

MEMO

To the Faculty and Staff of Mississippi State University

October 3, 2005

Volume 30

Issue 8

President thanks campus for tornado response

Dear Bulldog family:

The prompt and professional response of dozens of MSU staff members and the calm and correct reaction of our students helped minimize the impact of the Sept. 25 tornado that hit campus.

Quick reaction to the Sunday afternoon storm by our employees from several university units made the campus more safe and secure in the immediate aftermath of the destruction. We also were fortunate to receive rapid assistance from state and local government agencies and several area contractors.

The aggressive repair and clean-up effort in the hours following the tornado had the campus essentially back to normal by midday Monday and allowed classes to resume that afternoon. We can all be proud of the way

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Between George Hall and the YMCA building



Lloyd-Ricks Annex, home of the Holland Faculty Senate office (left)



Faculty promotion, tenure awarded for 2005-06

Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine promotions will be included in the Oct. 10 issue of Memo.

College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

Joseph H. Massey, from assistant professor to associate professor, Plant and Soil Sciences; Christopher McDaniel, from associate professor to professor, Poultry Science; and Alfred Rankins Jr., from assistant professor to associate professor, Plant and Soil Sciences.

College of Architecture, Art and Design

Christopher Monson, from assistant professor to associate professor, College of Architecture, Art, and Design.

College of Arts and Sciences

Michael E. Brown, from assistant professor to associate professor, Geosciences; Jane L. Harvill, from assistant professor to associate professor, Mathematics and Statistics; Dale L. Holt, from associate professor to professor, Philosophy and Religion; Kevin P. Knudson, from assistant professor to associate professor, Mathematics and Statistics; Ronald B. Loewe, from assistant professor to associate professor, Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work; and Peter B. Wood, from associate professor to professor, Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work.

College of Business and Industry

Timothy R. Barnett, from associate professor to professor, Management and Information Systems; Pearson Liddell Jr., from assistant professor to associate professor, Marketing, Quantitative Analysis, and Business Law; Robert Moore, from assistant professor to associate professor, Marketing, Quantitative Analysis, and Business Law.

College of Education

Joseph A. Chromiak, from assistant professor to associate professor, Kinesiology, and Teresa B. Jayroe, from assistant professor

to associate professor, Curriculum and Instruction.

Bagley College of Engineering

J. W. Bruce II, from assistant professor to associate professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, and Judith A. Schneider, from assistant professor to associate professor, Mechanical Engineering.

College of Forest Resources

Laura A. Grace, from associate professor to professor, Forestry.

College of Veterinary Medicine

Shane C. Burgess, from assistant professor to associate professor, Basic Sciences; Cody P. Coyne, from associate professor to professor, Basic Sciences; and Terry J. Engelken, from associate professor to professor, Pathobiology and Population Medicine.

University Libraries

Marica L. Delgado, from associate professor to professor, University Libraries.

Research Centers and Institutes

Research Curriculum Unit: Craig Jackson, research associate II to research associate III; Jean Alice McDavid, research associate III to senior research associate; and Robin Parker, research associate III to senior research associate.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision: Jodie Roberts, research associate I to research associate II.

GeoResources Institute: Rita Jackson, extension associate I to extension associate II.

T.K. Martin Center for Technology and Disability: Christan Toney, research associate I to research associate II.

Social Science Research Center: Maggie Dannreuth, research associate II to research associate III; Georgia Hackney, research associate II to research associate III; David Parrish, research associated III to senior research associate; and Angela Robertson, assistant research prof to associate research prof.

