



PRESIDENT'S  
EDITION

2019

# CONNECTIONS

MAGAZINE



## MCC ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

**Thomas M. Huebner, Jr., Ph.D.**  
president

**Pam Harrison**  
chief financial officer

**Soraya Welden**  
vice president for operations

**Barbara Jones**  
vice president for advancement  
and executive director of the MCC  
Foundation

**Dr. Richie McAlister**  
associate vice president for  
workforce education

**Leia Hill**  
associate vice president for  
college communications

**Michael Thompson**  
dean of academic affairs

**Deanna Smith**  
dean of student services

**Joseph Knight**  
dean of community and  
business development

**Dr. Lara Collum**  
dean of nursing

**Sander Atkinson**  
associate dean of student  
services/athletic director

**Cathy Parker**  
director of institutional effectiveness  
and accountability

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## MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Jamie Cater**, vice chair  
**Tommy Dulaney**  
**John Johnson**

**Ronnye Purvis, M.D.**  
**Alex Weddington**, chair



**DR. THOMAS HUEBNER**

CHOSEN AS ONE OF THE

**MUST-FOLLOW  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE CEOs  
ON TWITTER**

**@MCCHUEBNER**

## MCC FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

**Robert Smith**, president  
**Jeff Smith**, vice president  
**Alan Lamar**, treasurer  
**Barbara Jones**, secretary  
**Tim Hogan**, past president  
**Pam Harrison**, advisor  
**Jimmy Alexander**  
**BB Archer**  
**Jonathan Bell**  
**Jamie Cater**  
**Doug Deweese**  
**Tommy Dulaney**  
**Hardy P. Graham Sr.**  
**Jerry Greene**  
**Bob Huff**  
**Jeff McCoy**  
**Tommy McDonald**  
**Mark McPhail**  
**Dustin Markham**  
**Donnie Massey**  
**Tony Pompelia**  
**Gerry Purvis**  
**Joe Charles Sanders**  
**Haley Shirley**  
**Tom Sikes**  
**Greg Slay**  
**C.D. Smith**  
**Donnie Smith**  
**Buster Thomas**  
**Russell Thompson**  
**Tim Walker**  
**Judy Warden**  
**M.L. Waters**  
**Alex Weddington**  
**Veldore Young-Graham**

# CREATING A VISION: STARTING WITH WHY

I can't believe it's been a year since I became the President of Meridian Community College! To say the year has been fulfilling, exciting, and blessed would be an understatement. I am often asked about the highlights of my first year, many of which are chronicled in this publication, and I try never to forget to mention that nothing we do at MCC is possible without an absolutely excellent and committed group of faculty and staff members.

I have been truly blessed to work with some of the best people I've ever known. My colleagues reaffirm, daily, that our graduates will have opportunities to excel, whether they are moving straight to the workforce or continuing their education at a four-year institution. What more could any president ask for?

I recently read a book by Simon Sinek entitled *Start With Why*. The book has been around a while and, as the cover notes, more than a million copies have been sold. The subtitle is *How Great Leaders Inspire Everyone to Take Action* and explores how, if leaders can focus their people in the right direction, they can accomplish miracles.

As a result, I began to think about the *why* of Meridian Community College. Let me be clear, we have many *what's* and countless numbers of *how's*. What does a student do to receive financial aid, register for a class, apply for graduation? or How do we create a budget, charge tuition, assign scholarships or calculate the impact of this institution on our surrounding community and state?

But, *WHY* do we do what we do? I believe our *why* is implicitly known by our people---from faculty members to staff members to administrators---and that our common belief in our *why* is what makes this such a special institution.

What is our *why*? Why do we exist? What is our unique function in this community?

We exist so individuals can realize their dreams so families can achieve upward mobility. When that happens, our community will grow and prosper.

Inherent in that *why* is an understanding that a Meridian Community College education does the following:

- That we uniquely equip people for a lifetime of work, and whether that work requires either a two-year or a four-year degree, we must be accessible,



Dr. Thomas Huebner won the Paragon Award this year from PTK for his outstanding efforts given toward promoting Phi Theta Kappa and its mission.



- That we embrace an educational philosophy that engages people regardless of who and how they are,
- That we have a responsibility to usher them through a meaningful and purposeful system, and
- That each person in our system receives attention and direction regarding their best possible options to achieve their goals and dreams.

Our *why* is a grand task, but here's what you need to know: We are up to the challenge and I could not be more pleased to be part of a community of educators who believe so strongly in what we were created to do!

# FOUNDATION NEWS

Barbara Jones is observing her first-year anniversary leading the MCC Foundation.



## JONES CONTINUES TO BUILD ON HER HISTORY WITH MCC

Simply stated, Barbara Jones has a love for Meridian Community College.

Her passion for the College started early as a college freshman while attending what was then called Meridian Junior College and continues today in her role of vice president for advancement and executive director of the Foundation.

Jones is celebrating her first-year anniversary in leading the Foundation. Her path to the Foundation office has been built on experience; she started working at MCC as an English instructor and later became division chair, academic dean, vice president for operations and co-director of the Phil Hardin Foundation Honors College at MCC.

"I've worked at MCC for 27 years," Jones said. "And I have viewed the importance of the Foundation first hand because I have seen our college grow," she said. The key to that growth is tied to the Foundation's innovative Tuition Guarantee program that underwrites tuition costs for four semesters of study at MCC for Lauderdale County high school graduates.

"Because I was a teacher when I first came here, I realized that many students would not have been able to come if they didn't have Tuition Guarantee," she said. Tuition Guarantee accounted for 641 students in academic and career and technical education programs for the 2018-19 academic term. "I love students, and in this position I can continue to help those who need financial assistance," she said.

In addition to Tuition Guarantee, the Foundation supports students through a myriad of scholarships. The Foundation also supports faculty and staff by offering recognition programs such as MCC'er of the Month, outstanding teacher and outstanding staff awards, professional development grants, summer study grants and course grants for employees to use each semester to advance their degrees.

Reflecting on her year, Jones said she's learned a lot and she credits the Foundation Board members for helping generate funds for Tuition Guarantee with its fundraising campaign. She also gives a nod to her Foundation office colleagues for their support. "I could not have made it without their help," she said.

Jones said naming the fundraising campaign "New Beginnings" was a good theme. "We did have new beginnings this year - especially with our president Dr. Thomas Huebner. The new administrators and staff have been so positive and helpful this year."

# NEW BEGINNINGS: SPRING 2019 FUNDRAISING ENDEAVORS

Members of the MCC Foundation Board of Directors celebrated the completion of their spring 2019 fundraising endeavors with applause all around for the increase in the number of new members and increase in contributions.

Foundation Board President Robert Smith credited fellow fundraisers for the monies garnered especially earmarked for the College's Tuition Guarantee program. "Thank you for what you do for the College ... especially the time you spend volunteering," he said.

MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner reminded the volunteers that students who start at community colleges graduate at a higher rate than those who begin their studies at universities. "When you're investing in Meridian Community College, you're investing in opportunities. It's a big deal, and we really appreciate it," he said.



As a part of the fundraising completion celebration, MCC Foundation new board members Bob Huff, left, Tim Walker, Donnie Massey and Greg Slay gather for a photo opportunity. Also named as new board members are Dustin Markham and Buster Thomas.

Community college is "life-changing, life-altering, and I see it every single day when students walk onto our campus and leave better than when they got here. So, I get the privilege of being on the front lines watching that happen," Dr. Huebner said, adding, "you get the privilege of supporting it with your dollars and time."

New member Tim Walker, who joined the board in January, said giving back to the community is paramount. "I think it's important for people to use whatever influence they can muster to get people to contribute because it produces such a beneficial result.

"It's something you can see. You know where the money is going, what it's being used for," Walker added.

In addition to Walker, Bob Huff, Dustin Markham, Donnie Massey, Greg Slay, and Buster Thomas joined the Board.

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Supporters of the MCC Foundation's Tuition Guarantee initiative for more than 10 years, Leading Edges is a full-service public relations agency located at 2100 Eighth St., Meridian. Tony Pompelia, president of Leading Edges, is a MCC Foundation board member. The agency provides in-kind services annually to the MCC Foundation.

Now celebrating its 19th year in business, Leading Edges started with one employee and rented space beneath the old Winstead Realty building.

Ten employees comprise the business that provides marketing and advertising services to over 20 clients and the business categories they serve include financial, healthcare, tourism, insurance, automotive, legal, municipal and service businesses.

Services provided include graphic design, website development, media buying, social media marketing, marketing planning, primary research and video production.

## NEW FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

### Bob Huff

Regional Executive Officer,  
Business Development  
Community Bank

### Dustin Markham

Attorney  
K. Dustin Markham, Attorney At Law

### Donnie Massey

President and CEO  
D & H Construction

### Greg Slay

Vice President  
Slay Steel

### Buster Thomas

President  
First State Bank, Meridian

### Tim Walker

General Manager  
WTOK

# FOUNDATION NEWS

## MCC FOUNDATION HOSTS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CELEBRATION; HARDIN FOUNDATION SALUTED FOR SERVICE AND PHILANTHROPY

While showcasing the theme, "MCC... New Beginnings," Meridian Community College's 2018 Foundation Membership Celebration carried the catchphrase throughout the evening spotlighting for the first time a tribute to another foundation.



At previous celebrations, community leaders were recognized for their contributions, but this year, the Phil Hardin Foundation took center stage.

"We are really appreciative and delighted for MCC to recognize the Phil Hardin Foundation. I think we have a partnership that is like hand-in-glove, as it should be," said Lloyd Gray, executive director of the Phil Hardin Foundation.

Barbara Jones, vice president for advancement and executive director of the MCC Foundation, said the Hardin Foundation's support of the College is far-reaching. "Their support for MCC goes back to the 1970s by providing scholarships for students, various grants for programs at our college and a large endowment for the Phil Hardin Honors College," Jones said.

Since its inception, the Phil Hardin Foundation has provided more than \$38.8 million in grants and loans to further Mr. Hardin's charitable intent: "To improve the education of Mississippians."

"Our hope is to see education at all levels in this community

as a model for the rest of the state. MCC is such an integral part of not only the educational mix in this county but also economic development, community development, and so our partnership makes all the sense in the world from that standpoint. Our goals are the same, our hopes for the community are the same, and we're proud to be a partner with MCC," Gray said.

