

# Foundation News



*The University of Mississippi Foundation*

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## Bancroft Fund Gives Equivalent of \$60 Million Endowment:

*Ole Miss to Establish Premier International Studies Center  
... Large Undergraduate Scholarships to Be Offered*

**W**ith one stunning announcement in September, we were given the world. "One of those milestones in the history of a culture" is how Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat described the extraordinary gift: the equivalent of a \$60 million endowment from the Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund to create the Croft Institute for International Studies. It's the largest contribution not only in the University's 150-year history, but also in the history of higher education in Mississippi.

Coming at the threshold of a new century, the Institute will ensure that generations of University of Mississippi students, thousands of youngsters, hundreds of Mississippi businesses and entrepreneurs, and countless other citizens in the state will be better prepared to experience success in a global community.

If the nation is to remain competitive, young people must be equipped to become active participants in a world where political barriers have toppled and physical distances have been bridged by technological advances. The Croft Institute not only will prepare college students but also will help introduce international studies to Mississippi schoolchildren and assist the state's business and industry community in increased international ventures.

Chancellor Khayat and Gerald M. Abdalla from the Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund announced the gift at a Jackson press conference. Abdalla, who earned undergraduate and law degrees from Ole Miss, is the CEO and president of Croft Metals Inc. of McComb. The Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund was established this year by the estate of Joseph C. Bancroft, founder of Croft Metals Inc.

"Rarely in a lifetime do we come in touch with an individual who enables a university to dramatically strengthen its programs," said Chancellor Khayat at the press conference. "Jerry Abdalla has



**Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (left) and Gerald M. Abdalla, CEO and president of Croft Metals, Inc., discuss the impact of the most significant gift in the history of The University of Mississippi. The announcement of the gift was made immediately following the September meeting of the College Board. It will fund the Croft Institute for International Studies.**

done just that through his leadership in making this gift a reality. The University of Mississippi and the state of Mississippi will be forever changed by the work of the Croft Institute."

The Institute is the primary beneficiary of a support trust set up by the Bancroft Fund. Equivalent to a \$60 million endowment, the trust will provide approximately \$3 million annually to fund the Croft Institute. In addition to the overall gift, the Bancroft Fund will provide \$3.25 million to restore and furnish the "Y" building. The second oldest building (built in 1853) at Ole Miss will house the Croft Institute in the heart of the Oxford campus.

*See Bancroft Fund page 4*



*Committed to Being One of America's Great Public Universities*

# Message from the Chancellor



*This edition of the Foundation News captures the spirit of the people of Ole Miss and dramatically presents the depth of commitment of our alumni, friends, faculty, staff, and students to the University. In the articles, photographs, and notes, we find compelling examples of the extraordinary levels of affection we have for our school.*

*During my visits with the entering freshmen I tell them that with their arrival, the University and each of them is forever changed — that the personalities of the students merge with the personality of Ole Miss — creating bonds that strengthen the individuals and the University community. This symbiotic miracle has been occurring for 150 years, producing a highly respected University and thousands of successful graduates.*

*Each of us expresses our love for the school in a unique way — some by recruiting students — others by placing a UM decal on a windshield or license plate — many by faithfully attending athletic and cultural events — others by actively participating in alumni programs — and more than 17,000 with monetary gifts ranging from one dollar to millions of dollars.*

*The Foundation News is published to assure that you are aware of the level of private support you are providing through your gifts. We have repeatedly stated that these gifts are essential to attaining “the margin of excellence.” For your generosity, all Ole Miss people are grateful. As we celebrate and give thanks for historic levels of private support, we also express our profound appreciation to each of you for everything you do to strengthen Ole Miss.*

*As members of the Ole Miss community, we embarked on an exciting journey designed to assure excellence in every aspect of University life — academic programs, buildings and grounds, classrooms, laboratories, libraries, student life, athletics, and the creation of an environment that assures extraordinary opportunities for students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends. Each of us has a unique role in our quest for excellence. I know we will enjoy moving forward together, and I thank you for loving Ole Miss.*

*Robert Krayat*

## Phonathons Boost Private Support for Ole Miss

**Increasing the University's donor base and educating our alumni and friends on the various worthy giving programs are a main focus of the Annual Fund Program. Its primary goal is to have every Ole Miss graduate and friend make a gift by the year 2001 in honor of the University's Sesquicentennial Campaign. Last Fall our students helped raise a record high of \$252,000 for different academic areas on campus during evening phonathons. A special thanks to all our alumni and friends for your support of the Annual Fund.**



# Hearin Foundation Commits \$5 Million to Ole Miss School of Business Administration

*The Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation has announced a \$5 million grant to assist The University of Mississippi School of Business Administration in its march toward national prominence.*

**T**he Hearin Foundation grant will undergird the business school's long-term strategic plan by providing funds for retention and recruitment of nationally prominent faculty members and for expansion of infrastructure services.

The late businessman and philanthropist Robert M. Hearin of Jackson first established a relationship with the University almost a decade ago, said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat, with support now totaling \$7.7 million. Scholarship assistance at The University of Mississippi Medical Center and programs of the business school have been strengthened by the support of Mr. Hearin.

"Robert Hearin is clearly recognized as one of the most remarkable Mississippians of the 20th century," Khayat said. "His legacy lives on through the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation, and we are extremely grateful for funds that provide the margin of excellence. We will carefully utilize this gift to implement critical elements of a strategic plan designed to gain national recognition for our School of Business Administration."

The Hearin Foundation grant crowns a semester of exciting events, said Dr. W. Randy Boxx, dean of business administration. As part of the business school's 80th anniversary and the University's Sesquicentennial, the Robert M. Hearin/Leon Hess



**Robert M. Hearin**

Lecture Series at Ole Miss sponsored a third production of the PBS show *Firing Line* hosted by William F. Buckley Jr.

"There is no question that the Hearin Support Foundation grant will enable us to continue strengthening our academic programs," said Boxx. "Mr. Hearin was a long-time friend of education. He saw investing in the business school as a means of promoting economic development in Mississippi, and we deeply appreciate the Hearin Support Foundation's grant."

The \$5 million grant will create up to seven Robert M. Hearin Chairs in Business Administration, as well as provide resources for general faculty development and infrastructure services.

Mr. Hearin envisioned a nationally respected School of Business Administration with eminently qualified business faculty, outstanding business students and student

enrichment activities that would supplement and enhance the educational experience.

A \$22.6 million business and accountancy complex on the Ole Miss campus is two-thirds complete, and the business school dedicated the complex's new Holman Hall. In addition, the College Board approved a new international business degree for the school. ■

## *U.S. Senator Thad Cochran Delivers McClure Lecture*

U.S. Senator Thad Cochran (R-Miss) (second from left) delivered the 12th James McClure Memorial Lecture in Law at the School of Law. His address was titled "The Senate's Special Role." Members of the sponsoring family on hand for the program in the Lamar Law Center were (from left) James and Angelé McClure, and Jimmy McClure, all of Sardis. The lecture series was established by James McClure and his sister, Tupper McClure Lampton of Columbia, to honor the memory of their father who graduated from the Ole Miss School of Law and practiced law in Sardis.



# McMullan Professor Delivers Lecture On Southern Frontier's Diversity

*"Red, White and Black: Diversity on the Southern Frontier" was explored during a brown bag lecture by Dr. Robbie Ethridge at The University of Mississippi.*

**E**thridge, who is one of two new Southern Studies McMullan Professors, joined the Ole Miss faculty in fall 1997. Appointed through a \$1 million endowment funded by James M. and Madeleine McMullan, she holds joint professorships with the Center for the Study of Southern Culture and the Department of Anthropology.

She received her doctorate from the University of Georgia in 1996 with an emphasis in both environmental anthropology and ethnohistory. Her research focus has been on gaining an understanding of the lives of the southeastern Indians and the environment they inhabited during the frontier era of the American South (ca.1600-1830).

The lecture in the Barnard Observatory examined the various people who made up the social landscape of the Southern frontier during the 18th century. "During this time, the South,

more than any other place in America, had a diversity of people never matched before or since," said Ethridge.

A native of Macon, Ga., the professor has been interested in American Indians since she was a young girl. During college, Ethridge discovered that studying American culture was a legitimate academic pursuit, she said, leading her to become an anthropology major.

"I'm very excited about my appointment at Ole Miss," said Ethridge. "The Center is a strong and vital presence on campus, and the academic freedom here is refreshing. This appointment is perfect for me. It allows me to combine both of my loves: anthropology and the South." ■



**Dr. Robbie Etheridge**

## *Bancroft Fund continued...*

"The leadership and direction of the University under Chancellor Khayat, the relentless efforts of the administrative staff and faculty, and the Chancellor's goals for academic improvement have all played a major role in making the Croft Institute a reality," said Abdalla. "The Bancroft Fund and the Croft Institute look forward to a long-term relationship with the University."

The Croft Institute will design curricula which will integrate courses drawn from liberal arts, business, finance, accountancy, economics, marketing and management, law, education, and the sciences. These curricula will form the basis for three regional studies centers focusing on Asia, Latin America and Europe, which are Mississippi's strongest trade partners.

