

Ole Miss

LEGACY OF
Leadership



*From the flagship university
to the halls of government*

U N I V E R S I T Y O F M I S S I S S I P P I



This inaugural issue of the University of Mississippi's *Legacy of Leadership* book is the product of several factors that define and distinguish who we are as a public flagship university. First and foremost is the desire to honor and recognize the incredible leadership, dedication and contributions of our outstanding alumni who serve Mississippi and Mississippians in statewide public service roles.

This publication also celebrates the tremendous and widespread impact our university has across the public policy and government landscape. We're proud of our role and long-standing legacy in producing passionate and committed leaders for the state of Mississippi and, yes, more broadly, our region, country and the world. This book illustrates the university's meaningful and significant reach.

The halls of Mississippi government are teeming with successful and accomplished Ole Miss graduates. In the pages of this book, you will discover profiles and information about more than 40 current Ole Miss alumni. They are among the top leaders in Mississippi, serving in statewide roles in the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

We owe a deep debt of gratitude to these valued and steadfast professionals, our public servants. They navigate complex challenges in leading and serving our communities, state and nation. They put the public first and are dedicated to serving their neighbors and fellow citizens. And, they show up every day to be their best for other people in their decisions and actions, often without recognition for their efforts. I'm so pleased that many of them graciously offered their insights and reflections on leadership and public service in the Q&A section featured in this book.

You'll also discover more about the university's many highly regarded academic and leadership programs that are producing the next generation of leaders. These remarkable programs reflect our high standards of excellence and are on the front lines of how we encourage and inspire students to pursue their passions, chase their potential and lead lives of purpose. In doing so, our students will play vital roles to advance our state and shape our future.

In addition to our statewide impact, we have a tradition of stellar leadership at the national level. I'm grateful to U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker, our senior senator, and U.S. Rep. Trent Kelly, who represents Mississippi's 1st District, which includes Oxford, each of whom shares their reflections on the following pages on the value of public service from their many years at the state and national levels. We are indebted to them and all of our alumni who humbly answer the call to serve.

Glenn F. Boyce (BAEd 81, EdD 96)
Chancellor, the University of Mississippi

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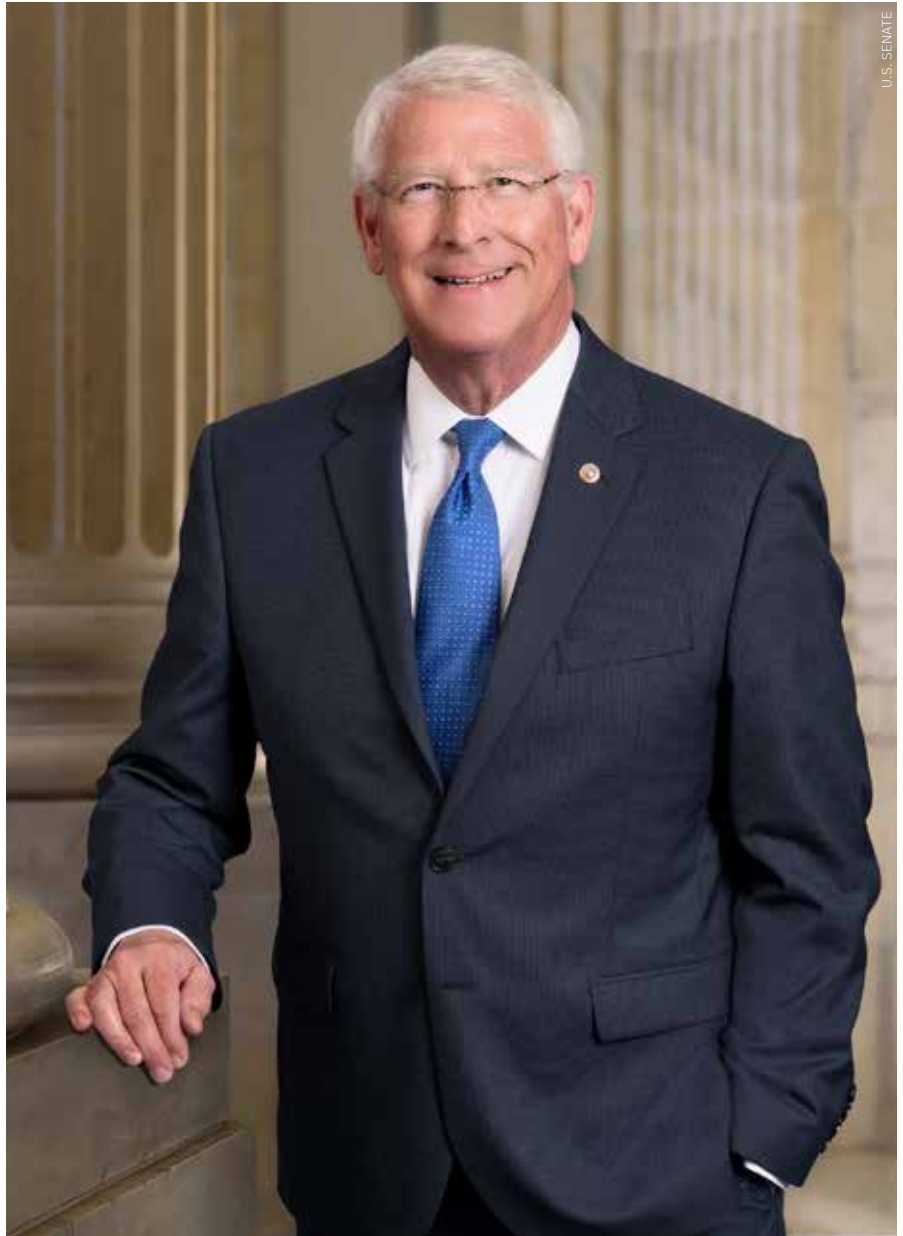
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Special thanks to **Arnold Lindsay**, press secretary, Mississippi Senate; **Barrett Wilson** (BS 18), information officer, Mississippi House of Representatives; **Beverly Kraft**, public information officer, Administrative Office of Courts; and many Mississippi officials' assistants for their help with this publication.

There was never any doubt in my mind that Ole Miss was where Mississippi's leaders are made. As a boy, I would come here frequently with my father, Judge Fred Wicker, who had graduated from the University of Mississippi law school in 1948 and served as president of his class. By the fall of 1969, I was an eager freshman studying journalism and political science, and Oxford had become my home. It was here that I made lifelong friends, learned to campaign, served as student body president, carried out the census in the male dorms, and learned group dynamics in my fraternity. I tried to seize every opening in front of me to learn public service, and the opportunities here were abundant.

My story is not unusual. As these pages of alumni illustrate, I am one of countless beneficiaries of this institution. And yet, as I approach my 50th year out from graduation, I am more impressed than ever at the wealth of programs now offered: the Honors College, the Lott Leadership Institute, the teaching and STEM programs, the manufacturing and accounting schools, and the Croft Institute for International Studies, where my daughter and son graduated. This university is truly an aspiring leader's dream.



Dwight Eisenhower, one of the 20th-century's greatest leaders, once defined leadership as "the art of getting someone else to do something that you want done because he wants to do it, not because your position of power can compel him to do it." That is the sort of art that takes learning. Many are born with the raw potential to lead, but the ability to persuade others, balance competing interests, forge and maintain alliances, and make tough calls under pressure comes with time and practice. At Ole Miss, whether it is in an academic program, club, sport or Greek organization, there are countless opportunities to learn to become a leader. An important part of that process is mentorship, something I was grateful to receive here on campus and from other alumni, like Sen. Trent Lott and Gov. Haley Barbour. This remains a hallmark of Ole Miss and our alumni community.

We live in a fast-changing world with new and pressing challenges. Our communities, our state and our nation need sound leaders who have the vision to find solutions and the skill to bring others along. There is simply no better place to learn those skills in the 21st century than the University of Mississippi.

U.S. Sen. Roger Wicker (BA 73, JD 75)



As a U.S. congressman and major general, an Ole Miss alumnus, and a former district attorney, it is an honor to be included in this publication. This university has produced so many outstanding elected officials who serve on the local, state and federal level and truly demonstrate the values and high standard of character required of an Ole Miss graduate.

I've served in a variety of roles throughout my career and have learned from some of the most distinguished leaders in government, business, agriculture and education throughout the state.

As a district attorney, I used values bolstered during my time at Ole Miss Law to promote justice for a diverse and dynamic constituency. As a commissioned officer, I learned how to be a servant-led leader, relying on the tenacity and humility I learned at Ole Miss in the ROTC program. In Congress, I look to continue to promote the values gained at Ole Miss in multiple domains to include mentoring and developing the next group of Mississippi leaders. To date, dozens of Ole Miss students have either interned or worked as a member of my team.

