

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Reallocation plan adopted to meet shortfall

The State of Mississippi continues to collect less revenue from sales taxes and individual income taxes than was projected when this year's state budget was adopted, and state agencies including universities may face a mid-year budget reduction as a result, President Malcolm Portera said at last week's general faculty meeting.

The revenue shortfall may prompt Gov. Ronnie Musgrove to call for a 5 percent reduction in current-year state agency budgets within the next few weeks.

Portera said MSU should prepare for a reduction of \$5.85 million in the state funds allocated to the university for the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2000. That figure represents 5 percent, or \$4.25 million, of the university's budgeted General Fund state revenue of \$85 million, plus the \$1.6 million that could have been received from the Education Enhancement Fund (also known as House Bill 400

funds) had last year's revenue collections continued at their previous pace.

Portera described a university plan, effective Oct. 1, to reduce current-year general fund budgets to adjust to the lower level of state support. The plan focuses on covering the expected state budget encumbrance by eliminating funding for vacant positions and by

reducing operating expenses.

The targeted budget reduction for each university division is based on its total budget for salaries and wages, with an exception in the division of Academic Affairs. In calculating the reallocation required of each area, the university

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Engineering and computer science curricula approved

A national professional organization again is including Mississippi State's engineering and computer science programs on its list of approved curricula.

An evaluation team from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology's Engineering Accreditation Commission visited the university last fall. They reviewed course materials, student projects and assignments, and interviewed students, faculty and administrators.

The 1999 site visit, along with a self-study submitted by the College of Engineering, resulted in the recent ABET

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Work continues on the largest football stadium expansion project in MSU history as the east side of Scott Field begins to take shape. The \$21 million renovation eventually will add 50 luxury skyboxes and 2,000 club-level seats to the facility.

Library adoption program in place

A new program pairing Mitchell Memorial Library with Oktibbeha County schools is designed to help boost academic achievement in the district by expanding resources available to students.

The "Adopt a Library" program began in August and has seen tremendous response, said MSU Libraries Dean Frances Coleman.

"We are very excited about the program and hope to bring about positive change," she said. "We just wanted to do what we could to share with the community the knowledge and information resources that we have here at the university."

The program's goals include empowering teachers and library aides with tools to impact learning through libraries, and strengthening the library collection to enhance learning.

The "Adopt a Library" program will provide all kindergarten through 12th-grade teachers with extensive, yearlong training on the MAGNOLIA database.

Schools use MAGNOLIA—Mississippi Alliance for Gaining New Opportunities through Library Access—to enhance teaching and research through the Internet.

The university library will extend all book-borrowing privileges to county students in grades 7-12. MSU library employees also will volunteer to help library assistants at the five county schools with ordering books and planning student activities.

As an added benefit to the program, EBSCO Publishing Co. has donated two computer programs to the district.

"Online Reader" is a web-based software package for students in upper elementary grades through 12th grade, and "Pokey Toes Corner" is a computer program that teaches early literacy skills to children ages 5-9.

District teachers and aides will meet with MSU library employees for training through May 2001.

Reallocation--continued from page 1

exempted salaries and wages of tenured and tenure-track faculty; faculty equivalent positions in the library; graduate assistants; and student and pooled wage positions.

Excluding those positions from the calculations reduces the amount of the reallocation apportioned to Academic Affairs and recognizes the central role of teaching and research, Portera said.

The reallocation required to meet the expected state budget encumbrance will rely heavily on funds budgeted for vacant positions that have been held open since June in anticipation of such a need.

More than two-thirds of the university's budget is devoted to salaries, wages and fringe benefits, and about 71 percent of the planned reallocation will come from positions held vacant, Portera said.

Also, based on preliminary plans, transfers from other funds will cover about 10 percent of the reduction. Reductions in capital outlay budgets, including equipment, will account for 7 percent; contractual services cutbacks will represent just over 7 percent; commodities reductions make up about 3 percent; and travel cutbacks will account for less than 2 percent of the \$5.85

million that has been identified.

The reductions will be considered permanent and will be reflected in the beginning budgets for FY 2001-2002.

