

# Foundation News



The University of Mississippi Foundation  
VOLUME 4 NUMBER 3 • SPRING 2000



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## *\$100 Million Gift from Ole Miss Alums Creates Statewide Reading Institute*



*James Barksdale visits with students at Richland (Mississippi) Elementary School in Rankin County. Barksdale and his wife, Sally, created the Barksdale Reading Institute to dramatically improve the reading skills of children.*

In a historic partnership of private and public sectors, James L. Barksdale—former CEO of Netscape and one of Silicon Valley's leading venture capitalists—and his wife, Sally, have donated \$100 million to The University of Mississippi Foundation to create the Barksdale Reading Institute.

A joint venture with The University of Mississippi School of Education, the Mississippi Department of Education, and the state's seven other public university schools of education, the institute is designed to dramatically improve the reading skills of children through a systematic and direct implementation of a research-based reading reform model.

"We've been blessed, and it's time to give back to society. We chose Mississippi schools to begin this reform because it is our home state, and we want it to serve as an example of what can happen when the private and public sectors work together to attack society's greatest issues," said Barksdale.

Recognizing that every child needs to be able to read proficiently to be both an economically and socially productive member of society, the Barksdales' gift—believed to be the largest-ever private donation aimed at promoting literacy—has made it possible for Mississippi's public schools, colleges, and universities

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## Message from the Chancellor

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Those of us who are privileged to live and work in the University community are often frustrated by our inability to adequately express our appreciation to you. Your participation in the life of the University—at Oxford, the Medical Center, Tupelo, and Southaven—enhances and strengthens each of our campuses.

As we continue our progress toward being recognized as one of America's great public universities, I remind you that our objective will be realized through a relentless, united commitment to excellence. Faculty, staff, and students are working tirelessly; leaders in state and federal government are providing extraordinary support; and, as you will see as you read *Foundation News*, you are providing the margin of excellence.

Dramatic increases in the number of donors at all levels have resulted in historic private support. A healthy economy and prudent management of resources by the investment committee have facilitated a dramatic increase in the value of our endowment. Extraordinary gifts have allowed us to expeditiously address challenges in the library, provide salary and scholarship enhancements, initiate new academic programs, and improve classrooms and laboratories while restoring historic buildings, constructing a chapel, and enhancing the appearance of our campuses.

It is not an exaggeration to describe the revitalization of the University as a renaissance. This is a time of renewal and progressive growth. We are privileged to participate in this noble enterprise together—as a community of people who are passionate about this University. Thank you for representing Ole Miss, for encouraging students to join us, for attending campus events, and for investing your resources in this great university.

Warmest regards,

Robert Khayat

## Message from Don L. Frugé President/CEO, The University of Mississippi Foundation

Thank you for allowing me to serve as president of The University of Mississippi Foundation. Every day is filled with calls, e-mails, letters, and security transfers from friends and alumni of the University like you who truly want Ole Miss to be a great public institution. I am privileged to serve you as you strengthen the quality of education and life at Ole Miss.

The first six months of this fiscal year have seen private gifts soar to record levels. For the period July 1, 1999, through December 31, 2000, alumni and friends generously gave \$70.8 million in private support. In comparison, we received just over \$37 million in private gifts for the entire fiscal year ending June 30, 1999. In similar fashion, the total University and Foundation endowments grew from \$230.8 million as of June 30, 1999, to \$287.9 million as of December 31, 1999.

These wonderful dollar figures result in more scholarships for students, more support to faculty and staff, better libraries, improved campus facilities, and increased funds for programmatic support to our departments. Your gifts help improve the minds and lives of students, faculty, and staff—present and future.

As we approach the final months of the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*, it is our hope that all alumni and friends will make an individual contribution. More than one-fourth have already given. If you have not, please consider making a gift before December 31, 2000.

Don L. Frugé



## Ole Miss Receives \$31.8 Million Trust from Anonymous Donor for Future Needs

An anonymous philanthropist has invested in the future by presenting The University of Mississippi with an unusual \$31.8 million gift—projected to be worth \$200 million in about 40 years.

To further enhance the incredible contribution—which Ole Miss officials say will grow to be one of the largest gifts in the University's history—the donor has specified that the University can dedicate the resources to whatever needs are greatest on the Ole Miss-Oxford campus.

“The donor has asked to remain anonymous, but it's important to know that the overriding concern of the benefactor is the use of personal wealth to enhance the lives of others,” Ole Miss Chancellor Robert Khayat said. “The donor—a native Mississippian and friend of The University of Mississippi—believes that education is the key to a better future. This is a historic day in the life of our University; we are extremely grateful and yet humbled by the magnitude of this gift.”

The University of Mississippi Foundation will manage the gift, which has been set up as a charitable remainder unitrust. The Foundation will invest the gift, with projected earnings on the investment approximately 9.5-10 percent annually. Under this type of trust arrangement, the donor will receive 5 percent in earnings annually (received in quarterly payments) for the remainder of his life.

The balance of the investment's earnings will be added to the trust corpus until the donor's death, at which time the entire trust will become part of the University's permanent endowment.

“The impact of this gift is indescribable and beyond measure, the vision of the donor even more so,” Khayat continued. “Never before in the history of this flagship institution have we been presented with such generous unrestricted resources. Future students, faculty, staff, and chancellors will realize the full benefit of this gift.”

mitted stewards.”

When the gift becomes part of the University's permanent endowment, only the interest—estimated at \$10 million annually—will be spent each year. Khayat said that when these resources become available, the Foundation's board of directors, in consultation with the University's administration,

**‘This donor clearly sees Ole Miss as the bright star through which his gift can dramatically improve Mississippi and beyond.’**

The gift comes as the University enters its final year of the \$200 million *Commitment to Excellence* capital campaign, which has already garnered more than \$175.6 million. Dramatic growth has occurred in private support in recent years, with the permanent endowment growing from \$114.3 million in 1995 to \$287.9 million in 2000.

“This donor clearly sees Ole Miss as the bright star through which his gift can dramatically improve Mississippi and beyond,” said Dr. Don Frugé, president and CEO of the University Foundation. “When these funds are available to the University, it will create a large pool of unrestricted money that no other Ole Miss administration has ever had at its discretion. This extraordinary gift exudes confidence in the University Foundation's ability to structure and manage the resources. A person doesn't entrust this kind of gift to an institution unless he feels very secure and comfortable. We are complimented and pledge our efforts toward being good, com-

will make decisions about how they will be used. Some of the areas that will be enhanced by the funds include the library, student scholarships, faculty support, and infrastructure.

“The fact that the investment market is strong and is experiencing double-digit growth is particularly exciting,” Frugé said, when discussing the gift's potential. “But the University Foundation is the ultimate long-term investor. We position our assets in such a way to produce reasonable total returns. And, by paying out a portion of the income and reinvesting the balance of the interest earned by the trust each year, we are looking at an amazing total return to the donor during his lifetime and tremendous resources to enhance the University's academic environment after his death.

“In fact, I have never felt better about the future of the University,” Frugé said. “The legacy of the current administration is ensuring a financially secure University through a combination of public and private support.” ■

## *Member of Family that Founded Jitney Jungle Supports Programs at Oxford, Medical Center*

**\$15 million is one of the largest single gifts ever to University**

**S**purred by the desire to help his fellow Mississippians, Judson H. Kroeze of Brandon, Mississippi, decided to offer support to higher education.

Announced in mid-September, his support—a \$15 million gift to Ole Miss and its Medical Center—is one of the largest private contributions from an individual to Mississippi's oldest university.

Chancellor Khayat attempted to describe the enormity and impact of the gift. "We are overwhelmed by the extraordinary generosity of Judson Kroeze," Khayat said. "It is difficult to express our profound gratitude. It is with great humility that we accept the challenge of utilizing these resources to enhance educational opportunities for our students. We pause and reflect on how blessed we are to have such a loyal, kind,

Kroeze, a Jackson native, grew up in the corporate world of Jitney Jungle Stores of America Inc., founded by, among others, Kroeze's maternal grandfather, Judson McCarty Holman. "Through my work with Jitney Jungle, I saw that Ole Miss turns out the leadership of this state. When the company sold, I wanted to be extremely careful with what had been given to me. I've always been very grateful to the Lord and to all the Mississippians who made Jitney Jungle successful. Therefore, I wanted my resources to have a perpetuating effect. For me, the choice was Ole Miss, where this gift will generate new and additional benefits for young people."

Kroeze said he had "utmost faith in Robert Khayat and his administration," as well as a great respect for the research conducted

by Mr. Kroeze's exceptional philanthropy," said Dr. A. Wallace Conerly, vice chancellor for health affairs and dean of the School of Medicine. "His highly generous \$2.5 million gift to the Medical Center will establish a permanent endowment for our Department of Microbiology. Funds earned on the corpus will be used to enhance and enrich our educational and research programs in this discipline."

Ole Miss officials are exploring how the total \$15 million gift will be utilized to enhance the academic community. Among areas to benefit are

- \$4 million for the restoration of Old Chemistry. The building will be named the Kroeze Fine Arts Center.
- \$300,000 for the Southern studies library holdings in the J.D. Williams Library. The enhancement will strengthen—programs of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture.

- \$200,000 for the Department of Modern Languages to support the teaching of French, including stipends to enable deserving students to participate in summer study abroad in France.

- \$500,000 for several departments in the College of Liberal Arts, including the departments of Classics, Philosophy and Religion, Social Work, Sociology and Anthropology, and Biology.

"I spent many football weekends at my father's alma mater (Ole Miss). I've kept in contact with Ole Miss alumni over the years and enjoy visiting there with my wife, Sylvie," Kroeze said. "I am amazed at the growth of the University, with its four campuses, and at all its new academic programs." ■

### **'Through my work with Jitney Jungle, I saw that Ole Miss turns out the leadership of this state.'**

and sensitive friend who has an unwavering concern for others."

The chancellor continued, "This gift obviously will have a dramatic impact on our academic programs, particularly in the area of liberal arts on the Oxford campus and on microbiology at the Medical Center campus. Judson Kroeze has exhibited an enormous amount of trust in this University community, and we will answer his gift and his trust by providing the young people of this state and others with educational opportunities beyond anything anyone has imagined."

at the Medical Center. "I've always favored academic pursuits, and I wanted to help the University and my state. Ole Miss alumnus Dennis Ford (of Jackson, Wyoming, and Oxford) first suggested a gift to the University because of its march toward national recognition. The University of Mississippi stands out in so many academic areas; a gift made a lot of sense to me."

A part of Kroeze's gift is designated for the Medical Center Department of Microbiology. "We're both honored and grateful that the Medical Center is a bene-

Largest business scholarship in the state

## Ole Miss Names Owen of New Albany to \$40,000 Day Award

Never assume your child isn't listening.

Jennifer Owen's father told her that good leadership can make the difference in a good company and a great one. Now the 1999 recipient of a \$40,000



Jennifer Owen

Christine and Clarence Day Business Scholarship at The University of Mississippi, Owen is beginning her quest for a top-notch business degree that will enable her to be a great leader.

Not that she isn't one already.

Owen, the daughter of Jim and Sylvia Owen of New Albany, is a National Merit Finalist. A graduate of W.P. Daniel High School, she was named Star Student and was awarded the bronze 4-H Congressional Award.

As the current Day Scholar in the Ole Miss School of Business Administration, Owen has the distinction of holding the largest scholarship at a Mississippi university designated solely for a business major. Established in memory of Christine Rogers Day and Clarence Cearns Day of Aberdeen, the Day scholarship honors a graduate of a Mississippi high school who demonstrates academic excellence, personal character, and leadership ability.

"Jennifer Owen is a bright, determined young lady whose life has already had a great impact on society," said Dr. Keith Womer, interim dean of business administration.

"The Day Scholarship was established to retain future business leaders in Mississippi to pursue their education, and we've found one such future leader in Jennifer. Her excellent academic record, combined with her tremendous community service and upbeat attitude, set her apart from the crowd. The School of Business Administration joins her in looking forward to an outstanding college experience," Womer added.