I believe leaders are distinguished by their ability to access those they serve. Equally important is the willingness to share those lessons in leadership to equip the future leaders of our state and nation with the skills necessary to succeed. I value my role as a mentor and know the impact that those who came before me have had on my capacity to lead well. Servant-mindedness is the common thread among those featured in this publication, and the individuals who have had the greatest impact on this state. When you lose touch with the people you serve, you've lost your purpose. It's been an immense honor to serve the people of the 1st District for the past several years, and I commend all of the leaders featured here for their vision and ambition to create a better Mississippi.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Kelly".

U.S. Rep. Trent Kelly (BBA 89, JD 94)

Q *and* A

What makes a strong leader?





KEVIN BAIN

Degrees: B.A., 1980; J.D., 1982, University of Mississippi

Years in current role: 17

Years in public service: 29

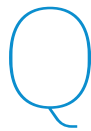


Mississippi Representative

CHARLES “JIM” BECKETT

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

I enjoyed working with public education during my time as the attorney for the Calhoun County school board. I have served as chairman of several committees and subcommittees, but if I have to list a couple highlights it would be my role in the expansion of broadband service in our state through a change in legislation, and I have had the privilege to work on the state IHL budget as the House Appropriations subcommittee chairman for 10 years.



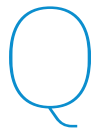
How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: It opened doors for me, introduced me to people that have been friends for life, satisfied the requirements for certain jobs, and provided an excellent foundation for the challenges and opportunities that I have faced.



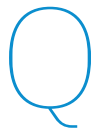
Why do you value public service?

A: I have always lived here, my wife is from here, my grown children live here (both girls graduated from Ole Miss), my grandchildren are here. So, in other words, this is home, and I really believe that we all should be willing to give and serve in our communities and state and try to make it the best place possible. I am committed to my faith, family, community and state.



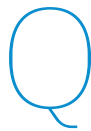
What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: The students should obtain a quality education. Don't just try and graduate, but do your best in class and get involved, establish both contacts and make friends. Once you graduate, stay in touch with those you have met. I recommend that you find community-based programs or political organizations and volunteer and work. Don't just take a position, but actually do the work that is required. Then I would say when it is time, be willing to take a chance and offer your service.



What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: I think a leader needs a certain amount of intellectual competence, a willingness to serve and to have a heart for service. The qualities that I value the most and I think are mandatory are loyalty and honesty.



What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

A: I try to listen to others and consider new ideas. I think we all need to work on listening to others more and talking less.

Mississippi Secretary of State

MICHAEL DAVID WATSON JR.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

As a state senator, I wrote legislation to allow alternate-track diplomas to return a focus to career and technical training for high school students. Other proposals I have worked on in the Senate include the Catastrophe Savings Accounts, which allows for pretax savings accounts to be used on deductibles or other catastrophe-related expenses, and the Equal Opportunity for Students with Special Needs Act that provides scholarships for parents with a special-needs child, allowing them the ability to choose which education option best fits their child.

As Secretary of State, I am dedicated to bringing about a more efficient and effective state government by working to reduce regulations and red tape so small businesses can grow and flourish in a free market economy. During my first year as Secretary of State, I launched the Tackle the Tape initiative, which aims to help increase economic opportunities for all Mississippians by promoting competition and encouraging innovation and job growth.

KEVIN BAIN

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: Having a first-class education opens the door to so many opportunities. Coupling my education with the friendships built and the existing Ole Miss family has been invaluable.

What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

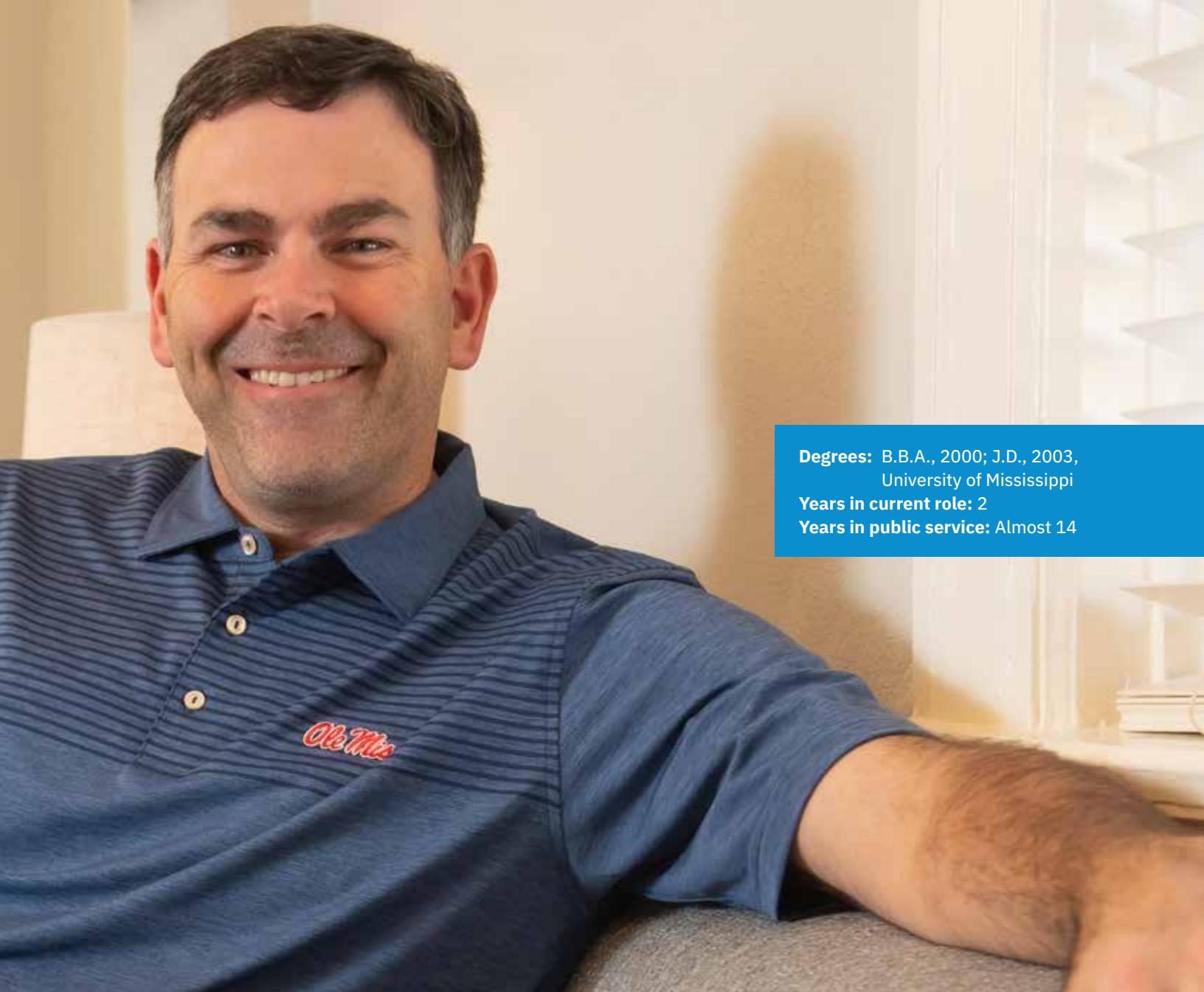
A: We have to invest in our children. We must educate them academically, emotionally and spiritually.

What is your favorite book on leadership and why?

A: Tough question, but I'm really enjoying the one I'm currently reading – *Disciplines of a Godly Man*. While it's not specifically about leadership, it focuses on having discipline in all areas of life, which, in turn, helps me be a better leader.

Why do you value public service?

A: Growing up, my dad was a preacher. I often saw how many lives he and my mom touched and stood in awe of the example of service they set for so many. While our career paths are different, I still believe that public service is much like ministry.



Degrees: B.B.A., 2000; J.D., 2003,
University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 2
Years in public service: Almost 14

We are called to care for and protect the best interest of our constituents. It is also an opportunity to give back to the state I so dearly love. But Mississippi is not just my home, it is home to close to 3 million others who share the same love and affection for this great state, and it is an honor to represent them.

What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: Listen. We can learn so much from listening to others. Recognizing we don't have all the answers, it's beneficial to surround ourselves with quality, like-minded people, who can help navigate any

circumstance. Additionally, never be afraid to ask questions. Gather information and educate yourself so you can make informed decisions.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

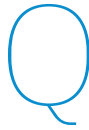
A: I believe leaders must possess quite a few essential characteristics to remain above the fray. They are honesty, integrity, discipline, humility, strong determination, strong work ethic and (being) a good communicator.



