



MISSISSIPPI VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY HOSTS MISSISSIPPI COURT OF APPEALS HEARING



Mississippi Court of Appeals judges, other local judges and attorneys along with President Oliver during a luncheon hosted by the President and Executive Cabinet. (front row): Retired Hinds County Circuit Judge L. Breland Hilburn, Judge Ermea J. Russell, Judge Tyree Irving, the senior presiding judge, and Dr. Donna Oliver, (back row): Judge Betsy Sanders, Judges Donna Barnes, Dr. Anna Hammond and Dr. Arthur Moghalu.

Mississippi Valley State University hosted a Mississippi State Court of Appeals hearing arguments in two appealed criminal cases on Tuesday, October 9. The hearings were coordinated by the Department of Criminal Justice and were a part of the Court of Appeals "Court on the Road" program.

The objective of the initiative is to give college and high school students an opportunity to observe and participate in a real life judicial process. Each case lasted 90-minutes with a 30-minute Q & A session. The panel of judges from the Mississippi Court of Appeals included Tyree Irving, the Chief presiding judge, Donna Barnes and Ermea J. Russell. Over 200 participants including MVSU students, Greenville Weston, Leflore and Amanda Elzy high schools attended the event. The President and Executive Cabinet hosted a luncheon for judges of the Mississippi Court of Appeals and other local judges and attorneys.

"I was excited to hear that the Mississippi Court of Appeals was planning to come back to MVSU to hold one of their "Court on the Road" hearings. This time, the event was quite successful, because the audience was made up of MVSU students, as well as students from area high schools. The Presiding Judge, Mr. Irving, was so impressed that he accepted the invitation to bring the hearing to MVSU every year for the remaining six years of his term on the bench," says Dr. Arthur Moghalu, chair of the Criminal Justice Department at MVSU.

"The turnout was great at MVSU, and the Mississippi Court of Appeals looks forward to providing this educational opportunity every year. It is real-life hearings like these that keep our young people informed about the work of appellate courts," said, Judge Tyree Irving, senior presiding judge.

MVSU AWARDED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP GRANT FROM THE ROBERT M. HERRIN FOUNDATION

The Robert M. Hearin Foundation, for the fourth consecutive year, has awarded Mississippi Valley State University \$50,000 to provide need-based scholarships for students attending MVSU.

"We are delighted and deeply grateful that the Hearin Foundation is giving a \$50,000 Scholarship Grant to Mississippi Valley State University. These funds will provide vital assistance for deserving students to pursue a quality education," said University President, Donna H. Oliver.

"In light of the current economic conditions, the grant will help many students continue their college education without distractions presented by financial hardships", says Oliver.

The Robert M. Hearin Foundation was established in 1965 and its primary goal is to contribute to the overall economic advancement of the State of Mississippi by making funds available to four-year colleges and universities and graduate professionals schools located in Mississippi. Since 2009, the Foundation has given over \$200,000 to MVSU.

THE INAUGURAL SWEAT EQUITY COTTON KINGDOM SYMPOSIUM AND AMERICAN ANCESTRAL CELEBRATION



(Left to right): Brown, Smith and Shepard
Photo courtesy of Khafre, Inc.

The “Inaugural Sweat Equity Investment in the Cotton Kingdom Symposium and American Ancestral Celebration”, held October 11 and 12 on the MVSU campus was an overwhelming success. The two-day event included an official ground breaking ceremony of “The Cotton Pickers of America Monument

and Sharecroppers Interpretive Center” which took place on the Brown-Shirley family historical property in Mound Bayou, Miss., the “American Ancestral Ceremony: A Tribute to Cotton Pickers and Sharecroppers” and concluded with the “Cotton Pickers Ball”, featuring world-renowned sculptor and America’s first African-American astronaut candidate, Ed Dwight.

Over 250 participants including approximately 100 students from Greenville Weston High School, faculty, staff, community members and

partners gathered to hear real-life experiences, historical presentations, innovative practices, and foundational values of the cotton industry and lifestyles.