"Our goal is to maximize the depth and intensity of our students' educational experiences. We have opened the new McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College, and now we're extremely pleased to offer this unique international studies center," said Dr. Carolyn Ellis Staton, associate provost and associate vice chancellor for

academic affairs. She highlighted some of the components of the Croft Institute:

■ Ten Croft Scholarships at \$28,000 each will be awarded for the inaugural academic year (fall 1998), with the number increasing until there are 40 on campus annually.

■ Sixteen Croft Professors will join the faculty. Current faculty with international expertise are serving on a steering committee and will participate in teaching the international curriculum.

■ Students can follow a course of study which will enable them to obtain a bachelor's degree in international business or international studies, as well as minors in regional studies and other internationally related fields.

■ Through broad-based outreach programs to K-12 educators in the state, Ole Miss will offer training and provide necessary resources to assist in integrating international studies in K-12 curricula.

■ An international symposium and an international visitor's program will be developed. While the first will bring scholars of international studies to the

Oxford campus to foster discussion that creates understanding of global issues, the second will sponsor scholars and attract eminent dignitaries to the University for public lectures, workshops, and teaching.

■ An enhanced study-abroad office on the Oxford campus will create new education programs and evaluate standing overseas academic programs.

Dr. Peter Frost — the William R. Harris Professor of International Studies and the former chair of the Department of Asian Studies at Williams College in Williamstown, Mass. — became the interim director of the Croft Institute in July. The search for a permanent director of the Croft Institute is underway.

"We have made the commitment as a community to be, and to be recognized as, one of America's great public universities," Chancellor Khayat said. "An Institute of this magnitude, of this high quality and of this stature will help us in that constant quest for excellence." ■

*Story by Tina Hahn, coordinator of university news.*

## *Abdalla Joins Chancellor's Trust as Further Show of Support for Ole Miss*

**T**wenty-three years after Gerald M. Abdalla left the Ole Miss-Oxford campus with undergraduate and juris doctor degrees in hand, he returned to help his oldest child get settled into freshman life. "I forgot about Ole Miss for the many years that I was gone," Abdalla said. "And yet when I returned, somehow I knew I was back home."

Abdalla quickly renewed his ties and guided the decision of the Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund to make a commitment equivalent to a \$60 million endowment for the University, providing the resources to establish the Croft Institute for International Studies, and a separate \$3.25 million contribution to renovate the "Y" building. The gift was the 25th largest in the last 30 years of this nation's higher education history, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education.

"It's amazing that one individual could make such a dramatic impact on a university's programs and resources for students, as well as an entire state," said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "Because of his dedicated service to Croft Metals, Gerald Abdalla found himself in a leadership position to do something great for Ole Miss. It's difficult to put into words the importance and far-reaching effects of this tremendous gift."

And in a further show of support for his alma mater and its leadership, Abdalla has become a member of the Chancellor's Trust with a \$20,000 gift. Khayat continued, "It is very humbling to know that the Abdalla family decided to add another level to their support by joining the Chancellor's Trust."

Abdalla, a former law student of Khayat's, explained his motivation: "Our idea was that if the Croft Institute is going to be at Ole Miss, then we wanted to be supportive in every aspect of the University. The Bancroft Fund trustees are excited about the institute being on the Oxford campus and want to be involved with the University community since we do have such a vested interest. We're sponsoring (and redecorating) a room in the Alumni Center Hotel, for example. On a personal note, I was interested in doing something that supported the Chancellor."

Being involved in the Bancroft Fund, which was created by the estate of Croft Metals founder Joseph C. Bancroft, has been a "fascinating experience," said the Ole Miss alumnus. "Initially it was a difficult job to be in the position of deciding how money amassed by someone else should be directed. It was exciting to walk into Robert Khayat's office and let him know about the potential for a completely unsolicited gift. In fact, it still feels unreal," he said. "This opportunity has made me feel that all the hard work here at Croft over the years has paid off. It's special, too, because so many of my family members are Ole Miss graduates."

After graduating from the Ole Miss School of Law in 1973,



**Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (right) presents Gerald M. Abdalla, President and CEO of Croft Metal, Inc. with a Chancellor's Trust Certificate in appreciate for his most recent gift.**

Abdalla earned a Master of Laws in taxation at New York University. He and Jennifer Assaf, both McComb natives married in 1973. She earned a bachelor's degree in 1972 from Ole Miss with a major in biology. After practicing tax law in Orlando, Fla., for five years, Abdalla was recruited by Bancroft to serve as Croft Metals' corporate counsel. He was promoted to president and CEO in 1996.

The Abdallas have been active in Centenary United Methodist Church and various community organizations in McComb, as well as the many activities of their children, 20-year-old Jerry, 16-year-old Tom, and 6-year-old Elise. Since Jerry has been in school at Ole Miss, the Abdalla family visits campus frequently, particularly during football season and for Croft Institute planning meetings.

"I didn't remember until I came back what Ole Miss had done for me," Abdalla told an audience assembled for the taping of PBS' *Firing Line* at the University in October. "Of course, back then in my college days, there were many good times, but I also believe I got a real jump start on a top-rate education. For both of these reasons, Croft has come here. We hope to give you (Ole Miss students) all a jump start to a top-rate education, and, in turn, we hope that Croft Metals also will benefit by having the opportunity to hire some of you.

"It is with great pleasure that I bring together two of my greatest loves: Ole Miss and Croft Metals." ■

*"It is very humbling to know that the Abdalla family decided to add another level to their support by joining the Chancellor's Trust."*

## Dedication of High-Tech Home of Business Administration to Holman Family

*The University of Mississippi dedicated a new 55,000-square-foot, four-story building in its new \$22.6 million business and accountancy complex to members of a Mississippi family who were pioneers in the retail grocery business, founding Jitney-Jungle Stores of America.*

**T**wo Jitney-Jungle founders — brothers William Henry Holman and Judson McCarty Holman, natives of Carroll County — and their descendants are recognized by name on a permanent plaque in Holman Hall on the Oxford campus.

“The Holman family has been very supportive of education in Mississippi and has always been interested in young people and the education they receive,” said Dr. W. Randy Boxx, dean of the Ole Miss business school. “By naming this state-of-the-art building for the Holmans, we pay tribute to the contributions they have made to our state and the continuous support they give to this University.”

When tracing the University’s relationship with the Holman family, which dates back to the early 1900s, Boxx pointed to William Henry Holman Jr. of Jackson, whose service on the school’s Business Advisory Council led to his involvement in business programs on the Oxford campus. Several family members are graduates of Ole Miss, and William Henry Holman III of Jackson now serves on the BAC.

“Henry Holman and I have had many long discussions about our faculty, curricula and other classroom experiences,” said Boxx. “He appreciates the importance of a modern, high-tech physical facility in the educational process; we are preparing students for successful careers in a global community.”

Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat responded, saying,

“It is fitting that thousands of Ole Miss students, who will be the business leaders of tomorrow, will study in an academic building named for the Holmans — widely regarded for their entrepreneurial spirit, for their leadership in both business and education, and for their generosity and service. The name ‘Holman Hall’ and this family’s legacy will serve as a constant inspiration to our students, faculty and staff.”

“The Holman family is thoroughly elated over the impressive, well-designed structure which will provide an excellent environment and modern resources necessary for business students to prepare for careers in a new century,” said William Henry Holman III, spokesman for the family. “It is an honor for the building to be named for the family, and we are happy to have had an opportunity to be a part of this project. The University of Mississippi has a great future, and we are pleased to be a partner in that future.”

Holman Hall is a student- and faculty-friendly building that provides a living laboratory of business, said Dr. Del Hawley, associate dean of business. “The complex is inviting, providing informal and formal areas for faculty and students to interact. It’s also definitely cutting-edge — that is, students will benefit from the latest computer and information technology, giving them the techniques and experiences needed to compete in the fast-paced, global marketplace,” he said.

Designed by Eley Associates/Architects of Jackson, the construction included the installation of 100 miles of cable to provide 2,000 network connections throughout the complex, such as in student study alcoves, student group study rooms, seminar rooms and faculty offices.

Other features of the complex include a 155-seat auditorium equipped with the latest advances in multimedia technology, a distance-learning center, an experimental simulation lab, an undergraduate computer workroom, two management information systems computer classrooms, a student organizations office and meeting room, seminar/conference rooms, student study lounge, faculty technology resource center, and a technology



**ANNIVERSARY**  
**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**  
 The University of Mississippi



Holman Hall dedication ceremony at The University of Mississippi

## *Mtel Chairman Receives Otho Smith Medal*

**U**niversity of Mississippi Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (below left) presents John Palmer (below center) of Jackson with the Otho Smith Medal. Palmer, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Mobile Telecommunication Technologies Corporation (Mtel), has greatly enhanced The University of Mississippi through business and telecommunications programs, athletics, and the Mississippi Congressional Archives. He is also recognized among our most prestigious alumni for his memberships in the Lyceum Society, Pacesetter, and Chancellor's Trust Program. Also on hand for the presentation was Dr. Bill Gardner, (right) a Hearin Hess Associate Professor in the School of Business Administration. ■



## *Advertising Executive Gives Otho Smith Lecture*



**D**ave Fitzgerald, (center) chairman and chief executive officer of Fitzgerald & Company and a 23-year veteran of the advertising business, presented the Otho Smith Lecture at The University of Mississippi School of Business Administration. Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (right) and Dean Randy Boxx (left) presented Fitzgerald with the Otho Smith Medal.

