

Spring 2009

Foundations

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foundations

SPRING 2009 | VOL. 9 NO. 1

A NEWSLETTER FOR FRIENDS OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION

a capital success

STATE OF THE FUTURE

The Mississippi State Campaign

**MSU alumni and friends
contribute over \$462 million.**

Special commemorative DVD inside this issue

A TIME FOR

REFLECTION

The Mississippi State University of the future is here. Alumni and friends have watched it take shape and emerge around us—more students attending MSU with scholarships, new and renovated facilities, named academic areas and program enhancements.

When the capital campaign was launched seven years ago, our goal of \$400 million in private support seemed quite lofty. It took a great deal of courage to launch in the midst of the dot-com bust and in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. We soon realized, however, that numerous alumni and friends were willing to get on board with *State of the Future*. In fiscal year 2006, Hurricane Katrina would claim center stage as one of the costliest natural disasters in our history, but MSU alumni stepped forward and set a new record in private giving. Even the severe economic downturn of 2008 could not deter our supporters. By the close of the campaign, we clinched \$462,503,395.

Bulldog supporters gave and gave again during the seven-year effort, making that time frame the highest giving period in university history. More than 60,000 alumni, friends, corporations and foundations contributed through *State of the Future*. In fact, some of you are among the nearly 50 percent of new donors acquired by the university. We thank you for your willingness to join us and your faith that we will be good stewards of your investments.

The *State of the Future* campaign was about more than dollars and cents—it centered on the essentials for achieving the university's mission of teaching, research and service. And it cemented a shared belief that Mississippi State is a university which is very much in tune with the needs of its home state and its region.

Great things are happening at Mississippi State because of *State of the Future*. And great things will happen down the road because of the resonating and lasting effects of the campaign. Endowments created for scholarships, faculty positions, academic units and programs will afford Mississippi State the means to move forward as it reaches toward its goal of entering the ranks of the top 50 public universities in the nation. We hope that you will continue in this journey with us as we work to secure the necessary resources to improve the true future of Mississippi State.

While it is virtually impossible to thank each and every campaign contributor, we truly appreciate you. A special commemorative DVD is enclosed with this newsletter as our “gift” to you. I believe after viewing it you'll understand just how many lives were touched over the course of *State of the Future*—a campaign that catapulted Mississippi State into a position poised for the next level of greatness.

**John Rush**

VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT AND ALUMNI

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The Mississippi State University Foundation is a nonprofit corporation organized to foster, encourage, and promote the educational purposes of the university. In providing its support and services through the pursuit of endowments and other gifts, as well as asset management, the foundation enriches and enhances the academic quality and reputation of Mississippi State University.

Discrimination based upon race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or veteran's status is a violation of federal and state law and MSU policy and will not be tolerated. Discrimination based upon sexual orientation or group affiliation is a violation of MSU policy and will not be tolerated.

STATE OF THE FUTURE

The Mississippi State Campaign

Capital campaign shatters goal; final total exceeds \$462 million

The highly successful State of the Future: The Mississippi State Campaign climaxed in December 2008 with a staggering \$462,503,395 in gifts and pledges of future support.

State of the Future was the largest and most successful fundraising effort in Mississippi State history. Alumni, friends, foundations and corporations came together with unprecedented generosity to provide opportunities for Mississippi State students of tomorrow.

“Mississippi State is tremendously thankful for the great outpouring of support from alumni and friends over the past few years that made the campaign such a resounding success. The investments in scholarships, endowed faculty positions, facilities and programs already are making this a stronger university and will pay dividends for many years to come,” said MSU President Mark E. Keenum.

The “silent” phase of *State of the Future* began in July 2001 and was publicly announced in October 2004 with \$200 million in leadership commitments already in hand. The effort was initiated by a 15-member volunteer steering committee led by alumnus Richard C. Adkerson, president and CEO of Phoenix-based Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. He is currently



-serving his third term as president of the MSU Foundation Board of Directors.

State of the Future surpassed its \$400 million goal in December 2007, a full year ahead of schedule. On December 31, 2008, the campaign capped off its seven-year run with a flurry of activity.

