

Faculty & Staff



Humanities Council Recognizes Smith

Dr. Steven G. Smith, professor of philosophy and religious studies and chair of the religious studies department, was the recipient of the 2003 Humanities Teacher Award for Millsaps College.

Every year, the Mississippi Humanities Council recognizes October as the Arts and Humanities month. Each college nominates a professor to receive the Humanities Teacher Award. "I am very proud to be this year's award winner," Smith said. "I have great admiration for previous winners. Millsaps has a very distinguished faculty, and I am proud to be one of their colleagues."

Meanwhile, Smith's forthcoming book, *Worth Doing*, is scheduled for publication

in May. It examines a wide range of moral issues, including war, in relation to ideals of personal worthiness. It

also considers religious challenges of "transworth" lying beyond those ideals.

"Distinguishing concepts of 'worth' and worthiness of human lives and human activities from questions concerning value, well-being, or virtue, Smith explores how worthwhile acts implement ideals of worthiness in four major domains—work, play, action in concert, and love," according to the State University of New York Press, publisher of the book. "He touches on a wide range of theoretical material, including Western and Eastern philosophy, ancient and contemporary figures, and literary texts, to provide a comprehensive look at how we rely on ideals of worthy action in the pursuit of moral happiness."

"*Worth Doing* is worth reading," writes George R. Lucas Jr., author of

The Rehabilitation of Whitehead. "It is rich and thickly textured, encompassing psychological (empirical desire, satisfaction, contentment) as well as philosophical approaches (justice, the quest for the right and the good). The resulting discussion of the many dimensions of 'the good life' encompasses much more than philosophy alone traditionally covers, including work, play, love, the quest for authenticity, fulfillment or distinctiveness, as well as discussing the meaning of happiness and the challenge of embodying moral values in one's life. The chapters on play and love are brilliantly conceived and the section on death is a stunning tour de force. This is truly an outstanding book."

In addition to writing four books, Smith is the author of more than 40 journal articles and reviews.

NEH Supports Storey's Writing And Research



Dr. William Storey, assistant professor of history and current recipient of the Millsaps College Outstanding Young Faculty Award, has been awarded a

National Endowment for the Humanities stipend to support a season of writing and research.

NEH Summer Stipends provide an opportunity to pursue research in the humanities that contributes to scholarly knowledge or to the public understanding of the humanities. Successful applicants receive an award of \$5,000 for two consecutive months of full-time research and writing.

Storey plans to use the stipend along with the release time included in the Outstanding Young Faculty Award to complete a book entitled *Black Guns and White Power: Disarmament and British Rule*

"*Worth Doing* is worth reading. The chapters on play and love are brilliantly conceived and the section on death is a stunning tour de force."

in *South Africa*. This book examines gun proliferation, gun regulation, and political culture in 19th-century South Africa, with a focus on how representations of technological skill were shaped by colonial political culture. Storey will also travel to Cape Town, South Africa, to complete the research for his book.

Storey earned a B.A. from Harvard University (magna cum laude) and an M.A. and Ph.D. in history from Johns Hopkins University.

Since coming to Millsaps in 1999, Storey has established himself as an excellent teacher and scholar. Storey is also the author of an edited volume, two books, and articles, essays, and reviews, and numerous conference presentations. His research has been supported by the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the National Science Foundation, the American Historical Association, and the Fulbright Scholarship program.

Lucas Honored



The President's Commission on the Status of Women at Mississippi State University in March recognized Dr. Frances Lucas, president of the College, as the 2004 Outstanding Mississippi

Woman. The commission was created in the late 1970s to advise the MSU university president on issues affecting the status and role of women on the MSU campus.

Promotional Material: Staffers Move Up

The College has promoted three senior administrators in the areas of academics, finance, and campus services.

Dr. Richard Smith, former vice president and dean of the College, has

been named senior vice president and dean of the College. Smith completed his undergraduate degree at Whittier College in California and continued his education with graduate degrees from the University of Rochester in New York.

Before coming to Millsaps in 1997, Smith served in academic administration at Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania. Smith's new position will entail additional leadership responsibilities in implementing the strategic plan of the College.

Lou Burney, the former assistant vice president for business affairs and controller, has been named vice president for finance. Burney has provided leadership for the Millsaps financial team for 16 years. She earned an undergraduate degree in accounting from the University of Mississippi and continued her education with a master's degree from Millsaps. In her new role, Burney will manage support staff working in accounting, payroll services, accounts payable and receivable, budget development, and investment management.

