

University of Mississippi

eGrove

Education Newsletters

Education, School of

2013

Education News 2012-2013

University of Mississippi. School of Education

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ed_edge



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

University of Mississippi. School of Education, "Education News 2012-2013" (2013). *Education Newsletters*. 4.

https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ed_edge/4

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Education, School of at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Education Newsletters by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.

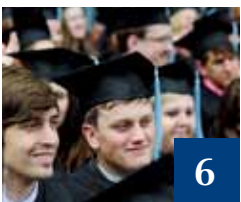
EDUCATION NEWS



10

Virtual Classroom

TeachLive pilot program allows UM students to train with interactive avatars. Pictured: Shannon Green, Class of 2014



6

METP



9

Hearin grants



12

Faculty news

534
degrees
awarded
during
2012-2013
academic year

99%
of Principal
Corps
graduates
receive
job offers

\$13
million in
external
research
funding

1st
and only
play therapy
degree in
the nation

The University of Mississippi School of Education



reaches beyond its walls in a big way!

No. 1
producer of
teachers and
educational
leaders in
Mississippi

Top-50
institution
for online
master's
degrees by
*U.S. News and
World Report*

100%
of special
education
graduates
receive
job offers

26%
increase in
enrollment
in the last
five years



Dear Friends,

On May 11, we honored 534 students receiving undergraduate or graduate degrees from the Ole Miss School of Education. As Mississippi's largest producer of teachers and educational leaders, we foster the belief that every dedicated educator can impact the lives of thousands.

I'm proud to say the seeds we've planted in the last year could positively impact every school in Mississippi and beyond for years. As friends and distinguished alumni, it's my pleasure to share this 2012-2013 annual newsletter with you.

We're recruiting top-performers. With a \$12.9 million grant from the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation, we've teamed up with Mississippi State University to create the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program. In the next five years, we will work together to train 160 of the nation's most talented high school graduates to become secondary English or mathematics teachers in Mississippi with one of the most valuable scholarships ever offered in our state.

Our funding continues to grow. In the last year, the School of Education has received more than \$13 million in external funding to develop our existing programs and create new curricula in early childhood education.

We're at the forefront of technology. This year, every junior education student in our school received the opportunity to use our TeachLive classroom. For the first time, our preservice teachers can practice instruction with student avatars programmed to behave and learn like real children. Our education majors apply theory to practice even before student teaching.

Thank you for your support of our school and education everywhere.

Sincerely,

Dr. David Rock
Dean, School of Education
The University of Mississippi

Dean
Dr. David Rock
rock@go.olemiss.edu

Associate Dean
Dr. Amy Wells Dolan
aewells@olemiss.edu

Director of Development
John Festervand
jfestervand@umfoundation.com

Editor
Andrew M. Abernathy
amaberna@go.olemiss.edu

Designer
Stefanie Goodwillier
slgoodwi@olemiss.edu

Copy Editor
Benita Whitehorn
benita@olemiss.edu

Editorial Assistant
Jerra A. Scott
jascott2@go.olemiss.edu

YEAR IN REVIEW

AUGUST



School of Education expands use of TeachLive virtual reality teaching program as part of a national pilot. UM is one of only 19 universities in the TeachLive national pilot.

The Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation awards the School of Education five grants totaling more than \$5.7 million to enhance programs, start early childhood education curriculum.

OCTOBER

SEPTEMBER

UM's World Class Teaching Program achieves record enrollment with 172 North Mississippi teachers working toward national board certification.



2012



JANUARY

Ole Miss and Mississippi State University announce an unprecedented partnership funded with \$12.9 million from the Robert Hearin Support Foundation to start the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program.



FEBRUARY

Center for Mathematics and Science Education prepares to host Mississippi's first statewide high school robotics tournament.

U.S. News and World Report ranks UM School of Education as top 50 institution for online graduate education.

MARCH

More than 200 education students from UM's DeSoto, Grenada, Oxford and Tupelo campuses visit Birmingham for the School of Education's 2013 Rebel Road Trip. Students toured the Civil Rights Institute, the 16th Street Baptist Church and the McWane Science Center.



NOVEMBER

Science education professor Dr. Joe Sumrall receives 2012 Outstanding Mississippi College Science Teacher Award from Mississippi Science Teacher Association.

UM's Child Advocacy and Play Therapy Institute moves from Guyton Hall to the newly built Insight Park, more than doubling its capacity to provide play therapy services for children.

DECEMBER



2013

APRIL

National Teacher of the Year Rebecca Mielowocki visits UM education students and faculty in Oxford and DeSoto.

MAY

During commencement, 534 degrees are conferred to both undergraduate and graduate students from the School of Education.





Jay Levy

Alumnus Leads Students to Top Scores

Coming from a family of educators, Jay Levy (B.A.Ed. '11) had no doubt about what he wanted to do in life—become a teacher. His determination was so great that even a paralyzing car accident couldn't shake the 2011 graduate's resolve.

During his first year of teaching, the Madison native led his 53 students at Pisgah High School in Brandon to a 98.1 percent pass rate on the English II Subject Area Test. Their scores blew away the Rankin County School District average of 80 percent and the state average of 73 percent, according to data from the Mississippi Department of Education. The Pisgah students' pass rate is the highest in Mississippi, an honor not often associated with Title I schools, where more than 50 percent of students receive free or reduced lunches.

