Frank Day — chairman of the board of Trustmark National Bank and an Ole Miss alumnus — the Luckyday Foundation has established a scholarship program to encourage men and women to pursue meaningful careers in education.

Ten \$2,500 Luckyday Teacher Education Scholarships will be awarded for the fall 1998 semester. Preference will be given to those students who plan to teach at the junior high and secondary levels.

The scholarships are designed specifically for community college students in Mississippi to complete their undergraduate degrees in the Ole Miss School of Education. Recipients must agree to teach in Mississippi for at least three years following their graduation and certification, assuming that such employment opportunities are available.

"We are extremely pleased to announce this new scholarship program, which will assist deserving students and help provide inspired educators to teach future generations of Mississippians," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "The vision and generosity of Frank Day enables The University of Mississippi to provide resources right away for 10 students, increasing to 20 scholarships in 1999, 30 in 2000 and 40 in 2001.

"Ole Miss is deeply grateful to the Luckyday Foundation for responding to this need. Mr. Day is a member of our Alumni Hall of Fame and one of our most distinguished graduates."

Dr. Jim Chambless, dean of education, said, "This scholarship program is a marvelous gesture on the part of Frank Day to improve the education opportunities of Mississippians. There couldn't be a better designed scholarship because so many teachers come up through the state's community colleges to find that there are limited scholarship funds available, in general, to help them continue their education at four-year institutions.

"The Luckyday Teacher Education Scholarship program will serve as a powerful recruitment tool, enabling Ole Miss to attract the best and brightest of these community college stu-

dents into our School of Education," Chambless said. "The program will simply afford so many deserving students the opportunity to pursue rewarding careers in teaching. Our hope is when these students fulfill the requirement of

teaching three years in Mississippi, we can keep them here, making wonderful things happen for our public school students."

The dean said leaders across the state are more aware of the reality that highly trained teaching staffs have to be in place to ensure the learning and achievements of Mississippi



"The Luckyday Teacher Education Scholarship program will serve as a powerful recruitment tool, enabling Ole Miss to attract the best and brightest of these community college students into our School of Education."

children. In fact, efforts to recruit outstanding students into the teaching profession took on a united front earlier this year, as the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi Association of Colleges of Teacher Education and the Mississippi Association of

School Superintendents joined forces for the program "Teach Mississippi: Teachers for the 21st Century."

In signing a proclamation about Teach Mississippi, Gov. Kirk Fordice said, "Education is the key to better employment opportunities, higher wages and a better standard of living. A key to effective education is highly dedicated and qualified teachers."

Those interested in the Luckyday Teacher Education Scholarships can call the Dean's Office in the Ole Miss School of Education at (601) 232-7063 for more information.

The scholarships will be available to students who have completed 54 hours at a community or junior college in Mississippi. Each applicant must demonstrate financial need of at least \$2,500 and must have a score on the ACT (or its equivalent) of not less than 21 or a grade-point average of at least 2.5. Students who receive the Luckyday Teacher Education Scholarship must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above. ■

Jackson Prep Senior Receives Newman Scholarship

Jackson Preparatory School senior Frazier Earl Fyke IV will spend his summer first in Europe for a month and then in Peru on a short-term church mission project to help children orphaned by terrorist attack before pursuing an international studies degree at The University of Mississippi.

Fyke — who has been accepted into Ole Miss' Croft Institute for International Studies and the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College — has been chosen to receive the school's prestigious Newman Scholarship valued at \$26,000 for four years of undergraduate study. He also will receive another \$10,000 from Ole Miss, a \$10,000 Toyota Community Scholar award, a \$10,000 Mississippi Eminent Scholars Grant and several other additional scholarships.

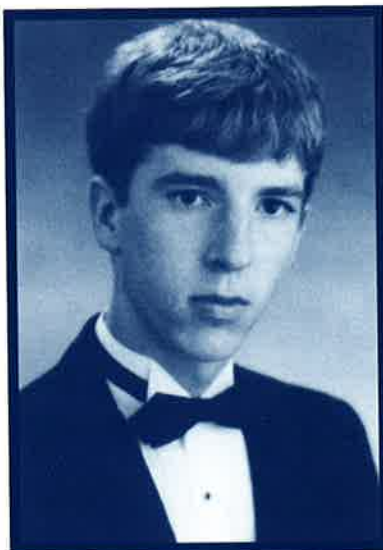
Created in 1983, the Newman Scholarship is one of the most lucrative in the United States and was established to attract young men and women of outstanding academic standards and leadership ability to Ole Miss, rather than let them leave the state to pursue their higher education. One scholar is selected each year by a University committee, solely on the basis of merit.

Announcement of this year's recipient was made by W. Richard Newman III of Jackson, son of W.R. "Buck" Newman Jr., the Ole Miss alumnus in whose memory the scholarships were endowed by the W.R. Newman family. The endowment was a gift to the Campaign for Ole Miss.

