Blake Wilson is President and CEO of the Mississippi Economic Council, a private sector organization with over 10,000 members from 1,100 different entities.

He came to MEC in 1998 from the Florida Chamber of Commerce where he served as Executive Vice President – and began his association career 35 years ago in Delaware with the State Chamber in his home state. He also spent 9 years as a newspaper reporter and editor.

Since joining MEC, the organization has focused on developing and implementing Blueprint Mississippi, a long range economic development strategy for the state with four pillars of progress – economic competitiveness, education & workforce, resources and infrastructure and technology advancement.

He lives in Brandon with his wife, Ann, a retired public school teacher. They have three grown children.
Brian Cuccias is corporate vice president of Huntington Ingalls Industries and president of Ingalls Shipbuilding. Named to this position in 2014, he is responsible for all programs and operations at Ingalls, including U.S. Navy destroyers, amphibious assault and surface combatant programs, and the U.S. Coast Guard cutter program.

Cuccias began his shipbuilding career in 1979 with Litton Data Systems, where he served as a financial analyst on several Navy programs, including amphibious assault ships and Spruance- and Kidd-class destroyers. Since then, he has held a number of positions of increasing responsibility, including: assistant to the group vice president of Avondale Industries; sector vice president, material, for Northrop Grumman Ship Systems; program manager and vice president for Northrop Grumman’s DDG 1000 program; and vice president, surface combatants, for Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding, which included Arleigh Burke-class (DDG 51) and Zumwalt-class (DDG 1000) destroyers and Coast Guard programs.

Most recently, Cuccias served as Ingalls’ vice president, program management, responsible for program execution and financial performance for all ships produced by the shipyard.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in accounting from the University of South Alabama and has attended executive education programs at Harvard Business School and the University of Pennsylvania’s Wharton School. He serves on the board of directors for the Jackson County Economic Development Foundation.

Huntington Ingalls Industries is America’s largest military shipbuilding company and a provider of manufacturing, engineering and management services to the commercial and non-commercial oil, gas and energy markets. For more than a century, HII’s Newport News and Ingalls shipbuilding divisions in Virginia and Mississippi have built more ships in more ship classes than any other U.S. naval shipbuilder. Headquartered in Newport News, Virginia, HII employs approximately 39,000 people operating both domestically and internationally.
Dear Friends:

As Governor of the State of Mississippi, I am pleased to welcome you to the Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities 28th Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day - Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE). I commend the students and faculty being honored at this year’s event and look forward to your influence on our state’s future.

Recognizing the hard work and dedication of those working in higher-education in our state is both an honor and a necessity. Mississippi is working hard to support instructors and students at colleges and universities. I am especially proud of our strides in supporting students of education. They are tomorrow’s teachers and will be instrumental in leading Mississippi’s education system to ever higher heights.

The work of the Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities creates a positive impact on our entire state, and I appreciate your dedication to promoting scholarship and lifelong excellence. Mississippi is a better place thanks to your leadership and vision.

I welcome you to Jackson and to your state Capitol. I wish the organizers, the students, faculty, and guests a very successful event.

Sincerely,

Phil Bryant
GOVERNOR
Dear HEADWAE Honorees:

As Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi, it is my honor to welcome you to the State Capitol today to acknowledge your many contributions to higher education. I want to thank each of the honorees, students, and faculty members for your outstanding commitment to academic achievement.

Our institutions of higher learning have invested in these bright young leaders, and today, I want to extend my congratulations for your success. I applaud your commitment to excellence and continued determination, which is truly making an impact on our state’s educational system, and therefore, improving our state’s workforce and overall economy. Your commitment to academic achievement, campus leadership, and community service has all contributed to the success that has brought you here today.

Thank you for your efforts in helping us propel Mississippi forward. Again, it is my pleasure to congratulate you on your significant accomplishments, and I wish you great success in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Tate Reeves
Lieutenant Governor
February 17, 2015

Greetings,

On behalf of the City of Jackson, it is my absolute pleasure to welcome the 28th Annual Higher Education Appreciation Day and its visitors to our great city. The heartbeat of Jackson, Mississippi, is made evident through the dedication and diligence provided by its citizens, businesses, and organizations. As a city, we are extremely proud of the achievements and goals that are embodied and celebrated through this event, and we commend the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, the honorees, their families, and all guests who have come to partake in this wonderful day.

The City of Jackson is genuinely interested in making sure that all of its citizens have the best possible opportunities to succeed and to participate in culturally and morally relevant events. This event is an example of the excellence that is happening within our city and our state. As you honor talented students and faculty members from each of the state’s public and private institutions, we thank you for highlighting the achievements of those who walk in excellence. I applaud you for your determination to be a catalyst for progress and academic success.

Whether you have come from near or far, we encourage you to indulge in the cornucopia of restaurants, museums, parks, and historic landmarks that make this city the jewel it has become. If there is any way that we can continue to support your efforts, please feel free to let us know.

Again, welcome to the great City of Jackson. We graciously appreciate your service.

Regards,

Tony T. Yarber
Mayor, City of Jackson
Dear HEADWAE Honorees:

Welcome to the Higher Education Appreciation Day-Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) Luncheon as we celebrate its 28th Anniversary. It is my pleasure to congratulate all of the students and faculty members selected to represent their institutions for this important occasion.

Created through legislation introduced by Representative Cecil Simmons, this day is set aside to recognize outstanding faculty members and students from each college in the state, including public universities, public community colleges and private two-year and four-year institutions. The students and faculty selected represent the ideals of academia, not only excelling in the classroom, but demonstrating outstanding leadership skills and serving others in the community. They pursue every endeavor with dedication and distinction.

I would like to thank HEADWAE Chair Blake Wilson for his stalwart support of all levels of education, from pre-kindergarten through universities. Having been instrumental in forging a strong relationship between the business and education communities, his leadership has helped to build a better Mississippi and put the state on a pathway to prosperity.

I would also like to thank Mr. Brian Cuccias, President of Ingalls Shipbuilding, for delivering the keynote address. He leads thousands of Mississippians as they work to build the finest ships in the world and protect freedom around the globe. I am certain he will have an inspirational message for us today.

Again, congratulations to all of the honorees. I hope this day will be one you will remember fondly for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Hank M. Bounds
Commissioner of Higher Education

February 17, 2015
February 17, 2015

Dear HEADWAE Honoree:

Congratulations on receiving this prestigious honor! Each of you is considered among the best and brightest in our higher education system and is worthy of this recognition.

To the students who are being honored, all of the hard work you have put into your studies is a wise investment and will pay off. Whether your goal is to become a teacher, doctor, attorney, businessperson, or begin any other career, you are positioning yourself to be successful. To the faculty members, thank you for putting so much time, effort, and energy into your students and into your institution. You are making a difference in the lives of countless people and your work is to be commended.

This event could not be possible without today’s sponsors. Your support of this event shows that you are committed to the future of our state, and I thank you for your generosity. Also, the Mississippi Legislature should be thanked for making higher education a priority in the state. Back in 1988, HEADWAE was created by our state leaders as a way to recognize the achievements of higher educational students and faculty. I was proud to be a member of the Legislature when the event began, and I am delighted to be a part of HEADWAE today.

Finally, I hope that each honoree will give serious consideration to making Mississippi your permanent home. Our state is blessed to have a creative and intelligent citizenry, and the future of our state depends on bright, energetic people like you.

Again, congratulations to each honoree and good luck in the future!

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Dr. Eric Clark
MCCB Executive Director
On behalf of the seven independent colleges and universities, I join our colleagues in the higher education community in expressing our gratitude to the Mississippi Legislature for establishing and continuing a program which recognizes and encourages excellence in higher education. There are many outstanding faculty and students in our colleges and universities who often go unnoticed and sometimes feel unappreciated. The program has served as another way to recognize and express appreciation to all faculty, staff, and students who have excelled in their various academic pursuits.

Congratulations to the faculty and student honorees that are recognized this year. Each is to be commended for setting a worthy example for all who are interested in and support academic excellence. We express appreciation for your dedication, commitment, and determination to develop your talents and abilities in such outstanding ways. It is our hope that you will continue to excel and successfully invest yourselves in your academic pursuits and service to others.