Fitzgerald's company was recently dubbed "Atlanta's Best Agency" by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle*, and *Adweek Southeast* named it the best agency in the southeast. Fitzgerald & Company represents such recognizable names as the Atlanta Braves and Atlanta Hawks, as well as the John Deere Co. and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

The Otho Smith Lecture series at Ole Miss is funded by the Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian in honor of the late Meridian businessman and philanthropist. The series brings noted business leaders to campus to interact with students, faculty and the public, and this year helps commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Ole Miss School of Business Administration and the Sesquicentennial of the University. ■

## *Dedication continued...*

maintenance center. In all, the complex will feature 12 new classrooms.

"The impressive Holman Hall and the rest of the complex certainly make a statement about progress," said Boxx. "The business school is on the move, and we are taking our place at the table of outstanding schools in the region and nation."

The Mississippi Legislature appropriated \$14.7 million for the business and accountancy complex, with the remainder of the construction being funded from private gifts. Another build-

ing in the complex — at four stories and 24,000 square feet — was slated for occupation in mid-October.

Conner Hall, home to the nationally accredited Schools of Business Administration and Accountancy since 1961, will then undergo a complete renovation, which is expected to take 10 to 12 months to finish. The School of Accountancy is housed in Holman Hall but will find its permanent home in Conner. A pavilion and courtyard will join the new structures with Conner. ■

# Hardin Foundation Issues Challenge Grant for Phi Beta Kappa Quest

**T**he Phil Hardin Foundation of Meridian again has provided leadership for The University of Mississippi's efforts to secure a coveted Phi Beta Kappa chapter by issuing a \$450,000 challenge grant, the largest in the foundation's history, to help ensure that Ole Miss meets the honor society's criteria.

If successful, the University will become the first public institution of higher learning in the state to get a chapter of this elite academic honor society.

"Successfully meeting Phi Beta Kappa criteria signifies that an institution has met significant national standards of excellence in undergraduate education in the arts and sciences, so all of us at the Foundation hope the University's efforts to secure a Phi Beta Kappa chapter become a model for other universities and colleges in our state," said Robert Ward, vice president of the Hardin Foundation.

University faculty members who are Phi Beta Kappa graduates have led the initiative for gaining membership, and Chancellor Robert Khayat and Dr. Ronald Schroeder presented the application in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 22. Evaluation included studies of the University's endowments, library holdings, technological resources and the strength of the College of Liberal Arts.

The Hardin Foundation challenge grant is to be matched on a two-to-one basis by the University and will contribute \$150,000 to increase Ole Miss' Endowment in the Arts and Sciences Faculty Excellence Fund, \$200,000 to endow three Faculty Fellowships in the Arts and Sciences, and \$100,000 to purchase the Kenneth and Rochelle Goldstein Folklore Collection (described as "the finest folklore library in the English language) for the University Libraries. The University must raise its \$900,000 by Dec. 31, 2000, to obtain the full \$450,000 from the Hardin grant.

If the \$1.35 million challenge package is successful, it will:

- Increase the existing arts and sciences faculty excellence fund's endowment from \$437,286 to more than \$1 million, enabling the University to supplement faculty travel, course development, effective teaching and more in the College of Liberal Arts.

- Create a \$600,000 endowment, a permanent source of annual income with which to reward and recognize three outstanding College of Liberal Arts faculty members, as well as support their work and development.

- Ensure the availability of the \$390,000 needed to purchase the Goldstein Folklore Collection, which Ole Miss is in the process of buying. With its 12,000-plus volumes; 6,000 records; field recordings; and hundreds of English, European and Southern ballad broadsides and songbooks from 1700 to 1860, acquisition of the materials will make the University's scholarly folklore collection larger than that of the Library of Congress.

"The Goldstein Collection will help make The University of Mississippi a major resource for studying folklore of English-speaking cultures in general, and of the American South in particular," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "Its acquisition will significantly strengthen our position as a major research institution and help with our efforts to secure a Phi Beta Kappa chapter."

In July 1996, the Hardin Foundation provided Ole Miss a \$24,000 grant to cover a number of expenses associated with the application process, such as supplementing a faculty member to guide the application and contribute to postage and secretarial expenses. The University should be contacted in 1998 as to whether it will be visited by a Phi Beta Kappa review team. If granted, a site visit would be expected during the 1998-99



**Phil Hardin Foundation representatives Robert Ward (right) and Tom Wacaster (center) visit with Chancellor Robert C. Khayat following the recent press conference announcing a \$450,000 challenge grant to Ole Miss.**

academic year.

"Securing a Phi Beta Kappa chapter will go a long way toward enhancing the University's academic reputation across the country, and we're very optimistic about our chances of reaching this goal," said Schroeder, chair of the faculty committee and associate professor of English. "We're absolutely delighted that the Hardin Foundation is supporting these and other efforts."

The Phil Hardin Foundation was established in 1964 by Phil Hardin, a Meridian baker. Believing his wealth had come from the people of Mississippi, Hardin decided to establish a charitable foundation that would work to improve the education of Mississippians. Upon his death in 1972, he left virtually his entire estate to the foundation. Its directors look for strategic opportunities to make grants in support of the Foundation's chartered purpose.

To help Ole Miss raise the \$900,000 needed to receive the \$450,000 grant from the Hardin Foundation send your contributions to UM/Hardin Foundation Challenge Grant, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677. For more information, contact the Foundation Office at (601) 232-5944. ■



# Ole Miss Makes Vault in National Ranking of Organizations Receiving Most Private Gifts

**O**utpacing any other organization in the state and many in the nation, The University of Mississippi has captured the 294th spot on Philanthropy 400, The Chronicle of Philanthropy's annual ranking of organizations that receive the most private donations.

The University's ranking was up significantly from its 378th place on last year's list, and Ole Miss officials say the 1998 ranking should go even higher based on recent gifts.

"This has been a truly remarkable year in the life of our university, as gifts far surpassed our highest expectations," said Ole Miss Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "We are grateful beyond words for the support we are receiving as we strive to be recognized as one of America's great public universities. Teaching, research, scholarships and the library are all strengthened by these private gifts. Increasing our endowment is key to the pursuit of a prestigious Phi Beta Kappa chapter."

Philanthropy 400 ranks non-profit groups according to the amount of support they attract from private sources — individuals, foundations and corporations. To be included on the list this year, organizations had to have raised a minimum of \$17.2 million.

At the beginning of the fall semester, Ole Miss announced that its endowment had reached \$175.6 million of which \$48.6 million benefits The University of Mississippi Medical Center, with the remainder designated for the other campuses. This

endowment is the largest of any public institution of higher learning in the state. Since then, the Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund has created a support trust equivalent to a \$60 million endowment to fund the Croft Institute for International Studies on Ole Miss' Oxford campus.

"We are thrilled by the University's dramatic move up the list — a benchmark that reflects the extraordinary support we are receiving from alumni and friends," said Dr. Don Frugé, vice chancellor for University Advancement. "The 1997 ranking was based on 1996 gifts, which totaled a very generous \$25.3 million. However, we are humbled by the fact that 1997 gifts at \$39.9 million exceeded that amount. This support will undergird and expand our academic programs in the new century."

Among colleges and universities on the 1997 list are Emory, Harvard, Duke, Yale and Columbia universities, as well as the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Johns Hopkins University.

"Our private support and endowment have reached the level of maturity that is nationally competitive," Khayat said. "While we have received some large gifts, the University's overall success in this area can be credited to a growing, committed support base that provides gifts in an array of sizes. We are most appreciative to the 17,563 donors who made a contribution last year, up from 16,272 donors during the previous year." ■

## THE PHILANTHROPY 400



### *Debut of The Triplet Alumni Center*

Since their college days, R. Faser Triplett Sr. and his wife, Jackie, have known they wanted to give something back to the University. So in 1993, they made a benevolent \$1 million donation, the majority of which helped fund renovations to the Alumni Center. Renovation of Phase II began last April, making improvement to the Alumni House swimming pool, dining facilities, adjoining rest rooms and the James N. Butler Auditorium. Phase I was completed last year, with renovation to the hotel rooms, the hotel lobby and the Alumni Affairs offices. With its hardwood floors, glass archway leading to the newly furnished lobby, and beautiful landscaping, the Alumni Center is a wonderful place to come home.

A ceremony on October 24 renamed the building for R. Faser and Jackie Triplett.

