

## Iowa State scientist named v.p. for research

A scientist with a national and international reputation in biotechnology is being named vice president for research and graduate studies at Mississippi State.

Colin Guy Scanes, whose research has been published in more than 500 scholarly papers and other publications, is expected to join MSU by June 1, subject to approval of the state College Board.

Scanes has been a professor of animal science since 1995 at Iowa State University, where he also has served as interim director of the Center for Designing Food for Human Nutrition, interim director of

the Plant Sciences Institute, and executive associate director of the Iowa Agricultural and Home Economics Experiment Station.

He previously was distinguished

professor and chair of the animal sciences department and director of the Center for Animal Damage Control at Rutgers University.

"Dr. Scanes has solid research and administrative experience in two comprehensive land-grant universities as a department chair, research center director, and associate dean and associate experiment station director," said President Charles Lee. "He has won grants totaling millions of dollars from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, other federal agencies and private industry. He understands the

intricacies of large-scale research and its capacity to expand educational and economic opportunity in Mississippi."

Scanes, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, holds advanced degrees from the University of Wales and Hull University in the United Kingdom, where he began his academic career.

He has been honored for his work with Iowa corn and soybean growers, is a fellow of the Poultry Science Association and serves on the editorial boards of scholarly journals in animal biotechnology and poultry biology.

Scanes also served on the Biotech-

nology Committee of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges and on the Governor's Life Sciences Advisory Committee in Iowa, along with industry consulting and other government service.

At MSU, the vice president for research works closely with faculty members in the university's eight colleges and schools, and then numerous research centers and institutes. Additionally, the Office of Research oversees intellectual property and technology licensing functions.

In addition to research-related duties, Scanes will assume responsibility for graduate studies at MSU.



Scanes

## Reese to receive national advising award

Computer science and engineering professor Donna S. Reese is receiving a national award for university faculty academic advising.

Reese will formally accept the Outstanding Advising Award of the National Academic Advising Association in October during the organization's 2004 meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In addition to teaching and research responsibilities, Reese serves as the undergraduate coordinator for the software engineering and computer science degree programs. A doctoral graduate of Texas A&M University, she joined the MSU faculty in 1988.

NACADA is the professional organization for collegiate advisers, counselors, faculty, administrators, and students. The association's mission

includes support and promotion of its members in diverse educational environments, as well as the affirmation of academic advisers' roles in student success and academic persistence.

Reese is the latest from

Mississippi State to be honored by the organization. Over the past decade, the university has consistently placed its academic advisers among the nation's elite.



Reese

# Damaged campus trees slated for removal

Some of the old oaks on main campus were scheduled for removal last week or this week after an examination showed them to be a hazard.

Among those slated for elimination is a large oak near Hull Hall that arborist Terrel Buckelew deemed dangerous.

"One side of the tree is spongy and the inside is hollow enough to probably fit two people inside," explained Rob Rice, interim director of the Campus Landscape Department.

He said because weak and damaged trees can drop branches at any time, they pose a hazard to pedestrians, as well as to property.

"These trees were planted at about the same time, probably when the university was built. Age and recent wind and ice storms have taken a toll on them," Rice said.

He pointed out that new trees, most likely oaks, will be planted in place of the ones that had to be removed.

Other trees—all oaks—slated for removal include a very tall tree between the Swalm Chemical Engineering Building and McCool Hall, one between Swalm and Mitchell Memorial Library

and a couple on Bell Island across from the State Fountain.

The tree assessment and removal project is made possible by a \$30,000 matching urban forestry grant from the

Mississippi Forestry Commission, according to Rice.

The project is scheduled for completion by June 30.

## MSU will host equine therapy certification

As therapeutic riding programs catch on across the state, Mississippi State is planning to host a national training workshop for instructors and volunteers interested in improving their skills.

The MSU Extension Service's 4-H therapeutic riding program will host a national workshop July 30-Aug. 1 for up to 40 people. The North American Riding for the Handicapped Association's national certification workshop for registered therapeutic riding instructors will take place at the Mississippi Horse Park.

Mary Riley, coordinator for Mississippi State's 4-H TEAM (Therapeutic Equine Activity Member), said this is the first national certification opportunity held in Mississippi.

"Involvement in NARHA fosters safe, professional and ethical therapeutic equine activities through education, communication, standards, and research for people with and without disabilities," said Riley, who holds an advanced certification.