"Many people expect our students to perform low on tests," Levy said. "I don't adhere to any of those thoughts. At Ole Miss, they were adamant that all students can learn. That's probably the most important thing I took away from college, and I try to apply that to my own classroom."

To help his students gain a deeper appreciation for literature, ranging from Shakespeare to his favorite novel, John Steinbeck's *Of Mice and Men*, Levy searches for ways to relate the material to students' lives. Projects can range from writing narratives from the perspectives of characters in books to creating Facebook pages for Romeo, Juliet and a whole cast of classic characters.

"It's a way to trick the students into a deeper level of learning," Levy said.

UM, MSU Establish Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program

Imagine the impact 160 outstanding new teachers could make in Mississippi—it could be huge.

In a state where approximately 62 percent of children graduate from high school, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, and poverty has a direct affect on student achievement, 160 exceptional educators could make a drastic impact on the state's educational and economic future.

Since January, the School of Education has joined forces with Mississippi State University to recruit and train just such a group over the next five years as part of the new Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program (METP), an all-inclusive scholarship for top-performing students with ambitions of teaching in Mississippi.

UM's first cohort will include at least 15 freshmen from across the Southeast with an average high school GPA of 4.01 and an average ACT score of 28.5. Each UM recruit will also join the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College.

"The quality of this first cohort is exceptional," said UM METP director Dr. Ryan Niemeyer. "We're seeing incredibly bright, young people coming to us because they believe education is important."

Funded by a \$12.9 million grant from the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation, the program provides up to four years of tuition, room and board, study abroad and more.

Each student will study secondary English or mathematics education. The demand for teachers in these areas is expected to grow in coming years as Mississippi adopts new Common Core standards. Each student makes a commitment to teach in Mississippi for five years after graduation.

"It's an honor to be part of the first class because we will help set a standard for this program," said incoming METP mathematics education recruit Ben Logan, a Sherman native. "Being a teacher has always been something I've thought about doing. For me, this opportunity really made the difference in pursuing that goal."

While many education majors do not begin formal teacher training until their junior year of college, METP students will be immersed in the theories of learning and teaching from their first semester at Ole Miss. Each summer, students from both campuses will come together for seminars taught by faculty at both institutions. During summer 2015, the group has plans to study abroad to gain multicultural perspectives on education.

"I've always loved the opportunity to stand in front of people and lead them through a problem," said incoming METP English education recruit Kaye Whitfield, a Birmingham, Ala., native. "I want the opportunity to help improve people's lives. It means so much to have this opportunity and receive the best training possible."





Willie Price Lab School Receives \$25,000 Endowment

Retired UM educator Lynton Dille (M.A. '61) has established a legacy of learning at Ole Miss with a \$25,000 donation to create a new endowment to support Willie Price Lab School.

The Norman Edward and Lynton Sullivan Dille Endowment, named after Dille and her late husband, is the first endowment ever created for the 43-year-old pre-kindergarten school and will help cover day-to-day costs. In the coming year, the school will seek additional donations to increase the new endowment.

"I knew Willie Price," said Dille, a School of Education faculty member from 1966 to 1991. "This is a happy place. I'm glad I have this gift to give."

Programming at the school provides a variety of learning activities for 3- and 4-year-old students, including visiting storytellers as part of its Mystery Reader program, hands-on experiences in a vegetable learning garden, petting zoos, physical education classes and a constantly evolving curriculum designed to help children learn and prepare for kindergarten.



Major Gift Establishes Griffin IMPACT Awards, Scholarship

A \$125,000 gift from longtime UM benefactors Ed and Jan Trehern (B.A.Ed. '78) will create monetary awards and a scholarship fund for the School of Education to recognize students who display a commitment to excellence in education.

The Griffin Family Endowment, established in March, was created in honor of Jan's parents Ralph and Jerry Griffin of Pascagoula, and will fund the annual Griffin Family Education IMPACT Awards and the Griffin Family Scholarship.

"My mother worked in the Pascagoula public school system and my parents put me through the School of Education at Ole Miss," said Jan. "Education has been a priority in our family for a long time, and my husband and I wanted to do something here in their honor."

Previously, the Treherns have given major gifts totaling more than \$1 million to support Ole Miss athletic facilities. The Griffin Endowment is the couple's first major gift to the UM School of Education.

Beginning in the spring semester of 2014, exceptional education students will be chosen for the IMPACT Awards. In addition to recognition at the school's annual awards ceremony each May, the four recipients will receive \$1,000. The Griffin Scholarship, also worth \$1,000, will be awarded next fall.

Top left: Lynton Dille (center right) met with education dean Dr. David Rock (right) and Willie Price director Dr. Angela Rutherford (center left) and assistant director Tamara Hilmer during a visit to Willie Price last March. **Top right:** Ralph and Jerry Griffin (left) and Jan and Ed Trehern (right) gather at the Memory House during a visit to UM in April. **Bottom left:** Pre-K teacher Olivia Pasterchick leads a class of 3- and 4-year-olds at Willie Price Lab School.