LYNN FITCH

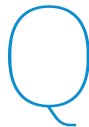
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Being elected by the people of Mississippi for the first time as treasurer and then being reelected four years later with the highest vote percentage of the contested races were incredible highlights and very humbling experiences. To be elected as the state's first woman attorney general was another great honor, particularly given that I had started my career as a special assistant attorney general.



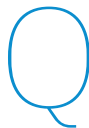
How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: The extraordinary quality of the professors, the student body and the coursework prepared me for every challenge and opportunity in the years since my graduation. Even beyond the academic rigors, the friendships and social skills I developed there have become the foundation to a successful career and a fulfilling life.



Why do you value public service?

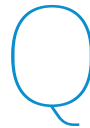
A: We live in such a wonderful state, full of creative, hardworking and kind people, and extraordinary natural beauty. To be entrusted by the people to govern is an incredible privilege and responsibility, but there are few jobs that offer such great rewards. With each day, you have new opportunities to advance Mississippi to its best future and to help Mississippians live their best lives.



What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

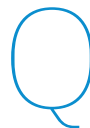
A: Having a strong sense of self is very important, and I do not mean self-importance. I am talking about the ability to remain grounded in who you are, what your values are and what it is that you want to achieve. The ability to hold on to your core self is what will get you through adversity, allow you to build on your triumphs, and give you the freedom to create coalitions that can multiply your efforts.

Degrees: B.B.A., 1981; J.D., 1984,
University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 2
Years in public service: 25



What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: First, I want to say thank you. Thank you for choosing a career in service to your neighbors, your communities and your state. Second, be a problem solver; drive toward solutions with each opportunity. Do not shy away from the challenges or allow roadblocks to divert you from what you know to be right. The work may be hard, but knowing you have made a difference in other people's lives is worth it.



What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

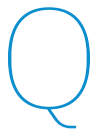
A: Mentorship is an important part of leadership, and I encourage anyone interested in taking on a leadership role to both find a mentor and be a mentor. I continue to find great value in the words of wisdom and advice I received from my greatest career mentor, the late Lt. Gov. Evelyn Gandy, and I try to take every opportunity to pass those same lessons on to others.

61st Speaker of the Mississippi House of Representatives

PHILIP A. GUNN

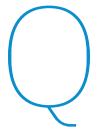
CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Education reform including the Third-grade Reading Gate, which raised the reading level of third-graders from 64% to 92%
- Passage of House Bill 1510 in 2018, which seeks to protect the life of the unborn
- Most recently, the passage and adoption of our new state flag



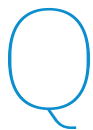
How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: The education that I received at the University of Mississippi laid the foundation for the career that I've chosen, both as a lawyer and member of the Mississippi Legislature. I met and built relationships with people at Ole Miss who would eventually become the business, community and political leaders of our state today. Most importantly, the educational tools allowed me to have a successful legal career, and I use those same tools and techniques in the Legislature as Speaker of the House.



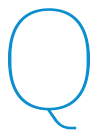
Why do you value public service?

A: I think every one of us has a desire to leave our state, our country, our world in a better place than we found it. There's some internal drive within each of us to have a positive impact, to make our lives count. Public service, serving your fellow man, is the highest calling that one could have.



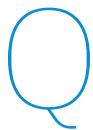
What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

A: I recognize that I don't know everything. I am always learning, and you must be receptive to the ideas, opinions, suggestions and comments of others who have different perspectives. I have great confidence in my colleagues and am a better leader because I am open to their ideas and suggestions. I receive much input from other legislative leaders. I think this makes us stronger and helps us lead Mississippi forward.



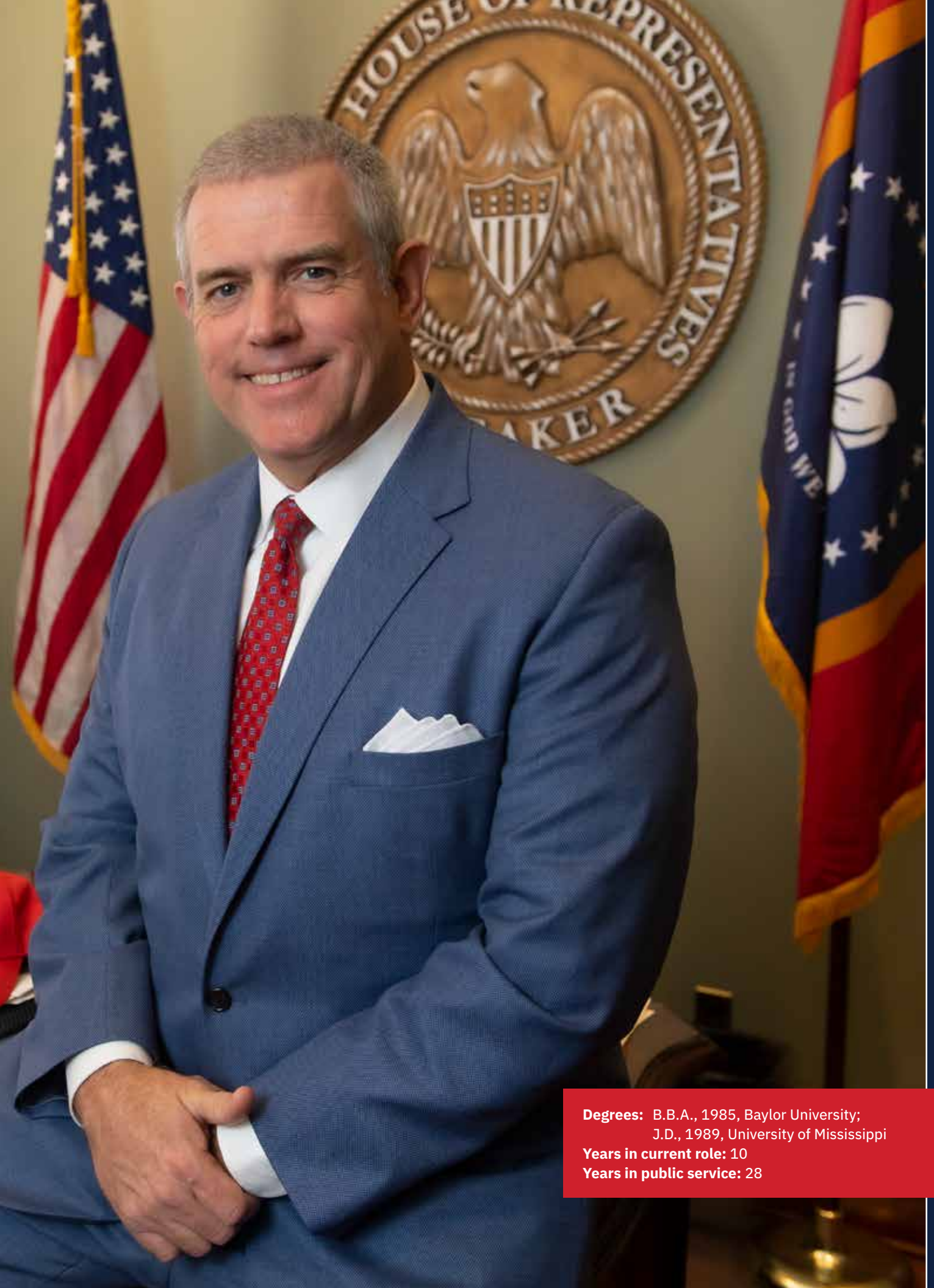
What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

A: To instill a passion to see their state thrive and a commitment to making it happen. You've got to love your state, you've got to want to see it grow, you've got to want to see it succeed. That involves a lot of things, including engaging with your community; getting active in civic organizations, schools, churches; coaching a Little League team. All the things that go along with investing in the community, not just being a taker but being a giver.



What is your favorite book on leadership and why?

A: *Conviction to Lead* by Al Mohler, president of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. It provides a solid foundation for how to lead. It encourages one to decide what you believe, what's the foundation of that belief and how does that dictate your decisions and direction in life. Once you develop that vision of that conviction, then you've got to decide how to go out and make it happen.



Degrees: B.B.A., 1985, Baylor University;
J.D., 1989, University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 10
Years in public service: 28



KEVIN BAIN

Degrees: B.S., 1986, University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 10
Years in public service: 10



Mississippi Senator

RITA POTTS PARKS

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

The continuous pursuit of seeking and providing opportunities for the hardworking citizens of Mississippi so that they can accomplish their life's dreams and aspirations right here in our Magnolia State. Together, the citizens, state agencies and I have developed and enacted jobs, community development and a path of growth that not only benefits my constituents but the entire state.