Fyke, a National Merit Scholar, is a student leader both at school and in the community, serving as vice president of the Jackson Prep student body, president of the National Honor Society and of the Metro Jackson Student Council, and as an associate chair of the United Way Youth Allocations Committee. He also served as this year's Senate Floor Leader for the YMCA Youth Legislature program and as photography editor and reporter for his school paper, *The Sentry*.

The son of Earl and Nancy Fyke of Jackson, he was considering out-of-state schools, including the University of Richmond and Georgetown, Vanderbilt and Wake Forest universities, before committing to Ole Miss.

"I was very surprised, happy and honored to receive the New-



Earl Fyke

man (Scholarship), and it definitely influenced my decision. I gave Ole Miss another in-depth look after hearing their offer, and what I saw and experienced really turned me around," Fyke said. "I was extremely impressed with the Honors College and the prospects of the new Croft Institute. I attended an Honors College class and enjoyed the smaller class size and increased interaction that enables students to establish closer relationships with their professors."

"Earl Fyke is an extraordinary young man who already has compiled a tremendous record of academic achievements and success in extracurricular activities. In addition, he continues to devote time to projects that reflect his compassion for people," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "He exemplifies the ideal student that the Newman family envisioned when establishing this prestigious scholarship. The University is proud

and pleased to welcome Earl to the student body and campus, where we will provide him with an array of outstanding educational opportunities."

Fyke has decided on an international studies major in the new Croft Institute on the Oxford campus because of the unlimited possibilities it offers for career choices, he said, adding that he plans to study abroad his junior year. Inspired

by his own love to travel and by an uncle and Ole Miss alumnus P.D. Fyke — who until recently served in Hong Kong as the managing director for Chase Manhattan Bank's Global Power and Project Finance Division — Fyke said he is interested in global affairs and politics.

The Newman Scholar's composite score on the ACT was 34

(with a perfect 36 on the math portion), and he scored 1470 on the SAT. Among his high school honors are numerous state and national Latin awards, subject area awards, induction into the Cum Laude Society (the high school equivalent of Phi Beta Kappa), Quill and Scroll, National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta and Jackson Prep's Hall of Fame. He was awarded the American Legion Award as a freshman.

Fyke was recently chosen as one of 10 Outstanding *Clarion-Ledger* All Star Seniors. For his work in the community, most notably with the Mid Town Day Care Center, he has been awarded the Principal's Leadership Award and a Prudential

"Earl is an extraordinary young man who has already compiled a tremendous record of academic achievements.... He continues to devote time to projects that reflect his compassion for people...."

Continued on page 26

Student Receives Prestigious National Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship

Working toward her goal of making medicine has landed Annie Meaghin Burke of Ocean Springs, a University of Mississippi second-year student, one of the most prestigious awards available nationally for a college sophomore or junior.

Burke, already with an academic career strewn with honors and scholarships, was awarded the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for her proposal "Spiramycin I and Beyond." Her research involves modifying the antibiotic spiramycin I with the hope of creating a new set of more powerful antibiotics.

Burke works closely with Dr. John Williamson, an associate professor of medicinal chemistry at Ole Miss. He describes Burke as the ideal student. "She is a joy to have in the lab," he said.

The awards for the 1998-99 academic year were recently announced by Dr. Hans Mark, chairman of the board of trustees of the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation. Scholarships were awarded by the foundation, a federally endowed agency, to 316 undergraduate students across the nation.

The program honors Sen. Barry M. Goldwater and was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering.

Burke was selected on the basis of academic merit from a



Annie Meaghin Burke

field of 1,186. The scholarship covers the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

The Ole Miss student plans to eventually earn a doctorate in medicinal chemistry and conduct research in developing medicines useful in fighting infectious diseases.

While still a freshman, Burke was awarded a grant from the American Society of Pharmacognosy for her research. "It is very unusual for such awards to go to a first-year student," Williamson said.

In 1996, while a student at Ocean Springs High School, Burke was awarded the state's largest undergraduate scholarship when she won Ole Miss' \$32,000 Fenley Scholarship.

The daughter of William David and Anne Cavanaugh Burke, the sophomore is accomplished in ballet and dance. Although she doesn't have much time now for outside interests, she has taken a ballet class this semester at Ole Miss. She also is

involved in International Conversation Partners, a program that helps foreign students prepare for the TOEFL (test of English as a foreign language) exam. ■



The University of Mississippi Foundation

The University of Mississippi Foundation is a nonprofit corporation duly chartered by the State of Mississippi to operate exclusively for the benefit of The University of Mississippi. Its purpose is to receive, solicit, accept and hold, administer, invest, and disburse any and every kind of property for such educational, scientific, literary, research and service activities.

The goal of the Foundation is to provide The University of Mississippi with a margin of excellence by supplementing funds received from the State of Mississippi with private financial support.