## Respect for Chancellor, University Spurs Delta Farmer to Give Back

John Robert "Bob" Nunnery of Hollandale has fond Ole Miss memories spanning three generations.

The lawyer turned Delta farmer—who recently joined the Chancellor's Trust—was only a lad when he began visiting the Oxford campus on football weekends with his late father, John R. Nunnery, a 1927 Ole Miss graduate. As a student, Bob Nunnery's love for the University blossomed, as did his love for Ole Miss coed Davis Wood. Later, Bob and Davis Nunnery would see their daughter, Amanda Davis Nunnery, earn an undergraduate degree at their beloved university.

A longtime financial supporter of his alma mater, Nunnery continues to recognize the value of his educational experience. When he recently gave \$25,000, Nunnery pointed to his former law professor Chancellor Robert Khayat as his inspiration to join the Chancellor's Trust.

"I was lucky enough to have Robert Khayat as a professor in law school, and I want to echo what others have said about him. As chancellor, he has the greatest ability to inspire and motivate the alumni to dream of the highest and best creation that we can build in The University of Mississippi. I am very glad to help him in any way that I am able."

Khayat responded, saying, "It is humbling to hear a friend and former student speak in such endearing terms. It's also very exciting to have Bob Nunnery set an example as one who understands that giving to help make Ole Miss one of America's great public universities means investing in the state's economy and helping improve the lives of all our citizens."

Reflecting on his time as a student on the Oxford campus, Nunnery said, "Attending Ole Miss taught me much more than what I learned in the classroom, even though I always rated the teachers and courses that I had as Grade A. I served as editor in chief of the Ole Miss yearbook and felt very much like a CEO at some upstart business."

Pointing to the economic benefits of higher education to the population as a whole and applying his keen business acumen, Nunnery said, "Higher education is a bigger industry than all other industries combined as far as the return on investment to the state's economy."

Nunnery received a bachelor's degree at Ole Miss in 1969, followed by a law degree in 1971. Davis Wood Nunnery is a 1969 Ole Miss graduate, and daughter, Amanda Davis Nunnery, a 1994 graduate. Rounding out the Nunnery family is son, Robert Torrey Nunnery, who is a Southern Methodist University alumnus. ■



Chancellor Khayat presents 'Bob' Nunnery of Hollandale with a certificate of appreciation for joining the Chancellor's Trust program.

## Lott Leadership Institute gets rolling

# Hearin Foundation Co-hosts Symposium; Workshop for High School Students Set for July

**F**or its inaugural program, the new Lott Leadership Institute at Ole Miss joined the Robert M. Hearin Foundation to sponsor The Ole Miss/*Leadership Quarterly* Symposium on Leadership March 23-25 on the Oxford campus.

The symposium was jointly hosted by the University and *Leadership Quarterly* in preparation

the Charismatic Theory of Leadership. Another featured speaker was Dr. Boas Shamir in the Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Shamir is a prominent charismatic leadership scholar. Numerous contributing authors and distinguished scholars also were in attendance.

ship Institute will offer a two-week workshop July 16-3 that includes one week on the Oxford campus and the second week in Washington, D.C. Participants will be involved in activities designed to develop skills in team building, introspection, communication, global leadership analysis, and various leadership models.

In 1999, more than \$13 million in private gifts was contributed to the Lott Leadership Institute. A search for an institute director will begin in July. When fully operational, other offerings will include:

- Undergraduate minor in leadership development (available fall 2001)
- Annual national/international symposium exploring a leadership issue

- Programs for professionals in business, industry, and other fields

Throughout its 150-year history, Ole Miss has produced leaders who have gone on to be elected U.S. senators and representatives, governors, lieutenant governors, state Supreme Court justices, and statewide office holders, as well as serve as CEOs of national and international companies and as leaders in telecommunications, medicine, education, pharmacy, engineering, journalism, business, accountancy, the arts, and more. ■

## 'With the Lott Leadership Institute, we can focus even more energy toward preparing our students for leadership roles...'

for the "Yearly Review" issue of the journal. The goal of the review is to provide the field with a comprehensive record of achievement, research, and scholarship within the domain of leadership.

Symposium champions included Dr. William L. Gardner, the Michael S. Starnes Professor and management area coordinator in the Ole Miss School of Business Administration; Dr. James G. Hunt, editor of *Leadership Quarterly*, the Paul Whitfield Horn Professor of Management and director of the Institute for Leadership Research at Texas Tech University; and Dr. Gerald R. Ferris, the Robert M. Hearin Chair of Business Administration and professor of management at Ole Miss.

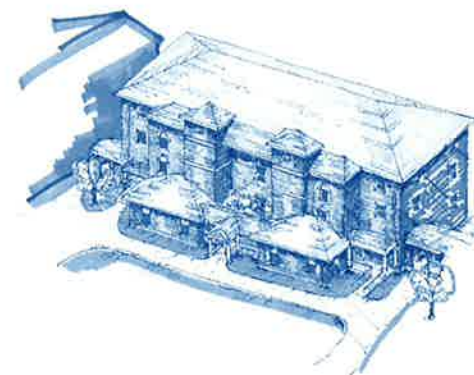
Keynote speakers included Dr. Robert J. House, the Joseph Frank Berstein Professor of Organizational Studies at the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania. He is a developer of the Path-Goal Theory of Leadership and

The "Yearly Review" is slated for winter 2000 publication. An assessment of the first decade of *Leadership Quarterly* and the dawn of a new millennium adds special significance to the issue.

Named for U.S. Senator Trent Lott—an Ole Miss graduate who holds one of the most powerful positions on Capitol Hill as U.S. Senate majority leader—the institute offers academic enrichment for Ole Miss students and leadership training for other individuals.

"With the Lott Leadership Institute, we can focus even more energy toward preparing our students for leadership roles, as well as provide unparalleled leadership development for other groups," Chancellor Robert Khayat said. "The institute will have a tremendous impact on our state, region, and nation with extraordinary resources fully committed to preparing future leaders."

For its inaugural program for college students, the Lott Leader-





## Coca-Cola Invests in Leadership

A \$100,000 commitment from the Coca-Cola Foundation to the University for its Lott Leadership Institute will be used to create the Coca-Cola Leadership Awards for minority high school students and minority undergraduates. Attending the presentation ceremony were (from left) Bill Carty, Oxford field representative, Senator Trent Lott's office; Mark Root, college market development manager, Coca-Cola USA; Chancellor Robert Khayat; Dr. Gloria Kellum, vice chancellor for university relations; James Coble, sales center manager, Sardis facility, Coca-Cola; Ray George, division vice president, general manager, Coca-Cola; Jeff McElveen, division director cold drink, Coca-Cola; Susan Grothe, cold drink marketing manager, Coca-Cola; and Guy Hovis, state director, Senator Trent Lott's office.

## Gift is Vote of Confidence in University's Committed Leadership

Charles "Skip" Neale of Memphis believes Ole Miss provided him with educational opportunities and social experiences that served him well. Now he and his wife, Beverley, want to help others share the Ole Miss experience and have joined the Chancellor's Trust to accomplish that goal.

"Both our families have deep roots in Mississippi," Charles Neale said. "My family is originally from Gulfport and Beverley is from Belen. We are convinced that participation in the Chancellor's Trust program is an effective way for us to help the University fulfill its mission of providing a quality academic environment on an attractive and affordable campus."

Chancellor Robert Khayat agreed. "Gifts, such as the Neales', furnish the level of support needed to fulfill our commitment to academic excellence," he said. "Their generosity will help ensure the continuation of high-

level research at Ole Miss, as well as assist students and professors."

The senior vice president and general counsel for National Commerce Bancorporation, National Bank of Commerce in Memphis, Neale spent the majority of his youth in Gulfport, where his father was an FBI agent. The family moved to Virginia after Neale's dad was transferred to FBI headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Never forgetting his time spent in Mississippi—Neale graduated from high school in Falls Church, Virginia—he returned to the magnolia state to attend Ole Miss. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in 1969 and earned a juris doctor degree in 1973.

Neale began his career by working for the law firm of Darden and Summers in New Albany. Later, he joined a law firm in Memphis and then National Commerce in 1975.

Neale was inspired to join the



Charles 'Skip' Neale (left) of Memphis is welcomed to the Chancellor's Trust by Chancellor Robert Khayat.

Chancellor's Trust because of his respect for Khayat. "With Robert as chancellor, the University has never had more capable or committed leadership," he said. "Collectively, the academic, cultural, athletic, and social environment on campus has probably never been more vibrant than it is today. I believe the University's future is even brighter and more exciting. Beverley and I wanted to make a contribution to that future." ■

## Inspired Couple Commits to Chancellor's Trust

**A**lways a loyal alumnus, Dr. Albert "Chance" Laws of Columbus, Mississippi, has participated in a number of activities at Ole Miss, including being on the Alumni Association Board and helping with recruitment in his hometown. However, three alumni—Jan Farrington and Dr. Faser Triplett, both of Jackson, and Dr. Stacy Davidson of Cleveland—inspired him to do much more.

Laws, a retired ophthalmic surgeon, and his wife, Gail, recently donated \$20,000 to the Chancellor's Trust. "We always see them at football games and other events," Laws said. "Their talks about the Ole Miss family really heightened our enthusiasm. They have worked so hard and have been inspirational. We felt we wanted to do our part and be on the team."

Chancellor Robert Khayat said active alums and friends of the University, like the Laws, Farringtons, Triplett, and Davidsons, play a critical role in helping Ole Miss reach its goal of becoming one of America's great public universities. He welcomes the Laws to "the team."



Dr. Albert "Chance" Laws (right) of Columbus and his wife, Gail, accept a framed certificate honoring the couple from Chancellor Robert Khayat during a recent visit to the Oxford campus.

ing Team."

In addition to being inspired by other alumni, there is another reason for the Laws' gift: Their son, Andrew, is a senior on the Oxford campus. "Andrew has just blossomed at Ole Miss," Laws said. "It has been a wonderful experience for him.

"I've been so impressed with the University," Laws added. "There is contagious enthusiasm, and the efforts of Chancellor Khayat and the rest of the Ole

where he earned a medical degree in 1967.

Laws and his wife, a Mississippi University for Women graduate, have five children—Brad, Chris, Stephen, Andrew, and Elizabeth. For 27 years, Laws practiced medicine at his own clinic in Columbus. After retirement, he started an entirely new career: studying and investing in the stock market.

"It's the perfect career for me," he said. "I'm on my time so I can travel and see my children; I love what I'm doing. Investing is like a game, not work."

Although it has been more than three decades since Laws graduated from the Oxford campus, he still feels a bond with Ole Miss. In fact, one of his favorite memories is when Andrew, a college sophomore at the time, was traveling to Memphis from Columbus. On the way, he stopped in Oxford and called his dad. "Andrew said, 'It just makes you feel good to be at Ole Miss.'" His dad agreed it is as simple as that—being at Ole Miss warms your heart. ■

**'...The efforts of Chancellor Khayat and the rest of the Ole Miss family have allowed us to reach an unprecedented level of academic success.'**

"Private support from alums such as Chance and Gail Laws makes possible a margin of excellence at Ole Miss, both academically and environmentally," Khayat said. "We appreciate their support, as well as the time he has spent helping us attract top students through the Alumni Recruit-

ment program. The Ole Miss family have allowed us to reach an unprecedented level of academic success."

Laws, himself, did well while at Ole Miss. He graduated in 1963 with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. He continued his education at The University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson,



## Jackson Law Firm Pledges \$150,000 to Establish Scholarship

Since the early 1970s, the Jackson law firm Butler Snow O'Mara Stevens & Cannada has gone out of its way to meet needs at the School of Law. Continuing that tradition of support, firm members have pledged \$150,000 to establish the Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada Scholarship in Law Endowment.

This latest effort, said firm member Jay Travis, a 1965 graduate of the law school, is meant not only to help deserving law students but also to enhance the school's quest for a chapter of the prestigious Order of the Coif.