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: At Ole Miss, I realized that dreams are bold and must be pursued with confidence and steadfastness while understanding that flexibility, compromise and a sense of humor create a template for success. Ole Miss was the mortar that held those building blocks of dreams together. Success, however, can also be preceded by failure. At the University of Mississippi, I matured into the understanding that failure will turn into a highway of opportunity if you maintain a level head, move through the disappointment and always look for the silver lining.

Why do you value public service?

A: I believe that public service is a calling that can impact so many people! And those who do embrace public service should be accountable to those they serve.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: Be a visionary while being realistic. Every idea is worth evaluation. Recognize when it is time to change your course of action. Always acknowledge and reinforce accomplishments from those you are leading. Never ask anyone to do anything that you yourself would not do.

What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: Define why you are choosing to enter public service. Literally, create a "mission statement" for yourself as to the pursuit of this vocation. Next, reread, reevaluate and refine that mission statement. Then discuss your plan first with your loved ones as they will be greatly impacted by your decision to enter public service. After this discussion with your loved ones, seek the advice of trusted friends, clergy or those already in public service. Be prepared to receive unkind remarks, and be mature enough to not take them personally.

What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

A: I listen. I listen to both the loud voices and the kitchen table conversations. These voices are the passions of the people that I serve. Evaluate decisions and results and adjust so as not to repeat mistakes or disappointments.



KEVIN BATIN

DELBERT HOSEMAN

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Former partner of Phelps Dunbar, LLP; named one of the Best Lawyers in America by peers for 18 consecutive years
- Autism Speaks' Executive of the Year
- Recipient of the Maj. Gen. Charles Dick Medal of Merit for supporting the National Guard
- As secretary of state: required 16th Section land, a revenue source for public schools, to be leased for fair value; raised more than \$1 billion for public schools through 16th Section land
- As lieutenant governor: provided \$200 million to institute a statewide technology plan and personal computers for all K-12 schools across Mississippi; expanded access to broadband; reorganized workforce development; provided funding to increase the number of available ICU beds during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic; decreased income taxes; and provided the largest teacher pay raise since 2000.

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: The distinguished professors at the University of Mississippi School of Law taught me to think analytically, a skill I use every day in developing policy as lieutenant governor. We were also taught strengthening our own position depended on preparation and listening to and considering other perspectives. In my work in both the private and public sector, I have always found the outcome to be better when we use our collective intellect.

What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: Before running for public office, it is important to gain experience in the private sector. All your life experiences will enter into your final decisions, the process and the result. Also, read as much as you can on both current events and historical works.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: Two of the most important qualities are treating all people with respect and maintaining a rudder, or compass, in your decision making. Each person deserves to be treated the same as you would expect to be treated. Also, it is easy to be caught up in the outrage of the moment on any given issue. It is much harder, but also much

more rewarding, to laser-focus on a significant challenge and find a significant solution to address it. Maintaining a rudder is helpful in reaching long-term goals rather than short-term political ones.

What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

A: As policymakers, we are focused on the issues which you and others have told us will make our state successful in the future: creating job opportunities at every level, providing a high-quality education for our children, increasing access to affordable health care and improving infrastructure including access to broadband. We are also focused on ensuring state government is operating like a private business for matters such as customer/client contact, quality, and response and efficiency. The next generation of Mississippi leaders can do their part and stay in (or come back home to) our state. You have the opportunities of a lifetime right here. Those of us in public service positions now are just placeholders. You are the future.

Degrees: B.B.A., 1969, University of Notre Dame du Lac;
J.D., 1972, University of Mississippi;
LL.M., 1973, New York University

Years in current role: 3

Years in public service: 15



Mississippi Senator

ANGELA TURNER FORD

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Having the opportunity to vote for and witness the change of our state flag has been the highlight of my legislative career. It is a journey that began many years ago that has become a reality during my tenure as a state legislator.

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: The University of Mississippi provided a positive and diverse learning experience. The law school's faculty, staff and student body were the foundation for the critical thinking and analytical skills I rely upon daily to draft and analyze proposed legislation. I am proud to have been selected to be a part of the University of Mississippi family.

Why do you value public service?

A: Public service creates a space for willing participants to bring their education, life experiences and perspectives to bear to form a government that reflects the sentiments and needs of its citizens.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: A leader should be open-minded, resilient and patient.

Degrees: B.A., 1993, Hampton University;
J.D., 2001, University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 8
Years in public service: 18



What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: First, enjoy the journey. Life on or around a university campus is to be cherished. While enjoying the journey, pay close attention to your skills, likes, dislikes, gifts and talents. If pursuing a position in leadership, try to identify a role that will be enjoyable and rewarding.



What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

A: Reading and listening to colleagues, constituents and mentors are always helpful.



What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

A: We who are in leadership should listen to the thoughts and ideas of Mississippi's young people. We should create opportunities and environments that will be welcoming and inviting to our youngest and brightest leaders.



What is your favorite book on leadership and why?

A: *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*; navigating people can be difficult. With some simple rules, we can reach consensus without making permanent enemies.

KEVIN BAIN



SHAD WHITE

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Shad White was appointed the 42nd state auditor of Mississippi in July 2018 and won election to the office in 2019 after establishing a tough, no-nonsense reputation. The Auditor's Office has pursued aggressive consequences for embezzlers regardless of whether they were Republicans or Democrats. Over the last three years, White's team has issued the largest demands in the office's history, has seen the largest civil settlement in history after an investigation by the Auditor's Office, has recovered millions for taxpayers, and has seen the embezzlers it investigated sentenced to hundreds of years of prison time.

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: I would not be here without the University of Mississippi. My professors pushed me to think critically, and the network I built on campus is still professionally invaluable. More than that, Ole Miss gave me an intellectual home after high school — a place where I could read, think, pursue new ideas and map out a vision for what to do with my life. I will always remember fondly the late nights at the Honors College, the evenings with friends on the Square, or the mornings in the Grove before the madness of a tailgate and ballgame Saturday. Those experiences formed the foundation of my professional and social life today.

What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: Learn to think for yourself. Never take anything you've been taught — including by your professors — as a given. Read, think, investigate ideas on your own, and reach your own conclusions. Public servants need this sort of intellectual discipline.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: I think it's important for leaders to be principled. Smart people can learn the technical aspects of most jobs, but having a moral compass is what sets a great leader apart. Being principled requires setting a standard for how to do your job and then meeting that standard, regardless of the pressure. For me, that means enforcing the law, and holding people accountable for violating the law, regardless of who they are, how important they may be, or what sort of blowback I'll receive. Good leaders are not worried about winning popularity contests.

Degrees: B.A., 2008, University of Mississippi;
M.S., 2011, University of Oxford;
J.D., 2014, Harvard Law School

Years in current role: 3

Years in public service: 3

Presiding Justice,
Mississippi Supreme Court

LESLIE D. KING

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Vice chairman, House Ways and Means Committee, 1988-1991

Chief judge, Court of Appeals of Mississippi, 2004-2010

Presiding justice, Mississippi Supreme Court, 2019-present

Having one of my dissenting opinions quoted with approval in a U.S. Supreme Court opinion

Q How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: I think that my overall experiences at Ole Miss, more than the academic experiences, contributed to the things that I have accomplished. First, my Ole Miss experiences helped me to maintain a sense of calm and work toward my defined goals, even under less-than-welcoming circumstances. Second, my Ole Miss experiences reaffirmed the need to judge people as individuals, and to be open to working with those who wish to work constructively.

Q Why do you value public service?

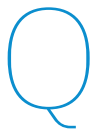
A: Public service is to be valued because it determines our quality of life and the type of world and society in which we daily exist, but more importantly, it lays the foundation for the quality of life and the type of world and society for those generations following after us.

Q What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

A: Growth as a leader requires that one stay current on changes in his area and the world as a whole. You do so by reading, seminars, interaction with colleagues and by interaction with people in general. But equally as important, you have to periodically take time to rest, relax and reinvigorate.

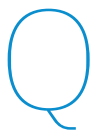


Degrees: B.A., 1970, University of Mississippi;
J.D., 1973, Thurgood Marshall School of Law,
Texas Southern University
Years in current role: 3
Years in public service: 42



What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: For those wishing to pursue leadership roles in public service, be sure of your motivation. Public service should not be an ego booster or resume builder. Public service should be undertaken out of a desire to fully and fairly impact and improve the lives of all those in your service area, rather than a narrowly defined constituency.



