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From Old School to New School

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From Old School to New School

Rivers gift goes toward state-of-the-art accountancy building

NOVEMBER 26, 2022 BY ANDY BELT

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Careybeth (left) and Marshall Rivers, pictured here with their daughters, have made a major gift to the Patterson School of Accountancy. A study alcove in the school's new building will be named in their honor. Photo courtesy Marshall Rivers

OXFORD, Miss. – The **University of Mississippi** left its mark on Dr. Careybeth and Marshall Rivers, so, with a gift of \$50,000 to the **Patterson School of Accountancy**, the couple is returning the favor.

The family's gift will help support construction of the school's new \$70 million building planned for the corner of University Avenue and Grove Loop overlooking the Grove. A study alcove there will be named in their honor.

Marshall Rivers earned bachelor's and master's degrees in accountancy in 2003 and 2004, respectively; his wife received a bachelor's degree in biology in 2004.

"Since we're alumni of Ole Miss, it was very important to us to give a gift for the new building," he said. "It's something we really believe in – for the school and for faculty members going forward.

"The school has a great reputation, and we think that the prominence of the location on campus will continue to draw the best and brightest, not only to Ole Miss but to the School of Accountancy."

Marshall Rivers, a senior audit director for Regions Bank, and Dr. Careybeth Rivers, an orthodontist, began dating during their senior year of college and, after graduating, moved to Birmingham, Alabama, where they live with their two daughters.

A Union native, Marshall had two older siblings attend Ole Miss, so UM was constantly on his radar.

"I always wanted to go there," he recalled. Eventually, he was admitted to the university and offered a scholarship by Mark Wilder, a professor who later became the school's dean.

Wilder expressed appreciation for the Rivers' gift.

"We are grateful to Marshall and Careybeth for their generous support of our new building," he said. "We are proud of them and the wonderful careers that they are both enjoying.

"We believe this will easily be the finest stand-alone accountancy building in the nation."

Carybeth Rivers, a Huntsville, Alabama, native, said she appreciates the opportunity to give back to the university in a meaningful way.

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Campus Briefs

Civil Engineering Professor Receives Most-Cited Paper Award

OXFORD, Miss. – Peer recognition is a rewarding experience for anyone, but University of Mississippi researcher Amir Mehrara Molan was elated when an article he co-authored recently received the Most Cited Paper Award at the 102nd Transportation Research Board meeting in the nation's capital. The International Journal of Transportation Science and Technology presented the civil engineering

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Young Alumna Gives Back to School of Accountancy

OXFORD, Miss. – Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy's new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying "thank you." "It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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Ole Miss In the News

Reuters: Keep an Eye on the Money Supply

U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK – The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to

"My education from the university is something I truly cherish," she added.

Growth in student enrollment is driving plans for the 110,000-square-foot building. The school is a national powerhouse, ranked No. 8 in the country and No. 1 in the SEC by Big4AccountingFirms.org.

The school is ranked for the 10th consecutive year of top 10 rankings. Over the past three years, it has produced eight recipients of the Elijah Watts Sells Award – the most prestigious CPA exam distinction worldwide. Over the 2020-22 time-period, this ranks Ole Miss easily No. 1 in the SEC in the number of Sells Award recipients and tied for fourth nationally.

To learn more about supporting the Patterson School of Accountancy, contact Jason McCormick, director of development, at jason@olemiss.edu or 662-915-1757. To make a gift, visit <https://give.olemiss.edu>.

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