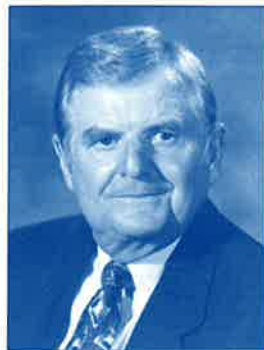
"We've tried to work with the School of Law over the years to help it fulfill its objectives, taking the lead in areas where there was greatest need," said Travis. "We understand that endowed scholarships are critical to attracting the best and brightest students, as well as meeting the requirements for a chapter of the Order of the Coif."

The agreement calls for endowing the scholarship fund over a period of several years. The scholarship stipend will be \$3,000 per year, with one additional recipient added each year. The first scholarship was awarded in fall 1999.

"We are grateful to the Butler Snow O'Mara Stevens & Cannada law firm for their generosity and vision in making this wonderful gift to assist in the area of scholarships for outstanding students," said Dean Samuel M. Davis. "The firm has a history of outstanding support to the School of Law, and its members have taken the lead in several critical areas over the years."

More than two decades ago, Butler Snow funded the law school's first memorial lecture series and later endowed its first faculty lectureship.

## Employees Establish Book Fund to Honor Caring, Concerned Boss



Henry J. Torgusen, Sr.

Employees of Fletcher Construction Co. Inc. of Pascagoula have established a book fund at the J.D. Williams Library to honor Henry G. Torjusen, Sr., owner of the company.

Earnings from the fund will be used to purchase books for the library at Torjusen's alma mater, and bookplates bearing his name will be placed in each new volume.

"Anyone who knows Henry Torjusen recognizes his love for The University of Mississippi and his concern for young people," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. "This book fund will provide additional volumes for our library that will be used and enjoyed by generations of students, faculty, and the general public."

"The employees wanted to do something very special for Mr. Torjusen, and we knew that after his family and church, he loves Ole Miss," said Linda Holland, office manager of Fletcher Construction Co. "So many of the employees have been with the company for numerous years, and everyone here has the highest regard for him. Mr. Torjusen is a caring, Christian man, who has always shown a great deal of interest and concern for his employees."

Gifts can be made to the Book Endowment Fund through The University of Mississippi Foundation, P.O. Box 249, University, MS 38677; phone (800) 340-9542. ■

## Students Win Accountancy Scholarships



Ole Miss seniors Dorine Adams (left) of Oxford and Arron Buchanan of Prairie, winners of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Scholarships for Minority Accounting Students, are pictured with Dr. James Davis, dean of the E.H. Patterson School of Accountancy on the Oxford campus. The merit-based scholarships are awarded for one year but are renewable for the master's in accounting program. Adams and Buchanan also are members of Phi Kappa Phi, the prestigious national honor society.

## Retired BellSouth VP Uses Influence to Garner \$100,000 Gift for Commitment to Excellence Campaign

Company recognizes contribution Ole Miss has made to state



Roger Flynt (center) of Atlanta, vice chair of The University of Mississippi Foundation, receives a Chancellor's Trust certificate from fellow officers Sandra M. Guest (left), secretary/treasurer, and Don L. Frugé (right), president/CEO. BellSouth gave \$100,000 to the Chancellor's Trust program in honor of Roger Flynt's retirement.

**A**lthough Roger Flynt graduated from The University of Mississippi more than 30 years ago, he never forgot the time he spent on the Oxford campus.

So when it was decided by officials at his former company, BellSouth, to give financial support to several universities, Flynt—a retired senior vice president for regulatory and public affairs—made sure Ole Miss was included.

The result was a \$100,000 corporate gift from BellSouth to the University's *Commitment to Excellence Campaign* for the Chancellor's Trust Program.

"It's our way of recognizing the University not only for 150 years of college education it has provided the citizens of Mississip-

pi and everyone else who goes there, but also for other aspects, such as enhancing the University libraries and supporting the Honors College," said Denny Betz, vice president of public relations for BellSouth.

Flynt, who is a member of the national steering committee for the campaign and vice chair of The University of Mississippi Foundation, said BellSouth has always been interested in contributing to institutions of higher learning. He wanted Ole Miss to receive its fair share. "My connection with the University has been one of the most rewarding things in my life," he said. "I made the recommendation and approved the donation."

What makes Flynt feel such a

strong bond with his alma mater? He said it's a feeling that almost everyone develops while attending school there—an emotional connection to the University that never goes away.

"Roger Flynt has had a spectacular career and is respected by all who know him," said Chancellor Robert Khayat, who became friends with Flynt when the two were college students. "Even as a young person, Roger demonstrated qualities of a successful leader. Through the years, Roger has actively supported Alumni Association activities, law school programs, and University Foundation work. We are deeply grateful for his commitment of time, energy, and resources."

Flynt earned a bachelor's degree in 1962 and a Juris Doctor degree in 1964, both from Ole Miss. He began his career in private practice and then as assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Mississippi for three years. The Meridian native joined BellSouth in 1968, moving to different offices throughout the South as his career advanced. He retired from corporate headquarters in Atlanta in early 1999.

Flynt's love of the University was passed on to his three sons. Mayo and John Flynt both received bachelor's degrees from Ole Miss in the 1980s. His youngest son, Russell Parks, is a junior on the Oxford campus.

Flynt lives in Atlanta with his wife, Gaye, and daughter, Mary Kathryn, who is in high school. The couple plans to move to Oxford after their daughter enters college. ■

## Grisham Series Hosts Poetry Reading by Pulitzer Prize Winner



Renowned American poet Philip Levine read from his substantial and celebrated poetic works in the spring thanks to the John and Renee Grisham Visiting Writers Series.

"Quite simply, Philip Levine is one of our most honored, celebrated and accomplished poets," said Dr. Daniel E. Williams, director of writing and professor of English.

Levine's list of accomplishments includes two National Book Awards and a Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, 15 volumes of poetry, and several collections of essays and translations. He also has garnered grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, National Institute of Arts and Letters, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

Born of Russian-Jewish immigrant parents in Detroit in 1928, Levine grew up in a lower middle-class family; his father died when he was 5 years old. Levine attended public schools, then night school at Wayne State University in Detroit and began writing poetry. At the same time, he worked days as a laborer in an automobile manufacturing company.

He went on to receive a master's degree from the University of Iowa in 1957, where he studied with poets John Berryman and Robert Lowell. During the next year, Levine received a poetry fellowship from Stanford University, where he worked with poet Yvor Winters. After a string of industrial jobs, Levine accepted a professorship at California State University in Fresno, where he now lives.

"Ever since I first read *They Feed They Lion* many years ago, I've known that Philip Levine could write great poetry. He is one of America's most eminent poets, and we are lucky to have him on campus. Hearing him was so exhilarating," said Dr. Ann Fisher-Wirth, a professor of English at Ole Miss.

"Philip Levine's awards and honors are numerous, but the greatest accolade to come his way, in my opinion, is the fierce devotion of his many readers," said Dr. Michael Dean, professor of English. "His reading was one of the high points of this, or any other, year."

## Former Student Honors Favorite Professor with Bequest

Although Paula Hilby of Phoenix, Arizona, attended Ole Miss for only two years before transferring to Rhodes College in Memphis to complete a bachelor's degree, she has never forgotten the lessons she learned from one of her former Ole Miss English teachers.

Now she is honoring her favorite professor with a bequest of \$25,000 to the Charles E. Noyes Library Endowment. Named in honor of the English professor emeritus who began teaching on the Oxford campus in 1953, the Noyes fund is used to buy books and other materials for the J.D. Williams Library.

Noyes retired in 1982 as associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, director of the summer session, and professor of English. Since then, he has worked as membership chair for Friends of the Library, which, under the leadership of its longtime president Dr. John Pilkington, has provided more than \$600,000 in support for the Ole Miss library in the last 15 years.

"Dr. Noyes made a great difference in my life," Hilby said. "His example of leadership was of prime value to me. He was always commit-



Charles E. Noyes

## The Ole Miss 1848 Society provides lifetime recognition to those who have made provisions for the University through planned gifts.

ted to excellence and would do whatever was necessary to raise the standards at Ole Miss. As a leader, he operated with great integrity, yet showed respect. His humor allowed him to take firm possession without alienating others."

Noyes was impressed with Hilby, as well. "I could tell from the first moment I met her that she was a superb student," he said. "The papers she wrote, conversations we had proved she was exceptionally able."

Noyes added that Hilby has been extremely generous to Ole Miss, becoming a lifetime member of Friends of the Library and supporting other programs at the University. "She is a wonderful person," he said.

Hilby's bequest makes her a member of the Ole Miss 1848 Society, which provides lifetime recognition to those who have made provisions for the University through planned gifts. The 1848 Society sets no minimum gift, and there are membership benefits. For more information, contact Tony Montgomery, director of planned and deferred giving, at (800) 340-9542 or e-mail [tmontgom@olemiss.edu](mailto:tmontgom@olemiss.edu). ■

## Future Teachers, Doctors to Benefit from Alum's Gift for Latest Technology

The School of Education has a new state-of-the-art computer lab named in honor of its benefactors, Jean M. Moore and Dr. Paul Moore Sr. of Pascagoula. As part of a \$250,000 gift to the University's *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*, the couple designated \$100,000 for the School of Education's fifth computer lab. The lab will offer 28 student workstations and is one of the most advanced instructional technology facilities of its kind in the state.

"Jean and Paul Moore have loved and supported Ole Miss for many years," Chancellor Khayat said. "Their latest gift reflects their great vision and will provide tremendous support to our students in the schools of Education and Medicine and the Department of Chemistry, among others. Jean and Paul Moore have led exemplary lives and are role models for all of us. We deeply appreciate their generous gift to our *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*."



Dr. Paul and Jean Moore of Pascagoula visit the new School of Education computer lab, which was dedicated in their honor. The couple gave \$100,000 for the school's fifth computer lab, which was part of a \$250,000 gift to the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*. The lab offers 28 workstations.

nology available," Chambless said. "When students and faculty enter this facility, we want them to see the names Jean and Paul Moore and know we have supporters with the vision to make a powerful impact on our present and future."

The Moores are Ole Miss alumni, with Jean Moore earning a bachelor's degree in 1952 and Paul

agreed. "With more graduates from the School of Education, The University of Mississippi can be better-represented in the teaching field," he said.

In addition to the School of Education computer lab, the Moores are sponsoring a pre-med biochemistry lab for the Department of Chemistry as part of their gift to the campaign.

Dr. Charles Hussey, chair of the department, said the gift will ensure that students are ready for the future. "The biochemistry major at Ole Miss, created a year ago, prepares students for medical school. The new lab will greatly enhance this program. Paul and Jean are very loyal alumni who love Ole Miss and want it to be the best."

In addition to the two new labs, funds from the Moores' gift to the campaign will support other programs, including the Lott Leadership Institute and the Triplett Alumni House Maintenance Fund on the Oxford campus, and two chairs for The University of Mississippi Medical Center on the Jackson campus. ■

**'When students and faculty enter this facility, we want them to...know we have supporters with the vision to make a powerful impact on our present and future.'**

Dr. Jimmy Chambless, dean of education, said the School of Education has recently made a commitment to two priorities: to infuse technology into its undergraduate curriculum and to establish an academic enhancement endowment to support that technology. The Moores' donation is a major step in achieving these goals.

"Jean and Paul Moore's gift to Ole Miss will ensure that education majors are trained on the best tech-

Moore receiving a master's in 1951 and his medical degree from the University's School of Medicine in Jackson in 1959. Both have taught school, and teaching is a profession that remains close to their hearts.

"We need to encourage young people to go into teaching," Jean Moore said. "There is a great need for quality teachers."

Her husband, who is a retired senior partner of the Singing River Radiology Group in Pascagoula,

## Law Alum Honors Grandparents with \$50,000 Pledge for Scholarships

C. York Craig, Jr., and his wife, Helen, have pledged \$50,000 to the School of Law to establish the Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Whitaker Memorial Scholarship in Law Endowment.