What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

A: As Mississippi develops its next generation of leaders, it is important that they not isolate themselves, historically, geographically, ideologically, or by voting constituencies. They must be encouraged to learn how to discuss and exchange ideas. If an idea has merit, discussion will not decrease its merit. They must be encouraged to understand that who you are against and what you are against is not a plan to fully and fairly impact and improve the lives of all persons in their areas of service.



Degrees: B.A., 1982; J.D., 1985, University of Mississippi;
LL.M., 1997, University of Cambridge
Years in current role: 3
Years in public service: 17.5

Chief Judge,
Mississippi Court of Appeals

DONNA M. BARNES

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Donna Barnes is the first female chief judge of the Mississippi Court of Appeals.

She practiced law in Tupelo with the firm of Mitchell, McNutt and Sams for more than 18 years. Her practice concentrations were appellate practice, health care, employment discrimination, Section 1983 litigation and professional liability defense.

In 1996, she took a sabbatical to study law at the University of Cambridge, where she was one of three American students in the LL.M. program, which that year admitted 152 attorneys from 48 countries.

In 2019, the Mississippi Bar's Women in the Profession Committee honored Barnes with the Susie Blue Buchanan Award presented annually to an outstanding woman lawyer "who has achieved professional excellence and has actively paved the way to success for other women lawyers."

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: College provides the formative experience not only toward a career path but also for becoming the person you are meant to be. It's where you make friends for life. I had never even thought about law school until a friend who was a business major was required to take a business law class; he made it sound interesting. I decided to take it as well. Another friend was required to take accounting for her court reporting degree, and I decided to take accounting with her. That training has been exceedingly helpful throughout private practice and on the bench. At college, having an open mind and taking advantage of opportunities that I had never considered helped prepare me for private law practice and the judiciary.

My education at the Ole Miss School of Law was, of course, the foundation for my entire career. I had the 'Dream Team' of law professors — whom I will not name in the chance I might leave one out. But I can say that on occasion, when I'm deciding whether to author a separate opinion to clarify a case, I think 'What would Bob Weems or Guff Abbott say if I didn't write, and we somehow ruined the Common Law?'

The Ole Miss connection also led to my attending the University of Cambridge. One of my professors, Larry Bush, had a Cambridge degree and developed law school and continuing legal education classes for Ole Miss students/alumni at Cambridge. I attended a summer CLE at Cambridge, then returned for a second CLE. It was during that second CLE that I decided to take a sabbatical

and apply for the LL.M. program. I remember thinking, 'I could live here. Why not?' I spent a year with students from 48 countries. Lecturers included professors, practitioners and judges from around the world. A few years later, when the opening became available on the Court of Appeals, I had a unique qualification in advanced law.

Why do you value public service?

A: I was encouraged to seek judicial office by the examples of trailblazers including Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, first woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court; Mississippi Lt. Gov. Evelyn Gandy, the first woman to hold statewide elective office; Chief Justice Lenore Prather, Mississippi's first woman chancellor, Supreme Court justice and chief justice; Judge Mary Libby Payne, the first woman elected to the Court of Appeals. They blazed the trail for women lawyers to follow, and it's our duty to meet the high standards they set. To do less would do them a dishonor.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: Listen and consider the opinions of others. As chief judge, my vote in deciding cases on appeal counts for no more than that of the other nine members of the court. I lead discussions in a manner that allows all views to be heard and considered, so that the court can make fully informed decisions. Keep an open mind. And never ask anyone to do something that you would not do yourself.



Degrees: B.S., 1986, University of Mississippi; J.D., 2007, Mississippi College
Years in current role: 10
Years in public service: 10

TREY LAMAR

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Serving the people who elected me to represent them, changing the state flag of Mississippi, and leading the effort to begin the elimination of the personal income tax in Mississippi.

How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: My time at Ole Miss provided both academic and practical learning that instilled the confidence that helped me to be successful as a young man and that still serves me well today.

Why do you value public service?

A: We live in the greatest country in the history of the world. Public service is a way to give back to the country that has provided so much freedom and opportunity for our citizens. It often provides lessons in humility and patience, but is also greatly rewarding when you see your efforts help protect freedoms and assist the lives of the people who are counting on you — many times in their hour of great need. It is truly the honor of a lifetime to serve.

What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: Take the step — be kind, be honest, treat all people with respect, and work really hard.

What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: Be a servant leader, believe in your purpose, communicate with conviction, be absolutely committed to truth, be true to your word, treat all people with respect, and work really hard. Also, be well read, intelligent, and don't be stupid.

What things do you do to continue to grow and develop as a leader?

A: Continual focus on priorities — God, wife, children, church and work in that order. You can't serve others well with misplaced priorities. Also, pay close attention to other people — watch and learn from them as much as you can, and apply the lessons learned to your life.

What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

A: Support policies that strengthen the family unit and our God-given freedoms. We must be committed to truth when engaging our young people and should not shy away from our problems. We should encourage our young people to communicate well and to engage with others to understand the human needs of all of our citizens who have been given many different lots in life.

What is your favorite book on leadership and why?

A: *The Conviction to Lead* by Al Mohler. A great book on true and effective leadership from a Christian worldview.

BRIGGS HOPSON III

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

In the Senate, I have served as Judiciary A Committee chair for six years and Energy Committee chair for two years. I have also had the honor of serving as president of the Mississippi Bar and have been employed as an adjunct professor at Mississippi College School of Law. Additionally, I have served in leadership roles (including) with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, the National Conference of State Legislatures, Southern Regional Education Board, and Energy Council.

Q How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: In addition to receiving an outstanding education at the business school and law school, I learned the value of collaboration and teamwork. These and other values, along with the connections I made at Ole Miss, have greatly contributed to my successes and enjoyment in my legal and legislative careers.

Q Why do you value public service?

A: Effective public service leads to effective policies, which, in turn, lead to productive societies. Thus, emphasis should be placed on the value of public service and the necessity for good people to serve.

Q What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: Get involved. Start by volunteering in philanthropic organizations for which you have a passion. Work collaboratively. Listen and learn from respected members of your community.

Q What do you think are important qualities for a leader to possess?

A: There are certain qualities or traits that impress me in leaders I know. Some key ones are integrity, humility, diligence and courage.

Q What are the keys for Mississippi to develop its next generation of leaders?

A: We first need to identify persons that have good character and strong leadership qualities. Encourage them to offer themselves in public service. And lend support to them, especially when they are dealing with controversial or difficult issues.

Q What is your favorite book on leadership and why?

A: While I do not have a particular favorite, two books I have read recently offer good examples of courage and a steady hand in difficult times. They are *The Splendid and the Vile* (story of Churchill's first year as British prime minister) and *The Age of Eisenhower* (chronicling his leadership during challenges in war and as president).



Degrees: B.B.A., 1987; J.D., 1990,
University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 14
Years in public service: 14

Degrees: B.S., 1972, Rollins College;
J.D., 1974, University of Mississippi
Years in current role: 3
Years in public service: 20+



Chief Justice of the Mississippi Supreme Court
and Chief Administrative Officer of all courts
in the state of Mississippi

MICHAEL RANDOLPH

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

Randolph began his public service at the age of 19. In Vietnam, he served in the U.S. Army 1st Infantry Division, “Big Red One,” and received a medal for heroism in 1967.

While in law school, he received an appointment as a Reserve officer in the U.S. Navy, Judge Advocate General’s Corps. He is a graduate of the Naval Justice School in Newport, Rhode Island.

Randolph was appointed to the Supreme Court in April 2004 by former Gov. Haley Barbour. He was elected in November 2004 and reelected in 2012 and 2020. Randolph became a presiding justice in 2013 and chief justice Feb. 1, 2019.

His legal career highlights began with admission to the Ole Miss law school, followed by his graduation. Both seemed improbable, having come from a family where his father had a third-grade education and two brothers had dropped out of high school. However, he fulfilled that 8-year-old’s dream of becoming a lawyer in 1974.

Randolph was either national or regional counsel in a multitude of state and federal courts, personally appearing in more than 15 states. In the state of Mississippi, he tried cases in 44 counties.

While it is near impossible to encapsulate a career that has spanned almost five decades, Randolph has successfully defended corporations, insurance companies and physicians; has obtained numerous multimillion dollar verdicts and settlements for families who lost children or were taken advantage of by predatory companies; has authored over 500 opinions; and has fought to ensure all citizens of this state are afforded their rights guaranteed under our Constitutions.

Q How did your education and experiences at the University of Mississippi contribute to the successes in your career?