The *State of the Future* campaign was designed to support Mississippi State’s academic mission and benefit virtually every facet of the university. Specifically, *State of the Future* is making possible:

- \$88.3 MILLION for academic scholarships and fellowships;
- \$44.6 MILLION for faculty positions;
- \$42.8 MILLION for new and renovated facilities;

IN ALL, NEARLY 60,000 ALUMNI AND FRIENDS *of the university contributed toward the effort. Forty-seven percent of those donors were first-time contributors to the university.*

- \$53.3 MILLION for educational and other program enhancements; and
- \$233.5 MILLION for college and other annual support.

All outright gifts, pledges and deferred gifts for Mississippi State, including those to athletics, were counted in gift totals over the course of the campaign.

“MSU’s future is brighter and its ability to provide leadership and service has been substantially strengthened by the generosity of thousands of individuals who recognize and value the contributions the institution makes to Mississippi and the nation,” Keenum added.

Mississippi State experienced tremendous growth of fundraising efforts during the campaign. The effects of *State of the Future* now ripple through campus, impacting nearly every area of the university.

“*State of the Future* sparked seven of the highest giving years for the university,” said John P. Rush, vice president for development and alumni. “The campaign ushered in an unprecedented surge in the university’s growth and development as more individuals grew to understand the importance of supporting the institution for the first time and through careful gift planning,” he added.

The MSU Foundation will now move forward with new fundraising initiatives, including promoting real estate gifts to the university through two new programs—Bulldog Properties and the Bulldog Forest. Efforts to build an endowment for perpetual care of the campus grounds and targeting gifts for the university’s permanent endowment are on the list of priorities. In addition, the MSU Foundation currently is planning an initiative for raising additional private funds for university scholarships and faculty support.

The following individuals, corporations and foundations made commitments of \$50,000 or more from October 1, 2008, through December 31, 2008, for *State of the Future: The Mississippi State Campaign*. The entire MSU family thanks each and every *State of the Future* contributor!

AviTech LLC
Mr. Peter E. Blum
Burkhalter Rigging Inc.
ChevronTexaco Corp.
Dr. and Mrs. John C. Clay Sr.
Dr. and Mrs. William M. Cobb
Ms. Amy Driskill
Dupont Agriculture Products
Bill and Sara Foster
Health Care Foundation of North Mississippi
Henry Mize Charitable Foundation
Dr. and Mrs. Jack C. Hoover

Mr. and Mrs. Steven L. Howard
Mrs. Alice G. Johnson
Mr. Malcolm B. Lightsey
Mrs. Laura S. Miller
Morgan Keegan Inc.
Paul B. Murphy Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne L. O’Quin
Puckett Machinery Co.
Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Reed
Ridgewood Realty LLC
Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Mike W. Sanders

Mr. and Mrs. William R. Sanderson
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Solomon
The Barksdale Foundation
The Riley Foundation
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Drs. David and Elizabeth Waldorf
Walmart Stores Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. A. Randle White
Mr. Turner A. Wingo

IGNITING *scholarships* FOR THE FUTURE

SCHOLARSHIPS OFTEN ARE THE DECIDING FACTOR *in whether or not a prospective student chooses to enroll at Mississippi State University. As a result of State of the Future, more than \$88 million in private gifts has been designated for undergraduate scholarships and fellowships during the past seven years. The campaign ignited several new scholarship programs which will create opportunities for generations of students.*

During *State of the Future*, Mississippi State University welcomed and graduated its inaugural class of Presidential Endowed Scholars. The program was established in 2001 with the goal of attracting the region's most talented high school students.

The Presidential Endowed Scholarships, along with the Otilie Schillig Scholarships, are the university's most notable scholarship awards. The Schillig Scholarships were established in 1986 through a donation from the private Otilie Schillig Trust of Port Gibson. Collectively, the recipients of both scholarships are now known as MSU's Distinguished Scholars. Today, 40 of the nation's brightest students are attending Mississippi State with the aid of these prestigious awards.

The Presidential Endowed Scholarships cover tuition, fees, room and board and books for four years of undergraduate study. Each scholar may also receive assistance in finding a suitable summer research or work internship or an appropriate travel abroad experience. To further enhance the educational experience, each scholarship recipient is assigned a mentor in the student's field of study.

