

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT PRIORITIES

WHAT'S BEING DONE NOW?

1. **All of Mississippi's children and their families, along with educators, business persons, professionals, the media, and communities, will understand and embrace the value of education and training, both for their own personal accomplishment, and to develop a more robust state economy.**

Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

The Institutions of Higher Learning seeks to ensure the delivery of high quality educational services that are designed to teach the value of education and training for the individual and the State.

The Mississippi Automated Resource Information System uses Geographic Information Systems (GIS) technology to manage and apply geographic information to a wide range of natural and cultural resource programs in order to develop a unified, comprehensive approach to geographic information technology.

The Office of Academic Affairs promotes academic quality in educational development to meet the diverse academic, workforce and lifelong needs of all Mississippians through initiatives such as (total funding about \$8.5 million per year):

- ***America Reads Mississippi*** - America Reads-Mississippi is dedicated to improving the reading skills of students, encouraging public awareness and support of literacy, and helping to increase the number of certified teachers in Mississippi. The Initiative accomplishes this task by placing tutors into K-3 classes and rewarding the tutors with educational awards equivalent to two years of higher education. ARM also has a preKindergarten focus.
- ***Fast Forward Mississippi*** - Fast Forward Mississippi, Mississippi's school-to-work initiative, aims to connect existing models and efforts of education reform, worker preparation, and economic development in order to prepare youth for the high wage, high skill careers of today's and tomorrow's global economy. The Initiative accomplishes this task by funding local partnerships throughout the State and providing educational and outreach activities on the State level. Fast Forward Mississippi is a partnership of the Department of Education, Mississippi Development Authority, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Parent Teacher's Association, Office of the Governor, and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.
- ***Gear Up Mississippi*** - Gear Up Mississippi is a premier network of educational services aimed at enhancing the educational environment and broadening support for Mississippi students who live in economically limited communities and who represent areas with limited entry into post-secondary training opportunities. The Initiative accomplishes this task by working with 37 K-12 school districts to provide the services needed by the each district to ensure students enter post-secondary education.
- ***Global Education Mobile*** - The Global Education Mobile, a partnership between NASA and the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, provides for workforce enhancement and professional development in the area of remote sensing; strategic community planning opportunities and resources for education and economic development; education and educational technology professional development for teachers and college faculty; academic and career enhance activities for students; workforce training and professional development in areas that require access to modern computer technologies and software applications. The Mobile accomplishes this task by traveling to communities, schools, and conferences offering the available educational services.
- ***HEADWAE*** - The Higher Education Appreciation Day, Working for Academic Excellence (HEADWAE) was established by Mississippi Legislative Resolution #88 in 1987 to annually honor the academically talented students and faculty members of Mississippi's higher education

institutions who have made outstanding contributions in promoting academic excellence. The event is hosted by the Legislature, coordinated by the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, and funded by corporate sponsors.

- **Mississippi Space Commerce Initiative** - The Mississippi Space Commerce Initiative, a partnership between NASA and the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, serves to create the workforce necessary for Mississippi to become the nation's leader in commercial remote sensing research, product development, and services; devise and implement innovative approaches for exposing K-12 students to remote sensing; train and educate students to populate the space remote sensing industry; and coordinate all educational activities relating to the Initiative. The Initiative accomplishes this task through the funding of various projects.
- **Teach Mississippi Institute** - The Teach Mississippi Institute offers teachers instruction in education, effective teaching strategies, classroom management, state curriculum requirements, planning and instruction, instructional methods and pedagogy, and use of test results to improve instruction. A partnership between the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and four universities, the Institute provides an intensive eight-week, nine semester hour program.
- **Title II No Child Left Behind: Teacher Quality Improvement Project** - The No Child Left Behind: Teacher Quality Improvement Project focuses on the preparation, training, and recruitment of high-quality teachers and principals in order to improve student achievement. The Initiative accomplishes this task by funding university professional development projects across the State.

The Office of Economic Research provides economic and demographic information showing the relationship between higher education and the economy.

The Office of Public Affairs hosts the annual College Fair in which students from across the State are shown the value of higher education.

The Office of Student Financial Aid provides financial assistance to residents in pursuit of their educational and professional goals.

The Office of Technology promotes the effective utilization of educational technology throughout the education spectrum, coordinates distance learning technologies, and hosts conferences supporting the use of educational technology.

