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Congressman, computing leader to launch grads

U.S. Rep. Chip Pickering and James Worth Bagley, namesake of Mississippi State's engineering college, will help the university graduate its 2005 spring class.

Some 2,000 students are scheduled to receive degrees during the two May 7 commencement programs in Humphrey Coliseum.

Pickering, the 3rd District Republican congressman, will address the 9:30 a.m. ceremony. Following his remarks, diplomas will be presented to students in the colleges of Architecture, Art and Design; Arts and Sciences; and Business and Industry and its School of Accountancy.

Bagley, a former Hinds County resident and MSU alumnus who has become a national leader in the semiconductor industry, will speak at the 2:30 p.m. program. He also will receive the highest honor the university can bestow, an honorary doctorate.

In addition to the Bagley College of Engineering, Bagley's remarks will precede graduation for the colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences and its School of



Pickering

at MSU-Meridian on the afternoon of May 6, first was elected to Congress in

Human Sciences; Education; Forest Resources; and Veterinary Medicine (master's and doctor of philosophy degrees only).

Pickering, who also will deliver the commencement address

1996 at age 33. He succeeded Meridian native and MSU alumnus G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery.

Today, Pickering serves as vice chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and assistant majority whip. He is a consistent supporter of MSU's efforts to strengthen its research and development infrastructure.

Bagley, whose honorary doctorate will be in science, is a veteran of more than 35 years in the microelectronics field and has



Bagley

been at the forefront of the world information revolution. He is chairman of the board and chief executive officer of California-based Lam Research Corp., a leading global supplier of wafer fabrication equipment and services.

A 1961 MSU electrical engineering graduate who added a master's degree in 1966, Bagley is a graduate of Jackson's Forest Hills High School, where he met his future wife Jean.

In 2002, the couple topped their previous level of philanthropy to the engineering college by announcing a \$25 million gift to improve facilities and support faculty recruiting and development, graduate fellowships and special activities. That same year, the state College Board approved naming of the college in James Bagley's honor.

MSU ranks third in boosting economy

A Birmingham, Ala.-based economic development journal is listing Mississippi State among the region's top universities for fostering new businesses.

Southern Business and Development ranks MSU at third in its recent article titled "Ten University Markets that Really Have Their Act Together."

According to the article, the top five include Rutherford County, Tenn., home of Middle Tennessee State University; Auburn-Opelika, Ala., home of Auburn University; Starkville, home of MSU; Richmond, Va., home of Virginia Commonwealth University; and Blacksburg-Roanoke, Va., home of Virginia Tech University. (See story at www.sb-d.com/issues/winter2005/features/TenUniversityMarkets.asp)

"Universities have the potential to be powerful economic drivers, technology centers, employers, developers, and investors," reporter Laura H. Corbin observed in her introduction.

The other five "Top 10" locations include the municipal homes of Florida Technological University; University of North Carolina, Duke and North Carolina State universities (combined); University of Texas; University of Kentucky; and Wake Forest, North Carolina A&T State and Winston-Salem State universities, along with the University of North Carolina-Greensboro (combined).



Service Recognition Plus planned for faculty, staff

During the week leading up to this year's sequential Service Recognition and 2005 Staff Appreciation Day programs, faculty and staff members can check their blood pressure and learn more about workplace harmony, among other activities.

A series of health screenings and personal and professional development workshops are being sponsored by the Department of Human Resources Management to coincide with the two traditional spring events. The programs range from first aid to managing personal finances to understanding diversity.

Service Recognition Plus activities begin May 9 and conclude with the 9 a.m. service awards program that precedes the SAD events that begin at 11. Both events will take place in Humphrey Coliseum (See related story on page 3 of this issue).

The Service Recognition Program honors employees for their years of dedicated employment at Mississippi State, as well as those who are retiring from the university. Titled "Better than Our Best," the presentations will be completed with the assistance of SST Communications, a theater-based company that conveys information through comedy and drama.

All but one of the professional development workshops will be held in Building B of the Bost Extension Center. Only "First Aid in the Field" will be held in the Sanderson Center.