Faculty awarded tenure for 2005-06

Michael E. Brown, Department of Geosciences; J. W. Bruce II, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering; Joseph A. Chromiak, Department of Kinesiology; Jane L. Harvill, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Mark F. Horstemeyer, Department of Mechanical Engineering; Teresa B. Jayroe, Department of Curriculum and Instruction; Kevin P. Knudson, Department of Mathematics and Statistics; Tingyu Li, Department of Chemistry; Pearson Liddell, Jr., Department of Marketing, Quantitative Analysis, and Business Law; Ronald B. Loewe, Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Social Work; Joseph H. Massey, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences; Christopher Monson, College of Architecture, Art, and Design; Robert Moore, Department of Marketing, Quantitative Analysis, and Business Law; Lynn B. Pike, School of Human Sciences; Alfred Rankins, Jr., Department of Plant and Soil Sciences; Judith A. Schneider, Department of Mechanical Engineering; Yvonne V. Thaxton, Department of Poultry Science; Jack E. Tucci, Department of Management and Information Systems, Meridian Branch; and Steven C. Turner, Department of Agricultural Economics.

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.



Bagley college diversity coordinator promoted

The former diversity coordinator for the Bagley College of Engineering now is the academic unit's assistant dean for diversity and student development.

Dr. Tommy Stevenson's promotion is designed to strengthen the college's diversity programs and increase minority student participation, said Dean Kirk Schulz.

"Dr. Stevenson has done an excellent job in his role as coordinator of diversity programs," said Schulz. "I have no doubt he will provide the leadership needed to help us achieve our goal of being one of the top five producers nationally of African-American engineers."

As diversity coordinator the past three

years, Stevenson coordinated the college's Summer Bridge Program for incoming minority freshmen. He also served as faculty adviser for the National Society of Black Engineers and directed the Increasing Minority Access to Graduate Education program.

Schulz said those programs have helped Bagley place in the top 15 percent



Stevenson

among national institutions graduating African-American engineers, and achieve a competitive position with other engineering schools in minority participation.

"This change in title reflects the Bagley College's commitment to increasing diversity within the college at all levels—undergraduate, graduate and faculty," said Donna Reese, associate dean of academics and administration for the college.

Stevenson holds a bachelor's degree in industrial technology and a master's in education administration, both from Mississippi State, and a doctorate in higher education administration from Bowling Green (Ohio) State University.

Staff council initiates employee Hurricane Katrina relief fund

With more than 160 Mississippi State University employees living and working in the areas most severely affected by Hurricane Katrina, the university's Professional and Support Staff Advisory Council is launching a drive to provide financial help.

"Our understanding is that many employees have suffered extensive damage to their homes, and approximately 30 have homes that either are destroyed or are uninhabitable," said Juli Rester, the organization's president. "Employees on the coast are part of our MSU family and we want to reach out and let them know we care."

Rester, a human resources development staff member, said most affected employees have expressed a need for limited financial assistance to help bridge immediate needs as they begin to restock their households.

Received through the MSU Foundation, gifts for the MSU Employee Relief Fund will support short-term emergency assistance. Recipients will be selected by an anonymous committee.

Eligible individuals must live or work within six hardest-hit counties: Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Pearl River, Stone, and

George. Others will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Online contributions are being accepted at www.msstate.edu/web/e-commerce/gift/.

Oct. 22 is fall MSU 'Discovery' day

High school and community college students and their parents are being invited to Mississippi State's special fall program for all interested in attending the university after graduation.

"Discovery Day 2005" takes place 9 a.m.-noon Oct. 22. Held in conjunction with the Homecoming celebration, the traditional academic fair on the Drill Field will precede the Bulldogs' home football game with the University of Houston Cougars.

Sponsored by the Office of Admissions and Scholarships, the diverse information program features scores of exhibits and displays prepared by departmental and student-support offices. Snacks, soft drinks and MSU food products also will be available. University musical groups will provide entertainment.

Also beginning at 9, a limited number of \$10 football game tickets will be made available to "Discovery" participants.

For more on "Discovery," contact the Office of Admissions and Scholarship at 325-2224 or www.admissions.msstate.edu.

Staff council members also will be raising funds through a T-shirt sale.

Qualifying coast-area employees may apply online at <http://www.pssac.msstate.edu/>. Paper forms may be obtained at the Coastal Research and Extension Center in Biloxi and, when completed, faxed to (662) 325-3189.

For more information, telephone Rester at 325-1831.

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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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Campus maps available

Updated campus maps are available from the Office of University Relations by calling Cathy Oswalt at 325-7458.



