

to the faculty and staff of Mississippi State University

Grisham endows MSU teaching awards, scholarships

Best-selling novelist John Grisham has made another major contribution to his alma mater by endowing new teaching awards and scholarships at Mississippi State.

Grisham and his wife Renee donated \$1.5 million to the university. The gift is divided into equal endowments supporting faculty awards for undergraduate teaching and scholarships for academically talented students.

"We're obviously delighted that John and Renee Grisham have chosen to make a major new investment in the quality of teaching and learning at Mississippi State," said Interim President J. Charles Lee.

"High quality undergraduate instruction is at the heart of what this institution is all about, and the Grishams have demonstrated time and again that they are committed to helping raise aspirations and opportunities for Mississippi students."

Starting during the coming academic year, faculty members will be honored for outstanding teaching at the undergraduate level with \$10,000 Grisham Teaching Excellence Awards. Plans call for two awards from endowment earnings during the first year and three per year thereafter.

Half of the Grisham gift will help support the university's Presidential Endowed Scholarship program, which provides four-year scholarships and special learning opportunities to some of the university's most academically promising freshmen.

Presidential scholarships awarded this year are valued at \$34,000 over four years, which approximates MSU's cost of tuition and fees and room and board. The amount can change from year to year to reflect increases in the cost of attendance.

Two Grisham Presidential Scholarships

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SEC votes for football yardage penalties for cowbell use

The Southeastern Conference at its spring meeting on May 31 adopted a policy that provides for yardage penalties to be assessed against a football team when its fans engage in use of artificial noisemakers such as cowbells.

Presidents of the member universities voted 11-1, with MSU Interim President Charles Lee dissenting, to add penalties to the rule banning noisemakers that has been on the books since 1975.

President Lee said following the conference decision:

"Cowbells have been a symbol of Mississippi State spirit and pride for more than 75 years, and we understand the deep attachment that many alumni and friends have for this unique tradition. Efforts over the past 25 years to enforce the Southeastern Conference ban on artificial noisemakers inside the stadiums have met with limited success. This has led now to a provision that our teams can be penalized on the field if our fans disregard the longstanding rule.

"We know that many Mississippi State supporters are disappointed, but we are confident that our fans will not engage in actions that would compromise the ability of our athletes to be competitive on the field. As an institution, we will continue as we have in the past to abide by the rule and we urge all Mississippi State fans to do likewise.

"There is no limit on the amount of enthusiasm and spirit that we can demonstrate in ways that can only help our teams succeed, and I am confident that Bulldog fans will be more determined than ever to show their team spirit in

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Helping break ground for MSU's new Franklin Center for Furniture Manufacturing recently were (l-r) state Commissioner of Agriculture and Commerce Lester Spell; College Board President Bryce Griffis; Interim President Charles Lee; lead donor and building namesake Hassell Franklin; Lt. Gov. Amy Tuck; Interim Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine Vice President Vance Watson; College of Forest Resources Dean Sam Foster; and state Sen. Jack Gordon.



College of Forest Resources accounting records assistant Judy Goodman (l) and accounting service coordinator Leslie Marsh recently were honored with 2002 Doris Lee Memorial Staff Awards for outstanding service.



Three College of Forest Resources faculty members were honored with outstanding achievement awards recently. Receiving the 2002 honors are (l-r) Drs. Rick Kaminski, teaching award; Glen Hughes, service; and Eric Dibble, research. Congratulating them is Dr. Sam Foster, dean and director for CFR and the Forest and Wildlife Research Center.

Magruder Street to close June 10

Construction of a roundabout will close Magruder Street (south from Allen Hall) at the intersection with Blackjack Road beginning June 10.

Adjacent Morgan Street will remain open to Blackjack for several weeks before closing for the same project. Buildings in the southernmost block of Magruder will still be accessible by vehicle and southbound traffic on Magruder will be diverted onto Morgan as long as Morgan remains open.

A new road eventually will connect Magruder with Morgan, but the streets no longer will have direct access to Blackjack.

Once the road project—which includes adding a turn lane to Blackjack—is completed, the only access to campus from Blackjack Road will be via Stone Boulevard and Hardy and Morrill roads.

Search committee for student affairs vp is named

A search and screening committee has been appointed to identify candidates for the position of vice president for student affairs. The 12-member committee was asked by Interim President Charles Lee to conduct a vigorous search and provide the names of two or three candidates by Aug. 31.