The schedule for Service Recognition Plus follows:

May 9

9-10:45 a.m.—"Managing the Conflict in Your Life," Susan Seal, Organizational Development, MSU Extension Service, registration required; 9-10:45 a.m.—"Give 'em the Pickle," Lynn Shurden and Nicole Williams, Department of Human Resources Management, registration required; 9 a.m.-3 p.m.—health screenings, including body mass index, blood pressure, cholesterol (\$15), and non-fasting blood sugar (\$9), Janice Moore, Longest Student Health Center; 11 a.m.-noon—"Do the Right Thing," ethics, Richard Swann, Office of

Internal Audit, registration required; noon-2 p.m.—"Managing Your Personal Finances," Dr. Larry White, Department of Finance and Economics, registration required; 1-3 p.m.—"FISH!" Lynn Shurden and Nicole Williams, human resources management, registration required; and 2-5 p.m.—"Understanding Diversity: A Peacock in a Land of Penguins," Aretha Jones-Cook, Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, and Carson Cook, Office of Diversity and Equity Programs, registration required.

May 10

9 a.m.-3 p.m.—health screenings, including body mass index, blood pressure, cholesterol (\$15), and non-fasting blood sugar (\$9), Janice Moore, Longest Student Health Center; 9 a.m.-noon—"First Aid in the Field: How to Recognize and Respond to Medical Emergencies," Bill Broyles, Longest Student Health Center, registration required, Sanderson Center; 10-11:45 a.m.—"Accident and Injury Prevention: Safety in the Workplace," Andy Taylor, Board of Trustees, Institutions of Higher Learning, registration required; 10 a.m.-noon—"Time Management," Betty McPhail, retired from extension, registration required; noon-1:45 p.m.—"Give 'em the Pickle," Lynn Shurden and Nicole Williams, human resources management, registration required; and 2-3:45 p.m.—"Preventing Back Injuries, Slips, Trips, and Falls," Andy Taylor, IHL, registration required.

May 11

8-9:45 a.m.—"Managing Your Personal Finances," Dr. Larry White, finance and economics, registration required; 9 a.m.-noon—"Understanding Diversity: A Peacock in a Land of Penguins," Aretha Jones-Cook, Holmes Cultural Diversity Center, and Carson Cook, Office of Diversity and Equity Programs, registration required; 10 a.m.-noon—"End of Life Decisions," including advance health care directive, Dr. Bobbie Shaffett, School of Human Sciences, registration required; 1-

1:45 p.m.—"Do the Right Thing," ethics, Richard Swann, internal audit, registration required; 1-4 p.m.—"Leadership That Walks the Talk," Susan Seal, extension, registration required; and 2-3:45 p.m.—"FISH!" Lynn Shurden and Nicole Williams, human resources management, registration required.

To register, telephone human resources at 325-3713 or e-mail helms@hrm.msstate.edu. For more information on the sessions, access www.hrm.msstate.edu/trainingschedule.html.

NIRSA honors Walling

Laura Walling, director of recreational sports, recently was honored for her work with a national recreation organization.

Walling was presented one of six Regional Awards of Merit for Outstanding Contributions to Region II by the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association.

NIRSA, composed of six regional groups, is a non-profit organization serving a network of more than 4,000 professionals, students and associate members in the recreational sports field throughout the United States, Canada and other countries.

A longtime member of NIRSA, Walling is in her second term as state director and also serves as the Region II historian. She has served the organization in many capacities, including heading committees and chairing a national task force. Walling also is in her third year of hosting Magnolia Madness, an NIRSA-sponsored regional basketball tournament.

Because of her extensive work with the organization, one of her nominators for the merit award called her the "glue gal" of Region II because she holds everything together.

Walling, who has headed the Office of Recreational Sports since 1993, holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas.



Jungle boogie: Staff Appreciation Day is May 12

Grab a pith helmet and a hearty appetite—it's Staff Appreciation Day again.

Join other staff members at the May 12 jungle-themed celebration in Humphrey Coliseum and get "Wild for MSU."

The annual event, sponsored by the Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council, is held to honor staff members.

New this year, the university's Service Recognition Program will be held on the same day and place, beginning at 9 a.m. (see story on page 2 of this issue).

The Zacharias Distinguished Staff Awards presentation will follow at 10 a.m. and the complimentary lunch begins at 11 a.m. Food service ends at 1 p.m., with SAD concluding at 2 p.m.

Speaking of food, staff members—don't forget a meal ticket—will be served their choice of grilled chicken, pulled

barbecue pork, baked beans, and cole slaw. Hot dogs, popcorn, ice cream, and soft drinks also will be available.

While door prizes will be offered as usual, this year participants must be present to win. A photo I.D. is required to claim a prize and winnings must be picked up by 1 p.m. that day.

Games, including Bully Bingo, a bungee run and a hoops mania contest will be offered and require game tickets. WKOR-FM disc jockey Bill Thurlow will be spinning tunes and photos will be made in the "jungle."