Todd Rose, former vice president and dean of students, will assume leadership as vice president for campus services, a newly created position at Millsaps. Rose completed his undergraduate degree at Southern Methodist University in Texas and continued his education with a master's degree from Baldwin-Wallace College in Ohio. He is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in the administration of higher education at the University of Southern Mississippi. In his new role, Rose will provide leadership for the physical plant, the post office, human resources, food services, campus safety, and the Millsaps bookstore.

"I believe these administrative decisions and promotions will help take Millsaps College to even higher rankings and more notable achievement," said President Frances Lucas.



Student artwork in the Ford Academic Complex.

Sallis Awards Honor Outstanding Service

The winners of the Harrylyn G. Sallis Award for Quality Service for 2003 are, for individual excellence, Ruth Wilkinson, director of payroll and employee benefits; and Janet Langley, director of academic support services and the Gateway Program. The award for excellence by a department went to the maintenance department, supervised by David Wilkinson.

The Sallis Awards, named in honor of Dr. Harrylyn Sallis, dean emerita of adult learning and a strong proponent of the Millsaps quality-service initiative, are given to staff members and departments in recognition of outstanding service within and outside the College community.

King Takes the Helm Of Development



Vernon King has been hired as director of development in the Office of Institutional Advancement at Millsaps. King holds a bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of Mississippi and has studied at the

Protestant Episcopal Seminary in Virginia. He was a member of the honorary societies

Sigma Tau Delta for English and Pi Sigma Alpha for political science.

He comes to Millsaps after having served as director of development at Mississippi University for Women and, most recently, Mississippi College. King has also worked for AmSouth Bank in Jackson and Dean Witter Reynolds Inc. in Houston, Texas.

King is involved in many civic organizations, including the Community Stewpot Ministries, the Greater Belhaven Neighborhood Foundation, and the American Red Cross. King is also a member of the Outreach Commission at St. Andrew's Cathedral and co-chair of the Laurel Street Park Improvement Project.

Rumsey Appointed To Annual Giving Post



Hunter Rumsey, a native of Sylacauga, Alabama, has been named director of annual giving at Millsaps. Rumsey's duties will include managing the student calling program,

in which students are hired to help assist the annual giving staff by calling Millsaps alumni, friends, and parents and asking them to support the College's annual fund. She also oversees the department's direct-mail program.

"This career move is a wonderful opportunity for me," said Rumsey, who received her B.A. from the University of South Alabama in 1999. "The environment at Millsaps is exciting, and I'm looking forward to helping the College succeed."

Previously, Rumsey served as a fundraiser for the Birmingham Metropolitan Development Board. She has also served as a program coordinator and public relations officer for the Biotechnology Association of Alabama.

Becker Named Head Of Communications



Millsaps College has named Stephen Becker director of communications and marketing for the College. Becker holds a B.S. in mathematics from the

U.S. Naval Academy, an M.S. in public relations from American University, and an M.S. in management from Salve Regina University.

Becker spent 20 years in the U.S. Navy, where he served as director of communications and chief spokesman for several departments. In 1986, he directed the Navy's salute to the Statue of Liberty, which resulted in a Silver Anvil Award for the best public relations program in government for that year.

Becker has served as director of the communications program at the University of the South (1990-94), and he led the advancement program at the institution (1994-98). Most recently, he has served in advancement leadership capacities at Whitman College and Overlake Hospital Medical Center, both in the state of Washington.

Becker has also been a leader on the Council for Advancement and Support of Education in District III, comprised of the nine Southeastern states.



MyMillsaps.com: The alumni online community

The Millsaps alumni online community makes it easy for alumni to stay in touch with classmates and their alma mater.

Access to the online community is a password-protected benefit exclusively for Millsaps alumni.

Registered users enjoy a number of services, including an online search for other alumni and permanent email forwarding which allows alumni to receive email no matter how many times their addresses change. An online events calendar alerts alumni to upcoming events on and off campus, enabling graduates to stay informed. Alumni can also report changes in their address and personal information.