“The partnership with The Valley validates the notion that a tribute and monument to sharecroppers and cotton pickers is not just timely, but is significant on many levels. Honoring the legacy of “grandmamma-nem” in an academic arena gives license to further scholarship and international acceptance,” said C. Sade Turnipseed, executive director, Khafre, Inc.

“From freedom songs, cotton as a form of money, the history of blues music, to the Delta’s rich history and culture all are just a sample of what transpired during the two-day event. The collaboration of the MVSU History Program and Khafre, Inc., has definitely sparked the beginning of open dialogues on the importance of embracing and understanding a history that often times no one wants to remember”, said Dr. Esin Turk, associate professor of Communication.

“Holding the historic event on MVSU campus has caused a renewed sense of responsibility to make the Delta a place where history, whether good or bad, is used to learn and explore new ideas toward progress and mutual respect amongst the races. When it comes to building a monument or memorial honoring the voices, faces, history and culture of the Mississippi Delta, what better institution to partner with in

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WALK FOR BREAST CANCER

In observance of Breast Cancer Month, MVSU’s Department of Social Work sponsored a “Breast Cancer Walk” on Wednesday, October 24 on the MVSU campus. Nearly one hundred students, faculty, staff and community members participated in the walk which began in the front of the William Sutton Administration Building. On that day, participants wore pink symbolizing a life-sized ribbon of unity and hope for survivors, their families and cancer research.

Interested in knowing more about the Department of Social Work? Call 662-254-3365 or email Vincent@mvsu.edu.

EVENT CALENDAR

December

- 10 – Winter Term Begins
- 21 – Winter Term Ends

January

- 14 – Classes Begin for Spring Semester
- 24 – Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Convocation
- 30 – Green and White day At The Capitol

February

- 21 – Black History Convocation

MVSU REMAINS COMMITTED TO KEEPING THE CAMPUS SAFE AND SECURE



MVSU staff and Mississippi Department of Health partners after the West Nile Awareness Training. From Left to Right: Catherine M. Singleton-Walker, PH.D., LMSW Assistant Professor/MSW Program Director Kenneth Wraggs, Environmentalist Delta Hills Public Health District 3, Dr. Yvette Underdue Murph, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, Enrollment Management and Diversity, Dr. Alfio Rausa, MD, District Health Officer Delta Hills Public Health District 3, Lisa Anderson, BSN, RN Delta Hills Public Health District 3, Kathy Brownlow, ADA Coordinator and Interim Director Center of Excellence

As part of the implementation of MVSU's Disaster Resistant University Plan, the MVSU Disaster Resistance University Project and the

Mississippi Department of Health, conducted an awareness training on the West Nile virus Thursday, October 25, in the H. G. Carpenter Auditorium.

Over 100 students, faculty, staff and community members attended the educational training to learn ways to reduce the risk of contracting the West Nile Virus or any other harmful diseases or viruses. Informing the MVSU community and others is vital because there are no vaccines for West Nile Encephalitis once the disease is contracted. Therefore, it is essential that the university uses precautionary measures to keep from contracting the disease.

"Mississippi Valley State University has always partnered with Mississippi Department of Health and understands the importance of creating health related opportunities like this to its campus and the community", said Dr. Alfio Rausa, district health officer, Delta Hills Public Health District 3.

The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites:

- Try to limit outdoor, activities between the hours of dusk and dawn.
- Wear light colored, long-sleeved clothing.
- When outdoors use repellent with EPA registered active ingredient (DEET is most effective).
- Make sure windows and door screens are in good repair.
- Eliminate sources of standing water (flower pots, low lying areas).

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FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

THE MISSISSIPPI HUMANITIES COUNCIL HONORS PAUL SCHREIBER



Dr. Schreiber

On Thursday, November 8, in the Little Theater of the Fine Arts Building, the Mississippi Humanities Council celebrated Arts and Humanities Month. Over hundred MVSU faculty, students, and community members came out to congratulate Dr. Paul Schreiber, associate professor of Music Composition and Theory at MVSU, for being this year's recipient of the Mississippi Humanities Council Teacher Award. Because of Schreiber's record of outstanding achievements in his area of discipline, a special program was held in his honor and

was awarded \$500. Schreiber presented a lecture on a topic related to music theory in education.

