

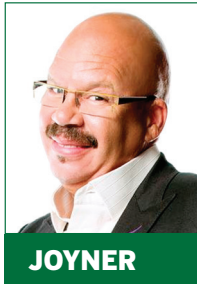


COMMUNIQUE

A Publication of Mississippi Valley State University for Faculty, Staff, Alumni and Friends | August 12, 2016 Vol. 13 Edition 7

MVSU NAMED TOM JOYNER SCHOOL OF THE MONTH FOR AUGUST

Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) is the Tom Joyner Foundation's (TJF) School of the Month for August 2016.



During the month of August, donations for MVSU will be prompted through the TJF's radio station, website and social media.

100% of the donations will help generate funds for MVSU.

Each week, a male student from the University will also be awarded the Hercules Scholarship. The Hercules Scholars program, named in honor of Joyner's father, serves to celebrate male students who exhibit academic excellence, leadership skills and community services.

Award recipients will be chosen by MVSU and announced on the Tom Joyner Morning Show

every Thursday.

Dameon Shaw, interim vice president of University Advancement, said this recognition could not have come at a better time for MVSU. "We have already gained momentum as far as enrollment," he said. "The University is getting stronger and stronger."

According to Shaw, MVSU is extremely grateful for such a prestigious recognition. "We are looking forward to August and all of the great things that will happen at the Valley," he added.

"Currently, the University is in the process of developing a Tom Joyner Foundation campaign to bring about awareness of our recognition."

The TJF has provided support to every HBCU in its 18 year history to help sustain, and preserve the legacies of these valuable institutions. Through fundraising and donor development initiatives, \$65 million has been

raised to support more than 29,000 students attending HBCUs.

Additionally, the Foundation has recommended internships, matching grants support, and career development to deserving students.

"TJF will help us to continue to support our students and gain national recognition," said Shaw. "MVSU is in the business of providing students with educational experiences that opens doors and provides an array of opportunities."

"We are pleased that the TJF will continue to help us pursue our ongoing endeavors to increase enrollment and student achievement.

For more information or to make a donation to Mississippi Valley State University, please visit www.mvsu.edu or <http://tomjoynerfoundation.org/>.

VALLEY TO PRESENT 2ND ANNUAL B.B. KING DAY

Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) will play host to some of the South's largest names in Blues during its B.B. King Day celebration on September 1.

The event is open to the public, and will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the W.A. Butts Social Science Building on the Itta Bena campus.

The event will wrap up with evening performances at the B.B. King Museum in Indianola, Miss. beginning at 7 p.m.

MVSU has the only recording studio in the nation bearing the name of the late musician B.B. King.

B.B. King Day will feature stimulating forum discussions, performances and showcases.

"During the discussions, panelist will expound upon the influence of Blues on the history of Jazz," said Dr. Alphonso Sanders, chair of the Department of Fine Arts and director of the



B.B. King Recording Studio. "If you mention jazz to most people, they automatically think of Kenny G."

There will also be a discussion about the struggle of ownership for African American music. "The panelist are African American voices who will speak on African American Music History," added Sanders.

"These are prominent musicians who spent their lives doing this." Charlton Johnson, former member of Bobby "Blue" Bland's band, will play Lucille.

Otis Clay's gospel hit, "When the Gates Swing Open," will be performed by Tia Carroll, Rochelle Coba, Teeny Tucker and Vickie Baker.

There will also be a special tribute to Melvin Jackson and a showcase by Denise Lasalle.

Other guests will include George Shaw, Morris Hubbard, John Birdsong, Bo Berry, London Branch, Burgess Gardner, Sherrill Holley, Joe Jennings, Dr. James Johnson, Dick Griffin, Jimmi Mayes, Willie Silas, Ray Neal, Jesse Robinson and Reggie Richards.

The entire event will be broadcast live by the Kevin and Sue McCarthy's Travel Planners Radio Show.

B.B. King Day is hosted by MVSU's B.B. King Recording Studio in partnership with the B.B. King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.

For more information about B.B. King Day at MVSU, contact Dr. Alphonso Sanders at asanders@mvsu.edu.