The continued development of our state is directly related to the quality of its leadership. We are grateful to the members of the legislature who recognize and support excellence as found in our institutions of higher learning and deeply appreciate their efforts in establishing The Higher Education Appreciation Day-Working for Academic Excellence Program.

Sincerely,

E. Harold Fisher

E. Harold Fisher, Executive Director
Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
HEADWAE STEERING COMMITTEE

Mr. Blake Wilson
President and CEO
Mississippi Economic Council
Chair

Ms. Kim Gallaspy
Director of Legislative Services
MS Institutions of Higher Learning

Ms. Gloria J. Miller
Director of Student Services
MS Institutions of Higher Learning
HEADWAE Coordinator

Dr. Glenn Boyce
Associate Commissioner of Academic and Students Affairs
MS Institutions of Higher Learning
Secretary-Treasurer, Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities

Mr. Kell Smith
Director of Communications and Legislative Services
Mississippi Community College Board

Mr. Jim Southward
Director of Affiliated Activities
Mississippi Community College Board

Dr. Carey M. Wright
State Superintendent of Education

Ex-Officio Members

Dr. Hank M. Bounds
Commissioner of Higher Education
MS Institutions of Higher Learning

Dr. Eric Clark
Executive Director
Mississippi Community College Board

Dr. E. Harold Fisher
Executive Director
Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

Dr. Robert W. Pearigen
President, Millsaps College
President, Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities
The Mississippi Legislators, Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities, Steering Committee Members and the honorees, sincerely thank all of the corporate sponsors for their continued contributions to the HEADWAE program and for their commitment to recognizing and supporting academic excellence in higher education.
LUNCHEON AGENDA
28TH ANNUAL
HIGHER EDUCATION APPRECIATION DAY
WORKING FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
February 17, 2015
Senator Terry C. Burton
Master of Ceremonies

Welcome
Dr. Hank M. Bounds
Commissioner of Higher Education
Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

Invocation
Senator Hillman T. Frazier
Chair, Housing Committee

LUNCH

Introduction of Special Guests
Senator Terry C. Burton
Chair, Energy Committee
Vice Chair, Universities and Colleges Committee

Remarks - House of Representatives
Representative Gregory Holloway
Vice Chair, Universities and Colleges Committee

Remarks - Senate
Senator John A. Polk
Chair, Universities and Colleges Committee

Introduction of HEADWAE Chair
Dr. Bounds

Introduction of Speaker
Mr. Blake Wilson
President and CEO, Mississippi Economic Council
Chair, HEADWAE

Mr. Brian Cuccias
Corporate Vice President, Huntington Ingalls Industries
President, Ingalls Shipbuilding

Recognition of Corporate Sponsors
Dr. Robert Pearigen
President, Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities
President, Millsaps College

Recognition of Honorees
Representative Kimberly L. Campbell
Vice Chair, Judiciary B Committee
Member, Universities and Colleges Committee

Remarks
Dr. Eric Clark
Executive Director
Mississippi Community College Board

Remarks
Dr. E. Harold Fisher
Executive Director, Mississippi Association of Independent Colleges and Universities

Special Presentation
Dr. Glenn Boyce
Secretary-Treasurer, Mississippi Association of Colleges and Universities
Associate Commissioner of Academic and Student Affairs, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

Adjournment
(Honorees Photo Session – Canterbury Room)
A MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATURE

The Higher Education Appreciation Day, Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) was established by the Mississippi Legislature in to honor academically talented students and faculty members who have made outstanding contributions in promoting academic excellence. The Appreciation Day is our way of saying “thank you” for your commitment to the future of Mississippi. It is an honor and a privilege for the Legislature to recognize these honorees for their outstanding achievements. We wish them every success as they pursue their personal and professional goals.

2013-2014 Highlights
## Headwae Honorees

### 2014 - 2015

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Student Honoree</th>
<th>Faculty Honoree</th>
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<tr>
<td>Alcorn State University</td>
<td>Ashley Clark</td>
<td>Martha David Ravola</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belhaven University</td>
<td>Meredith Keeton White</td>
<td>Angela Hutson Gaddis</td>
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<td>Blue Mountain College</td>
<td>George Andrew Chesteen</td>
<td>Ronald Truitt Meeks</td>
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<td>Coahoma Community College</td>
<td>Cadarius Dejuan Cannon</td>
<td>Joharrison Rockett</td>
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<td>Copiah-Lincoln Community College</td>
<td>William Darrick Little</td>
<td>Ray L. Bradford</td>
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<td>Delta State University</td>
<td>Mikel Debarcus Sykes</td>
<td>Rebecca Foster Hochradel</td>
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<td>East Central Community College</td>
<td>Lauren Kathryn Cantey</td>
<td>Amy Jeannine Denson</td>
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<td>East Mississippi Community College</td>
<td>Jonathan Christian Wiggins</td>
<td>Octavia E. Dickerson</td>
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<td>Hinds Community College</td>
<td>Mary Catherine Harvey</td>
<td>Janet Harris Wasson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holmes Community College</td>
<td>Lily (Lily Fran) Francesca McCrory</td>
<td>Cindy Harden Dugan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Itawamba Community College</td>
<td>Mallory Grace Mahon</td>
<td>Laura M. Pannell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson State University</td>
<td>Harold Owens, III</td>
<td>Zikri Arslan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones County Junior College</td>
<td>Bridgette Rochelle Wagner</td>
<td>Rick Bedwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meridian Community College</td>
<td>Timothy Jacob Hester</td>
<td>Angie Carraway</td>
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<td>Millsaps College</td>
<td>Tung Hoang</td>
<td>Wolfgang Hermann Kramer</td>
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<td>Mississippi College</td>
<td>John R. Wilson IV</td>
<td>Patricia Watkins Bennett</td>
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<td>Mississippi Delta Community College</td>
<td>Christin Brooke Manor</td>
<td>Patti Parker Livingston</td>
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<td>Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College</td>
<td>Racheal Abigayle Nelson</td>
<td>Kathy Harel Dedeaux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi State University</td>
<td>Brett Russell Harris</td>
<td>Randolph F. Follett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi University for Women</td>
<td>Janette Hreish</td>
<td>Mary Jo Kuykendall Kirkpatrick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mississippi Valley State University</td>
<td>Thaddeus Vincent McClintont, Jr.</td>
<td>Larry Wayne Chappell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast Mississippi Community College</td>
<td>Dalton Ross Smith</td>
<td>Thomas D. Cockrell</td>
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<td>Northwest Mississippi Community College</td>
<td>Keenan Lanae Arntson</td>
<td>Renee Young O’Neill</td>
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<td>Pearl River Community College</td>
<td>Shannon Kelly Farmer</td>
<td>Amanda Thigpen Parker</td>
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<td>Reformed Theological Seminary</td>
<td>Steve Street</td>
<td>Michael George McKelvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rust College</td>
<td>Tenecia Yvonne Williams</td>
<td>Hilda Booker Williams</td>
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<td>Southeastern Baptist College</td>
<td>Joshua Matthew Daniels</td>
<td>Eric Bruce Estes</td>
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<td>Southwest Mississippi Community College</td>
<td>Justin Randall McCray</td>
<td>Deanna Jo Waltman Martin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tougaloo College</td>
<td>Kiera S. Bronson</td>
<td>Karlos Sanders</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Mississippi</td>
<td>Davis Lane Rogers</td>
<td>Ann Welpton Fisher-Wirth</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Mississippi Medical Center</td>
<td>Suzanna Ellzey Nida</td>
<td>John B. Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Southern Mississippi</td>
<td>Hannah Camille Roberts</td>
<td>Robin Aronson Carr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesley Biblical Seminary</td>
<td>Ava Sanchez Harvey</td>
<td>Carey Bailey Vinzant</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Carey University</td>
<td>Mihaela Florescu</td>
<td>Brett T. Golson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASHLEY CLARK
CLASS STANDING: Freshman
MAJOR/MINOR FIELD OF STUDY: Child Development
GPA AND ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS TO DATE: 3.1 GPA; Deans List
COLLEGE HONORS HELD: Kappa Omicron Nu
CAREER GOALS: Upon completion of my undergraduate degree, I plan to enroll in Graduate School and pursue a degree in School Counseling. My dream is to work in the public school system and help educate the minds of young children.
HIGH SCHOOL: Jefferson County High School, Fayette, MS
FAMILY INFORMATION: Franklin Clark and Shirley Smith
HOMETOWN: Fayette, MS