The gift honors Craig's maternal grandparents. "I wanted to honor my maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Whitaker, who helped support me in getting an education," said Craig, a 1973 graduate of the law school. "My wife and I hope this gift will help deserving law students who might not otherwise have the opportunity for such an education."

According to the terms of the agreement, recipients of the scholarship must be Mississippi residents who "demonstrate financial need as well as a strong work ethic to fully contribute to the enhancement of the legal profession."

A graduate of Vanderbilt University, Craig is a member of the Jackson firm Watkins, Ludlam & Stennis. "It's heart-warming to see family ties that move people to look back and acknowledge that someone made a difference in their life, as this is the case with York Craig," said Dean Samuel M. Davis. "We appreciate the trust that York and Helen have placed in the School of Law in allowing us the privilege of offering these scholarships to deserving law students who might not otherwise have the opportunity to succeed."



## Couple Shows Love for Ole Miss by Helping Meet Greatest Needs

Eric Sappenfield has a simple answer when someone asks him why he became a University of Mississippi supporter: He married an "Ole Miss girl," who was and still is one of the school's greatest fans.

Sappenfield may have liked Ole Miss after marrying Barbara, but the University of Missouri-Columbia graduate's fate was truly sealed after entering law school on the Oxford campus in 1981. From that time on, he was an "Ole Miss man."

Now the couple, who are also members of Ole Miss Loyalty Foundation, have chosen to give back to the University with a \$25,000 gift. With the donation, they became members of the Chancellor's Trust. Established in 1975, the Chancellor's Trust fund accepts unrestricted gifts to be used for the University's greatest needs.

Barbara Sappenfield's journey to Ole Miss was never in question. She is the daughter of former state representative Don Chambliss and Shirley Chambliss, both natives of Mississippi. Her parents were close friends with former Chancellor Porter L. Fortune, Jr., and were founding members of the Chancellor's Trust.

"My family spent a lot of time with the chancellor and at Ole Miss," she said. "Basically, I never knew another college."

"It is truly special to have the second generation of a family joining the Chancellor's Trust," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. "We are deeply grateful to Eric and Barbara Sappenfield for their generous resources and for this vote of confidence. With the generous support and encouragement of alumni and friends like the Sappenfields, we are constantly energized in our quest to provide an academic environment known for its excellence and extraordinary opportunities."

Barbara Sappenfield earned a bachelor's degree in radio and television and sociology in 1979. Eric Sappenfield received a juris doctor degree in 1983. The couple lives in Southaven, where he is in private law practice.

The Sappenfields give the majority of credit for their support to Chancellor Robert Khayat—who taught Eric Sappenfield in law school—and his administration. "I have seen so many changes," Eric Sappenfield said. "Ole Miss is getting more and more known as a learning institution where students can get the highest quality education."

His wife agreed, adding that her loyalty to the University made the decision a lot easier. "The people who attend Ole Miss are very personable, special—just like one big family," she said. "We all have a common bond—our love of Ole Miss." ❧



Eric and Barbara Sappenfield

It all started with pennants and T-shirts

## Childhood Experience Lays Foundation for Donation

University of Mississippi T-shirts, ball caps, and other souvenirs are always popular with sports fans. For Sam Lane of Jackson, however, these items have much more significance than just supporting a team. They led to a bond with Ole Miss that continues to this day.

Although Lane, who earned a bachelor's degree in English from Ole Miss in 1976, grew up in Jackson, his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Coers, lived in Oxford. The pair owned the former Rebel Shop on campus.

Lane's uncle would open up the store especially for his nephew on his Sunday visits and let him have run of the place. "I spent lots of time there," Lane said. "I loved it. I learned to appreciate Ole Miss at a very early age."

Recently, that bond spurred Lane and his wife, Leila, to become members of the Chancellor's Trust. Established in 1975, the Chancellor's Trust fund accepts unrestricted gifts to be



Chancellor Robert Khayat (right) thanks Sam and Leila Lane for their Chancellor's Trust gift.

said. "The contacts we made are invaluable and the friends, lifelong. We both have wonderful memories of our time there."

"What Chancellor Khayat has done and what is happening on

ing in Mississippi."

The Lanes' daughter, Mary Mills, is a freshman and chose Ole Miss over Vanderbilt and Southern Methodist University because of the academic opportunities, the campus life, and her feelings for the school.

For Khayat, the feeling is mutual. "We have found for this University to be successful—to reach an unprecedented margin of excellence—we have to have private support," he said. "If you look across campus, areas that are thriving are the ones that have been infused with capital from the private sector, whether it be scholarships, facilities, or faculty positions. Gifts such as the Lanes' allow us to continue our quest to become one of America's great public universities. We are truly grateful to Sam and Leila for their generous support." ■

**'The momentum there now...is unparalleled in the history of the school. It's nothing short of a miracle.'**

used for the University's greatest needs.

Lane said that when it came time to choose a college, there was never a question in his mind where he would go. "It was a done deal."

Though Leila Lane looked at other schools, she decided on Ole Miss as well and graduated in 1977 with a bachelor's degree in political science and English. "Like Sam, I love Ole Miss," she

campus is incredible," Sam Lane said. "The momentum there now, with the Barksdale gift and the possibility of the Phi Beta Kappa chapter, is unparalleled in the history of the school. It's nothing short of a miracle."

Leila Lane agreed. "Robert Khayat and his administration are making Ole Miss one of the outstanding universities in the Southeast. With all the progress, many of our brightest students are stay-

## New Croft Faculty Prepare Students for 'Asian Century'

If the 21st century belongs to Asia, as many global observers predict, Ole Miss students now pursuing a new program of international studies will be prepared.

College-bound students with an interest in Asian studies once had to look beyond Mississippi for an academic program offering courses in Chinese language and literature; Asian religions; and East Asian history, economics, and politics.

But new faculty hires by the Croft Institute for International Studies on the Ole Miss-Oxford campus have made the study of East Asian societies as integral to the international studies program as the study of Europe or Latin America.

As part of a master plan to bring 14 new professors into an international studies curriculum offering concentrated study programs on Europe, Latin America, and East Asia, the Croft Institute recently welcomed Dr. Joshua Howard and Dr. Pierre-Francois Landry to a distinguished faculty roster that already includes Asian specialists Dr. Laurie Cozad and Dr. Xiaobin Yang.

"With these hires and the presence of Croft Visiting Professor Katsuaki Terasawa, a student of U.S.-Japanese trade relations, the Croft Institute has launched its East Asian curriculum and has taken a major step forward in its mission to help internationalize the University, the state of Mississippi, and the region," said Dr. Michael F. Metcalf, executive director of the Croft Institute.

With these five professors, international studies majors at Ole Miss are exploring many aspects of Chinese and Japanese society and culture as they prepare for careers in business, law, public service, teaching, and more. They also will spend a minimum of one semester in East Asia.

The Croft Institute for International Studies was established in 1997 with a gift—equivalent to a \$60 million endowment—from the Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable and Education Fund of McComb, Mississippi. The Croft Institute's mission is to help internationalize the University, state, and region through curriculum and programs focusing on the state's three key international trading partners: Asia, Latin America, and Europe.

## Robert Sindelar Named Interim Dean of Pharmacy

Dr. Robert D. Sindelar, the chair and long-time professor of medicinal chemistry at The University of Mississippi, has been named interim dean of the University's nationally acclaimed School of Pharmacy.

Sindelar was appointed to the position in early January to replace outgoing dean Dr. Kenneth Roberts. Roberts resigned to become dean of pharmacy at the University of Kentucky.

"The University of Mississippi School of Pharmacy is recognized as one of the most outstanding pharmacy schools in the nation," Sindelar said. "Thus, it is truly an honor and privilege to be able to serve the University in this interim capacity."

Dr. Carolyn Ellis Staton, provost of the University, said Sindelar brings a wealth of experience to the new position. "He has been heavily involved both in the scientific issues and the educational issues of the School of Pharmacy. His ability and familiarity with both of these components will serve the school well during this time of transition."

Sindelar has served as chair of the school's Department of Medicinal Chemistry since 1993. He teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in medicinal chemistry, drug discovery and design, and biotechnology.

He obtained a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Millikin University in 1974. At the University of Iowa, he earned a master's in 1975 and a doctorate in 1980. He joined the Ole Miss faculty in 1983 after postdoctoral studies at the University of British Columbia and the State University of New York at Buffalo. ■



Dr. Robert Sindelar

## Scholarship Honors Father-in-law

Thomas H. Rhoden of Jackson, a 1970 graduate of the School of Law, has pledged \$150,000 to the law school to establish the Tom B. Scott, Jr., Scholarship in Law Endowment. The gift honors Rhoden's father-in-law, Tom B. Scott, Jr., a 1948 law graduate.

Recipients of the scholarship will be full-time, entering law students, with preference given to graduates of Millsaps College. The awards will be for three years, provided the recipient maintains a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5.

Rhoden is a member of the Jackson firm Rhoden, Lacy, Downey & Colbert. Scott's firm is Scott & Scott, also in Jackson.

"We appreciate graduates like Thomas H. Rhoden who are willing to step forward in an exemplary fashion to help deserving men and women who might not otherwise have the opportunity to pursue a legal education," said law school Dean Samuel M. Davis. "That he honors his father-in-law, who also graduated from this law school, makes the gift even more special." ■

## *The University of Mississippi Foundation Board of Directors*

### **1999-2000 Officers**

The University of Mississippi Foundation 1999-2000 Board Officers: Don L. Frugé of Oxford, president/chief executive officer (left); Aubrey B. Patterson of Tupelo, chair; Roger M. Flynt, Jr., of Atlanta, Georgia, chair elect; and Sandra McGuire Guest of Oxford, secretary/treasurer. The goal of the Foundation is to provide Ole Miss with a margin of excellence by supplementing funds received from the state with private financial support.



### *Foundation Welcomes New Members*



**David E. Brevard**

David E. Brevard (B.A. '78) received a second degree (MBA) at the University of Virginia in 1981. He and his wife, Shawn, and their two daughters reside in Tupelo, Mississippi, where he is president of B&B Concrete Company, Inc. Brevard is a former president and current member of the Mississippi Concrete Industries Association and a member of the Yocona Council of the Boy Scouts Executive Committee and Board, a member of the Health Care Foundation of North Mississippi Board, a member of the Community Development Foundation Board, and a member of the United Methodist Senior Services of Mississippi. As an active member of the First United Methodist Church, he also serves as the lay leader and as a member of the administrative board. He is a member of the AmSouth



Bank Tupelo Advisory Board, and a member and former president of the Tupelo Kiwanis Club. He is co-president of the board of directors of the Church Street Elementary School PTA and president of the UM Alumni Association. A member of Phi Kappa Phi, he was named to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities. As a student at Ole Miss, he was a Carrier Scholar, a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and was also inducted into the Hall of Fame.

**Michael E. Ellis (B.A. '69)** is a retired senior resident vice president with Merrill Lynch. As an active member of the community in Jackson, Mississippi, he is a member of St. Richards Catholic Church and a volunteer for Habitat for Humanity. He is a former member of the Millsaps College Else School of Management Advisory Committee and the General Lewis Wilson Investment Fund Advisory Committee. As a student at Ole Miss, he was a member of the Sigma Nu fraternity. Ellis has devoted his time and energies to The University of Mississippi as a member of the Business Advisory Committee and the Business Administration Order, as well as a member and sponsor of the Mississippi Committee for the Trent Lott Leadership Institute Gala. He and his wife, Ann, have two children, one of whom is a current Ole Miss student.

**Jan Griffin Farrington (B.A. '65)** is currently executive director of the Medical Support & Development Organization, Inc., in Jackson, Mississippi, and is on the board of directors of Jeff Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, Mississippi. She is the immediate past president of the UM Alumni Association and served as a member of the American Heart Association's National Development Committee and its National Agenda Planning Committee. She has been honored with the Mississippi American Heart Association's President's Award and the Heart of Gold Award. With her husband, Lawrence, she chaired the Mayor's Achievement Award's Gala in Jackson, Mississippi. While at Ole Miss, she served as vice president of the Mortar Board and participated in the University Singers, the Baptist Student Union, and Delta Delta Delta sorority. Farrington is currently serving Ole Miss as a National Steering Committee member for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign* and as a member of the Women's Council for Philanthropy, a newly formed group aimed at developing outstanding leadership qualities in students.