ACTRESS CASSANDRA DAVIS VISITS MVSU



Actress Cassandra Davis and Kerry Patton of The Company Media Group, recently met with Mississippi Valley State University's president and administrators to introduce Davis's nonprofit organization, OnePlate America, Inc. OnePlate America is a nonprofit organization created to inspire and enlighten youth across the country. The nonprofit highlights cultural arts, proper etiquette, financial development, public speaking, literacy and travel. Pictured from left are Kerry Patton, Dr. William B. Bynum, Jr., MVSU president; Cassandra Davis and Pam Chatman, news director at WABG, WXVT & WNBD; second row, Deborah Banks, associate director of financial aid; Alexis Stevenson, president of the Pre-Alumni Club; Gladys Flagg, community service learning coordinator; Jannette Adams, senior development officer; Tina Nevels, internal auditor; Shearra Hardwick, assistant to the executive director of GHEC; Jacquelyn Williams, director of admissions and recruitment; Auguster Wallace, executive assistant to the president and Cassandra Krah, special events and activities manager; third row, Maxine Greenleaf, director of communications and marketing; Willie Young, director of alumni affairs; Dameon Shaw, interim vice president of advancement; Latacha Davis-Jackson, manager of alumni affairs; Jeffrey Loggins, director of student records and Jerryl Briggs, Sr., executive vice president.

FACULTY AND STAFF ORIENTATION SET FOR AUGUST 15

On August 15, 2016, Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) will host its annual Faculty & Staff Orientation. This event will be held in the W.A. Butts Social Science Auditorium. Registration is at 8 a.m. and the orientation will begin at 9 a.m.

"The Fall Faculty and Staff Orientation is designed to provide valuable information and resources which is intended to develop and equip our workforce to achieve goals and objectives that are important in continuing the success of the University, said Elizabeth Hurse, director of human resources.

Dr. William B. Bynum Jr., MVSU president, will give the State of the University address.

"We look forward to welcoming our faculty and staff back to the University for the 2016-17 academic year," said Dr. Bynum. "We've

made quite a few accomplishments this past year and are excited about building on the momentum of previous years."

There will also be area updates to highlight the accomplishments made during the 2015-2016 fiscal year.

In the afternoon, there will be four concurrent sessions, and a tour of the newly renovated R.W. Harrison Complex.

Mississippi Valley State University is a public, coeducational university serving over 2,000 students from diverse backgrounds. Established in 1950, MVSU is the youngest institution in the Mississippi Public Universities System. The University is fully accredited and offers over 30 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

EVENT CALENDAR

August

- 13 - Freshman Welcome Week (20/20 Lock-In), 8:30 PM – 12:00 AM. Student Union, Royal Room.
- 15 - 2016 Faculty/Staff Orientation, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Social Science, Auditorium/Classrooms.
- 15 - 2016 Faculty/Staff Orientation Luncheon, 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM. Charles E. Lackey Center, Gym.
- 15 - Freshman Welcome Week (Concurrent Session), 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM. Sutton Administration Building Auditorium, Rooms 103 & 108.
- 15 - Freshman Welcome Week (Concurrent Session), 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM. Business Education Building, Auditorium.
- 15 - Freshman Welcome Week (Concurrent Session), 1:30 PM – 5:30 PM. Science & Technology Building, Auditorium.

COLLEGE HALL I SET FOR COMPLETION BY 2018

According to Terrence Hurssey, director of capital projects and interim director of facilities management, College Hall I renovations are taking a little longer than expected due to unanticipated environmental concerns.

“Asbestos was found on the brick veneers,” said Hurssey. “This caused us to extend the project because we had to abate the building of all asbestos containing material.”

The renovation process began in 2015.

The budget had already been set for construction according to previous construction jobs until asbestos was found. A large sum was taken away from the original budget for the abatement process.

“Funding sources that were allocated for construction had to be used to correct the

environmental concerns, subsequently we had to increase the budget,” continued Hurssey.

He also said the building has to undergo two phases before construction begins. “The first phase was abatement and demolition,” he continued. “We have completed the design development phase and starting the construction documents phase.”

“The construction documents should be ready by Sept. 1,” added Hurssey.

Although the renovation process is a bit lengthy, College Hall I is expected to feature laundry rooms, hard wood floors, computer labs and improved exterior and interior lighting.

“It is going to be completely redesigned,” said Hurssey. “It will look very similar to Magnolia Hall.”



Because of College Hall I’s historical significance, the structure of the building will remain similar to the old structure.

