

October 2008

Greetings from the Office of Research and Economic Development! The Bulldogs have a big game coming up this weekend against Vanderbilt, and I hope we have a big crowd to cheer on our team.

I am a bit of a techno-junkie – and I have a hard time resisting the temptation to have the newest electronic gadgets. However, I cannot tell you how excited I will be to see our new high definition jumbotron in our football stadium – which I think will be the ultimate fix for us electronic gadget addicts. I can only imagine what CSI would look like in high definition on that screen ...

So far, we are having a great year in research and scholarly activity at MSU, and I want to share with you several exciting news items ...

As of October 1, Mississippi State University is now a member of the Federal Demonstration Partnership (www.thefdp.org), and is the only research university in Mississippi that holds this honor. The Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP) is an association of federal agencies, academic research institutions, and research policy organizations that work to streamline the administration of federally sponsored research. The Federal Demonstration Partnership is a cooperative initiative among 9 federal agencies and 120 institutional recipients of federal funds; its purpose is to reduce the administrative burdens associated with research grants and contracts. The application was spearheaded by Robyn B. Remotigue, Assistant Director of Sponsored Programs Administration (SPA), along with Dr. Robert Moorhead (GRI) and Dr. Susan M. Bridges (CSE).

Many of you have probably had the opportunity to drive through the Thad Cochran Research, Technology, and Economic Development Park and see the variety of buildings and facilities within the park. I am very proud to announce that we will be putting up a new 42,000 square foot multi-tenant building during 2009, which is being built with a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce – National Institute of Standards and Technology. The total project cost will be somewhere around \$8M, and construction is slated to start in the early part of 2009. The funds for the building were made possible through support of our congressional delegation, and we will have a groundbreaking ceremony on the building site in the Thad Cochran Research, Technology, and Economic Development Park on Thursday, October 16 at 1:30 p.m. I would like to invite the university research community to this event, which will last approximately 30 minutes. If you would like to see an artist's rendition of the new facility, please look at the ORED main webpage at <http://www.research.msstate.edu/>.

Mississippi State is now the home to 45 research centers and institutes. At the last IHL Board Meeting, five new centers and institutes were approved for Mississippi State University including –

* The Sustainable Energy Research Center (SERC) creates an infrastructure for coordinated interdisciplinary collaboration at MSU in the development of environmentally and economically sustainable energy sources specific to the southeastern United States. SERC is a catalyst for forging partnerships between academia, business, and the U.S. government. For more information, contact Dr. William Batchelor at bbatchelor@abe.msstate.edu or Dr. Glenn Steele at steele@me.msstate.edu.

* The Center for Family Enterprise Research conducts and promotes original research on family business and provides educational and research opportunities for students. The center disseminates the results of research to family businesses in Mississippi in order to improve their management and performance. For more information, contact Dr. Jim Chrisman at jchrisman@cobilan.msstate.edu.

* The Golf Institute will bridge the efforts of the Professional Golf Management program in the College of Business, the Golf and Sports Turf Management program in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and MSU Golf Course to promote, establish, and better position MSU as a leading institution in golf teaching, research, and outreach. For more information, contact Mr. Tony Luczak at al77@msstate.edu.

* The Energy Institute serves as the umbrella unit that coordinates existing research projects among the various centers, institutes, and departments that are involved in energy related activities, and develops plans and proposals for future energy-related research projects. The institute will play a critical role in formulating research-based solutions to our nation's current energy crisis. The institute is comprised of the MSU Sustainable Energy Center; the Cooling, Heating, and Power research projects in the Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Agricultural and Biological Engineering; the Industrial Assessment Center in the Department of Mechanical Engineering; and the Institute for Clean Energy Technology. For more information, contact Dr. Glenn Steele at steele@me.msstate.edu.

* The G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery National Center for Veterans Research will provide Congress and the Department of Veterans Affairs with the necessary ongoing data and analyses to support congressional oversight, authorization and appropriation, or assistance in program development, accountability, evaluation, and policy analysis. The Center for Veterans Research will help establish a research team for veteran research with the goals of seeking new extramural funding, communicating with government agencies and veterans groups, and providing direction for veteran research in the United States. For more information, contact Dr. Art Cosby at Arthur.cosby@ssrc.msstate.edu.

As you can all see, our research programs are healthy and growing. Keep up the excellent work, and please let me know how our office can help you to grow your research efforts.

Go Dawgs! Beat Vanderbilt!

Kirk.