Committee members include Dr. Melvin Ray, special assistant to the president, chair; Dr. Lou D'Abramo, professor of wildlife and fisheries; Dr. Robert Taylor, associate dean of engineering; Dr. George Rent, associate provost; and students Parker Wiseman, Student Association president, and John Summerlot.

Also on the committee are Student Affairs staff members Eric Bishop, assistant director of Enrollment Services; Bill Broyles, assistant to the vice president; Dr. Bruce Crain, director of student financial aid and scholarships; Heide Lindsey, assistant director of student life; Stacy Roberson, director of the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center; and Laura Walling, director of recreational sports.

The next vice president will follow Dr. Roy Ruby, who will serve until his successor is named. Ruby was recently named dean of the College of Education and has chosen to devote his full time to that position by giving up the vice presidential role he has held since 1985.

In appointing the committee, Lee urged the group to “think carefully about the changing needs of our students over the next decade, prepare a position description and announcement that captures the professional and personal characteristics and skills needed, and mount a vigorous and expedient search for individuals that would move our already outstanding student affairs operation to the next level.”

Post announcements online

To post an announcement on the MSU news Web site—www.ur.msstate.edu/news/—send information to msu.NOW! at Mail Stop 9512, or submit it via e-mail to georgeb@ur.msstate.edu.

Mississippi State chemist appointed

Dr. Kevin L. Armbrust is the new state chemist and director of the Mississippi State Chemical Laboratory.

He also holds an appointment in the Department of Chemistry as an associate professor. He replaces Dr. Earl G. Alley who retired last year.

Formerly with the University of Georgia, Armbrust also worked a number of years in the private sector as a research chemist with DuPont Agricultural Products. In addition, he has several years of

teaching experience in California, Delaware and Georgia.

Armbrust has worked with state and federal regulators and industry to solve issues impacting businesses, farmers and environmental interests.

He earned a bachelor's degree in environmental toxicology and a doctorate in agricultural and environmental chemistry from the University of California at Davis.

He assumed leadership of the Mississippi State lab in April.



Armbrust

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Editor—Kay Fike Jones

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

Summer athletic program for kids offered

Mississippi State is offering a free, five-week program this summer that will allow area youths to participate in a variety of athletic activities.

The federally funded National Youth Sports Program at MSU is scheduled July 8-Aug. 9 for children 10-16 years old.

Events include swimming, softball, basketball, tennis, volleyball, drug and alcohol awareness, and educational enrichment. Program hours are 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, and all activities take place on campus.

Bus transportation for both city and county residents will be provided for all registered participants.

Persons wanting to volunteer their time to help with the program, as well as those applying to participate, may obtain information from MSU's Holmes Cultural Diversity Center by telephoning 325-2033.

Cowbells—continued from page 1

appropriate ways. Membership in the Southeastern Conference is a tremendous benefit to the institution and our fans, and along with the benefits of that association comes the responsibility to adhere to policies adopted by a vote of the member universities.”

The SEC presidents' vote changes the existing bylaw on Playing Conditions to extend the ban on artificial noisemakers to “any sports venue” in addition to making provision for playing field penalties. Previously, the language of the cowbell ban cited only football stadiums and basketball arenas.

President Lee said he will appoint a task force to consider university practices, procedures and communications with fans related to cowbells.

The game management rules adopted by the presidents are as follow:

1. Artificial Noisemakers—Football. In the sport of football, the game officials are charged with enforcing the conference ban on artificial noisemakers utilizing the following procedures:

a. The first time the referee detects the significant use of artificial noisemakers by those in the crowd, he will call a referee's timeout and issue a verbal warning through the public address system.

b. On the second incident involving the significant use of artificial noisemakers, the home team shall be penalized five yards.

c. On the third, and any subsequent, incident involving the significant use of artificial noisemakers, the home team shall be penalized 15 yards.

d. Game officials have the discretion to determine if the penalty is enforced against the home or visiting team.

2. Artificial Noisemakers—Other

Sports. The ban on artificial noisemakers will be extended to all conference-sponsored sports. It was noted that the NCAA playing rules of many sports prohibit artificial noisemakers. In cases where the rules of the sport do not prohibit artificial noisemakers, the conference has the authority to impose fines as deemed necessary by the commissioner.

