

# MEMO

To the Faculty and Staff of Mississippi State University

June 13, 2005

Volume 29

Issue 36



Faculty members were honored during the recent 40th annual faculty recognition program sponsored by the MSU Alumni Association. Faculty Recognition Award winners are (l-r) Jimmy L. Avery, Thad Cochran National Warmwater Aquaculture Center, service award; Karen S. Coats, biological sciences, junior and senior teaching award; Debbie Beard, chemistry, freshman and sophomore teaching award; and Roger L. King, electrical and computer engineering, research award. Dwight Hare, curriculum and instruction, who received the graduate-level teaching award, was unavailable for the photo.

## Lindley, Spencer named interim police leaders

A longtime officer with Mississippi State's Police Department now is serving as interim chief of the 30-person law enforcement agency.

Capt. Georgia B. Lindley, who has been assistant chief since 2000, will replace Chief Thomas Johnson, who is leaving to assume a similar position at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, N.C.

Capt. Kenneth L. Spencer, leader of the department's patrol and investigation unit, will become interim assistant chief.

"We wish Chief Johnson well as he takes on his new duties at Western Carolina," said Dean of Students Mike White. "We owe him a great debt for his untiring work in leading the department since 1997, and especially his role over the past few years in gaining national accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies."

When announced in March, MSU became only the third law enforcement agency in the state to hold CALEA's official stamp of approval. Based in Fairfax, Va., the organization—whose membership is voluntary—is the nation's only law enforcement accrediting agency.

White said the land-grant institution and Mississippi's largest university is fortunate to have two experienced officers to lead the full-service department until a new chief is selected.

"Assistant Chief Lindley and Capt. Spencer are veteran officers who already have established themselves professionally with the MSU and Starkville communities," White said.

Lindley and Spencer both are Mississippi State graduates. Lindley also completed a master's degree at the university.

Faculty member Melissa Moore accepts the 2005 John Grisham Master Teacher Award from Louis R. D'Abraham, chair of the University Instructional Improvement Committee. Moore is an associate professor of marketing, quantitative analysis and business law in the College of Business and Industry. The award recognizes excellence in teaching.





## Five Points reconstruction program under way

Construction now under way will change the look of the Five Points intersection near central campus.

During construction, Creelman Street will become a two-way street from the Highway 12 bypass west of campus to President's Circle around Allen Hall. Traffic will be unimpeded along this entire length—from the traffic light at the intersection of Creelman and Highway 12 to the stop sign at President's Circle—eliminating the need to negotiate “Malfunction Junction” at Five Points.

When construction is finished, southbound traffic on Bost Extension Drive, southbound traffic on B.S. Hood Drive, and northbound traffic on Stone Boulevard—all of which currently feed into “Malfunction Junction”—will come to stop signs at Creelman Street and yield to traffic on Creelman.

### Schedule of summer street closings

During construction this summer, several sections of streets that feed into the Five Points intersection were to be closed by today (June 13) and will remain closed through the summer or permanently.

- Eastbound traffic on Bully Boulevard (from Starkville toward campus) will end at the intersections with Robert L. Jones Circle (sorority row) and Clyde Q. Sheely Circle (fraternity row). Traffic must turn south onto Jones Circle or north onto Sheely Circle. When construction is complete in the fall, Bully Boulevard will extend eastward to the parking lots at Hill Poultry Science Building and the Newell-Grissom Building, ending there.

- The short connector street between Bost Drive and Creelman Street currently is closed, but is scheduled to reopen on July 8.

- The section of West Lee Boulevard from B.S. Hood Drive, just west of the

football stadium, to Bost Extension now is closed and will be removed permanently.

- The section of B.S. Hood from the stadium to the intersection of Stone Boulevard and Creelman Street was to have been closed June 8 and will be removed permanently.

- The section of West Lee Boulevard from the M-Club service drive to B.S. Hood Drive will be closed permanently on June 13. This section of street will be removed in December.

- Bully Boulevard between the Newell-Grissom Building parking lot and Five Points was to be closed today and will be removed permanently.

- The street on the west side of the Amphitheater, was to be converted from one-way to two-way traffic starting today for the duration of the construction work on Bully Boulevard, which is scheduled to be completed by Aug. 1.

- The section of Bully Boulevard between the intersection with Robert L. Jones Circle/ Clyde Q. Sheely Circle and entrance to Hill Poultry Science Building was to be closed today until the completion of construction on Aug. 1.

### Phase II construction

A second phase of construction will begin in summer 2006.

For updates, access [msstate.edu](http://msstate.edu) and type “parking” into the search engine.