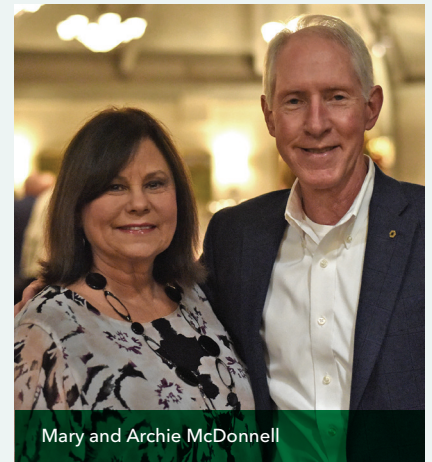
"MCC is at the heart of this community's hopes for a strong and prosperous future," he added.

President and Chairman of the Phil Hardin Foundation Board Robert Ward echoed Gray's appreciation to the MCC Foundation for the honor. "Thank you for what you do to make this a vibrant community for all who live, learn and work here," he said.

MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner thanked the Hardin Foundation for believing and investing in the College. "They have given life-changing dollars to fund programs



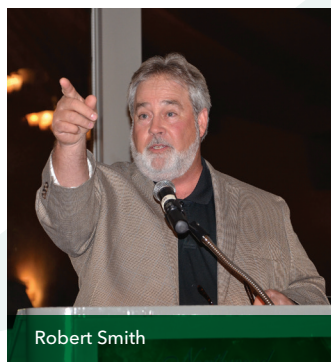
Leia Hill, Soraya Welden and Lauren Clay



Mary and Archie McDonnell



Ronnie Walton, Kacey Bailey, Jim McGinnis, Marty Davidson, Dr. Thomas Huebner and Robert Ward



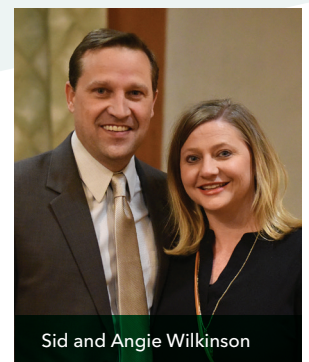
Robert Smith



Tim Hogan and Barbara Jones



Kacey Bailey, Bo Bailey and Lloyd Gray



Sid and Angie Wilkinson

and scholarships that have made a true impact on the lives of students who have passed through our doors.

“Your dollars are truly transformative, and we can’t thank you enough,” Dr. Huebner said. Also during the event, MCC Foundation Board Outgoing President Tim Hogan and MCC Foundation Incoming President Robert Smith served as guest speakers.

The College’s vocal performing ensemble, “The Dimensions,” entertained the members as well.



Dorothy and Otis Gowdy



Robert Ward



Members of the MCC Dimensions



Seth Crocker



Chelsea and Chad Graham



Jean Makey and Gloria Moore



Dr. Thomas Huebner and members of the MCC Dimensions



Cheryl Thomas and Buster Thomas



Dr. Thomas Huebner and Lloyd Gray

# FOUNDATION NEWS

## BRIDGING THE GAP IN ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Thanks to a unique program at Meridian Community College, incoming freshmen will have a chance to polish their English skills.

Bridging the Gap, set for July 15-25, is an intensive, four-hour-a-day program designed for students needing an additional boost in their writing and grammar skills. The 8 a.m.-to-noon sessions are held Monday through Thursday, and the program is based on a pass/fail basis. "The students must be there every day because it is an intensive course," said program director Lowell Martin.

Now in its fourth year, Bridging the Gap is free of charge to the students. The program is funded through the MCC Foundation from the Quave Family Fund established by MCC alumnus David Quave. The substantial Quave donation was specifically earmarked to directly impact student success.

The opportunity is available to students who scored a 14 to 16 on the English component in the ACT test. Typically,

students who do not reach the minimum score of 17 in English have to take Intermediate English before enrolling in English Composition I. With successful completion of Bridging the Gap, the students can sign up for English Composition beginning in the fall.

Martin, MCC Student Success Center manager and study skills instructor, has taught English and study skills for 21 years at MCC. He said the program gives students an opportunity they normally would not have had to advance. "To those people on the cusp - with just a little bit of work - they can go into Composition I," he said. Also teaching the program is Kelly McKee, MCC English instructor.

The course includes segments focusing on grammar and writing; McKee will focus on the grammar, while Martin guides the students in writing.

Those interested in more information about Bridging the Gap can email Martin at [lmartin@meridiancc.edu](mailto:lmartin@meridiancc.edu)

## SEVEN YEARS AND COUNTING: HONORS COLLEGE CONTINUES TO GROW

When Meridian Community College embarked on its journey to offer an academic honors program, 12 students signed up for the challenge. Seven years later, 70 students were enrolled in the Phil Hardin Foundation Honors College for the 2018-19 academic term.

Honors college students must maintain a 3.25 grade point average on a 4.0 scale; they are required to enroll in honors courses, which are a little more rigorous than the mainstream classes. Leadership class is also a requirement, and students attend forums with guest speakers who share their experiences.

Thirty-three students comprised the 2018-19 honors college graduating class; they completed more than 1,400 community service hours while maintaining a rigorous academic schedule. "We are trying to promote future leaders," Cathy Parker, co-director of the honors college, said.

"It says a lot about the program that MCC has built here, and the Phil Hardin Foundation is delighted to be able to be a part of it," said Lloyd Gray, executive director of the Phil Hardin Foundation. "We think it's very important for students to have that additional motivation and the additional aspiration to be nurtured and supported, and that's what the Honors College does."

## BRIDGE BUILDING

Due to the success of Bridging the Gap, another intensive program, Math STARS, will be held on campus this summer. Candace Rainer, math instructor and mathematics division chairman, said the program will target high school graduates and high school juniors who do not meet the ACT math sub-score required for entry into college algebra.

Students scoring a 16, 17, or 18 on the ACT math sub-score are eligible to participate in the math summer bridge program. "These students, if they successfully complete the program, may enroll in college algebra through Meridian Community College during their freshman year in college or as dual credit students during their senior year in high school," Rainer said.

Math STARS will be held July 15-25, the same weeks as the English bridge program, but will be held in the afternoons from 1 - 5 p.m.

For details on Math STARS, contact Rainer at [crainer@meridiancc.edu](mailto:crainer@meridiancc.edu)

**483% INCREASE**  
NUMBER OF STUDENTS

2018  
**70**

**12**  
2012



## LEARNING IN LIFETIME QUEST

With the MCC Foundation's Lifetime Quest Center, lifelong learning opportunities for active 50-plus adults are a way of life.

Lifetime Quest, now 285-member strong in its 24th year, is a learning in retirement center that focuses on helping senior adults stay active members of the community while meeting their social, learning and recreational needs.

Charlotte Rasco, coordinator of the Lifetime Quest center, said members are from all walks of life. Individuals bring their unique experiences to our program. Friendships are formed and bonds are created.

For the \$60 annual membership fee, Lifetime Questers get free admission to the College's Arts & Letters performances on the MCC campus; audit MCC general education classes and get a discounted rate on meals at the MCC cafeteria, MCC Dental Hygiene Lab services and MCC Eagle's Nest Bookstore.

But there's more. Members participate in water aerobics, bingo and reading and discussion sessions. Plus, there's Lunch Bunch, third Friday of the month session, where members gather for dining and hear a monthly program. "We've had story tellers, artists, a pastry decorator, an accountant, and a humorist," Rasco said.



Lifetime Questers also venture beyond the College's campus with travel opportunities throughout the year ranging from day trips to overnight excursions. This spring the group traveled to Port Gibson and to Chicago.

"We are constantly coming up with ideas we think will be of interest to our members," Rasco added.

For more information about Lifetime Quest, contact Rasco at MCC at 601.484.8696 or email [crasco@meridiancc.edu](mailto:crasco@meridiancc.edu)



Alexa Hogan talks with Bill (Fred) Gray.

## GRAY SCHOLARSHIP EARMARKED FOR NURSING

The memory of a Meridian Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program alumna will continue with the establishment of the Gayle Gray Memorial Nursing Scholarship. The Gray family gave \$100,000 to the MCC Foundation to fund the endowment for ADN students who demonstrate scholastic ability, leadership skills and financial need.

Gray completed the ADN Program, became a registered nurse and earned her bachelor's degree in nursing. She spent her entire nursing career with the Mississippi State Board of Health. Before entering the field of nursing, Gray was activities director at MCC in the 1970s. The first scholarship will be awarded this fall.

## SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT PAYS TRIBUTE TO VETERANS

A new endowment, the Saint-Gobain CertainTeed Scholarship, funded by the Saint-Gobain Foundation, is saluting veterans. The endowment, funded through The MCC Foundation, will designate a \$500 scholarship for both fall and spring semesters. Criteria for the scholarship are recipients must be a Mississippi or Alabama resident, must be honorably discharged veterans or members of the National Guard or Reserves, must have a high school diploma or GED, must be pursuing an associate of science or technical degree or a skilled trades certificate through the MCC-Riley Workforce Development Center and must be of good moral character. The purpose is to help veterans re-establish themselves into non-military life.



Dr. Angela Payne, director of admissions at MCC, said, "We serve about 300 veterans and their eligible dependents. So, we are very excited to have these scholarship dollars available."

Saint-Gobain, one of the world's largest building materials companies and manufacturer of innovative material solutions, helps create great living spaces by combining comfort and sustainability.



# HALL OF FAME

## ALUMNI TAKE SPOTLIGHT AT HALL OF FAME CELEBRATION



MCC Hall of Fame honorees from left are Dusty Culpepper, Soraya Welden, Dr. Richie McAlister, Debbie Galyean Mathis, Michael Thompson and Dr. Cedric Bradley.

One word resonated when Meridian Community College hosted its Highest Flying Eagles Hall of Fame event: Thankful.

Six alumni, Dr. Cedric Bradley, Dusty Culpepper, Dr. Richie McAlister, Debbie Galyean Mathis, Michael Thompson and Soraya Welden, were spotlighted for their professional achievements in the annual ceremony.

Dr. Bradley is the vice president at the Jefferson Davis campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College; Culpepper is director of physician outreach at Anderson Regional Health System; Dr. McAlister is associate vice president for workforce education at MCC; and Mathis is the chief operating officer for the East Mississippi Business Development Corp. and a business owner. As MCC administrators, Thompson is dean of academic affairs at MCC and Welden is MCC vice president for operations.