Microprocessor Inventor Ray Holt Finds New Passion in Teaching

Recent UM graduate Raymond Holt (M.A.C.I. '13) dramatically influenced the worlds of computer science and flight in 1970 when he invented the world's first microprocessor chip, a technological leap that enabled the U.S. military to run the first flight control system in the F-14 Tomcat.

Forty-three years later, the retired Silicon Valley computer designer, whose invention design was declassified in 1998, is using his engineering experience to teach children in Mount Olive about science and robotics. He also has completed the requirements for a Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction (M.A.C.I) degree as a graduate fellow at the Center for Mathematics and Science Education.

After moving to Mississippi in 2011, Holt began working with Mount Olive Ministries in Mount Olive. The nonprofit provides educational opportunities for area youth. After joining UM, Holt established a Mount Olive robotics team to spark an interest in engineering in the children. During the first-ever statewide high school robotics competition hosted by the CMSE in March, Holt's group, dubbed Team Purple Thunder, took first and second place in different categories. In late April, the team competed against 128 other robotics teams from 28 countries in the FIRST World Robotics Championship in St. Louis.



Bottom left: UM alumnus Raymond Holt holds the prototype of the world's first microprocessor chip, which he invented in 1970. **Top right:** Two high school students from Jackson Prep navigate their own robot during the statewide robotics tournament hosted by the CMSE in March.



CMSE Hosts Mississippi's First Statewide Robotics Tournament

More than 20 robots and their student designers visited UM in March for the inaugural FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics Tournament hosted by the Center for Mathematics and Science Education.

The tournament pitted student teams from across Mississippi against one another in a game called Ring It Up! During the game, students piloted their robots to pick up rings from dispensers and place them in a grid to score points. All robots were designed within set dimensions and used a Lego Mindstorm NXT robot "brain" to maneuver the device.

"This whole competition started as an afterschool program for students," said Mannie Lowe, the center's program manager and coordinator of the event. "When each team began in September, they started from square one. They got to imagine their robot and see it come together and now see how it performs against others."

The event took place at the university's Jackson Avenue Center. Two Mississippi teams, the Techno Warriors Advanced from Brandon and the Team Purple Thunder from Mount Olive, moved on to compete in the FTC World Championship in St. Louis on April 24 against 128 teams from around the world.

Most teams included 10 students ranging from seventh to 12th grade. Students worked alongside mentors to design and build robots using mathematics and science concepts. The competition shows an increase in awareness of robotics across the state. The number of registered Mississippi teams has risen from four to 23 in just one year. The tournament is supported by the For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, or FIRST, organization based in Manchester, N.H.

\$5.7 Million Boosts Programs, Starts Early Childhood Program

Five grants totaling more than \$5.7 million from the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation were awarded to the School of Education last fall to expand existing programs and build new curricula in early childhood education.

The monies included a grant for \$1.1 million to hire three new faculty members specializing in pre-kindergarten education. These new faculty will design a new master's degree and an undergraduate emphasis in pre-K education. Additionally, existing programs and centers received funding, including:



Center for Excellence in Literacy Instruction: \$1.5 million

CELI hired two new literacy specialists in 2013 with plans to expand outreach programs with North Mississippi partner schools. Last summer, the center partnered with UM's Willie Price Lab School, which will also serve as a facility to help develop new early childhood curricula.



Center for Mathematics and Science Education: \$1.2 million

CMSE will continue offering professional education to STEM teachers in school districts across Mississippi and provide fellowships for graduate students in mathematics and science education. To date, 100 percent of CMSE graduate fellows have received faculty or administrative jobs upon graduation. The new funding will also help grow the center's summer camps in mathematics, engineering and robotics for high school students.



Mississippi Teacher Corps: \$525,000

The Mississippi Teacher Corps plans to place 45 new mathematics and science teachers in Mississippi classrooms over the next four years. The new funding will provide a \$2,000 bonus for math and science teachers who continue teaching in Mississippi after graduation from the Teacher Corps. The 2013 cohort is the program's largest to date with 35 teachers including 10 in mathematics and 11 in science.



Principal Corps: \$1.4 million

The Principal Corps widened recruitment efforts to expand internship placements to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. This year, 12 seasoned teachers will complete administrative internships with veteran principals with the goal of transitioning into a principal or assistant principal position at a Mississippi public school. Principal Corps recruits attend seminars on the Ole Miss campus one weekend per month and during two summer semesters to earn a master's or specialist degree in educational leadership.

CAPTI Moves to Insight Park

Nearly a year and a half after opening its doors, UM's Child Advocacy and Play Therapy Institute upgraded to a new facility in December.

CAPTI's move from Guyton Hall to Insight Park expanded the center from two playrooms to four and increased its capacity for play therapy sessions to as many as 120 per week. Each week, the institute's counselors and graduate students help more than 50 children experiencing emotional distress or trauma.

"Play therapy is a way for children to talk about the issues they're experiencing," said CAPTI director Dr. Marilyn Snow. "Children are not as verbal as adults, but when you bring them into a playroom, you give them the opportunity to play out what they're experiencing and help them."

An Association for Play Therapy-approved center since October 2011, CAPTI maintains a no-turn-away policy for all



children and their families and offers services on an income-based scale and can accept health insurance.