"I am honored to accept this award and happy that I can use my creative talents and expertise to develop and encourage students to strive for their best in fine arts," said Schreiber.

"Dr. Schreiber has demonstrated dedication and outstanding achievement in the field of humanities. The university is fortunate to have him as a faculty member educating our Valley of Scholars," says Dr. Alphonso Sanders, chair of the Department of Fine Arts.

The Mississippi Humanities Council recognizes the importance and the commitment it takes for a humanities faculty remain creative in the midst of preparation for day-to-day teaching responsibilities among other university requirements. This honor presents an awareness to those outside of the humanities the type of scholarship and creativity many faculty possess.

Schreiber is a tenured faculty member and has worked at MVSU since 2003. During his tenure at MVSU, he has written various compositions for different media, these include Music for Toy Pianos, Whiskey and Cigarettes, Computer-generated sound, Ave Maria, for SATB choir, The Social Conservative Project, and White Cardboard Box. Schreiber had fourteen performances of compositions locally, regionally and nationally that include a performance of composition Dripping Taps at the 2010 International Computer Music Association Conference.

MVSU HAS STRONG PRESENCE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MISSISSIPPI POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

MVSU had a strong presence at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Political Science Association which was held at Delta State University, November 2-3 2012. Two Valley faculty members were elected to serve on the Executive Board of the association - Dr. Elizabeth Evans, assistant professor of Public Administration, Secretary and Dr. Larry W. Chappell, University pre-law adviser, professor of political science and coordinator of the Political Science Program, re-elected as an at-large member.

“I am pleased that Mississippi Valley State University had such a strong participation at this year’s meeting of the Mississippi Political Science Association. I am especially pleased that Dr. Evans was elected as an officer, which means there is a good chance the MPSA will host its annual meeting at our campus in 2014. Hosting the event on our campus again, will help demonstrate our continued commitment to a vital academic environment at the Valley”, said Chappell.

A number of faculty members from Mississippi Valley made presentations at the meeting. Dr. Evans presented a paper entitled, “Welfare Policy Performance: Public Administrators Speak for Multiple Personalities”.

Dr. Chappell was joined by Dr. John Bradford, assistant professor of Sociology, on a roundtable discussion on “Teaching Power in the Undergraduate Classroom”. Dr. Chappell also presented a co-authored paper with Dr. Bernard L. Bray of Talladega College entitled “Blindness, Civic Hospitality and Enabling Civic Space”.

The Mississippi Valley State University Mock Trial Team also did a public exhibition at the meeting. Students participating in the exhibition included: Kylon Alford-Windfield, Arlinda Carter, Randall Johnson, Jacqueline Stokes, Gianni Williams, and Darren Woodson. Participation by the Mock Trial Team was sponsored by the MVSU Office of Advancement.

Upcoming competitions include Southeast Diversity Mock Trial Competition, February 15-16, 2013 at Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tenn., and the National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competition, April 12-13, 2013 at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Ill.

2012-2013 JUN FENG AND CALINE SAAD FULBRIGHT TEACHER ASSISTANTS

MVSU welcomes Jun Feng and Caline Saad to 2012-2013 academic year. They have joined the University as Fulbright Teacher Assistants through the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant Program.

The program is a flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and administered by the Institute for International Education. It is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.



Feng

Jun Feng is from Changsha, China, and teaches English. The FLTA Program only allows her to teach for one year. During that time, she prefers to be called by her American name, Amy, which means “to be loved.” Feng received a Diploma in English from Central South University, Changsha, Hunan Province of China and a Master of Arts in English from Munan Normal University. Feng parents Keng Xun Qun and Tang Ji Xun, both teachers, inspired her to become one.

While teaching at MVSU, Feng plans to enrich her knowledge of teaching methodology and English and do everything she can to develop Valley students academically.