# *Move to Jackson Medical Mall Opens New Chapter In Medical Center History*

*The University Hospitals and Clinics (UHC) at The University of Mississippi Medical Center will employ new concepts of health care delivery in brand new outpatient facilities at the Jackson Medical Mall.*

**O**pening the primary care and specialty clinics at the mall marks the first time in Medical Center history that the institution has had such a major presence away from the 164-acre Medical Center campus.

To Medical Center vice chancellor Dr. Wallace Conerly, it gives the Medical Center a "golden opportunity" to participate in an integrated health care delivery system.

"When I was first approached about our participation in the Mall project, I thought of it only as a solution to our desperate need for space for our adult outpatient department. We could have the space we needed at a fraction of the cost of new construction." And that was the justification he took to the IHL board, which approved the project.

It took about six weeks to put the agreement together and establish the nonprofit Jackson Medical Mall Foundation. "When the dust settled from that activity, it became very obvious that we had been given a great opportunity."

## *An integrated health care delivery system*

The mall will have in one place an integrated health care delivery system that starts with preventive services and primary care and goes all the way through specialty care. It will house a conference center for medical meetings (in the old movie theatre at the mall) and headquarters for the Jackson Heart Study and a local office of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute that funds the study.

The Mississippi Department of Health, already a mall tenant, has several clinics for prenatal care, sexually transmitted diseases, and immunizations up and running. The pediatric clinic, in operation at the mall for several months, is a part of UHC's primary care clinic which opened January 5.

## *One-of-a-kind in the nation*

"The mall has blossomed into a real health care delivery



**The Jackson Medical Center Mall ribbon cutting ceremony**

phenomenon that is one-of-a-kind in the nation. Add to that, the support and enthusiasm of the community, and the end result will be the revitalization of that entire part of Jackson," Conerly noted.

As Conerly said, it was the plight of the adult outpatient department that made the mall project sound like such a good idea in the first place. They were cramped in space allocated when the Medical Center was new in 1955. Expansion in the current location was impossible.

## *Parking and transportation*

Patients will enter at the Bailey Avenue entrance and park on that side of the mall. Employees will enter from Livingston Avenue and park on that side.

For employees or students who need to shuttle to and from the mall from the Medical Center, the transportation division of physical facilities will have a van and driver assigned for mall transport, according to physical facilities director Glenn Ray. The van will leave the Medical Center every hour and half hour from the front of the hospital. It will drop riders at the east entrance of the mall.

## *Diabetic center*

In addition to the specialty clinics that exist in the current space, new services at the mall will include a diabetes education and treatment center staffed by the endocrinology division of the Department of Medicine. Two diabetic education specialists will be on duty with at least one of them certified in foot care.

## *Day care*

The child care center for patients, also new, won't open until July. It will be free to any patient who has an appointment that day and will be staffed with four nurses' aides and a unit secretary.

The adult day center, a program of the geriatric division of the Department of Medicine, now on Insurance Center Drive, will also be a part of the mall array of services. The Jackson Medical

Mall Foundation board has a child day care center for mall employees under consideration.

### Prevention and wellness

The UHC clinics will have a full-time dietitian who will work at physicians' requests for individual diet planning and with groups for nutritional support.

The mall concourse already has mile markers posted for indoor walkers. The zero marker is at Piccadilly Cafeteria, appropriately. When the cardiopulmonary rehabilitation program begins in July—also new—an exercise physiologist will join the cardiology and pulmonary physician team who will plan rehab programs for those who've had heart and lung surgery.

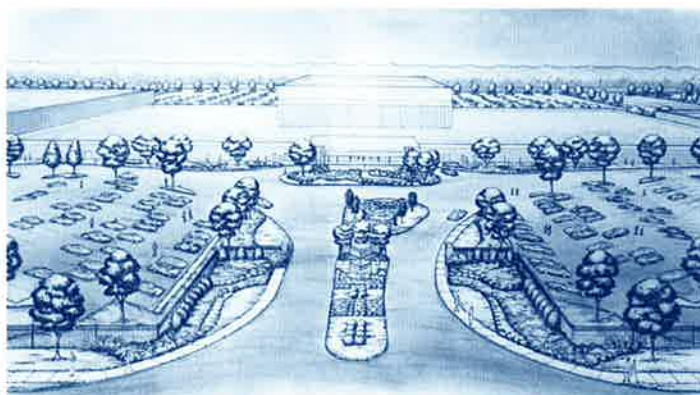
"I can't see any reason why patients won't enjoy coming here as much as it's possible to enjoy a clinic appointment," says Primus Wheeler, director of ambulatory services. "When they see how pleasant the surroundings are, and when they're treated with dignity, we won't have any trouble with patient volume."

### Primary care clinic

Dr. Hursie Davis-Sullivan, assistant professor of family medicine and medical director of the primary care clinic, is hoping for the same result. Unlike the specialty clinics, the primary care clinic doesn't have an existing patient roster because it's an entirely new concept at UHC. It has no precedent on the Medical Center campus.

Located directly across the mall concourse from the specialty clinics, Davis-Sullivan's clinic gives patients easier access into the system.

"Our goal is to make appointments for patients the same day



JACKSON  
MEDICAL MALL

they call," she said. Patients may choose which kind of doctor they want to see—family physician, pediatrician, obstetrician-gynecologist or internist. All four disciplines will practice in the primary care clinic.

"Consulting with other members of the primary care team will be as simple as going to the next office," she said. "We'll have departments without walls."

Any patient may come to the primary care clinic. Acting as "gatekeepers," the primary care physicians will refer their patients to the mall's specialty clinics if necessary.

"We'll have 10 physicians and a nurse practitioner waiting to see patients," Davis-Sullivan said.

### Charting new territory in health care

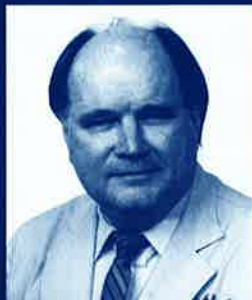
She's charting new territory in health care. Not wanting to reinvent the wheel, she's been calling around the country for advice and direction to see what others in similar situations are doing. But she's been out of luck. "There's nothing out there that's quite like this, so whatever we do, we'll be setting the standard."

Asked what she wants the community to know about the primary care clinic, she said, "I am so excited about this, and I just know that patients will love it if they ever come the first time. These are great doctors. All my life, when people have told me what they want their doctor to be, these are the doctors they're talking about."

Call Jim Albritton or Janis Quinn at 984-1100 for more information about Medical Center's move to the Jackson Medical Mall. ■

## Foundation Makes \$2 Million Pledge to Medical Center

Jimmy Dorris (center), chief executive officer of Kidney Care, Inc.,



Dr. John Bower

and Ann Bower (right), vice president, presented the first installment of a \$2 million pledge from the Kidney Care, Inc., Foundation to The University of Mississippi Medical Center Vice Chancellor Wallace Conerly (left). The pledge establishes the John D. Bower, M.D. Chair in Nephrology and Hypertension. Ann Bower is also the daughter of Dr. John Bower, professor of medicine at the Medical Center and director of the Division of Nephrology.



# Sesquicentennial Spotlight: A Cause for Celebration: *90 Years of Teaching, Research and Service*



**A**chievements of the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy on its 90th anniversary are a "magnificent tribute" to its commitment to enhance the health and well-being of Mississippians and the world through its instruction, research, service and patient-care programs. The school has established internationally recognized programs in these areas and is positioned to enter the 21st century as a premier, world-class pharmacy education institution.

From the School of Pharmacy's founding in 1908, its principal duty has been providing pharmacy education in Mississippi. The school has done a bang-up job of that, and far more. Proof is found in the following facts:

- Over 85 percent of the state's practicing pharmacists earned their degrees from Ole Miss.
- The school won every excellence in teaching award given in 1996 by national pharmacy organizations.
- The school provides continuing professional education to more than one-third of the nation's practicing pharmacists.
- The school has established nationally and internationally recognized drug discovery and development, community health, drug abuse, and pharmaceutical marketing and management research programs.

## *Patient Care*

Evidence of today's new consultation-based pharmacy practice is prolific at The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, where pharmacy faculty, residents and students supplement physicians' work with expertise on dosage delivery, medication costs, drug interactions and other pharmaceutical issues.

This year, the School of Pharmacy established a Pharmaceutical Care Clinic at the \$23 million Jackson Medical Mall to augment outpatient specialty clinics and a primary-care clinic projected to log 400,000 patient visits annually.

"This provides a learning and practice arena that makes our school one of the most progressive in the nation," says Dr. Kenneth B. Roberts, dean of pharmacy. "In many ways, we're leading the advancement of standards for pharmaceutical education, patient care and service to the profession."

## *Education and Training*

Budding pharmacists at Ole Miss are spending more time one-on-one with patients as integral members of the health care team to hone their patient education, counseling and disease management skills. And students pursuing careers in the pharmaceutical industry have more options for focusing their interests than ever before.

Students wishing to become pharmacists must complete a six-year curriculum leading to the Doctor of Pharmacy degree. These students spend 42 weeks of their sixth year in a series of clinical experiences in both institutional and community prac-

tice settings so they're prepared to take an active role in their future patients' care.