In the past year, the institute has set milestones in the growing mental health field, including offering the nation's first degree in play therapy. Last summer, CAPTI unveiled an online Specialist in Education degree for working clinicians. The program's first cohort is expected to graduate in August 2013. All should qualify to become registered play therapists upon graduation.



The Virtual Classroom

Recent elementary education graduate Shea Rigby learns how to use TeachLive from Dr. Mark Ortwein, assistant professor of teacher education.

Preservice teachers use student avatars for teacher training

For most educators, student teaching is a sink-or-swim experience combining theory and practice. But at the University of Mississippi, preservice teachers are using the latest technology to get a head start on this phase of training with a virtual classroom program utilizing student avatars called TeachLive.

The UM School of Education, Mississippi's largest producer of teachers and educational leaders, is among 19 institutions across the country chosen to pilot this training program designed and maintained by education faculty at the University of Central Florida. UM is the only university in Mississippi currently participating in the pilot. In the last year, hundreds of preservice teachers at UM have experienced this training technique as a required part of their course work.

"For the first time, our students can actually teach a lesson, learn and gain experience

before entering a classroom with real children," said UM School of Education Dean Dr. David Rock, who brought the program to Ole Miss. "That is not just innovative, that's what practice teaching is all about. They can make mistakes and learn without impacting children. They're going to be that much more prepared when they start student teaching."

While teaching, preservice teachers navigate a physical classroom at UM equipped with several floor position sensors, which move them through a virtual classroom displayed on a monitor. The education majors can walk up to the student avatars—named CJ, Ed, Kevin, Maria and Sean—and even kneel down beside their desks to provide one-on-one attention.

Using a headset, they can communicate with the five avatars. Each is programmed by the TeachLive team to behave like real middle school children. The digital students will fall asleep, send text messages or cause other

distractions. Another interesting aspect is that the avatars learn. Based on the instructor's teaching style, they will change behaviors. Even when using the same lesson plan, every experience is a little different for the preservice teachers.

Hidden inside avatar personalities can also be warning signs of underlying issues such as learning disabilities like autism or attention deficit hyperactivity disorder or even abuse or neglect at home, allowing UM students the chance to identify these signs in their practice.

"You never know exactly what they're going to do, but it's a great way to get the nerves out of your system before you actually enter a real classroom," said Erin Simpson, a junior elementary education major from Gulfport. "If you mess up, it doesn't affect a real child, and, when I learn from my mistakes, I feel more confident the next time I'm preparing for a lesson."

The School of Education has utilized the program since fall 2012 and plans on expanding its use among undergraduates in the future, including possibly opening TeachLive classrooms at the university's DeSoto and Tupelo regional campuses. Currently, junior education majors use the virtual classroom twice a semester. The proposed expansion would allow education undergraduates to log more hours in the TeachLive lab and gain more experience in different types of instruction.

Following each 30-minute session, an

"If you mess up, it doesn't affect a real child, and, when I learn from my mistakes, I feel more confident the next time I'm preparing for a lesson."

— Erin Simpson

experienced educator evaluates the students' lessons and leadership style, giving them suggestions on how to improve their performance. Students can also evaluate and observe one another and set personal goals on improving their classroom presence.

"This program gives these junior education students a chance to actually get in front of what seems like real people and interact with children," said Larry Christman, a veteran Mississippi principal and UM adjunct professor of teacher education. "There are five different personalities on the screen, but these students are going to see these same type of personalities when they get out in the real world. I think we are going to find that it's extremely beneficial to our students."

Remote operators at UCF can control elements of the classroom such as noise levels and avatars' moods and responses to questions. The avatars can be unruly, insightful or shy, and are designed to give aspiring educators a chance to gain experience teaching in a variety of subject areas. At the beginning of each lesson, a UM faculty member sets the intensity of the avatars' personalities from one to five. At the higher levels, avatars can attempt to derail the lesson entirely and put the preservice teachers in difficult situations by challenging their authority or asking inappropriate questions.

"Instead of being afraid of messing up, I'm able to see what teaching is like," said Natalie Vermillion, a junior elementary education major from Austin, Texas. "Because if I make a mistake in an actual classroom, I'm wasting students' time. But these students are here for us to practice with, so it makes me more comfortable, and I'm able to learn from my mistakes and hopefully be a more confident and effective teacher."

Retired Oxford High School principal and UM adjunct professor of education Larry Christman, a.k.a. "Mr. C," evaluates students' lesson plans after a TeachLive session.



SNOW NAMED NATIONAL PLAY THERAPY CHAIR



In October, Dr. Marilyn Snow, a UM counselor education professor and a national leader in the growing mental health field of play therapy, was appointed chair of the board of directors for the Association for Play Therapy, the governing body for play therapists in the United States.

Snow, a licensed professional counselor and registered play therapist supervisor with more than 25 years' experience, joined the Ole Miss faculty in 2000. She serves as director of UM's Child Advocacy and Play Therapy Institute.

Play therapy is a form of psychotherapy where mental health professionals observe children's behavior during play in a safe, playroom environment to identify sources of stress and emotional trauma in children who are unable to express problems verbally. Counselors, clinical social workers and mental health clinicians often seek the specialization.

"We're in a position to take a big leap as a profession," said Snow. "Play therapy is a specialized field combining counseling, psychology, social work and mental health and provides specialized techniques to help children."