Shuttles will ferry employees to the coliseum from across campus from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Route 1 will make stops at ERC and Wise Center; Route 2 includes Butler, Giles, Hilbun and Allen halls, Colvard Union, and Mitchell Memorial

Library; and Route 3 encompasses Bost Extension Center, Dorman, Thompson and Giles halls, and the Colvard Union.

For more information, access the PSSAC Web site at www.pssac.msstate.edu/.

Kudos

The **MSU Police Department** in March became only the third law enforcement agency in the state and the first university police agency to receive full national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc.

Linda M. Pote, College of Veterinary Medicine, was honored by the state Legislature with a HEADWAE (Higher Education Appreciation Day/Working for Academic Excellence) earlier this year.

J.P. Shim, management and information systems, will speak at the International Expo Communication Wireless Conference in Seoul, Korea, in mid-May. The conference is the largest telecommunications and wireless conference in Asia, attracting 45,000 telecom and wireless industry professionals.

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 also is available on the Web at msuinfo.ur.msstate.edu/msu_memo/. Editorial material should be sent to Kay Fike Jones, Mail Stop 9512, or via e-mail to jonesk@ur.msstate.edu.

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A temporary sculpture erected by art majors on the Colvard Union lawn seems to cast its eyes on what once was the sole MSU "free speech" area designated for unscheduled public forums. A recent change by the Division of Student Affairs in its free speech and assembly policy now opens public areas throughout the campus for public forums without reservations or prior approval. The marble Class of 1924 fountain between the YMCA Building and George Hall had been the assigned area for persons wishing to spontaneously address campus audiences.

Mississippi State University complies with all applicable laws regarding affirmative action and equal opportunity in all its activities and programs and does not discriminate against anyone protected by law because of age, color, disability, national origin, race, religion, sex, handicap, or status as a veteran or disabled veteran.



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 and follow the instructions.

May 2-6

Final exams.

6

Dedication and unveiling of former congressman G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery statue, southwest corner of the Drill Field north of Allen Hall, 10 a.m. 325-3045.

7

Commencement, Humphrey Coliseum, 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. 325-2022. (see story page 1)



12

Service Recognition Program, Humphrey Coliseum, 9 a.m. 325-3713. (see story page 2)

Staff Appreciation Day, Humphrey Coliseum, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. (see story page 3)

13 and 14

Annual MSU-University of Alabama-Birmingham Conference on Differential Equations and Computational Simulations, Wise Center, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. 325-3414.

30

University closed for Memorial Day.

New spam filter available

"StopSPAM," a new Web-based spam control system now is available for faculty and staff e-mail.

The system gives e-mailers the ability to control unwanted e-mail. Information on using the program may be found at stopspam.msstate.edu.

For more information, telephone the Information Technology Services Help Desk at 325-0631 or e-mail helpdesk@msstate.edu.

June 3

Free Workshop: "Making the Numbers Work for You: Census Workshop," Mitchell Memorial Library. Two sessions: 8:30 a.m.-noon or 1:30-5: p.m. Prior registration required. Deborah Lee, 325-0810; dlee@library.msstate.edu.

Summer memberships available at Sanderson

Special "Summer Fun" memberships now are available at the Joe Frank Sanderson Center for all faculty and staff members.

Summer Fun membership rates are in effect May 23-Sept. 5. Cost for adults is \$60 per person and \$10 for each child. Children must be 17 years or younger to qualify for the Summer Fun rate, must be in the custodial care of the sponsoring adult, and must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

The special memberships are on sale at the Member Services Office in the Sanderson Center. Faculty and staff must present their MSU photo I.D. to purchase a membership.

The Member Services Office is open Monday- Friday, 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

For more information, telephone 325-7244 or check the Office of Recreational Sports Web site at www.recsports.msstate.edu.

May 3 reception to honor Charles Weatherly

Mississippi State's 2005 Alumnus of the Year Charles Weatherly is being honored in a public reception.

Sponsored by the MSU Association of Retired Faculty, the reception will be held May 3, 4-6 p.m., in the Parker North Ballroom of the Hunter Henry Center.

Weatherly is senior director of development for the MSU Foundation and ARF.

For more information, telephone ARF Vice President Rodney Foil at 323-6862 or secretary Margo Swain at 323-3926.



Dr. Sara Freedman, dean of the College of Business and Industry, and Dr. Noel Addy, left, associate professor of accounting, present a plaque to Emory University faculty member Jay Barton for his participation in a recent campus consortium. Barton was keynote speaker for the fourth Mid-South Accounting Research Consortium, a group composed of MSU and the universities of Mississippi and Memphis.