

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Gift provides for athletes/education majors

A deferred gift of more than \$2.1 million from a Starkville alumnus and his family will provide scholarships for Mississippi State athletes majoring in education.

John M. Johnson, a 1954 MSU agriculture education graduate, is the retired general manager of the former Holiday Inn property in Starkville. The Choctaw County native said he long has appreciated the impact of education and wants his gift to benefit future teaching professionals and Mississippi's state residents.

"Mississippi needs more quality teachers and I hope this is a way to encourage and help student athletes stay in our state," he said. "I believe having an educated population is the key to our

future."

The deferred gift from the John M. Johnson Family Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust will provide scholarships

for students in any sport.

"My wish is for the scholarships to equally benefit men and women student

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Gift funds new engineering chair

Mississippi State recently announced a \$1.25 million gift to the College of Engineering from Kingsport, Tenn.-based Eastman Chemical Co.

Honoring Earnest W. Deavenport Jr., the gift funds the Deavenport Endowed Chair in the university's Dave C. Swalm School of Chemical Engineering.

A Macon native and 1960 MSU chemical engineering graduate,

Deavenport is Eastman's chairman and chief executive officer.

"Eastman as a whole shares Earnie Deavenport's philosophy that quality education is the cornerstone of a stable society and the foundation for a stronger workforce," said Betty DeVinney, the company's vice president for communications and public affairs. "We recognize the

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Self-study to kick off with March 5 meeting

A meeting for faculty, staff and students to launch the next university self-study will be held Monday, March 5.

As the process leading to reaffirmation of accreditation of the university gets under way, the entire university community is being invited to the 1:30 p.m. session in 100 Simrall Hall for a one-hour meeting with Dr. Jack Allen, the university's liaison to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, MSU's regional accrediting agency.

Allen also will conduct meetings during his day-long visit with the Self-Study Steering Committee, the principal committee chairs, self-study director Leslie Bauman, and President Malcolm Portera.

The institutional self-study is beginning this year as the university prepares for reaffirmation of accreditation in 2003. The self-study is intended to be a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of all programs and activities and is a key element

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Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck and several local legislators made a recent campus visit to tour areas damaged by a Feb. 16 storm. President Malcolm Portera (right) guided the group, which also included (from left) Sen. Glenn Hamilton, Rep. Rob Roberson (behind Tuck), and Sen. Bennie Turner. Gov. Ronnie Musgrove made a similar visit to the area the previous day. The official campus damage estimate stands at \$6 million and the university will seek disaster relief assistance from state and federal sources.

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need for more emphasis in math and science education and realize that, unless companies like ours show support for education, America's economic well-being will be in jeopardy."

The Swalm School is a major unit of MSU's College of Engineering. The holder of the chair or endowed professorship also will serve as school director.

"This gift will help us continue to build a program that is making nationally significant contributions, as well as ensure outstanding leadership to support state, regional and national economic development," said college Dean A. Wayne Bennett.

"Also, in honoring Earnie Deavenport, we have established a wonderful role model for our students and our faculty," Bennett added.

Deavenport, who began his Eastman career shortly after graduating from MSU, held a variety of management positions before being named president of Carolina Eastman in 1982.

He subsequently became assistant general manager of the Eastman Chemicals Division and vice president of Eastman Kodak Co. before guiding the spinoff of the chemicals division in 1994 to create the publicly traded Eastman Chemical Co. At the spinoff, Deavenport was named Eastman chairman and CEO.

Long a supporter of engineering education at his alma mater and elsewhere, Deavenport has earned numerous awards for his contributions to the profession. Among them was the 1999 Palladium Award presented by the Societe de Chimie Industrielle's American Section for his contributions to the global chemistry industry. Others included the Kavalier Award, the chemical industry's highest recognition for executive achievement, and the Commercial Development Association's Honor Award for his leadership in bringing new products to the market.

Deavenport, a National Academy of Engineering member, was overall chairman for the 1999 National Engineers Week celebration held throughout the United States. At Mississippi State, he is a member of the College of Engineering's Advisory Council and was the university's 2000 spring commencement speaker.

