

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Portera says 'refuse to be negative' about budget woes

Mississippi State will maintain its momentum and find innovative ways to make progress toward university priorities despite current financial constraints, President Malcolm Portera told the audience at a general faculty meeting on Jan. 29.

"I refuse to be negative about the future of the institution," Portera said, noting plans to generate new revenue and leverage existing resources in the face of prospective reductions in state funding.

The university is better positioned than other state institutions to deal with an anticipated reduction in current-year budgets because of contingency plans put into place starting last fall. Almost 200 non-teaching positions have been held vacant this year, generating most of the funds needed to deal with a potential 5 percent cut.

The university still is working on plans to offset an unexpected increase of about \$1.4 million in this year's energy bills stemming from skyrocketing natural gas prices. An energy conservation plan will be implemented and the university is exploring the option of switching to an interruptible power supply contract with TVA that could save \$1.4 million a year.

As in other Southern states, Mississippi's tax revenue collections continue to lag behind projections. The projected shortfall has legislators and higher education officials anticipating a further reduction in university budgets for the 2001-02 fiscal year beginning July 1. Mississippi State's total loss of funding, including that for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine, could be as much as \$21 million.

The university has proposed to legisla-

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Associate communication professor John E. Forde is Mississippi State's Outstanding Academic Adviser for 2001. As the award winner among five finalists, Forde becomes the university's representative in competition sponsored by the National Academic Advising Association. Now in its eighth year, the campus recognition program is coordinated by the Academic Advising Center and the Advisory Board. Also honored with certificates of merit for their skills in helping students navigate the academic curricula were Drs. P. Mikell Davis, professor of veterinary medicine; Seth F. Oppenheimer, associate professor of mathematics and statistics; Donna S. Reese, associate professor of computer science; and Clifford G. Ryan, assistant professor of history.

Hunt, Bryant to head newly created units

Two veteran administrators will head areas created from what was formerly the Division of Business Affairs.

The new functional areas are Administrative Affairs, to be headed by Gaddis Hunt as chief administrative officer; and Budget and Finance, to be headed by Daniel Bryant as chief budget and financial officer. Both Hunt and Bryant will serve as members of the top-level university leadership team.

President Malcolm Portera said the

restructuring eliminates the position of vice president for business affairs, which had been vacant since August.

"During recent months, as it became increasingly clear that the university must make every effort to achieve the most efficient use of its resources, it also was apparent that we are fortunate to have highly effective and capable leadership within the institution," Portera said.

"Gaddis Hunt and Daniel Bryant each

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Foster leads Forest Resources college

A regional United States Forest Service official is the new dean of the College of Forest Resources and director of the Forest and Wildlife Research Center.

Dr. G. Sam Foster assumed his new duties Feb. 1, pending formal approval by the Board of Trustees, state Institutions of Higher Learning. He has served for the past eight years as assistant director of the service's Southern Research Station in Asheville, N.C.

Interim dean Bob L. Karr will resume his previous position as associate dean of the college, which includes the departments of Forestry, Forest Products, and Wildlife and Fisheries.

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Paintings, furniture on exhibition at Giles Hall gallery

The watercolor paintings of retired Starkville architect Thomas Shelton Jones and the 19th-century bentwood furniture of Austrian craftsman Michael Thonet are featured on campus through Feb. 15.

Both are on display at the School of Architecture's Giles Hall gallery. The Jones watercolors include scenes of England, Italy and Mississippi, while the Thonet collection illustrates his creativity in producing chairs and benches of layered and steam-bent wood.

Gallery hours are 8 a.m.-10 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Friday.

Painted over the last decade, Jones' works include gatehouses, cathedrals, abbeys, churches, and gardens, among other subjects.

Made possible by the Austrian Cultural Institute of New York, the Thonet exhibit is illustrated by photographs, models and original chairs that document the development of the furniture from its local origins to worldwide success.

Thonet is considered the founder of the style, which resulted in the mass-production of lightweight, distinctive furniture that consisted of no more than a few components screwed together. The pieces were known both for their sturdiness and their unique aesthetic qualities.

During his career, Jones designed a number of MSU buildings, among them the Cobb Institute of Archaeology, MacArthur Hall and the president's home on Morrill Road.

For more information about the exhibitions, telephone John Jay Miller at 325-2202 or visit www.sarc.msstate.edu/events/exhibitions-00-01.html.

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Editor—Kay Fike Jones



Giles Hall gallery

Computer-based exhibition open through March 20 on Austrian architects' work

A computer-based exhibition on the work of Austrian architects in America is open through March 20 in the School of Architecture library.

"Visionaries in Exile—A Cultural Journey from Austria to America" contains some 2,000 images, along with music, video and text of the work of 20 Austrian architects living in the United States. They include Joseph Urban, Rudolf M. Schindler, Richard Neutra, Fredrick Kiesler, Victor Gruen, and Josef Frank.