**Roger P. Friou (BBA '56, M.S. '59)** lives in Jackson, Mississippi, where he is a private investor. He is the former president of Jitney Jungle Stores of America, Inc., a regional supermarket chain and currently serves as a director of Parkway Properties, Inc., a publicly traded real estate investment trust. He is a member of the Jackson Rotary Club, where he formerly served as president, and a director of the Luckyday Foundation. He is a member of The University of Mississippi School of Accountancy Hall of Fame. While at Ole Miss, he was a member of the Phi Delta Theta fraternity, Beta Alpha Psi, and Beta Gamma Sigma. He is currently serving Ole Miss as a National Steering Committee Member for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*.

**William F. Galtney, Jr. (B.A. '74, MPA '76)** and his wife, Susanne, have four children and reside in Houston, Texas, where he is chairman and chief executive officer of the Galtney Group, Inc. While at Ole Miss, he was a member of the tennis team and the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. Galtney provides leadership as the education chairman for the Young Presidents Organization in Houston and as a member of the Steering Committee for the Episcopal High School. He also serves on the board of Everest Reinsurance Holdings and Mutual Risk Management.



**Michael E. Ellis**



**Jan Griffin Farrington**



**Roger P. Friou**



**William F. Galtney, Jr.**



**Jamie G. Houston III**



**Edith Kelly-Green**



**Howard L. McMillan, Jr.**



**Charles L. Overby**

**Jamie G. Houston III (BBA '74, J.D. '76)** received an additional degree from New York University (LL.M. '78). Houston is a member of the Jackson, Mississippi, law firm of Watkins & Eager PLLC. He is a fellow by invitation in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and is currently serving as chairman of the Estates and Trusts Section of the Mississippi State Bar. He is a past chairman of the Mississippi Tax Institute, a charter member of the Millsaps College Estate Planning Council, and a member of the Mississippi Estate Planning Council. He is a former member of the board of directors of Goodwill Industries. Other professional memberships include the American Bar Association, the Hinds County Bar Association, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and the Mississippi Society of Certified Public Accountants.

**Edith Kelly-Green (BBA '73)** of Memphis earned a master's degree in 1983 from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. She is vice president of strategic sourcing and supply for the FedEx Corporation. She has been active in many nonprofit organizations, such as Memphis Zoo, Memphis in May, Senior Citizens Services, and the Women's Foundation. In 1999, she was inducted into the Ole Miss Alumni Hall of Fame and now serves on the National Steering Committee for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*. Kelly-Green chairs the Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy, a newly formed group aimed at developing outstanding leadership qualities in students. Additionally, she serves as assistant treasurer of Mississippi Boulevard Christian Church in Memphis and board member of the Christian Disciples of Christ Foundation. Other recognition includes being the recipient of the Women of Achievement Initiative Award, Girls Inc.; She Knows Where She's Going Award; March of Dimes White Rose Award; and Simply the Best. She also is a 1995 and 1997 recipient of the FedEx Corporation Five Star Award and 1997 winner of the Ambassador Award for Diversity Leadership. Kelly-Green and her husband, Alfred, have three teens, James, Ryan, and Jayna.

**Howard L. McMillan, Jr., (BBA '60)** a native of Jackson, Mississippi, is a financial adviser with Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. After completing his degree at Ole Miss, he attended the LSU School of Banking of the South and Harvard University School of Business Administration. He is past president of the American Bankers Association, former chairman of the Deposit Guaranty System, former chairman of the board of the Metro Jackson Chamber of Commerce, past president of the United Way of the Capital Area, past president of the UM Alumni Association, and a member of the UM Alumni Hall of Fame. McMillan also served on the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta. He is currently serving on the board of Mississippi Valley Title Insurance Company, as chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Mississippi Baptist Health System, and chairman of the Metropolitan Crime Commission. He is presently serving Ole Miss as a National Steering Committee member for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*.

**Charles L. Overby** resides in Brentwood, Tennessee, and is president and CEO of the Freedom Forum. He is a member of the Board of Regents for Baylor University and is also a member of the UM Alumni Hall of Fame. He is currently serving Ole Miss as a National Steering Committee member for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*. Overby is the former executive editor of the *Clarion Ledger* in Jackson, Mississippi, and is the former vice president of Gannett News and Communications. While at Ole Miss, he served as editor of *The Daily Mississippian*.

**Robert E. Seibels III** (B.A. '66) received his MBA degree from the University of Alabama in 1967. He is senior vice president of investments for the Robinson-Humphrey Company in Montgomery, Alabama. While at Ole Miss, he was a member of the Omicron Delta Kappa, Who's Who, and Sigma Chi fraternity. Seibels is a member of the Director's Council, Chairman's Council, and the Director's Advisory Group of the Salomon Smith Barney Company. He served as president of the Friends of the Montgomery City/County Library, the Gulf Coast Conservation Association, and the Montgomery Ole Miss Alumni Club, and served as a board member of the Brantwood Children's Home, Goodwill Industries of Alabama, Montgomery Rotary Club, Trinity School, Southeast YMCA, and Landmarks Foundation. An active member of St. John's Episcopal Church, he served as a member of the Vestry and as senior warden. He is currently serving Ole Miss as president-elect of the UM Alumni Association and as a member of the National Steering Committee for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*.

**Joseph J. Schmelzer III** (BBA '69) is owner and president of Equipment Inc., in Jackson, Mississippi. While at Ole Miss, he was a member of Pi Kappa Alpha and was the founding president of the University's chapter of the Order of Omega. After receiving his degree at Ole Miss, he completed marketing management studies at the University of Notre Dame, sales management studies at Michigan State, and financial studies at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Finance. He was named Mississippi Small Businessman of the Year in 1983 and was a member of the 1991 Class of Leadership Jackson. He served on the board of directors for the Jackson Chamber of Commerce, the North Jackson Rotary Club, River Hills and Mississippi Red Cross. Schmelzer is a "Certified Professional in the Material Handling" through the International Material Management Society. He formerly served as national president of the Dealer Council of Nissan Motor company, Ltd., and as vice president of the Dealer Council of Barrett Industrial Trucks, and has been a member of the Dealer Council of Melroe Bobcat Corporation, Mark Industries, and Landoll Corporation. He and his wife, Gwen, have two children attending the School of Business Administration at Ole Miss. Schmelzer also currently serves Ole Miss as a National Steering Committee member for the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*.

**William F. Winter** (B.A. '43, LL.B. '49) and his wife, Elise, reside in Jackson, Mississippi, where he is a member of the law firm of Watkins Ludlam Winter & Stennis, P.A. While at Ole Miss he served as editor of *The Daily Mississippian* and the *Mississippi Law Journal*, was a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, and was inducted into the Student Hall of Fame. His public service to Mississippi includes state representative, state treasurer, lieutenant governor, and governor. Winter served as a member of the Presidential Advisory Board on Race and is now chairman of MDC, Inc., chairman of the National Commission on the State and Local Public Service, president of the board of Mississippi Department of Archives and History, and chairman of the National Issues Forum Institute. Winter was a fellow of the Institute of Politics at Harvard University, president of the UM Alumni Association, and a member of the Ole Miss Alumni Hall of Fame. ■



**Robert E. Seibels III**



**Joseph J. Schmelzer III**



**William F. Winter**

## New Head of Marketing/PR Comes from Ball State

Following a national search, Jeffrey Alford of Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, is the University's new executive director for public relations and marketing.

He replaces longtime public relations director Ed Meek, who retired in January 1999.

Alford most recently was executive director of university relations at Ball State, a doctoral degree-granting university with 18,000 students. He had held the post since 1988, directing a team of 24 professionals responsible for electronic and print media relations, publications, photographic services, marketing, and public relations.

Along with similar responsibilities at Ole Miss, he will work closely with units responsible for student recruitment, fund raising, and alumni relations, in addition to serving as the University's spokesperson and a member of the chancellor's leadership team.

In announcing the appointment, Ole Miss Vice Chancellor for University Relations Dr. Gloria Kellum said, "We look forward to Jeff Alford's arrival on our campus. He brings extensive experience and success in leadership of communication units for public universities."

"There is an energy and vitality at The University of Mississippi that is found at few universities," Alford said. "Even with a rich tradition and heritage, it's clear Ole Miss' best years lie ahead. I am excited about the opportunity to join one of the most progressive universities in the nation and to advance the cause of The University of Mississippi." ■



Jeffrey Alford

## Museum Benefits from Wal-Mart Program



University Museums Director Bonnie J. Krause (center) accepts a \$500 check from Wal-Mart representatives Richard Childers, store manager, and Missy Pearson, coordinator of the company's Community Matching Grant Program. It will be used to help fund the renovation of the Walton-Young Historic House.

## Ole Miss Staff Members Encourage Others to Join Campaign for Academic Excellence

Vivian Roach may not have any biological children, but that doesn't mean she's not a mom. The 24-year veteran of The University of Mississippi Bookstore feels like she has had thousands of kids.

How is that possible? Since Roach began working as an office supply clerk, she has taken care of not only student workers but also almost any young adult who walked through the doors of the bottom floor of the Student Union.

"These kids become my kids," she said. "I have always mothered them. There are some you joke and cut up with, ones you have to hug, and others I make report back to me to make sure they are doing OK."

Roach's approach to mothering her students is reflected in her choice to give back to the University. Since 1982, she has chosen to have a small amount of her salary automatically deducted from her paycheck each month to give to the University.

Like his wife, David Roach, director of the Mississippi Center for Supercomputing Research at Ole Miss, participates through payroll deduction. "Both Vivian and I are in positions where we work with students, faculty, and staff," he said. "These people have become our friends and, in some cases, family members. It has become second nature for us to support them through the efforts of the University—its activities and fund-raising projects."

The couple spoke about their gifts—which also include supporting athletics, academics, Friends of the Library, University Museums, College of Liberal Arts, and many other areas—in order to encourage faculty, staff, and students to join the University's *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*.

Dr. Brian Reithel, co-director of the *Commitment to Excellence Campaign*, said that small gifts add up and can help in many ways. "Our goal for this year is to encourage every member of the Ole Miss family to participate in the campaign," Reithel said.

## Literary treasure becomes library's millionth volume

### *Alumnus Donates Rare Faulkner First Edition*

**A** love of reading by a long-time Oxford family has led to the gift of a rare William Faulkner book to the John Davis Williams Library.

New Albany attorney Lester Sumners and his wife, Joyce, look on with delight as the original copy of *The Marble Faun* is presented as the 1 millionth volume to the J.D. Williams Library. Sumners, who earned a bachelor's degree in English and law degree from Ole Miss, donated the volume of poetry. It was Faulkner's first published work and was released in December 1924, said Dr. Thomas Verich, University archivist and professor.

Sumners was given the book by his mother, the late Bessie Furr Sumners, an Ole Miss alumna. Her family moved to Oxford from Lafayette Springs around 1900, so the children could be educated. One of her classmates in the fourth grade at Oxford City Schools was Faulkner. Although not best friends, Bessie Sumners remained in contact with the author, who she always remem-



*Lester and Joyce Sumners' donation of a volume of Faulkner poetry was recognized in a campus celebration noting the addition of the one millionth volume to the J.D. Williams Library.*

bered as just Bill.

Sumners said much of the credit for the donation goes to Dr. Charles Noyes, an Ole Miss faculty administrator emeritus and family friend. Noyes, who is membership chairman of the University's Friends of the Library, suggested that Sumners give the rare book to Ole Miss. "He spoke about the value it would have for the library and the students," Sumners said.

"Reprints are fine, but being able to pick up an original is a nice experience."