"MCC definitely holds a special place in my heart," Dr. Bradley said. He credits the two years he spent at MCC with contributing to the success of his career. Specifically mentioning the late George Mangrum, a history instructor, the late Billy C. Beal, associate vice president for learning resources, Dr. Bradley noted that all his MCC instructors had "a profound positive impact on my life."

Culpepper not only earned his degree from MCC but also worked at the college as a recruiter.

"It's true. MCC was four of the best years of my life," he said, jokingly. He too, gained from being at the college. Recognizing Scott Berry, one of his former baseball coaches at MCC who was in attendance at the reception, Culpepper said, "I learned so much about integrity and hard work from Coach Berry."

He added, "I appreciate the confidence the instructors gave me."

Also referring to her athletic experience at MCC, Mathis recalled when she joined the college's basketball team and how she and her teammates, who were once rivals on the high school basketball courts, formed friendships and worked together as a collegiate team. "We learned so much. I'm proud to say I'm an MCC graduate."

Now in his 37th year of working for MCC, Dr. McAlister credited former colleagues for their work in making MCC a world changer. "Helping students better themselves - their families, their livelihood - that's what it's all about. That's why I get up and come to work on Monday mornings," he said.

Dr. McAlister added, "I am so humbled to be with this esteemed group of MCC'ers that I respect."

Thompson, in addition to thanking his family for their support and sharing with the audience that his dad also attended MCC as a student, thanked his MCC family. "We probably

spend more time with you than our own family," he said jokingly. At 24 years of age, Thompson joined the College as an instructor and worked as a colleague with some of his former MCC teachers. "And that's a little intimidating," he said, "but they also taught me how to be a professional, and I appreciate everything they did for me the second time."

"I'm thankful to be here to serve our students," Thompson added. "The success of our students means more than anything else to us."

Looking to the audience, Welden said she was grateful for the support from colleagues. "You don't get to work somewhere for 27 years, get promoted and get opportunities by yourself. There are people who support and encourage you and give advice," she said remembering MCC'ers.

She added, "This is the best group of people you can work with anywhere."



Michael Thompson, Dr. Cedric Bradley, Soraya Welden, Dr. Richie McAlister, Debbie Galyean Mathis and Dusty Culpepper listen as accolades of the honored alumni are enumerated.

Another MCC staffer, Ginger Crawford, evening services director, was honored as the newest member of the Talon Club. MCC'ers are selected for this recognition for giving 30-plus years of service to the College.



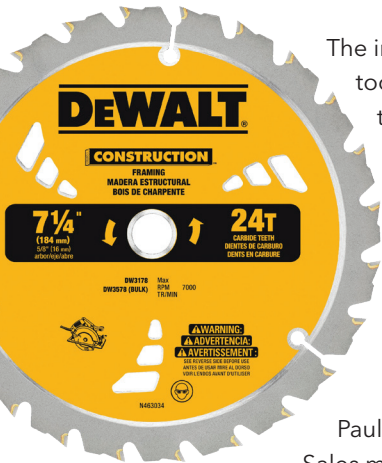
Family, friends gather with Debbie Gaylean Mathis, right.

# GRANTS & PARTNERSHIPS

## AGREEMENT PUTS POWER SKILLS AND TOOLS INTO STUDENTS' HANDS

In an historic move, Meridian Community College and DEWALT have partnered to insure that students in the Industrial Technology Division are trained on the best and latest equipment.

DEWALT, the world's leading manufacturing and marketer of power tools and equipment designed specifically for the professional contractor and tradesman, signed an agreement providing tools for training MCC students in the College's Construction Trades, Welding and Cutting, Industrial Maintenance and Electrical Technology programs.



The industry-standard hand and power tools, valued at an estimate of \$25,000 to \$35,000, will help students be better prepared to function on the job site. "We've got all the tools we'll ever use," said Jim Miles, Electrical Technology Program instructor, about the agreement. "This will help the students ... they'll be ahead of the competition."

Paul Kennedy, DEWALT Southeast Regional Sales manager, agreed, noting a donation

such as one given to MCC is a long-term investment. In communicating with their contractors, Kennedy said one of their responsibilities is seeking ways to make the contractors' work more efficient. "One of the biggest hiccups contractors have is the shortage of skilled labor, so we like to partner with institutions like Meridian Community College and offer up some innovation and innovative ways to train the future generations," he said.

MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner thanked DEWALT officials for their partnership and the opportunity to build a skilled workforce. "I could not be more proud than to be standing here talking about a company who has made a decision to invest in our students, to invest in our community and to invest in our future," he said.



## MCC'S BEEP GARNERS \$75K GRANT FROM HARDIN FOUNDATION

The Phil Hardin Foundation, a nationally-known philanthropic organization based in Meridian, has granted \$75,000 to the MCC Foundation for continued support of Best Early Education Practices (BEEP) Project.

"We're excited about continuing this partnership with an outstanding program," said Lloyd Gray, executive director of the Phil Hardin Foundation. The foundation has generously

supported the BEEP Project since its beginnings in June 2012. MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner said the grant dovetails with the College's efforts in working closely with other entities - public and private - co-utilizing our resources to create opportunities for students and community.

BEEP is an early childhood education project that supports children, parents and early childhood educators to best prepare children for kindergarten success and advancement. It is headed by Win Maxey-Shumate, instructor and coordinator for MCC's Early Childhood Education Technology.

The BEEP Project provides age and developmentally appropriate activities that promote the development of the whole child. The activities include all curricula areas and encourage the social, emotional, physical, language, math, pre-reading and independence skills that children need before entering a kindergarten classroom.



**Best Early Education Practices**  
601-581-3527 • [beep@meridiancc.edu](mailto:beep@meridiancc.edu)

# AT&T CONTRIBUTES TO MCC FOUNDATION FOR STUDENT GOVERNMENT



Thanks to a sizable corporate donation, a student government association is being formed at MCC.

AT&T contributed \$7,500 to the MCC Foundation as part of AT&T Aspire, the company's initiative to help provide access to education and to train people who need to get and keep good jobs. This contribution will support the Student Government Association where students develop leadership skills and utilize them to address student issues on campus.

"AT&T is pleased to support Meridian Community College and its Student Government Association. Helping students achieve their goals now will result in a better chance for their success in the future. That's helpful in their own career paths and also better positions Mississippi for more economic growth opportunities in the



Dr. Thomas Huebner, Soraya Welden, C.D. Smith, Diane Delk gather with students and colleagues for donation announcement.

future," said C.D. Smith, regional director of AT&T Mississippi.

MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner said when college officials were approached by Smith, representing AT&T, "we began to think about how best to use the funds. The first thing we thought about was how we can improve opportunity in leadership for our students," he said. A student government association would offer a way for students to learn how to be leaders. "If we can play

a small role in developing those leadership skills, then I think we have gone a long way," Dr. Huebner added.

Phyllis Holladay, math instructor and academic honor society Phi Theta Kappa advisor, explained the idea of forming the Student Government Association came from creating a PTK college project. "We knew the grant could potentially be the momentum we needed to successfully move this project forward," she said.

## CTE CHALLENGE GRANT TO INITIATE NEW TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

The Mississippi Community College Board awarded a \$1.1 million grant to Meridian Community College to start an Advanced Manufacturing Technology program.

"Meridian's application for the Advanced Manufacturing Technology Program demonstrates a critical need to meet the workforce demand requested by the local business community to reduce the skills gap in your district," Dexter Holloway, assistant executive director for workforce and economic development, stated in a letter announcing the award.

"This absolutely speaks to our desire to address economic and workforce development

needs in Meridian and Lauderdale County," MCC President Tom Huebner said. "The challenge grant will serve as a catalyst for MCC to align career and technical education programs with ever-growing needs in advanced manufacturing."

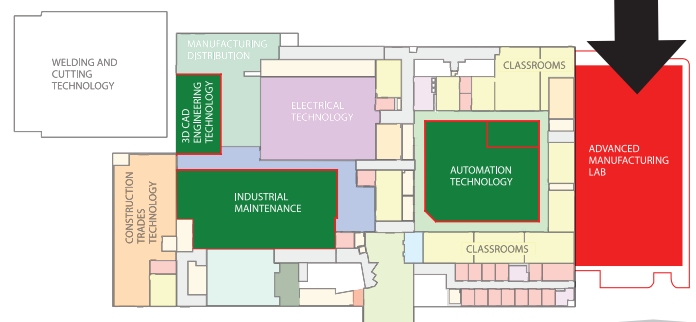
Students who take Advanced Manufacturing Certificate core classes, such as multi-axis machining, mechatronics, CMM inspection, robotics material handling and additive manufacturing metal, will have the opportunity to cross train in other MCC programs including Precision Machining Engineering Technology, Systems-Based Electronics Engineering Technology, 3D

CAD Engineering Technology and Millwright Technology.

Machine Tool Inc., a HAAS Factory Outlet, Zavation and Precision Spine joined MCC in

the grant application process. Tower Automotive, Fairbanks Scales, Hol-Mac Corp. have agreed to serve as industry partners and provide future apprenticeship opportunities.

### ADVANCED MANUFACTURING LAB COMING SPRING 2020



MCC-RILEY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## STREET STRUT | AUGUST 2018

The Eighth Annual Queen City Race for Life & Street Strut, co-organized by the American Cancer Society and the Phi Theta Kappa chapter at Meridian Community College, brought out supporters - some decked out in pink - to Downtown Meridian in support of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



Bettye Phillips with her winning umbrella.

In addition to a 5K race, the event included an umbrella street strut with participants parading umbrellas decorated with pink motifs, slogans, ribbons, spangles, glitter, flowers and more.

The race was founded in 2009 by Cindy Kane Schrock to honor the memory of her sister, Judie Bounds Rutledge, who lost a difficult but valiant battle against breast cancer in 2012.

"I'm very passionate about fighting and finding a cure for breast cancer," Schrock said. "But not really only for breast cancer - for all cancers - because cancer strikes all of our families."



Phyllis Holladay and Dr. Thomas Huebner

"Some of our students had seen an umbrella strut elsewhere during a trip and wanted to duplicate it here," said Phyllis Holladay, Phi Theta Kappa chapter advisor. "Phi Theta Kappa then partnered with Carousel Ladies, a support group that had been meeting in Meridian. The next year, Cindy and I met. She wanted to start the race part in honor of her sister."