NIEMEYER NAMED DIRECTOR OF UM MISSISSIPPI EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING PROGRAM



In February, Dr. Ryan Niemeier (Ph.D. '08) was named director of the UM chapter of the Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program, a joint venture with Mississippi State University to recruit top-performing students into education with full scholarships.

The appointment marks Niemeier's third major move at UM. The Lumberton native previously served as co-director of the Mississippi Teacher Corps and as director of the university's Grenada Center and is an assistant professor of educational leadership.

"I'm a Mississippi native and heavily invested in public education," said Niemeier. "This is a wonderful opportunity to bring prestige to teaching."

Established in January with a \$12.9 million grant from the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation, the program offers full tuition and a variety of other benefits. The program's initial focus is to produce new English and mathematics teachers in Mississippi to help meet the demands of new Common Core standards. Graduates make a five-year commitment to teach in Mississippi after graduation.

BELLMAN RECEIVES T³ LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR CREATIVE CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY



Last spring, mathematics education professor Dr. Allan Bellman received the 2013 Texas Instruments T³ Leadership Award for his use of technology in the classroom and his work to develop mathematics instruction technology.

As a member of the Texas Instruments' T³ Team, Bellman has helped to design graphing calculators and other technology to better suit the needs of students since 1987.

Before entering higher education, Bellman taught high school mathematics for 32 years in Maryland, often implementing T³ technology into his lessons so he could challenge students to use technology and gain a deeper understanding of course work. He continues to use technology to excite students in the classroom.

"We had so many great learning experiences in his classroom, most of which included the use of technology," said senior mathematics education major Jessica Fancher. "I think the most fun we had was playing with toy cars in the main hallway of Guyton Hall. We used TI-Nspires and motion detectors to find the speed of each car. We problem-solved, communicated and had lots of fun."

SUMRALL NAMED 2012 OUTSTANDING MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCIENCE TEACHER



UM science education professor Dr. Joe Sumrall (B.S. '78) received the 2012 Outstanding College Science Teacher Award from the Mississippi Science Teachers Association.

"This was quite an honor," said Sumrall. "It meant a lot to be recognized for 25 years as a science educator."

The Outstanding College Science Teacher Award is an annual, statewide honor. Sumrall was nominated by fellow UM education faculty members for his experience and service to students.

Sumrall previously served as director of the Mississippi Science and Engineering State Fair. He also assists undergraduate and graduate students with research and grant proposal writing. He serves as a teacher-mentor for high school science teachers throughout the state.

RUTHERFORD NAMED DIRECTOR OF WILLIE PRICE LAB SCHOOL



Last fall, UM literacy education expert Dr. Angela Rutherford was selected as the new director of Willie Price Lab School, a pre-kindergarten school for 3- and 4-year-olds, serving the Lafayette, Oxford and University communities.

Rutherford also serves as director of the UM Center for Excellence in Literacy Instruction and as an associate professor in the Department of Teacher Education. As leader of the two centers, the missions of both organizations will merge in the coming year, allowing Willie Price to also function as a training facility for professional development and for undergraduate and graduate instruction as the School of Education develops a new undergraduate emphasis and master's degree in early childhood education.

"We want Willie Price to become a model pre-K classroom for Mississippi so what we implement here can be implemented in schools across the state," said Rutherford. "Willie Price is not just a place where UM faculty, staff and students can send their children. We're growing our programs so we can accommodate more families and more fully meet the needs of preschool children."

BARTEE BECOMES UM'S FIRST AFRICAN-AMERICAN PROFESSOR IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP



Educational leadership scholar Dr. RoSusan Bartee was promoted to full professor in the Department of Leadership and Counselor Education in July 2012, becoming the first African-American to obtain the rank in the department's history.

Bartee joined UM in fall 2006 as an associate professor. Along with her recent promotion, she serves as program coordinator for graduate programs in educational leadership.

"For me, this is a milestone that I'm very happy about," said Bartee. "Achieving tenure and full professor is an honor at any institution, but to come back to my home state and get to make a difference in the lives of students and others gives me pride and humility."

Before joining UM, Bartee served as associate director of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and interim executive director of the Fredrick D. Patterson Research Institute of the United Negro College Fund. She is the author or editor of three books and more than 40 peer-reviewed publications.

BURNHAM REJOINS UM AS PRINCIPAL CORPS DIRECTOR



Coming out of retirement from his second appointment as Mississippi state superintendent in June 2012, Dr. Tom Burnham, former dean of the School of Education, rejoined UM as interim director of the Principal Corps in August 2012.

"We're concentrating on expanding our recruitment efforts across Mississippi," said Burnham, who was a key player in founding the Principal Corps during his tenure as dean. "This program has the potential to make an impact on hundreds of schools and thousands of students. We want principals and superintendents to look for leaders in their schools and recommend them for the Principal Corps."

A 13-month blend of graduate study and on-the-job training, the Principal Corps was founded in 2009 with a \$2 million grant from the Jim and Donna Barksdale Foundation. Recruits attend seminars on the Ole Miss campus one weekend per month and during two summer semesters to earn either a master's or specialist degree in educational leadership. During the fall and spring semesters, students complete two full-time internships with proven principals. Many receive job offers from one of their internship sites.

