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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 COWHERD



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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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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### 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.

"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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