Students in the new B.S. in pharmaceutical sciences track programs are well-prepared for developing opportunities in industry. "Students graduating from these track programs have a solid, basic pharmaceutical science education, with additional training in the specialty areas," says Dr. Marvin Wilson, associate dean for academic affairs.

## *Service to the Profession*

With a wide range of continuing education (CE) programs, the School of Pharmacy is committed to strengthening the quality of health care by enabling pharmacists to practice on the leading edge of their profession.

Since 1992, more than 175,000 pharmacists from around the world have enrolled in home-study courses prepared by Ole Miss faculty and included in the magazine *Drug Topics*. This represents more than 65,000 individual U.S. pharmacists, or about a third of the nation's pharmacy practitioners.

Through innovative programs using the Internet, the school has established virtual classrooms in cyberspace, where pharmacists from anywhere in the world can earn CE units or pursue a nontraditional Doctor of Pharmacy degree. The school also continues to offer live CE programs such as the popular annual Keep-Up Seminar and certificate programs in managing disease states.

## *Magnificent Tribute*

Because of its outstanding 30-year track record in natural products research, the School of Pharmacy secured funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to construct a \$35 million National Center for the Development of Natural Products. Dean Roberts calls the center's elegant, corporate-style administrative offices and state-of-the-art research laboratories "a magnificent tribute to the legacy of achievement and commitment of Research Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and School of Pharmacy faculty members."

The 115,000-square-foot center--the nation's only university-related research center dedicated to exploring natural products as pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals--houses the University's new Science Library, as well as central animal, central

instrumentation, and high-tech lecture and conference facilities.

### *Discovery & Development*

Like a vein of rare ore, Ole Miss researchers are mining plants, animals and microorganisms to come up with compounds to use as new medications for treating and preventing a host of different maladies. Scientists making it their mission to find new drugs have:

- Discovered compounds that inhibit fungal growth in lab tests and other compounds effective against pneumonia commonly associated with AIDS.
- Developed a derivative of marijuana's active ingredient that, in suppository form, may not only control nausea in chemotherapy patients but also improve muscle control for people with spinal cord injuries or multiple sclerosis.
- Developed compounds that inhibit part of the body's immune response when it overreacts, which eventually could aid transplant, cardiac and Alzheimer's patients.

The School of Pharmacy is launching a drug-development company to help make these and other discoveries more attractive for commercialization. The Oxford-based company also is expected to sow the seeds of the pharmaceutical industry's growth in Mississippi.

### *Agrochemicals*

Finding natural solutions to problems that plague the agriculture industry is important business at the pharmacy school—home to what may be the largest group of scientists dedicated to that cause working together in one place. The group was created when the Natural Products Center became home to USDA's Natural Products Utilization Research Unit (NPURU).

While a host of NPURU and Ole Miss researchers are screening plants, animals and microorganisms for compounds to fight weeds, insects and fungi, another is looking for a feed additive to battle off-flavor catfish, which can cost Mississippi farmers as much as \$100 million annually in lost revenues.

### *Environment*

The link between the environment and the health of those who live on this planet is of great concern to pharmacy school



**Dr. Alice Clark, F.A.P. Barnard Distinguished Professor of Pharmacognosy and director of the National Center for the Development of Natural Products, prepares for a laboratory experiment.**



**A caseworker provides one-on-one education and patient care to a Mississippi Delta resident with high blood pressure.**

researchers studying how pollutants do their damage, determining the extent to which we and our children are exposed, and alerting us to possible dangers. Their efforts include:

- Working to minimize exposure to pesticides in the heavily farmed Mississippi Delta with a grant from singer Jimmy Buffett's foundation.
- Determining the effects of environmental estrogens on the reproductive capacity of aquatic wildlife with funds from the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Examining links between the environment and cancer with grants from the National Cancer Institute.

### *Community Health*

School of Pharmacy researchers have for years been developing new and better ways to deliver pharmaceutical care and related health services. Scientists in RIPS' Rural Health Research Program, for example, recently helped North Mississippi Health Services in Tupelo determine the health status of people in 27 Mississippi and northwest Alabama counties. The assessment prompted NMHS to add 10 clinics and hire more physicians, nurse practitioners and clinical pharmacists to expand its disease detection, prevention, treatment and education programs.

The RIPS program's expertise is now directed toward the Mississippi Delta, where a four-year, \$1.5 million study is measuring how well hypertension and diabetes are controlled when caseworkers provide one-on-one patient education and care.

### *Herbal Medicine*

Pharmacists nationwide would more readily recommend herbal medicinal products if they were marketed in a standardized form, according to an Ole Miss study exploring their perceptions of such products. Although 66 percent of pharmacists in the survey believe herbal medicines are not well standardized, 73 percent carry them in their pharmacies.

With herbal products blossoming into an unregulated multi-billion-dollar industry, researchers in the Natural Products Center are working to establish standards of identity, purity and strength for such products and working to develop analytical methods for checking the quality of herbs. ■

*Story by Barbara Lago, director of public information.*

# Fortune Continues Support of Husband's Dreams

**W**hen Chancellor Porter L. Fortune Jr. was at the helm of The University of Mississippi, he was known for his three passions: Ole Miss, history and the idea of creating a cultural center on the Oxford campus.

Nine years after his death, his wife Elizabeth continues to help ensure that those areas near to his heart — and hers as well — have the financial resources necessary for their success. She has established two Charitable Lead Trusts, with the funds' interest supporting the Porter L. Fortune Symposium on Southern History and the University Museums.

In addition, when recent bids came in over budget for the new wing on the University Museums, Mrs. Fortune stepped forward with a capstone gift so that the project could go forward.

"Through this support, I wanted to enhance two areas that give the University a special edge over and beyond minimum educational experience," said Mrs. Fortune. "My idea was to help provide for that margin of excellence and continue Porter's dreams for Ole Miss."

Chancellor Robert C. Khayat responded, saying, "For 16 years, Mrs. Fortune made tremendous contributions through the demanding role of being Ole Miss' First Lady. Since her husband's retirement, however, she has never slowed in her dedicated work with the University Museums and the history symposium. She is a remarkable individual, and this University is culturally richer because of her commitment."

The History Symposium has been an annual event since 1975. Renamed in 1983 to honor Chancellor Emeritus Fortune, Mrs. Fortune created an endowment for the symposium in her husband's memory. The event has received additional resources from the Mississippi Humanities Council and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

"The history faculty has always been extremely grateful to the Fortunes for their encouragement and support of the symposium," said Dr. Robert Haws, chair of history. "Chancellor Fortune was a historian himself and was instrumental in getting this event established. It always has been the history faculty's dream that the symposium become self-supporting. We are very



Elizabeth Fortune

pleased that Mrs. Fortune shares this dream and are appreciative of these new resources."

The Fortunes have always supported the University Museums and its role in the cultural center concept. It was, in fact, the chancellor's vision to make Ole Miss "the hub of cultural activities in Mississippi."

In 1992, Mrs. Fortune set up an endowment for University Museums acquisitions, and many of the couple's friends and associates have contributed to that fund, said Bonnie Krause, museum director. After his retirement, the chancellor served as president of the Friends of the Museums, and Mrs. Fortune is the current president.

"Lib Fortune is an all-around, true friend of the University Museums in every sense of the word," Krause said.

"She accompanies me on visits to see potential donors, she writes letters and she serves as a docent. She has been involved in so many different areas; her interest and support have been phenomenal. And now we're looking toward the fall with great anticipation — to the time we can hold a dedication for the new wing."

"One of my pet projects has always been the University Museums; I like to think of the museums as the cherry on top of the cultural center concept," said Mrs. Fortune, who remains involved in numerous University and community events and organizations, while keeping in touch with her four grown children and their families. "Programs like the history symposium

and the University Museums help develop the whole person. Becoming a well-educated individual should mean specialization in a chosen career field plus gaining an appreciation of the arts and culture."

As far as the funds she chose, Mrs. Fortune said the Charitable Lead Trusts provide a creative avenue of resources for the University. "I just want to show others that it can be done. You don't have to be a millionaire to support Ole Miss."

Dr. Don Frugé, vice chancellor for University Advancement responded, saying, "We are truly grateful to Mrs. Fortune for her unique gift to Ole Miss. In choosing to give through a Charitable Lead Trust, the income from the trust for a specified number of years goes to the University and then the assets are distributed to members of her family." ■

*"I just want to show others that it can be done. You don't have to be a millionaire to support Ole Miss."*

# Ole Miss Touted in National Publications for Scholarships, as 'Best Buy'

Ole Miss is featured in both *The Student Guide to America's 100 Best College Buys: 1999* and *The Student Guide to America's Best College Scholarships: 1998-99*, and the publications are available in bookstores across the country.

"This is great news at a most meaningful time," said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat about the University's selection for the two prestigious lists. "The Ole Miss faculty, administration and staff are steadfast in their commitment to provide an academic environment that is among the best in the nation, and our alumni and friends continue to generously support the University with resources for scholarships and academic programs."