Blaine wins one-of-a-kind award

MSU Extension Service soybean specialist Alan Blaine is this year's Southern Soybean Success Award recipient.

Uniroyal Chemical Corp. presented the award to Blaine at the annual Southern Soybean Conference in Tunica in early February.

The award, the only one of its kind in the industry, recognizes individuals who have contributed significantly to the success of soybean production in the South.

In 1992, Blaine spearheaded an effort to demonstrate to growers the impact strategic management can have on improving the production and profitability of Mississippi soybeans. The SMART Program, which stands for Soybean Management by Application of Research and Technology, takes a total approach to soybean production from fall tillage to harvest.

Blaine, along with a team of experts

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in the process leading to continuation of accreditation.

The bulk of the self-study work will be carried out by several principal committees and subcommittees being formed this spring. The report should be complete in fall 2002. A SACS reaffirmation committee visit probably will be scheduled for the spring of 2003, with formal action on accreditation coming at the SACS Commission on Colleges meeting in December 2003.

Principal committees and their recently appointed chairs are: Principles and Philosophies of Accreditation, Glenn Steele, professor and head, Mechanical Engineering Department; Institutional Purpose, Phil Oldham, professor and head, Chemistry Department; Institutional Effectiveness, Bob Altenkirch, vice president for research; Graduate Education Programs, Martin Levin, professor and head, Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work Department; Distance Learning, Continuing Education, and Service, Melvin Ray, special assistant to the president;

Faculty, Lou D'Abramo, aquaculture biologist, Wildlife and Fisheries Department; Educational Support Services, Ann Bailey, director of housing; Student

from MSU, have examined every facet of soybean production and devised a program to help growers make cost effective and profitable decisions about their crops. Growers enrolled in the two-year program are educated on newer, earlier maturing varieties, earlier planting dates, improved irrigation scheduling, proper seed treatments, full-fledged in-field insect and disease scouting, weed control, crop rotation and effective overall crop management.

During the two years of the enrollment, a team of SMART researchers helps the grower completely overhaul his existing soybean program and establish an intense agronomic regimen to meet his individual soil and production needs.

Non-irrigated fields in the SMART program average 36 bushels per acre — 22 percent greater than the state average. Irrigated SMART fields yield an average 49 bushels per acre — a staggering 42 percent higher than the state average.

Development Services, Susan Bridges, associate professor, Computer Science Department; Intercollegiate Athletics, Ruth Prescott, assistant to the provost; Organization, Administration, and Corporate Entities, Wayne Bennett, dean of the College of Engineering; Financial and Physical Resources, Danny Hollingsworth, professor and director, School of Accountancy; and Research, David Shaw, director, Remote Sensing Technology Center.

The chair of the Undergraduate Educational Programs Committee and the Self-Study editor and Publications Committee chair are to be named.

About 200 committee members will be needed to provide broad and diverse participation in the self-study committees, Bauman said. Committee chairs, department heads, and directors have been asked to nominate persons to serve on committees on which they would not have a conflict of interest. Faculty, staff and students also may volunteer for a possible committee appointment by contacting the self-study director at Mail Stop 9699.

The Self-Study Steering Committee will recommend a slate of proposed committee members to the president.



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>>.

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Energy; Office of Biological and Environmental Research; Office of Science

ITEM: Notice of interest in receiving applications to support the development of simulation models for decadal to multi-century climate prediction in conjunction with the Climate Change Prediction Program (CCPP), which is a part of the multi-agency U.S. Global Change Research Program. CCPP focuses on developing, testing and applying climate simulation and prediction models that stay at the leading edge of scientific knowledge and computational technology.

ACTION: Strongly encouraged (but not required) pre-applications are due at any time up until the application deadline, but early submission is recommended to leave time for meaningful discussions of projects. Applications are due by March 15, 2001. About \$5 million is available in FY 2001 to make awards. Average grant awards will be for about \$200,000 per year, with individual grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$600,000 per year, per award. Cooperative agreement awards may be for up to \$1 million per year. See <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/preapp.html> for electronic information on pre-application policies, go to <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/grants/Colab.html> for information on forming collaboratives, and see <http://www.sc.doe.gov/production/OBER/GC/model.html> for electronic access to application information.