A: My experience disproves a myth that to get in or succeed at Ole Miss you have to have connections. Similar to Chancellor Boyce, I did not know a single person who had attended, was then attending, or was in any way connected to the university. I was welcomed with open arms by all, but one stands out: a young professor named Robert Khayat. Former Chancellor Khayat had a great deal of influence on my career. He impressed upon me the necessity for in-depth study and for constantly expanding your knowledge of the law.

Q What advice do you have for current students or recent graduates who are pursuing leadership roles in public service?

A: To achieve success there is always a price. The currency is a strong work ethic. You must put yourself in the position to succeed. All of the successful people I have met possess the common traits of spirituality, discernment, physical well-being, emotional control and the ability to adapt to changing circumstances. If you fail in any, you are unlikely to end up where you want to go. Your motivations should never be pride, prestige, praise or power. If you seek any of these, you likely will not achieve your goals.

MISSISSIPPI SUPREME COURT



**CHIEF JUSTICE
MICHAEL RANDOLPH**

B.S., 1972, Rollins College; J.D.,
1974, University of Mississippi



**PRESIDING JUSTICE
LESLIE D. KING**

B.A., 1970, University of Mississippi;
J.D., 1973, Texas Southern University



**PRESIDING JUSTICE
JAMES W. KITCHENS**

B.S., 1964, University of Southern Mississippi;
J.D., 1967, University of Mississippi



**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
DAWN BEAM**

B.B.A., 1986; J.D., 1989,
University of Mississippi



**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
ROBERT P. CHAMBERLIN**

B.A., 1987; J.D., 1990,
University of Mississippi



**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
JOSIAH D. COLEMAN**

B.A., 1995; J.D., 1999, University of
Mississippi; LL.M., 2020, Duke University



**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
DAVID M. ISHEE**

B.S., 1985, University of
Southern Mississippi; J.D., 1988,
University of Mississippi



**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
T. KENNETH GRIFFIS**

B.Accy., 1983; J.D., 1987,
University of Mississippi



**ASSOCIATE JUSTICE
JAMES D. MAXWELL II**

B.B.A., 1997; J.D., 2001,
University of Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI COURT OF APPEALS



**CHIEF JUDGE
DONNA M.
BARNES**

B.A., 1982; J.D., 1985, University of Mississippi; LL.M., 1997, University of Cambridge



**JUDGE
JIM M.
GREENLEE**

B.E., 1974; J.D., 1981, University of Mississippi



**PRESIDING
JUDGE
VIRGINIA C.
CARLTON**

B.B.A., 1986; J.D., 1989, University of Mississippi; M.S.S., 2012, U.S. Army War College



**JUDGE
ANTHONY N.
LAWRENCE III**

B.S., 1987, University of Southern Mississippi; J.D., 1990, University of Mississippi



**PRESIDING
JUDGE
JACK L. WILSON**

B.Accy., 2001, University of Mississippi; J.D., 2004, Harvard Law School



**JUDGE
DEBORAH
MCDONALD**

B.A., 1979, Alcorn State University; J.D., 1982, University of Mississippi



**JUDGE
JOEL SMITH**

B.A., 1996; J.D., 1999, University of Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI STATE SENATE



**SEN. BARBARA
BLACKMON**

Chair of Housing Committee

B.S., 1975, Jackson State University;
MBA, 1976, University of Alabama;
J.D., 1981, University of Mississippi;
LL.M., 1982, New York University



**SEN. LYDIA
CHASSANIOL**

Chair of Tourism

B.A.Ed., 1972,
University of Mississippi

SEN. NICOLE BOYD

*Vice Chair of Universities
and Colleges*

B.S., 1991, Mississippi State University;
J.D., 1994, University of Mississippi



**SEN. JEREMY
ENGLAND**

Vice Chair of Judiciary B

B.A., 2005, Mississippi State University;
J.D., 2008, University of Mississippi



SEN. ROD HICKMAN

*Vice Chair of Interstate
and Federal Cooperation*

B.G.S., 2014; J.D., 2017,
University of Mississippi



**SEN. BRIGGS
HOPSON III**

*Chair of Appropriations
Committee*

B.B.A., 1987; J.D., 1990,
University of Mississippi



**SEN. TYLER
MCCAUGHN**

Chair of Forestry

B.A., 2004, University of Mississippi;
J.D., 2007, Mississippi College



SEN. CHRIS MCDANIEL

Chair of Environmental Protection

B.S., 1994, William Carey University;
J.D., 1997, University of Mississippi



SEN. WALTER MICHEL

Chair of Insurance

B.B.A., 1983, University of Mississippi



SEN. RITA PARKS

*Chair of Universities
and Colleges*

B.S., 1986, University of Mississippi



SEN. DANIEL SPARKS

Vice Chair of Corrections

B.Accy., 2004, B.B.A., 2004, M.Tax.,
2005, University of Mississippi



**SEN. ANGELA
TURNER FORD**

Chair of Public Property Committee

B.A., 1993, Hampton University; J.D.,
2001, University of Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



SPEAKER PHILIP GUNN

B.B.A., 1985, Baylor University; J.D., 1989, University of Mississippi



REP. SHANE AGUIRRE

Vice Chair of Banking and Financial Services

B.P.A., 1995, Mississippi State University; MBA, 1997, University of Mississippi



REP. NICK BAIN

Chair of Judiciary B Committee

B.B.A., 2002, University of Mississippi; J.D., 2006, Mississippi College



REP. JIM BECKETT

Chair of Apportionment and Elections

B.A., 1980; J.D., 1982, University of Mississippi



REP. BILLY ADAM CALVERT

B.S.E.S., 2002, University of Mississippi



REP. JERRY DARNELL

B.A.Ed., 1984; M.Ed., 1989, University of Mississippi



REP. CLAY DEWEESE

Vice Chair of Medicaid

B.B.A., 2004, University of Mississippi



REP. KEVIN HORAN

Chair of Corrections

B.B.A., 1983, University of Mississippi; J.D., 1988, Mississippi College



REP. LATAISHA JACKSON

Vice Chair of Investigate State Offices Committee

B.A., 2005, M.A., 2007, Alabama State University; J.D., 2017, University of Mississippi



REP. TREY LAMAR

Chair of Ways and Means Committee

B.B.A., 2003, University of Mississippi; J.D., 2007, Mississippi College



REP. DARYL PORTER

B.A., 2013, University of Mississippi; J.D., 2018, Mississippi College



REP. THOMAS REYNOLDS

Vice Chair of Judiciary A

B.A., 1974; J.D., 1977, University of Mississippi



REP. NOAH SANFORD

Vice Chair of Judiciary B

B.A., 2012; J.D., 2014, University of Mississippi



REP. BRADY WILLIAMSON

B.Accy., 2000, University of Mississippi



REP. HANK ZUBER

Chair of Insurance

B.B.A., 1989, Millsaps College; J.D., 1992, University of Mississippi

STATE GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVES



LYNN FITCH

*Attorney General
State of Mississippi*
B.B.A., 1981; J.D., 1984,
University of Mississippi



SARAH STORY

*Executive director
Mississippi Arts Commission*
B.F.A., 2011, University of
Mississippi; M.A., 2015,
University of New Orleans



CHRIS GRAHAM

*Commissioner
Mississippi Department
of Revenue*
B.Accy., 1996, University of
Mississippi; M.Accy., 1998,
Millsaps College; J.D., 2001,
University of Mississippi



MICHAEL WATSON

*Secretary of State
State of Mississippi*
B.B.A., 2000; J.D., 2003,
University of Mississippi



**DELBERT
HOSEMANN**

*Lieutenant Governor
State of Mississippi*
B.B.A., 1969, Notre Dame; J.D.,
1972, University of Mississippi;
LL.M., 1973, New York University



LIZ WELCH

*Executive director
Mississippi Department of
Finance and Administration*
B.A.Ed., 1980, University
of Mississippi; J.D., 1987,
Mississippi College



DREW SNYDER

*Executive director
Mississippi Division
of Medicaid*
B.B.A., 2003, University
of Mississippi; J.D., 2007,
University of Virginia



SHAD WHITE

*Auditor
State of Mississippi*
B.A., 2008, University of Mississippi;
M.S., 2011, University of Oxford;
J.D., 2014, Harvard Law School

UIM

Academic Leadership Programs



Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College

Founded in 1997 through a gift from Jim and Sally Barksdale, the SMBHC attracts diverse, high-performing students to the University of Mississippi and provides them a vibrant center of academic excellence. The Honors College seeks academically versatile students who enjoy intellectual novelty and critical thinking through reading, writing, discussion and experiential learning. The Honors College encourages students to identify and develop their interests while also seeking an understanding of the world around them.

