

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Nissan incentives to expand MSU research

External support of more than \$20 million is expected to go into infrastructure and specialized faculty positions at Mississippi State as the university gears up to support a planned Nissan Motor Co. plant near Canton.

The state's proposed incentive package that helped attract the giant automaker also includes \$3.6 million a year in annually recurring funds that will support university research and outreach activities.

Mississippi State officials, including representatives of the College of Engineering and the National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center, played a key role in negotiations leading to Nissan's choice of a Mississippi site, said university President Malcolm Portera.

"This state owes Wayne Bennett, Don Trotter, Brad Carter, and our support staff an extraordinary amount of credit for this accomplishment," Portera added. Bennett is dean of engineering; Trotter, ERC director; and Carter, associate provost for information services.

The university's research and development capabilities with applications to manufacturing and the automobile industry formed a critical part of the state's proposal, Portera said. Exact details of how the Nissan-related investments at MSU are to be used will be worked out in conjunction with the company.

Tentative plans are to use state funds to establish a Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems on the main campus. The \$9 million center will draw heavily on the capabilities of the Engineering Research Center and will provide computing equipment, analytical equipment, fabrication equipment, and testing facilities that can support Nissan and other major industries.

The university also will establish a \$6 million Engineering Extension Center

near the plant site. High-speed telecommunications and Internet links will connect the MSU campus, the Engineering Extension Center near Nissan, and Holmes and Hinds community colleges, which will provide worker training for the company.

MSU also is working with Jackson State University to develop plans for cooperative efforts in support of the

project.

The Nissan incentive package includes funding for three endowed faculty chairs in areas of MSU strengths that are important to Nissan. Those include product design, manufacturing operations and computational engineering.

Annually recurring funds will include

Continued on page 4

Leopold to head wildlife, fisheries

A veteran faculty member and nationally recognized wildlife biologist is the new head of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

Dr. Bruce D. Leopold officially assumed the duties Nov 1. He had served as interim head since the retirement of Randall Robinette last year.

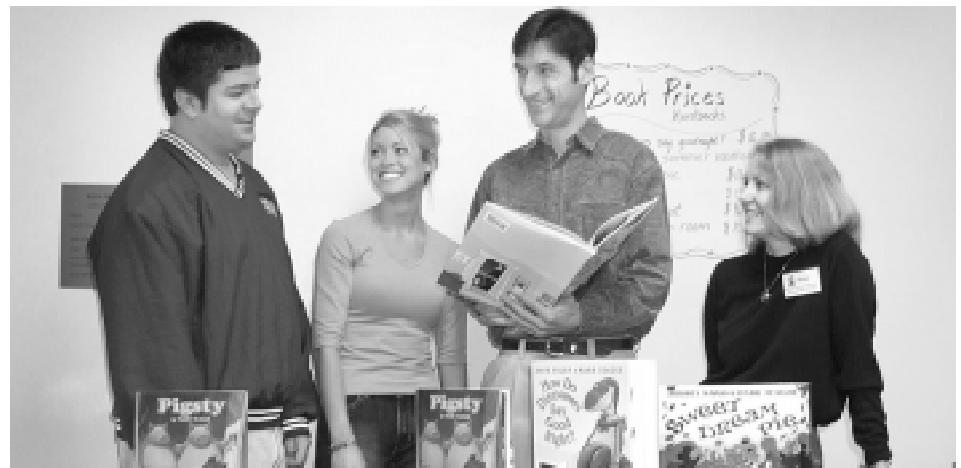
A native of Conshohocken, Pa., Leopold received a bachelor's degree from Pennsylvania State University in forest science, a master's in forestry from

MSU and a doctorate from the University of Arizona in wildlife ecology.

A Mississippi State faculty member since 1987, Leopold researches predator-prey relationships, habitat management and quality assessment, wildlife population monitoring, and forest-wildlife management, among others.

Earlier this year, he completed a 10-year study of Mississippi's predators that was unprecedented nationally for the number

Continued on page 4



Award-winning children's author and illustrator Mark Teague (second from right) showed some of his books to education majors as he prepared for a recent lecture at MSU. Looking over titles that include "The Flying Dragon" and "The Poppleton Series" are (l-r) Mike Cooley, Gabrielle Rigdon and Stacy Reeves.