Sumners gave the volume to honor his mother—a supporter of the Friends of the Library. "Every time there was a function, she wanted to go," he said. "When she couldn't drive anymore, I would take her. This gift would have made her happy." ■

## Chemistry Auditorium Dedicated

Dr. Charles Hussey, chair and professor of chemistry, participates in the recent dedication ceremony for the newly renovated state-of-the-art lecture center/auditorium in Coulter Hall. Named the Dr. Jeff Hollingsworth Chemistry Lecture Center for the Health-Related Professions, the center was made possible by an \$80,000 gift from Jan Farrington, who was the wife of the late Dr. Hollingsworth. Farrington of Jackson was honored at the ceremony.



## Women Come Together to Fund Scholarships to Nurture Future Leaders for State and Nation

Ole Miss announces the creation of a new type of endowment fund aimed at developing the next generation of leaders for America.

The Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy scholarship program is accepting support from individuals, corporations, and foundations to create scholarships for high school seniors who have shown leadership abilities, as well as caring spirits and willingness to help others.

**Ole Miss  
Women's  
Council  
for Philanthropy**

Beginning in 2001, six students—three men and three women—will be awarded Women's Council Scholarships of \$5,000 per year to attend Ole Miss. Throughout their college careers, the students will be assigned mentors from the Ole Miss family who will guide them in developing career paths and networking with alumni and other professionals. The students also will meet monthly for small group discussions and attend seminars sponsored by the University's Lott Leadership Institute.

Ellen Rolfes, advancement associate for the University, said what makes this program unique are its aspects of leadership, scholarship, and mentorship. In addition, she said, the students will be required to pledge a modest amount of support to the Women's Council endowment fund for five years after graduation, which teaches the scholars the powerful act of giving. "By creating a collective voice of women and men committed to an innovative scholarship program, we will not only educate, but mentor future national leaders," Rolfes said.

There are a number of ways to



*In a historic moment, the Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy was formed on Valentine's Day. Pictured with Chancellor Robert Khayat and Don Frugé are the founding members. (front row) Kathryn Black, Rachel McPherson, Keith Dockery McLean, Council Chair Edith Kelly-Green, Gloria Kellum, Molly Meisenheimer, Lynnette Johnson; (second row) Ellen Robinson Rolfes, Julie Grimes, Susan Martindale, Jan Farrington, Sandra Guest, Alice Clark, and Faye Gilbert; (third row) Meredith Creekmore, Buzzy Hederman Hussey, Patty Lewis, Rose Jackson Flenorl, Becky Jones West, Carolyn Ellis Staton, and Patricia Wise. Not pictured: Sally Barksdale, Tricia Lott, and Katie Hester.*

contribute to the Women's Council scholarship program. The goal of the council is to develop endowments of \$100,000 each. Donations will be accepted until a fund reaches this level. At that time, the council will name it in honor of a woman who personifies the spirit of both leadership and giving.

Another avenue of support is a gift of \$100,000, which will allow the donor to name the scholarship after a woman in his or her life. Family and friends of the late Sarah Meisenheimer of Niceville, Florida, recently created a Women's Council Scholarship in

her name—the first endowment for the Women's Council's fund. (See related story on Page 23.)

The Meisenheimer endowment was soon followed by an additional \$50,000 pledge from Women's Council Chair Edith Kelly-Green of Memphis. The vice president of purchase and supply for FedEx elevated a previously named scholarship in honor of her mentor and grandmother, Christine Hickonbottom, to an endowed council level scholarship. The Christine Hickonbottom Council Scholarship will provide scholarships for deserving female minority accountability majors.

An additional way to give to the scholarship fund is through estate planning with The University of Mississippi Foundation. For more information on the Women's Council for Philanthropy Scholarship Endowment Program, contact The University of Mississippi Foundation at (662) 915-5944 or (800) 340-9542. ■



*Christine Hickonbottom*

More women gaining control of wealth

## *Ole Miss, Rhodes College Sponsor Conference Focusing on Women's Philanthropy*

Fifty percent of this country's wealth is transferring into the hands of women this year, according to a Boston College study, and women are taking greater control of their finances.



Recognizing these trends, The University of Mississippi and Rhodes College are offering a two-day seminar to help teach other institutions how to tap into this newly discovered resource for higher education. The Southern Women's Leadership in Philanthropy Symposium is set for June 15-16 on The University of Mississippi's Oxford campus.

The symposium features a number of seminars led by nationally known philanthropic leaders, including Nicki Tanner, co-chair of the Wellesley College Campaign and frequent speaker on issues

“Women are beginning to have more access to assets, thus women will be poised to make increasingly larger philanthropic gifts,” said Ellen Rolfes, advancement associate at The University of Mississippi and creator of the symposium.

are offered opportunities to be involved in the lives of our colleges and universities. Significant philanthropy will follow.”

Trustees, women's council members, donors, philanthropists, alumni, volunteer fund-raisers,

**‘Women are creating new narratives for their lives, their communities, and our world.’**

“Through a mutual commitment to higher education, our institutions have the same goals to improve society by educating our youth and to provide donors the opportunity to make a difference. We know, too, the climate of fund raising is changing in the South, and women are emerging as a viable philanthropic force.”

Wendy Rotter, who is the director of major gifts for Rhodes College and coordinator of the

presidents, provosts, deans, vice presidents/institutional advancement, directors of planned giving and major gifts, and development officers from across the South are invited to attend. Participants will learn why women choose to give, gender differences in giving, barriers to women's giving, development of a gender-sensitive campaign, how to advance women in campaign leadership, how to reach women donors of all ages and giving levels, how to educate the next generation on the values of philanthropy, and how to establish a women's philanthropy program.

“Women are creating new narratives for their lives, their communities, and our world,” Chopp said. “Our task is to learn from the stories of the past and present to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century.”

For more information about the Southern Women's Leadership in Philanthropy Symposium or for a schedule of events, contact Ellen Rolfes at (800) 340-9542 or (662) 915-1586. For questions about registration, contact The University of Mississippi's Institute for Continuing Studies at (662) 915-7282.

**‘It is imperative that women are offered opportunities to be involved in the lives of our colleges and universities. Significant philanthropy will follow.’**

related to women and philanthropy; Charles Collier, senior philanthropic adviser at Harvard University; and Dr. Rebecca Chopp, the Charles Howard Candler professor of theology, provost, and executive vice president for academic affairs at Emory University in Atlanta.

symposium with Rolfes, agreed. “Research shows that women's giving almost always follows involvement,” she said. “The reverse is true for men. Women desire a partnership and are willing to invest time, talent, and financial resources in our institutions. It is imperative that women

## *Keeping Fresh Water Clean is Focus of Research Funded by \$1.5 Million Grant from NY Foundation*

A charitable organization known for promoting marine sciences and oceanographic research is, for the first time, concentrating on freshwater problems through a \$1.5 million grant to the University.

The Henry L. and Grace Doherty Charitable Foundation recently endowed a chair at the University's Center for Water and Wetland Resources. The endowment is set up as a two-to-one matching grant, with Ole Miss responsible for matching funds to support graduate stipends and visiting lecturers.

"This grant ensures the continuation of work on the highest level of an extremely serious challenge—the maintenance of adequate supplies of clean water," Chancellor Robert Khayat said. "We are grateful to the Doherty Foundation for not only allowing us to focus on research but also helping us attract the best, brightest graduate students to work at the Center for Water and Wetland Resources."

Dr. Marge Holland, director of the center, is pleased with the endowment, as well. "This grant, as well as substantial grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Science Foundation, and the state of Mississippi, are important steps toward our goal of making Ole Miss a leader in the field of freshwater research," she said. "We need more funding, but we are well on our way to being a major player in this important but largely ignored field."

The Doherty Foundation became involved with the Center for Water and Wetland Resources after Khayat met with Ole Miss alumnus James R. Billingsley in

New York City. Billingsley, retired senior vice president of AT&T and longtime board member of the Doherty Foundation, has a deep interest in saving the oceans. After discussing the Center for Water and Wetland Resources with the chancellor, Billingsley and several other board members spent three

that has not been addressed.... I'm quite excited. This grant is the culmination of two years of conversations and investigations. It has come together at a good time. "

Besides the grant, the Doherty Foundation is sponsoring, in part, an international conference at Ole Miss. Sustainability of Wetlands



*A new endowed chair was established at the University's Center for Water and Wetland Resources.*

intensive days at the University investigating the possibility of investing in the school.

Billingsley said the board was impressed with the Field Station staff and facilities. "The work the center is doing is critically important not just to Mississippi, but the nation and the world," he said.

Billingsley's wife, Lee, who also is a Doherty Foundation board member, agreed, adding that freshwater contamination has been ignored for too long. "We've always had an interest and been involved in keeping our oceans clean," she said. "But there also is a serious problem with fresh water

and Water Resources is set for May 23-25. Workshops range from "Approaches to Wetland Restoration Around the Globe" to "International Perspectives on Nonpoint Source Pollution."

"We visit a lot of universities and nationally prominent research centers in deciding where to make grants," James Billingsley said. "We concluded that The University of Mississippi ranks in the top echelon for its academic momentum, caliber of instruction and research, and dedication to students. It is clearly a university on the rise, and we are glad that our grants can help in its drive for excellence." ■



## *Persuading African Americans to Stay in Mississippi is Goal of New Medical School Scholarships*

Three Mississippi physicians—Dr. Fred McDonnell of Hazlehurst and Dr. Don Mitchell and Dr. Bryan Barksdale, both of Jackson—are being honored with a scholarship fund at The University of Mississippi Medical Center, where each graduated from medical school.

Former Netscape President and CEO James Barksdale and his wife, Sally McDonnell Barksdale, have funded three full scholarships for African-American medical students at the Medical Center to honor their physician brothers.

Beginning with the class entering in September 2000, three students will be selected on the basis of prior academic achievement and potential for success in medicine. Each student will receive \$22,000 annually for the four years of medical school.

By the time the first Barksdale scholars are seniors, there will be 12 Barksdale scholarship recipients in medical school.

“These scholarships were one of our top priorities in the *Com-*



*On hand for the announcement of the Barksdale gift to the University of Mississippi Medical Center to fund scholarships for African-American medical students were (from left) University Chancellor Robert Khayat, Medical Center Vice Chancellor Dr. Wallace Conerly, Dr. Fred McDonnell of Hazlehurst, Dr. Bryan Barksdale of Jackson, Jackson attorney Reuben Anderson, and Institutions of Higher Learning Board of Trustees member Dr. D. E. Magee, Jr., of Jackson.*

mitment to Excellence Campaign,” said Chancellor Robert Khayat. “For too long, we have lost bright young African-American pre-med students to heavily endowed, much older medical schools, which lured them away from home with generous scholarship packages. Now, thanks to the generosity of Sally and Jim Barksdale, we can persuade them to stay at home.”

**‘This gift is one that will make an impact on our state for years to come.’**

Dr. D. E. Magee, Jr., of Jackson.

The Barksdales, both Ole Miss alumni, also gave the University \$100 million for to establish the Barksdale Reading Institute and \$5.4 million for the McDonnell-Barksdale Honors College.

According to Medical Center Vice Chancellor and Medical

School Dean Dr. Wallace Conerly, the medical school scholarships will provide full tuition (\$6,600), books, and the majority of living expenses. “We’re so grateful to Sally and Jim for their exceptional philanthropy and their wish to help us keep these promising young Mississippians in medical school in Mississippi. This gift is one that will make an impact on our state for years to come.”

Since 1973, the Medical Center has had cooperative programs with the state’s historically black universities and colleges to increase the minority applicant

*Continued on Page 27*

*Scholarships, from Page 26*

pool for the health professions. More young African Americans are applying to medical schools, but too many still choose to attend a school out of state. In the last 18 years, for example, the School of Medicine has lost 80 black students to other medical schools. "Who can really fault a pre-med student for going out of state because he or she can get a better financial package? With the Barksdale gift, we can reverse this trend," Conerly said.