The show highlights the interaction and influence among the Austrians and figures such as Sigmund Freud, Frank Lloyd Wright, Walter Gropius, Philip Johnson, Randolph Hearst, and Marcel Duchamp.

For more information about the exhibitions, telephone John Jay Miller at 325-2202 or visit www.sarc.msstate.edu/events/exhibitions-00-01.html.

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At the Forest Service—a branch of the U.S. Department of Agriculture—Foster had administrative responsibility for 11 research units located from Auburn, Ala., to Nacogdoches, Texas. Previously, he was a Forest Service program manager and supervisory research geneticist, as well as an adjunct professor of plant and soil science at Alabama A&M University.

He also has held positions in industry, including vice president of the International Forest Seed Co. and manager of forest research at Crown Zellerbach Corp.

He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Tennessee

and a doctorate from Oregon State University.

Foster, whose research in forest genetics has gained international attention, "will lead the departments of Forestry, Forest Products, and Wildlife and Fisheries toward national prominence in teaching, research and service," said Dr. Charles Lee, vice president for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine.

"Dr. Foster also will strengthen the contributions of natural resources to the economic and environmental welfare of the people of Mississippi," Lee added.

Three named 'Ageless Heroes' by Blue Cross

One current and two former Mississippi State educators are 2001 honorees for lives and accomplishments that inspire others.

At a recent ceremony in Hattiesburg, Drs. Dean Bunch, Joe Cardwell and Robert Wolverton were among 24 named Ageless Heroes by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Mississippi. The annual program of the Jackson-based insurance company was created in 1997 to recognize "the spirit and vitality of special Mississippians age 65 or older."

Statewide honorees Bunch, 85, and Wolverton, 75, were recognized in the "Creativity" and "Good Neighbor" categories, respectively. Cardwell, 78, was the "Good Neighbor" selection for the Northern Region.

An expert in seed technology and Third World food production, Bunch is professor emeritus of agronomy and director emeritus of international programs. Since his retirement from the university, he has helped a Noxubee County African-

American farm cooperative that gives minority youths a chance to work with Mennonite farmers in growing and selling crops. Bunch also acts as an unofficial handyman for his friends and neighbors, doing everything from unclogging a dryer vent to helping with lawn work.

Cardwell is professor emeritus of dairy manufacturing (dairy foods). Since his university retirement, he has remained busy volunteering, including the delivery of Meals-on-Wheels to shut-ins, assisting the Very Special Arts program and filming Starkville's annual Christmas parade,

among other activities. In addition, he assists the Oktibbeha County Heritage Museum, Oktibbeha County Hospital and Oktibbeha County Volunteer Fire Department.

Still active on campus as a professor of foreign languages, Wolverton is a John Grisham Master Teacher, one of the highest faculty honors. He also is this year's Outstanding Humanist for Mississippi, a Mississippi Humanities Council honor. In the community, he serves as a Starkville Public Library trustee and

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MSTV



MSU programming airs on Northland Cable's channel 7. A corrected February week of shows includes the following:

Feb. 5—6 p.m., Bullyboard; 6:30 p.m., MSU Basketball with Rick Stansbury; 7 p.m., 2001 Miss MSU Scholarship Pageant; 8:45 p.m., Bullyboard; 9 p.m., SCOLA.

Feb. 6—6 p.m., Bullyboard with Bulldog Weather; 6:30 p.m., MSU Basketball with Rick Stansbury; 7 p.m., "The Man Who Came to Dinner," MSU theater; 9 p.m., SCOLA.

Feb. 7—6 p.m., On-Air (MSU conversation); 6:15 p.m., Bullyboard with Bulldog Weather; 6:30 p.m., Underground Transmission; 7 p.m., "The Man Who Came to Dinner," MSU theater; 9 p.m., SCOLA.

Feb. 8—6 p.m., On-Air (MSU conversation); 6:15 p.m., Bullyboard with Bulldog Weather; 6:30 p.m., MSU Basketball with Rick Stansbury; 7 p.m., MSU Basketball (hosting Alabama); 8:45 p.m., Bullyboard with Bulldog Weather; 9 p.m., SCOLA.

Feb. 9 and 10—SCOLA all day.

DataBasics

By Kerry Smith
MSU Libraries

New to the MSU Libraries database collection is Project MUSE, a pioneering initiative offering worldwide networked access to the full text of scholarly journals from numerous not-for-profit publishers. As a primary electronic resource for the academic community, Project MUSE covers the fields of literature and criticism, history, the visual and performing arts, cultural studies, education, political science and theory, philosophy, and many others.

Each of the journals in the Project MUSE database has a home page offering a brief description of its mission and content, as well as links to all volumes and issues currently online. Users also may jump to current indexing and abstracting data, editorial information, manuscript submission guidelines, advertising rates and a free full text sample issue for each title.