Nominations now open for honorary degrees

Nominations for honorary doctoral degrees to be awarded by Mississippi State next spring are being accepted until Feb. 1, 2001.

Nominations, including supporting materials, should be sent to Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs David Cole, who chairs the Honorary Degree Committee. Other committee members are Dan Embree, chair of the Holland Faculty Senate; Sara Freedman, dean of the College of Business and Industry; Clyde Williams, associate professor of English; and Joe Thompson, Giles Distinguished Professor of aerospace engineering.

The Board of Trustees, State Institu-

tions of Higher Learning authorized state universities to begin awarding the degrees in 1999 and generally allows each institution to give up to two each year. Mississippi State so far has awarded four honorary degrees.

Under IHL guidelines, persons eligible for the Doctor of Laws, Doctor of Science, Doctor of Humane Letters, Doctor of Creative and Performing Arts, or Doctor of Public Service must have demonstrated nationally recognized sustained achievement in scholarship, public service, creative and performing arts, or professional activity.

Faculty, staff and administrators of the

university, and elected or appointed public officials, are ineligible for an honorary degree until one year after leaving their position. Candidates for public office also are ineligible. Degrees may be awarded posthumously.

The Honorary Degree Committee will evaluate nominations, develop additional information about nominees and verify information submitted. The committee will recommend to the president candidates for degrees to be presented at May 2001 commencement ceremonies.

Any member of the university community may submit nominations. All information that nominators wish to present to the Honorary Degree Committee should be provided along with the nomination by the Feb. 1 deadline.

The Board of Trustees must approve honorary degrees at least two months prior to awarding the degree. Names of nominees will be kept confidential until they are approved by the Board of Trustees.

Prior recipients of honorary degrees at Mississippi State are John H. Bryan Jr., chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Sara Lee Corp.; Leo W. Seal Jr., chairman and CEO of Hancock Bank in Gulfport; Harry Charles F. Simrall, dean of engineering at Mississippi State until his retirement in 1978; and Dave C. Swalm, a 1955 graduate and retired petroleum products company owner.

Visit Sanderson for free Nov. 27-30

The Office of Recreational Sports is offering faculty and staff members free use of the Joe Frank Sanderson Center Nov. 27-30.

To gain entrance to the recreation facility, employees need to bring a faculty/staff identification card with them. In addition, special faculty and staff memberships will be available for purchase.

Various activities also are scheduled during the week. For information, telephone 325-8964.

MSU names emeritus faculty members

The following retired faculty members recently were awarded emeritus status.

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Lung-Hua Chen, Professor Emeritus of Agricultural and Biological Engineering; Richard H. Mullenax, Professor Emeritus of Plant and Soil Sciences; and David E. Pettry, Giles Professor Emeritus of Plant and Soil Sciences.

College of Arts and Sciences

Leon L. Combs, Professor and Head Emeritus of Chemistry; Armando A. de la Cruz, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences; Jerome A. Jackson, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences; Paula W. Sunderman, Associate Professor Emerita of English; and James Ray Watson, Professor Emeritus of Biological Sciences.

College of Business and Industry

Will H. Owen Jr., Assistant Professor Emeritus of Accountancy, and George L.

Verrall, Associate Professor and Head Emeritus of Finance and Economics.

College of Education

Warren F. Housley, Professor and Head Emeritus of Counselor Education and Educational Psychology, and Dennis A. O'Nan, Professor Emeritus of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Sport.

College of Engineering

James W. Epps, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering; Larry R. Johnson, Professor Emeritus of Industrial Engineering; and Adnan Shindala, Professor Emeritus of Civil Engineering.

University Libraries

Martha O. Booth, Assistant Professor Emerita of University Libraries; Randall P. Rafferty, Associate Professor Emeritus of University Libraries; and Bette M. Rice, Associate Professor Emerita of University Libraries.

Union Holiday Bazaar slated for Nov. 27, 28

More than 150 arts and crafts vendors will gather at Mississippi State Nov. 27 and 28 for the annual Colvard Union Holiday Bazaar.