Delta State University

Delta State University embraces efforts in support of economic development, including workforce training. The Division of Continuing Education has gained approval for participation by over twenty programs in the Workforce Incentive Act (WIA). Almost 200 students are currently in WIA Programs. The University has also created a Center for Business Research to provide leadership in the scholarly assessment of economic issues that impact the region. The Center for Community Development has ongoing leadership programs aimed at economic and community development for area citizens.

Jackson State University

Jackson State University is working with K-12 programs and the community to embrace the value of

education and training through such initiatives as:

- A Responsive Educator Model for its teacher education program which depicts specific process/outcome measures that reflect the past, mold the present, and shape the future.

Mississippi State University

Two goals of the Early Childhood Institute, an externally funded Institute, housed in Curriculum and Instruction are:

- To develop and maintain a leadership program where individuals are prepared to guide early childhood policy and practice at the local and state level.
- To assist communities in building partnerships with families and schools and to support families as the child's first and most important teacher.

Student teachers do projects for their professional portfolios that require involvement with parents and communities.

Mississippi University for Women

The Mississippi University for Women's (MUW) program of public information celebrates educational achievement and enhances public appreciation of education. School children and citizens at large are encouraged to come to the campus for events from leadership training for middle school students to Science bowl for high school students and management workshops for adults, which contribute to their skills and enhance their opportunities to achieve their goals in life.

2. All of Mississippi's children will start school ready to learn.

Delta State University

Delta State University has assumed a leadership in two initiatives: the Delta Education Initiative and the Delta Health Initiative. Both have components which address the educational and health needs of the birth to kindergarten population of the State. Moreover, the Center for Community Development is working with small communities throughout the Delta to assist them in efforts to empower families to strengthen parenting skills.

Jackson State University

Jackson State University has a rich tradition in:

- Facilitating the development and implementation of successful headstart programs
- Establishing and operating a long-term early childhood center for the preschool children of employees and persons in the community
- Pioneering an early childhood doctoral program to prepare quality personnel to develop and conduct exemplary early childhood programs.

Mississippi State University

One of the goals of the Early Childhood Institute is:

- To improve the quality of care and education of children prior to their entrance into school and through third grade.

Head Start Project works with Head Start to improve Pre-K education in Mississippi.

Project Response works with Special Education teachers to insure that all students learn.

Mississippi University for Women

MUW offers high quality care for pre-kindergarten children in its Child and Parent Development Center. The Speech and Language Pathology program offers extensive services to pre-school children both on campus and through off-campus agencies and instructions.

3. **Mississippi will substantially boost the quality of teaching and learning in all elementary and secondary schools to better prepare more graduates who are ready to compete in the new economy.**

Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning

The Institutions of Higher Learning seeks to ensure the delivery of high quality educational services that are designed to teach the value of education and training for the individual and the State.

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- ***America Reads Mississippi*** - America Reads-Mississippi is dedicated to improving the reading skills of students, encouraging public awareness and support of literacy, and helping to increase the number of certified teachers in Mississippi. The Initiative accomplishes this task by placing tutors into K-12 schools and rewarding the tutors with educational awards equivalent to two years of higher education.
- ***Fast Forward Mississippi*** - Fast Forward Mississippi, Mississippi's school-to-work initiative, aims to connect existing models and efforts of education reform, worker preparation, and economic development in order to prepare youth for the high wage, high skill careers of today's and tomorrow's global economy. The Initiative accomplishes this task by funding local partnerships throughout the State and providing educational and outreach activities on the State level. Fast Forward Mississippi is a partnership of the Department of Education, Mississippi Development Authority, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Parent Teacher's Association, Office of the Governor, and the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges.
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traveling to communities, schools, and conferences offering the available educational services.

- **Mississippi Space Commerce Initiative** - The Mississippi Space Commerce Initiative, a partnership between NASA and the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, serves to create the workforce necessary for Mississippi to become the nation's leader in commercial remote sensing research, product development, and services; devise and implement innovative approaches for exposing K-12 students to remote sensing; train and educate students to populate the space remote sensing industry; and coordinate all educational activities relating to the Initiative. The Initiative accomplishes this task through the funding of various projects.
- **Teach Mississippi Institute** - The Teach Mississippi Institute offers teachers instruction in education, effective teaching strategies, classroom management, state curriculum requirements, planning and instruction, instructional methods and pedagogy, and use of test results to improve instruction. A partnership between the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning and four universities, the Institute provides an intensive eight-week, nine semester hour program.
- **Title II No Child Left Behind: Teacher Quality Improvement Project** - The No Child Left Behind: Teacher Quality Improvement Project focuses on the preparation, training, and recruitment of high-quality teachers and principals in order to improve student achievement. The Initiative accomplishes this task by funding university professional development projects across the State.