Among the contributors for the ongoing-program include James and Kay Bryan of West Point; Tom and Shirley Dawkins of Starkville; Johnny and Bessie Lynn Crane of Fulton; John and Renee' Grisham of Charlottesville, Va.; Hunter and Lila Henry of San Marcos, Texas; Mickey and Babs Holliman of Belden; Bobby and Barbara Martin of Ripley; Georgia Ann McPherson and the late John McPherson of Indianola; the late G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery; Rod and Jane Moore of Brandon; Hal and Linda Parker of Bolton; the late Roy O. Rein of Jackson; Susie Seal and the late Leo W. Seal Jr. of Gulfport and Morgan Keegan Co.

Two additional scholarship programs tailored for students from certain economic backgrounds made their debut during *State of the Future*.

The Mississippi State Promise Awards, a university initiative launched in 2006, provides support for incoming freshmen and community college transfers in Mississippi whose family income cannot accommodate rising tuition. The Promise program is currently supported with a generous contribution from alumnus Louis A. Hurst Jr. of Houston, Texas.

The Promise Awards benefit Mississippi residents who meet certain criteria with a family income of \$30,000 and below. The program covers tuition and required fees, while providing on-campus work opportunities to help offset other non-tuition costs.

Inspired by the success of the Promise program, Mississippi State launched another scholarship initiative in 2008 specifically for students in a second income bracket. The Medallion Scholarship program now provides need-based financial awards for qualified Mississippi residents to attend the university.

The MSU Foundation seeks donors interested in contributing for the Medallion Scholarships which are intended to bridge the gap between the cost of tuition and a student's federal aid and other scholarships. Alumnus Niles "Ranny" Moseley and his wife Mary Lyn of Los Altos, Calif., understand the need for the program and have made a \$250,000 gift for a Medallion Scholarship bearing their names.

Mississippi State truly made great strides in scholarship growth during the campaign. Along with success from specific initiatives, individual annual scholarships flourished in virtually all academic disciplines across the university.

Louis A. Hurst Jr. with the inaugural Promise scholars in the courtyard of Hurst Residence Hall.

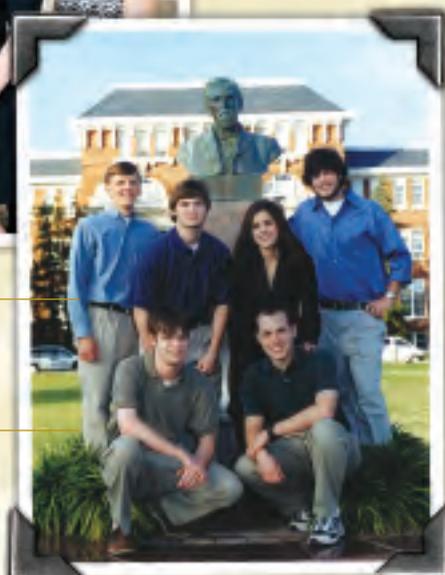


Honors students take advantage of the living-learning environment of Griffis Hall where they are part of the Judy and Bobby Shackouls Honors College.



2008-2009 class of Presidential Endowed Scholars

Inaugural class of Presidential Endowed Scholars



ENHANCING *academic units* FOR THE FUTURE

THE LONG LIST OF ALUMNI AND FRIENDS *who are linking their names to the institution in very meaningful and lasting ways continues to grow. Over the course of the State of the Future campaign, several prominent graduates made more than a simple financial investment in Mississippi State University. They cemented their legacies by establishing endowments in perpetuity for specific academic areas.*



BAGLEY COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

James W. and Jean Bagley

A boyhood dream of becoming an engineer took James W. Bagley away from Mississippi. Now, his vision and generosity make it possible for future engineers to pursue a top-notch undergraduate and graduate education at MSU within an academic college which bears his name.

In 2002, Jim and his wife Jean created an endowment to enhance engineering college facilities, provide funds for faculty recruiting and development and support graduate

fellowships. The James Worth Bagley College of Engineering became MSU's first named academic college when the state College Board approved naming the unit in his honor.

A former Jackson resident, Bagley continues to leave an imprint on the university like few others. Because of his \$25 million gift, the single largest financial commitment in MSU history, generations of future engineers will receive a degree from a prestigious engineering college.

Bagley, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering from MSU, has played a key role in advancing the nation's semiconductor industry for more than four decades. Today, he serves as executive chairman of California-based Lam Research Corp., a leading supplier of wafer processing equipment and services.