Although it has taken some adjustments, Feng has transitioned well. “MVSU students are warm hearted and nice. They prefer a creative and imaginative style of teaching while students in China prefer concrete information. Living in America is very different compared to China, although, as days go by, I feel more and more at home. I am happy to say that the people here are so friendly as opposed to people in China,” says Feng.

Caline Saad is from Lebanon and teaches Arabic. Saad holds Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Philosophy. She is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in Belgium. At University of Central Lebanon, Saad taught Lebanese, French and English.

She is the daughter of Georges Saad and Claude Issa Saad, and has two brothers and one sister. Saad’s college life in Lebanon consisted of a lot of writing. No matter how much she wrote, it seemed never enough. However, it was fun because the university always had activities for students.

“Living in America has been a very bumpy transition for me. The culture is very different from Lebanon, but I’m enjoying the opportunity to teach Arabic to MVSU students. I enjoy teaching American students because they are motivated, come to class and have fun while learning,” said Saad.



Saad



HOMECOMING

TWENTYTWELVE

HIGHLIGHTS



Mississippi Valley State University's 2012 Homecoming, "Too Legit To Quit", was a week-long celebration of over fifteen events including a campus-wide worship service, pep rally, crowning ceremony, coronation, three live shows, alumni artist art exhibit, golf classic, an alumni mixer, parade, football game and much more.

GOSPEL EXTRAVAGANZA

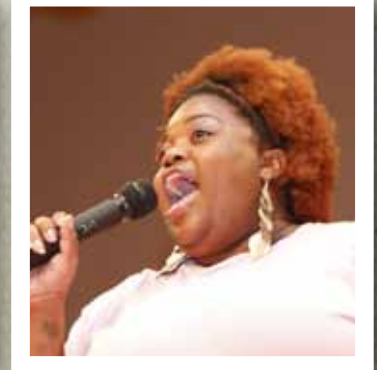
This year's Homecoming highlights were:

- For the first time in the history of the Valley, three live entertainment shows from three genres – gospel, rap and comedy took place on campus. Only at the Valley!
- The Homecoming Golf Classic and the Doug T. Porter Endowed Scholarship Fund Banquet both surpassed last year's goals. Golf Classic - raised over \$103, 000 and Doug T. Porter Scholarship Fund – raised over \$8,000 toward academic scholarships for student athletes.
- The Alumni Artists Exhibition displayed eight of Valley's own visual and graphic design work for three weeks.



COMEDY SHOW

- The Voter Registration drive was a huge success with over 100 MVSU students and others registering to vote and committing to getting involved in the voting process. The Zeta Phi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., sponsored the drive which was a part of their, "A Voteless People is a Hopeless People," initiative.

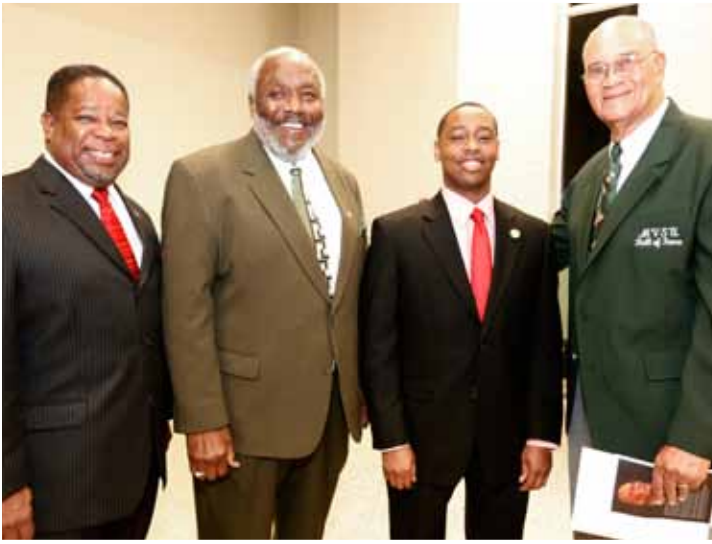


HOMECOMING CONCERT

- The Greenwood Convention and Visitors Bureau awarded the university a grant that will focus on increasing alumni participation. The MVSU Official Alumni Engagement Initiative launched during Homecoming. Over 500 alumni and visitors passed through the "Alumni Tent". Information on how to become engaged and stay connected to the university throughout the year was made available. Geico was the title sponsor and donated over \$5,000 in cash and in-kind services to the university.