It is the drive of honoring those who have fought the disease - many who have lost, many who have won - that brings out so many participants to the event year after year.

## BLOOD DRIVE | SEPTEMBER 2018

There's a saying, third time's a charm. It could be said that phrase applied to Meridian Community College co-ed Emily Waddell.



Waddell's third attempt to try to give blood yielded success. "I've tried to donate before two other times," she said, but the previous opportunities to give didn't work out due to timing issues. So, as she had a free morning from classes and other obligations, Waddell made the time.

Waddell was one of more than 35 students, faculty, staff and community members who took part in MCC Campus Life's blood drive with the assistance from Mississippi Blood Services. "MCC has a proud tradition of giving back to the community in many ways. The blood drive is just one way to help ensure our community has everything it needs," said LeAnne Motes, campus life coordinator.

According to the World Health Organization, there is a constant need for regular blood supply because blood can be stored for only a limited time. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the United States needs blood. Regular blood donations by a sufficient number of healthy people are needed to ensure that safe blood will be available.

For Alan Bracken, his blood donation marked a milestone of sorts. "This makes a full gallon that I've given since I was a freshman," he said. Giving is a win-win for him as well. "They can use my blood for a lot of different blood types. Because my iron levels are high, by donating I'm dropping them down," he said. Bracken is a psychology major studying at MCC and Mississippi State University-Meridian. He's also a part-time staffer with Campus Life.

## MY COLLEGE CARES | OCTOBER 2018

As she loaded white paint onto a roller, MCC Assistant Softball Coach Londen Ladner paused, reflected and said, "We did this last year. I think they get something out of it - helping people."



Commercial Truck Driving students at St. Patrick Catholic School

Ladner and a few of the Lady Eagles Softball team were painting fresh coats on walls at a Habitat for Humanity house as a part of the College's annual volunteer endeavor, My College Cares. Some 1,500 students joined forces to serve the community in a multitude of ways. More than 100 MCC faculty and staff members pitched in, too. "It really helps them to work together off the softball field and know that they're helping another family." She added with a smile, "they're learning how to paint, too."

MCC'ers from all walks of life spent the day reading to school children, cleaning public spaces and collecting trash. Others filled treat bags for fall festivals, freshened theater seats and washed buses. But those were just a few of the activities accomplished through MCC volunteer power.

All the students in the Hospitality Management Program volunteered to work at Go Green Meridian's community garden, "Love and Peas." Shelena Pace, 29, of Quitman, stopped briefly to survey her efforts of pulling weeds from an herb bed and said, "We had a guest speaker come to our culinary class, and he got me interested in nutrition. I just love the fact that this is an organic garden," she said. Craig Wilkes, Go Green Meridian president, said the students' efforts were crucial to the garden's future. "We clean up from the summer and prepare for the fall. This - their work - is important for planting the spring crops in February," he said.

Those sentiments were echoed by Katy Watkins, co-chairman of the Church of the Mediator annual fall barbecue. While MCC students stirred up some 50 gallons of sauce in preparation for the church's barbecue fundraiser, Watkins said their efforts were a godsend. "They make it go faster," she said. "They're very



Kaylee McBride, MCC Culinary instructor, works in the Love and Peas Garden.

independent, they just come in and do the work. And they have fun and that's good to see." She noted that it was an interesting twist that the proceeds from the barbecue are returned into the local community as well.

In thanking MCC'ers for their My College Cares efforts, MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner said, "In a world almost singularly focused on 'self' we have accomplished something significant if, even for a day, our students can think about others."



## TOYS FOR TOTS | NOVEMBER 2018

Meridian Community College Campus Life Coordinator LeAnne Motes, left, gathers new and unwrapped toys as Sgt. Demarckus Adams collects them as a part of the Marines Toys for Tots campaign. The MCC campus community contributed the toys that were distributed to less fortunate children at Christmas. "This is a



great help," Adams, who is stationed at NAS Meridian, said as he picked up the donations. He noted colleges are generous in giving to Toys for Tots.

# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

## MCC'ERS HELP BUILD JEANNIE'S PLACE | FEBRUARY 2019

Not all learning takes place inside the classroom. This rings especially true when Meridian Community College students, faculty and staff help others in the community - this time by taking part in building Jeannie's Place at Planet Playground. Located at Northeast Park in Meridian, Jeannie's Place at Planet Playground is the only handicapped accessible public playground in the area and the largest all-inclusive playground in the state. Valerie Creel, MCC career and technical education advisor and Junior Auxiliary of Meridian provisional member, helped coordinate the volunteers from campus.

"This is great for the community ... it's a playground for everybody," Creel said. It's also a way for the community to see MCC'ers giving back to their community. Students in the College's Industrial Division including Construction Trades and Electrical Technology helped before the public build began by making 22 pairs of sawhorses, three work tables, two saw tables, 10 hand tamps and more. "This experience teaches them to go above and beyond what's expected to help the community," said Jim Miles, MCC Electrical Technology Program coordinator and instructor.

The build also taught how to schedule. "We have classwork to do, a job site

production we have to get done, but at the same time, we want to give back to the community," said Myke Shirley, MCC Construction Trades Program coordinator and instructor.

Jenny Bryan, MCC academic coordinator of clinical education and instructor for the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, said participating in the build was a great team building experience for students. "It gives them a chance to bond," she said. There are also the opportunities to learn from different situations they may encounter while volunteering, which is important. "Because you never know what your patients are bringing to the table from day to day," she said.

Cara Horstman, a first-year student in the PTA program, sees connections in volunteering. "I'm very interested in the pediatric side of physical therapy. I taught pre-school for years and I know how important actual play time on playgrounds is to fine motor development and social and cognitive development. I'm excited to be a part to help out," she said. Classmate Austin Smith from Philadelphia said he's always been eager to volunteer. "I'm blessed to have the opportunity where I can do something. I'd be wasting my ability if I didn't go and help."



Myke Shirley, right, supervises cuts.



MCC Construction Trades and Electrical Technology students unload playground building materials.

The playground also holds a special meaning for Bryan. "I was part of the first build when I was a Physical Therapist Assistant student here at MCC in 1999. I actually helped put in the slide one day during that build," she said.

"Everybody has to work together to get it accomplished," Miles added.



Jim Miles and Myke Shirley direct students in a foundation piece.



Dr. Thomas Huebner lends a helping hand at the construction site.



## SPECIAL OLYMPICS | MARCH 2019

When MCC students, faculty and staff turned out to lend a helping hand for the Special Olympics, the benefits were bountiful.

"The turnout was wonderful," said Lowell Martin, MCC Success Center director. "We had a huge number of College students and faculty and staff to help," he said.

More than 300 Special Olympic athletes, ranging in ages 5 to 22 with intellectual and physical disabilities came to MCC's Smith Field Soccer Pitch to participate in a variety of sports including soccer, horseshoes and track and field events.

"The most important aspect is that the kids - Special Olympians - had a great time," Martin said.

The good time wasn't one-sided; MCC students and staff enjoyed the event, too. "It makes you feel good helping other people," said Catherine Dean, a 19-year-old psychology major from Meridian. Dean was helping Sociology Instructor Kim Coward put temporary USA tattoos on the competitors. "My students get the opportunity to interact with others by volunteering," Coward said. Another MCC student, Hayleigh Rogers, a sophomore softball player for the Lady Eagles, said she likes that the College offers opportunities to volunteer. Martin noted he plans to establish a Special Olympics club on campus in the fall. "We're getting students together and handling logistics right now, but the plan is to have two or three events per semester," he said.

The College's group also seeks to expose MCC students to special needs individuals. "Sometimes you fear what you don't know, and this way people gain experience working with someone who is special needs," Martin said.



Lowell Martin and Gina Mills welcome Special Olympians, families and friends to campus.

## WALK FOR WELLNESS | APRIL 2019

Meridian Community College held its 5th annual Walk for Wellness. Various health and wellness screenings were offered including BMI and blood pressure readings. A variety

of vendors were present with information about wellness and health opportunities. Community members and MCC employees walked the mile around campus for exercise.



# FOCUS ON GOVERNMENT

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES UNITE TO CHAMPION CAUSE AT CAPITAL

More than 100 Mississippi community college students, faculty, staff and administrators flooded the Capitol in Jackson to lobby legislators to continue their financial support of the 15 colleges.



Dr. Thomas Huebner reviews notes with Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann.

"We are not just another group of people who want more money," said Dr. Holly Crane, Meridian Community College Associate Degree Nursing Program instructor, as she addressed the crowd for the Mississippi Community College Capitol Day 2019 news conference.

"We, the community college system in this state, are the catalyst that grows this economy, and we are simply asking that our legislators – our leaders – invest in us as we invest in our students," she said.

Crane was one speaker who shared statistics, testimonials and success stories with the Capitol audience in support of the need for additional funding for the Mississippi community colleges.

Dr. Mary Graham, chair of the Mississippi Association of Community and Junior Colleges (MACJC) and president of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, addressed the value of Mississippi community colleges. Graham said, "If you want to re-establish America's middle class – particularly

Mississippi's middle class, then you need to help us in our community college system."

For every state tax dollar invested in community colleges, Mississippi gets back \$4.86, or a 386 percent net return, said Dr. Jesse Smith, legislative co-chair of MACJC and president of Jones College. "That's a worthwhile investment," he added. Another statistic: Three billion dollars in sales and income tax is contributed to Mississippi by each community college graduating class throughout their lifetimes.

"Mississippi community colleges grow Mississippi like no other tax dollar, but, sadly, in 2018 we received about the same level of funding as our counterparts at Mississippi Institutions of Higher learning received in 1979," Crane told the group.

"This is simply unacceptable," she added.

Other speakers included Dr. Jim Haffey, legislative co-chair of MACJC and president of Holmes Community College; Adam Conner, a political science student at Northwest Community College; Dr. Andrea Mayfield, executive director of the Mississippi Community College board; Mary Warren, president of the Mississippi Faculty Association of Community Colleges; and Delbert Hosemann, Mississippi Secretary of State.

Conner said he quit college the first time he took classes because of difficulties in chemistry. When he tried to return a year later, he learned he was not eligible for the Pell Grant. Conner didn't feel financially prepared as an 18-year-old to take out a loan, so he waited until he turned 24 to be eligible for aid as an independent student.

"A quality education provides an array of benefits, but there are many barriers to success. Rising tuition, time, and financial aid restrictions keep countless Mississippians from accessing higher education," said Conner. "Every Mississippian is entitled to opportunities for educational and professional growth."