Jackson Academy Senior Anna Powers Receives Fenley Scholarship

... Largest Undergraduate Scholarship in State

Jackson Academy's top senior, Anna Powers, will enter The University of Mississippi this fall with several distinctions: She is Ole Miss' newest Fenley Scholar and already a published research scientist.

The daughter of Houston and Jean Powers of Madison, Powers has been chosen to receive the Fenley Scholarship at Ole Miss, which is the largest undergraduate scholarship in the state at \$32,000. With other awards which she will receive on the Oxford campus, her total scholarship package will be worth \$52,000 for her four years of undergraduate study.

The Fenley Scholarship was set up in 1996 by Ole Miss alumnus and businessman Joseph Fenley of San Diego, Calif., to support the University's quest to attract a prestigious Phi Beta Kappa chapter.

Powers, who is ranked first in her Jackson Academy class of 119, scored 34 on her ACT (a perfect 36 on the math portion) and 1520 on the SAT. The co-author of the paper "Gametophytes and Gender Expression" with Dr. Rob Hamilton of Jackson — which will be published in an upcoming issue of the *International Journal of Plant Sciences* — Powers enjoys an array of subjects. At Ole Miss, however, she plans to take on the challenge of a triple major: international studies, political science and theatre arts.

The senior had been accepted at Princeton University and received an attractive scholarship offer from Vanderbilt University but chose Ole Miss' programs and its Fenley Scholarship. "I am honored, surprised and grateful to receive this scholarship," Powers said.

"I always thought I would go out of state for my college education," she continued. "The more I looked at Ole Miss, however, the more I liked it and the more I realized Ole Miss has everything I wanted. When I visited the campus last fall, I liked the fact that everyone who goes there really seems to love it."

The University's new Croft Institute for International Studies also caught Powers' attention. She has been admitted in the inaugural class, choosing Western Europe for her area of emphasis. "Study in the Croft Institute will be an added bonus to a political science degree," said Powers, who also thinks she will enroll in law school after earning her undergraduate degree.

"We are delighted that Anna Powers has chosen The University of Mississippi for her college home," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "We are committed to creating extraordinary opportunities for extraordinary people. Anna is a



Anna Powers

remarkable, multi-talented young person who will be an asset to our community. It is with great pride that we offer the prestigious Fenley Scholarship to this Jackson Academy star."

While at Jackson Academy, the National Merit Finalist has been active in numerous activities, including serving as vice president of the National Honor Society and the National Forensics League, and president of the Latin Club. Powers was chosen for the Honors Applied Research Program in which she completed the project under Hamilton of Mississippi College and presented the paper "Morphological Divergence in *Ceratopteris richardii*" at the Mississippi Junior Academy of Sciences.

The senior has captured many academic awards, including a superior rating in poetry at the Southeastern Creative Writing Festival, first

place in English at the District Academic Betterment Competition, state Outstanding Achievement Awards in Advanced Placement Chemistry and History, and Jackson Academy's Advanced Placement Chemistry Award. She is listed in *Who's Who Among American High School Students* and served as a representative to Supercongress through the Mississippi Youth Congress.

Powers has been selected for the varsity cheerleading squad for three years and was a member of the Delta State Honor Choir. She is active in the National Junior Classical League and earned the Sapphire Degree of Excellence through the National Forensics League.

The Fenley Scholar also is involved in the arts, playing the lead role in Jackson Academy's production of *The Music Man* and having a singing role in *Some Enchanted Evening*. She also played the lead role in New Stage Theatre's production of *Beehive* and was an extra in the movie *Ghosts of Mississippi*. Powers was honored with a state volunteer service award for sharing her musical abilities with area nursing home residents.

She was a semifinalist in the National Association of Teachers of Singing Vocal Competition, where she performed songs in Italian, French and English, and she received a superior ranking in the Mississippi Music Teachers Association Competition. In addition, Powers was named Best Musical Comedy Vocalist in a Talent America competition in New York City.

In 1994, she was the state spelling bee winner and represented Mississippi at the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C.

The Fenley Scholar is active in the Pear Orchard Presbyterian Church in Ridgeland, where she sings in the choir and is a member of the youth group. ■

Son, Friend, Student, Golfer: Haskins Remembered with Scholarship

When Carr Haskins was 3 and 4 years old, his dad remembers taking him to the golf course, where Carr played his heart out with small, plastic clubs.

Almost 16 years later, members of The University of Mississippi Golf Team played their hearts out with a former team member on their minds. Whether outfitted in the school's red, blue or white, stitched on the sleeves of all their golf shirts was the name "Carr."

What happened in the span of those years that belonged first to a child and then to a young man was the development of an individual who touched the lives of many people. After completing his freshman studies during the 1996-97 academic year at Ole Miss, Carr was killed July 27 in a wreck over his summer vacation from college.

His parents, Don and Barri Haskins, grandmother Tena Haskins; and uncles Kirk and Craig Haskins, all of McComb, have established the Carldon "Carr" Odell Haskins III Scholarship at Ole Miss. Remembering the sport Carr loved, the endowment has been designed to provide funds for golf scholarships.