In the event that the actual state budget encumbrance is less than the anticipated 5 percent, remaining funds generated by the budget reallocation plan will be applied to critical needs, Portera said.

These include academic department operating expenses; implementation of Phase I of the Buck Associates compensation study of classified staff positions; and selected restoration of cuts. Implementation of Phase I of the compensation plan study would require approval of the IHL Board of Trustees.

Kudo correction

Sherry Swain, Mississippi Writing/Thinking Institute, chaired the Fourth International Conference for Global Conversations on Language and Literacy in Utrecht, Holland, for the National Council of Teachers of English and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools. Institute staffers **Kim Patterson** and **Linda Allsup** made presentations at the conference.

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reaccreditation notification. Mississippi State's professional engineering programs first gained a national stamp of approval in 1941.

Specifically, computer science's reaccreditation notification came from the ABET-affiliated Computer Science Accreditation Commission of the Computing Sciences Accreditation Board. In 1986, MSU computer science was among 22 curricula gaining CSAB accreditation—the first year that status was conferred.

Based in Baltimore, Md., ABET began in 1932 as the Engineers' Council for Professional Development. It now accredits about 2,300 engineering, engineering technology and engineering-related programs at more than 500 U.S. schools.

When the time came last year to again begin the process, the College of Engineering chose to seek reaccreditation under new ABET criteria that won't become mandatory until 2002, Dean Wayne Bennett said.

"We could have sought to continue accreditation under the current rule-based criteria," Bennett said. "Instead, we chose the new standard because its outcome-assessment, continuous-improvement model provides an excellent goal to achieve."

"We felt this new level of achievement would strengthen our efforts to provide one of the best possible engineering education programs to the citizens of Mississippi and the nation," he added. Bennett said ABET approval includes MSU's cooperative education program, which was established within the engineering college in the 1950s. Among the oldest and largest in the nation, the MSU "co-op" program is open to all majors and currently serves nearly 900 students.

Memo is published for the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University by the Office of University Relations. It is published weekly during the fall and spring semesters and twice a month during the summer. It is also available electronically through the World Wide Web at msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/msu_memo/. Editorial material should be sent to Kay Fike Jones, Mail Stop 9512, or via Internet to jonesk@ur.msstate.edu.



Funding Opportunities

Below are funding opportunities received from various sources such as the Grants Resource Center. Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA), 325-7404, will assist you in obtaining information and applications necessary for submission to governmental or private sources. For complete listings and other opportunities, see the Sponsored Programs World Wide Web page on the MSU server: <<http://www.msstate.edu/Dept/SPA/index.html>>.

TITLE: Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI)

DOC#: NSF 00-144 (replaces NSF 9479 and NSF 9911)

DIVISION: NSF-Wide

ITEM: Notice calling for proposals for the Research in Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) program. Activities under this program support research by faculty members of predominantly undergraduate institutions through the funding of (1) individual and collaborative research projects, (2) the purchase of shared-use research instrumentation, and (3) Research Opportunity Awards for work with NSF-supported investigators at other institutions. RUI proposals must include an RUI Impact Statement that describes the expected effects of the proposed research on the research and educational environment of the institution. All NSF directorates participate in the RUI activity. In general, awards range from approximately \$10,000 to over \$100,000.

ACTION: Requirements and deadlines for submitting letters of intent, pre-proposals, and full proposals vary according to program. See the Program Announcement for detailed information on contacts and deadlines: <http://www.nsf.gov/cgi-bin/getpub?nsf00144>.

CONTACT: General inquiries should be made to the Research in Undergraduate Institutions Program at the above Webpage.

TITLE: Ballistic Missile Defense Target/Payload Support

SOL: DASG60-00-0015

AGENCY: U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command

ITEM: Notice seeking companies that have the capability to provide Ballistic Missile Defense target/payload support in the areas of Research and Development, Design, Modeling and Simulation, Analysis, Fabrication, Integration, and Ground and Flight Test operations. Future contracts, if awarded could include one or any combination of the following products, services, and deliverables: Re-entry

Vehicles (RV) Payloads: Instrument, conventional, nuclear surrogate, chemical/biological surrogate Penetration aids Decoys Hit detectors Miss distance/direction indicators Miscellaneous lethality instrumentation Health and status monitoring and in-flight instrumentation Telemetry Systems Propulsion systems and/or fuels Special development and program support tasks.