3. Institutionally Controlled Artificial Noisemakers. In cases where member institutions violate policies regarding institutionally controlled artificial noisemakers (i.e., bands, P.A. systems, etc.), the conference office shall first warn the institution and then impose fines no less than \$5,000 for subsequent violations.

4. Fans Rushing Field/Court. Each institution is required to submit to the conference its plan for students and fans rushing the playing field or court at the conclusion of an athletic contest. It is suggested that each athletics department work with the respective president's or chancellor's office to adopt these policies and inform students.

5. Courtside Seating—Basketball. The conference office will provide a letter from the commissioner to be sent to any patrons holding courtside seats in the sport of basketball. Said letter should remind these seat-holders of their higher level of responsibility for actions and conduct before, during and after games.

Game officials will not tolerate profanity, racial or other taunting, or any threatening remarks or actions from these seat-holders. Officials shall have the authority to remove the individuals from the seats and/or assess a technical foul to the home team.



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!

June

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"How to Use Your Library!" Giles Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 1 p.m. Beth Ashmore, 325-3834.

ITS workshop: "Intro to SPSS," 1:30-5 p.m. Register at www.its.msstate.edu/Information/Workshops/reg.php; 325-0631.

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ITS workshop: "Intro to Microsoft Access 2000," 1:30-5 p.m. Register at www.its.msstate.edu/Information/Workshops/reg.php; 325-0631.

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Continuing Education course: "Coaching and Counseling," Memorial Hall, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. For fee information, telephone Valerie Tate, 325-8876.

ITS workshop: "Microsoft Excel 2000 II" 8:30 a.m.-noon. Register at www.its.msstate.edu/Information/Workshops/reg.php; 325-0631.

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Mississippi State Agricultural Economics Association annual meeting, Bost Extension Center theater.

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Continuing Education course: "Goals and Goal Setting," Memorial Hall, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. For fee information, telephone Valerie Tate, 325-8876.

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"How to Use Your Library!" Giles Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 11 a.m. Beth Ashmore, 325-3834.

July

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"How to Use Your Library!" Giles Room, Mitchell Memorial Library, 2 p.m. Beth Ashmore, 325-3834.

National society honors Thomas Hosie

A Mississippi State administrator is receiving a major honor of the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision.

Dr. Thomas W. Hosie, professor and head of the Department of Counselor Education and Educational Psychology, is one of two selected this year for the association's Distinguished Professional Service Awards. He is recognized for professional service deemed to be of national importance to the counseling profession.

The association is a division of the Alexandria, Va.-based American Counsel-

ing Association, the sole national organization for counselor educators. ACA's membership includes more than 2,700 individuals spread among five regional organizations and 48 state branches.

An MSU department head since 1996, Hosie served as ACES president 1989-90, during which he planned and presided over the organization's 50th anniversary celebration. Among contributions



Hosie

cited in the award: leadership in passage of an ACES code of ethics for supervisors, instituting a research award program for the organization and convening the ACES Marriage and Family Network with several other organizations to agree on training standards for marriage and family counselors.

His teaching specialties include interpersonal communications, advanced counseling theory and family counseling, among others.

A Buffalo, N.Y., native, Hosie received his bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

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will be awarded to students entering the university in fall 2003, and the number available will grow along with endowment earnings. Recipients of the Grisham Presidential Scholarships and those endowed by other donors may major in any field of study and are selected by the university's Competitive Scholarships Committee.

The new Grisham Teaching Excellence Awards will renew and expand a faculty recognition program that Grisham started in 1993. Since then, more than 50 faculty members have been honored with teaching awards supported by previous gifts.

Recipients of the new Grisham Teaching Excellence Awards may come from any academic department and will be chosen annually by the provost and a committee of faculty, administrators and students. Winners will become eligible for the award again after eight years.

John and Renee Grisham also have supported writing scholarships, a writer-in-residence program, business scholarships, and the baseball team at the university over the past decade.

The John Grisham Room in the university library houses the author's papers and other memorabilia related to his career as one of the best-selling authors in history. Grisham, who received a bachelor's degree in accounting at MSU in 1977, has written a novel per year since 1988. More than 60 million copies of his legal thrillers and other works are in print in 29 languages and several have been made into major motion pictures.



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.