"From University administration and the athletic department to sigma chi fraternity members and other students, Ole Miss showed a lot of class at the time of Carr's accident," said Don Haskins. "It opened our eyes to the fact that Ole Miss really is a family. We wanted to give something back to the University, something that would let Carr's legacy and spirit live on."

Chancellor Robert C. Khayat responded, saying, "The most difficult times we ever experience at this University occur when we lose students. We are deeply grateful to the Haskins family for two gifts: for sharing Carr with us and for creating a scholarship to help other young people. Words seem so inadequate when considering the tremendous loss of a child, but I can assure the Haskins that Carr will be remembered. He will always be a special part of Ole Miss."

Carr signed a golf scholarship with Ole Miss in November 1995. "He knew early on he was coming to Ole Miss," said Haskins. "Carr loved Ole Miss, Sigma Chi (fraternity)



Carr Haskins

and golf, and he did well his freshman year academically."

The dad said it was "very moving" for the family to see the golf team's shirts bearing Carr's name, the team's media guide dedicated to Carr's memory, the annual Celebrity Golf Tournament at Ole Miss held in his memory and his posthumous induction into the M-Club, the varsity athlete student organization. "It shows they cared about Carr," he said, adding that he has been accompanied by his brothers and friends to see the Ole Miss Golf Team play in two tournaments this year.

"We appreciate the Haskins family's generosity in setting up this scholarship fund. Carr was a first-class kid and an up-and-coming player," said Ole Miss Men's Golf Head Coach

Woody Cowart. "His passing was a great loss to the team, as well as to the University community as a whole."

David Robbins, Carr's friend and fraternity brother, said, "(Carr's) humor, character and dedication will forever have an impact on those who knew him."

Carr started seriously playing golf as a 12-year-old. As an honor student at Parklane Academy in McComb, he captured numerous golf tournaments, including the 1995 AAA Mississippi Private School Association State Championship. He also finished second at the State Junior Championship. Carr posted a 68 at Jackson and Fernwood country clubs.

During the months leading up to his accident, Carr accomplished three major goals: He recorded his first competitive hole-in-one during the Farm Bureau Invitational, won the Fernwood Country Club Championship and set the course record at the new Quail Hollow course by firing a 66. In addition, he helped provide golf instruction to younger children through junior clinics.

Along with his family — his parents, brother Cal and sister Susan — Carr was active in First Baptist Church of McComb.

When Haskins was asked what he would like future scholarship recipients at Ole Miss to know about his son, he repeated Carr's philosophy: "Live well; laugh often; love much." ■



Receiving the Haskins' family gift on behalf of the University are (from left) Don L. Fruge, and Woody Cowart, with family members Don Haskins, Tena Haskins, Craig Haskins, and Kirk Haskins, all of McComb.

New Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance

Johnny Williams, a vice president at Fort Hays State University in Kansas, has accepted a position as vice chancellor for administration and finance at The University of Mississippi.

Williams' Ole Miss appointment was recently announced and will become effective June 1, pending approval by the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning.

As vice chancellor for administration and finance, Williams will oversee an annual operating budget of some \$150 million and supervise the University's Accounting, Budgeting, Bursar, Human Resources, Information Technology, Physical Plant and Purchasing departments, plus some auxiliary services.

He also will serve as a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet, work closely with the College Board office and state agencies, and lead the University's management team through a comprehensive process of re-engineering.

"Mr. Williams is a dynamic, experienced administrator who will assist the Chancellor, Provost and other vice chancellors in guiding the University to the fulfillment of its vision to be one of America's great public universities," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat.

"We are aware that, as a state institution, we have limited resources and must make careful decisions about the use of those resources in all aspects of our teaching, research and service activities. Mr. Williams brings to this campus a great deal of experience in all areas of university fiscal management and will be working closely with people throughout the campus to ensure that we are as successful as we can be," he added.

In addition, Williams — who is vice president for administration and finance at FHSU — will serve as treasurer of



Johnny Williams

The University of Mississippi Foundation, which oversees an endowment of \$192.6 million.

"I accepted the position because it is an outstanding opportunity for me to become an integral part of the flagship

"Mr. Williams brings to this campus a great deal of experience in all areas of university fiscal management and will be working closely with people throughout the campus to ensure that we are as successful as we can be."

university in the state of Mississippi. The University is solid and has everything a major university should have, both academically and athletically," said Williams. "Also, it is a school on the move, and I want to be a part of that exciting future.

"Additionally, while my family and I have thoroughly enjoyed this area, we've always entertained thoughts about

returning to the South, and this move allows us that opportunity."

Fort Hays State University President Edward H. Hammond said at a press conference, "Our university is losing a solid member of its administrative staff. Johnny has done an outstanding job for both me and our university. He came to us seven years ago from east Texas and has willingly shared his knowledge and expertise.