Without more support for community colleges, Haffey is concerned more people will be dependent on the state. Haffey said his mom earned her nursing degree at Hinds Community College after 20-years of raising kids and being a housewife. He calculated a 1,600 percent return on the states' investment into her education from the state taxes she paid over the 26-years she worked at a rural county hospital.

"Every year there are hundreds of Mississippians who do not get a chance to enroll in an allied health program because we have limitations on our space. We stand poised to help hundreds, but we cannot open or expand programs without a strong commitment from the state. Two years ago, the community colleges were cut 11 percent while the state made other areas a priority. I'm asking the Legislature to restore those cuts immediately and invest in a proven economic development entity, the Mississippi Community Colleges."

Mayfield added community colleges are the best value for the taxpayers and individuals seeking an education. "The community college system does it all while offering affordable college tuition, and with every experience, you can find at a university. But, you can also (earn a degree) and begin work without a large debt. The community college's purpose is to put people to work, and it's the best value to Mississippi's economy."

"Never think what you do doesn't matter," Hosemann said. "What y'all do is important," he said to the community college supporters.

Mississippi community colleges train over 100,000 workers each year for increasingly and fundamentally important middle-skill jobs, putting graduates to work immediately. "We, the



Dr. Holly Crane makes her point during a speech at the Mississippi Capitol with state leaders and community college presidents in the background.

community colleges in Mississippi, fill in the middle skills gap like no one else can," Crane said.

The Mississippi Faculty Association started the day with speeches at the Capitol steps with students, faculty, staff and administrators standing in support.

## MCC, LCSD PARTNERSHIP WINS MAPIE GOVERNOR'S AWARD

A long-standing collaboration between two educational institutions, Meridian Community College and Lauderdale County School District, received top accolades as winners of the Mississippi Association of Partners in Education's Governor's Award (MAPIE).

The two entities received the 2019 Governor's District and Community Award and were recognized at the awards luncheon at Lake Terrace Convention Center in Hattiesburg. MAPIE is a non-profit organization committed to providing training and materials to help build local support for student success. It is one of a few statewide partnership organizations of its kind in the U.S.

MCC and LCSD have worked together in offering a myriad of programs such as dual enrollment, leadership summits,

theatrical productions and reality fairs for students.

"Being a partner allows us to introduce avenues of future employment or educational programs that will provide our students with a future," said Dr. John-Mark Cain, superintendent of Lauderdale County School District.

MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner said the partnership with Lauderdale County Schools is a win for the students, the College and the community. "Due to our partnership, students get a chance to see what we do here and see what opportunities are available. That opens the world for them, and when it opens a world for them, then it opens a world for our entire region," he said.

Dr. Huebner added, "that's probably the best kind of a partnership."



# FOCUS ON GOVERNMENT

## COMMUNITY FORUM BRINGS EDUCATORS, BUSINESSES TOGETHER



Dr. Terry Dale Cruse, Dr. Amy Carter, Dr. John-Mark Cain, Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, Dr. Thomas Huebner and Bill Hannah.

"If you don't tell us, we don't know. And we want to know. Those types of conversations make a true difference."

That's how Meridian Community College President Dr. Thomas Huebner concluded the first Community Forum with business and educational leaders held in the MCC-Riley Workforce Development Center addressing the workforce issues in the community. The repeated theme: Education connecting better with the workforce.

The one and a half-hour long session brought together business and educational leaders, including Dr. Amy Carter, superintendent for the Meridian Public School District; Dr. John-Mark Cain, superintendent of Lauderdale County School District; Dr. Terry Dale Cruse, administrative director and head of campus at Mississippi State University-Meridian and Bill Hannah, president and CEO of the East Mississippi Business Development Center, to the stage to explain current educational efforts and needs of the businesses in the area.

"All of us have an opportunity to make a personal investment within our area of concern or interest. What's important for all of us is the open dialog, the communication," Dr. Huebner said.

Special guest panelist, Mississippi Secretary of State Delbert Hosemann, presented results from surveys completed by his office that questioned corporations and limited liability companies. One response that repeatedly surfaced was that an educated workforce is what businesses want.

In a 2018 survey asking what qualities were most important for an educated workforce, results revealed work ethic, honesty, and communication skills were vital. "The most important thing: You come to the job, you do the job, you talk to your fellow employees, and you're honest with your employer," Hosemann said. Sometimes called soft skills, Hosemann said, "but they are not soft skills to me. They are critical skills that we need for an educated workforce." Hosemann also stressed that businesses



Delbert Hosemann, left, J.T. Williamson of the SuperTalk J.T. Show, and Dr. Thomas Huebner respond to SuperTalk listeners.

must connect with the education community and communicate their needs.

Dr. Carter noted that it is essential to invest in the schools' workforce. "If you don't have the personnel there to educate children, it makes it a difficult journey," she said. She also shared that MPSD officials are investigating a new student empowerment and development program, The Leader in Me, based on Steven Covey's *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*.

Dr. Cruse reviewed programs at MSU Meridian - the bachelor of applied technology degree, the professional master of business administration and the master's physician assistant degree - which are unique and explicitly tied to this area.

Addressing the audience, Hannah said, "I work for every one of you. Our job is to sell what this community has. We're very interested in our community growing." The workforce is an essential piece in industrial development.

"Workforce is a huge challenge to us all. The only way we can address it and be successful is to do things like this," Hannah added.



Dr. Amy Carter and Dr. Thomas Huebner

Addressing the question if there was any stigma associated with career and technical education, that attitude is changing because of the country's need for technical workers. "In Meridian, we're leading the state in dual credit opportunities," said Rob Smith, MPSD Ross Collins Career and Technical Center director. "Career technical (education) is opening up and creating opportunities for students," Smith added.

Also, the question of what are the efforts in place to retain our students was asked. "Once they get these certifications and training, what are we doing to keep them here? Because I know for many of them, they will be considered as the high earners in their families in some of our communities, and we're looking at opportunities. How can we use this as an opportunity to disrupt

some of the poverty we see here in our community?" asked Stephanie Wright. Dr. Huebner offered that Mississippians should not define success as the ability to leave the state.

"We have to redefine now what success means," said Dr. Huebner. "It should mean your ability to impact change... to make things better, to influence the things positively in the community where you grew up," he said. "I think we have to start talking differently about what success means for a student."

"We encourage students to come home, but sometimes the opportunity is not there," Huebner added. "When those jobs come here, they (the students) come home."

## LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON FOCUSES ON NEEDS, POINTS OF PRIDE



Supervisor Kyle Rutledge and Dr. Thomas Huebner

Points-of-pride, plans for growth and needs for additional funding were a few of the topics stressed by Meridian Community College President Dr. Thomas Huebner, when MCC hosted its fall legislative luncheon.

Lawmakers including Meridian City Council members, state senators, representatives, City of Meridian officials and Lauderdale County supervisors joined with MCC faculty and staff to learn of the needs for MCC and all state community colleges.

"By nature, I try to be an optimist, so I look for positives. I have a feeling that right now things are coalescing in a positive direction for Meridian and Lauderdale County, and I am grateful for your leadership and willingness to embrace this college and the opportunities we have here," Huebner said to the audience.

The numbers he presented stressed the case for additional funding. A majority of

Mississippi students - 57 percent - start at a community college. The state ranked fourth in the nation in the percentage of students who transfer from community colleges to four-year colleges and universities. "Community colleges are the greatest value in higher education," he said. "For every state tax dollar invested in community colleges, Mississippi gets back a 386 percent net return."

Closer to home, Huebner pointed out that from 2011 to 2017, the number of graduates earning a degree or certificate from MCC has increased by 7 percent and in last year alone, MCC awarded 929 degrees. "That's an all-time record," he said. Huebner pointed with pride to the growth of the Phil Hardin Foundation Honors College at MCC - 12 students in 2012 to 70 students this year. Corporate partnerships with DEWALT, Under Armor and AT&T were noted and achievements of MCC scholar-athletes were recognized.

Huebner said College officials are developing a strategic plan to serve as a roadmap to the future of the college. "We're building our long-range plan from there," he said.

Students, though, are the college's focus. "When students come here, doors open. They see opportunities sometimes for the first time, and when they do, whole families change, trajectories change, and when that happens, communities change. Jobs come. When that happens, we create a whole different ballgame for Meridian and Lauderdale County," he said.

He applauded lawmakers' work and thanked them for their support. Huebner said, "I know you believe in us, and we are genuinely appreciative."



Rep. William Shirley, Barbara Jones and Sen. Videt Carmichael



Councilwoman Kim Houston, Tommy Dulaney and Dr. Richie McAlister



# ONE OF SIX IN THE COUNTRY

## MERIDIAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE GARNERS 'NASA ON CAMPUS' AWARD

Meridian Community College is one of six community colleges in the country identified by the National Space Grant Consortia

and NASA's Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) to participate in the pilot program, NASA On Campus.

NASA On Campus, a campus-based adaptation of the successful NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) program, gives community college students who are focusing on STEM fields an authentic NASA experience at one of the NASA centers. NCAS encourages them to finish a two-year degree or transfer to a four-year university to pursue a NASA-related field or career.

"Meridian Community College is very pleased to participate in NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars," said MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner. "This will greatly benefit students, giving them a head start on careers in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics fields," he said.

MCC faculty members Dr. Angie Carraway, chemistry instructor, and Valerie Bishop, biology instructor and chairman of the MCC Science and Wellness division, are now training both in-person and online to prepare their campus for a successful experience.

"I have no doubt Dr. Carraway and Mrs. Bishop will do an excellent job opening doors for community college students who want to explore opportunities and careers with NASA and other STEM-related professions. This program is a perfect fit for our commitment to academic excellence," said Dr. Huebner.

Carraway said NASA On Campus is a tremendous opportunity for community college students throughout the country by exposing and introducing them to NASA in a broader context than if students just read about NASA or even visited a NASA center. "It also continues their training as professionals, particularly focusing on those characteristics that NASA values," she said.

Specifically, completion of the NCAS program increases students' chances of receiving a NASA internship and potentially increases their chances of being employed by NASA in the future, Carraway added.

For this pilot activity, participating students enroll in a five-week online learning experience, administered by NASA and taught by faculty from their home campuses. In addition to learning about NASA research and missions, the online class opportunity will allow students to talk to NASA engineers and scientists as well as compete for a 2020 summer NASA internship program.