MARTHA DAVID RAVOLA
TITLE/DEPARTMENT: Associate Professor, Department of Human Sciences, School of Agriculture, Research Extension and Applied Science
YEARS OF SERVICE AT THIS INSTITUTION: 5
YEARS OF SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 13
PUBLICATIONS/HONORS/AWARDS: Books: Kids Play: A Pathway to Learning 2005, Organization of Early Intervention Service (2008); Preparation of Stimulation Materials for Infants and Toddlers (2003), published by the National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped (NIMN), India; Diversity Champion Award; Above and Beyond Award for Excellence as QEP Instructor; Proficiency Award in Human Development at Masters level
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: Senator, American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences; Vice President, Professional Development, MS Association of Family and Consumer Science; Alcorn State University, American Psychological Association; American Counseling Association
CIVIC ACTIVITIES: Parkway Baptist Church
FAMILY INFORMATION: Rajesh Behara
HOMETOWN: Hyderabad, India
Meredith Keeton White

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Business Accounting
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; MS Society of Certified Public Accountants Scholarship; Treasurer, Phi Beta Lambda; Young Americans for Liberty Accountant; National Society of Accountants Scholarship
College Honors Held: School of Business Dean’s Circle; Hamp King Award
High School: Madison Ridgeland Academy, Madison, MS
Parents: Keith Keeton and Lorie Keeton
Hometown: Madison, MS

Angela Hutson Gaddis

Title/Department: Associate Professor and Chair, Social Work
Years of Service at this Institution: 9
Years of Service in Higher Education: 16
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Social Work, University of MS. Graduate: Master of Social Work, University of Southern MS; Doctor of Philosophy, Social Work, University of AL
Publications/Honors/Awards: Publication: “A Comparative Study of Kinship Care in Mississippi”; Belhaven University Faculty Ambassador; Phi Alpha; U.S. Army Freedom Team Salute Certificate of Appreciation
Professional Affiliations: Past President, MS Chapter National Association of Social Workers; Baccalaureate Program Directors, National Association of Christian Social Workers; Current Principal Researcher, Shared Hope International, Jackson, MS office
Civic Activities: Joni and Friends, Southeast Chapter; Coalition Member, Hunger Free Jackson
Spouse: Bill Gaddis; Son: Andrew Gaddis
Hometown: Brandon, MS
GEORGE ANDREW CHESTEEN
CLASS STANDING: Senior
MAJOR/MINOR FIELD OF STUDY: Biblical Studies/Business
GPA AND ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS TO DATE: 3.9 GPA; Phi Theta Kappa; Theta Alpha Kappa; President’s List
COLLEGE HONORS HELD: Baptist Student Union Council; Ministerial Association Council
CAREER GOALS: Full-time ministry in a Southern Baptist church
HIGH SCHOOL: Winona High School, Winona, MS
WIFE: Audra W. Chesteen
HOMETOWN: Winona, MS

RONALD TRUITT MECKS
TITLE/DEPARTMENT: Professor, Biblical and Associated Studies
YEARS OF SERVICE AT THIS INSTITUTION: 14
YEARS OF SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 14
PUBLICATIONS/HONORS/AWARDS: HEADWAE; MS Humanities Scholar. Blue Mountain College; Published “Walking by Faith in God’s Declared Purpose” in Reclaiming the Gospel at Home: Biblical Truths for Men
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: Association of Ministry Guidance Professionals
SPOUSE: Julie Meeks; CHILDREN: Matthew, Charlie and Carolyn
HOMETOWN: Corinth, MS
Cadarius Dejuan Cannon
Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: Accounting
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.65 GPA; Phi Theta Kappa
College Honors Held: Mr. Coahoma Community College; Student Government Association; Coahoma Male Society
Career Goals: To become a certified public accountant
High School: Leland High School, Leland, MS
Family Information: Marcus and Yalonda Cannon
Hometown: Leland, MS

Joharrison Rockett
Title/Department: Math Instructor, Math and Science Department
Years of Service at This Institution: 8
Years of Service in Higher Education: 8
Publications/Honors/Awards: Lamplighters Award
Civic Activities: Academic tutoring, Mentoring, Counseling, Ministering
Children: Kajiah and Nicklos
Hometown: Sallis, MS
William Darrick Little
Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: Pre-Nursing
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA
College Honors Held: Mr. Co-Lin, Natchez Campus; Vice President, Trailblazers; President, Christian Student Ministries; Representative, Student Government Association
Career Goals: To obtain a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, become a traveling nurse while pursuing a Master’s in Nursing. Eventually hope to retire from nursing and teach at Copiah-Lincoln Community College, Natchez Campus.
High School: Abeka Academy Homeschooling
Parents: Michele and Corey Dupont; Grandparents: Susan And Calvin Dodd and Holda and Eddia Ola
Hometown: Vidalia, LA

Ray L Bradford
Title/Department: Faculty
Years of Service at This Institution: 10
Years of Service in Higher Education: 20
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Life Sciences, LA Tech University, 1984. Graduate: Master of Science, Health & Human Performance, Northwestern State University, 2008
Publications/Honors/Awards: Copiah-Lincoln Community College High Performance Award
Professional Affiliations: Basic Life Support Instructor, American Heart Association; First Aid Instructor Chairman, Co-Lin Health & Wellness Committee; MS Faculty Association for Community & Junior Colleges
Civic Activities: Natchez Santa Claus Committee, Krewe of Phoenix
Wife: Andrea Bradford; Children: James, Parker Chase, Rebecca, Cody and Tori
Hometown: Olla, LA
**Mikel Debarcus Sykes**

**Class Standing:** Junior  
**Major/Minor Field of Study:** Social Science Education and Music  
**GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date:** 3.19 GPA; Albert Nylander Award; Pi Gamma Mu  
**College Honors Held:** Omicron Delta Kappa; President, Student Body  
**Career Goals:** Go into the field of education. Get some experience teaching, but eventually go into administration. One day I would like to work for the department of education.  
**High School:** Winona Secondary School, Winona, MS  
**Parents:** Michael and Debra Sykes  
**Hometown:** Winona, MS

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**Rebecca Foster Hochradel**

**Title/Department:** Chair and Associate Professor, Division of Management, Marketing, and Business Administration, College of Business  
**Years of Service at this Institution:** 7  
**Years of Service in Higher Education:** 15  
**Academic Credentials:** Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Home Economics, University of Louisville, 1978. Graduate: Master’s Degree, Management in Community Nutrition, Georgia State University, 1984; Doctor of Philosophy, Business Administration (International Business and Marketing), Old Dominion University, 2007  
**Professional Affiliations:** Track Chair and Reviewer, Marketing Management Association; Review Board Member, Journal of International and Interdisciplinary Business Research Journal; Faculty Coordinator, SAP University Alliance; Faculty Advisor, Delta Mu Delta; American Dietetic Association  
**Civic Activities:** Testing Center Supervisor, Cleveland Exchange Club; Covenant Presbyterian Church; Provide expertise to various small businesses in MS, VA and GA  
**Husband:** Ted Hochradel; **Daughters:** Erika Hochradel and Margaret (Greg) Reger  
**Hometown:** Louisville, KY
Lauren Kathryn Cantey  
**Class Standing:** Sophomore  
**Major/Minor Field of Study:** Biochemistry with pre-med concentration  
**GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date:** 4.0 GPA; Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges; President’s Scholar; High Honors Graduate  
**College Honors Held:** Dr. Wheeler pre-med scholarship; White Memorial Scholarship; ACT Scholarship; Vice President of Leadership, Phi Theta Kappa  
**Career Goals:** My career goals include graduating from ECCC in May 2015. I have been accepted to MS State University and will begin in August of 2015 to complete my biochemistry degree. After completion of my baccalaureate degree, my goal is to enroll in med school and specialize in pediatric emergency medicine.  
**High School:** West Lauderdale High School, Collinsville, MS  
**Parents:** Dr. Sherri W. Cantey and Michael Cantey  
**Hometown:** Collinsville, MS