"Registered instructors demonstrate sufficient knowledge in horsemanship and riding skills," she said. "They also must be able to structure a safe, meaningful lesson for riders with and without disabilities, and be able to provide feedback appropriate to the cognitive and physical abilities of each student."

The workshop is ideal for individuals wanting to learn about equine therapy activities. For more information on NARHA certification, visit the official Web site at [www.narha.org](http://www.narha.org).

For more information, contact Riley at 325-3350 or by e-mail at [maryf@ext.msstate.edu](mailto:maryf@ext.msstate.edu).



## Employment Opportunities

View and apply for current MSU positions (executive, faculty, professional, and support staff) on the Human Resources Management Online Employment System at [www.jobs.msstate.edu](http://www.jobs.msstate.edu). For more information, telephone HRM at 325-3713, e-mail [employment@hrm.msstate.edu](mailto:employment@hrm.msstate.edu) or visit 150 McArthur Hall.

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



*Jennifer Beaugez (left), Meridian Dean Nick Nichols and Ethel Ann McCoy were among a number of faculty and staff members who helped spruce up the flower beds on the MSU Meridian Campus in preparation for graduation on May 7.*

## Have you met...



**Name:** Earline Edwards  
**Birthplace:** Louisville  
**Occupation/title:** Printing/Office Supply clerk  
**Current home:** Louisville  
**The last good movie I saw:** "The Passion of the Christ"  
**The book I've been reading:** "Left Behind"  
**Favorite pig-out food:** hamburger and pizza  
**Favorite performer:** John Wayne  
**Prized possession:** my family  
**The best part of my job is:** meeting the people  
**If I wasn't in this job, I'd be:** home reading and working in the yard  
**Three words that best describe me:** patient, loving, friendly

## Campus housing options

Looking for an on-campus place to house participants in workshop, camps or conferences this summer? The Department of Housing and Residence Life is offering a wide variety of housing options for these types of events.

For more information, contact Shay McDonnall at 325-3359 or [shay@saffairs.msstate.edu](mailto:shay@saffairs.msstate.edu) for further information, or visit [www.housing.msstate.edu/guest/summer/](http://www.housing.msstate.edu/guest/summer/).

## West Nile virus causes studied here

A researcher is taking a close look at environmental factors that might promote the spread of West Nile virus, a potentially life-threatening disease transmitted to humans by mosquitoes.

Dr. Bill Cooke, an assistant professor of geosciences, is utilizing a \$15,000 grant from the National Institutes of Health to assess the dangers West Nile poses for individuals—particularly sportsmen, natural resources managers, recreation employees and others whose outdoor activities make them more vulnerable to mosquito attacks.

"West Nile virus can be fatal (to humans), depending on the seriousness of the infection," said Cooke, also an extension specialist with MSU's GeoResources Institute. "The elderly and people with immune system deficiencies are more at risk."

With expertise in remote sensing and GIS-Geographic Information Systems—Cooke is using automated computer software to model geographic and climatic conditions associated with the spread of vectored diseases, those passed from one host to another. Mosquitoes get West Nile from birds and pass it on to humans.

"We need to be looking at environmental causes in Mississippi," said Cooke.

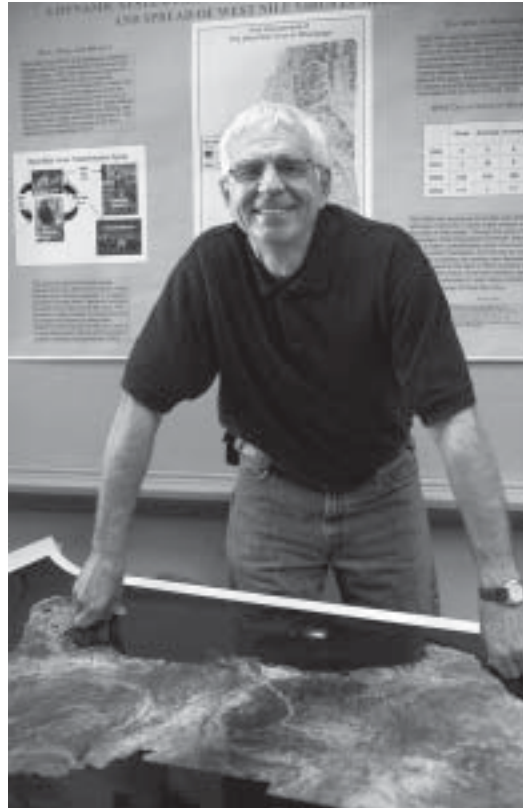
The MSU project—supported by the

Geosciences Department, GRI and MSU Extension Service—is part of a broader NIH research program administered by East Carolina University's Southern

Coastal Agromedicine Center.