"NASA looks forward to making the NCAS experience accessible to a wider range of students who may have had limited ability to travel to a NASA center for the week-long event," said Alicia Baturoni-Cortez, NCAS Activity Manager. "This pilot activity will evaluate the potential for replicating the successful NCAS experience at community college campuses throughout the nation."

Other community colleges named to participate in NASA on Campus are Hinds Community College, Essex County Community College in New Jersey; Cerritos College and College of the Desert, California and Redlands Community College, Oklahoma.

Photo credit: NASA JSC Office of STEM Engagement



Students who successfully complete the online course will participate in engineering design and robotics competition designed by NASA at their campus this fall. The date for the MCC competition is Oct. 21-24. After successfully completing the program, one student from MCC will be awarded a NASA summer internship.



Photo credit: NASA

Ready to start work on the NASA On Campus are, from left, Dr. Nidhal Marashi, Dr. Janet McLarty Schroeder, Dr. Kathleen Coughlan, Jorge Perez, Dr. Angela Carraway, Chris Vaca, Valerie Bishop, Dr. Eunice Kamunge, Dr. Noel Gardener, Alicia Baturoni Cortez.

The schools are encouraged to explore partnerships with local industry and academia engaged in NASA research and are excited for the opportunity to bring NASA to their campus.

Through MUREP's competitive awards, NASA provides financial assistance to minority-serving institutions. These institutions recruit and retain underrepresented and underserved students, including women, girls, veterans and persons with disabilities, into STEM fields.

The NASA Community College Aerospace Scholarship program began as a small effort at the Houston, Texas-based Johnson Space Center in 2007 and has since become an agency-wide effort with all NASA centers hosting events throughout the year reaching upwards of 800 students annually. Nearly 200 internships have been awarded to NCAS alumni over the years with many going on to full-time careers in the aerospace industry.

## BOWMAN WINS STATE YOU BE THE CHEMIST CHALLENGE



Joshua Bowman, a Northwest Rankin Middle School student, headed to Washington D.C. this summer as the Mississippi champion of You Be The Chemist Challenge® after he was selected as the winner of the competition held at Meridian Community College.

Bowman was excited about his win, defeating 31 other middle school students from Meridian, Union and Jackson-area schools. "I've always wanted to go to Washington," he said after the award ceremony.

The You Be The Chemist Challenge® is an interactive academic contest that encourages students in grades 5-8 to explore chemistry concepts and their real-world applications. The challenge provides a unique opportunity for a variety of individuals and organizations—including schools, members of the chemical industry, educators and other community partners—to come together and show their support for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education. The competition is hosted by the Chemical Education Foundation.

Joining in the winners' circle were Northwest Rankin classmates Andy Tran and Carson May, who came in second and fourth, respectively. Jonathan Shelton, from Union Middle School, received a third-place nod.

The state challenge was done in a quiz-bowl format with several rounds of multiple-choice questions. A wide variety of science questions were displayed on a screen for the students to answer from their tables. They used an electronic remote device to solve timed problems. Judges included MCC alumni Jaricus Whitlock, a chemical engineer, and Darrell Thompson, a polymer chemist.

Meridian Community College's science division hosted the Meridian Challenge of You Be The Chemist in March and served as the host for the statewide event. MCC Chemistry Instructor Dr. Angie Carraway, who has organized four Meridian-based competitions is excited the contest is growing. "People need to be aware of STEM opportunities," she said, adding, "our young people need to be encouraged with challenging activities."



Curiosity Self-Portrait on Mars, 2015.

Photo credit: NASA/JPL-Caltech/MSSS.

# COLLEGE COMMUNICATIONS

## IT'S A 'BRAND' NEW DAY FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS



Just like making a good first impression, brand image matters. And that's why MCC's College Communications Division has updated the College's logo for a crisper, cleaner look using a new font and different Pantone Matching System color.



But the logo isn't the only change. Victor the Eagle, the College's mascot, has gotten a new look. He's more athletically built and ready to meet the challenge of energizing the crowds at events.

### LIVE STREAMING

The College is now a player in the area of social media with live streaming athletic events; those live streams are getting viewed two to three times more than other Mississippi community college institutions.

FOLLOW US TO **#THEVIEWFROMTHETOP**



@meridiantcc



@MCCeagles



@MCCisthe1

### Take a look at the increases in our social media presence:

**Facebook:** Since July 2018, fans have increased by more than 59.4 percent; engagement has increased by 312.2 percent.

**Instagram:** Since July 2018, followers have increased by 123.8 percent; engagement has increased by 52.3 percent.

**Twitter:** Since July 2018, followers have increased by 12.8 percent; engagement has increased by 134.2 percent.

**YouTube:** Since July 2018, subscribers increased 388% and views have increased 100 percent.

**LinkedIn:** Since July 2018, visitors have increased by 43 percent; page views have increased by 39 percent; shares have increased 150 percent and reactions are up 135 percent.



## UNIFORM LOOK TIES ATHLETIC TEAMS TOGETHER

The 2019-2020 season will usher in a new look for Meridian Community College athletics. Eagle teams will be sporting a newly designed logo.

As part of a strong rebranding effort, the Communications Department created a new logo for MCC athletics. It was designed to up-date the MCC Athletics' look. The new logo was a combined effort between Communications and Athletics. Director of Visual Media Tony Boutwell and Athletic Director Sander Atkinson worked together to create the perfect visual identification for MCC Athletics.

"We are excited to unveil a new athletic logo. The goal from the beginning was to create something that would be used department-wide by all sports to highlight our athletic department. I'd like to give a special thanks to the MCC College Communications Department for coming up with the design," said Atkinson.

The new logo will be seen on everything from uniforms, hats and other MCC apparel to external marketing material.



 @mcc eaglesathletics

 @MCC EagleSports

 @MCCisthe1

VIEW TEAM STATS:  
[MCCEAGLES.COM](http://MCCEAGLES.COM)

## MCC INKS APPAREL DEAL WITH UNDER ARMOUR



### UNDER ARMOUR

Meridian Community College Athletics signed an exclusive, five-year partnership with athletic apparel giant Under Armour through an agreement signed with BSN Sports, a leading manufacturer and distributor of sporting goods apparel and equipment. MCC coaches say the new apparel agreement will help their departments' branding and recruiting.

The department-wide agreement will cover the College's 13 intercollegiate athletic programs and is the first of its kind for MCC. The deal includes access to Under Armour uniforms, as well as shoes, equipment and other supplies

offered through BSN Sports. In the past, MCC teams selected their own brand of uniform.

"We are incredibly excited about this new agreement with Under Armour and BSN Sports," said Sander Atkinson, MCC athletic director. "Getting all the Eagle athletic programs under one championship caliber brand will enable the college to move to another level of recognition, and it will allow us to have a consistent look across all sports."

The MCC athletic program continues to be one of the foremost in the National Junior College Athletic Association, earning multiple accolades from the NJCAA.

Judge Little, of BSN Sports, said his company looks forward to working with MCC and promoting the Eagle brand. "BSN Sports is ecstatic about the new partnership with MCC," Little said. "Clearly MCC has a dominant presence in junior college athletics, and

we are excited about the opportunity to promote this first-class institution." MCC fields the teams of men and women soccer, men and women basketball, men and women tennis, golf, men and women track and field, softball, baseball, men and women cross-country.

"We couldn't be more pleased than to have forged this partnership with Under Armour and BSN Sports," said Dr. Tom Huebner, Meridian Community College president. "Under Armour is well-known for producing products that are popular, attractive, and high in quality. Not only will our student-athletes look good, but our agreement harnesses the buying power of all our athletic teams to create options we might not have had otherwise. Meridian Community College, Under Armour, and BSN Sports are all known for high performance, and I look forward to seeing how this partnership will open doors for those who desire to be excellent on the playing fields and in the classrooms of MCC."

# MCC GRADUATES

## SPRING GRADUATION | TOP ACCOLADES



MCC President Dr. Thomas Huebner offered warm wishes to the May 2019 graduates; "We look forward to seeing where they go and what they do, and we want them to know they are always welcome home at MCC."

Two ceremonies were hosted by the college; one was for students in the Health Education and Nursing programs and the other was for University Transfer and Career and Technical Program students. Both ceremonies were held in the Evangel Temple. The highlight of the second commencement came when five top graduates were recognized and rewarded for their academic performance yielding scholarships to continue their academic endeavors.

Alexandre'ail Jackson of Osyka and Joshua Cochran of Lucedale were named recipients of the Phil Hardin Foundation Scholarships, which are funded through the MCC Foundation. Jackson and Cochran each received \$5,000.

Jackson is majoring in physical therapy and plans to attend Mississippi State University. Cochran will continue his studies at Mississippi State University and will pursue a career in dentistry.

Karey Ridge Mathis of Quitman, Bryan Rivers of Hickory and Dunnam Shirley of Meridian were selected as recipients of the H.M. Ivy Scholarships. These scholarships are given in memory of H.M. Ivy, the founding father of Meridian Community College and are presented

to outstanding graduates based on academic excellence, extra-curricular participation, financial need and faculty appraisals. All three will receive \$2,000 for their junior year of study at senior institutions, and provided that their academic excellence continues, \$2,000 for their senior year of study.

Mathis plans to study chemical engineering at MSU. Rivers plans to study at Mississippi College and aspires to become a physician. Shirley plans to study at MSU and major in education.

<b>TOP ACCOLADES</b>	 <b>10</b> FIRST PLACE AWARDS	 <b>16</b> STUDENTS <b>11</b> AWARDS	 <b>15</b> STATE CONFERENCE AWARDS
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2019</b>

## MILITARY GUIDE SALUTES MCC

The MAE&T Guide provides direction with higher education choices to soldiers and families. The Military Friendly School guide is a comprehensive research tool used by service members, educational service offices and transition officers preparing soldiers and their families for civilian life," said Dr. Angela Payne, MCC director of admissions.

The recognitions in the guide provide an opportunity to showcase MCC as a top provider of military and veterans support services among its higher education peers.



## MCC GRADUATE FISHING FOR CAREER

When asked why he wanted to study marketing, Hunter Miles would tell them so he could fish.

Now with his associate of applied science degree in Business and Marketing Management Technology from Meridian Community College in hand, Miles is on his way to doing just that. "Hopefully next year will be a game changer," Miles said. "We're going to fish the opens next year - the Bass Master Opens."