The first publication highlights colleges and universities that have an entering freshman grade-point average and SAT score above the national average, with tuition costs below the national norm. For the second year, publisher John Culler & Sons has selected Ole Miss to be one of only 100 institutions included in this guide.

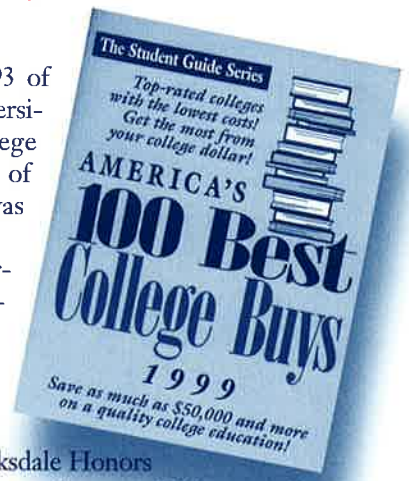
The second publication rates colleges and universities on merit-based scholarships, which are given strictly on merit and are not need-based or restricted in any way. Merit-based scholarships are awarded to students with good grades in high school who have demonstrated out-

standing citizenship.

Ole Miss is one of only 93 of the nation's colleges and universities included in Best College Scholarships, after a survey of 1,658 four-year schools was completed.

Ole Miss' Fenley Scholarship is the largest undergraduate award in the state at \$32,000, and in the last two years the University has added an array of new scholarships. Four McDonnell- Barksdale Honors College Scholarships at \$24,000 each are available annually, for example, as well as four Pichitino Scholarships at \$24,000 each. The newly established Croft Institute for International Studies is offering ten \$28,000 scholarships annually, and they join a list at Ole Miss that includes the prestigious \$26,000 Newman and \$24,000 Carrier scholarships.

"This book is the first publication that focuses exclusively on scholarships that are the best America offers," said Lewis T. Lindsey Jr., senior editor of the guide published by John Culler & Sons. "At a time when parents are borrowing more money than ever to send their children to college, these schools offer real hope to parents whose child has applied himself or herself in high school and who should focus on the best opportunities available. ■"



## UM Prepares Gallery of American Art

University of Mississippi Museums Collection Manager Bill Griffith recently began preparing for the addition of the new Seymour Lawrence Gallery of American Art to the Museums' galleries. Over 3,000 works of art had to be moved and stored to ready for the construction of the new gallery that is expected to begin this spring. The Robinson Gallery, the Children's Hands-on Gallery and the Millington-Barnard Gallery will remain open during regular museum hours throughout construction.



# Search for Director of New Croft Institute Sparks Interest Around Globe

*Academicians, diplomats, business professionals and military personnel from around the globe are responding to The University of Mississippi's search for an executive director to lead its new Croft Institute for International Studies. Approximately 110 applicants have asked to be considered to help build the new institute from ground level to what University officials expect to be international prominence.*

**T**he Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Educational Fund — created by the estate of the founder of Croft Metals Inc. in McComb, Mississippi — has provided a support trust equivalent to a \$60 million endowment to establish the Croft Institute. Announced in September, the gift to Ole Miss is the largest in the state's higher education history.

Associate Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Carolyn Ellis Staton said advertising for the University's first international personnel search started in October in some publications considered out of the norm for academic communities.

Advertisements were placed in *The New York Times*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Foreign Service Journal* and *International Career Employment Opportunities*. A State Department official in Washington, D.C., advised Staton on the publications.

"The University of Mississippi has been given an extraordinary opportunity to build an international studies center that will prepare students to successfully compete in a global community," Dr. Staton said.

"In this search, we are reviewing resumes that are rich with academic international studies

experience, international business experience and international public service. We are extremely pleased with the individuals who have applied, and many have told us this position and the Institute are the talk of the international community."

A University committee lead by Staton and Dr. Glenn Hopkins, chair of mathematics, have begun studying applications. "The review is different from anything we've done before in this academic community," Staton said. "The array of experiences applicants have to offer is truly amazing, and that pleases us. We want a director who understands the practical application of knowledge our students will need to make in a global community."

The search will remain open until the 19-member committee selects an executive director, but the plan is to have the person in place by summer 1998. The search committee for the directorship represents only one group working on plans for the Croft Institute.

Other search committees have been formed to select four Croft Professors, one each in the fields of accountancy, business, Chinese language/literature and Asian religion/philosophy. Additional Croft Professors will be hired as the Institute progresses, Staton said, and these first four also will be joined by six to seven visiting professors.

A steering committee is guiding policy development for the Institute, and a curriculum committee comprised of Ole Miss faculty members who have international interests and backgrounds has been at work for several months. The College Board will be asked to approve a Bachelor of Arts degree in international studies and has already approved a Bachelor of Business Administration degree in international business, which will be closely linked to the Croft Institute.

The Bancroft Fund also is providing a separate \$3.25 million gift to renovate the historic Y Building on campus to house the Croft Institute. Work is expected to get underway in early 1998.

"Certainly there is some anxiety when you're building a center of this magnitude from scratch," Staton said.

"There is also an abundance of eagerness and enthusiasm. For me, it's a labor of love. I have a passionate interest in international studies, and the Croft Institute is simply a dream come true." ■





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## TVA Announces \$100,000 Investment Challenge at Ole Miss, Gives Students Real-life Experience

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**T**ennessee Valley Authority — the nation's largest power producer— is making an investment in University of Mississippi students in hopes that they will make wise investment decisions while managing a \$100,000 portfolio from TVA's Nuclear Decommissioning Fund.

TVA is making available about \$2 million of the \$510 million set aside to retire the company's nuclear plants to 18 public universities in the Tennessee Valley. Director Johnny Hayes asked the company's financial staff to establish the program.

"The TVA Investment Challenge offers unique opportunities for training our next generation of financial leaders, and we are pleased to provide students with this valuable learning experience," Hayes said. Annual and three-year performance cash awards will be presented to the universities with the best returns.

Dr. Ann Canty, assistant dean of the Business School, and Dr. Mark Walker, associate professor of economics and finance, will oversee the five-year project.

Undergraduate seniors will receive course credit for participation in the investment challenge, and MBA candidates will use it as an extracurricular activity. Students will research companies, prepare investment portfolios and manage these portfolios for TVA, said Canty. Participants will complete transactions through First American Bank in Nashville, according to TVA.

TVA officials said the guidelines for managing the funds are designed with enough flexibility to give students practical experience in managing a TVA portfolio, and will ensure that students follow sound investment practices, such as diversification of investments. A TVA representative will be assigned to monitor each program. While the program gets underway with the spring semester, actual competition will not begin until TVA monitors results in the fall.

"The main thing is learning how to actually conduct stock trades and participate in investment activities," Canty said.



**TVA Director Johnny Haynes (left) presents a \$100,000 check to Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (right) and Dean Randy Boxx (center).**

Walker agreed, adding that students at Ole Miss often deal with hypothetical portfolios in class and tally gains and losses with play money. Not only will this give students a chance to make real investments, he said, but it also will introduce them to potential future employers and career opportunities.

In addition to being actively involved with the students participating in the investment challenge, managers from First American and TVA plan to visit classes and have invited Ole Miss students to Nashville to see first hand how their side operates.

"TVA wants to involve as many students as possible. We are pleased that TVA is offering this opportunity for our students to have hands-on experience in financial management," Canty said. ■



## 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.*

# Blair Designates Majority of Estate to Help Lee County Students Attend Ole Miss

*"To place your name by the gift or bequest in the keeping of an active educational institution is to ... make a permanent contribution to the welfare of humanity."—Calvin Coolidge*

**D**arl Blair of Tupelo was a quiet man who never wanted to be in the spotlight, says Pete Mitchell, Blair's attorney who knew him for some 50 years. His name and generosity, however, will be remembered by generations of University of Mississippi students who are encouraged in their academic pursuits through Blair Scholarships.

When he passed away in 1997, Blair left \$344,000 — the majority of his estate — to Ole Miss for the funding of academic scholarships set aside for Lee County residents.

"This is a remarkable gift because Darl Blair made the decision to leave The University of Mississippi almost everything for which he had saved and worked over his lifetime," said Dr. Don Frugé, vice chancellor for University Advancement. "He obviously had a great affection for his school and a desire to help young people. The University will be a good steward of this special gift, as this scholarship program is set up and administered in his name. Darl Blair has truly left a legacy through his generous spirit."

Blair spent his professional life as a field representative for the Mississippi State Tax Commission, calling on taxpayers to review their records.

"Darl Blair was a very humble, reserved person, almost to the

point of being shy," said the attorney from Mitchell, Voge, Beasley and Corban. "He was always loyal in his support of Ole Miss. He appreciated what the University had done for him and wanted to give others an opportunity to pursue a college education. If he could address students who receive these scholarships, I believe he would impress upon them the value of a good education."

The first scholarship from the fund will be awarded this fall. Recipients will be selected based on scholarship, leadership and need.

"Through Mr. Blair's generosity, many Lee County young people will have an opportunity to get a college education," said Lynn Lindsey, superintendent of education for the Lee County School District. "The rest of us can take heart from his willingness to share his life's accomplishments with others. His example of 'give something

back' to his school and his home county should serve as an incentive for all of us to share his dream of keeping the 'value of a good education' alive for years to come."