Heavy equipment crews worked recently on a new connector road that will link Bully and Stone boulevards.

---

## Looking for a job?

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 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.



## Communicators win 37 awards in competition

Mississippi State communication staffs won half of the awards handed out in the senior division of the College Public Relations Association of Mississippi for creative work performed during 2004.

University employees collected 37 of 74 awards presented to communicators at senior public and private colleges during the statewide organization's recent annual meeting in Biloxi. The state's community and junior colleges compete in a separate division.

Leading the pack for MSU was the Agricultural Communications Office with 17 awards. The University Relations Office

at MSU-Meridian received 12, while University Relations on the Starkville campus picked up eight.

Agricultural Communications, University Relations and MSU-Meridian won five first-place awards each—a total of 15 top finishes. Agricultural Communications and the Wise Center-based University Television Center also captured one of only two Grand Awards given for overall performance, winning for excellence in electronic media.

Linda Butler, public relations-marketing specialist for MSU-Meridian, won or shared in her campus' dozen total awards, making

her MSU's top individual performer.

Butler also was elected to serve as vice president of the organization for the coming year, while editor-writer Bonnie Coblentz of Agricultural Communications was re-elected to the CPRAM board of directors.

Individual MSU award winners by category included:

News Stories: First place, Phil Hearn, for "MSU Scientists Invent Diabetes Breathalyzer;" and third place, Bonnie Coblentz, for "Soybean Rust."

Feature Stories: First place, Phil Hearn, for "MSU Wood Preservation Expert Focuses on Southern Housing Problems;" and third place, Bob Ratliff, for "Gift Will Establish CVM Cancer Unit."

Sports Stories: Second place, Keryn Page, for "Good Hunting Season Requires Safety, Rules."

Institutional Magazine: First place, "MAFES Research Highlights," by Bob Ratliff, Robyn Hearn, Annette Woods, Jim Lytle, Marco Nicovich, Bonnie Coblentz, and Tom Thompson; and third place, "Mississippi State Alumnus," by Allen Snow, Kay Jones, Russ Houston, Megan Bean, Erin Norwood, Becky Smith, Phil Hearn, Sammy McDavid, Maridith Geuder, and Joe Farris.

Newsletter: First place, "College of Education Newsletter," by Erin Norwood, Kay Jones, Russ Houston, and Megan Bean; and third place, "Pegasus Press," by Keryn Page, Bonnie Coblentz, Linda Breazeale, Tom Thompson, Greg Word, Julia Heard, Laura Whelan, and Nancy Williams.

Tab Publication: Third place, "Project a Great Image with an MSU Degree," by Linda Butler, Becky Smith, Libby Huff, and The Meridian Star.

Special Publications: Second place, "Preserving Trees in Construction Sites," by Debbie Montgomery and Beth Dishongh; and third place, "MSU Calendar 2005," by Erin Norwood, Bonnie Dickerson, Russ Houston, and Megan Bean.

Advertisements: Second place, Linda

## Parking fee changes this fall will help fund campus infrastructure improvements

Beginning this fall, parking decal fees for students, faculty and staff will be \$50 a year, although the cost to benefits-eligible employees whose annual earnings are \$25,000 or less will remain at \$25.

The university also has made arrangements for parking fees to be treated as a pre-tax payroll deduction, which will result in some net savings to employees. The amount of savings will vary according to individual tax circumstances.

All benefits-eligible employees will be automatically enrolled in this program unless they choose to opt out. Parking decal fees will be deducted in 18 equal installments from paychecks issued from Aug. 31 through May 15, although decals will be valid for a full year.

Also beginning in August, MSU will offer a guaranteed parking space in a designated, gated lot to some faculty and staff for a fee of \$120 a year. The fee includes the cost of a regular parking decal and will be withheld as a pre-tax deduction from paychecks over a nine-month period.

Initially, at least 200 controlled spaces surrounding Allen Hall will be offered to full-time employees who work in Allen Hall or nearby buildings, with a first-come, first-served sign-up period to be held this summer.

The changes are part of a long-range approach to parking and traffic improvements that creates a structure in which the primary users and beneficiaries of facilities incur a more proportionate share of the costs, President Charles Lee said in a message to faculty and staff.

Although the standard \$50 fee is low compared with prevailing rates at regional peer institutions, the added revenue will help improve parking and traffic conditions, Lee said.

"Parking and traffic conditions on campus continue to be sources of frustration for many of us, but we are working hard to improve our environment and believe that we are now making significant progress," Lee said.

Planned construction will pay off in a safer, more efficient, and more pedestrian-friendly campus, consistent with the Campus Master Plan adopted two years ago, he said.