DOUG T. PORTER ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP FUND BANQUET



YOUNG ALUMNI MIXER



HOMECOMING PARADE



THE HOMECOMING GOLF CLASSIC

The MVSU Golf Classic surpassed last year's historic milestone of \$100,000, drew 115 players of 29 teams teeing off to a beautiful sunny yet brisk day at the Greenwood Country Club.

This year's classic premiere sponsors were the Jerry Rice Foundation, McDonald's, Nike, and Pryor & Morrow.

The winning teams were:



FIRST PLACE

Wade Litton, Rusty Douglas
Steve Lary, Zack Luke



SECOND PLACE

Coach Evans, Winfred Hawkins
Sam Jackson, Arthur James



THIRD PLACE

Willie Gregory, Purnell Dickinson
Arthur Moore, Junie Lowe



HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME



MVSU STUDENTS WIN TOP AWARDS DURING JOHN MARSHALL GULF COAST REGIONAL UNDERGRADUATE DIVERSITY MOCK TRIAL



(Left to right): Randall Johnson, Gianni Williams, Dr. Donna Oliver, Dr. Larry Chappell and Arlinda Carter

Six MVSU students won honors in the John Marshall Gulf Coast Regional Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competition at the Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, La., October 7.

Larry W. Chappell, university pre-law adviser, professor of political science and coordinator of the political science program who coaches mock trial the team said, "I am very pleased that the season is off to such a good start. I was very concerned about a team with no members who have any experience competing at the collegiate level. Fortunately, we have a strong and dedicated group this year. I think we will be very competitive in the remaining regional and national competitions."

In the John Marshall Diversity format, students are assigned to teams with students from other colleges and universities. Each student must play five roles during the course of three trial rounds: 1) opening attorney, 2) closing attorney, 3) directing attorney, 4) crossing attorney and 5) witness.

The MVSU Mock Trial Team has been participating in the competition since 1998. The team is the only one at a historically black university in Mississippi and one of the very few in the nation.

In its first year in regional competition, the team won the award for "best new team" at the Birmingham Regional of the American Mock Trial Association at Samford University. In 2011 and 2012, the team participated in the John Marshall Regional and National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competitions, which are sanctioned by AMTA, receiving awards there as well.

MVSU President Donna H. Oliver said, "For fourteen years, the Mississippi Valley State University Mock Trial Team has competed with students all over the U.S. and has shown they can compete with the best." "Under the leadership of Dr. Chappell, the year has gotten off to a good start and I believe their accomplishments have only just begun," said Oliver.

MVSU student winners were:

- Arlinda Carter - Sophomore Criminal Justice major from Greenville, Miss., won top honors at the tournament. Individually, she won the First Place Overall Advocate Award. She also participated on the team (along with students from Southern University and Loyola University of New Orleans) that won first place. For her efforts, she won \$15,000 in Law School Scholarship.
- Jacqueline Stokes - Senior Political Science major from Yazoo City, Miss., won Third Place Overall Advocate, and her team finished third in the competition. She earned \$7,000 in Law School Scholarships.
- Kylon Alford-Windfield - Senior Political Science major from Jackson, Miss., won Fourth Place Overall Advocate and his team finished second in the competition. He earned \$7,500 in Law School Scholarships.
- Darren Woodson - Senior Business Administration major from

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TORIS BOONE WINS 2ND PLACE IN THE MISSISSIPPI COLLEGIATE ART LOGO COMPETITION



Three students from Mississippi Valley State University participated in the Mississippi Collegiate Art Logo Competition at Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss., on October 12.

Toris Boone, a Sophomore Visual Communication major from Cleveland, Miss., has placed 2nd in this year's competition out of 15 to 20 participants.

