

*Remarks for the
ARC Regional Forum on Science and Technology
November 21, 2002*

- Recognize Mabel Murphree / MSU dignitaries
 - Discussion of “Mississippi’s Science and Technology Assets and Opportunities” could go on for days / proud of that
- MS doing the right things / ARC report: MSU research programs
 - Competing at a higher level than ever before
 - Moving MS and its people toward fulfillment of promise and potential.
- Assets and opportunities are many and begin early in children’s lives
- “Computers in the Classroom” initiative / information superhighway
- Many computers being built from scratch by Mississippi students
- Renick at meeting in Knoxville, TN / subject of computers in schools
- Comment about Tennessee schools were wired for the Internet
 - Every classroom in MS wired with computer
- NGA: MS will be first state with Internet-accessible computer in every classroom
 - *MS “at the head of the wave of technological innovations”*
- Big difference between being wired and being connected
 - MS children connected
- Natural progression into our universities and junior and community colleges.
- Budget calls for MS Brain Trust / ARC report and “centers for excellence”
 - \$200 million commitment to recruiting and retaining best minds for research and development at institutions of higher learning.
- Must build our intellectual capacity / research capability
 - *Invested hundreds of millions in buildings /time to invest in our people*
- Today you will hear more about work being done in MS
 - Polymer sciences / wireless broad-band infrastructure in communities
 - Building technological foundation to compete in global marketplace
- *If we shortchange education, we shortchange our future*
- MS at the head of the wave of technological innovations
 - That’s where we’re going to stay