

Lee named Mississippi State's 17th president

Dr. J. Charles Lee, who for the last year has led Mississippi State in an interim role, was named the institution's 17th president by the Board of Trustees, State Institutions of Higher Learning.

Board president Bryce Griffis of Starkville, who made the announcement at a recent campus press conference, said the appointment showed the board's continued confidence in Lee's ability to lead the institution.

"During these months while the MSU presidential search has been conducted,

Mississippi has enjoyed having an experienced higher education administrator with excellent judgment in Dr. Charles Lee," Griffis said.

"The board has observed during this period Dr. Lee's great courage in leadership, which has brought excellence in results," Griffis added. As one example, he cited "a bold and creative early

retirement program that permitted access to millions of dollars for high priority needs at the university. The board has determined that we already had the very best person to be the next president of MSU."

Lee expressed gratitude to the College Board, policymakers, alumni, faculty, staff and others throughout Mississippi who worked with him during his interim presidency.

"And, I certainly want to thank the men

and women who make up Mississippi State University—those located on the Starkville campus, in Meridian, and at locations around the state—for their support and for making real progress under difficult financial circumstances," he said.

Among four priorities he outlined in accepting the new role of president were access and excellence in the academic program, expansion of outreach and community development, leadership in research and economic

development, and improving the stature of the university.

"The details will take shape in the coming weeks in consultation with the faculty, policymakers, our board, and those we seek to serve," he said.

He pledged to nearly 200 people present that Mississippi State would continue to be "the People's University."

"As we prepare to celebrate next

month the 125th anniversary of the founding of this great institution, we also will recommit to our mission of providing access and opportunity to students from all sectors of our population," he said.

"This is our most sacred mission and the most critical contribution that we can make to the future of our state. We will spare no effort to secure the resources that are necessary to make sure that there is a place at the univer-

sity for every student who has shown the determination and ability to take advantage of what this university offers."

Noting that he accepted the position because of the full support of his family, he said that he and wife Pat share a commitment to the future of Mississippi State.

"I pledge to do all in my power to justify your confidence and to serve the university and the state to the best of my ability, and Pat is equally committed as my full partner in this undertaking," he said.

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President J. Charles Lee

Tough break: senate nixes fall vacation

While the request found some sympathy among members, a majority of the Robert Holland Faculty Senate present on Jan. 17 just couldn't see giving Mississippi State students—and themselves—an additional break.

A fall break, that is.

By a vote of 17 to 12 (and one abstention) at the Jan. 17 meeting, the senators declined to support an earlier Student Association-passed recommendation that asks President Charles Lee to add a few days off during the first semester of the regular school year.

A five-day spring semester break—usually in March—traditionally is the only non-holiday related class vacation MSU includes on the academic calendar.

Student Association President Parker Wiseman, a non-voting member of the faculty representative body, presented his organization's case in favor of the break. He supported his remarks with a six-page handout that compared teacher-student semester contact minutes among the state's eight public universities.

During the discussion period, senators learned that MSU's sister comprehensive

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Golden Triangle images highlight exhibit, visit

Last September's visit to Mississippi by nationally recognized photographer Stephen Marc resulted in more than 2,000 digital images to go with the countless interviews and research files he completed throughout the Golden Triangle area.

Early next month, he will return during a Mississippi State University exhibition of his works featuring locales in Starkville, Columbus and the surrounding area. Titled "Collaborative Communities," the exhibit is open through Feb. 20 in the Art Department Gallery in McComas Hall.

Marc, who teaches at Arizona State University, has earned acclaim for his focus on African-American culture and history, including his own experiences and family history. He will share some of his observations during a Feb. 4-8 stay in Starkville, coinciding with Black History Month.

"In visits to locations as diverse as Jamaica, Ghana and England, Marc has looked for cultural practices that are similar," said Alex Stelioes-Wills, MSU art department lecturer and gallery director. "He sought out those similarities in Starkville, too."

Ten large montages created from the thousands of local images are the results of Marc's efforts, Stelioes-Wills added.

While at MSU, Marc's schedule will

Careflex, Mediflex forms due to GGA

All Flexible Spending Account participants must mail 2002 Mediflex and Careflex claims to Third Party Administrator, Glynn Griffing & Associates, P.O. Box 16509, Jackson, MS 39236-6509, on or before March 1.

For more information, telephone GGA at 800-326-4885 or the MSU Department of Human Resources Management at 325-3713.

include a public symposium, visits to local elementary schools and student critiques.

Among the already scheduled public events are (by date):

—Feb. 4 symposium titled "Public Identity and Personal Past Intersections." In addition to Marc, the 2 p.m. event at MSU's new Hunter Henry Center will feature Anna Chupa, MSU associate art professor; Renee Paul Barilleaux, Mississippi Museum of Art chief curator; and Joshua Mosely, a digital and animation artist and University of Pennsylvania faculty member. Mosely will give a separate public lecture at 7 p.m. that same day in 100 Stafford Hall on campus.