ACTION: Interested parties are requested to submit to the contracting officer a capability statement, in writing or via e-mail. Responses must include specific information. For details, contact Mrs. Phifer or see www.cbdweb.com/cgi-bin/cbd.

CONTACT: Robbie Phifer, 256/955-3441. E-mail: robbie.phifer@smdc.army.mil.

ADDRESS: Attn: SMD-CM, 106 Wynn Drive, Huntsville, AL, 35805-1990.

Program: Jane N. Ryland Fellowship Program

Agency: EDUCAUSE

Next Deadline: Dec 01, 2000

EDUCAUSE's mission is to help shape and enable transformational change in higher education through the introduction, use, and management of information resources and technologies in teaching, learning, scholarship, research, and institutional management. This fellowship program designed to enhance opportunities for information technology professionals to attend EDUCAUSE events. Awards are made on an annual basis, in increments of \$500 to \$3,000. See <http://www.educause.edu/awards/>. E-mail: info@educause.edu.

CFDA Number:

Contact:

1150 18th Street
Suite 1010
Washington, DC 20036
202/872-4200

Program: Grants Program

Agency: Ethics and Excellence in Journalism Foundation

Next Deadline: Dec 15, 2000

Supports creative projects and academic research that promote the pursuit of excellence and adherence to high ethical standards in journalism. Applications should be submitted by June 15 for consideration at the Advisory Committee's mid-summer meeting or by December 15 for consideration at a mid-winter conference. Average grant is about \$5,000.

CFDA Number: N/A

Contact: Rita Holder, Coordinator P.O. Box 26192

Oklahoma City, OK 73126-0192
405/235-1356

Program: Community Related Grants Program

Agency: Henry M. Jackson Foundation

Next Deadline: Dec 01, 2000

Provides funding for research projects of national significance and/or scope or offering promising models for replication in the following 4 areas: Education and advanced research in international affairs; Public service; Environment and natural resources management; and Human rights. Applicants should send a brief letter of inquiry before submitting a full proposal. Foundation seeks to promote dialogue between the academic and policy worlds, and between the public and private sectors. Proposals accepted 4 times annually: 3/1, 6/1, 9/1, 12/1. See <http://www.hmjackson.org>. CFDA Number: N/A

Contact: Lara Iglitzin, Executive Director

1001 Fourth Avenue, Suite 3317

Seattle, WA 98154

Seattle, WA 98154

206/682-8565

Program: Preparation of Personnel (IDEA):

High Incidence Disabilities

Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Next Deadline: Nov 17, 2000

Supports preparation of special educators, related service and early intervention personnel serving children with high incidence disabilities, including specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, or mental retardation. Applications are due November 17, 2000. See <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSERS/OSEP/Funding/Funding.html> for more information or call 877/433-7827 to request application.

CFDA Number: 84.325H

Contact: Louise Tripoli, Office of Special Education

400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Switzer Building, Room 3514

Washington, DC 20202

202/205-0378

Program: Research and Innovation: Outreach Projects for Child./Youth w/ Disabilities

Agency: U.S. Department of Education

Next Deadline: Dec 01, 2000

Supports outreach projects that assist educational and other organizations to replicate proven models and other exemplary practices that improve services for children and students with disabilities. Application package is not yet available online. See <http://www.ed.gov/GrantApps/#84.324A> for updated information or call 877/433-7827 to request application.

Deadline is December 1, 2000.

CFDA Number: 84.324R

Contact: Selte Avoke, Office of Special Education Programs

400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Switzer Building, Room 3515

Washington, DC 20202

202/205-8157



Calendar of Events

Send your calendar items to

Kay Fike Jones, 102 George Hall; Mail Stop 9512; FAX 325-7455; e-mail jonesk@ur.msstate.edu at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance. For updates, check www.msstate.edu and click on "News" for msu.NOW!