CONTACT: David Bader, 301/903-5329. Fax: 301/903-8519. E-mail: dave.bader@science.doe.gov.

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Commerce; National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

ITEM: Notice that NIST will hold a single FY 2001 Advanced Technology Program (ATP) competition. Under ATP, NIST encourages proposals from the many technical teams that have identified synergy between industry needs and ATP funding opportunities, accelerating the pursuit of critical elements of research that were identified in focused program

plans. All FY 2001 proposals received will be distributed to technology-specific source evaluation boards in areas such as advanced materials, biotechnology, electronics, information technology

ACTION: Proposals are due by September 30, 2001, and NIST will begin accepting proposals on January 10, 2001. See <http://www.atp.nist.gov/> for electronic access to information. About \$60.7 million is available in first-year funding for new awards. The average yearly funding for FY 2000 for a single company was \$690,000, and for a joint venture it was \$1,500,000.

CONTACT: The ATP toll-free "hotline," at 800-ATP-FUND (800/287-3863), send a facsimile message to 301/926-9524, or 301/590-3053, or send an e-mail message to atp@nist.gov.

TITLE: Collaborative Clinical Studies in Drug Abuse

DOC#: PAR-01-039

INSTITUTE: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

ITEM: Notice inviting researchers to participate in an effort to increase collaboration of investigators at different sites in order to address clinical issues in drug abuse research that require sample sizes greater than a single site can reasonably attain.

ACTION: Applications are to be submitted on the grant application form PHS 398 and will be accepted at the standard deadlines as indicated in the application kit. Kits are available by contacting the Division of Extramural Outreach and Information Resources, 301/435-0714, e-mail: GrantsInfo@nih.gov. The program announcement is available at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-01-039.html>. Applicants planning to request \$500,000 or more in direct costs for any year must contact program staff before submitting a proposal.

CONTACT: Ann Anderson, 301/443-3318. E-mail: aanderson@nida.nih.gov.

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Education; Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

ITEM: Notice seeking applications for new awards for FY 2001 under the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program, which was established to award grants to rural and inner-city public schools, or consortia of such schools, to enable them to plan, implement, or expand projects that benefit the educational, health, social services, cultural and recreational needs of the community. School-based community learning centers can provide expanded learning opportunities for children, youth and their families, as well as a safe, drug-free, supervised and cost-effective after-school, weekend or summer haven.

ACTION: Applications are due by March

30, 2001. About \$205 million is available under the program in FY 2001, out of which the department anticipates making up to 400 awards ranging between \$35,000 and \$2 million per award, depending on the number of centers included on each grant application. For a copy of the application package, contact the Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), toll-free, at 877/433-7827. Fax: 301/470-1244. E-mail: edpubs@inet.ed.gov. See also, <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html> for electronic access to application materials. Go to <http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm> or to <http://www.ed.gov/news.html> for electronic access to this document.

CONTACT: Amanda Clyburn, 202/260-3804, or Peter Eldridge, 202/260-2514. E-mail: 21stCCLC@ed.gov.

AGENCY: U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC); National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)

ITEM: Notice announcing the availability of FY 01 funds for the following Small Grants Programs: Precision Measurement Grants; Physics Laboratory (PL), 2001 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships (SURF); Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory (MSEL), 2001 SURF; Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory (MEL), 2001 SURF; Information Technology Laboratory (ITL), 2001 SURF; Building and Fire Research Laboratory (BFRL), 2001 SURF; Electronics and Electrical Engineering Laboratory (EEL), 2001 SURF; Materials Science and Engineering Laboratory (MSEL) Grants Program; Fire Research Grants Program; Physics Laboratory (PL) Grants Program; Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory (CSTL) Grants Program; Manufacturing Engineering Laboratory (MEL) Grants Program; and Electronics and Electrical Engineering Laboratory (EEL) Grants Program.

ACTION: Deadlines, guidelines, and contact information vary by program. See this notice or <http://www.nist.gov> for specific information.