Delta State University

Delta State has excellent teacher education programs with a national reputation. The University adheres to rigorous admission requirements to teacher education programs to insure quality participation. The College of Education faculty and its collaborative partners in the content disciplines are active in working with K-12 schools in the areas in preservice and inservice education.

Jackson State University

Jackson State University is a leader in preparing quality personnel to staff elementary and secondary schools in Mississippi and throughout the country.

The JSU teacher education program has outcome measures for its graduates that ensures competence in the following areas:

- Learning
- Instruction
- Diversity
- Collaboration
- Leadership
- Technology
- Wellness
- Accountability

Mississippi State University

PT3 (Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers to Use Technology) provides training for faculty in the College of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences, along with faculty from 3 Community Colleges.

Project ACHIEVE MS offers problem-based learning workshops every year for:

- faculty from the Colleges of Education and Arts and Science, and 3 community colleges,
- 70 elementary and secondary teachers from 23 different school districts throughout the state,
- 103 elementary block students at the Starkville campus and 54 elementary block students at the MSU Meridian Campus (See <http://www.achieve.msstate.edu>)

Undergraduate Teacher education students at Mississippi State participate in 90+ hours of field-experiences in P-12 schools prior to the 16 week student teaching semester.

Mississippi State College of Education provides training in technology for its students, for teachers, and for the community.

Several projects with regional public schools provide tutorial and inservice training in reading

Mississippi University for Women

MUW's teacher education programs are widely recognized for quality. All graduates pass the teacher licensing exam. The W plans to increase the number of teachers graduating each year credentialed to teach mathematics and the sciences.

4. Mississippi will increase high school graduation rates and college participation and graduation rates at all colleges and universities.

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- **Academic Common Market** - The Academic Common Market is a cooperative tuition-reduction agreement among 16 Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) states allowing residents of a participating state to pursue academic degree programs that are not available in their home state. The program, administered by SREB and coordinated by each individual state, allows a resident of a participating state to apply for a waiver of out-of-state tuition to attend a cooperating public institution of higher education in another participating state.
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enhancing the educational environment and broadening support for Mississippi students who live in economically limited communities and who represent areas with limited entry into post-secondary training opportunities. The Initiative accomplishes this task by working with 37 K-12 school districts to provide the services needed by the each district to ensure students enter post-secondary education.

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- **Student Advisor** - The Student Advisor is an Internet advising offering relevant information to help guide students in making sound educational and career choices.
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Delta State University

Delta State University has recently adopted a new enrollment management program directed by a newly established dean position. Crucial to this effort will be a data-driven approach that tracks student performance and implements appropriate intervention strategies to assist in student retention.

Jackson State University

Jackson State University will ensure increased graduation rates in high schools by producing better prepared preservice teachers and providing in-service teachers with knowledge and information on modern technology and instructional strategies. It will increase its own graduation rate through enhanced academic advisement, institutionalization of action research to impact both personal and instructional resolves in the academy, and through full commitment to excellence in teaching, research and service.

Mississippi State University

Preservice teachers are being better prepared in their courses and inservice teachers' are being enhanced through professional development and mentoring offered by the university teacher education faculty. As a result, high school and college retention graduation rates will increase.

Mississippi University for Women

Accessibility and affordability are priorities for MUW. U.S. News and World Report ranks it as the best value among Southern Master's Universities. In 2001, the Lumina Foundation identified the W as Mississippi's most accessible and affordable public university. MUW is currently conducting a study of methods to enhance student retention and graduation rates.

5. Mississippi will increase participation in adult lifelong learning, worker training, and professional development activities.

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Delta State University

Delta State has an active Division of Continuing Education. The Division offers special programs geared toward lifelong learning. Included are special admission requirements and programs for senior citizens and workforce training programs for citizens. The Division has professional development certificate programs in a variety of disciplines and employment areas.