Sponsored by the Campus Activities Board, the Christmas shopping event will take place 9 a.m.-8 p.m. the first day; 8 a.m.-6 p.m. the following day. The booths of Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, and Tennessee artisans and merchants will be set up throughout the union's three floors.

Admission is free.

For additional information, telephone Mary Brantley or Paula Raffo at 325-2930.



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>>.

Program: Head Start Research Grants
Agency: Administration for Children and Families

Next Deadline: Feb 07, 2001
Supports research projects aimed at improving services provided by the Head Start programs. In FY 01, ACF is supporting University-Head Start Partnerships and Graduate Student Head Start Research Grants. Priorities include infant and toddler development within a cultural context, school readiness, and field-initiated research that will increase knowledge of low-income children's development, for the purpose of improving services or producing significant policy implications. See the 11/9/00 Federal Register, or <http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/programs/hsb/>. E-mail hsr@lcgnet.com

CFDA Number: 93.600
Contact: ACYF Operations Center
1815 North Fort Meyer Drive
Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22209
800/351-2293

Program: Grants Program
Agency: American Honda Foundation
Next Deadline: Feb 01, 2001

Awards are made to nonprofit organizations, including colleges and universities, for projects that meet the most pressing needs of youth (especially minority students). Most funded projects have included job training or math, science, technology, and environmental education improvement, including curriculum development. Emphasis is on broad, innovative, and forward-thinking projects with national scope. Grants are for \$10,000-\$75,000. To obtain guidelines, send a letter and a self-addressed label to the address above. See <http://www.hondacorporate.com/community/index.html>.

CFDA Number: N/A
Contact:
1919 Torrance Blvd., Bldg. 100
P.O. Box 2205

Torrance, CA 90509-2746
310/781-4090

Program: Grants Program
Agency: Kazanjian (Calvin K.) Economics Foundation, Inc.

Next Deadline: Feb 15, 2001
Supports a wide range of projects that aim to increase economic literacy, especially the best way to teach the subject (research, curriculum development); the impact of economic education (policy studies, measurement of economic understanding); encouragement of youth/young adults to participate in the economic system after finishing school (research, conferences, outreach programs); and the distribution of economic education materials developing market economies. See <http://www.kazanjian.org/>. E-mail: director@kazanjian.org.
CFDA Number: N/A
Contact: Managing Director
P.O. Box 300
Dallas, PA 18612-0300
570/675-7074

Program: Initiative on The Cost Effective Uses of Technology in Teaching

Agency: Mellon (Andrew W.) Foundation
Next Deadline: Jan 01, 2001
Supports the design and implementation of experiments to test whether, and how, technology can enhance learning in cost-effective ways. Subject matter, course structure, time and place, type of technology, and other variables are all open to discussion. Competitive proposals must include specific methods for measuring costs and learning outcomes as well as strong institutional support. The program will fund only a limited number of experiments. E-mail a 1-2 page overview of experiment to tin@mellon.org. For more details, see <http://www.mellon.org/ceutt.html>.

CFDA Number:
Contact: Tom Nygen, Program Officer
140 East 62nd Street
New York, NY 10021
212/838-8400

Program: Innovation and Organizational Change Program

Agency: National Science Foundation
Next Deadline: Feb 01, 2001
Supports development of concepts, tools and methods for managing transformations to quality in organizations. Partnerships between researchers and firms or organizations will serve to improve theoretical and empirical understandings of total quality and to expedite implementation of quality practices. Research should be multidisciplinary, ideally integrating

perspectives from the social, behavioral, managerial, and engineering sciences. NSF expects to make approximately 10 to 15 new awards annually at typically \$75,000 per year for one to three years. See also, <http://www.nsf.gov/sbe/ses/ioc/start.htm>.

CFDA Number: N/A
Contact: Mariann Jelinek, Program Director
Div. of Social, Behav. and Econ.

Research
4201 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22230
703/292-8761

Program: Public Telecommunications Facilities Program

Agency: U.S. Department of Commerce
Next Deadline: Jan 2001 (tentative)
Supports construction or planning projects for public telecommunications networks or purchase of telecommunication equipment and facilities. Matching grants are provided for activities that extend the delivery of public telecommunications to underserved areas, or strengthen the capabilities of existing public television and radio stations. Solicitation release is awaiting budget approval. Applications will not be due before mid-January, 2001. Details will be posted at <http://www.ntia.doc.gov/otiahome/ptfp/index.html> once they have been finalized.