Amy Jeannine Denson  
**Title/Department:** Chemistry Instructor, Science Division  
**Years of Service at This Institution:** 2  
**Years of Service in Higher Education:** 6  
**Academic Credentials:** Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry, University of Southern MS, 2001. Graduate: Master of Animal Physiology, MS State University, 2005  
**Publications/Honors/Awards:** Who’s Who in American Universities  
**Professional Affiliations:** American Chemical Society; MS Science Teachers Association; MS Academy of Science; Association of Analytical Chemists; American Society of Animal Science  
**Civic Activities:** Sponsor, Sigma Sigma Mu Tau  
**Hometown:** Pearl, MS
JONATHAN CHRISTIAN WIGGINS
CLASS STANDING: Sophomore
MAJOR/MINOR FIELD OF STUDY: Pharmacy
GPA AND ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS TO DATE: 4.0 GPA; President’s List; Who’s Who Among American Community College Students
COLLEGE HONORS HELD: Vice President of Academics, Phi Theta Kappa
CAREER GOALS: I intend to further my education at the University of MS before seeking a career in retail pharmacy.
HIGH SCHOOL: Kemper Academy, DeKalb, MS
FAMILY INFORMATION: Marvin and Holly Wiggins
HOMETOWN: DeKalb, MS

OCTAVIA E. DICKERSON
TITLE/DEPARTMENT: Director, Funeral Service Technology
YEARS OF SERVICE AT THIS INSTITUTION: 11
YEARS OF SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 11
ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Business Administration, MS State University, 1981. Graduate: Master of Science, Instructional Technology, MS State University, 2006
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: Executive Board and Chair of Constitution-Bylaws Committee, American Board of Funeral Service Education
DAUGHTERS: Kirsten R. Dickerson and Latina J. Dickerson; GRANDDAUGHTER: Kodeigh M. Dickerson
HOMETOWN: Columbus, MS
Mary Catherine Harvey
Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: History
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; Presidents Scholar; Vice President of Scholarship, Phi Theta Kappa; Honors Institute
College Honors Held: 3E Award - Emphasis on Excellence and Enrichment
Career Goals: To become a pediatrician
High School: Homeschool
Family Information: Wayne and Cathy Harvey
Hometown: Forest, MS

Janet Harris Wasson
Title/Department: Instructor, English Department
Years of Service at this Institution: 25
Years of Service in Higher Education: 25
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, English Education, MS State University, 1974. Graduate: Master of Science, Education, MS College, 1997
Publications/Honors/Awards: Hinds 4Site Instructor and Mentor (orientation “boot camp” for transitional freshmen); Hinds SMACC instructor (Students Making Academic and Career Choices, an experimental classroom to pilot and test innovative classroom teaching strategies).
Professional Affiliations: Hinds Community College Dropout Recovery Board; Historian, MS Association for Developmental Education; Modern Language Association; MS Two-Year College English Association; Hinds Community College Education Association
Civic Activities: Habitat for Humanity, Community Volunteer Tutor and Mentor
Spouse: Thomas Wasson, Jr.; Son: Matt Wasson (Leslie); Grandson: Andrew Wasson
Hometown: Starkville, MS and Raymond, MS
LILY (LILY FRAN) FRANCESCA MCCRARY
CLASS STANDING: Sophomore
MAJOR/MINOR FIELD OF STUDY: Pre-Med
GPA AND ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS TO DATE: 4.0 GPA; Chapter Reporter and Regional Reporter of the MS/LA Region, Phi Theta Kappa; President's Leadership Institute
CAREER GOALS: To become an OB/GYN and practice in rural MS.
HIGH SCHOOL: Central Holmes Christian School, Lexington, MS
FAMILY INFORMATION: Robin and Frankie McCrory
HOMETOWN: Lexington, MS

CINDY HARDEN DUGAN
TITLE/DEPARTMENT: Music and Piano Instructor, Fine Arts Department, Grenada campus
YEARS OF SERVICE AT THIS INSTITUTION: 12 years adjunct, 9 years full-time
YEARS OF SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 21
PUBLICATIONS/HONORS/AWARDS: MS Council of Humanities Teachers Award; Guest Pianist, MS Symphony Orchestra performance at Hinds Community College, Grenada campus
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: Charter President, Grenada Area Music Teachers Association; Adjudicator, National Piano Guild Association; Adjudicator, MS Music Teachers Association; Music Chairman, Alpha Phi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society for Women Educators; Music Educators National Association; MS Institute of Arts and Letters
CIVIC ACTIVITIES: Board Member, Grenada Arts Partnership: Grenada and Holmes Partner for the Arts
DAUGHTER: Dawn Dugan Looney; SON: Dr. Clayton H. Dugan
HOMETOWN: Grenada, MS
Mallory Grace Mahon

Class Standing: Sophomore
 Major/Minor Field of Study: Secondary Education-English
 GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; Valedictorian; STAR Student; Hall of Fame; President's List; Who's Who
 College Honors Held: Who's Who; All-USA nominee; Vice President of Fellowship, Phi Theta; Treasurer, Student Government Association; Regional Secretary for MS/LA region, Phi Theta Kappa
 Career Goals: I plan on transferring to the University of MS to finish my degree in English. After graduating, I hope to return to East Union as an English teacher while working to obtain my Master's degree. After finishing the Master's program, I hope to return to Itawamba Community College - Tupelo as an English instructor.

High School: East Union Attendance Center, Blue Springs, MS
 Family Information: Wayne and Rebecca Mahon
 Hometown: Blue Springs, MS

Laura M. Pannell

Title/Department: Lead eLearning Faculty, Psychology, Educational Psychology and Social Work
 Years of Service at this Institution: 8 years full time, 5 years part time
 Years of Service in Higher Education: 22
 Professional Affiliations: State Appointment, MS Leadership Council on Aging; North MS State Hospital Human Rights Advocacy Committee; MS AARP Executive Council; State Appointment, Alzheimer’s Planning Council, Department of Mental Health, State of MS; Immediate Past President, MS Gerontological Society
 Civic Activities: President, Benton/Union County United Methodist Church Cluster; President, Friends of North MS State Hospital; Co-Chair, 2014 Elder Consortium to provide Elder Awareness and Abuse Training to all State of MS Law Enforcement Academies
 Husband: Mark Pannell; Son: Matthew Pannell
 Hometown: New Albany, MS
HAROLD OWENS, III

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Chemistry
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.95 GPA; Dean's List; President’s List
College Honors Held: Best Sophomore and Junior Chemistry Student of the Year; 1st Place, Undergraduate Student Poster Presentation; 2nd Place, LSMAMP CSET Symposium Undergraduate Poster Presentation; 3rd Place, MS Academy of Sciences Undergraduate Poster Presentation
Career Goals: Receive my PhD in chemical engineering or materials science, and then make a living off of patented inventions/processes.
High School: Carmel High School, Carmel, IN
Family Information: Harold Owens, II and Cassie Owens
Hometown: Carmel, IN

ZIKRI ARSLAN

Title/Department: Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry
Years of Service at this Institution: 10
Years of Service in Higher Education: 10
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, Bogazici University, Istanbul/Turkey, 1993. Graduate: Master of Science, Chemistry, Bogazici University, Istanbul/Turkey, 1996; PhD, Analytical Chemistry, University of MA, 2000
Professional Affiliations: American Chemical Society; MS Academy of Sciences
Civic Activities: Vice-chair and Chair, MAS Marine and Atmospheric Sciences Division; Vice-chair and Chair, MAS Chemistry & Chemical Engineering Division; Judge of science fair/meeting; MS Blood Donor and Habitat for Humanity activities
Spouse: Songul Arslan; Children: Mehmet Emin Arslan and Aysegul Arslan
Hometown: Madison, MS
Rochelle Wagner