Correction

The location of the MSU Foundation Workshop scheduled for March 7 and 8 was listed incorrectly in the Feb. 19 issue of MSU Memo.

Both sessions will be held in the Coskrey Auditorium of Memorial Hall. The workshop on the 7th is set for 1:30-4:30 p.m.; the 8th, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Registration deadline is Feb. 28.

For more information, telephone Judy Burch at 325-8847 or e-mail jburch@foundation.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

A support group for African-American females meets each Monday, 4-5:30 p.m., in the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center. Discussion topics range from social to personal to academic concerns. Sponsored by Holmes Cultural Diversity Center and University Counseling Center. Refreshments are available. Regina Fults or Kenya Crawford, 325-2091.

February

26

Speaker series: "The Southern Sense of Time," Leigh Anne Duck, Grisham Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 7 p.m. 325-2378.

26-March 1

Body Positive Week, Colvard Union and Joe Frank Sanderson Center. Jen Fuller, 325-7545.

27

Academic Achievement Awards Program, Bost Extension Center, 7 p.m. 325-2033.

28

Presentation: "How to use Your Library," Giles Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 5 p.m. 325-8162.

Speaker: Mike Espy, Simrall Hall auditorium, 7 p.m. 325-2033. (see story this page)

March

1

Presentation: "Locating Engineering Research Literature," Giles Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 11 a.m. 325-8162.

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Presentation: "Locating Engineering Research Literature," Giles Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 11 a.m. 325-8162.

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

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Tennessee Walking Horse Show, MSU Horse Park, AgriCenter and Fairgrounds, 6 p.m. 325-9350.

5

Meeting to kick off SACS self-study, 100 Simrall Hall, 1:30 p.m. (see story page 1)

Mike Espy to make MSU appearance

Mike Espy, Mississippi's first African-American congressman since Reconstruction and the first black U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, will appear at MSU Feb. 28 as part of Black History Month activities.

The former Mississippi 2nd District representative will speak at 7 p.m. in Simrall Hall auditorium. His visit is sponsored by the MSU Black Student Alliance and Holmes Cultural Diversity Center and illustrates this year's Black History Month theme: "21st Century America: African Americans Blazing New Trails of Leadership and Involvement."

Espy, whose professional papers are housed in Mitchell Memorial Library, represented the state in Congress 1987-93. In 1993, President Bill Clinton named the Yazoo City native the 25th Secretary of Agriculture.

A graduate of Howard University and the University of Santa Clara School of

Nominations due for annual staff awards

The deadline for submitting nominations for 2001 Zacharias Distinguished Staff Awards is March 27.

The categories for half-time or more employees who have worked for the university at least three years are: Executive, Managerial, Administrative; Other Professional (non-teaching); Technical Paraprofessional; Clerical/Secretarial; Skilled Crafts; and Service Maintenance. No award will be given in any category that does not have at least three nominees.

Each recipient will be awarded \$1,000 and recognized at the annual Staff Appreciation Day on May 18.

A nomination form and three, one-page letters—no more—of recommendations may be mailed to Jean Bailey, Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council awards coordinator, at Mail Stop 9545. Forms are available on the PSSAC web site at www.msstate.edu/org/pssac/.

For more information, telephone Bailey at 325-9672 or Kay Holland, PSSAC secretary, at 325-0664.

Law, he now is a member of Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens, and Cannada, the state's largest law firm.

For more information, telephone Stacy Roberson, director, Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, at 325-2033.

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athletes majoring in education," Johnson said.

MSU President Malcolm Portera praised the much-needed support for student scholarships.

"The Johnson family gift will provide men and women in all sports added assistance to pursue careers as the future educators and coaches in Mississippi," Portera said.

Richard Armstrong, the MSU Foundation's director for planned giving, said deferred gifts have both immediate and lifetime benefits to donors.

"By making a deferred gift in this manner, capital gains are bypassed on the gift of appreciated stock," Armstrong explained. "Donors receive an income tax charitable deduction based on a percentage of the value of the stock transferred to the trust, a payment of income from the trust during their lifetimes and a reduction in the size of the taxable estate. The university receives the trust's principal upon the passing of the donors."



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.