"Under Johnny's direction, many changes have occurred at this university. He was very instrumental in bringing to fruition the major changes at Lewis Field Stadium, the addition of Tomanek Hall to the campus, the move and completion of the new Sternberg Museum of Natural History, renovations in several campus buildings, and a myriad of other projects.

"In fact, during the past six years alone, more than \$25 million in construction and remodeling has taken place on our campus and another \$15 million is underway.

"Additionally, Johnny has provided budgetary expertise and brought many solid ideas about university-wide improvements to the planning table," Dr. Hammond said.

Williams came to FHSU in the summer of 1991 from LeTourneau University in Longview, Texas, where as a vice president he managed the institution's budget and physical plant.

He holds a bachelor of arts degree in mathematics from LeTourneau University and a master of business administration degree in accounting from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas.

He was previously employed with Southwestern Electric Power Company in Shreveport, La., and the Hartford Insurance Company in Beaumont, Texas.

Williams and his wife Carolyn are the parents of three children. ■

Cellular South Announces Major Donation to University of Mississippi Building Campaign

Cellular South, Mississippi's largest cellular provider, has made a \$250,000 commitment to The University of Mississippi's Business and Accountancy Building Campaign. "After discussing the needs of the University, we felt this type of donation was needed and that it would have a positive impact on the School of Business, the campus and students of the University. We're very happy to be in a position to make this donation," said Hu Meena, Cellular South president.

The first of the five installments of Cellular South's donation was made in 1997. The gift will be used for the University's Business and Accountancy Complex.

"We're a Mississippi-based company that provides service to this area. Many of us are Ole Miss graduates, and we're determined to be a genuine partner with the University," Meena said. "In the past we've sponsored athletic events and other functions of the University."

"This generous gift from Cellular South will further enhance technology in The University of Mississippi's new Business and Accountancy Complex, which is enabling our students and faculty to stay ahead of the curve in the enormously important area of computer and information technology," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat.

"To prepare our students for successful careers in the global marketplace, the University needs the involvement and support of business and industry. We are deeply grateful to Cellular South for helping us provide that margin of excellence," Khayat said.

Thomas D. Layzell, commissioner of Mississippi's Institutions of Higher Learning, said, "These types of donations provide a tremendous boost to our state universities because they do two critical things. First, such donations are an acknowledgment of the progress we're making in higher education, which improves the morale of everyone associated. Secondly, they give our universities help in recruiting and keeping our brightest students at home."



Cellular South, Mississippi's largest cellular provider, has made a \$250,000 commitment to The University of Mississippi's Business and Accountancy Building Campaign. The company, which provides service in Oxford and north Mississippi, is headquartered in Jackson. Attending the recent presentation were (from left) Frank Odom, an account executive with Cellular South; Hu Meena, president of Cellular South; Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat; and Dr. Randy Boxx, dean of the School of Business Administration.

Cellular South officials said the company was able to make the donation after several years of solid growth. The company, which was already the state's largest cellular provider, serving 42 of Mississippi's 82 counties, in March 1997 became the first company in the state to offer cellular, long-distance and residential telephone service on one bill. The packaged services, marketed under the name Telepak, received a positive reception.

Cellular South, recipient of the 1996 Mississippi Quality Award for Excellence, has 44 retail locations throughout Mississippi, including Oxford — the home of Ole Miss. ■

Library Leadership

Meredith and Bailey McBee of Greenwood, MS, (center) present a check for \$3,500 to Dean John Meador (far right) for the newly established Julia H. Wilcox Library Society. Also on hand for the presentation was Steve Owens, (far left) executive director of University Development. The Julia H. Wilcox Library Society and Library Leadership Club were established this year to honor the University's first full-time librarian and to allow campus libraries to use private funds for acquisitions, equipment and faculty support.



Dan Wilford Joins Chancellor's Trust, Predicts Ole Miss Is Stepping Up to Next Plateau

When Dan Wilford of Houston, Texas, looks back on his college days at The University of Mississippi, he remembers the long hours he devoted to studying and to playing football for legendary Head Football Coach John Vaught and Freshman Coach J.W. "Wobble" Davidson.

"They did more than coach football; they taught their players a whole lot about life," said Wilford, who — along with his twin brother Ned — attended Ole Miss on a football scholarship. "I owe a great deal to Ole Miss. If I had not earned a degree there and had the experiences that I did, I don't know where I would be today."

Where Wilford is in 1998 is at the helm of Memorial Hermann Healthcare System and its nine subsidiary corporations as president and CEO. The community-based, not-for-profit system consists of 10 hospitals, an outpatient center, two nursing homes, a retirement community, a home health company, a managed care company, a foundation, and affiliation agreements with 16 hospitals and one hospice.

After a decade with the system, in 1994 Wilford also became CEO of Memorial Sisters of Charity Health Network, a joint venture of two large health care systems.

Remembering his alma mater and learning about the University's pursuit of a prestigious Phi Beta Kappa chapter, Wilford recently joined the Chancellor's Trust with a \$25,000 gift.