As the first college graduate in his family, Bagley has a great appreciation for the state of Mississippi and the opportunities he had through scholarship and cooperative work experience. His desire is to provide opportunities for students to learn and pursue careers in Mississippi if they so choose.

For his many professional and personal accolades, Mississippi State has named James Bagley its 2009 National Alumnus of the Year. In 2005, MSU awarded him an honorary doctorate degree.

The Bagleys are true philanthropists who give of their time and financial resources whenever possible. They have continued to invest in scholarships, faculty and facilities at Mississippi State University.

SHACKOULS HONORS COLLEGE



Bobby and Judy Shackouls

Bobby and Judy Shackouls of Houston, Texas, made a significant impact on the overall honors experience at Mississippi State University by creating an endowment for an honors college with a \$10 million gift. Shackouls, an MSU chemical engineering graduate and retired chairman of Burlington Resources Inc., made the gift as an investment in one of Mississippi's most important resources—the young men and women who are its future.

Thanks to the endowment, the transformation of the program into a full-fledged honors college is complete with a state-of-the-art residential and classroom facility for its scholars. Mississippi State has joined the ranks of seven other Southeastern Conference universities with honors college distinction. The endowment provides for the enhancement of the honors experience by offering individualized academic advising for students, travel opportunities through study abroad scholarships and research fellowships for undergraduate students.

Significant gifts, like the one the Shackouls made, allow Mississippi State to make great strides in educating gifted students in immeasurable ways.



ADKERSON SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTANCY

Richard C. Adkerson

A love of accounting and of the university led alumnus Richard C. Adkerson of Phoenix to establish a \$5 million endowment in support of Mississippi State's accounting school. He credits the program for providing him with the basis for his successful career as chief executive officer of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc., the world's largest publicly traded copper producer. He earned a bachelor's degree with highest honors in accountancy from MSU in 1969, and a Master of Business Administration the following year.

In recognition of his generosity, the school is known as the Richard C. Adkerson School of Accountancy in the College of Business. The endowment takes the excellent reputation of the accounting school a step further, enabling MSU to join the ranks of five other Southeastern Conference universities with named schools of accountancy.

Adkerson understands the importance of private support in moving Mississippi State forward. His goal is to bolster the accounting school's stature and to create opportunities for its students.

The endowment of the School of Accountancy enables Mississippi State to vie effectively for top students and offer undergraduate and master's degrees in accounting and taxation to a wider array of students. A portion of the gift is designated for an endowed chair and a professorship, which will allow Mississippi State to compete internationally for top faculty members.

BUILDING *facilities* FOR THE FUTURE

WITH GROWTH IN ENROLLMENT *comes the need for enhanced facilities at Mississippi State University. During State of the Future, a number of construction projects were set in motion across campus with significant private gifts. In all, just under \$43 million was contributed for new and renovated facilities.*



Agricultural and Biological Engineering Building

The \$11-million, 40,000-square-foot building for the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering was funded through both state appropriations and private contributions. The department offers teaching programs in the university's two oldest major academic units, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the James Worth Bagley College of Engineering.



Band and Choral Rehearsal Facility

The fall 2007 semester began a new era for the MSU band and choral departments. The two groups moved into a new state-of-the-art facility which provides ample space for group practice sessions and serves as an aid for recruitment of prospective students for the College of Education.



Franklin Center

A \$1 million gift from Hassell Franklin of Houston, Miss., supplemented \$3 million in state funding to build the Franklin Center, a 35,500-square-foot facility that supports a comprehensive furniture research, testing and technical assistance program. The center houses the Institute for Furniture Manufacturing and Management, an interdisciplinary degree program.



Hunter Henry Center

The Hunter Henry Center serves as the headquarters of the MSU Alumni Association and the MSU Foundation. The unique facility was set in motion by a cornerstone gift from engineering alumnus Hunter W. Henry Jr., along with other campaign contributions. The facility now serves as a conference center and houses lifetime recognition for MSU's most faithful donors.



Palmeiro Center

A \$1 million commitment from former major league baseball player and alumnus Rafael Palmeiro assisted with the construction of a 68,000-square-foot indoor sports complex. The facility features a complete baseball infield within the context of a full football playing field.