honors.olemiss.edu

Lott Leadership Institute

Named for UM alumnus and former U.S. Sen. Trent Lott, the Lott Leadership Institute is an interdisciplinary program that trains students for careers in public service through a Bachelor of Arts in public policy leadership. The program combines economics, geography, history, philosophy and political science to help students understand leadership positions in our complex society. Graduates of the Lott Leadership Institute are prepared to serve as leaders in their local communities, state legislatures, Congress and U.S. embassies. The institute serves a range of students through programming such as the Lott Leadership Institute for Rising 12th Graders, the Lott Leadership Institute for Rising Ninth Graders, the Emerging Leaders Conference and the Pathways for Leadership workshop.

lottinst.olemiss.edu

Croft Institute for International Studies

The Croft Institute focuses on the connections between politics, economics and culture at the international level to provide students with an understanding of how the contemporary world works and the tools to succeed in it. The institute, established in 1997 and funded annually by the Joseph C. Bancroft Charitable & Educational Fund, accepts just 70 students each fall into its undergraduate degree program. Students accepted choose a region of the world and global theme to study, while specializing in a foreign language and studying abroad for at least one semester.

croft.olemiss.edu

Stamps Scholars

The freshman class for 2021 included 12 recipients of the Stamps Scholarship, one of the largest and most prestigious merit scholarships in the nation. Each Stamps Scholarship covers the full cost of attendance, along with a \$12,000 stipend for unique educational pursuits, including study abroad, research internships and academic conferences. Funded through the Strive Foundation, the new class brings the total number of Stamps scholars at UM to 51, making Ole Miss the second-largest Stamps program across the U.S. and the United Kingdom. Ole Miss is the only Mississippi university and one of 33 partner schools that participates in the Stamps program.

stampsscholars.org

Luckyday Scholars Program

The Luckyday Foundation, established by Frank Rogers Day, funds scholarships for Mississippi high school seniors. The foundation's mission is to create a community of young scholars who aspire to servant leadership. In addition to scholarship funding, Luckyday scholars engage in programming built around the core values of scholarship, community, service and leadership, which are woven into the Luckyday experience. Luckyday professional staff members assist and guide the scholars throughout the program.

luckyday.olemiss.edu

Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy

The Ole Miss Women's Council for Philanthropy, founded in 2000 at the University of Mississippi, provides scholarships and counsel for students destined to be leaders. An accomplished council of female leaders and philanthropists has secured almost \$20 million to endow OMWC scholarships awarded to young men and women who exhibit a desire to help others. The program also provides guidance and training in leadership skills, exceptional life and career development, meaningful personal growth through cultural and travel opportunities, and beneficial alumni networking throughout the students' tenure at the university.

omwc.olemiss.edu

Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program

The Mississippi Excellence in Teaching Program is a collaboration between the University of Mississippi and Mississippi State University to attract top-performing students into the education profession with valuable full financial support and invaluable professional incentives. METP aims to increase the import — and reduce the export — of talented educators to create a pipeline of new teachers committed to Mississippi's future. All students who enter the program make a five-year commitment to teach in Mississippi after graduation. Funded by the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation of Jackson, METP is designed to create a unique “honors college-style” learning experience for high-achieving education students and promote collaboration between students and faculty at both universities.

metp.olemiss.edu

Mississippi Teacher Corps

The Mississippi Teacher Corps is a University of Mississippi graduate teacher preparation program with a mission to recruit, train and support empathetic participants to become committed, talented and passionate educators who have a desire to partner with and serve communities as teachers in critical-needs public schools. MTC provides training, support, certification and a full scholarship for a Master of Arts in Teaching from UM. During the school year, participants receive full pay and benefits from their school district and attend graduate classes at UM. Each year, MTC accepts between 25 and 35 candidates. Due to the size of the program, MTC can offer individualized support. All participants move as a cohort through each stage of the training and coursework.

mtc.olemiss.edu

Ole Miss First

Ole Miss First provides scholarships to students who demonstrate outstanding scholastic achievement, a commitment to service and leadership. Over the course of their four years at Ole Miss, scholars meet with their mentors and attend monthly dinners so they receive the support, guidance and encouragement they need to take chances, explore opportunities and make a difference.

omf.olemiss.edu



Principal Corps

The University of Mississippi's Principal Corps is a comprehensive training program designed to transform classroom teachers into K-12 leaders who are equipped to guide children, teachers and schools to success. Founded in 2009 with a \$2 million planning grant from the Jim and Donna Barksdale Foundation, its faculty consulted top educational leaders from around the nation to design a unique curriculum that sets a national standard for principal preparation. In 2012, after four years of outstanding outcomes, the Robert M. Hearin Support Foundation became a second major supporter of the program with a gift of more than \$1.4 million. To date, Principal Corps has graduated 143 school administrators focused on making a difference for children.

principalcorps.olemiss.edu

Center for Manufacturing Excellence

The Haley Barbour Center for Manufacturing Excellence (CME) prepares the next generation of leaders for the modern economy. This unique program educates students on the fundamentals of accountancy, business and engineering through the lens of manufacturing. The CME's hands-on educational model provides students with a specialized curriculum that augments their major degree with a minor in manufacturing. Beyond the classroom, CME immerses students in real-world opportunities through internships, co-ops and experiential learning courses, with industry leaders such as Toyota, Deloitte, GE Aviation and SpaceX. With a job placement rate consistently at or near 100%, CME graduates possess the academic knowledge and industry experience needed to embark on successful careers in advanced manufacturing.

cme.olemiss.edu

Bonner Leaders Program

In August 2021, the University of Mississippi introduced its inaugural cohort of Bonner Leaders, select members of current first-year students who serve in high-commitment, paid internships with local nonprofit organizations. As a part of the national Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation, the program recruits and supports a diverse pool of students who are committed to bettering their campus and communities through service. The students undergo training to develop skills that are important in the nonprofit and public sectors, deepen their knowledge around the social and systemic issues facing the Lafayette-Oxford-University community, and join a supportive community of peers through team-building and community-formation activities. Bonner leaders have worked to transform their campus and community through internships with local groups such as the Oxford Intermediate School, Boys & Girls Club, MississippiCare and the Yoknapatawpha Arts Council. UM's Bonner Leaders Program is the first in Mississippi and the Southeastern Conference.

dce.olemiss.edu/engaged/the-bonner-program



Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship

The Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship inspires students to create innovative businesses through excellent teaching, exceptional service and world-class research. CIE provides student entrepreneurship education through focused major and minor degree programs; a graduate certificate; competitions and experiential learning opportunities; and world-recognized entrepreneurship research. Specific activities include a pitch competition, a fall business model competition, a spring business plan competition, an entrepreneurship club, Discovery Grants to test venture feasibility and the Rebel Venture Capital Fund for initial seed grant funding. CIE also hosts the REDe Entrepreneurship Summit, an annual speaker event with the goal of encouraging, celebrating and enhancing entrepreneurial endeavors with students from varied academic backgrounds, such as the arts, engineering, pharmacy and business.

olemisscie.com

Center for Mathematics and Science Education

The Center for Mathematics and Science Education improves mathematics and science education in Mississippi by building relationships between K-12 and university educators, promoting research-based teaching practices in the classroom and inspiring young minds to consider career possibilities in STEM fields. Since 2006, CMSE has provided more than 40 graduate students with graduate research fellowships while they completed master's or doctoral degrees in mathematics education, science education, elementary education or mathematics. Of these graduates, 85% reside in Mississippi and are continuing to make an impact in math and science education. The center has also coordinated mathematics content courses for education majors with almost 1,600 pre-service teachers enrolled in these courses. Additionally, CMSE has helped more than 6,400 K-12 teachers — representing 513 public schools in 129 school districts across the state — update their skills through professional development sessions. CMSE also offers K-12 STEM experiences such as the Mississippi FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics Program in which over 1,500 students have participated.

cmse.olemiss.edu

Provost Scholars Program

The Provost Scholars Program, established in 2010, attracts and rewards high-achieving students with special programming and other academic opportunities. Provost scholars move to campus in time to participate in a Provost Scholars Seminar before the beginning of classes. They have opportunities to attend meet-and-greet sessions with other Provost scholars, deans, faculty and the provost. This benefit facilitates a smooth transition to the college environment and sets the tone for the student's college career.

provost.olemiss.edu/provost-scholars-program

McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement

The McLean Institute for Public Service and Community Engagement houses programs to fight poverty through education, innovation and entrepreneurship. A primary goal of the McLean Institute has been to institutionalize community engagement throughout the university, leading to the university's recognition as a Carnegie Foundation Community Engagement Classified Institution.

