

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Funds from reallocation to be held until state revenue picture becomes clearer

Mississippi State and other higher education institutions were exempted this month when Gov. Ronnie Musgrove ordered most state agencies to trim their budgets by 5 percent. A strong possibility remains, however, that universities will face cuts later in the fiscal year if state revenue collections continue to lag behind projections.

The university will defer a decision on using the \$5.85 million that it is working to set aside this fall to deal with a potential budget reduction until the state's revenue picture becomes clearer, said President Malcolm Portera.

"We are in the process of building a budget reduction reserve and will continue this effort," he said.

State revenue projections for the first quarter of the 2000-2001 fiscal year were about \$39 million, or 3.2 percent, below

what budget writers expected. State law requires the governor to reduce spending if collections fall at least 2 percent below projections during any quarter of the fiscal year, suggesting the possibility of further state-level cuts in the spring.

Up until the governor's announcement of two weeks ago, state universities had expected to be among the agencies affected by the initial state budget reductions. MSU is preparing for a reduction of \$5.85 million in the state funds that had been allocated to the university for the fiscal year that began on July 1, 2000.

The plan put in place to deal with the expected state budget encumbrance focuses on eliminating funding for vacant positions and reducing operating expenses. The budget reduction for

each university division is based on its total budget for salaries and wages, with an exception for most faculty and graduate student positions designed to protect teaching and research budgets.

If it becomes apparent that the university will not face as extensive a rollback as expected in state funding, then some of the money set aside this fall can be reallocated during the current year to help meet university priorities, Portera said. In the absence of a state-imposed budget cut, some of the money also could be applied to faculty and staff salary increases next July, he said.

Portera said in announcing the cost-cutting plan in September that, should the expected budget cuts fail to materialize, the reallocated funds would be applied to critical needs. Those included academic

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Dr. Walter E. Massey (c), president of Atlanta's Morehouse College, was featured speaker at the 67th annual meeting of the Southeastern Section of the American Physical Society hosted by MSU in early November. He is a former director of the National Science Foundation. Welcoming him to campus are President Malcolm Portera (l) and Department of Physics and Astronomy head Rodney Piercey. Some 200 physicists and physics students attended the regional meeting, the first held in Mississippi in nearly 60 years.

No TV for game with Arkansas

Mississippi State's home football game with Arkansas on Saturday, Nov. 18, will not be televised on network television, according to the Southeastern Conference.

Game time between the Bulldogs and Razorbacks has been set for 1:30 p.m. at Scott Field.

In conjunction with that announcement, MSU has slated its men's basketball game with McNeese State on that same date for a 6 p.m. tipoff at Humphrey Coliseum.

New exchange program in place

Mississippi State students now have the opportunity to conduct graduate study in the biological sciences on the other side of the world.

A newly signed agreement between the university's College of Forest Resources and the Malaysia University of Science is creating a research assistantship, complete with logistical support. The first student soon will be selected to study tropical stream ecology in the Southeast Asian nation of nearly 22 million people.

"This is an opportunity for a student to conduct research on fish habitats in highland streams, including the impact of logging and mining on fish populations," said MSU's Donald Jackson. "Logging and mining are major industries in Malaysia and the problems they cause are similar to those faced in some areas of Mississippi."

As part of the MSU-MUS agreement, a Malaysian student will come to Starkville to enroll in the master's degree program of wildlife and fisheries. The first participant is expected in January for the spring semester.

This is not the first student exchange between the two schools. There have been several earlier short-term exchanges of students for stream fisheries studies.

Flutist to appear in Lyceum Series

Jazz flutist Galen will perform Nov. 20 as part of the 2000-01 Lyceum Series.

The McComas Hall theater performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 for adults, \$6 for senior citizens (by request) and \$4 for children 3-12. MSU students will be admitted free with student I.D. Individual tickets are available only at the door. Season ticket holders have priority seating until 7:10 p.m.

Known for intellectual lectures and powerful performances, Galen has appeared with major artists such as Billy Taylor, Houston Person, Melba Moore, Sun Ra, and John Patton.

A former student of the Berklee College of Music in Boston, Mass., he holds a degree from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J.

For more information, telephone 325-4201.

Program features Alabama poet

The director of the University of Alabama's creative writing program will read from her published works in a Nov. 16 Starkville appearance.

The public program featuring Robin Behn begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Starkville Community Theater at 108 East Main St. in the downtown area. The Mississippi State English Department's Visiting Writers Series is sponsoring her visit.

Behn's published books of poetry include "The Red Hour" (HarperCollins) and "Paper Bird" (Texas Tech University Press). The latter won the Associated Writing Programs Award Series in Poetry.

Also, her work appears in "Best American Poetry," the Pushcart Prize anthology, as well as in many literary journals.