Boone was raised in Ruleville, Miss., and graduated from Ruleville Central High School in 2007. He received an Associate Degree in Art in 2011 from Mississippi Delta Community College. He began his art career in second grade. After his brother introduced him to art, he kept on drawing. He began painting landscapes at Mississippi Delta Community College and later transitioned to digital art.

Continued on page 10

Toris Boone Wins *Continued from page 9*



Boone

Boone said, “My experience with graphics at Mississippi Valley State University has been amazing. I thank Mr. Ron Minks for training and preparing me for life after I graduate.”

Personal Interview with Toris Boone

GP: What is the Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition?

TB: The Mississippi Collegiate Art Competition is an annual juried contest open to student artists at colleges and universities throughout the state. Entries are submitted as high-resolution images and labeled according to school, category, the student’s last name, number and title. Categories include clay arts, computer imagery, drawing, fiber arts, glass arts, graphic design, metal arts, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, time-based media and sculpture. I participated in the Logo portion of the competition.

GP: How did it feel to represent MVSU in a competition such as this?

TB: I truly wanted to represent MVSU well. It was an overall good feeling.

GP: What inspired your logo design?

TB: I wanted to highlight things about our beautiful state. The flower, magnolia, for example. I wanted to use everything relative to our state. However I couldn’t put everything in the design. I did two designs before I produced my final design.

GP: How did you feel when you found out you won?

TB: I honestly thought my professor, Mr. Como, was lying when he told me I won 2nd place. I was overjoyed and felt that this was an opportunity of a lifetime.

MVSU IN THE COMMUNITY

1ST CAMPUS KIDS FISHING RODEO

Kids and adults from surrounding areas tested their fishing skills at the 1st Kids Fishing Rodeo, Saturday, November 10, at the West Lake on the MVSU campus. The event was sponsored by the Healthy Communities initiative grant and other community partners. Approximately 50 kids were taught how to bait hooks and safety tips at the lake. Prizes were awarded to individuals who caught a tagged fish, the most catch and largest fish. Each child received a certificate of participation. Jasmine Nash a junior at Greenwood High School won a prize for catching the largest fish: 10 pounds. Last year’s rodeo was held at the Roebuck Lake Landing in Itta Bena, but to expand MVSU’s Sponsored Programs community outreach efforts, it was decided to host family-friendly event on the campus.



Jasmine Nash a junior at Greenwood High School, caught a 10 pound fish during the Kids Fishing Rodeo as other participants look on.

PERSON TO KNOW



KOTRESE SAULSBERRY

Position/Title: Student Activities Support Staff

Responsible for: assisting with the Student Union and all student based activities at the University

Hometown: Sumner

Hobbies: Fine Arts/Dee Jay/event planning

Philosophy on Life: : You only have one life to live so live it to the fullest. No time to waste.

Quote to Remember: Caring is much greater than hating, so I choose to care.

NOVEMBER STAR STUDENT



Congratulations to David White! MVSU Senior, David White, is Student Support Services Star Student of the Month for November 2012. He is Health Physical Education major from Itta Bena, MS, who received the honor for maintaining above a 3.0 grade point average, involvement in SSS and MVSU activities, volunteerism and striving to be an exemplary scholar.

Student Support Services is under the division of Student Affairs and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education TRIO Programs. For more information about Student Support Services, call 662-254-3838.

STUDENT SUPPORT STAFF HERO AWARD



Wayne Holmes is the Student Support Staff Hero of the Quarter. Holmes has been employed at MVSU for nine years and works as a custodian in Facilities Management and lives in Moorhead.

The Student Support Services Staff Hero of the Quarter Award was established to thank and recognize those individuals who go beyond the call of duty to help make the SSS students and program successful.

AMERICAN ANCESTRAL CELEBRATION *Continued from page 2*



Turnipseed

Assistant Professor of History, MVSU, Willie Shepard, former cotton picker and veteran, retired Vice President University of Massachusetts system and Mississippi Blues Commissioner Dr. Edgar E. Smith, Clifton Taulbert, national spokesman for Khafre, Inc., and Mississippi Blues Foundation Board Member Dr. Joseph Martin Stevenson.

Khafre, Inc., an organization whose mission is to build monuments and memorials, develop educational workshops and programs, plans to build a \$26 million Cotton Pickers of America folklore park on 20 acres in the city of Mound Bayou. The park will be made up of various life-sized faces of cotton pickers and sharecroppers, along with Delta voices telling the stories of that historical time. The experience will be educational, interactive and a place that will draw tourist from all over the world.

making this a reality than MVSU,” said Turk.

Guest presenters included Dr. Jo Baldwin, Associate Professor, Department of English, MVSU, Dr. Luther Brown, Director of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning, monument developer Ed Dwight, internationally acclaimed economist Dr. Julianne Malveaux, Dr. Micah Rueber,

Ed Dwight, world-renowned sculptor, former Air Force test pilot, and America’s first African-American astronaut candidate, has agreed to design and build the 20-acre monument. He is committed to the project and believes that using individuals from the Delta is a unique approach and critical in making sure the project is authentic. “With community, University and private donor support, I believe the memorial will become a reality and a valued historical treasure for the world to see,” said Dwight.



MVSU students engaged in symposium discussion

Ed Dwight has created over 100 public art commissions in his 32-year career. His sculpture galleries contains excerpts of his important and well known commissions created to honor individuals, historic events and contributions of African-Americans in the stream of America’s history.

“The Cotton Pickers of America monument is so significant that it will be the last work of my career,” said Dwight.

For more information about the Khafre, Inc. and the Cotton Pickers project, visit www.Khafreinc.org.

WELCOME ABOARD



Dr. Mildred Stevenson
*Academic Counselor
Continuing Education*



Carolyn Sparks
*Administration Assistant
Admissions*



Dr. Micah Rueber
*Assistant Professor of
History
Social Science*



Dr. Cynthia P. Honore-Collins
*Assistant Professor
Social Work*

Campus Safe and Secure *Continued from page 3*

- Change the water in pet dishes and replace water in bird baths weekly.

“With the wide spread of West Nile cases in the Mississippi, I feel that this session was very beneficial towards my safety as a student,” said Kevin Nash, MVSU Sophomore Mass Communication student.

WNV FACTS

West Nile virus is a disease spread by mosquitoes. It was first discovered in the United States in the summer of 1999 in New York. Since then, the virus has spread throughout the United States.

According to Jackson, Miss. Associated Press, the Mississippi State Department of Health has reported eight new human cases of West Nile virus. Two new cases were reported in Perry County, while one new case apiece was reported in Adams, Jones, Lincoln, Rankin, Perry, Sunflower and Washington counties. The state has reported 233 cases and five deaths this year. It's the highest-ever number of West Nile cases reported in Mississippi, which has suffered one of the highest 2012 per-capita rates of the disease of any state. The number of cases has been slowly falling in recent weeks with cooler, drier weather. In 2011, Mississippi had 52 West Nile virus cases and five deaths.

Mock Trial *Continued from page 9*

Picayune, Miss., was on the team that finished third in the competition. He earned \$2,500 in Law School Scholarships.

- Randall Johnson - Senior Criminal Justice major from Clarksdale, Miss., received an honorable mention.
- Gianni Williams - Sophomore Biology

major from Greenwood, Miss., received an honorable mention.

Upcoming competitions include Southeast Diversity Mock Trial Competition, February 15-16, 2013 at Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tenn., and the National Undergraduate Diversity Mock Trial Competition, April 12-13, 2013 at the John Marshall Law School in Chicago, Ill.

CommuniQue' TIPSBOX

WANT TO BE A STAR IN YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER?

If you have an upcoming event or award, etc., submit a write up of 75 words or less along with a high resolution picture and short bio. If the announcement is time sensitive, submit at least two weeks prior to the event date. The announcement will be sent to your hometown newspaper. NOTE: We can't guarantee that the announcement will be published, but information will be submitted.

VALLEY TIPS

Members of the Media – Do you want a good news story? Want to know great happenings at the University? Contact the Office of Communications and Marketing at 662.254.3578 or news@mvsu.edu.

CommuniQue'

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