"Fishing in those tournaments has been a goal," Miles said. It's been his lifetime dream.

The 19-year-old Collinsville native has been passionate about the outdoors as early as age 5. "My family raised me on fishing and hunting," Miles said, recalling it was when he was around 10 years old when he dove into tournament fishing. In his first tournament, he won that competition with 23 pounds. "You weigh your five biggest fish at the end of the day," he said, noting that at the 3 p.m. weigh-in, he had 23 pounds.

"That's a very big deal," he said.

So much so that it ignited the desire to fish for a living. "I can't shake it anymore. I had to pursue it... it's all I ever wanted to do," Miles said.

"I have fished against some of the greats in some of the tournaments I've fished - especially in some of the Bass Fishing

League tournaments," Miles noted. Miles said when fishing in the opens, practice makes perfect. Monday through Wednesday is set aside for practice and then Thursday, Friday and Saturday are the tournament days. "Those tournaments are going to be regional tournaments. There are only two divisions in opens, Eastern and Northern, and we'd fish all over the country," Miles said.

Miles knows his marketing degree from MCC has helped. "On a resume or on a

proposal for a sponsorship, the degree says I know how the business works," he said.

Specifically, he said the advertising classes he took from Sandy Clark, MCC Marketing Management Technology Program coordinator and instructor, helped him tremendously. "Most of my advertising - wraps on my truck and boat - is social media - Facebook, Instagram ... you wouldn't believe how much advertising goes through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube," he said.



Photo credit: Mike Giles

# FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



## FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2019



### DONOR DOLLARS AT WORK

**BRANSON ACTON**

William and Dorothy Lerner Business Scholarship

**SAVANNAH ALAWINE**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**CECILEE ALEXANDER**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**RACHEL ALEXANDER**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**TYLER ALEXANDER**

Structural Steel Scholarship

**LISA ALFORD**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**KIRSTEN ALLEN**

Mavis Williams Memorial Scholarship

**CHRISTOPHER ARRINGTON**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**TUCKER ATKINSON**

Walter and Cora Thompson Johnson Memorial Scholarship

**MORGAN AUSBROOKS**

Dr. Robert Hermetz Memorial Scholarship

**JONATHAN BAKER**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**JOQUEREON BALL**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**NICHOLE BALL**

Anderson Support and Development Foundation Scholarship

**XAVIER BALL**

Upward Bound Scholarship

**ANNA BANKS**

T. H. and Allie Hobgood Memorial Scholarship

**ME'CHAEAL BANKS**

Dr. William R. Moore, II Memorial Scholarship

**TRAVERA BANKS**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**DANIEL BARNHILL**

Richard F. Riley, M.D. Scholarship

**ZACH BATEMAN**

Burke Broadcasting Scholarship

**BRITTANY BATY**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**VICTORIA BEAN**

- Meridian Area Dental Association Scholarship
- Structural Steel Scholarship

**DANIEL BEDWELL**

S. A. Rosenbaum Construction Trades Scholarship

**BRAXTON BEECH**

Margaret Reed Dulaney Scholarship

**TRE BELL**

Mattie D. Hart/Emma Donald Music Scholarship

**THOMAS BLALOCK**

John and Ann Johnson Scholarship

**KEISHA BOBBITT**

DHUGG Scholarship

**KATIE BOMAN**

Charles James Winright, Jr. and Jean Ellen Winright Memorial Scholarship

**GEORGE BOND**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**APRIL BONNER**

LeeAnne Smith Memorial Scholarship

**LIONEL BONNER**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**MARQUEES BOOSE**

MCC Foundation Scholarship

**SHELLY BOOTH**

William Gunn, Esquire Memorial Scholarship

**CARL BOSWELL**

Tommy Webb Business Scholarship

**MADISON BOYETTE**

I. A. Rosenbaum Memorial Scholarship

**PEYTON BRACKEN**

Kathleen Newby McDaniel Memorial Scholarship

**VALENCIA BRADLEY**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**HANNAH BRASUELL**

G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Memorial Scholarship

**LAVON BREWSTER**

Industrial Technology Scholarship

**JACKSON BRIDGES**

Maude Smith Scholarship

**NICHOLAS BROOKS**

WTOK Broadcast Communication Scholarship

**ZOE BROOKS**

Charles James Winright, Jr. and Jean Ellen Winright Memorial Scholarship

**BILLIE RAE BROWN**

Charles and Doretha Young, (MLK) Scholarship

**JENAH BROWN**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**JUSTIN BRYAN**

Austin and Alice James Accounting Scholarship

**TONDA BURKS**

ADN Donor Scholarship

**SAMANTHA CALDWELL**

Medical Lab Technology Scholarship

**KAREENA CALHOUN**

- Mae Carroll Thornton Scholarship
- MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**MADLINE RACHELLE CALLAHAN**

Madeline Scott Callahan Memorial Scholarship

**PATRICK CARLL**

Chuck Nicholson Community Bank Veteran's Scholarship

**ELIZABETH CARLSON**

Meridian Rotary Club Scholarship

**SHANA CARTER**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**JEFFERY CHANCELLOR**

Dr. Jeff Hollingsworth Memorial Scholarship

**HOLLY CLAGG**

Structural Steel Scholarship

**PATTIE CLINTON**

Jackie Bates Slay Memorial Scholarship

**ETHAN CLOPTON**

Mabel and S. Carl Merritt Scholarship

**TAYLOR COCHRAN**

DHUGG Scholarship

**SARAH COLBERT**

Mae Carroll Thornton Scholarship

**HANNAH COLLINS**

Ann and Ken Joyner Book Scholarship

**MARIAH COLLINS**

Sara and Sam Niemetz Math Scholarship

**JOHN "COLIN" COOK**

National Association for Retired Federal Employees Scholarship

**CHRISTINA COON**

Linda and Billy Howard Computer Technology Scholarship

**CHRISTOPHER COTTON**

Tommy Webb Business Scholarship

**MARIO CREER**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**YOLANDA CREER**

William and Dorothy Lerner Scholarship

**RYAN CREVITT**

Hugh and Katherine Foster Memorial Scholarship

**TOY CROSS**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**KENNEDY CUMMINGS**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**ANTHONY D'ANGELO**

Jo and George Rea Memorial Scholarship

**SANTERIO DARDEN**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**DELANEY DAVIDSON**

Judy Hartzler Scholarship

**CLINTON DAVIS**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**KATIE DAVIS**

Marshall and Miriam Deonier Memorial Scholarship

**CATHERINE DEAN**

AT&T Scholarship

**MAKENNA DEEVERS**

Linda and Marty Davidson Scholarship

**DIANE DELAINE**

Glen Deweese Scholarship

**ALICIA M. DEMPSEY**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**KIMBERLY DENHAM**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**JOURI DIXON**

Dr. Dan Thornton, Jr. Scholarship

**DESTINY DONALD**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**ACCUISHA DUBOSE**

Elizabeth Riley Memorial Scholarship

**RACHEL DUCKSWORTH**

- Debbie Gunn Memorial Scholarship
- MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**DARIUS DUNN**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**MICHAEL DUNN**

Rodney Walker Technology Scholarship

**KHADIJA EASLEY**

Mary Ann Bonney Riley Elementary Education Scholarship

**LILLIAN ELMORE**

Dr. George Howell Nursing Scholarship

**REMUS ESSIX**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**BRYCE ESSIX-CARR**

Hotel Restaurant Supply/Jerry Greene Scholarship

**ALICIA ESTES**

Dr. Lemann H. and Wilma S. Bounds Scholarship

**ANDREA EVANS**

- Jacob Toney Memorial Scholarship
- MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**EARLSHALA EVANS**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**NICOLE EVANS**

Dr. Lemann H. and Wilma S. Bounds Scholarship

**CHRISSI FARRELL**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**MELISSA FERRINGTON**

Edward T. Lafferty Scholarship

**KAYLAN FISHER**

Recycled and Renewed-Second Chance Scholarship

**CLAUDINE FULLER**

Charles L. Young Sr. Cosmetology Scholarship

**CASANDRA GANDY**

- Miriam Roberson Nursing Scholarship
- LFW Ministries Scholarship

**APRIL GARNER**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**HAMP GLOVER**

Winnie P. Crampton Nursing Scholarship

**TRINITY GLOVER**

Sara and Sam Niemetz Math Scholarship

**TOMMY GOUCHIE**

Mattie D. Hart/Emma Donald Music Scholarship

**KAREN GROCHOWSKI**

Dr. William Jeff Anderson Memorial Scholarship

**ALEXANDRIA HAMLIN**

Dr. George W. and Ettamac Bounds, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

**HOLLY HAMPTON**

Upward Bound Scholarship

**NOAH HANCOCK**

William H. Entekin Family Music Scholarship

**JENNIFER HARRIS**

Emily Louise McDonald Nursing Scholarship

**JESSIKA HARRIS**

Dr. O. D. Polk, Sr. and Mrs. Evelyn Lucille Dorsey Polk Memorial Scholarship

**BRITTNEY HARRISON**

Reva Breckenridge Science Scholarship

**JADE HARRISON**

Waters Family Scholarship

**KATLYN HART**

William and Dorothy Lerner Business Scholarship

**SARA HARTMAN**

L. J. Davis and Winifred Davis Memorial Scholarship

**BEVERLY HASKINS**

Alumni & Friends Scholarship

**JERMEKA HATHORN**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**CONASHYA HEADD**

Jacob Chester Frist Memorial Scholarship

**MADISON HEARN**

Gerry Wayne Purvis Scholarship

**CHENILLE HEWITT**

Margaret and Bill Smylie Scholarship

**JADA HIATT**

Structural Steel Scholarship

**DANIEL HILL**

Keli Breanne Brown Memorial Scholarship

**CATHERINE HOFFER**

Jack Shank History/Social Studies Scholarship

**ANGELA HOLLIDAY**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**ASHTON HOLLINGSWORTH**

A. C. Johnson Civitan Scholarship



# FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS



## KARA JONES

Midway Member Scholarship

## MURRIETTA JONES

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## TIARA JONES

Earnest Workers King's Daughters and Sons Scholarship

## CRYSTAL JORDAN

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## JASMINE JORDAN

Sarah Cox Moore and Nannie Moore Hudson Memorial Scholarship

## KATLYN JORDAN

George Pugh Scholarship

## HOLDEN KAISER

C. B. "Dough" & Alice Rawlings Scholarship

## CAMMIE KEENE

Meridian Area Dental Association Scholarship

## MADISON KELLER

Rea, Shaw, Giffin & Stuart Scholarship

## SHANA KITSOS

Shirley Griffin Memorial Scholarship

## JEFF KNIGHT

William and Dorothy Lerner Business Scholarship

## CHRISTINA KNOX

A. D. Burdette Math Scholarship

## TYLER LANTZ

Nicholas Gianakos Memorial Scholarship

## MYKIA LAWSON

Maude Reid History Scholarship

## BENJAMIN LEAKE

Anderson Board of Directors Scholarship

## ADRIANNA LEGGETT

Hotel Restaurant Supply/Jerry Greene Scholarship

## LAYNE LEPARD

Karen Bounds Hamilton Scholarship

## SHYDAI LEWIS

- Sonny Ruff Excellence in Nursing Scholarship
- MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## STEPHANIE LINCX