Riley Center for Education and Performing Arts

A multi-million dollar commitment from the Riley Foundation funded the renovation of the 1890 Grand Opera House of Mississippi, transforming the Meridian facility into the impressive Riley Center for Education and Performing Arts. The center opened in 2006 and continues to serve as a valuable outreach tool for Mississippi State University.



Leo W. Seal Family Business Complex

MSU's College of Business has an expanded complex thanks to a significant gift from the Seal family of Gulfport, along with contributions from other alumni and friends. The new facility, which is a 52,000-square-foot addition to McCool Hall, includes a unique three-story atrium, the 300-seat W. A. "Bill" Taylor Jr. Auditorium, conference rooms, classrooms and student project "team rooms."



Templeton Athletic Academic Center

A new academic center for student athletes honors former MSU director of athletics Larry Templeton who served in that role for 22 years. The \$10 million facility was built in part with a generous contribution from the late Leo W. Seal Jr. of Gulfport. The Templeton Center serves the entire athletic department with its academic counselor offices, tutor areas and computer rooms.



Cullis Wade Depot and Welcome Center

The Cullis Wade Depot, a dramatic \$8.5 million structure designed to resemble a railroad station, contains the Cullis Wade Clock Museum, the MSU Visitors Center and a Barnes & Noble Bookstore. The building was funded by a private gift from alumnus Cullis Wade along with university funds and bookstore revenues. The facility fittingly adjoins "The Junction."



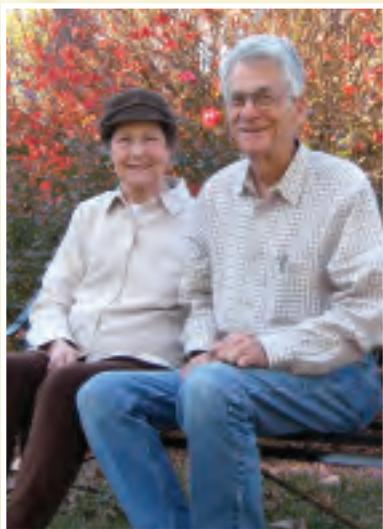
Davis Wade Stadium

Davis Wade Stadium at historic Scott Field was enlarged in 2001 to incorporate sky boxes and new club-level seating. The \$30 million expansion project, the largest in MSU athletic history, was initiated largely due to a private contribution in excess of \$8 million from the late F. Davis Wade Sr. along with self-generated funds.

CREATING *faculty positions* FOR THE FUTURE

THERE IS ALWAYS ONE PROFESSOR WHO TRULY INSPIRES A STUDENT—a professor who goes the extra mile and challenges the student to achieve, often turning him or her into a promising young scholar along the way. Chairs and professorships enhance Mississippi State University's academic colleges and schools in multiple ways, allowing them to retain top-caliber faculty members and attract talented teachers and researchers.

More than \$44 million was designated for endowed faculty positions during State of the Future. The campaign ushered in 26 new faculty positions, bringing the total number of endowed chairs and professorships to 47 university-wide. Funds from endowments may be used to supplement the salaries of outstanding teachers and researchers. Nationwide, salaries are very competitive and endowed positions enable the university to compete for the very best researchers and scholars. The following three gifts are representative of State of the Future success in this area.



Triplett Chair in Agronomy GLOVER AND IMOGENE TRIPLETT

With a desire to fund the first fully endowed faculty position in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Glover and Imogene Triplett knew the family land they loved so much was the perfect gift. The land, which had been in the family since Glover Triplett's grandfather bought it in the 1880s, was farmed for many years and also used for recreation.

The chair, established in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, is known as the Dr. Glover B. Triplett Endowed Chair in Agronomy. Triplett's vision for the endowment is for MSU to attract a world class individual to focus on increased productivity using conservation and holistic approaches in the field of agronomy.

Triplett is renowned for his pioneering work in developing "no tillage" farming. A professor at MSU since 1983, he has traveled the world teaching techniques to provide food while minimizing erosion.

This endowed chair is not the Triplett's first gift to MSU. The Imogene C. Triplett Endowed Scholarship was created to assist Mississippi residents majoring in ornamental horticulture and retail floristry management. A previous gift of a timber deed also established the Glover B. Triplett Endowed Fund for Crop Research, providing support for the plant and soil sciences department. Through their generosity and passionate involvement, the couple has established a legacy at Mississippi State of giving back and helping others.