Dr. Mike Vinson, superintendent of the Tupelo Public School District concurred, saying, "This scholarship will allow deserving young people in Lee County the opportunity and financial means to further their education." ■

*"The University will be a good steward of this special gift... Darl Blair has truly left a legacy through his generous spirit."*

## Phelps Dunbar Endows Scholarship

The law firm Phelps Dunbar, L.L.P., with offices in Jackson, Tupelo and New Orleans, has provided a \$100,000 scholarship endowment to The University of Mississippi School of Law. Firm partner Ross F. Bass Jr. ('73) of Jackson (right) awards the first Phelps Dunbar Scholarship in Law to Lea Ann Lynch (center) of Houston, Mississippi. Joyce Whittington (left), director of career services and scholarships, represented the School of Law at the presentation. A first-year law student, Lynch graduated from Hinton (Okla.) High School. She received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Oklahoma Baptist University.



# *Austin Extends Support of University to Membership in the Chancellor's Trust*

**W**hen William Austin Jr. of Lake Cormorant was a child, a great-uncle introduced him to The University of Mississippi through trips to the Oxford campus for football games. Ole Miss, Austin recalls, left a "distinct impression" on him.

The prominent attorney — who earned an undergraduate degree from Ole Miss in 1956 — and wife Lynda are the parents of three children, all graduates of his alma mater and all married to Ole Miss alumni. In fact, including the whole family, there are six undergraduate and three post-graduate degrees from Ole Miss. Austin returns to campus often to attend professional education, alumni and athletic events — the latter of which usually with a grandchild by his side.

Between Austin's introduction to the University and the present are years he has spent pursuing an education, nurturing a family, changing careers, building a law practice, providing legal counsel to a county government in one of the fastest-growing areas of Mississippi and the seventh fastest in the United States, and committing time to economic development activities. But that distinct impression of Ole Miss has always been near, prompting him, in fact, to recently join the Chancellor's Trust with a \$25,000 gift.

"For the many, many years that I've known Bill Austin, it has always been apparent that he keeps this University and its future uppermost in his thoughts," said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat. "Bill and Lynda are faithful in attending Ole Miss events and in giving of their time, and are generous with their resources. Bill's recent leadership on the University of Mississippi Foundation's Board of Directors was greatly valued, and it is with deep gratitude that we accept this Chancellor's Trust gift."

Austin reflected on the gift by complimenting the University's leadership: "I think the University is in the best hands ever. The College Board could not have selected a more qualified person to be chancellor. Robert Khayat has all the feelings that Ole Miss people have about this University. Everywhere you look on campus there is construction underway or about to begin, and resources to fund the work. It's just an exciting time to be an Ole Miss Rebel."

From his association with the University Foundation, Austin said he developed a deep appreciation for successful alumni who are generous with service to Ole Miss. "I saw again and again that these board members took the time to take care of things; they didn't sit back and expect others to do the work. That's the thing about Ole Miss; it's the people who are connected with it."

The Austins are longtime supporters of the University



**Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (left) welcomes Lynda and Bill Austin of Lake Cormorant, Mississippi as the newest members of the Chancellor's Trust Program at The University of Mississippi. Established in 1975, the fund accepts unrestricted gifts to be used for the University's greatest needs.**

through an array of funds and projects: Lamar Order, Jamie Whitten Chair of Law and Government, and the Robert C. Khayat Scholarship Endowment, all in the School of Law; as well as the Loyalty Foundation, Ole Miss-DeSoto Center Scholarship Fund, Alumni Center renovation project, Friends of the Museums, Drive for Athletics, Chucky Mullins Endowment, Chancellor's Partners, Colonel's Kids and University Band uniforms project.

Austin earned a juris doctor degree from the University of Memphis Law School in 1972, after a decision was made to sell the family's farm in Lake Cormorant. The Austin Law Firm, PA

now has offices in Hernando and Southaven, where his daughter Mary Austin Monteith ('82 BBA and '85 JD) practices with him as one of his partners. Austin is the attorney for the DeSoto County Board of Supervisors and works with the Planning Commission and the Emergency 911 Commission.

Previously, he served as counsel for the City of Horn Lake.

Austin is past president of the DeSoto County Bar Association, DeSoto County Economic Development Council, Mississippi Association of County Board Attorneys and National Civil Attorneys Association. He is a member of the Mississippi Bar Foundation and the Tennessee Lawyers Journal Club. Austin is a retired Major in the Mississippi National Guard and a 33rd Degree Scottish Rite Mason.

He is a member of the Tennessee and Mississippi bar associations, member of the Advisory Board of Directors of Deposit Guaranty Bank, former chairman of the Board of Commission-

*"For the many, many years that I've known Bill Austin, it has always been apparent that he keeps this University and its future uppermost in his thoughts,"*

*See Austin page 21*

# Anonymous Gift to Provide Added Incentive for Education Students

**A** retired University of Mississippi professor and his wife, who prefer to remain anonymous, have established the School of Education Scholarship Endowment Fund to help students in the Teacher Education Program and in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

The scholarship program is designated for Mississippians who have reached their junior or senior level at the Ole Miss School of Education. The recipients should have the expectation of teaching or practicing in the state.

"Very simply, scholarship funds like this afford us the opportunity to attract the best and brightest to our programs," said Dr. Jim Chambless, dean of the School of Education. "The overall measure of any program can be determined by the quality of students it attracts. We have a very gifted faculty, and this scholarship fund will provide added resources to financially assist and reward deserving students."

The dean continued, "We are extremely grateful for the donors and their gift, which comes at an exciting time in the life of the School of Education. The School has just received reaccreditation, and our Department of Family and Consumer Sciences has earned accreditation."

The School of Education was reaccredited for five years under the performance-oriented standards of the National Council for Accreditation for Teacher Education, which is recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as the only accrediting body for schools, departments and colleges of education. In addition, the NCATE board of examiners recognized the Ole Miss School of Education for "exemplary practices" for its partnerships with Professional Development Sites where future educators gain experience.

"We are honored to receive national recognition for our collaboration with Professional Development Site partners," said Chambless. "This validates the efforts of our faculty, students and public school partners to provide clinical experiences that prepare teachers, counselors and administrators to meet the challenges of the 21st century."

In conjunction with local public school districts, Ole Miss has established eight Professional Development Sites across north Mississippi: DeSoto County School District, Lafayette County School District, New Albany Public School District, North Mississippi Regional Center, Oxford School District, Pontotoc City Schools, South Panola School District, and Tupelo Public School District.

To meet NCATE standards, professional education programs must: ensure that subject content and how to teach it is a

priority; focus on candidate performance; emphasize school district collaboration; use technology in instruction; and prepare teacher candidates to teach students from diverse backgrounds.

The Department of Family and Consumer Sciences has been granted full accreditation by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences through the year 2004. It is now one of only 70 programs nationwide fully accredited by the AAFCS.

The department — which has evolved and expanded from what used to be known as home economics — offers degree programs in four areas of emphasis: fashion merchandising, dietetics-nutrition management, hospitality management, and child and family life. Currently, about 200 Ole Miss students are enrolled in such degree-track programs.

"This is not home economics as people used to think of it," said Dr. Erskine Smith, Ole Miss associate professor and chair of the department. "Our program is contemporary and innovative. We haven't pigeonholed everything toward training teachers in our curriculum but are addressing the demands and issues of the industries involved in our emphasis areas."

Smith continued, "Our goal is to build a state-of-the-art family and consumer sciences program. And with an active faculty concerned about our students, our programs and our University, we're getting there."

There are tangible signs. In spring 1997, six Ole Miss students earned degrees in dietetics-nutrition management, and all of them subsequently were accepted into internship programs.

"That's an outstanding class," said Smith. "The national rate of acceptance is about 50 percent."

One of the six students — Karoline Smith Nelson of Yazoo City — was named the 1997 Outstanding Dietetic Student in Mississippi. She is now interning at Rush Presbyterian St. Luke Hospital in Chicago, one of the preeminent medical centers in the country.

In large part, Smith sees his department at Ole Miss as a service provider of what people in Mississippi need, noting that quality-of-life issues in the state are important factors in developing curriculum and advising students on career choices. The department's faculty, he says, is strong in private industry field-work experience and well-represented on national association committees with leadership responsibilities. "That kind of involvement makes for a stronger faculty," Smith said. "And a stronger faculty makes for a stronger program."

Individuals or groups interested in contributing to the School of Education Scholarship Endowment, can contact The University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677 or (601) 232-5944. ■



# State's Largest Community/Junior College Transfer Scholarship Awarded at Ole Miss

**F**or the second year, The University of Mississippi has awarded the state's largest community/junior college scholarship to reflect its commitment to academic excellence and leadership for a deserving transfer student.