Clare L. Reynolds Memorial Nursing Scholarship

## KIERA LONG

Key Brothers Memorial Scholarship

## HOLLEIGH LOVORN

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## TRAMAINÉ LUCKETT

Dr. William Anderson, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

## NOAH LUNARDINI

Burke Broadcasting Scholarship

## HUNTER MARLOW

Nicholas Gianakos Memorial Scholarship

## MARLEE MARTIN

Ruth Van Dyke Nelson Memorial Scholarship

## BRANTLEY MASSEY

Stennis "Judge" Little Memorial Scholarship

## KAREY MATHIS

Big and Ham Sanders Scholarship

## MALLORY MCBROOM

Medical Lab Technology Scholarship

## CHRISTY MCCOLLUM

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## DIAMOND MCCOY

Catherine Hovious Nursing Scholarship

## SAMANTHA MCELHENNEY

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## SAMANTHA MCINTOSH

Kimberly Renata Govan Scholarship

## BRITTNEY MCKENZIE

Catherine Hovious Nursing Scholarship

## LAURYN MINOR

D. P. and Ruby Self Scholarship

## WYATT MONTALBANO

Mark M. Porter Memorial Scholarship

## AUSTIN MOORE

Structural Steel Scholarship

## BRIAN MOORE

Andy Sharp EMS Memorial Scholarship

## CARDARIUS MOORE

Harry and Vivian Boureau Family Music Scholarship

## CHRISTIAN SLADE MOORE

Gene Haas Precision Machining Scholarship

## TRACEE MOORE

- Johnerio "Mohead" Blakney Memorial Scholarship
- Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

## CRYSTAL MORENO

Dr. W. J. Anderson, III Memorial Scholarship

## SARAH MORGAN

Dr. George E. Howell Nursing Scholarship

## KIMBREYANNA MORRIS

Norma Webb Scholarship

## SAMANTHA MOSLEY

Shirley Griffin Memorial Scholarship

## SPENCER MURRAY

Radio People Scholarship

## ASHLEIGH NICKELBERRY

Miriam Roberson Nursing Scholarship

## MOHAMED OBEID

Dorothy McCauley Bates Memorial Scholarship

## MARIANA OCAMPO

C. B. "Dough" & Alice Rawlings Scholarship

## MONITRE ODOM

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## SHELENA PACE

George Pugh Scholarship

## WARREN PARKER

- Judie Bounds Rutledge Memorial Scholarship
- Percy R. McLemore Scholarship

## KHARION PARSON

Emily Louise McDonald Nursing Scholarship

## EMILY PARTRIDGE

Structural Steel Scholarship

## DALTON PENINGER

G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Memorial Scholarship

## CHRISTOPHER PITTS

Thomas and Norma Bourdeaux Scholarship

## WILLIAM POFFAHL

Gene Haas Precision Machining Scholarship

## ANNISTON POPE

T. H. and Allie Hobgood Memorial Scholarship

## KYRA HOWELL

- Edwin Arlo and Bonnie Joiner Memorial Scholarship
- Walter and Cora Thompson Johnson Memorial Scholarship

## WILLIAM HOWELL

G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Memorial Scholarship

## SHELLY HUDNALL

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## GARY HUFFMASTER, III

C. B. Bailey Memorial Scholarship

## SHANESE HUNTER

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## COLE HURST

Ruth Van Dyke Nelson Memorial Scholarship

## CHRYSTAL IVY

Richard and Faye Hollingsworth Nursing Scholarship

## TIMOTHY JACOBS

T. H. and Allie Hobgood Memorial Scholarship

## MAKAYLA JENKINS

Elizabeth Riley Memorial Scholarship

## JAKOBI JOHNSON

Ida Mae James Alexander Memorial Scholarship

## SEAN JOHNSON

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## ALEXIS JOHNSTON

Joyce Morrison Memorial Scholarship

## AMBER JONES

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

## ANTSWAN JONES

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**ALISIA POWELL**

Radio People Scholarship

**MATTHEW POWERS**

Eddie Holladay Broadcast Scholarship

**KATLYN RADCLIFF**

William D. Mobley Dental Hygiene Scholarship

**APRYL RAINEY**

Margaret F. Butler Memorial Scholarship

**ROBYE REBELES**

Courtyard of Scholars Scholarship

**JOSHUA REDMOND**

Charles and Doretha Young, (MLK) Scholarship

**CYNTHIA REED**

Stennis "Judge" Little Memorial Scholarship

**CHER DENISE REED-ROBERTS**

Mott Foundation Commercial Truck Driving Scholarship

**CHELSI RICKS**

Ralph Young Scholarship

**CHASE RIGDON**

George J. Blackwell Tennis Scholarship

**HARLEY RILEY**

Anderson Support and Development Foundation Scholarship

**BENJAMIN RIVERS**

Saint-Gobain Corporation Foundation - CertainTeed Veterans Scholarship

**BRENT RIVERS**

Dottie and Hardy Graham, Sr. Scholarship

**CHLOE ROBBINS**

Structural Steel Scholarship

**CHRISTIN ROBBINS**

Structural Steel Scholarship

**ALLIE ROBERSON**

Dixie High School Scholarship

**ABIGAIL ROBERTS**

James C. and Garnett S. Wilbourn Family Scholarship

**ZACHARY ROBERTS**

Dixie High School Scholarship

**JASMAINE ROBINSON**

Saint-Gobain Corporation Foundation - CertainTeed Veteran's Scholarship

**JOCELYN ROBINSON-WILLIAMS**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**LACEY SANCHEZ**

Linda and Marty Davidson Scholarship

**OLIVIA SATTERFIELD**

A. C. Johnson Civitan Scholarship

**LOGAN SAYERS**

Mitchell Companies Scholarship

**LINDA SEEFELD**

W. C. Winstead Scholarship

**KRISHNA SHAW**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**MOLLIE SHELTON**

Charles James Winright, Jr. and Jean Ellen Winright Memorial Scholarship

**DUNNAM SHIRLEY**

Mabel and S. Carl Merritt Scholarship

**TREVOR SHIRLEY**

G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Memorial Scholarship

**DONOVAN C. SHOWS**

Pearl River Valley Electric Power Association Scholarship

**JOSHUA SIMS**

Chuck Nicholson Community Bank Veterans Scholarship

**JORDAN SISSON**

Nicholas Gianakos Memorial Scholarship

**MEAGAN SLACK**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**CHIQUITA SLAUGHTER**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**PATRICK SLAY**

Justin Martin Memorial Scholarship

**EMRY SMITH**

Johnerio "Mohead" Blakney Memorial Scholarship

**JAMIE SMITH**

MCC Foundation Scholarship

**KIMWANNA SMITH**

State Farm Companies Scholarship

**LASHESIA SMITH**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**LEAH SMITH**

MCC Foundation Scholarship

**PAMELA SMITH**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**SHIMEKA SMITH**

Reuben S. Johnson, Jr. Memorial Scholarship

**KUNDRIAY SPENCER**

Elizabeth Riley Memorial Scholarship

**SHANNON STOKES**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**KARLEY STREET**

Stennis "Judge" Little Memorial Scholarship

**KELLI SULLIVAN**

William D. Mobley Dental Hygiene Scholarship

**JASON SWANNER**

G. V. "Sonny" Montgomery Memorial Scholarship

**MADILYN THOMPSON**

Dorothy McCauley Bates Memorial Scholarship

**KATHERINE TIMMONS**

Laurie M. Autry Memorial Scholarship

**JENNA TOPCIK**

Leonard Corydon Barrell Family Scholarship

**MADISON TOPCIK**

Pioneer Classes Scholarship

**JEAN LUIS TORRES**

Thomas Y. Minniece Memorial Scholarship

**ALEXANDER TURNER**

Sallie Mae Bell Memorial Scholarship

**WESLEY UPCHURCH**

Gene Haas Precision Machining Scholarship

**ZACHARY VINET**

Charles James Winright, Jr. and Jean Ellen Winright Memorial Scholarship

**DAKOTA VOWELL**

Ann and Ken Joyner Book Scholarship

**MACKENZIE WALKER**

Jack Malone Memorial Scholarship

**MIRANDA WARNER**

Edward T. Lafferty Scholarship

**MADISON WARREN**

Meridian Exchange Club/Bo Russell Memorial Scholarship

**HALEY WATSON**

Eva Mae Gilbert Edwards Memorial Scholarship

**BAILEY WETZSTEIN**

Beverly Barham Memorial Scholarship

**QUENTIN WHITE**

Charles and Doretha Young, (MLK) Scholarship

**DANETTE WILLIAMS**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**JACQUELINE WILLIAMS**

Thomas H. Greer, Jr. M.D. and Joycelyn D. Greer Scholarship for Nursing Education

**KRISTEN WILLIAMS**

MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**TABATHA WILLIAMS**

Katherine Chisolm Hester and Lamar Hester Memorial Scholarship

**JADE WILLIS**

Austin and Alice James Accounting Scholarship

**CYNTHIA WYMAN**

Gloria Nuckolls Health Scholarship

**LAUREN YEAGER**

- Linda and Marty Davidson Scholarship
- MS Board of Nursing Scholarship

**DAVID ZHENG**

Leonard Corydon Barrell Family Scholarship



**THE PHIL HARDIN  
FOUNDATION STORY  
ON PAGE 4**

The MCC Foundation salutes The Phil Hardin Foundation for its far-reaching support to the College and community.

See pages 4 and 5 for more on the celebration honoring this nationally-recognized organization.