Kennedy Chair in Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation

JAMES C. KENNEDY

Waterfowl- and wetlands-related teaching, research and service are being greatly enhanced at Mississippi State University through a significant gift. James C. Kennedy, chairman and chief executive officer of Atlanta-based Cox Enterprises Inc., established an endowed professorship in the university's College of Forest Resources to focus specifically on these two areas.

The James C. Kennedy Chair in Waterfowl and Wetlands Conservation is the first of its kind in the College of Forest Resources. The gift demonstrates Kennedy's dedication to conservation and waterfowl and wetlands resources. The endowed chair is one way he can ensure that generations will have waterfowl and wetlands, and people to study and steward these valuable natural resources.

Richard M. Kaminski, a 25-year faculty veteran and associate forestry college dean, is holder of the Kennedy chair. He is a professor of wildlife and a nationally recognized North American waterfowl and wetlands scientist who has spent his career studying waterfowl and their habitats and educating future professionals.

Since university-based programs focusing on waterfowl and wetlands conservation are declining in number, Kennedy was willing to make a commitment to preserve and enhance the program at Mississippi State University.



Crane Professorship in Architecture

JOHNNY AND BESSIE LYNN CRANE

The *State of the Future* campaign ushered in many changes for Mississippi State University's architecture school—not the least of which was its reorganization into a college to include the academic areas of art and design.

Through *State of the Future*, the newly organized College of Architecture, Art and Design gained its first endowed faculty position. Johnny Crane partnered with his company, Fulton-based F. L. Crane & Sons Inc., to establish a professorship in architecture. Crane is chief executive officer of the company, one of the most extensive finishing contractors in the nation.

The Crane professorship in architecture is linked to a premier faculty position filled by an outstanding scholar and teacher. Michael A. Berk, holder of the F. L. Crane Endowed Professorship, is a senior faculty member who was honored with the chair because of his extensive work in research, teaching and outreach. He is considered to be a leading expert in the area of ecological design.

Although not an alumnus, Crane and his wife, Bessie Lynn, are longtime supporters of Mississippi State. They are among the core group of contributors who are assisting Mississippi State as the university prepares its students by equipping them with knowledgeable mentors.

A CAMPAIGN *celebration* FOR THE FUTURE

AS STATE OF THE FUTURE neared its successful finish, alumni and friends who made leadership-level campaign gifts were honored with a special celebration during 2008 MSU Homecoming festivities.



Gold stars illuminated the Foster Ballroom in the newly renovated Colvard Student Union on October 24, 2008, as nearly 300 guests marked the culmination of *State of the Future*.

The "Faces of the Future" — children who appeared in campaign materials — were on hand for the grand finale. MSU salutes Aubrey Claire Armstrong, Drew Brown, Khris Carr, Jack Costello, Marina Fabel, Sophia Fabel, Noa Katherine Hardin, Porter Skelton, Rosa Webster and Isiah Williams for their Bulldog enthusiasm.



After dinner, guests enjoyed dessert and dancing at the Hunter Henry Center:



A NEW *leader* FOR THE FUTURE



DR. MARK E. KEENUM *became Mississippi State University's 19th president in January. Since that time, the Starkville native has had a chance to settle into his new role and begin interacting with constituents who share a common goal—placing MSU among the nation's top 50 public universities.*

“Mississippi State is a unique university with a unique mission of teaching, research and service and I’m committed to maintaining quality in all that we do as we grow this university and increase its reputation nationally,” Keenum shared.

While he spent most of his career in public service in Washington, D.C., as undersecretary of agriculture and chief of staff to Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran, Keenum always maintained his connection to Mississippi and its largest university. He earned three MSU degrees in agricultural economics and served on the faculty prior to joining Cochran's office.

A desire to reconnect with higher education led Keenum back to Mississippi. “I really felt like I had unfinished business at Mississippi State. Now, armed with the professional knowledge I gained through my career in public service, I can bring experience to my home state which will benefit the tri-fold mission of our university,” he explained.

Among Keenum's long-term goals for Mississippi State are boosting enrollment and retaining faculty.

“The university currently has around 17,800 students and with the growth we’ve experienced in

programs and new facilities through *State of the Future*, I believe we can continue the trend we began and attract more students from all areas,” Keenum said.