Second-year funding is being sought, Cooke said.

"This is applied research that will benefit all Mississippians," said Mark Binkley, geosciences department head. "Our goal three years ago, when we created our new GIS program, was to be able to attract highly qualified members like Bill, who can use this



Cooke

cutting-edge technology to attack modern-day problems."

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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 "Calendar of Events."

To list calendar events online, access [www.ur.msstate.edu/news/today.asp](http://www.ur.msstate.edu/news/today.asp) and follow the instructions.

### May 19

ITS workshop: "Banner: Leave," McArthur Hall training lab, 8:30 a.m. 325-0631.

### 23, 30

"Bird Watching," Crosby Arboretum, Pica-yune, 5 a.m. 601-799-2311, extension 22.

### 26

Staff Appreciation Day, Humphrey Coiliseum, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Lunch: 11 a.m.-1 p.m. 325-0664

### 27

ITS workshops: "Classroom Technology Training," 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., McArthur Hall training lab. 325-0631.

### 28

ITS workshop: "WebCT JumpStart," McArthur Hall training lab, 8:30 a.m. 325-0631.

### 31

University closed for Memorial Day.

### June

#### 1

Orientation. 325-3076.

First term and 10-week term summer school registration, 8 a.m. 325-2022.

#### 2

Classes begin for summer first term and 10-week classes.

#### 3

Workshop: "How to Use Your Library," Mitchell Memorial Library Giles Electronic Classroom, 1 p.m. 325-3834.

# MSU honors rural sociologist with Ralph Powe award

A nationally recognized authority in rural sociology is the 2004 winner of the Ralph E. Powe Research Excellence Award.

Dr. Domenico Parisi was among 24 faculty and staff members and graduate students honored May 4 during the university's annual research awards banquet. He is an assistant professor in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Social Work.

A memorial to the vice president for research who died in 1996, the Powe Award is given to a faculty member whose investigations have made significant contributions to the economic welfare or cultural growth of the university, state and nation.

"He is an outstanding researcher who has developed an important program of research in the areas of community issues, economic development and environmental justice," President Charles Lee said of Parisi, whose travel to Italy prevented attendance at the ceremony.

"He has been responsible for securing the resources to develop a research infrastructure that enables him, his colleagues and his students to carry out state-of-the-art community research," Lee added.

Other faculty and staff members were presented awards. They include (by academic or research unit):

### College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station

Faculty Research Award—Assistant Professor Scott T. Willard of the Animal and Dairy Science Department.

Research Support Staff Award—Research Associate Herbert W. Philley of the Plant and Soil Sciences Department.

### College of Architecture

Faculty Research Award—Professor Michael W. Fazio.

Research Support Staff Award—David J. Pressgrove, an intern at the Carl Small Town Center.

### College of Arts and Sciences

Faculty Research Award—Assistant

Professor Justin C. Courcelle of the Biological Sciences Department.

Research Support Staff Award—Staff Assistant Gloria B. Blankenship of the Biological Sciences Department.

### College of Business and Industry

Faculty Research Award—Professor Kirk P. Arnett of the Department of Management and Information Systems.

### Bagley College of Engineering

Faculty Research Award—Mark E. Zappi, Texas Olefins Professor of Chemical Engineering.

Research Support Staff Award—Laboratory operations Supervisor Carl Brown of the Industrial Engineering Department.

### College of Forest Resources

Faculty Research Award—Professor Wes Burger Jr. of the Wildlife and Fisheries Department.

Research Support Staff Award—Research Associate Janet C. Dewey of the Forestry Department.

### College of Veterinary Medicine

Faculty Research Award—Assistant Professor Mark L. Lawrence of the Basic Science Department.

Research Support Staff Award—Postdoctoral Associate Dongyou Liu of the Basic Science Department.

### Centers and Institutes

Faculty Research Award—Associate Professor Giselle Thibaudeau Munn of the Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology.

Research Support Staff Award—Research Associate Lori H. Kerley of the Center for Science, Mathematics and Technology.

### Office of Research/Sponsored Programs Administration

Research Support Staff Award—Research Associate Tan H. Tsai of the Janos Radvanyi Chair in International Securities Studies.