“The building is going to be practically new with the exception of the roof and the foundation,” continued Hurssey.

The building is expected to be completed by fall 2018.

ADVANCEMENT HITS FUNDRAISING TARGET

The Office of University Advancement at Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) reached its goal for the Race to a Million Again campaign.

This is the second historic year in fundraising for the University since it began its Race to a Million Again campaign.

Because of the success of last year’s fundraising efforts, the goal for this year’s campaign was increased to \$1.25 million. “When we initially set this goal, I was a bit skeptical, but with the success of last year’s campaign in mind, I knew it was attainable,” said Dameon Shaw, interim vice president of University Advancement.

“We remained proactive in our efforts to generate the funds and we are so pleased to have exceeded our goal once again.”

With the funds from last year’s campaign, University Advancement was able to provide assistance to approximately 200 students this year, Shaw said they hope to be of an even greater assistance with this year’s donations.

“We have a large number of students that face financial hardship,” he added. “The funds we received enabled us to keep students in school that would have otherwise dropped out due to financial reasons.”

“Students face so many obstacles; we just want to ensure that finances are not part of them.”

Shaw said he is extremely grateful to all contributing entities and he plans to set the goal for next year’s campaign a little higher. “There is always room for improvement and with the help of our alumni, faculty, staff, students and community, I believe we can increase next year’s goal,” he added.



Dameon Shaw, interim vice president of university advancement, thank attendees for their participation in the Race to a Million Again campaign.

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MVSU ANNOUNCES MASTER'S DEGREE IN SPORT ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER) at Mississippi Valley State University announces its new master of science in sport administration degree.

The program's goal is to provide comprehensive graduate training for students wishing to complete a degree in sport administration.

"Our idea was to create a dynamic and competitive program by making innovative and major contributions to this growing field of study both domestically and abroad, while also providing excellent research opportunities," said Gloria Ross, chair of Health, Physical Education and Recreation.

The new major targets professionals in the field of sports education and management to take on advanced roles in their organizations. Students will have the option to choose from three concentrations - International Sport, Intercollegiate Sport and Sport Leadership.

The International Sport's concentration emphasizes areas of marketing, event management and risk management, while Intercollegiate Sport will help students gain greater knowledge in compliance and

academic advisement; and Sport Leadership focuses on research and professional development.

"The program will enhance the students' skills and offer assets that will make them more marketable," said Ross. "The program is designed for students who require flexibility in scheduling," added Ross.

Ross said the program was created after observing trends in the Mississippi Delta.

"There are a large number of coaches and teachers in the Delta who are interested in furthering their education or enhancing their skills; some of them did not major in HPER, but we are welcoming all majors," she added.

According to Ross, there has been a large amount of interest from HPER majors and other majors and it has all been through word of mouth. "As of now, we have 45 students who have applied and that number continues to increase," said Ross.



The program requires students to complete 33 hours of coursework and classes will be offered online, face to face, and through a hybrid model.

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required, but students must meet the requirements for admission into the Graduate College.

For more information about the sport administration program, contact Dr. Gloria Ross at 662-254-3553 or visit www.mvsu.edu.

MVSU PROFESSOR AND STUDENT TEAM UP WITH HOMELAND SECURITY

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) selected Dr. Matthewos Eshete, associate professor of chemistry, and Kayla Bailey, a junior chemistry major, to participate in the DHS Summer Research Team Program for Minority Serving Institutions.

The teams consist of one faculty and one or two students. During the summer, teams participate in a research project for ten weeks and conclude with a presentation to DHS researchers and program managers.

The title of their project was Interaction of Biodegradable Nanoparticles with the Immune System.

"In this summer project, we are investigating the interaction of modified and unmodified



biodegradable nanoparticles with proteins in the immune system," said Eshete. "This investigation may shed light on the effective design of biodegradable nanoparticles for drug delivery to a specific organ in our body evading the possible attack coming from the immune system."

Eshete and Bailey have been assigned to work with the Center of Excellence for Zoonotic and Animal Disease Defense at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kan.

The Center of Excellence for Zoonotic and Animal Disease Defense, co-led by Texas A&M University and Kansas State University, protects the nation's agriculture and public health sectors

against high-consequence foreign animal, emerging and zoonotic disease threats.

The objective of the DHS Summer Research Team Program is to provide research opportunities to diverse and highly talented individuals in order to increase and enhance the scientific leadership at Minority Serving Institutions in research areas that support the mission and goals of DHS.