mclean.olemiss.edu

Chinese Language Flagship Program

The five-year Chinese Language Flagship undergraduate program at UM is designed for highly motivated and diligent students who seek to achieve Superior-level proficiency in Chinese while pursuing degrees in the academic major of their choice. Unique aspects of the Chinese Language Flagship include an intensive program for beginners in the summer before freshman year, a nine-week summer session in Taiwan following freshman year, a second summer abroad after sophomore year, and direct enrollment and internship experiences through the capstone year in China. The goal of the Flagship program is to create global professionals, individuals who possess Superior-level proficiency in Mandarin Chinese and a deep level of cultural understanding necessary to succeed in working in China and with Chinese counterparts in the U.S. and around the world.

chinese.olemiss.edu

FASTrack

FASTrack provides students with a strong foundation for academic success by easing their transition into UM. It helps first-year students build campus connections through linked classes and one-on-one mentoring, as well as options such as a living-learning residence hall, co-curricular programs and student leadership opportunities.

fastrack.olemiss.edu

Chancellor's Leadership Class

The Chancellor's Leadership Class is intended for freshmen and community college transfer students. The freshman class is selected from a pool of candidates nominated by high school principals and guidance counselors, and the transfer student cohort is selected from students' competitive transfer scholarship applications. The course meets weekly for one hour each semester. Programs are presented by leaders in art, government, education, journalism, business, sports and religion.

ROTC

Army, Navy and Air Force ROTC at UM provide individuals with the tools, training and experiences they need to become commissioned officers in the military.

arotc.olemiss.edu

nrotc.olemiss.edu

afrotc.olemiss.edu

Veteran & Military Services

The University of Mississippi is one of America's Top Military-Friendly Universities, is the No. 1 school in Mississippi for veterans and is a Purple Heart Campus. Veteran & Military Services works to provide comprehensive resources to veterans to help them succeed as Ole Miss students.

vms.olemiss.edu

Transfer Leadership Organization

Transfer Leadership Organization is a student organization and programming board that works to provide transfer students the opportunity to fully transition into the UM student body. TLO works closely with the Center for Student Success and First-Year Experience as well as the Office of Admissions to coordinate events, programs and initiatives for transfer students to promote a successful transition both academically and socially.

tlo.olemiss.edu

Center for Intelligence and Security Studies

Founded in 2008, UM's Center for Intelligence and Security Studies prepares students for careers in national security. The center offers two minors — intelligence and security studies and global security studies — to help students prepare for careers in the national security sector. The center's curriculum emphasizes the professional and practical skills needed to succeed in careers in national security such as writing and briefing for policymaking and working in collaborative teams. The underlying objective of these minors is to prepare students to enter the national security workforce ready to contribute to the mission.

ciss.olemiss.edu

Arabic Flagship Program

Arabic Flagship is one of just six federally funded, intensive Arabic programs in the country that equips students with professional proficiency and cultural competency for careers in international business, engineering, law, government work, corporate security, military, intel, think tanks, academics and more. Specially selected for their academic ability and devotion to language, Arabic Flagship students begin their five-year journey with an intensive pre-freshman summer program during which they learn an entire year of Arabic. Students progress their Arabic studies with intensive coursework each semester in addition to summers abroad and the capstone year abroad. Flagship students are expected to double major in a field of their choice to supplement their Arabic education.

arabic.olemiss.edu



Those of us in
public service
positions now are
just placeholders.
You are the future.”

Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann



OUR LEADERS

Out & About



1



2

- 1 | Sen. Rita Parks, husband Mike, daughter Hannah and grandson Parks attend this year's Sugar Bowl to cheer on the Ole Miss Rebels.
- 2 | State Auditor Shad White and family
- 3 | Secretary of State Michael Watson commemorates National Voter Registration Day by partnering with multiple colleges and universities in the Jackson-metro area to help boost the number of registered voters across Mississippi.



3



4



- 4 | Atty. Gen. Lynn Fitch speaking at the U.S. Supreme Court

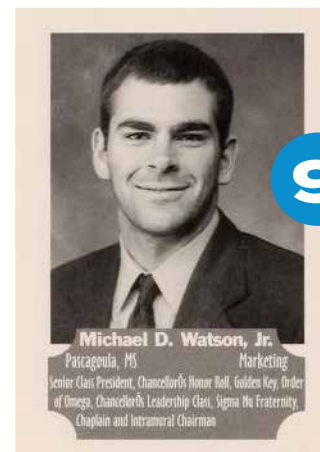


5

- 5 | Mississippi Department of Transportation staff members interview Sen. Angela Turner Ford during a podcast in January.



6



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8



10



- 6 | Rep. Trey Lamar and family
- 7 | Lt. Gov. Delbert Hosemann visits St. Richard Catholic School in 2018 for Catholic Schools Week. The theme of the day focused on community service.
- 8 | Rep. Jim Beckett and his wife, Susan, visit the Ole Miss campus in 2021.
- 9 | Secretary Michael Watson in the 2000 Ole Miss yearbook
- 10 | Sen. Briggs Hopson

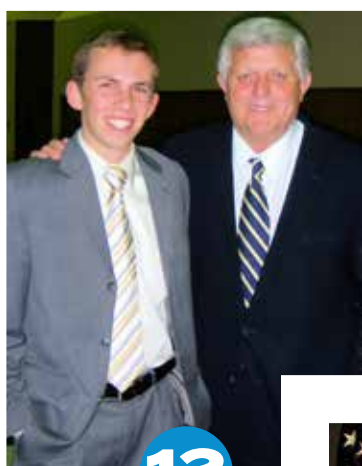
Except where noted, photos are submitted



11



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12



11 | Lt. Gov. Hosemann (front, third from left) helps cut the ribbon with Mayor Robyn Tannehill (front, third from right) for a business opening in Oxford in 2018.

12 | Shad White and Chancellor Emeritus Robert Khayat in 2008



14

13 | Lt. Gov. Hosemann attends almost every Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy graduation to thank the men and women who help keep our communities safe. In 2019, he visited with former Mississippi Highway Patrol Col. Chris Gillard after the service.

14 | Secretary Watson honors student winners of the 2020 Promote the Vote art contest during a special awards ceremony at the Two Mississippi Museums.

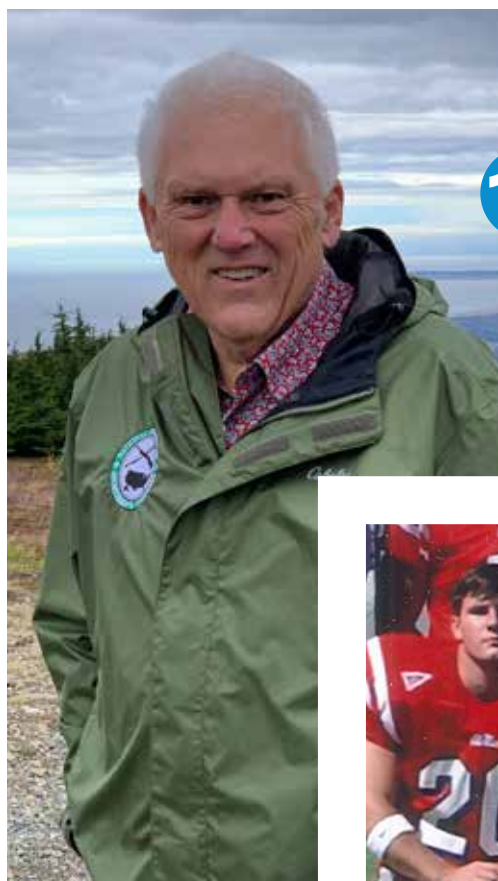
15 | Atty. Gen. Lynn Fitch participates in a panel discussion during a National Association of Attorneys General forum on tools to fight domestic violence in Richmond, Virginia.

16 | Sen. Briggs Hopson and family, tailgating in the Grove


17 | Rep. Jim Beckett in Montana, just north of Yellowstone, in September 2021

18 | Rep. Trey Lamar during his football days at Ole Miss

19 | Sen. Angela Turner Ford (front, center) and fellow members of the Mississippi Legislative Black Caucus during the 2019 legislative session. Turner Ford is serving in her second term as chair of the caucus.







Public service
is to be valued
because it
determines our
quality of life
and the type of
world and society
in which we
daily exist,
**but more
importantly,**
it lays the
foundation
for the quality
of life and the
type of world
and society for
those generations
following after us.”

Presiding Justice Leslie D. King



THE UNIVERSITY *of*
MISSISSIPPI