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UM McLean Institute Takes Lead Role in Delta Initiative
Delta Regional Authority launches institute to train leaders across eight-state region

AUGUST 28, 2013 BY MISTY COMHERD

OXFORD, Miss. – The University of Mississippi’s McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement has been named the administrative lead for the Delta Regional Authority’s Delta Leadership Institute, a comprehensive leadership program that focuses on issues affecting the Delta region.

The mission of the leadership institute, known as DLI, is to recognize, train and develop 21st century leadership skills in participants across the eight-state region in order to face the global challenges of the future.

The McLean Institute will partner with Arkansas State University’s Delta Center for Economic Development and the University of Louisiana at Monroe to offer DLI programs to participants across the region. These three institutions, with support from the entire eight-state region, will leverage additional expertise from several other entities and partners.

“We are looking forward to the implementation of sustainable pathways for Delta leaders to serve as change agents for the Delta region,” said Albert Nylander, McLean Institute director. “The quality of life in the eight-state Delta region is crucially linked with the DRA’s and Delta leaders’ commitment to excellence in public service. The opportunity to lead the Delta Leadership Institute into the future provides us with the challenge to learn from and partner with communities throughout our great Delta region.”

“Serving Mississippi and the nation is an important part of our mission in the College of Liberal Arts,” said Glenn Hopkins, dean of the UM College of Liberal Arts, which houses the McLean Institute. “We are pleased that the McLean Institute will play this leadership role in the Delta, and we thank the Delta Regional Authority for this opportunity to serve.”

The DLI is offering an Executive Academy later this fall and is taking applications through Sept. 20. This is the first year the application will be available online, through which applicants will be able to create a profile, complete an application and upload recommendations to the DRA website. The opening session of the 2013-2014 Executive Academy will take place Nov. 4-7, in Oxford.

For the application and more information, visit http://www.dra.gov/leadership/dli-apply/default.aspx

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