Behn is co-editor of "The Practice of Poetry: Writing Exercises from Poets Who Teach" (also HarperCollins) and is series editor for the Alabama Poetry Series.

She has received fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Alabama and Illinois arts councils, and others.



Behn

Jazz Ensemble to perform Nov. 28

Jazz and swing standards, along with a few gospel favorites, will be on the program Nov. 28 at a campus concert.

The MSU Jazz Ensemble, directed by Music Education Department head Michael R. Brown, will perform in the McComas Hall theater. While the 7:30 p.m. program is free, contributions will be accepted to support future programming and the department's scholarship development fund.

Selections for the evening will include "Round Midnight," "Porsha," "Dues Blues," and "This Little Light of Mine," among others. In a special tribute to the late multi-talented performer Steve Allen, the group also will perform "This Could Be the Start of Something Big."

Guest performers include Malcolm Lynn Baker, director of the jazz studies and commercial music program at the University of Denver's Lamont School, and former MSU departmental faculty member Mark Applebaum, now a teacher at Stanford University.

Baker, who conducts the award-winning Lamont Jazz Orchestra and Contemporary Combo, will be featured on a set of original songs and arrange-

ments. Applebaum, with Baker, will revive his Mark Applebaum Trio, which performed widely in Mississippi in recent years.

The concert concludes with a jam session on the classic blues tune "Emancipation Blues."

In addition to the music education department and its band section, the Nov. 28 performance is sponsored by the University Honors Program.

For more information, telephone 325-3070.

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.

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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: Future Combat Systems (FCS) Communications

SOL: BAA0-01

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Defense; Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)

ITEM: Notice seeking proposals from qualified corporations, research centers, and universities for this FCS BAA. By 2010, FCS is envisioned to provide the Army with an affordable system capable of overwhelming lethality, strategic deployability, self-sustainment, and high survivability. As a separate initiative managed by the DARPA Tactical Technology Office (TTO), FCS has already begun to develop concepts, model, and prototype a rapidly deployable, lightweight, multi-mission combat system heavily reliant on robotics, distributed sensors, direct and indirect fire weapons, and C4ISR functions.

ACTION: Proposals are due by November 20, 2000, for consideration during the initial evaluation phase; however, the BAA will remain open for one year after release. About \$7 million is anticipated to be available in FY 2001, and up to \$10 million is anticipated to be available in FY 2002 and 2003. See also, <http://www.darpa.mil/fcs/index.html> or additional information on FCS, see <http://www.darpa.mil/baa> or go to <http://www.darpa.mil/ato/solicit.htm> for electronic access to the Proposer Information Package. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals; however, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation due to the impracticality of reserving discrete or severable areas of research.

CONTACT: James Freebersyser, via facsimile, to 703/696-9781, or via e-mail, at BAA01-01@darpa.mil. Charles Nurse, via facsimile, to 703/696-2208, or via e-mail, at nurse@darpa.mil.

ADDRESS: Defense Advanced Research

Projects Agency (DARPA),
Contract Management Office (CMO), 3701 N.
Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203-1714

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC); Office of Executive Assistance Management

ITEM: Notice seeking applications under a postsecondary internship program designed to aid and promote experiential training activities that foster future employment in DOC or the federal government in general. U.S. citizens enrolled as students in two- or four-year accredited educational institutions, accredited graduate schools, and law schools will participate in on-site work experiences in DOC bureaus and offices in order to integrate academic theory and workplace requirements, to gain relevant skills and knowledge, to explore federal career options, to develop professional networks, and to develop a greater awareness of the role of federal agencies.

ACTION: Applications are due by December 22, 2000. Contact Lisa Duckett, 202/482-3275, to request, or go to <http://www.doc.gov/oebam/> to download, the application kit. Funds for the first year are expected to be awarded in March of 2001. Funds available under this program for successive years are expected to be awarded in February of each year. Projections based upon previous experience indicate availability of between \$150,000 and \$730,000, to support from 25 to 100 interns.

CONTACT: Carin M. Otero, 202/482-3275.

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Education; Office of Educational Research and Improvement

ITEM: Notice requesting applications for new awards for FY 2001 under the Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE)—Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Program, the purpose of which program is to support nationally significant programs to improve the quality of education, assist all students to meet challenging state content standards, and contribute to the achievement of the National Education Goals. The purpose of this competition is to support pilot projects that design and implement character education programs as a way to address the broader FIE objectives.

ACTION: Applications are due by December 20, 2000. See also, <http://ed.gov/GrantApps/> for electronic access to the application package, or contact Judy Collins, 202/219-2116. Fax: 202/219-2053. E-mail: judy_collins@ed.gov. For electronic access to this document, go to <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm> or to [\[www.ed.gov/news.html\]\(http://www.ed.gov/news.html\). Only state educational agencies, which have not already received a grant or grants that total \\$1 million under the Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Program, in partnership with one or more local educational agencies, may apply.](http://</p></div><div data-bbox=)

CONTACT: Beverly Farrar, 202/219-1301. E-mail: beverly_farrar@ed.gov.