If you would like additional information, or if you have questions or comments about the online community, please email web manager Shelly Bass at **odemsd@millsaps.edu** or call **1-86-MILLSAPS**.

mymillsaps.com

Faculty & Staff

Arts and Letters

James Bowley (religious studies) published the article "Rethinking the Concept of 'Bible': Some Theses and Proposals" (with John Reeves) in the journal *Henoch: Historical and Philological Studies on Judaism* and served as associate editor of *The Dead Sea Scroll Concordance*, the official concordance of the Dead Sea Scrolls. He spoke at the 2003 Kaleidoscope Conference at Hinds Community College on "The Middle East: What's Wrong with This Picture?" and addressed regional members of the clergy on Mel Gibson's film *The Passion of the Christ* at a panel presentation at the Beth Israel synagogue in Jackson.

Gail Buzhardt (modern languages) directed a language immersion workshop for high school French teachers at Millsaps. The title was "Une journée dans la ville de Lyon" (One Day in the City of Lyon). As part of the workshop, **Claudine Chadeyras** (modern languages) gave a slide show and lecture on "La comédie musicale" (The Musical Comedy).

Raymond Clothier (Faith & Work Initiative) gave a presentation entitled "Best Practices of the Millsaps College Faith & Work Initiative" for a conference of grant recipients in the Programs for the Theological Exploration of Vocation, funded by the Lilly Endowment, held at St. Norbert College in De Pere, Wis.

David Davis (history) represented the Millsaps faculty and administration at the aforementioned Lilly conference. The associate dean of arts and letters was also scheduled to travel this spring with **Iren Omo-Bare** (political science) to Ghana to set up a study abroad program.

Tim Coker (performing arts) traveled nine days in England this spring with 31 students to present concerts and take advantage of the nation's cultural riches.

Laura Franey (English) had her first book published, *Victorian Travel Writing and Imperial Violence: British Writing on Africa, 1855-1902*. Issued by Palgrave Macmillan Press, it is part of the monograph series *Palgrave Studies in Nineteenth-Century Writing and Culture*.



Kathi Griffin (Writing Center) attended the Atlanta conference of the Southeastern Writing Center Association with four peer writing tutors. The group presented a panel entitled "Becoming Mindful of the Absent Professor." From left, Griffin, Wes French, Mike Parks, Megan Parks, and Michael Pickard presented at the conference.

Julie Maisel (performing arts) chaired the 2004 Flute Festival Mid-South on the Millsaps campus. The event brought in more than 125 flute teachers, performers, and students from all over the Southeast. The weekend included concerts by flute teachers and a gala closing concert that featured international flutist Susan Hoepfner, accompanied on the piano by **Elizabeth Moak** (performing arts). There were competitions for all age levels and workshops on various concepts related to the flute and music in general. Maisel performed in the opening concert and also conducted a flute choir that she organized in Jackson.

Robert McElvaine (history) and Nancy Chodorow (University of California-Berkeley) were scheduled to present the two keynote addresses at the International Freud Conference in Melbourne, Australia, this spring, when he was also scheduled to give lectures at three Australian universities.

Greg Miller (English) will spend the spring semester of 2005 in residence at the Camargo Foundation's Study Center in

Cassis, France. The Camargo Foundation sponsors creative projects by writers, visual artists, photographers, video artists, filmmakers, media artists, and composers. He hopes to complete his third book of poetry during his stay.

Peggy Prensaw (English) gave a lecture entitled "Composing a Life: Welty, Faulkner, and Literary Tradition" as part of her tenure this year as the Eudora Welty Professor. She also gave the Phi Kappa Phi keynote lecture, "Story-Telling Southerners: Lies, Lives, and the Art of Writing," at Southeastern Louisiana University in Hammond.

Lynn Raley (performing arts) gave a solo recital of contemporary piano music in Manhattan that included the New York City premieres of two works written for him by Charles Wuorinen and James Romig. Wuorinen, a major force in contemporary music who has won the Pulitzer Prize and the MacArthur Foundation Award, has written an opera based on Salman Rushdie's *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*. He was commissioned by Raley to write "The Haroun Piano Book," the first installment of a set of pieces based on material from the opera. Also on the program were Wuorinen's "The Blue Bamboula" and works by James Romig ("Transparencies," also written for Raley), Edward J. F. Taylor, and Arnold Schönberg.