TOM BRADY NAMED MISSISSIPPI TEACHER CORPS DIRECTOR



Teacher education veteran Dr. Tom Brady was selected as the new director of the Mississippi Teacher Corps last April.

Brady brings more than 15 years' experience as both a high school mathematics teacher in Connecticut and Massachusetts and as a faculty member at Bridgewater State University in Bridgewater, Mass. He was selected to become the program's primary administrator after a national search. He will also serve as a tenure-track assistant professor in the Department of Teacher Education.

"This program really spoke to me because it impacts children in high-needs areas," explained Brady, a native of Farmington, Conn. "I was an alternate-route teacher. The last program I coordinated used a similar model for training teachers, so this really is a tailor fit."

WE APPRECIATE OUR DONORS

FISCAL YEAR 2013

Andrew M. Abernathy
Janice M. Adams
Gregory D. Adkins
Nora K. Albaugh
Lauren G. and Charles C. Alexander
Jo E. Alexander
Elizabeth A. Allen
Eugene R. Anderson
Sharon D. Anderson
Gloria S. Armbruster
David M. Atkins
Ethel W. and William E. Austin
Ora L. Baker
A. Conrad Baldwin
Laurie E. and Mills E. Barbee
Carolyn P. and G. R. Barber, Jr.
Donna and James L. Barksdale
Cresada D. and Edward M. Barnett
Jahnae H. and Eddie L. Barnett
Anndra H. Barrett
Caroline A. and William D. Barton
Susan D. Baxley
Betsey E. Beach
Victoria D. Bell
Allan Bellman
Lee D. Benoit
Leslie G. Bingham
Faira L. and Billy M. Bishop
Maxine L. Blackburn
Judy G. and Roland A. Blanco
Beverly Board
Wiley N. Boland, Jr.
Brenda Windham-Bolen and J. David Bolen
Susan S. Bonner
Cheryl K. Booker
Janet H. Bowman
Margaret A. Boyer
Mariya D. and Stanley K. Breaux
Margaret C. Briley
Cheryl P. Brown
Stephanie Brown
Annette M. and James R. Bryson
Kenya and Mark Bumgarner
Bonnie P. and Taylor D. Buntin III
Robin M. Burck
Karen B. Burke
Sara J. and Thomas R. Burke
John G. Burt
Kristen B. and Gary D. Butler
Bettina A. Caldwell
Frances A. Calvery
Sybil R. Canon
Sandra H. Carlton
Billie G. and F. Julian Carroll, Jr.
William C. Carter
Perry L. Cartledge
Donis K. Catledge
Jo Ellen B. and David R. Cherry
Richard L. Childers
Jean J. and A. Bob Chunn
Joni D. and Charles S. Church, Jr.
LaWanna J. and Rickey D. Cissom
J. Shannon Clark
Shawn C. Clark
Rebecca P. and Charles D. Cleland

Olivia M. Clifford
James M. Coley
Rebecca D. Collum
Betsy A. Collums
A. Maria and Carlos W. Colon
Rebecca A. and Stephen M. Condon
Patricia T. and Warren G. Conner
Louanne P. and George P. Cossar, Jr.
Finney H. and Peter M. Couhig
Katherine B. and William H. Cox, Jr.
Angela D. and Eugene M. Crafton
Louise B. and James A. Crawford
Levernis F. Crosby
Peggy R. and Lloyd H. Crossley
Sharon L. Crouch
Aquanda S. Cummings
Betty M. Davis
Josephine W. Davis
Juanita Davis
Mindy and Steve Day
Laura Y. and Raymond Dearman, Jr.
Vickie P. and Walter W. Denton
W. Jason Derrick
Linda L. and Michael W. Dewitt
Lynton S. Dilley
Kinnie Divine
Mardie O. Dixon
Diane Dodson
Gail W. Dossett
Richele F. Dunavent
Carol A. and William J. Dunn
Kay A. and Donald W. Durden
Carole S. and William M. Dye, Jr.
East St. Peter MB Church
Ina R. and W. Harold Edwards, Jr.
Marilyn T. and R. Deryl Edwards
Mimi W. and Keith Eide
Charlene R. and James Elliott, Jr.
Nancie E. Elliott
Rosemarie O. and Hiram R. Ellis
Estate of Elizabeth G. Hope
Mary A. and Jason R. Ezell
Anne D. and Davis L. Fair III
Leslie K. Farr
Davey L. Farris III
Linda B. Faulconer
Shevaun and John Festervand
Eldridge E. and Eldridge E. Fleming
J. B. Flowers, Jr.
Marguerite C. Ford
Ellen J. Foster and Robert M. Dalton
Stephanie O. and Joseph F. Fowlkes
Laura L. Frank
Dorothy W. Freeman
Jan W. and Eric S. Freemark
Marnie and Peter K. Frost
Katharine W. Garner
Minnie Gates-Powell
Carl E. Glenister
Molly M. Goldwasser
Susan B. and Alan C. Goodman
Bobbie J. Goolsby
Mary K. Gordon
Virginia L. and George R. Goza
Catherine W. and Charles Grace

Dione D. and Darriel Green
Herbert W. Gregory
Linda K. and Ed J. Grisham
Mary and Lindsey Gunn
Betty E. Gurner
Gale M. and Richard L. Gurner
Mary P. and William E. Haik
Lela K. Hale
Carolyn B. and Jerry M. Hall
Jennifer J. Hall
Lasonya H. and Alfred Hall
Richard M. Hamberlin III
James L. Hardin
Elizabeth L. Hardman
Imogene M. Hardon
Patty B. and David P. Harner
Janet and Patrick M. Harrington
Pamela K. Harris
Terre B. and Samuel H. Harris
Tommye B. Harris
Sheri M. Harts
Carrie B. Hawkins
Dewayne Haynes
T. Dale Hefner
Anne M. Henderson
Ann T. and Robert R. Henry, Jr.
Ann and Gene Henson
Sammy E. Higdon, Jr.
Judith L. Hill
Lenore E. and Milton D. Hobbs
Lloyd A. Holmes
Carol M. and Glenn W. Hopkins
Rosemary H. and Oliver H. Hopkins, Jr.
Camilla S. Horton
Lynn J. House
Annie Glenn J. Howell
Martha S. Huckins
Sharon K. Hudson
Clara S. and Burl Hunt
Margaret S. Hunt
Matthew E. Hunt
Emilie A. and Ryan J. Hutcheson
Carrie and Douglas W. Ingram
Insperty
Bobby N. Irby
Vera P. Irving
Anita M. and Carl D. James
Judy B. and Sterling R. James
Mary B. Jarrett
Vance S. Jennings
Jean Johnson
Michael B. Joiner
P. Gail and G. R. Jones, Jr.
Karen and Milton L. Jones
Sandra M. Kane
Sue T. and Edmund D. Keiser, Jr.
Shirley S. and Donald H. Keith
Judy R. Kellum
Hannah P. and Harold C. Kelly
Sandra S. Kelly
L. E. King, Jr.
Margaret and Roy Kinney
Joy F. Kirchoff
Roy W. Kirkland, Jr.
Tammy L. Kirkland