Nationally, minority enrollment has fallen 12 percent since 1996, so promising students are heavily recruited. About 12 percent of the nation's population is African-American, but blacks represent only 7.6 percent of the total medical student enrollment nationally. In Mississippi, blacks account for approximately 36 percent of the state's population, but represented only 8 percent of the total medical school enrollment in 1998-99.

"We know from past experience that if students train in state, there is a greater likelihood they will practice in the state," Conerly said. "That's why these scholarships are so important."

Only Mississippi residents are eligible for the scholarships. Those who receive them will be required to commit to practice in Mississippi for five years.

Over an eight-year period, the total value of the Barksdale gift will be more than \$2 million. At the end of eight years, the scholarships will be evaluated to determine if they have succeeded in fulfilling their purpose. ■

## *Tupelo Surgeon Pays Tribute to Medical Center Mentor*

In the early 1990s, a group of physicians who were former residents at The University of Mississippi Medical Center decided to honor the surgeon who had trained them. They formed the Hardy Society, which is designed to continue the tradition of excellence in surgery taught and practiced by Dr. James D. Hardy. The group also attracts funds for an endowment named after their mentor, who was the former chairman of the surgical department at the Medical Center.

Recently, one of those physicians, Dr. J.W. "Buddy" Williamson, who has been a longtime supporter of the endowment, gave an additional \$25,000 to support the James D. Hardy Chair in Surgery. "We want to make sure the chair remains fully endowed," Williamson said. "Dr. Hardy is a great man. He means so much to so many of us."

Williamson, who attended medical school and worked as an intern, surgery resident, and fellow in peripheral vascular surgery on the Jackson campus, gave the donation with his wife, Margaret. She, too, is an admirer of the former professor, who is now retired. "She loves Dr. Hardy," Williamson said. "He always had a special place in his heart for the residents' wives."

Dr. Wallace Conerly, Medical Center vice chancellor, is pleased that Williamson continues paying tribute to the pioneer in transplantation surgery. "Contributions such as this one to the Hardy Chair will help the Medical Center in its continuing commitment to honor the brilliance, integrity, and clinical excellence that were so characteristic of Dr. James D. Hardy's career."

Williamson, a native of Bay Springs, earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Millsaps College in Jackson. Currently, he is a partner in the Surgery Clinic of Tupelo. The Williamsons have four children, two who are enrolled at Ole Miss, with Alex a former member of the University's baseball team. ■



*Dr. James D. Hardy*

## *Family Memorializes UMMC Psychiatrist with Medical School Scholarships for Women*



*Dr. Wallace Conerly (standing) looks on as Dr. Ellis Moffitt signs papers establishing the Dr. Nina Bess Goss-Moffitt Scholarship in Medicine. Moffitt is joined by his children, Dr. Virginia Ellen Moffitt-Crawford (left) and Dr. John Ellis Moffitt.*



*Dr. Nina Bess Goss-Moffitt*

and dean of the School of Medicine. "We're deeply honored that Dr. Moffitt chose the Medical Center for this permanent memorial to his wife, who served on our faculty for many years."

Goss-Moffitt first joined the Medical Center faculty as a clinical instructor in psychiatry in 1966. When she retired from practice in 1991, she was serving on the full-time faculty as an associate professor of psychiatry and human behavior.

Listed in Who's Who in America as well and the International Women Who's Who, she was a physician who gave freely of her time as a volunteer. She served as president of the Mental Health Association of the Capital Area, on the Mississippi State Mental Health Department State Planning Advisory Committee, as a member of the Mental Health Commission, as chairperson for the Hinds County Mental Health Commission, and as associate medical director of the Mississippi State Medical Association's Impaired Physician's program.

The first Goss-Moffitt Scholarship will be awarded in fall 2000. One new scholarship will be awarded in each of the three following years so that by fall 2004 there will be four medical students with Goss-Moffitt Scholarships.

Recipients will be selected by the School of Medicine's Committee on Academic Awards using two criteria: need and potential for successful completion of the four-year curriculum. ■

**D**r. Ellis M. Moffitt has established a scholarship at The University of Mississippi Medical Center in memory of his wife, Dr. Nina Bess Goss-Moffitt.

The Nina Bess Goss-Moffitt Scholarship in Medicine, which is designated for a woman, covers full tuition in the School of Medicine. Tuition is currently \$6,838 a year for state residents.

"Scholarships are our greatest need," said Dr. Wallace Conerly, vice chancellor for health affairs

## Love of Ole Miss, Students Leads to Endowment

Although the late Nolan Fortenberry spent the last 30 years of his life in Auburn, Alabama, he never forgot his native Mississippi or the students he taught at Ole Miss for more than 20 years.

In memory of his love for both his state and students, his widow, Mae Fortenberry, recently gave the University more than 2,000 shares of BellSouth stock, valued at approximately \$105,600, to create the Charles Nolan Fortenberry Endowment. The gift will provide funds for the College of Liberal Arts, Friends of the Library, and Ole Miss First: Student Scholarships Campaign.

Fortenberry said that although many of her husband's colleagues are gone, most of his students remember him. She hopes her gift will be a lasting tribute to her spouse, who was a popular professor on campus. "He would be pleased an endowment was set up in his name," Fortenberry said. "It is something that will go on through the years. I hope it is never-ending."

Longtime friend and former colleague Dr. Charles Noyes, Ole Miss faculty administrator emeritus, remembers Nolan Fortenberry as being held in high esteem at Ole Miss. "He was a very capable teacher and very well-liked by both students and faculty," he said.

Dr. Glenn Hopkins, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, said the endowment is a fitting memorial to someone who contributed much to both the classroom and administration.

"From his days as a student leader down to his service as professor and chair in the Department of Political Science and as acting dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Fortenberry clearly revealed his attachment for and willingness to serve this University," he said. "Through the establishment of the Fortenberry Endowment, his name will be entwined with that of Ole Miss. We are most grateful to Mae Fortenberry for her generosity."

## New Scholarship in Accountancy



The first E. Nolan Waller Scholarship was awarded in the fall to graduate student Amanda Renee Caston (second from left) of Kiln, Mississippi. On hand for the presentation were (from left) Larry Lefoldt of Lefoldt & Co. of Jackson, the company that generously funded the scholarship in the Patterson School of Accountancy at Ole Miss; Caston; Judy Waller Shannon, a CPA with Lefoldt & Co.; and E. Nolan Waller, who was honored through the naming of the scholarship. A faculty committee chaired by Dr. James W. Davis, dean of the School of Accountancy, awards the scholarship to a student who has completed an undergraduate degree in accountancy and is enrolled in the master's accountancy program. The scholarship honors Waller, who helped Ole Miss students through his 40-year career in the School of Business Administration. When he retired, he was assistant to the dean. Shannon, who earned both undergraduate and graduate degrees in accountancy from Ole Miss, is Waller's daughter.

## Ceremonies Name Accountancy School, Rededicate Conner Hall



The School of Accountancy was named the E.H. Patterson School of Accountancy and renovated Conner Hall was rededicated in recent campus ceremonies. Participants included (from left) alumnus E.H. Patterson, Chancellor Robert Khayat, and Dean Jimmy Davis. Funding came from a \$16.5 million gift to the University in 1997 from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to honor Patterson, who worked for the late media mogul Donald W. Reynolds.

## School of Engineering Alumni Provide Computers, Software



An updated mechanical engineering computer lab is opened at Ole Miss by (from left) Tracy Lusk of Oxford, School of Engineering Dean Allie Smith, and Dr. Jeffery Roux, chair of mechanical engineering. Lusk chairs the Woods Order group of the Ole Miss Alumni Association, which provided \$25,000 to equip the classroom with new computers and paid a \$25,000 licensing fee for the Universitywide use of the software ProEngineer. Last spring, the Woods Order provided about \$30,000 for a similar upgrade of an electrical engineering computer lab. "There's a great need to keep current technology in computer labs, and we're working on another such project," said Lusk. "It's a work in progress, and pledges are coming in nicely." The Woods Order comprises about 150 Ole Miss engineering alumni from around the country.



Sam McArthur



Pilar Blanco Eble

## UM Foundation Welcomes New Staff Members

**Sam McArthur**, joined the Office of Development Services as senior secretary after working in the private sector. She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Mississippi in 1997. Her responsibilities include records coordination and data retrieval.

**Pilar Blanco Eble**, research associate for the Office of Development Services, earned her Bachelor of Arts from The University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette. She joins the development staff after working in fund raising and alumni relations at Tulane University in New Orleans. Her current responsibilities include prospect research and coordination for all University fund-raising activities. Eble is married to Michael Eble, a graduate student at Ole Miss.

## Physician Alum Repays 'Debt' with Stock Gift

Although it has been more than 50 years since he attended The University of Mississippi, Dr. John Ray of New Orleans, a retired physician, has never forgotten his time on the Oxford campus.

Now, the native of Hinkle Creek, Mississippi, is giving others a chance to attend Ole Miss with the establishment of the John E. Ray Science and Mathematics Endowment. His gift of stock, with a value of approximately \$107,000, has been set up as a charitable remainder trust and is designated for the enhancement and enrichment of the departments of Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Psychology, and Mathematics, with an emphasis on pre-med students.

"It is very meaningful for a physician to invest in his alma mater by providing resources for future pre-med students," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. "We are proud of our graduates in the medical field who dedicate their lives to improving the health and well-being of society. We thank Dr. John Ray for his visionary gift that will have a tremendous impact on future physicians."

Ray said his gift reflects his "deep love and affection for Ole Miss. The University remains close to my heart."

The physician actually has a long history with Ole Miss. His late mother was a native of College Hill. The family visited Oxford and the University quite often. When it came time to select a college, it was an easy choice. Ray earned a bachelor's degree in pre-med at Ole Miss and then completed medical school at Northwestern University.

"I have so many fond memories of Ole Miss," Ray said. "I felt I owed it something for my success. I wanted to give back."

## New Research Foundation Will Allow Ole Miss to Bring Products, Technology to Market

A newly chartered nonprofit foundation will enable Ole Miss to partner with private companies in commercializing technology and products developed by University researchers.

The University of Mississippi Research Foundation will allow Ole Miss to directly benefit from its own research discoveries, said Dr. Ron Borne, the University's vice chancellor for research. Through the foundation, the University can contract with an existing private company or assume an equity position in a start-up company for the purpose of bringing a new product or technology to the marketplace.

"This is an important step for the University," Borne said. "Ole Miss is committed to developing its research enterprise and becoming one of the country's major

research institutions. To do so, we need an infrastructure that allows us to attract private support for research and to translate the results of that research into the marketplace. This foundation will play a crucial role in developing

mately spawn new businesses with good-paying jobs for Mississippians, said Dr. Henry Bass, director of the Ole Miss-based National Center for Physical Acoustics. "We want to be in a position of sitting down with industrial col-

**'We want to be in a position of sitting down with industrial collaborators as equal partners.'**

that infrastructure."

"This foundation will enable the University to establish relationships with prospective partners—such as pharmaceutical companies and biotechnology companies—who are eager to do business with Ole Miss," said Dr. Kenneth Roberts, dean emeritus of the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy.

Such partnerships can ulti-

laborators as equal partners. We can share with them our technology if they will provide us with some control over how the technology is commercialized. I see this as helping Ole Miss researchers move innovation into the marketplace, but, more importantly, I see it as a way to have a positive impact on the Mississippi economy." ■

## Waring Cox Law Firm Scholarship

Members of the Waring Cox law firm in Memphis (from left) Robert C. Starnes, Tara Bazzone, and Louis F. Allen hosted a campus luncheon at The University of Mississippi to award the annual Waring Cox Scholarship in Law to Daniel Anderson (second from right) of Chevy Chase, Maryland. Looking on is School of Law Dean Samuel M. Davis and assistant director of alumni affairs Tim Walsh (far right). The annual scholarship of \$2,000 was established by the firm in 1987. Anderson, who is a Native American, is a second-year law student. He is a graduate of Franciscan University, where he studied philosophy.



