

Received: from e3000b.state.ms.us
by governor.state.ms.us; Wed, 17 Oct 2001 06:24:03 -0500
Received: from mx1.its.state.ms.us (mx1.its.state.ms.us [192.42.4.253])
by e3000b.state.ms.us (8.10.0/8.10.0) with SMTP id f9HBScc07947
for <governor@governor.state.ms.us>; Wed, 17 Oct 2001 06:28:38 -0500 (CDT)
Received: from sunlold.its.state.ms.us (sunlold.its.state.ms.us [192.42.4.37])
by mx1.its.state.ms.us (8.10.0/8.10.0) with ESMTP id f9HBQWL14403
for <governor@governor.state.ms.us>; Wed, 17 Oct 2001 06:26:32 -0500 (CDT)
Received: (from nobody@localhost)
by sunlold.its.state.ms.us (8.10.0/8.10.0) id f9HBTWU21502;
Wed, 17 Oct 2001 06:29:32 -0500 (CDT)
Date: Wed, 17 Oct 2001 06:29:32 -0500 (CDT)
Message-Id: <200110171129.f9HBTWU21502@sunlold.its.state.ms.us>
To: governor@governor.state.ms.us
From: pilot@riverboathouse.com (Dr. William A. Hayes II)
Subject: Comments to the Governor

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Dr. William A. Hayes II (pilot@riverboathouse.com) on Wednesday, October 17, 2001 at
06:29:32

Issue: Regarding visit to Rosedale

Street_Address: POB 235 (410 Main Street)

City: Rosedale

State: MS

Zip_Code: 38769

Message: Dear Governor Musgrove,

First, thank you for taking the time to visit and speak with the people of Rosedale. It is one of those often forgotten small towns but it is a small town with a heart and tremendous potential if given the chance. This is the only place my wife and I have lived where we were welcomed to town the first week by a knock on the door and a visit from the mayor (J. Y. Trice). It is also the only town where I have seen the mayor (Andrew Williams) out working on an almost daily basis to clean up main street. It is a special place.

Second, I hope I did not come off too harshly with my questions. I'm the big guy in the back of the room (originally from Tulsa) who has been a professor in Mississippi for 14 years. I did however feel that it was important that you heard what I had to say directly from a professor (actually a pair of professors including my wife) who have become so disheartened and dismayed by the lack of attention to higher education in the state that we have seen in our tenure here that we are definitely ready to leave. So are many of our colleagues (as I said 50 - 60% of the individuals we know in the system). Also, this brain drain will take a long time to heal because the word is out "Don't go to Mississippi."

I spoke up because I'm afraid that many of my colleagues are not as outspoken as myself and fear to say what needs to be said when it needs to be said. I too grew up in a very rural area and learned from the old guys sitting around solving the worlds problems. And one thing I learned from them was that when something was wrong, if no one ever said anything about nothing got fixed.

One thing that is unfortunate is that there is a great need for thinking out of the box as you said, but those who might contribute to that thinking are never asked... I'm talking about the faculty of the state who represent the top one percent intellectually and educationally of the people of the nation. We are the forgotten minds... or the ignored minds. I have been the director of the Center for Creative and Critical Thinking at DSU which has been recognized by the National Council for Critical Thinking Instruction as Mississippi's Center for Critical Thinking for 10 years. Seems like that has truly gone to waste.

Thank your for your time and attention... and by the way, we voted for you and probably will again :-)

Best wishes,

Bill

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