The program is designed to engage faculty, along with undergraduate and graduate students, in research that will provide them opportunities to understand the mission and research needs of DHS and advance research areas of importance to DHS, while strengthening the talent pool of scientists and engineers.

The program is funded by DHS Science & Technology Directorate Office of University Programs.

VALLEY LAUNCHES 10 BY 10 CHALLENGE

The Office of Alumni Affairs at Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) has launched the 10 by 10-Young Alumni Challenge in efforts to increase young alumni involvement and support of the University.

The 10 by 10 Challenge is a competition among the graduating classes of the last 10 years (2006 – 2015). The individuals who graduated within the last 10 years are challenged to pay a minimum of \$10 per month and to challenge 10 classmates to do the same via social media.

The funds raised through the 10 by 10 Challenge will be used to provide student scholarships and support other student and 10 by 10 activities.

“As young alumni, we are very familiar with the hardships that current students face,” said Latacha Davis-Jackson, manager of Alumni Affairs. “This is a chance for our young alumni to have a stake in the continued growth and success of MVSU.”



The class with the greatest amount of contributions at the end of the fiscal year will be declared the winner and receive numerous recognitions.

“The 10 by 10 challenge is an effort to get our young alumni more involved and promote friendly competition,” said Willie Young, director of Alumni Affairs.

By accepting the 10 by 10 challenge, donors will receive recognition in the University’s the

Donor’s Report, Alumni Magazine, and much more.

“This is an opportunity for our young alumni to contribute to the institution that gave them their start,” added Young. “By committing to donate \$10 per month, donors are joining the continued progression of the University.”

After each online contribution, Jackson is asking contributors to take a picture of their donation, share it on social media, and challenge their peers to also make a contribution.

Contributions can be made by visiting <http://www.mvsu.edu/contributors/> or can be mailed to Mississippi Valley State University, Office of Alumni Affairs, MVSU 7239, 14000 Highway 82 West, Itta Bena, Miss. 38941.

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs by calling 662-254-3579 or via email at alumni@mvsu.edu.

WELCOME ABOARD



Kylon Alford-Windfield
Recruiter/Counselor
Admissions



Tomisha L. Brock
*Associate Director of Bands/
Assistant Professor of Music*
Fine Arts



Susie Mae Birdow
Administrative Assistant
Purchasing



Brittany Clemons
Secretary
Devil’s Den



Shanae Curry
Project Coordinator
Communications and
Marketing



Marlon Flowers
Academic Advisor (PT)
Student Support Services



Lenise Stallings
Asst. Coach - Women’s Basketball
Athletics



Dhanalakshmi Rajanikanth
Data Entry Specialist
University College



Calvin Randall III
Assistant Football Coach
Athletics



Derrick Young, Jr.
Asst. Coach - Track and Field
Athletics

Two
Minutes
with...

Jarayon Jackson

Resident Hall Director - Stewart

Tell us a little about yourself and your background.

I am a native of Lithonia, Georgia and have one older sister. I received my Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Spelman College and Masters of Education in Administration & Supervision from Middle Tennessee State University. While at Spelman, I spent also time playing the clarinet for the Morehouse College Marching Band.

How do you approach providing service?

As a hall director, work is also home. When students have personal issues or concerns, I am their shoulder to cry on or attentive ear to listen. When I am unable to assist a student, I refer them to a department better suited for their needs. Having come from a family of educators, I realize that students require understanding and most importantly respect. Creating an

accommodating atmosphere, maintaining my professionalism, and applying tough love when necessary, is my approach to providing effective service.

Where are we most likely to find you when you are not at work?

You are likely to find me collaborating with other departments, supporting on campus events, or indulging in Chinese or Japanese cuisine. In addition, I am deeply rooted in my faith. On Sunday and Tuesday, you can find me in church or worshipping in the form of praise dancing.

What is something we would be surprised to learn about you?

During the time I was in college, I became infatuated with Bullfrog and Ninja Warriors competitions. These competitions were my motivation to increase my endurance and overall physical wellness.



CommuniQue'

The CommuniQue' is published for faculty, staff, alumni and supporters of Mississippi Valley State University by the Office of Communications and Marketing

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@MVSUDEVILS

New Hashtag: #GOMVSU

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