Class Standing: Sophomore  
Major/Minor Field of Study: Chemical Engineering  
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.93 GPA; Presidential Scholarship; Tullos Scholarship; Phi Theta Kappa; President’s Honor Roll  
College Honors Held: Hall of Fame; Who’s Who; Charles Pickering Honors Institute  
Career Goals: Obtain a bachelor’s degree and go to graduate school for chemical engineering.  
High School: D’Iberville High School, D’Iberville, MS  
Family Information: David and Sue Wagner  
Hometown: Biloxi, MS

Rick Bedwell

Title/Department: Chair/Instructor, Business and Technology Division  
Years of Service at this Institution: 16.5  
Years of Service in Higher Education: 16.5  
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Associate of Arts, Accounting, Jones County Junior College, 1992; BSBA, Accounting, University of Southern MS, 1994.  
Graduate: Master of Public Accountant, University of Southern MS, 1995  
Professional Affiliations: MS Society of CPAs; Education & Scholarship Committee, MSCPAA  
Civic Activities: Advisor, Southern Christian Student Center, Clothing Drive/Giveaway  
Spouse: Susan Bedwell; Daughters: Brittany Solomon and Bevin Luse; 4 grandchildren  
Hometown: Petal, MS


**Meridian Community College**

**Meridian, MS**

**President: Scott Elliott**

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**Timothy Jacob Hester**

**Class Standing:** Sophomore  
**Major/Minor Field of Study:** Criminology  
**GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date:** 4.0 GPA; Campus Police student assistant; Spaatz Award, Civil Air Patrol Cadet program, presented by Governor Phil Bryant; Taught aerospace education, leadership & teamwork classes, CAP; Search & Rescue volunteer, Air Force Auxiliary  
**College Honors Held:** President’s List; Phi Theta Kappa  
**Career Goals:** To obtain a Bachelor’s Degree in Criminology and obtain a position with the United States Marshal’s Office.  
**High School:** Home Schooled  
**Parents:** Doug and Sharon Hester  
**Hometown:** Meridian, MS

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**Angie Carraway**

**Title/Department:** Chemistry Instructor, Science and Wellness  
**Years of service at this institution:** 16  
**Years of Service in Higher Education:** 16  
**Academic Credentials:**  
- **Undergraduate:** Bachelor of Science, Chemistry, MS State University 1987.  
- **Graduate:** Master of Science, Forest Products, MS State University, 1990; Doctor of Philosophy, Chemistry, University of AL  
**Publications/Honors/Awards:** Clarence Roberts Teacher of the Year; Lamplighter participant; MCCer of the Month; Outstanding Wood Science and Technology Student; several articles published; several presentations made at local and regional meetings  
**Professional Affiliations:** Two-Year College Chemistry Consortium, American Chemical Society; Campus Coordinator, Meridian Community College for the MS NASA Space Grant Consortium  
**Civic Activities:** Faith Baptist Church; Calvary Christian School Booster Club; Volunteer reader, Oakland Heights Elementary School  
**Spouse:** Jonathan Carraway;  
**Children:** Joshua Carraway and Abby Carraway  
**Hometown:** Meridian, MS
TUNG HOANG

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Applied Mathematics with minor in Physics
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.924 GPA; William H. Tribette Award; First Prize, Student Team Competition and Third Prize, Student Research Paper, LA/MA Mathematical Association of America Meetings
College Honors Held: William H. Tribette Award; Ford Fellowship; Honors Research Project in Graph Theory; President’s List; Pi Mu Epsilon; Phi Eta Sigma
Career Goals: I want to be a professor of Applied Mathematics.
High School: School for Gifted Students. Hanoi National University of Education, Hanoi, Vietnam
Parents: Quang Hoang Minh and Hong Bui Thi
Hometown: Jackson, MS

WOLFGANG HERMANN KRAMER
Title/Department: Professor, Chemistry and Biochemistry
Years of Service at This Institution: 12
Years of Service in Higher Education: 14
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Candidatus Chemistry, University of Cologne, Germany, 1993. Graduate: Diplom Chemist University of Cologne, Germany, 1996; Dr. Rerum Naturalium University of Cologne, Germany, 2000
Publications/Honors/Awards: Author of 24 peer-reviewed scientific publications; Distinguished Professor Award; Numerous student presentations at national and international meetings; Research in Organic and Bioorganic Photochemistry
Professional Affiliations: Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (Fachgruppe Photochemie); American Chemical Society; Inter-American Photochemical Society; MS Biophysical Consortium; MS Academy of Sciences
Spouse: Bärbel Kramer; Children: Caroline Kramer and Felix Kramer
Hometown: Cologne, Germany
JOHN R WILSON, IV
Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Spanish with a minor in Teaching English as a Second language
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.8 GPA; Presidents List; Dean's List; Delta Epsilon Iota
College Honors Held: Mortar Board; Who's Who Among American College Students; President, Student Government Association
Career Goals: I would like to be an international medical missionary. I plan on attending MS College's Physician's Assistant Program after graduation.
High School: Millington Central High School, Millington, TN
Family Information: John and Michelle Wilson
Hometown: Millington, TN

PATRICIA WATKINS BENNETT
Title/Department: Professor, School of Law
Years of Service at this Institution: 25
Years of Service in Higher Education: 25
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Tougaloo College, 1975. Graduate: Doctorate Law, MS College School of Law, 1979
Publications/Honors/Awards: Susie Blue Buchanan Lifetime Achievement Award, MS Bar Women in the Profession; Hinds County Bar Outstanding Service Award; MS Outstanding Woman Lawyer of the Year Award; Professionalism in the Field of Law Award; MC Alumni Association Lawyer of the Year Award
Professional Affiliations: President, Charles Clark American Inn of Court; Trustee, The MS Bar Foundation; The MS Bar; The Magnolia Bar Association; Capital Area Bar Association
Civic Activities: Trustee, Morning Star Baptist Church; Leadership Greater Jackson Alumni Association
Spouse: Claude Brown; Children: Erskine Brown and Meghan Brown
Hometown: Clinton, MS
Christin Brooke Manor
Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: Undecided
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; A & P Award; Social Problems Award; Outstanding Scholastic Achievement for 4.0 GPA
College Honors Held: Vice President, Phi Theta Kappa
Career Goals: Graduate from MS Delta Community College with an Associate of Arts degree and continue my education at a university.
High School: Deer Creek School, Arcola, MS
Family Information: Reverend Dr. Jack and Gail Manor
Hometown: Hollandale, MS

Patti Parker Livingston
Title/Department: Division Chair, Health Science Programs
Years of Service at This Institution: 34
Years of Service in Higher Education: 34
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Nursing, University of MS Medical Center, 1979. Graduate: Master of Science, Nursing, University of MS Medical Center, 1982
Publications/Honors/Awards: MNA Foundation Nightingale Award, School of Nursing Administrator of the year; Spirit of Giving Award, MS Organization for Associate Degree Nurses; Lamplighter Award
Professional Affiliations: Certified Nurse Educator; Bylaws Committee Chair and Secretary, M-OADN Board
Civic Activities: Leland United Methodist Church
Spouse: Darrell Livingston; Children: Rex Livingston and Parker Livingston
Hometown: Leland, MS
Racheal Abigayle Nelson

Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: Chemical Engineering and Pre-med
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.88 GPA; Honor Student; President’s List; President’s List; Science Technology Engineering Mathematics Scholar; Valedictorian
College Honors Held: President, Phi Theta Kappa; Dowel Leadership Scholar; Alumni Foundation Scholar
Career Goals: After graduation from MS Gulf Coast Community College with an Associate of Engineering degree, I will transfer to the University of MS to receive a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree with a premedical emphasis. I will then attend the University of MS Medical Center to attain a Doctor of Medicine (MD) in Family Medicine.
High School: Gautier High School, Gautier, MS
Family Information: Gary Nelson and Kim Nelson
Hometown: Gautier, MS