AGENCY: U.S. Department of State; Office of Academic Programs; Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

ITEM: Notice requesting proposals under an open competition for one (or more) assistance award(s) to provide administrative and program services for the Fulbright Student Program in FY 2002, a program that has evolved into the premier educational exchange program sponsored by the people of the U.S. through the federal government, and one that has thus become an important element in the conduct of U.S. foreign affairs.

ACTION: Proposals are due by February 1, 2001. See also, <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/rfps> for electronic access to the application package. It is anticipated that funding for the cooperative agreement award(s), which will include program administration for all new Fulbright students, will be approximately \$7.5 million. In addition, a program budget totaling approximately \$40 million for the global Fulbright Student Program will be transferred to the recipient(s) of the award in quarterly installments.

CONTACT: Ellen Berelson, 202/619-5376. Fax: 202/619-6137. E-mail: eberelson@pd.state.gov.

TITLE: School Safety Research

SOL: BAA 96-1 Rev 2

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Defense; Department of the Navy; Naval Air Warfare Center

ITEM: Notice seeking the identification and development of training and simulation technologies, with a focus on training for School Resource Officers and law enforcement personnel responding to school incidents, covered by the NAWCTSD Broad Agency Announcement BAA NAWCTSD 96-1.

ACTION: Responses are due by December 31, 2000. See also, <http://www.ntsc.navy.mil/> for electronic access to information.

CONTACT: Dee Sheppe, 407/380-8559. E-mail: sheppeml@navair.navy.mil.

ADDRESS: Naval Air Warfare Center TSD, Code 257, 12350 Research Parkway, Orlando FL 32826-3275



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

School of Architecture exhibit, works of Austrians Otto Wagner and Adolf Loos, as photographed by Walter Zednicek, Giles Hall gallery, through Nov. 23. 325-2202.

November

14-17

"The Dark Castle," annual children's play, McComas Hall theater. 325-7951.

14

Society of Scholars induction. 325-7156.

15

Faculty and Professional Women's Association meeting: MSU Libraries dean Frances Coleman, "Staying Up-to-Date Without an Information Overload," Mitchell Memorial Library auditorium, brown bag, 11:30 a.m. 325-8429.

WITS: Preparing Documents for Printing, 140 Swalm Building, 1 p.m. 325-8800.

Salute to the Military, Dr. John Marszalek leads panel discussion, Simrall Hall auditorium, 3 p.m. 325-3503.

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Library seminar: Accessing the Libraries' Electronic Journals, ELI Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3 p.m. 325-8162.

Retreat Ceremony, Drill Field, 4 p.m. 325-3503.

Republic of Korea War Service Medals Presentation, Colvard Union ballroom, 4:30 p.m. 325-3503.

Poet Robin Behn, Starkville Community Theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-3644. (see story page 2)

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MSU vs. Arkansas, football, Scott Field, 1:30 p.m.

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Senior Recital: Tara Castile, Betterworth Auditorium, Giles Hall, 3 p.m. 325-3070.

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Lyceum Series: Galen, flutist, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-4201.

21

Entrepreneurship Seminar, John Denson, former president, Lockheed Martin Idaho, Eastman Auditorium, Swalm Building, 2:30 p.m. 325-2464.

For your information . . .

The following web sites contain information on the state health insurance and retirement plans.

Mississippi State and School Employees' Health Insurance Plan (Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration)

- Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/>
- How the Plan Works
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/insurance/plan/planwork.html>
- Frequently Asked Questions
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/insurance/plan/faq.html>
- Summary Plan Description for 2000
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/insurance/plan/2000SPD.pdf>
- AHS State Network Online Provider Directory
<http://apps.dfa.state.ms.us:90/ahsprov/>
- September Health Plan Update
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/insurance/letter/Sept2000Newsletter.pdf>
- Out of Network Review
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/insurance/plan/out-net.html>
- How to File Claims
<http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/insurance/plan/claims.html>

Public Employees' Retirement System of Mississippi (PERS)

- PERS Main Menu
<http://www.pers.state.ms.us/>
- Benefit Estimate Calculator
<http://www.pers.state.ms.us/estimates.html>
- Glossary
<http://www.pers.state.ms.us/Glossary.html>

Reallocation--continued from page 1

department operating expenses and, with IHL Board of Trustees approval, implementation of the first phase of the classified position compensation recommended by Buck Associates consultants.

If MSU continues to avoid state budget reductions this year, the university will attempt to implement those plans in the spring, Portera said.

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



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.