Ongoing Events, Activities

"The Tropic of Cancer—Recent Sculpture by Rea Mingeva" exhibition, Department of Art Gallery, McComas Hall, through Sept. 28. Mingeva to speak about her work on 28th, 100 Stafford Hall, 4:30 p.m. Reception to follow in the gallery, 7-9 p.m.

October

1

Mississippi Mass Choir, Humphrey Coliseum, 3 p.m. 325-4201.

MSU vs. Georgia, volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 12:30 p.m.

MSU vs. LSU, soccer, MSU Soccer Field, 1 p.m.

3

Entrepreneurship Seminar, Rodger Johnson, president, Knology Holding Co., Eastman Auditorium, Swalm Building, 2:30 p.m. 325-2464.

4

WITS: Basic File Transfer Protocol, 140 Swalm, 1 p.m. 325-8800.

5

"Learning to Sketch from Nature," Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, 10 a.m. Members, \$25; non-members, \$30. (601) 799-2311, extension 22.

6

MSU vs. Auburn, volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 2 p.m.

7

Scholars' Recognition Day. 325-3076.

Mississippi State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, or veteran status.

MSU vs. Auburn, football, Scott Field.

8

MSU vs. Alabama, volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 2 p.m.

9-13

OSHA skills course. 325-0705, 325-2650.

10

MSU vs. Memphis, soccer, MSU Soccer Field, 4 p.m.

Faculty and Professional Women's Association meeting: Dr. Elisabeth Wells-Parker to lead informal round-table discussion on research in Social Science Research Center, particularly on end of life/organ donation initiative and cognitive deficits research, Colvard Union faculty lounge, brown bag, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. 325-8429.

10, 11

College Bowl, Colvard Union third-floor rooms. 325-2930. (see story this page)

11

WITS: I Think I Want a Web Page. What's Next?, 140 Swalm, 1 p.m. 325-8800.

MSU vs. Middle Tennessee State University, volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 6 p.m.

Advising seminar, 125 McCool Hall, 1 p.m. 325-2066. (see story this page)

12

Dr. Albert C. Goodyear, South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of South Carolina, to present "Recent Archaeological Investigations at the Topper Site, an Ice Age Site on the Savannah River," Simrall Engineering Building auditorium, 7-8:15 p.m. 325-3826.

"Learning to Sketch from Nature," Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, 10 a.m. Members, \$25; non-members, \$30. (601) 799-2311, extension 22.

Library Seminar: Dissertation Basics, ELI Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3 p.m. 325-8162.

13

MSU vs. Florida, soccer, MSU Soccer Field, 4 p.m.

14

Talawah Natural Area Field Trip, Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, noon. (601) 799-2311, extension 22.

15

MSU vs. South Carolina, soccer, MSU Soccer

CAB seeking volunteers

The Campus Activities Board is seeking faculty and staff members who would like to help serve as tournament moderators, judges or scorekeepers for this year's College Bowl.

The campus tournament is scheduled Oct. 10 and 11 in third-floor rooms of the Colvard Union.

Persons interested in helping with the tournament should telephone CAB at 325-2930.

Special advising seminar set

The university's Advising Task Force is sponsoring a special seminar Oct. 11 on a little known area of the Office of Student Support Services.

Julie Berry, assistant director of the office, will lead a discussion with faculty advisers on SSS programs for first generation and low-income university students.

Although primarily serving disabled students, SSS also is equipped to help others enrolled at the state's largest institution of higher learning.

Berry's presentation at 1 p.m. in 125 McCool Hall will address ways faculty advisers and others in the classroom can identify those who may benefit from a Student Support Services referral.

For more information, telephone Athletic Department academic counselor Linda Buehler at 325-2066.



Employment Opportunities

Lists of currently posted MSU positions (executive, administrative, faculty, and staff) are available on the Human Resources Management web site www.hrm.msstate.edu/employment/postings.html, or by visiting HRM Employment Services at 150 McArthur Hall. Information on open support staff positions may also be obtained by calling Dial-A-Job at 325-4132.