Holly Sypniewski (classical studies) gave a paper from her current research project in Hellenistic Greek poetry, entitled "The Lover's Self-Delusion in Theocritus Idylls 10 and 11," at the annual meeting of the Classical Association of the Middle-West and South in St. Louis. She was also named as one of the Margo Tytus Visiting Scholars at the Burnham Classics Library at the University of Cincinnati this summer. In addition, she was scheduled to attend the Sunoikisis Summer Seminars in Greek and Latin Literature at the Associated Colleges of the South Tech Center in June and Conventiculum Latinum, a spoken Latin immersion program, at the University of Kentucky in August.

Elise Smith (art) presented a paper entitled “The Aged Pollard’s Shade’: Gainsborough’s Landscape with Woodcutter and Milkmaid” at the annual meeting of the Southeastern College Art Conference in Raleigh, N.C.

Steve Smith (philosophy and religious studies) presented a paper entitled “Appeals and Meaningfulness” at the 2004 meeting of the Mississippi Philosophical Association.

Sandra Smithson (art) had a solo exhibition of her paintings and etchings at the Southwest Missouri State University’s Art Gallery last fall. The paintings and prints that she created, with the support of the Hearin Grant, were exhibited in the Lewis Art Gallery this year during the faculty art exhibition. She has been accepted again into the Vermont Studio Center and has been awarded an Artist Grant from the center. Smithson will be an artist-in-residence at the center this summer. She assisted master printer Matt Christie in the printing of a large John Buck woodcut at the 2004 Conference of the Southern Graphics Council.

An etching of hers was also accepted for the 10th Annual National Juried Fine Art Competition & Exhibition at the Germantown Art League in Memphis. The Printmaking Department of the University of Tennessee in Knoxville has invited her to present a slide talk about her work. Smithson looks forward to having a solo exhibition of her etchings on fabric in fall 2005 at the Concordia University Art Gallery in Irvine, Calif.

Austin Wilson (English), who serves as executive director of the Southern Literary Festival, attended this spring’s festival



at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Three Millsaps seniors were prize-winners in the festival competition: Ashley Nichols, Matthew Luter, and Michael

Pickard. Their work was published in the festival anthology. The Millsaps literary magazine, *Stylus*, received first place in the festival’s college literary magazine competition.

Else School

Ajay Aggarwal (management) has been appointed chair for the Quantitative Theory and Methods Track for the 2004 meeting of the South-East Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences. He received the Best Paper in Track Award at the 2004 South-East Decision Sciences Institute meeting for his paper on outsourcing. He is currently serving for the fourth consecutive year on the instructor innovation committee of the Decision Sciences Institute.

Harvey Fiser (business) and **Kim Burke** (accounting) presented their paper “SAS 99: Raising the Audit Malpractice Bar?” at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Accounting and Finance in New Orleans. Burke and Stacy Kovar (Kansas State University) presented their paper “Public Perceptions of CPAs: Before and After the Recent Financial Crises” at the same conference.

Burke, **Penelope Prenshaw** (marketing), and Kovar had their papers “Understanding the Satisfaction Process for New Assurance Services: The Role of Attitudes, Expectations, Disconfirmation and Performance” and “Unraveling the Expectations Gap: An Assurance Gaps Model and Illustrative Application” accepted for publication in *Advances in Accounting* and *Advances in Accounting Behavioral Research*, respectively.

Ray Grubbs (management) has directed M.B.A. Field Service for Parkway Properties, DeBeukelaer Corp., Bethlehem Center, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi, and Genesis Ministry at Christ United Methodist Church.

Walter Neely (finance) took 12 students to Memphis, where they visited with such financial firms as Morgan Keegan, First



Tenn, and GreenSquare Capital. They also visited FedEx. In each case, Millsaps alumni spoke to the group.

Susan Taylor, Blakely Fender (economics), **Howard McMillan** (business), and **Kim Burke** (accounting) led a group of Millsaps accounting and economics students on a trip to Washington, D.C. Students toured the Federal Reserve Offices and spoke with Federal Reserve Board Governor Mark Olson about national economic issues. In addition, economics students met with representatives of the American Banking Association, and accounting students spoke with the deputy chief accountant of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Students also toured the White House and the Capitol.

In addition, Taylor, Fender, and Burke presented their paper “Unraveling the Academic Productivity of Economists: The Opportunity Costs of Teaching and Service” at the Southern Economic Association Meeting in San Antonio, Tex.

Science

George Bey (anthropology) contributed chapters to two recently published volumes on Mesoamerican archaeology. The first is entitled “The Role of Ceramics in the Study of Conflict in Maya Archaeology” and appears in *Ancient Mesoamerican Warfare*, published by Altamira Press and edited by M. Kathryn Brown and Travis Stanton. The second (co-authored with William Ringle) is entitled “The Decline of the East: The Classic to Postclassic Transition at Ek Balam, Yucatan.” It appears in *The Terminal Classic in the Maya Lowlands:*

Collapse, Transition and Transformation, published by University Press of Colorado and edited by Arthur Demarest, Prudence Rice, and Don Rice.

Melissa Kelly (psychology) co-authored a chapter in *The Handbook of Mathematical Cognition* called “Learning Mathematics in China and the United States: Cross-Cultural Insights into the Nature and Course of Preschool Mathematical Development” with Kevin Miller and Xiaobin Zhou. She also traveled to the Baltimore biennial conference of the Society for Research on Adolescence to present her paper “Contextualizing Cases of Academic Achievement” with a team of researchers in a paper symposium entitled “Educational Pathways: Challenges and Resources for Latino and White Students.”

Mark Lynch (mathematics) has had his paper “Compact, Convex, and Symmetric Sets are Disks” accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology*. He dedicated this paper to the memory of **Dr. Samuel Knox**, past professor of mathematics at Millsaps. Also, his joint paper with **Asif Khandker** (physics), entitled “A Physicist’s Take on Cardinality,” was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Mathematics and Computer Education*.

Jim McKeown and **Sarah Armstrong** (biology) presented a poster entitled “Initiating a Field Biology Program for Undergraduates” at the national meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology in New Orleans. They also gave the presentation “Developing an Undergraduate Field Biology Program” at the Mississippi Academy of Sciences’ annual meeting in Biloxi.

Julian Murchison (anthropology) has traveled to Tanzania to set up a study-abroad program.

Jimmie M. Purser (chemistry) gave a presentation entitled “Ethics Scenarios in a Senior Chemistry Seminar” at the Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International Conference in Atlanta. The presentation described

the use of information technologies to involve chemistry majors with ethics in professional chemistry, as described in the American Chemistry Society’s “Chemist’s Code of Conduct.”

Bob Shive (mathematics and computer science) gave the presentation “Bridging the Gap Between Computer Literacy and Computer Science” with two colleagues from Furman University at the Fourth Annual Learning and Teaching Support Network-Information and Computer Sciences Conference at the National University of Ireland, Galway. This work is an outgrowth of the information fluency initiative of the Associated Colleges of the South, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Staff

Janis Booth (counseling and health services) presented a program entitled “Exploring Alternative Conceptualizations for Mental Health Emergency Management” at the American College Personnel Association national conference in Philadelphia. She has also been nominated to run for directorate body for the association’s Commission for Counseling and Psychological Services.

Don Fortenberry (student affairs) attended the Delta Delivery missionary trip to Mound Bayou, Miss., in March along with **Raymond Clothier** (Faith & Work Initiative) and 17 Millsaps students.

Brit Katz (administration) addressed the Mississippi Association of Housing Officers with a lecture entitled “Why Today’s Effective Housing Officer May Be Tomorrow’s Effective Vice President” as well as the Resident Assistant Drive-In Conference of Mississippi with a lecture entitled “Keeping the Faith, Keeping in Touch.” He was the keynote speaker at both organizations’ annual statewide conferences.

Katz was also honored as the namesake of the “Brit Katz Award for Service to Students,” a new award created by the senior class of his former

employer, Emory University in Atlanta. In addition, he was a plenary speaker for the first statewide gathering of college/university health-care providers and student leaders, commenting on the public health issue of “HIV Infection and AIDS on Mississippi Campuses.”

Lynne Montgomery (computer services) gave a presentation entitled “Training and Documentation” at the annual Association for Computing Machinery/Special Interest Group on University and College Computing Services conference in San Antonio. Her paper was selected and published in the organization’s *Conference Proceedings Journal: Deep in the Heart of Technology*.

Kendrick Schetter (student affairs) was appointed area coordinator for Mississippi for the Association of Fraternity Advisors and to the National Risk Management Committee for the Association of Fraternity Advisors. He was also selected as a National Facilitator for the program Seeking Alliances through Leadership and Diversity by CampuSpeak, an agency that represents campus speakers.



Conferring over coffee at the Kava House.