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.

Ongoing Events

WMSV radio's free Live and Stripped Down Acoustic Series is held every Thursday, 6:30-8 p.m., on the new patio of the State Fountain Bakery. Local acoustic musicians are featured in a relaxed atmosphere. In case of inclement weather, the series moves to the DawgHouse Coffee Shoppe in the lower level of the Colvard Union. 325-8481.

Art Exhibition: "The Voluptuous Return: Still Life of Walter Inglis Anderson," through Oct. 28, McComas Hall gallery. Gallery hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 1-4 p.m. Sunday. For additional information or to book tours, contact the department at 325-2970.

October

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Workshop: "Landing on the Tenure Track: Job Hunting in Academe (Survival Skills for Graduate Students)," ELI Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 2 p.m. 325-0810.

HRM workshop: "Using the Online Employment System," McArthur Hall Lab A, 10 a.m.-noon. For employees involved in hiring, Registration required. 325-3713 or helms@hrm.msstate.edu.

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Workshop: "EndNote 101: Managing Your Citations and More!" ELI Electronic

Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 3:30 p.m. 325-0810.

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Workshop: "Research and Dissertation Basics (Survival Skills for Graduate Students)," ELI Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 2 p.m. 325-0810.

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MSU vs. Auburn, women's soccer, MSU Soccer Field, 7 p.m.

Workshop: "Developing a Literature Review (Survival Skills for Graduate Students)," ELI Electronic Classroom, Mitchell Memorial Library, 2 p.m. 325-0810.

MSU vs. Auburn, women's volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 7 p.m.

8 and 9

Fall Plant Sale, Crosby Arboretum, Picayune, Members only sale--9-10 a.m.; general public--10 a.m.-3 p.m. (601) 7992311.

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MSU vs. Alabama, women's soccer, MSU Soccer Field, 1 p.m.

MSU vs. Alabama, women's volleyball, Newell-Grissom Building, 1:30 p.m.

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Gender Studies Lecture Series, Dr. Kelly Marsh of English on "Bridget Jones's Diary and the American Myth of Self-Perfection," Women's Studies Resource Center (ground floor of Rice Hall), noon. Lunch is provided for first 25 who RSVP by e-mailing msuws@hotmail.com or telephoning 325-1466.

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Association of Retired Faculty panel discussion on student-athletes with MSU Athletic Director Larry Templeton and NCAA campus representatives, first floor of Bryan Athletic Building, 2:30 p.m. maynor@ra.msstate.edu.

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our Bulldog family and friends responded, and we are grateful for their hard work on our behalf.

MSU students rightly sought secure shelter on campus or elsewhere and remained in place while the weather threat continued and during the initial emergency response. They are to be commended for steadiness during a traumatic experience and for not allowing the event to unduly disrupt the academic process. We are fortunate and grateful that injuries to students, which occurred off campus, were relatively few and minor. Students who suffered property losses from the tornado will be eligible to receive assistance from the Student Relief Fund established earlier to aid victims of Hurricane Katrina.

MSU units that played key roles in helping us rebound from the tornado included the Facilities Management group consisting of Campus Landscape, Custodial Services and Physical Plant; MSU Police; and workers from the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station and the Forest and Wildlife Research Center.

Contractors who came to our aid included Lowes Building Supplies, East Mississippi Lumber Co., McElroy Electric, Quick-Lift Crane Services, Graham Roofing, Maloney Glass, and City Glass. Local and state agencies responding included the Starkville Police, Fire, Electric, and Public Works departments; the Oktibbeha County Sheriff's Department; the Mississippi Highway Patrol; the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission; the Department of Corrections; and the Oktibbeha County Hospital Ambulance Service.

The campus landscape may show the scars of the tornado for months to come, but the university's primary functions and essential services have missed scarcely a beat, thanks to the resilience and commitment of our staff and students and the spirit of community demonstrated by our neighbors and friends.

The university is grateful to all those who went beyond the call of duty to help us through what could have been a much more difficult experience. Thank you.

J. Charles Lee
President