"We deeply appreciate the support of Dan Wilford, who has been inducted into the Ole Miss Hall of Fame for his lifetime of accomplishments," said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "Dan is an accomplished and respected health care executive who has successfully led health care systems to prominence. He learned leadership, team work, self discipline and perseverance as a student athlete at Ole Miss, but Dan, himself, integrated those elements into his life's work, building an extraordinary career. He is among this University's most distinguished graduates."

Wilford responded, "Robert Khayat has been a good friend for many years, and he offers fine leadership for the University. I saw the Chancellor's Trust as way of showing support for him and the University. I think Ole Miss is on the verge of stepping up to the next plateau with all the growth and development it has experienced, and public institutions need private support to do that. It is an exciting time as the University pursues a Phi Beta Kappa chapter, and I think Ole Miss should be acknowledged at that level. I am happy to have the opportunity to give my support."

While a student on the Oxford campus, Wilford was on the Dean's List and was a distinguished military graduate. After receiving his diploma, he served in the Medical Service Corps of the U.S. Army. He went on to earn a master's degree in hospital administration in 1966 from Washington University in St. Louis.

Wilford and his twin followed health care careers first suggested to them in high school by the hospital administrator in their hometown of Forrest City, Ark. Also an Ole Miss graduate,



Steve Owens, (left) executive director of University Development presents a Chancellor's Trust Certificate to Mr. Dan Wilford of Houston Texas.

brother Ned is the president of Hamilton Health Care System in Dalton, Ga. Dan Wilford officiated Southwest Conference and NFL games until 1988, and his brother has enjoyed a 25-year career officiating in the Southeastern Conference.

In 1995, Washington University named Dan Wilford a Distinguished Alumnus, and Houston Baptist University awarded him an honorary Doctorate of Law. He also was tapped as Business Leader of the Year in Fort Bend County, Texas, in 1995. Wilford received the American College of Healthcare Executives' Gold Medal Award and the Texas Hospital Association's Earl C. Collier Award, both in 1997.

Wilford has served as associate administrator at Hillcrest Medical Center in Tulsa, Okla., and president of North Mississippi Health Service in Tupelo, Miss. He has provided leadership to the Mississippi Hospital Association on its board and to the Mississippi Health Care Commission as its chair.

He is chairman of the board of Voluntary Hospitals of America, and active in the Texas Hospital Association, American Hospital Association, Hospital Research and Development Institute, American College of Healthcare Executives (fellow), Greater Houston Partnership, Houston Area and Fort Bend County Chambers of Commerce, United Way of Texas Gulf Coast, and First United Methodist Church of Sugar Land, Texas.

In addition to the Chancellor's Trust, the health care executive has supported Ole Miss by providing resources for the Drive for Athletics, Athletic Training Center, Loyalty Foundation, Davidson M-Club Scholarship Endowment, Alumni House Renovation and Brick projects and the Chucky Mullins Fund.

Wilford and his wife Anne, who will celebrate 36 years of marriage this summer, are the parents of daughter Kelly Wilford Harb of Knoxville, Tenn., and Jeff Wilford of New Braunfels, Texas; and the grandparents of four. ■

Foundation Past President Creates Ethics Lectureship

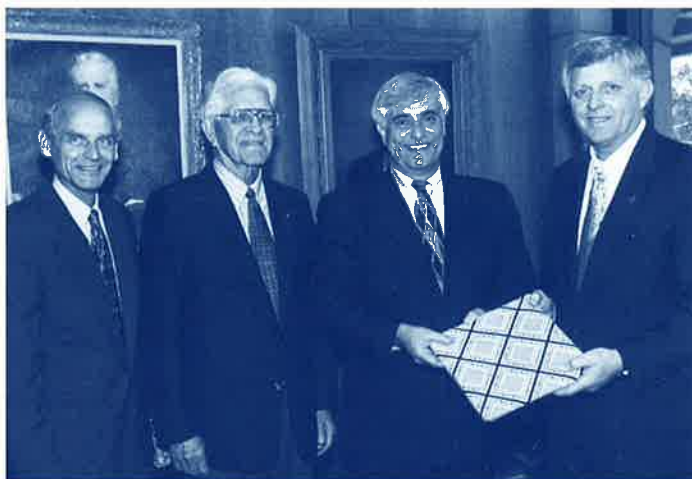
The generosity of a University of Mississippi alumnus is making great things happen for the School of Business Administration. Julius W. King of Laurel has created an endowed lecture series in business ethics at the University to honor of his father, James E. King Sr.

The lectureship will bring one renowned guest to campus each year, someone whose business and personal ethics would set an example for generations to come. "This lectureship will help ensure that our students are well-grounded in the importance of ethical standards for personal and business activities," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat.