CFDA Number: 11.550
Contact: Public Broadcasting Division
Nat. Telecommunications and Info. Adm.
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW, Rm H-4625
Washington, DC 20230
202/482-5802

Program: FIPSE: Comprehensive Program
Agency: U.S. Department of Education
Next Deadline: Dec 15, 2000

Supports projects that encourage postsecondary reform, innovation, and improvement with a focus on enhancing equality of educational opportunity. Successful projects are comprehensive, action-oriented, risk-taking and responsive to the needs of practitioners. Approximately 125 projects were funded in FY 00. Guidelines for FY 01 will be published in fall, 2000. See <http://www.ed.gov/FIPSE/> for more information.

CFDA Number: 84.116
Contact: Cassandra Courtney, Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education
1990 K Street, NW
8th Floor
Washington, DC 20006-8544
202/502-7506



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.

BFA Thesis Exhibition, "Breaking Out!" by Tracy Smith, Rhett Butler, Jonna Baskin, through Dec. 7, Department of Art Gallery, McComas Hall, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday-Friday. 325-2954.

November

20

Lyceum Series: Galen, jazz 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.

MSU vs. Mississippi Valley State University, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

22

Pre-Thanksgiving lunch, Perry Cafeteria. White tablecloths and complimentary dessert. Make reservations by Nov. 17. Lynn Berch, 325-0923.

Leopold—continued from page 1

and variety of animals involved.

Prior to joining the MSU faculty, Leopold was a research assistant at the University of Arizona and a field biologist for the United States Bureau of Reclamation.

He is a member of the Wildlife Society and editor-in-chief of one of the organization's peer-reviewed journals. He also is a member in the American Society of Mammalogists, Mississippi Wildlife Federation, and Phi Kappa Phi, Sigma Xi, and Xi Sigma Pi honor societies.

MSU Libraries hours: 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

23, 24

University closed for Thanksgiving.

23-25

MSU Libraries closed.

26

MSU Libraries hours: 1 p.m.-2 a.m.

27

Holiday Bazaar, Colvard Union, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. 325-2930. (see story page 2)

28

Holiday Bazaar, Colvard Union, 8 a.m.-6 p.m. 325-2930. (see story page 2)

MSU vs. Southern University, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Jazz Ensemble with guest performers Malcolm

Baker and Mark Applebaum, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-3070.

29

WITS: NT and Advanced Windows Tips, 140 Swalm Building, 1 p.m. 325-8800.

30

MSU vs. Alabama A&M, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

December

1, 2

North Mississippi High School Drama Festival, McComas Hall theater. 325-7951.

3

MSU vs. Georgia Tech, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 5 p.m.

5

Dead Day.

Nissan—continued from page 1

about \$3.2 million a year to help strengthen the research base that supports the auto industry. Other funding will help maintain and expand Internet and telecommunications links and support outreach efforts that will involve other institutions and elementary and secondary schools.

Mississippi State's Research and Curriculum Unit, which works already with industries throughout the state, will partner with Nissan, state officials, and community colleges to design curricula and training materials for workers at Nissan and affiliated companies. Direct worker training will be provided through the community colleges.

Mississippi State currently ranks 59th in overall research and development volume among the nation's public universities and expects to move into the top 50 within three years. The College of Engineering ranks 42nd in the nation in research expenditures.

The university already has research-based affiliations with companies including Boeing, Ford Motor Co.,

Litton-Ingalls Shipbuilding, Mitsubishi, Northrop Grumman/Logicon, and Raytheon/E-Systems, among others.

MSU has associations with government research agencies including Jet Propulsion Laboratories, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Office of Naval Research.

With about 2,700 engineering students at the bachelor's through doctorate levels and about 120 engineering faculty, Mississippi State is prepared to provide a steady stream of technically competent graduates and consulting expertise to Nissan and other companies, Portera said.

The university has averaged about 470 engineering graduates a year in recent years.



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.