Broadening recruitment efforts is a priority for the university. “It will take a network of constituents to assist us in recruiting throughout Mississippi and reaching out to other states and encouraging the best and brightest students to attend MSU,” he believes.

Much of his first months in office have been spent traveling across the county visiting with alumni and friends, talking about the importance of Mississippi State. A significant portion of MSU's total revenue comes from private sources and Keenum certainly understands the importance of securing private gifts in support of the university's long-range strategic plan.

“More students create a need for more scholarships and a need for funds for faculty support, as well,” he said. “During these challenging economic times, the united support of our alumni base is essential, as is corporate and foundation support.”

Keenum has always relished the opportunity to be involved with all things Bulldog. Now, he can do so from his home base on the MSU campus where he resides with wife Rhonda and their four children.

FOUNDATION NAMES NEW

Board Members

AND OTHER LEADERS



BLAIR



CHILDS



CLAY



FISACKERLY



FRANKLIN



GARRETT



HATCHER



HOLLIMAN



HOMAN



RULA



WINGO

THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION is announcing five new and six returning members of its 44-seat board of directors that guides the fundraising arm of the 131-year-old land grant institution.

Board members whose three-year terms began Jan. 1 include: Mary M. Childs of Ripley; Beth Clay of Meridian; Haley R. Fisackerly and Richard A. Rula, both of Jackson; and Turner A. Wingo of Collierville, Tenn.

All five new members are MSU alumni. Childs, a 1980 banking and finance graduate, is vice chairman and chief operating officer of The Peoples Bank, while Clay, a 1967 English graduate, is owner of The Clay Firm. Fisackerly, a 1987 management graduate, is president and chief executive officer of Entergy Mississippi, and Rula, a 1970 civil engineering graduate, serves as president of Hemphill Construction Co. A 1967 general business administration graduate, Wingo is retired from a career in real estate.

Through the years, a host of prominent alumni and friends of the university have held board seats. Members may be reappointed after leaving the board for at least one year.

Those returning members include: Gary A. Blair of Brookhaven; Hassell H. Franklin of Houston, Miss.; A.P. "Jack" Hatcher Jr. of Pinehurst, N.C.; W. G. "Mickey" Holliman Jr. of Belden and Larry E. Homan of Fulton.

Blair is a 1981 agribusiness and general business administration graduate who is senior vice president and relationship manager of Land Bank South. Franklin, a 1959 management graduate, serves as president and chief executive officer of Franklin Corp. Hatcher is a 1949 civil engineering graduate who is the retired chairman and CEO of Robertson-Ceco, while Holliman, a 1960 management graduate, is the retired chairman and CEO of Furniture Brands International. Homan graduated in 1967 with an industrial arts education degree and is president and CEO of Tri-State Lumber Co.

Also returning to fill a special, one-year term is Linda M. Garrett of Atlanta. A 1969 accounting

graduate, she is a principal of Garrett Associates Inc.



Adkerson

In addition to naming new and returning board members, the MSU Foundation re-elected last year's officers to another one-year term. Continuing as board president is Richard C. Adkerson of Phoenix, a 1969 accounting graduate who completed a Master of Business Administration the following year. He is president and CEO of Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc. and co-chairman of McMoRan Exploration Co., an international oil and gas exploration and production company.



Rouse

James J. Rouse of Houston, Texas, will serve another term as vice president for the board. He is a 1962 management graduate who is a retired vice president of ExxonMobil.



Henry

Board treasurer for 2009 will be Hunter W. Henry Jr., a San Marcos, Texas, resident and the retired president of Dow Chemical USA. He is a 1950 chemical engineering graduate.

John P. Rush, MSU vice president for development and alumni, is the foundation board's CEO. David Easley, executive director of finance, is chief financial officer, and Bo Hemphill, executive director of development, serves as board secretary. All are Mississippi State graduates.

For more information on the MSU Foundation, visit www.msufoundation.com.

2009 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT *Richard C. Adkerson* | *President/CEO of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc., Phoenix*
 VICE PRESIDENT *James J. “Jim” Rouse* | *Vice President of ExxonMobil (retired), Houston, Texas*
 TREASURER *Hunter W. Henry Jr.* | *President of Dow Chemical USA (retired), San Marcos, Texas*
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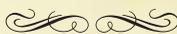


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