Kathy Hariel Dedeaux

Title/Department: Mathematics Instructor / Mathematics, Computer Science and Academic Business Department Chairperson
Years of Service at this Institution: 16.75
Years of Service in Higher Education: 16.75
Publications/Honors/Awards: Master Trainer; NISOD Excellence Award; Employee of the Month; Instructor of the Year; Lamplighter
Professional Affiliations: American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges; MS Council of Teachers of Mathematics; MS Educational Computing Association, MS Faculty Association
Civic Activities: Community Baptist Church; Contributor, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, American Red Cross and Samaritan’s Purse
Children: Wesley Dedeaux and Randy Dedeaux; Granddaughter: Emilie Dedeaux
Hometown: Poplarville, MS
Brett Russell Harris

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing and Management
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.41 GPA; MS State University Distinguished Scholarship Finalist; MS State University Stennis Scholarship Finalist
College Honors Held: President and Chief Programming Officer, Student Association; Chair, IHL Student Body President’s Council; Lambda Sigma
Career Goals: Upon graduation from MS State University, I would like to pursue a career in marketing.
High School: Florence High School, Florence, MS
Family Information: Richard and Rhonda Harris
Hometown: Florence, MS

Randolph F. Follett

Title/Department: Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Bagley College of Engineering
Years of Service at this Institution: 30
Years of Service in Higher Education: 30
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering, MS State University, 1982. Graduate: Master of Science, Electrical Engineering, MS State University; 1984 Doctor of Philosophy, Electrical Engineering, MS State University, 1988
Professional Affiliations: Senior Member, Institute of Electrical and Computer Engineers; American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics; President, American Society of Engineering Educators; Robert Holland Faculty Senate; National Board of Directors, MS State University Alumni Association
Civic Activities: Assistant Scoutmaster, Boy Scout Troop 45; Knights of Columbus; President, St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Council
Wife: Melissa; Children: Forrest, Victoria, Anna, and Ethan
Hometown: Starkville, MS
Janette Hreish

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Pathology/Psychology
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; Mortar Board; Phi Kappa Phi; Lantern Honor Society; President’s List
College Honors Held: President, National Speech-Language Hearing Association; President, Vice President, and Social Chair, Lockheart Social Club; Chaplain, Masker Honorary Social Club; Charter Member, International Justice Mission
Career Goals: To be admitted to graduate studies and complete a Master degree in speech-language pathology. After formal education, work in the school system assisting students with communication issues. Also, I hope to use my English as a Second Language certification to accommodate students or individuals who are experiencing difficulty conquering the use of the English language. Ultimately, open a private practice in speech-language pathology.
High School: New Hope High School, Columbus, MS
Parents: Sam and Sameera Hreish
Hometown: Columbus, MS

Mary Jo Kuykendall Kirkpatrick

Title/Department: Assistant Professor and Chair, Associate of Science in Nursing Program, Department of Associate Degree Nursing
Years of Service at this Institution: 38.5
Years of Service in Higher Education: 38.5
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Nursing, University of MS Medical Center, 1975. Graduate: Master of Science, Nursing, MS University for Women, 1978
Publications/Honors/Awards: School of Nursing Administrator of the Year Award, MS Nurses Association; MS University for Women Faculty of the Year Award; MS University for Women Kossen Faculty Excellence Award; National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing Faculty Walk of Honor; Aschenbrenner, D.S. et al and M.J. Kirkpatrick, “Drug Therapy in Nursing Test Bank”, 3rd Edition, Lippincott, Philadelphia, PA 2008
Professional Affiliations: Committee Chair, National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing; Past President, MS Organization for Associate Degree Nursing; MS Nurses Association; Sigma Theta Tau International, Zeta Rho Chapter; National League for Nursing
Civic Activities: Board of Directors, Quality Committee Chair, Compensation Committee, Executive Committee and Special Physician Credentialing Committee, Methodist/LeBonheur Healthcare System; Traumatic Life, Inc., of Lowndes County
Spouse: William W. Kirkpatrick; Children: Paul W. Kirkpatrick and Mary Kathryn Williamson
Hometown: Amory, MS
Thaddeus Vincent McClinton, Jr.

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Political Science, Sociology, and Criminal Justice Majors / Military Science Minor
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.7 GPA; Dean's List; Distinguished Scholar
College Honors Held: Mock Trial Team; Pre-Law Club; Pi Sigma Alpha; Alpha Chi; Alpha Kappa Mu; Mr. Senior, The Royal Court
Career Goals: It is my plan to commission into the United States Army National Guard as a 2nd Lieutenant and go on to law school at Washington and Lee School of Law, which is a private law school located in Lexington, Virginia. After the completion of law school, it is my goal to become a criminal defense attorney. Now because I know that things do not always go as planned, my alternate plan is to commission into the United States Army as a 2nd Lieutenant rotary wing pilot and later become a Judge Advocate General (J.A.G) for the United States Army.
High School: Whitehaven High School, Memphis, TN
Family Information: Thaddeus McClinton, Sr. and Tanya Barnes
Hometown: Memphis, TN

Larry Wayne Chappell
Title/Department: Professor, Political Science, Department of Social Sciences
Years of Service at this Institution: 26
Years of Service in Higher Education: 30
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Minor in History, University of AL, 1973. Graduate: Master of Arts, Political Science, University of AL, 1975; Doctor of Philosophy, Political Science, Minor in Philosophy, LA State University, 1982
Professional Affiliations: Chair, Committee on Civic Education and Engagement, American Political Science Association; President, MS Political Science Association; Associate Editor, Southeastern Political Review
Civic Activities: Adviser, PI Sigma Alpha; Adviser, Pre-Law Club. Coach, Mock Trial Team; Organize the making and distribution of Easter baskets for a local nursing home
Hometown: Sycamore, AL
Dalton Ross Smith

Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: Mechanical Engineering
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.9 GPA; Treasurer, National Honor Society; MHSAA Scholar-Athlete Award; MS Scholar; Hall of Fame
College Honors Held: ACT Scholarship; President’s List; Officer, Phi Theta Kappa; Representative, Student Government Association; Northeast MS Community College Football Team
Career Goals: I plan to further my education at MS State University. After I graduate, I hope to get a job working as an Engineer for Toyota.
High School: Booneville High School, Booneville, MS
Family Information: Chris and Kim Smith
Hometown: Booneville, MS

Thomas D. Cockrell

Title/Department: Instructor, History
Years of Service at this Institution: 7
Years of Service in Higher Education: 36
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Social Studies Education, MS State University, 1971. Graduate: Master of Arts, History, MS State University, 1981; Doctor of Philosophy, History, MS State University, 1989
Publications/Honors/Awards: Chickasaw, A Mississippi Scout for the Union: A Civil War Memoir by Levi H. Naron (LSU Press, 2005); A Mississippi Rebel in the Army of Northern Virginia: The Civil War Memoirs of Private David Holt (LSU Press, 1995); Chapter “Patriots of Traitors: Unionists in Civil War Mississippi” in Of Times and Race (UP of MS, 2013); Numerous articles and book reviews in professional journals
Professional Affiliations: Board of Directors, MS Historical Society; Executive Board Member, Tippah County Historical Museum
Civic Activities: Ripley Arts Council; Ripley Main Street; Ripley Lions Club
Spouse: Rhonda S. Cockrell
Hometown: Ripley, MS
Keenan Lanae Arntson
Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: Psychology and Exercise Science
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.76 GPA
College Honors Held: President, Phi Theta Kappa; President, Gamma Beta Phi
Career Goals: I aim to become a Sport’s Psychologist and Physical Trainer.
High School: Oxford High School, Oxford, MS
Family Information: Janel and Bryan Arntson
Hometown: Oxford, MS

Renee Young O’Neill
Title/Department: Professor, English
Years of Service at This Institution: 11
Years of Service in Higher Education: 11
Professional Affiliations: Two Year College English Association of MS
Civic Activities: Soccer mom!
Spouse: Mike O’Neill; Children: Lucas and Griffin O’Neill
Hometown: Oxford, MS
SHANNON KELLY FARMER
CLASS STANDING: Freshman
MAJOR/MINOR FIELD OF STUDY: Nursing
GPA AND ACADEMIC RECOGNITIONS TO DATE: 3.7 GPA; Phi Theta Kappa
CAREER GOALS: I want to enter the Registered Nurse Program at Pearl River Community College and possibly further my education after graduating from the program.
HIGH SCHOOL: Hattiesburg High School, Hattiesburg, MS
FAMILY INFORMATION: Gary and Kathy Kelly
HOMETOWN: Hattiesburg, MS