Tom Muccio, vice president of customer business development for Procter & Gamble Worldwide, recently became the first speaker in the lectureship. In his 28 years with P&G, he has served both in the United States and abroad. Muccio was part of the pioneering group that invented the multi functional customer team concept at P&G and has been team leader since the inception of the Wal-Mart/P&G relationship. He was named global team leader of the partnership in 1995.

Muccio said the Ole Miss School of Business Administration has made notable breakthroughs and improvements. "There are so few places where this growth is happening," he said.

Dr. W. Randy Boxx, dean of business administration, said the



University of Mississippi Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (far right) presents Tom Muccio (second from right) of Procter & Gamble a gift for being the first guest speaker in the James E. King Sr. Lectureship in Business Ethics at Ole Miss. Dr. W. Randy Boxx, dean of business administration, (from left) and Julius W. King of Laurel, past president of the UM Foundation, and lectureship sponsor, were on hand for the presentation.

lectures will help develop ethical, teamwork and leadership skills within each student. "Our new MBA program, in particular, is integrated, cross-functional, application-driven and broad-based in its approach to the educational experience," he said. ■

Ole Miss Accountancy Alum Donates Car

Howard L. Davidson (third from left), an alumnus of The University of Mississippi School of Accountancy, recently donated a new Chevrolet Lumina to his alma mater. Davidson, the retired owner of a car dealership in Booneville, is shown presenting the car keys to Dr. James W. Davis, dean of the School of Accountancy, while Dr. Tonya K. Flesher (from left), professor of accountancy, and Jason Shackelford, an accounting major from Booneville, look on. Davis said the vehicle will save the School of Accountancy thousands of dollars in the school's travel budget.



Frist Student Service Awards Presented at Sesquicentennial Graduation

The University of Mississippi presented the Frist Student Service Awards to two dedicated faculty and staff members at Saturday's commencement exercises.

Dr. Vaughn Grisham, associate professor of sociology and director of the McLean Institute for Community Service, was the faculty honoree. The honored staff member was Dr. Judith Trott, dean of students and assistant professor of educational leadership. Each received a plaque and a \$1,000 prize.

"These two longtime members of the University family care deeply about nurturing the emotional, social and academic development of our students," said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat.

The awards were established in 1995 with a \$50,000 gift from Dr. Thomas F. Frist (now deceased) of Nashville to annually recognize one faculty member and one staff member for outstanding service to students. Frist, founder of the Hospital Corporation of America, earned his bachelor's degree in pre-medicine from Ole Miss in 1931.

"When Dr. Frist created the Frist Student Service Award, he paid tribute to his college experience at Ole Miss by mentioning the helpfulness and kindness shown him by the faculty and staff. Certainly, both Dr. Trott and Dr. Grisham are exemplary in demonstrating extraordinary concern and meeting an individual student's needs at any given time," Khayat said.

Grisham, who earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Mississippi State University, first came to work as an assistant professor of sociology in 1968 — after earning a doctorate from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Since that time he has been promoted to associate professor and opened the



From left: Dr. Vaughn Grisham, associate professor of sociology and director of the McLean Institute for Community Service, Chancellor Robert C. Khayat, Dr. Judith Trott, dean of students and assistant professor of educational leadership.

McLean Institute to train community leaders.

"One of the things I like to do is have students at our home often, and make myself available whenever my students might need me," Grisham said. "I know I've had over 20,000 students, and some of them have been like sons and daughters to me."

In one nomination letter, a student called Grisham a distinguished man and the "... epitome of a fine educator, as well as a wonderful community servant."

Another stated, "Dr. Grisham has the rare ability to create in his students, many times disinterested students, the desire to learn. He is a motivator, encourager and supporter, in and out of the classroom."

Trott, who earned three degrees from Ole Miss, joined the University staff in 1966 as Panhellenic adviser. After holding a number of positions, including residence life director

and director of student services, she was promoted to dean of students in 1988. Trott describes her current position as the culmination of her career. "I love being able to branch out and meet the needs of so many students," she said.

Trott said she is honored to receive the Frist Award during the University's Sesquicentennial year — especially since she is adviser of the senior class.

One letter nominating Trott for the award called her "... a fine example of an administrator who encourages student involvement by the example of her own involvement."

Another stated, "I have observed over the longer course of time the truest measures of her disposition; others will echo my sentiments as we perceive Judy Trott as synonymous with The University of Mississippi." ■

Newman continued...

Spirit of the Community Certificate of Excellence, and was named a National Service Scholar.

The Eagle Scout has been an active member of the Debate Team and numerous other school clubs and organizations, including SADD and Boy's Key Club. He has attended Boy's State, Close-up in Washington, D.C., and the Conference on

National Affairs in Asheville, N.C., and was named first state alternate for the Hurst Foundation's U.S. Senate Youth Program.

Fyke and his family attend First Presbyterian Church, where he is a member of the youth group and has volunteered his time with Vacation Bible School and summer mission projects. He has two siblings: Joel, 16, and Georgia, 13. ■

Triplett and Behrakis:

Two Friends Give \$400,000 to

Boost Clinical Pharmacy Students



Dr. Faser Triplett of Jackson had an idea to give The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy \$200,000 to establish a clinical pharmacy endowment in memory of his father, Rod Triplett, and in honor of his friend, George D. Behrakis.