MSU also is making changes to the way street and parking maintenance and improvements are funded. A separate, designated account for this purpose will be established, and all revenues from parking decal sales and fines for parking violations will go into that account, rather than to the university's general fund.

Over time, the change will result in more consistent and adequate funding for the type of transportation infrastructure the campus needs, Lee said.

*Continued on page 4*



## 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](mailto:jonesk@ur.msstate.edu) at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance. For updates, check [www.msstate.edu](http://www.msstate.edu) and click on "Calendar of Events."

## Ongoing Events

June is National Rose Month and Mitchell Memorial Library is celebrating with monthlong displays and exhibits. In addition, the MSU Florist will provide a new arrangement of roses on the library's third floor each week. [library.msstate.edu](http://library.msstate.edu)

### June 13

Instructional Media Center workshop: "Flash," Giles Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3-5 p.m. [library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp](http://library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp)

### 14

ITS workshops: "Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 II," 8:30 a.m.; "Intro to Microsoft Excel 2003," 1:30 p.m. 10 McArthur Hall. 325-0631.

### 15

Instructional Media Center workshop: "Adobe InDesign," Giles Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3-5 p.m. [library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp](http://library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp)

ITS workshops: "Intro to Microsoft Access 2003," 8:30 a.m.; "Microsoft Word 2003," 1:30 p.m. 10 McArthur Hall. 325-0631.

### 16 and 17

Orientation for freshmen. 325-2224.

### 21

Instructional Media Center workshop: "Adobe Acrobat," Giles Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 1-3 p.m. [library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp](http://library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp)

### 23

Instructional Media Center workshop: "Access," Giles Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 1-3 p.m. [library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp](http://library.msstate.edu/workshops/bitsnbytes.asp)

### 28

Retirement reception honoring John V. Correro, who is retiring as executive director of the MSU Alumni Association, Parker Ballroom, Hunter Henry Center, 2-4 p.m., program at 2:30 p.m. RSVP to [djackson@alumni.msstate.edu](mailto:djackson@alumni.msstate.edu) or 325-3444.

## Awards—continued from page 3

Butler, "Find Your Place Here"; and third place, Linda Butler, "Hit the Road Map Ad."

Single Artwork: Second place, "Great Image Cover Design," by Linda Butler and Becky Smith.

Color Photo: First place, Russ Houston, "Cutting Down the Net"; and third place, Russ Houston, "Tall Graduate."

TV News Story: First place, Brian Utley, "Increased BSE Testing in Mississippi"; and second place, Leighton Spann, "Cemetery Turf Research."

TV Spots: First place, "Fear Factor," by Linda Butler, and Chris Cooksey and the production team of WTOK-TV, Meridian.

Radio Spots: First place, "Fear Factor," by Linda Butler and Chris Cooksey/WTOK; second place, "Find Your Place," by Linda Butler and WTOK production team; and third place, "4-H After-school Program," by David Lack, Amy Walsh, Latrell Stokes, and Betty Rawlings.

TV Programs: First place, "Farmweek," by Artis Ford, Tyson Gair, David Lack, Leighton Spann, Norman Winter, Brian Utley, and the University Television Center; second place, "Managing Difficult Customers," by David Lack and Paige Manning; and third place, "Mississippi Farmers' Markets," by Brian Utley.

Radio Programs: First place, "Tommy Boone," by Artis Ford; second place, "Tractor Collectors," by Leighton Spann and Artis Ford; and "DCI," by Brian Utley.

Power Point Presentations: First place, "In-house TV Bulletin Board," by Linda

Butler and Michael Dawkins.

Web site: First place, "MSUcares," by Rick Noffsinger, Cindy Callahan and Patsy Sykes.

PR Campaign: First place, "MSU Recruiting Campaign," by Becky Smith, Russ Houston, Megan Bean, and Kay Jones; and second place, "Fear Factor," by Linda Butler and Chris Cooksey/WTOK-TV, Meridian.

Exhibits: First place, Linda Butler, MSU-Meridian Main Event Exhibit.

PR Innovation: First place, "Find Your Place Here," by Linda Butler and Michael Dawkins; and third place, "Spring Registration Photo Feature," by Linda Butler.

Grand Awards: Electronic, "Farmweek," by Artis Ford, Tyson Fair, David Lack, Leighton Spann, Norman Winter, Brian Utley, and the University Television Center.

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/](http://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](mailto:jonesk@ur.msstate.edu).

Editor—Kay Fike Jones  
Contributors—Maridith Geuder

Phil Hearn  
Sammy McDavid  
Russ Houston  
Megan Bean