AMANDA THIGPEN PARKER
TITLE/DEPARTMENT: Chair, Science and Health Department
YEARS OF SERVICE AT THIS INSTITUTION: 6
YEARS OF SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 7
ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Biological Sciences, University of Southern MS, 2002. Graduate: Doctor of Philosophy, Biochemistry, University of Southern MS, 2008
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: MS Community College Leadership Association; MS Science Teachers Association; American Society Biochemistry and Molecular Biology; MS Academy of Sciences
HUSBAND: Adam Parker; DAUGHTER: Kara Parker
HOMETOWN: Angie, LA
Steve Street

Class Standing: Third Year
Major/Minor Field of Study: Marriage and Family Therapy
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.5 GPA
Career Goals: Pastor, Trace Ridge Baptist Church, Ridgeland, MS
High School: Caldwell High School, Columbus, MS
Other Colleges: Bachelor of Arts, MS College, 1982; Master of Divinity, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 1987; Doctor of Ministry, Fuller Theological Seminary, 2001
Wife: Christy Street
Hometown: Columbus MS

Michael George McKelvey

Title/Department: Professor, Old Testament Assistant
Years of Service at This Institution: 5
Years of Service in Higher Education: 6
Publications/Honors/Awards: Moses, David and the High Kingship of Yahweh: A Canonical Study of Book IV of the Psalter (Piscataway, NJ: Gorgias Press, 2010); RTS/Zondervan Hebrew Award; Fairbairn Honors Scholarship for Hebrew
Professional Affiliations: Evangelical Theological Society; Tyndale Fellowship, Tyndale House, Cambridge, United Kingdom
Spouse: Mary Alice; Children: William and Breanne
Hometown: Semmes, AL
**Rust College**

**Holly Springs, MS**

**President: David L. Beckley**

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**Tenecia Yvonne Williams**

**Class Standing:** Senior  
**Major/Minor Field of Study:** Business Administration/Accounting  
**GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date:** 3.1 GPA  
**Career Goals:** To become a Certified Public Accountant and own my own business.  
**High School:** Homewood Flossmoor High School, Flossmoor, IL  
**Family Information:** Tinera Williams Briscoe Watson, Sr.  
**Hometown:** Chicago, IL

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**Hilda Booker Williams**

**Title/Department:** Assistant Professor, English, Humanities Division  
**Years of Service at this Institution:** 2.5  
**Years of Service in Higher Education:** 31  
**Academic Credentials:**  
- Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, English, Rust College, 1969.  
**National Collegiate Education Award; Excellence in Honors Teaching Award**  
**Professional Affiliations:** National Council of Teachers of English; Association for the Study of African American Life and History; National Education Association; National Association of Multicultural Education; Chapter Secretary, American Society for Training and Development  
**Civic Activities:** Coordinated and hosted “Meet the Political Candidates Night” at Beulah Baptist Church, Memphis, TN; Shelby County Government Oral Examination Review Board for Sheriff Department Promotions; AARP; Neighborhood Watch; Co-Chair, Beulah Baptist Church’s Adopt-A-School Program; Chair, Beulah Baptist Church’s Memphis Food Bank Drive  
**Spouse:** Dr. Charles Williams; **Children:** Dr. Elizabeth Ann Williams and Charles Christopher Williams  
**Hometown:** Lexington, MS
Joshua Matthew Daniels
Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Church Ministry
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.37 GPA; Who's Who Among College Students
College Honors Held: Dean's List
Career Goals: To guide and lead others to know Christ and have a better understanding and application of God's Word.
High School: Hancock High School, Kiln, MS
Other Colleges: Southern AR University, Magnolia, AR
Hometown: Necaise Crossing in Hancock County, MS

Eric Bruce Estes
Title/Department: Instructor, Oral Communications; Evangelism
Years of Service at this Institution: 3
Years of Service in Higher Education: 3
Professional Affiliations: Pastor, Summerland Baptist Church
Spouse: Maria Estes; Children: Andrea Thornton (husband Shane) and Wil Estes
Hometown: Laurel, MS
Justin Randall McCray

Class Standing: Sophomore
Major/Minor Field of Study: General Studies
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.615 GPA; Phi Theta Kappa; Dean's List

College Honors Held: Men's Basketball; President, Student Government Association; Class President; Bear Trackers; Fellowship of Christian Athletes; Campus Favorite; Mr. Southwest MS Community College

Career Goals: Get accepted into The University of MS Medical Center School of Dentistry and eventually open my own practice.

High School: Ridgeland High School, Ridgeland, MS

Family Information: Clintis and Shelia McCray

Hometown: Ridgeland, MS

Deanna Jo Waltman Martin

Title/Department: Business and Marketing Management Program Director/Instructor, DECA Advisor, Business & Marketing Department

Years of Service at this Institution: 10

Years of Service in Higher Education: 10

Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Associate of Arts, Distribution & Marketing, Jones County Junior College, 1985; Bachelor of Science, Clothing Merchandising/Marketing, University of Southern MS, 1986. Graduate: Certified Facilitator for Development Dimensions International

Publications/Honors/Awards: Post-Secondary MS Association of Marketing Educators Teacher of the Year; Collegiate DECA International Advisor of the Year; Who's Who Among American Junior/Community Colleges; Jumping Mustangs Award of Gratitude, 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry (Airborne, Air Mobile, Air Assault) Vietnam Veterans Chapter “Jumping Mustangs” 1st Cavalry Division; Phi Theta Kappa

Professional Affiliations: MS Professional Educators; MS Association of Marketing Educators; MS Collegiate DECA; Lifetime member; Southwest MS Community College Alumni Association; DECA Inc.

Civic Activities: Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child Community Relations Southeast District Team; New Covenant Presbyterian Church; Coordinator, New Covenant Operation Christmas Child; Taught catechism, Vacation Bible School and Pioneer Club classes; New Covenant Presbyterian Church; Volunteer/support, Crisis Pregnancy Center; WINGS; MICA; United Givers of Southwest MS; Mission MS; Pike County Recycling Project and Christian Food Mission

Husband: Randy Martin; Children: Lauren Martin Cole, Kelsey Martin and Madison Martin

Hometown: Laurel, MS
Kiera S. Bronson

Class Standing: Junior  
Major/Minor Field of Study: Mass Communications  
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.79 GPA; Salutatorian; Honor Roll  
College Honors Held: Excellent Academic Achievement; Alpha Lambda Delta  
Career Goals: To be a Sports Reporter for a news station.  
High School: Lanier High School, Jackson, MS  
Family Information: Janice Marie Bronson and Gus S. Bronson  
Hometown: Jackson, MS

Karios Sanders

Title/Department: Assistant Professor  
Years of Service at this Institution: 5  
Years of Service in Higher Education: 8  
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Broadcast Production, Jackson State University, 1996-1999. Graduate: Master of Arts, Film Production, Chapman University, 2000-2003  
Publications/Honors/Awards: 1st place, investigative reporting, and 1st place, best public affairs reporting, MS AP Broadcasters  
Civic Activities: Summer Mentor, Dream Builders Entrepreneurship Institute, Hinds Community College, Utica campus  
Hometown: Vicksburg, MS
Davis Lane Rogers

Class Standing: Senior
Major/Minor Field of Study: Physics
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; Taylor Medal; IFC Academic and Leadership Excellence Award; Phi Kappa Phi; Phi Beta Kappa
College Honors Held: Freshman Leader of the Year, Omicron Delta Kappa; Columns Society
Career Goals: Currently applying to attend medical school in the hopes of starting a career in medicine.
High School: Jackson Academy, Jackson, MS
Family Information: Jonathan & Dara Rogers
Hometown: Jackson, MS