And when Behrakis, a leader in the pharmaceutical field, learned of the Triplett-Behrakis School of Pharmacy Endowment Fund, he matched the contribution with a \$200,000 gift of his own to Ole Miss.

"By finding such a generous avenue of recognizing their friendship of many years, the two men have provided \$400,000 which will be used to support clinical education and training for pharmacy students and clinical residency programs for pharmacy graduates," said Dr. Kenneth B. Roberts, dean of pharmacy.

"Their generous contribution will expedite the school's ability to achieve its clinical education and training goals for pharmacy students and new graduates," Roberts said. "Today, more than 50 percent of Doctor of Pharmacy degree recipients choose to pursue a clinical residency. This proportion will continue to increase to a projected 100 percent within the next 10 years. We appreciate this wonderful support and genuine commitment from the Triplett family, as well as from Mr. Behrakis, who is so well-respected throughout the pharmaceutical industry."

"I wanted to do something in my father's memory," Triplett said. "He was a 1916 pharmacy graduate, who thought so much of Dean Faser (founder of the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy) that he named me after him. I grew to know Dean Faser, too, because my family visited him even after he moved to Jackson.

"While I was serving as the president of the American College of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology, I came to know and respect George Behrakis, who has contributed to the development of an array of drugs. I've seen such tremendous advancement in drugs to treat allergy problems, which is so important to me as an allergist," Triplett said. "This endowment is my way of expressing appreciation to the ongoing impact George has on the pharmaceutical industry and the specialties of allergy and immunology in particular."

Behrakis responded saying, "I feel very strongly that professionals who have found success in their fields should support education. Education is the future of this country. The more we can help provide resources to education, the better it will be. Support to education is where my foundation will continue to focus.

"I also wanted to give the gift because my true friend, Faser Triplett, is one of the University's strongest alums. Faser talks Ole Miss, breathes it and draws people into it. I've become quite a fan of Ole Miss," Behrakis said. "He told me about his father being a

pharmacy graduate and about the School of Pharmacy's work. I wanted to reciprocate with a gift of my own."

Behrakis is the president and CEO of Muro Pharmaceutical Inc., an ASTA Medica company in Tewksburg, Mass. He founded Dooner Laboratories, where he developed and manufactured the leading asthmatic drug in the United States, before selling the company to Rhone-Poulenc Rorer. He purchased Muro Pharmaceutical Inc., a manufacturer of ophthalmic products, and sold the product line to Bausch & Lomb. Muro now manufactures and markets pharmaceuticals related to respiratory diseases, allergies, asthma and immunology.

Behrakis is recognized as a leader in the pharmaceutical industry for the solubilizing of previously insoluble chemicals, making them stable for medical use.

He earned a bachelor's degree in pharmaceutical sciences from Northeastern University and now serves on its board of trustees. He holds an honorary Doctor of Human Letters from the University of Massachusetts. The son of immigrants, Behrakis recently received an Ellis Island Award.

He has established the George D. Behrakis Chair in the Field of Targeted Pharmaceuticals at Northeastern and the George D. Behrakis Hellenic Fellowship in Respiratory Allergy at Johns Hopkins Asthma and Allergy Center. The computer center at Tufts University School of Medicine was funded and named for Muro Pharmaceutical Inc.

A Jackson allergist and entrepreneur, Triplett has enjoyed a relationship with Ole Miss that has spanned his lifetime, from his childhood days as a Rebel fan in Louisville, Miss. to his current position as Alumni Association president. Renovation of the Dr. and Mrs. R. Faser Triplett Alumni Center on the Oxford campus was made possible through the Triplett's generous \$1 million gift.

"My wife, children and I have a deep love for Ole Miss and a long-term interest in its academic environment. State-supported schools must have private gifts in order to grow and prosper. In this particular instance, we want to support basic pharmaceutical research which will lead to development of drugs to help people."

Triplett also has served as president of the Alumni Association's Medical Alumni Chapter, chair of Annual Giving, Alumni Association board member, and a founder of the Medical Alumni Guardian Society. Other areas at the University benefiting from his support are the Children's Cancer Clinic at the Medical Center, Chancellor's Trust, Loyalty Foundation and the Athletic Training Center. ■

The University of Mississippi Foundation



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P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677

406 University Avenue, Oxford, MS 38655

<http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/foundation/>

E-mail: umf@olemiss.edu

Telephone: (800) 340-9542; Facsimile: (601) 232-7880

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**The
University of Mississippi Foundation**

P. O. Box 249

University, MS 38677

The University of Mississippi



The University of Mississippi

P.O. Box 249, University
406 University Avenue
<http://www.olemiss.edu>

E-mail: umf@olemiss.edu

Telephone: (800) 340-9542;

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