—Feb. 5 visit to Henderson and Armstrong elementary schools and

Starkville High School.

—Feb. 6 public lecture titled "Collaborative Communities." The 4 p.m. event in the McComas Hall theater will be followed at 5:30 by an opening reception in the art gallery, whose entrance is located on the building's ground-level east side.

—Feb. 8 public forum on issues of historic preservation and how they relate to the exhibition. (Location to be announced later.)

The exhibition and related events are supported by a grant from the Mississippi Arts Commission, with assistance from Jackson art patron Gretchen Gulmon and the Starkville Area Arts Council, along with the University Honors Program and the College of Arts and Sciences at MSU.

DataBasics

By Jill E. Grogg
MSU Libraries

The MSU Libraries have expanded their services to include reference and instructional assistance for statistical research needs. Located in the reference room on the second floor of Mitchell Memorial Library, the Statistical Data Center provides access to a virtual collection of electronic data files, primarily in the social sciences and business. Access to statistical resources via the Internet and commercial vendors also is possible. SDC resources include items such as the financial database Compustat and the social science statistical program MicroCase.

Reference workers offer pre-scheduled instructional sessions or one-on-one research consultations about any of the data sources offered through the SDC. The Reference Department maintains four dedicated terminals for SDC access.

Of particular note is the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. MSU is a member of the consortium, and MSU-affiliated users have access to the ICPSR data files and resources. Generally, ICPSR provides access to one of the largest social science data archives. Holdings in the archive cover a broad range of academic disciplines, including political science, economics, education, history, public health, and sociology. Data files cover areas such as political attitudes and behavior, economic behavior, family studies, election studies, state and national voting records, and large longitudinal social surveys. In addition, the archive provides access to the raw data files. MSU Libraries sponsors workshops about exploring ICPSR data sets. Workshop schedules and links to more information about ICPSR are available at library.msstate.edu/reference/sdc/ICPSR.asp.

Reference faculty have put together several statistical resource guides and downloadable handouts and information sheets, including information about SPSS, Compustat/Research Insight and Community of Science Funding Opportunities. These resource guides and handouts are available at the SDC Web page, library.msstate.edu/reference/sdc/.

For more information about the SDC or ICPSR, contact Deborah Lee at dlee@library.msstate.edu or 325-7682.

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MSU-developed Web site offers 'worlds of the mind' journey

Tour guides named "Dr. Mindstein" and "Unhold Schwampenegger" are among the whimsical creations in a Mississippi State-developed Web site being praised for introducing psychology students to the mysteries of the human mind.

The e-Psych site, epsych.msstate.edu, recently was honored at the 25th annual meeting of the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology. Launched two



years ago by associate professor Gary L. Bradshaw with support from the National Science Foundation, the constantly expanding site is designed to introduce and demonstrate psychological concepts.

Bradshaw, along with psychology department colleagues Nancy G. McCarley and B. Michael Thorne,

received the Frank Costin Memorial Award of Excellence for their collaborative efforts.

The national institute, which serves more than 3,500 psychology teachers at universities, colleges and high schools, annually honors a project that best promotes quality teaching methods. The award is named for the organization's founder, a psychology professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where the institute first convened in 1978.

At present, visitors to the site may explore four areas: the descriptive mind (sensation and perception), deliberate mind (decision-making, planning, and problem-solving), adaptive mind (learning), and biological mind. Others are under development.

Video clips, animated graphics and a host of other technology applications are included to enhance the interactive exposure to abstract concepts.

"Each 'world' on the site offers the visitor a center for orientation, maps for navigation, modules that provide brief coverage of specific topics, and guide-books for extended information on general topics," Bradshaw said.

"The goal of our effort is to challenge students by providing them the opportunities to dig deeper and, consequently, to learn more," he added.

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A North Carolina native, Lee holds a bachelor's degree in forest management and a doctorate in forest genetics, both from North Carolina State University. Prior to becoming interim president in 2002, Lee had been Mississippi State's vice president for agriculture, forestry, and veterinary medicine since 1999. He also had served as dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences since July 2000. From 1978-83, he was dean of the School of Forest Resources and associate director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station at MSU.

In addition to his MSU positions, Lee has held administrative positions at the

University of Arkansas at Monticello, where he served as head of the forestry department; and at Texas A&M University, where he held positions including head of the department of forest science, dean and executive associate dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, and interim deputy and deputy chancellor of the Texas A&M University System. Lee also served for 18 months as interim executive vice president and provost of Texas A&M.

For the full text of Lee's message, see www.msstate.edu/president/acceptance.html.