Each MUSE journal has complete volume and issue level tables of contents for every volume online. Links allow readers to jump directly to articles, essays, book reviews or other special features, as well as to the full text of any article. Library of Congress subject headings appear under each article title to assist users in locating appropriate resources. Prize-winning articles and works of special note are identified.

At the article level, customized HTML article files allow for a number of effective features. Print page numbers are embedded in the online text for ease of citation. Endnote numbers link directly to the text of the endnote, and a click on the number in the endnote section directs the reader right to the referenced text. Articles with multiple images and figures offer a directory of thumbnails, from which enlarged images in up to four sizes may be viewed. Images are offered in color when available, and some articles feature supplementary multimedia materials. Comprehensive copyright and usage information is displayed on every article page, along with quick links to the issue level table of contents, search engine, Project MUSE home page, and a complete list of MUSE database holdings.

Individuals affiliated with Mississippi State are permitted access to Project MUSE and all of the library's electronic resources via its web site at library.msstate.edu. If access is denied, users should telephone the MSU Libraries Systems Department at 325-2842 or e-mail systems@library.msstate.edu, 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. After 5, users should telephone the Reference Department at 325-7667 or e-mail reference@library.msstate.edu.



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

"Mnemonic Devices:" A multi-media sculpture installation by Toni Arpad, assistant professor of art, Florida International University, through Feb. 16, Department of Art Gallery, McComas Hall. Gallery open Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. 325-2947.

February

5

Historian Russell Weigley, Tommie and Donald Zacharias Lecture, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. 325-2646.

6

Bridal Fair, \$5, Colvard Union ballroom, 5:30 p.m. 325-2930.

6,7

Turning Points in History Forum. 325-3604.

7

Advising Task Force seminar: "Academic Policies and Procedures," Ruth Prescott and Dr. George Rent, Mitchell Memorial Library auditorium, 1 p.m. 325-3742.

8

Human Subjects and IRB Training, Mitchell Memorial Library auditorium, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. 325-3994.

9

International Student Required Extended Orientation, "Student Safety" and "Work Opportunities," Eastman Auditorium, Swalm Chemical Engineering Building, 3-5 p.m. 325-8929.

16

Concert: MSU Percussion Ensemble and Concert Choir with Jordan Benissan of Togo, West Africa, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Starkville, 7:30 p.m. 325-3070.

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

New areas--continued from page 1

have many years of experience at Mississippi State and have demonstrated that they provide the quality of leadership we need in these key positions," he said.

The area of Administrative Affairs includes Human Resources Management, directed by Ann Bell, and Physical Resources, which includes Campus Landscape, Custodial Services, Dining Services, Facilities Use, Laundry, Physical Plant, and Transportation Services. Directors of the several units that make up Physical Resources will report directly to Hunt, except that Custodial Services will continue to report to Wayne Reed, now assistant chief budget and financial officer.

Budget and Finance includes the Office of the Controller (formerly Comptroller) and Treasurer, directed by Wayne Bland, and Business Resources, which includes Accounts Payable, the MSU Bookstore, Mail Services, Office Supply Store, Printing, Procurement and Contracts, Property Control, and Receiving. The units in Business Resources, along with Custodial Services, report to Wayne Reed.

Hunt, a veteran of more than 30 years in management roles at the university, had been associate vice president for business affairs since 1995 and interim vice president for business affairs since August.

He began his MSU career in 1966 as program director of the Colvard Union and has served as director of facilities use and director of Humphrey Coliseum, director of support services, and director of physical resources. He holds bachelor's degrees in political science and management and a master's degree in counselor education from MSU.

Bryant worked at Mississippi State from 1965 to 1993, serving as fiscal

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Friends of the Library newsletter editor. Wolverton is a three-time former president of the Starkville-MSU Symphony Association now serving as its secretary. Additionally, he is a founding member and two-time former president of the Starkville Community Theater. The Catholic Diocese of Jackson has honored Wolverton for teaching religious courses at both the diocesan and local church levels.

officer of the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service during much of that time and as comptroller and treasurer for the university from 1988 to 1993.

He had been a manager for a private accounting firm and was a self-employed certified public accountant when he rejoined the university last fall. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting and an MBA from Mississippi State.

Budget—continued from page 1

tors that any such cut be phased in over three years to lessen the impact, Portera said. At the same time, the Institutions of Higher Learning Board of Trustees is expected to consider a tuition increase for next year. The university is examining ways to increase revenues on campus and will not fill most non-teaching positions that become vacant.

Protecting teaching and research will be the university's top priority in adjusting to budget reductions, Portera said, although it might become necessary next year to delay filling of some faculty positions.

Vice presidents and other administrators are developing plans due this month for "a fundamentally different way of doing business" in each of their areas, Portera said. He noted that Mississippi State's funding base is more diverse than that of most state institutions. State funds make up a smaller portion of MSU's total budget than is typical.

Elimination of any filled positions as a result of a current year budget cut is unlikely, Portera said, and the university will make every effort to protect the staff from layoffs during the coming fiscal year.

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.