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Pharmacy Students Partner with McLean Institute to Make a Difference

CEED initiative allows participants to broaden their education while helping communities

NOVEMBER 2, 2017 BY EDWIN B. SMITH



Anna Katherine Burress

and Anna Katherine Burress, a sophomore in the early-entry pharmacy program from Water Valley, have participated in the Catalyzing Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, or CEED, initiative.

"We have been able to recruit outstanding UM students, like this group from the **School of Pharmacy**, who desire to participate with other university students and community partners in critically thinking about solutions to some of the state's challenges," said Albert Nylander, director of the McLean Institute and a UM professor of sociology.

With financial support from the McLean Institute's Hearin grant, students work to build community partnerships to promote entrepreneurship and economic development.

"I decided to attend Ole Miss specifically for the great early-entry pharmacy program that it offers," said Sackett, who chose pharmacy as her career path because of her passion for patient care and improving communities' overall health. "The CEED program gave me the opportunity to meet with local Mississippi community leaders to collaborate and develop ideas to help improve their communities' knowledge of health care, chronic diseases and medication management."

Sackett was the first CEED student to work directly with the James C. Kennedy Wellness Center in Charleston. Through a summer internship under the direction of Dr. Catherine Woodyard Moring, Sackett was part of the assessment and planning team for the opening of the state-of-the-art health center.

She completed her CEED work in 2016, but it has been carried on by a team of CEED students, including Audrey Dayan, a 2017 Ole Miss graduate with a degree in psychology, of Oxford. Dayan is a CEED innovation scholar who networked closely with Moring and the Charleston K-12 schools to help collect data on school health councils. The data were collected in partnership with the Mississippi Department of Education.

Sackett plans to complete her pharmacy education and specialize in pediatric care to help improve the health of future generations.

Byrd was part of the CEED planning team that conducted the inaugural Entrepreneurial Learning Center in Charleston this summer. However, instead of working this summer in Charleston, Byrd, a member of the Mississippi National Guard, was deployed to South Carolina for three months during a training exercise.

Two fellow students, Austin Carroll, a senior biochemistry major from Madison and a CEED innovation scholar, and Robert Patterson, a graduate student in health promotion from Como and a CEED innovation fellow, picked up the project and worked with nearly 20 youth at the Charleston Day Club, which is a part of the National Charleston Day Organization.

Brittany Byrd

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Campus Briefs

Donations Sought for 25th Annual Books and Bears Program

OXFORD, Miss. – The University of Mississippi is asking the community to help spread a little joy this holiday season by donating to the 25th annual Books and Bears program. Donations such as toys, books, dolls, bicycles and other children's play items are being accepted through Dec. 14. All donations will be collected and sorted

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Mississippi Excellence in Coaching Fellowship Aims to Build Leaders

OXFORD, Miss. – Twenty-five inaugural recipients of the Mississippi Excellence in Coaching Fellowship – a program hosted by the University of Mississippi School of Education in partnership with the Mississippi Association of Coaches and the Mississippi High School Activities Association – are expected to increase their impact on student-athletes and their communities. The coaching fellowship

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Ole Miss In the News

Clarion-Ledger: New Essay Collection Tells the Story of Meredith's Enrollment

Essays celebrate 60th anniversary of James Meredith's enrollment at University of Mississippi By Lauren Rhoades Oct. 1 marks the 60th anniversary of James Meredith's 1962 enrollment at the University of Mississippi as the school's first African-American student.

J.R. Love, McLean Institute project manager of CEED, and other students in the program supported Carroll and Patterson on a rotating system.

"I chose to attend Ole Miss because of my interest in having a career in pharmacy and knowing I will have the support of my family living in Mississippi," Byrd said. "I knew always wanted to help others, and I thought that a career in pharmacy would offer the ability to have direct access to the community while achieving this goal."

The CEED program has proven indispensable to Byrd's academic success, she said.

"I have been fortunate as a CEED innovation fellow to interact with many business owners and community leaders across the state," she said. "One skill I have learned while in CEED is the ability to establish networks to attain common goals."

"My intent is to continue working with community partners as I finish my education in pharmacy, and be able to use those skills to further assist the public in many ways."

Burress plans to continue the work set forth by her peers in the CEED program. Health care is a major factor in economic development in Mississippi and around the United States.

"Being a part of CEED has been an eye-opening experience for me," Burress said. "CEED has allowed me to see real-world issues and how we, as students, can positively impact local markets now and into the future in Mississippi."



Kate Sackett of Canadian Lakes, Michigan. Submitted photo

"CEED has helped me meet other students from other fields of study. I am grateful to be working closely with them because I believe it will help me grow personally and prepare me for my future career."

Burress said she hopes to complete her Doctor of Pharmacy and be making a difference in a community within 10 years.

"I would like to be working in a hospital setting somewhere in Mississippi," she said. "In my spare time, I hope to be an active member of my community, and I would like to be a part of the mission trips, as a pharmacist, that my church offers so that I can serve others."

Goals of the CEED initiative provide valuable experience and opportunities for pharmacy students, said David D. Allen, dean of the School of Pharmacy.

"Many of the pharmacy school's community health initiatives involve supporting underserved regions like the Mississippi Delta, so these collaborations with the city of Charleston are incredibly exciting," Allen said. "It's gratifying to see our students carrying out our mission of improving the lives of others."

For more information on CEED, contact the McLean Institute at mclean@olemiss.edu or 662-915-2052.

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"James Meredith: Breaking the Barrier," a collection of essays edited by UM professor of journalism Kathleen Wickham, honors this historic milestone with

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