## Retired Professor and Wife Establish Scholarship for Students Fascinated by Matter and Energy

Ole Miss Professor Emeritus Dr. Arthur “A.B.” Lewis was stubborn as a child. And it took, as he likes to call it, a “good hit” on the head to inspire him to excel in a subject he formerly hated—math.

“I had done very poorly in mathematics,” Lewis said. “I couldn’t hack it. But Central High School in Jackson had a first-class teacher—Miss Pearl Spann. She wore a big thimble on her finger and would thump you on the head. She set me straight on a lot of things with that big thimble. She would say, ‘Arthur, you know better than that.’”

His newly found talent in math led him to his favorite subject—physics. Now he is giving others a chance to learn the science of matter and energy through a donation of Lucent Technology stock to the University. Funds from the gift have established the Arthur B. and Alma G. Lewis Scholarship Endowment.

“This wonderful gift from Dr. and Mrs. Lewis will support scholarships for undergraduate physics majors,” said Dr. Thomas Marshall, chair and professor of physics and astronomy. “It is especially meaningful because Dr.



*Dr. Arthur B. Lewis, professor emeritus of physics, and his wife, Alma, recently created an endowment for gifted physics students. Watching Lewis officially sign scholarship documents are (from left) Dr. Don Frugé, president and CEO of the UM Foundation; Dr. Glenn Hopkins, dean of liberal arts; and Dr. Thomas Marshall, chair and professor of physics and astronomy.*

continued help.”

Upon graduating from high school in 1918, he came to Ole Miss, where he planned to major in chemistry. However, that agenda changed after meeting physics professor Dr. William Lee Kennon his sophomore year. “I took a

and master’s degrees in physics at Ole Miss, Lewis moved to Washington, D.C., to work for the National Bureau of Standards, where he met Alma. “One look at her—that was it,” he said.

While still working for the government, he entered graduate school at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, where he earned a doctorate in physics. After completing school, Lewis said he suddenly had the urge to come home and accepted a job at Ole Miss. “My roots are down here,” he said.

“I found out I like to teach,” he said. “I think I did a good job. Every once in awhile I meet a former student who remembers me. Not one of them has thrown a book at me yet. That’s a good sign.” ■

**‘Dr. and Mrs. Lewis have given so much of their time and effort to sustaining our department over the last 70 years.’**

Lewis is the oldest faculty member in our department, and he may be the oldest living graduate of our department. Dr. and Mrs. Lewis have given so much of their time and effort to sustaining our department over the last 70 years, and we are grateful for their

class from Dr. Kennon and never looked back,” he said. “He was a fascinating man, a teller of tall tales. The students called him Wild Bill. He was such an enthusiastic teacher that I never looked at chemistry again.”

After earning both bachelor’s

## Lear Jet to Benefit Researchers

The friendly skies are about to get friendlier for researchers at Ole Miss. Thanks to generous University alums, the faculty have access to a Lear jet for research-related trips around the country.

Dr. James Rayner and his wife, Mary Sharpe Rayner, of Oxford have provided a seven-passenger Lear jet to transport faculty researchers to Washington, D.C., and other places connected with research projects. The plane, which will remain the property of the Rayners, will be used by the Office of Research and The University of Mississippi Medical Center and for other University travel.

"The availability of this airplane will be of great assistance to our faculty as we pursue research opportunities throughout the nation," said Dr. Ron Borne, Ole Miss' interim vice chancellor for research. "This rapid form of travel will allow us to establish increased contacts with program managers of funding agencies and allow faculty to spend more time developing research proposals and conducting research in our laboratories while causing minimal disruption to our teaching efforts."

Rayner, an ophthalmologist who owns Rayner Eye Clinic in Oxford, graduated from the Medical Center in 1966. Mary Rayner is a 1964 graduate of Ole Miss.

Rayner said he and his wife were looking for a way to support the University's various research programs. "Chancellor Khayat had indicated to us that it's important for professors to make trips to Washington once or twice a month for research purposes. Hopefully, this private jet will enable them to make the trips and return home in a timely manner, allowing them to spend more time doing the work that's important to the University and society in general."

"Some of the finest research in the nation is being conducted at Ole Miss, and the research component will become increasingly important in the next century," said Chancellor Robert Khayat. "The Rayners' gift will enable our faculty researchers to make the contacts they need to increase the quality of research on our campus."

## Wife, Mom, Musician Remembered with Scholarship

### Husband gives \$25,000 to recruit outstanding flutists

Whether working as a computer scientist at Ole Miss, playing flute or viola, or just being a wife and mom, the late Krista Vernon was known to bring out the best in everyone she met. Now with the help of her husband, Dr. Ronald Vernon, someone else will have a chance to shine because of her.

Ron Vernon, associate dean of liberal arts and professor of music at Ole Miss, recently gave \$25,000 to establish the Krista Henry Vernon Memorial Scholarship Endowment. The music merit award will be used to recruit and retain an outstanding flutist, whose distinguished musicianship, academic excellence, and enthusiastic service exemplify the personal qualities of his late wife.

Longtime friend and co-worker Dr. Kathy Gates, director of academic computing and support services at Ole Miss, described Krista Vernon as committed to excellence in all aspects of her life, whether it was her music, relationships, or work. "She was just a pure spirit who was generous with her time and her ability," she said. "I would say her legacy is her three children, who all have those same characteristics."

Buster Hale, associate vice chancellor for information technology, agreed. "She loved the supercomputer project," he said. "That was her baby. She was the first director for that project. But one of my last memories of her was practicing the flute. Sometimes I would stay at noon, and I could hear her in her office playing The Nutcracker Suite."

It seemed that Krista Vernon was destined not only to work at a university but also to become a professional musician. She grew up in Ruston, Louisiana, where her father was associate dean of engineering and chair of computer science at Louisiana Tech. Already an accomplished flutist as a teen, she met her future husband at music camp—he helped her after she fell from a chair. The following year, they met again at a summer program at Louisiana Tech for academically gifted high school students. Three years later, the couple married.

"I can still see her in the summer of 1966," Vernon said. "I thought she had the most graceful hands."

The Vernons came to Ole Miss in 1972 from the University of Texas in Austin. He was a music professor, and she was a microcomputer consultant. At the time of her death in June 1999 from a rare form of breast cancer, Krista Vernon was the principal flutist for the Tupelo Symphony; played viola in the Ole Miss University Orchestra, which Ron Vernon conducts; and played flute in the Sarah Isom Trio.

The couples' children—Jenny, Jamie, and Ellen—inherited the pair's love of music and play several instruments each. "I guess the children really had no choice," Ron Vernon said with a smile. "It was something the family did together."

Vernon couldn't think of a better way to honor his wife than giving another flutist the opportunity to become the best. "She enjoyed her work, but playing the flute was her greatest passion," he said. ■



Krista Vernon



## *School of Education Receives Third Gift of Microsoft Software*

The critical need for student teachers to have access to cutting-edge teaching technology is being addressed at Ole Miss by donations of software from Microsoft. This grant brings Microsoft's total participation in the school's technology to \$150,000 over the past two years, said Dr. Tom Bates, assistant dean.

"Teachers are the key to making technology an effective tool for learning," said Mary Stephenson, director of Microsoft K-12 programs. "Ole Miss has a strong commitment to helping K-12 teachers build the skills necessary to effectively use technology in the classroom, and Microsoft is proud to support this effort."

"The need for teachers who know how to use computers as an effective teaching and learning tool has never been greater," Bates said. "The School of Education has had tremendous growth in technology over the past three years, due primarily to the vision, commitment, and leadership of Dean Jim Chambless. Providing cutting-edge technology ensures that our graduates will be prepared to teach in the modern classroom, which continues to evolve as technology upgrades become available."

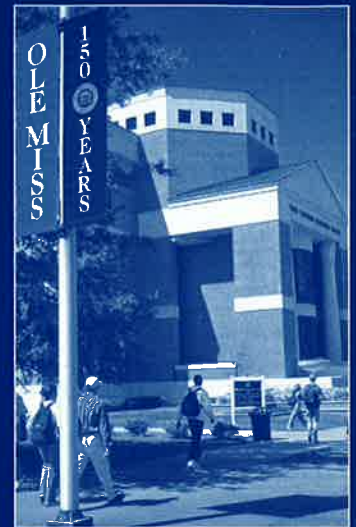
Upon completion of a master's degree in education at Ole Miss in August, Elizabeth Anderson of Greenville, South Carolina, immediately began to appreciate her background in computer technology. "Every interview I have had has stressed technology," she said at graduation. "I'm confident with the experience I've had in my classes here that I can go into the classroom and apply what I've learned." ■

## **For the Future of Hospitality**



Jean Ward of Gainesville, Georgia, meets with Ole Miss Family and Consumer Sciences Chair Dr. Erskine Smith at a reception honoring her and her husband, Henry. The couple bequeathed a gift to department's hospitality management program in their will. Their grandson, Jim Lovell, graduated from Ole Miss with a bachelor's degree in hospitality management in December and is attending graduate school in Miami, Florida.

## **New Pharmacy Student Center Dedicated in Ceremony Honoring Supporters**



Students in the School of Pharmacy can now meet, study, or relax in a spacious new student center.

The Clint and Ellen Ann Johnson Pharmacy Student Center, dedicated in a ceremony at the National Center for Natural Products Research facility, was made possible by a \$50,000 gift from the Johnsons, who live in Leland.

The spacious, newly renovated area, which formerly housed the pharmacy library, will include comfortable seating, student lockers, office spaces for student government, an area for student conferences, storage closets for student organizations, and food and beverage areas. It is conveniently located across the hall from the building's first-floor auditorium, where many classes are held.

Clint Johnson is an Ole Miss alumnus with bachelor's-level degrees in business and pharmacy. He served as a community pharmacist in Leland for many years before his retirement. His wife, Ellen Ann Johnson, comes from a family of pharmacists as well. Their daughter, Wilma, also graduated from the Ole Miss School of Pharmacy.

to come together to implement systematic reform in teaching schoolchildren to read.

"It's frustrating when you look at the statistics," said Barksdale, "so Sally and I began doing our own research on the subject and discovered that the best way to attack a tremendous problem like illiteracy is to attack it at the source."

Barksdale said data show that if someone is not a reader by the third grade, there is a very good chance he or she will never become a reader. "That convinced us that the best way to go about solving this problem was to use whatever means we could to institute successful reading programs into our schools," he said.

After seeing the successes of George W. Bush's reading reform programs in Texas and the "Success for All" programs in Baltimore, Maryland, the Barksdales became convinced that such programs could have a meaningful impact on the reading skills of children nationwide. They committed \$100 million to provide a seamless education focus from teacher preparation programs to public school classrooms that is expected to dramatically improve the reading skills of children.

"It has been proven that these programs do work," Barksdale said, "but only if they are properly implemented. Consequently, we want to ensure that the Barksdale Reading Institute and the Mississippi Department of Education have complete control over the systematic reading reform program. This is a problem that needs action now, and we want to make sure that these young children become successful readers and life-long learners. Our gift has created partnerships that will make these programs work."

University of Mississippi Chancellor Robert Khayat said "the



James and Sally McDonnell Barksdale meet the press at the announcement of the Barksdale Reading Institute.

state will be permanently changed with the establishment of the Barksdale Reading Institute. The implications of the Barksdales' generosity are limitless, not just

socially, but also economically," he said. These reading experts will enhance training in best practice for reading instruction for pre-service teachers, as well as work with teachers in the field.

**'...The best way to attack a tremendous problem like illiteracy is to attack it at the source.'**

Headquartered at The University of Mississippi School of Education, the institute will award grants to colleges of education at Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Jackson State University, Mississippi State University, Mississippi University for Women, Mississippi Valley State University, and the University of Southern Mississippi to employ additional reading faculty mem-

bers. Additionally, an Advocacy Group will promote the institute's reading mission through various public relations activities. One member of the Advocacy Group already selected by the Institute's board of directors is well-known actor, activist, and Mississippi native Morgan Freeman of *Glory*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, and *Unforgiven* fame.

Barksdale said other members will be announced in coming months. ■



## *Brandt Memory House*

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