Senate—continued from page 1

institutions in Oxford and Hattiesburg have added autumn off days to their annual schedules. Last year, for instance, the University of Mississippi dismissed Monday-Wednesday classes in advance of the usual Thursday-Friday Thanksgiving holiday.

Senator Michael Berk of the School of Architecture, no doubt speaking for many of his colleagues, said he felt the existing spring semester schedule barely provides enough time for students to complete required course requirements. Especially for heavily project-laden curricula found in architecture and similar academics units, he said the impact could be "catastrophic."

While they couldn't go along with the extra break, Berk and the other senators did unanimously support another Student Association proposal to change the dates of final examinations. As a result, the Holland Faculty Senate now is on record in favor of confining the exam period to a single Monday-Friday period, rather than the current schedule that spreads the concluding tests over two weeks.

A single-week exam schedule also designates Saturday and Sunday as the reading period.

A complete summary of these and other matters at the January meeting is available at the senate home page, which is accessed via the "Academic Programs" icon at www.msstate.edu, then by scrolling to "Organizations." Also, in time, a University Television Center video replay of the entire meeting will be available at the same site.

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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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!

January

27

Lecture: Philosophy professor John Lachs of Vanderbilt University presents public program, "Enemies of Life," which examines effects of memory, anticipation and guilt on human life, Simrall Hall auditorium, 5:30 p.m. 325-2382.

28

ITS workshop: "Banner: Invoice Processing," McArthur Lab B, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

Dawg House Coffee Shoppe grand opening. (see story this page)

29

ITS workshop: "Banner: Invoice Processing," McArthur Lab B, 8:30 a.m.-noon. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

Faculty and Professional Women's Association brown-bag lunch meeting, Printing Services conference room, Auxiliary Plaza, 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker Karon Makamson, director, Printing Services, will also lead a tour of the facility, including its new four-color press. 325-2179.

30

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

Jazz concert, McComas Hall theater, 6:30 p.m. 325-3070. (see story page 2)

ITS workshop: "Banner: Electronic Approvals," McArthur Lab B, 10 a.m.-noon. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

February

3

Nomination deadline for Faculty Recognition Awards. 325-3479; 325-2284.

4

MSU vs. Southern Mississippi, softball, MSU Softfield Field, 3 p.m.

ITS workshop: "Banner: Navigation and Financial Query," McArthur Lab B, 8:30 a.m.-noon. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

5

MSU vs. Vanderbilt, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

6

Faculty recital: Dr. Jackie Edwards-Henry, piano, and Dr. Lana Johns, flute, McComas Hall theater, 7:30 p.m. \$5. 325-3070.

7

Comments, suggestions on proposed 2003-07 university priorities and goals documents due to president's office. (see story this page)

8

MSU vs. Arkansas, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 4 p.m.

9

MSU vs. LSU, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 2 p.m.

11

ITS workshop: "Introduction to Adobe Illustrator 9.0," McArthur Lab A, 1:30-5 p.m.; "Banner: Requisitions," McArthur Lab B, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

12

MSU vs. New Orleans, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 7 p.m.

ITS workshop: "Banner: Requisitions," McArthur Lab B, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.; "Introduction to Microsoft PowerPoint 2000," McArthur Lab A, 8:30 a.m.-noon. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

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ITS workshop: "WebCT Specialty Areas: Communication Tools," McArthur Lab A, 1:30-5 p.m. 325-0631; www.its.msstate.edu/Services/Instructional/Workshops/reg.php.

14

MSU vs. Mississippi Valley State, softball, MSU Softball Field, 3 p.m.

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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MSU vs. Mississippi, men's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 6 p.m.

16

MSU vs. Kentucky, women's basketball, Humphrey Coliseum, 2 p.m.

Proposed priorities, goals update, revision online

A proposed update and revision of the university's priorities and goals document, "Leadership for the 21st Century," is available for review and comment.

Priorities and goals for 2003-07 are online at msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/priorities. The document was originally adopted May 1999 following university-wide discussion. The goals were updated and revised May 2000.

Also available online is the current version of the document and a report on progress toward those goals as of fall 2002.

Comments and suggestions by faculty, staff and students may be sent to the president's office by Friday, Feb. 7. An e-mail link for replies is incorporated into the online proposed goals document.

Miss USA to open Dawg House

Miss USA Shauntay Hinton of Starkville will greet visitors to the Dawg House Coffee Shoppe during its Jan. 28 grand opening.

Hinton will meet and mingle with customers beginning at 9:45 a.m. At 11 a.m., she will discuss her reign as Miss USA.

The coffeehouse, located on the first floor of the Colvard Union, features flavored coffee, tea, cappuccino, hot chocolate, and Jubilations cheesecakes, as well as wireless Internet access, a big-screen TV, and copy machines.

Other opening day activities include a jazz pianist performance at noon and open microphone night beginning at 7, sponsored by the Campus Activities Board.