Stephen Eugene Poole of Collinsville is the recipient of the \$13,000 Community College Excellence Award. Selected on the basis of scholarship and leadership, one candidate from each of the community/junior colleges in Mississippi is nominated by his/her academic dean for the scholarship. The award is the equivalent of Ole Miss' most prestigious freshman award, the New Scholarship.

Said Chancellor Robert C. Khayat, "We are pleased to be able to reward the outstanding academic and leadership achievement of Stephen Poole with this special scholarship. Community/junior college students are among our best and brightest scholars, and we value their presence on our campus. This scholarship, along with our Phi Theta Kappa and leadership scholarships, represents our strong commitment to community/junior college students.

A transfer from Meridian Community College (MCC), Poole is enrolled in the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy. At MCC, Poole received the Faculty Association Scholarship and the Foundation Scholarship. He was on the President's List, named Who's Who Among American Community College Students and won the Eagle Award for outstanding accomplishments as a freshman.

As an officer of Phi Theta Kappa international honor soci-



**Chancellor Robert C. Khayat (left) congratulates Stephen Eugene Poole of Collinsville on receiving the prestigious \$13,000 Community College Excellence Award at Ole Miss. The state's largest community/junior college scholarship, along with Phi Theta Kappa and leadership scholarships, reflects Ole Miss' commitment to students transferring from two-year colleges.**

ety, Poole helped his chapter, Nu Upsilon, win regional offices two years in a row. He was nominated for both the All-Mississippi and All-USA Community and Junior College Academic Team, and he represented MCC at the Ole Miss Scholars Conference and the Mississippi-Louisiana-Alabama Regional Honors Institute at Millsaps College.

Poole's other activities at MCC included tour leader for first-year Student Orientation and membership in the Leadership Effectiveness and Development Program. Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Baptist Student Union.

In community service, the outstanding student participated in AIDS Awareness programs, Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, State Games of Mississippi, Backyard Bible Club, and Bowl and West Lauderdale Elementary Science Fair.

In addition to his leader and service as a student at MCC, Poole was employed in the in-patient pharmacy division of Rush Foundation Hospital in Meridian, working 30-40 hours weekly during the summer and 10-15 hours each week during the school semesters. He also worked 25-30 hours each month to fulfill an MCC Athletic Assistantship, and he was employed by the MCC Special Populations Department as a note taker and tutor for students qualifying under the Americans With Disabilities Act.

Poole is a member of Westwood Baptist Church in Meridian, where he is a choir member and has assisted with youth programs. ■

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## *Austin continued...*

ers for the Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium and a former member of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning. Austin also serves on the Community Council of Lifeblood.

His wife, Lynda, a native of Memphis, attended the University of Memphis and is a retired manager from Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner & Smith. She serves as the Mississippi alderman for the Village of Memphis, Mississippi, does volunteer work for the DeSoto County Economic Development Council, and is

working as an ambassador in DeSoto County for the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange for the upcoming Spondors of Versailles exhibit.

Their children are Caroline Austin Rosser of Oxford, Mary Austin Monteith of Lake Cormorant and William Austin III, also of Lake Cormorant; and grandchildren are Caroline Burgess, Mary McGhee Monteith and John Austin Monteith. The Austins are members of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church in Southaven. ■

# School of Accountancy Receives World's Largest 19th-century Book Collection

## Gift speaks to Ole Miss' Worldwide Reputation for Accounting History Research

**T**he University of Mississippi School of Accountancy has become the repository for what is thought to be the world's largest collection of 19th-century accounting books.

Dr. Peter L. McMickle of Memphis, a certified public accountant, has donated his collection of accounting books that has been amassed over a span of three decades. His donation to Ole Miss is valued at approximately \$150,000.

"This gift speaks to the significance of accounting history libraries at Ole Miss," said Dr. James W. Davis, dean of the School of Accountancy and historian for the Mississippi Society of CPAs.

McMickle's collection consists of about 1,600 volumes published prior to 1950, including 400 published prior to 1900. Twenty-five books were published prior to 1800; the oldest volume in the collection dates to 1655.

Dr. Dale Flesher, associate dean of the accountancy school and past president of the Academy of Accounting Historians, said the holdings at the Library of Congress and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants in New York, although extensive, are not as inclusive of 19th-century material. That's what makes the collection so important, he said.

"Many volumes are quite rare, per-

haps unique. Some books are available at no other library in the United States."

Davis said the books are a tremendous asset to the accounting history resources available on the Oxford campus. "Once Conner Hall's renovation project is completed, these historic books will comprise the Peter L. McMickle Accounting History Library.

In addition to the holdings of the J.D. Williams Library in the field of accountancy, the School of Accountancy also houses the National Tax History Research Center, the National EDP (Electronic Data Processing) Auditing Archival Center and the Academy of Accounting Historians' extensive videotape library.

"The School of Accountancy's reputation is the reason this exceptional McMickle Collection has come our way. This amplifies our claim to being the outstanding resource, worldwide, for accounting history research," the dean said.

Dr. Tonya Flesher, also a past president of the Academy of Accounting Historians and director of the Tax History



**Dr. James W. Davis (left), dean of the School of Accountancy, and Dr. Dale Flesher, associate dean, unpack a few of the nearly 70 boxes of accounting books recently donated by Dr. Peter L. McMickle of Memphis.**

Research Center, pointed out the honor Ole Miss receives as the beneficiary of McMickle's donation.

"Dr. Peter McMickle has no previous association with The University of Mississippi. He wanted us to house his collection because of the reputation of the School of Accountancy," she said.

Initially, the McMickle Collection is being housed in the National Tax History Research Center in LaBauve Hall. It will be moved to Conner Hall this fall, when a grand opening is planned. ■

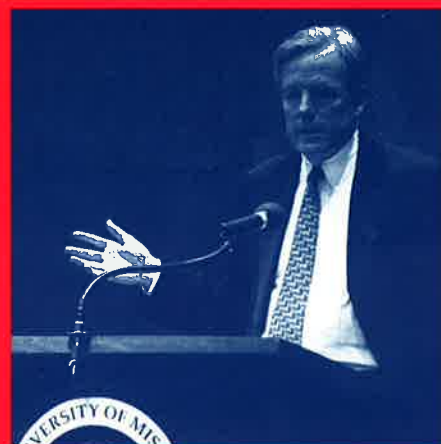
## Otho Smith Lecturer

**Netscape President and Chief Executive James L. Barksdale addresses a packed auditorium of business leaders, faculty and students at The University of Mississippi as the Otho Smith Lecturer.**

**The California-based Netscape Communications Corporation is the largest maker of World WideWeb software, with more than 8 million customers.**

**Barksdale and his wife, Sally McDonnell Barksdale, recently gave \$5.4 million to fund a unique honors college aimed at keeping Mississippi's brightest students in state.**

**The Otho Smith Lectureship 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 business leaders to the Oxford campus.**





**A Message From:**

## **Don L. Frugé,**

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

*This is truly an exciting time at The University of Mississippi with private support from our alumni and friends increasing in the first six months of fiscal year 1997-98 to \$14.7 million, up from \$13.8 for the same period last year. Our commitment to being one of America's great public universities is exemplified by the University's endowment escalating to \$192.6 million as of December 31, 1997.*

*The University's private support and endowment have reached the level of maturity that is nationally competitive among other colleges and universities and our ratings continue to increase each year. In a recent report issued by the Chronicle of Higher Education, Ole Miss ranked 160th for its 1996-97 fiscal year end endowment total of \$175.6 million.*

*Our endowment is the largest of any public or private institution of higher learning in the state of Mississippi. The University of Mississippi Foundation continues to expand our services and support responsibilities to encompass additional activity in the area of private support. With the addition of four new advancement associates, we also completed the expansion of Memory House to provide office space for our new staff members.*

*We are especially pleased to welcome a new director of deferred and planned giving. Tony Montgomery, an Ole Miss graduate comes to us with a wealth of administrative experience that will further enhance the advancement team.*

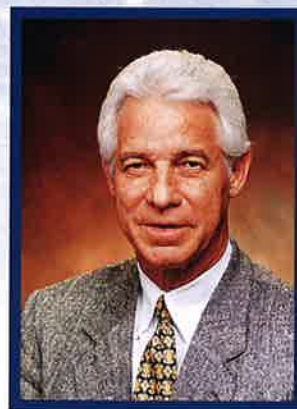
*We look forward to working with you and for you to help strengthen your University.*

*Don L. Frugé*

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## **University Advancement Welcomes New Staff Member**

**Tony R. Montgomery** (B.S.PH '66), Director of planned and deferred gifts, an Ole Miss Pharmacy graduate also earned a master's degree in Hospital Administration from the University of Alabama in Birmingham in 1971. Further studies include the Stanford Executive Program at Stanford University in 1992. Before joining the Advancement team, he served as a hospital pharmacist, Executive Director and CEO of hospitals in Brookhaven and Meridian Mississippi, and as a registered representative for Aetna Investment Services in Jackson, Mississippi. He is responsible for assisting individual University donors with gifts through their estates and trusts as well as establishing other tax advantage gift programs.



# *The University of Mississippi Foundation*



## *The University of Mississippi Foundation*

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