Jackson State University

Jackson State University is position to further its role as a leader in adult education. It will upgrade its academic program and organizational infrastructure to become a college–incorporating the necessary market-demand programs and services that are exemplary of a contemporary/future-oriented adult lifelong learning college of excellence.

Mississippi State University

Professional development offered by the College of Education faculty and staff for P-12 teachers:

- ACHIEVE grant involved 70 elementary and secondary school teachers in learning Problem-Based Learning.
- Adult lifelong learning and workforce development are part of the curriculum in the Workforce Development Master's and Community College Leadership
- Doctorate from the Department of Instructional Systems, Leadership, and Workforce Development.
- Continuing Education and Distance Education offer options for adult learners to enhance theft skills and knowledge.
- Project CREATE uses university faculty and graduate students on-site to facilitate P-12 teachers in integrating technology into their classrooms.

Mississippi University for Women

At MUW, approximately 35 percent of all students are age 25 or older. MUW offers registered nurses in Northeast Mississippi an opportunity to earn their bachelor's degrees while working full time, through a Tupelo-based RN to BSN program. Alternate route teacher certification programs are offered to college graduates who wish to become teachers.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center

Since 1992, the Medical Center has sponsored a mentoring program called Base Pair which matches a biomedical faculty member with a student for a semester of laboratory work (for credit) on this campus. The goal of the program is to help students establish self-directed learning behaviors. Nearly 50 percent of the 80 program participants — all of whom come from public high schools — have been African American and 59 percent have been women.

Of the Base Pair participants eligible (14 remain in high school), 100 percent have gone onto college and 33 have chosen a science major. Sixteen have completed undergraduate training; of those, 12 have either enrolled in graduate training or have entered a science-related career.

Base Pair students assiduously pursue professionally valid scientific research, and 27 scientific abstract/presentations now list a student as co-author/presenter. Research results have been delivered in annual meetings of Experimental Biology, the American College of Emergency Physicians, the European Tissue Repair Society, and the Mississippi Academy of Sciences. Five scientific manuscripts listing a student as co-author have been published or are in press.

Teacher professional development, an integral component of Base Pair, also reflects a commitment to mentorship. Mentor-guided training of teachers in grantsmanship, curriculum design, and contemporary laboratory/information technology is intensive during summer sessions. Thirteen teachers from four public school districts have participated. An additional 21 Jackson Public School teachers are currently engaged in a joint effort with Tougaloo College, an historically black college in Jackson. Approximately 80 percent of these teachers have been of African-American origin. To date, 83 percent of Base Pair teacher-initiated grant applications have been funded, demonstrating lasting influence on teacher development. Base Pair teacher participants have co-authored 13 citations since 1994.

In September 2001, Minority Access Incorporated recognized the University of Mississippi Medical Center as a role model institution for its innovative development of Base Pair.

6. **Mississippi will increase its support for university-based research and development, and the higher education community will redouble its efforts to address state and community economic needs, and to prepare students for careers in the new economy.**

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Delta State University

Delta State is engaged in ongoing analysis of curricula in relation to new directions in the economy. The University has revised programs, particularly at the graduate level, to make them more accessible to non-traditional student populations. Course offerings are continually being revised to reflect changing trends.

Mississippi State University

The College of Education is second only to the College of Engineering in research dollars at MSU. Research grants totaled 7.4 million in 2002 for the College of Education.

Workforce development prepares students to enter the work place better prepared. Discover/Tech Prep prepares teachers to work in the tech prep programs in Mississippi public schools. Tech Prep enables students to make good career choices and provides a background for their chosen careers.

Mississippi University for Women

Most MUW graduates pursue majors closely related to their career aspirations. Already, The W focuses on academic and leadership development of women, whose opportunities for career advancement have historically been more limited than those of men. The W's revised mission statement and its new strategic plan place an emphasis on enhancing the University's role in research and economic development.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center

The University Hospitals and Clinics, the Medical Center's teaching hospitals, render care — within the limits of the hospital resources to all Mississippians who seek care regardless of their ability to pay. In FY 2001, 55 percent of those seen at the Medical Center were either Medicaid or self-pay.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center is the anchor tenant in the Jackson Medical Mall, a national model of urban revitalization. Its partners in the mall project are Jackson State University and Tougaloo College.

The Medical Center moved its hospital clinics to the mall in 1998. Currently, the institution occupies about half of the mall space and expects to open the state's first comprehensive cancer and addictive disorders treatment and research center therein about a year to 18 months.