Ann Welpton Fisher-Wirth

Title/Department: Professor, English
Years of service at this institution: 26
Years of service in higher education: 35
Publications/Honors/Awards: Dream Cabinet (poems), Wings Press, 2012; Carta Marina (poems), Wings Press, 2009; The Ecopoetry Anthology (coeditor), Trinity University Press, 2013); Elsie M. Hood Award; Fulbright Distinguished Chair of American Studies, Uppsala University, Sweden
Professional Affiliations: President, Association for the Study of Literature and Environment; Fulbright Senior Lectureship, Fribourg University, Switzerland; Secretary/treasurer, William Carlos Williams Society; Associated Writing Programs; Modern Language Association
Civic Activities: Teach yoga, Southern Star Yoga Studio; Directs the Environmental Studies minor
Husband: Peter Wirth; Children: Pascale Fisher, Jessica Fisher, Lucas Fisher, Rebecca Wirth and Caleb Fisher-Wirth
Hometown: Berkeley, CA and Oxford, MS
Suzanna Ellzey Nida

Class Standing: Fourth Year
Major/Minor Field of Study: Dentistry
GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 3.91 GPA; American Association of Public Health Dentistry Student Merit Award; Dr. William S. Kramer Award of Excellence; Hinman Scholar; Schilig Scholarship; Hembree Honor Society; Champion, Rural Interdisciplinary Case Experience Bowl; Dr. Zandra Dorr Klein Memorial Scholarship; Dr. Jeffrey Alexander Memorial Pre-Clinical Achievement Award; Dental Physiology Award
College Honors Held: USM National Merit Presidential Scholar; USM Leadership Scholar; HEADWAE Outstanding Student Honoree, USM; Physical Chemistry Award and Biochemistry Award, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry; Study Abroad Award and Emerging Leader Award, Phi Kappa Phi; USM Outstanding Freshman; Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges; Golden Key International; Study Abroad Scholarship; USM Honors College Study Abroad Scholarship; Order of Omega; Honors College Ambassador; Lambda Sigma
Career Goals: After graduating from dental school, I plan to apply for a residency in Orthodontics.
High School: Oak Grove High School, Hattiesburg, MS
Other Colleges: Bachelor of Science and Master of Science, University of Southern MS
Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Burke Ellzey; Spouse: Dr. Andrew Nida
Hometown: Hattiesburg, MS

John B. Smith

Title/Department: Associate Professor, Care Planning and Restorative Sciences and Assistant Dean for Admissions, University of MS School of Dentistry
Years of Service at this Institution: 10
Years of Service in Higher Education: 10
Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, Biology, MS College, 1973. Graduate: Doctor of Dental Medicine, Summa Cum Laude, University of MS School of Dentistry, 1979
Publications/Honors/Awards: Part-Time Faculty Awards; All-Star Faculty Teaching Awards; Norman C. Nelson Order of Teaching Excellence; School of Dentistry Dental Alumnus of the Year
Professional Affiliations: American Dental Association; MS Dental Association; American College of Dentists; American Dental Education Association; Omicron Kappa Upsilon
Civic Activities: Past president, Rotary Club; Past president, Chamber of Commerce; Past president, University of MS School of Dentistry Dental Alumni Association; Board of Directors, Bank of Forest
Spouse: Diane Nations Smith; Children: Tyler Smith, Thomas Smith and Taylor Smith
Hometown: Forest, MS
Hannah Camille Roberts

Class Standing: Senior

Major/Minor Field of Study: Chemistry major; emphasis in biochemistry/biology minor

GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date: 4.0 GPA; National Goldwater Scholar; Presidential Scholar; General chemistry, organic chemistry, and analytical chemistry awards

College Honors Held: Outstanding Freshman Female Finalist, Miss University of Southern MS; Eagle Connection; Golden Eagle Welcome Week Crew; Phi Kappa Phi; Greek Awards Outstanding Community Servant

Career Goals: General Surgeon

High School: Sumrall High School, Sumrall, MS

Family Information: James and Danna Roberts

Hometown: Mount Olive, MS

Robin Aronson Carr

Title/Department: Associate Professor, Voice and Acting, Department of Theatre, College of Arts and Letters

Years of Service at this Institution: 12.5

Years of Service in Higher Education: 16

Academic Credentials: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, Theatre, MI State University, 1995. Graduate: Master of Fine Arts, Acting, University of CT, 1998

Publications/Honors/Awards: Shakespeare Acting Certificate, Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, London, England; Certified Lessac Voice and Body Trainer; Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival; Excellence in Directing Awards for Rent, Smokey Joe’s Cafe and Ragtime; Excellence in Higher Education Award, MS Alliance for Arts Education; I have taught Lessac Voice and Body Workshops in Australia, Philippines, England, Ireland and Austria including the prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art in Sydney, Australia and Nationally at Carnegie Mellon School of Drama Aubrey Lucas and Ella Ginn Faculty Endowment for Excellence Award.

Professional Affiliations: Actor’s Equity Association; Voice and Speech Trainer’s Association, President-Elect, Lessac Training and Research Institute; Past Chair, Voice and Speech Committee, Southeastern Theatre Conference International Center for Voice

Civic Activities: Offered Voice and Body Workshops as a part of supporting the Healthy 100 Campaign at Southern MS; Pine Belt Pacers

Husband: Matthew W. Carr

Hometown: Hattiesburg, MS
AVA SANCHEZ HARVEY
CLASS STANDING: Senior
MAJOR/MINOR FIELD OF STUDY: Pastoral Ministry
COLLEGE HONORS HELD: Presidential Scholar; Newton Award; Student Marshal
CAREER GOALS: To be the best pastor that I can be.
HIGH SCHOOL: Brandon High School, Brandon, MS
OTHER COLLEGES: Associate of Arts, Electronics, Hinds Community College, 1991;
Bachelor of Arts, Business Administration, Cum Laude, Jackson State University, 2001
WIFE: Leslee Butler Harvey
HOMETOWN: Brandon, MS

CAREY BAILEY VINZANT
TITLE/DEPARTMENT: Assistant Professor, Systematic and Historical Theology
YEARS OF SERVICE AT THIS INSTITUTION: 2
YEARS OF SERVICE IN HIGHER EDUCATION: 4
ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS: Undergraduate: Bachelor of Arts, MS College, 1994.
Graduate: Master of Divinity, Missions, Wesley Biblical Seminary, 1999; Ph.D.,
Systematic Theology, Concordia Seminary, 2010
PUBLICATIONS/HONORS/AWARDS: Edited and written material for Concordia
Publishing House, Creative Communications for the Parish, and for other
Christian publishers.
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS: Several papers were produced, Evangelical
Theological Society; American Cusanus Society
WIFE: Allene Rose Vinzant; SON: Patrick Bailey Vinzant
HOMETOWN: Raymond, MS
**Mihaela Florescu**

**Class Standing:** Senior  
**Major/Minor Field of Study:** Biology/Chemistry  
**GPA and Academic Recognitions to Date:** 4.0 GPA; President’s List  
**College Honors Held:** “Charles Pickering” Honors Institute  
**Career Goals:** Medical School – Becoming a doctor  
**High School:** Liceul Teoretic Boris Dinga, Criuleni, Moldova  
**Other Colleges:** Jones County Junior College  
**Family Information:** Sergiu Florescu and Ana Florescu  
**Home Town:** Criuleni, Moldova

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**Brett T. Golson**

**Title/Department:** Chair, Christian Ministries Department; Assistant professor, Religion; Director, Holloway Center  
**Years of Service at this Institution:** 2.5  
**Years of Service in Higher Education:** 4  
**Academic Credentials:** Undergraduate: Bachelor of Science, History, University of Southern MS; Bachelor of Arts, Religion, William Carey University, 1996.  
**Graduate:** Master of Divinity, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2003; Master of Theology, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2005; Ph.D., Preaching, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 2008  
**Publications/Honors/Awards:** President, MS Baptist Pastor’s Conference; Faculty Member of the Year  
**Wife:** Karen M. Golson; **Children:** Anthony Golson (wife Liz), Tyler Golson (wife Bet), Sara Golson and Caleb Golson  
**Hometown:** Columbia, MS
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