

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, a native of Shreveport, Louisiana, Dr. Lester C. Newman received his bachelor's degree in political science from Southern University in Baton Rouge and earned his master's and doctorate degrees in political science from Atlanta University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Newman and his wife, Gloria, have two children Russell and Eddreaka; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Newman assumed the duties of the fifth president of Mississippi Valley State University on July 1, 1998—prior to joining the Mississippi Valley State University family, Dr. Newman was vice president for Academic Affairs at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Newman has served in various positions, which required his professional expertise, at educational institutions across the south and has conducted research, authored publications, delivered professional presentations and has also co-authored or authored successful proposals for state and national governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Newman is also a member of the Board of Directors of several organizations, including: the National Association for Equal Opportunity, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Mississippi, the Delta Health Alliance, and the Delta Council—he has also been the recipient of numerous fellowships, professional awards, and citations, and was recently voted “Educator of the Year” by the Greenwood Leflore Retired Teacher's Association; and

WHEREAS, with his wealth of educational experience and vision for the future of Mississippi Valley State University, Dr. Newman has adopted the theme, “Moving from Excellence to Preeminence” and the slogan “The valley of scholars”—currently, Mississippi Valley State University has the highest percentage of enrollment growth of any other public, four-year institution in the state; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lester C. Newman is being honored at the Fourth Annual Delta Business Journal Profiles in Leadership Awards for his contributions and leadership in the Mississippi Delta:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim May 3, 2003, in honor of

DR. LESTER C. NEWMAN

and his contributions to the State of Mississippi.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, May 3, 2003,
in the two hundred and twenty-sixth year of
the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR