

On college campuses across this nation there is usually a focal point – one structure that symbolizes the campus or one gathering point for students, faculty and alumni.

For the University of Mississippi that structure – that focal point is the Lyceum - it is the history - it is the heart and it is the soul of this campus.

(Tell a story about being a student here – never dreaming that your name would be on the building one day.)

Today's rededication marks the beginning of the celebration to recognize the many successes of this University. We did not get here by accident. It took the coordinated efforts of many including the legislature, the university administration, faculty, staff, students, alumni, supporters and friends.

When I served as Lt. Governor the funding for this renovation was passed through the Legislature. It makes me proud today to see the results of that funding.

Today the spotlight is focused on The University of Mississippi, and the successes that have been created here. It is representative of the successes we are

proud of in every university throughout our higher education system in the State of Mississippi.

It is vital that we continue that focus on education in Mississippi. Education must be our priority. Education deserves our greatest attention. Our students deserve it. Our teachers deserve it. Our faculty and administration deserve it.

Education is our key to a bright future and a high quality of life for every Mississippian.

It is my honor and pleasure to be here today. Congratulations and enjoy the celebration.