Arlene T. Kortz
 Otho T. Kortz, Jr.
 Robin J. Kreutz
 Joan F. Kuykendall
 Linda J. and Auburn C. Lambeth
 Margaret L. and John B. Laney, Jr.
 Margaret C. Lay
 Marcella C. and Ernie E. Lentz
 Timothy D. Letzring
 Margaret L. and Carnell Lewis
 Laura M. Lewis
 Carli J. Little
 Katie L. Loftus
 Nell W. Loftus
 Clarence S. Lovelady
 Ruby L. Madkins
 George H. Maginnis
 Mary M. and Claude D. Malone, Jr.
 Dorothy M. Martin
 Ellen P. and James W. Massey
 Joan and Donald R. McCain
 Sandra C. and Tyrus A. McCarty
 Dianne D. and Ben R. McClung
 Dana H. and Germain McConnell
 Judy F. McCreary
 Mary M. McDonald
 Zella C. McDonald
 Sue J. McFadden
 Patricia H. McGee
 Margaret S. McGuire
 Jenifer K. McMillan
 John T. McMillan, Jr.
 Barbara Q. McNutt
 Amy Q. and W. Bowen McRae, Jr.
 Susan C. and Joseph R. Meadows, Jr.
 Kerry B. Melear
 Lillie C. and Jesse D. Merriweather
 Marlene G. and Carl D. Michael
 Janet R. Migliore
 Sarah K. Monk
 Bobbie R. Montgomery
 Debra B. and Vernon D. Montgomery
 James D. Montgomery
 Perry L. Montgomery
 Billie Ruth A. Moore
 Betty L. and James G. Moore
 Sylvester A. Moorhead
 Jerrica M. Morrow
 Kay K. Morrow
 Mu Chi Zeta Chapter
 Raymond Murov
 William R. Murphy
 Melody and Ronald Musgrove
 Kathy E. and Richie Nelms
 Anna M. Nelson
 Penny R. and Jimmy L. Nelson
 Mineasa T. Nesbit
 Jean S. and James E. Nichols
 Martha W. and Carl Nicholson, Jr.
 Josephine I. Njoku
 North MS Ed Consortium Inc
 Linda J. Northrup
 Rosemary Oliphant-Ingham
 Jennifer H. and Brad Ormesher
 Harriet F. Outlaw
 Rebecca G. Pace
 William A. Parchman
 Thomas J. Parker
 Kathleen A. and Eugene M. Patterson
 Margaret T. Patton
 Andrea C. Payne
 Lucinda L. Payne
 Mary B. and William H. Payne
 Marilyn D. Peete
 Victoria G. and Barry Pekich
 Philadelphia Missionary Baptist
 Melanie W. Philpot
 Lauren B. and James A. Phyfer, Jr.
 Patsy Pipkin
 John R. Pittman
 PNC Foundation
 Pontotoc Civitan Club
 Positive All The Way
 Sharone S. Powell
 Brandon S. Pratt
 Cecil W. Puckett
 Janice L. and Terry Puckett
 Jenny L. and William J. Rawlings
 Lady Margaret F. and True Redd
 Jean M. and James W. Rice, Jr.
 Vonda F. Richards
 Roderick F. Richmond, Sr.
 Robert E. Ringer
 Don J. Robbins
 James W. Roberson
 Patricia M. Robinette
 Sarah H. Robinson
 Michelle L. and David Rock
 Rixie H. and Kenneth H. Rose
 Ernestine and Charles Rosenbaum
 Teri M. and George L. Rounsaville
 Susan M. and Robert R. Rucker
 Claire and Ronald J. Rychlak
 S & J Art Gallery
 Jean J. and Vance Sales
 Betty W. and Samuel N. Saxon
 Wynn S. and Gwin C. Scott II
 Susan P. and David C. Shaw
 Jean M. Shaw
 Sharon Shilling
 Sarah A. Siebert
 Charlotte E. Sims
 Susan B. Skinner
 Alice J. Smith
 Angela Smith
 Annette C. Smith
 Erskine R. Smith
 Evelyn J. Smith
 Stella B. and Jerome D. Smith
 Pamela P. and Jerome W. Smith
 Mary L. and William D. Smith III
 Mollie G. Smith
 Stacy R. Smith
 William C. Smith
 Marie R. Spain
 Christopher Speer
 Ruth W. Stanford
 Ann M. and John L. Stasi
 Laurie O. Stetelman
 Patricia A. and Charles L. Stevenson
 Cynthia Stewart
 Sandra G. Stewart
 Martha Stinnett
 Beth P. and Barry L. Storey
 John B. Storment III
 Ginny L. and William H. Street, Jr.
 Ruth P. Stroud
 Michael J. Sturman
 Linda P. and Eugene W. Sullivan
 Kathleen M. and James V. Sullivan, Jr.
 Sweetland Cook, PLLC
 Nikkie L. Taylor
 Pamela E. and William F. Taylor
 Teachers of Tomorrow
 Patricia S. Terry
 The Champions Within
 Susan J. Theurkauf
 Jill and James F. Thomas, Jr.
 Jeanette H. Thomas
 Leontyne K. Thompson
 Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Foundation
 Dorothy A. Tiser
 Laura R. and Huey L. Townsend
 William R. Townsend
 Pamela S. Travis
 Pattye W. Tucker
 Daniel H. Turnell
 Amy K. and David A. Turner
 Pamela M. and Jon C. Turner
 Kay S. and J. Larry Tyler
 Julia L. Unnerstall
 Dana H. and Michael A. Van Veckhoven
 Betty W. Vance
 Brenda B. and Thomas W. Vanderslice
 Sharon R. and Kenneth S. Verheec
 Jacqueline A. Vinson
 Kimberly N. Vinson
 Shelia and Ronald L. Vinson
 Miriam F. Wahl
 Patsy G. and Gary W. Walker
 Delora and Joseph P. Walker, Sr.
 Charlotte B. and H. R. Wallace
 Charles E. Warren
 Marilyn R. and Donald S. Warren
 Martha S. and Donald Q. Weaver
 Dianna L. and Mark C. Webb
 Fay J. Webb
 Whitney T. and R. Neville Webb
 Ivy L. and John F. Weedon
 Cecil Weeks
 Nina R. and Dennis Welch
 Amy E. Wells Dolan
 Rheta A. and J. Wayne West
 Sarah K. Wheeler
 Barbara E. White
 Monetta White
 Frances H. and Jefferson E. Williams
 Sylvia D. Wilson
 S. Ann and William E. Wilson
 Lori A. Wolff
 Carlisle P. and William C. Wood, Sr.
 Vanessa A. Wortham
 Rebecca B. and Michael B. Young
 Cuihua and Yang Zhang



Buntin Named Alumna of the Year

Retired UM administrator Dr. Bonnie Buntin (B.A. '70, Ed.S. '94, Ph.D. '00) is the recipient of the School of Education's 2013 Alumna of the Year Award.

Buntin, who retired as dean of the university's DeSoto Center in 2011, was honored for her more than 30-year career in public education, both as a speech pathologist and preschool coordinator in the DeSoto County public school system and as a UM administrator. She was honored during the school's annual awards ceremony May 10 at The Inn at Ole Miss.

"I'm so surprised and honored by this," Buntin said. "The quality of my education at Ole Miss was excellent and the School of Education always supported me as a graduate student and as an administrator."

Looking back at her tenure at UM, the Southaven resident said she is most proud of the spike in undergraduate and graduate-level graduation seen at the regional campus. During her leadership from 1996 to 2011, the center went from offering only a few classes to providing 11 degree programs with an enrollment of more than 1,000 students. In 2005, she was promoted from director of the campus to dean.

"I'm a school speech pathologist who became a college administrator," Buntin said. "I became interested in higher education when I was finishing my Ph.D. I saw a huge population in DeSoto County that Ole Miss could help. There were teaching assistants who wanted to become full teachers. There were adults who needed to earn a degree while working and raising a family."

Buntin credits the surge in graduation and enrollment during her administration to increased full-time faculty at the campus and collaborative programs such as the 2+2 program with Northwest Mississippi Community College, which sets recipients of associate degrees from the college on track to obtain a bachelor's degree from UM in two years.



Dr. Bonnie Buntin, pictured with School of Education Dean Dr. David Rock, receives her Alumna of the Year Award during the School of Education's Annual Awards Day last May.



Stay in Touch!

Follow the School of Education on Facebook and Twitter @OleMissEdSchool