

MC

MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS | WINTER 2024

# BUSINESS

*EMPOWERING  
WOMEN,  
INSPIRING  
SUCCESS*

THE WOMEN IN BUSINESS  
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM







## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

We are once again reaching out to you with this magazine to keep you up to date on our initiatives and share with you all the wonderful things that are taking place at MC Business. As is always the case, it has been a busy time in Self Hall and this issue will bring you up to date with some of our key happenings.

For one, we are so proud to introduce you to our new faculty members. Both Steve Mulhollen and Jordan Dillon are truly exceptional individuals, and they simply add to an already very strong faculty.

Of course, there is a season for everything, and we also mark the retirement of two amazing faculty members whose combined tenure at MC Business extends over 70 years! We are going to greatly miss Randall Robbins and Mark McComb. They have done so much to shape and impact so many of our graduates.

If you can think of having a wealth of choices as a good problem to have, then you are thinking about how blessed we are to have so many deserving individuals that we can recognize with our Alumnus of the Year distinction. In that sense, we are unbelievably proud of our 2022 and 2023 choices. As you read about Paula Ardelean and then about Jana and Scottie Parrish—you will agree with me

that we are truly blessed to have the alumni that we have. They certainly make us proud!

Please take time to read about our new mentoring initiative—it has been simply phenomenal for our students to connect with these wonderfully talented professionals and learn so much from them. We expect this program to continue to grow so please reach out to us if you would like to be part of it and have an impact on our future business leaders.

Finally, let me mention the launch of The Center for Faith, Service and Ethics. I believe that this initiative will enhance our reach and distinctiveness while pursuing our mission of delivering a superb business education in a Christian environment. It is another step into allowing us to continue to produce outstanding business leaders that honor our Lord in all they do.

We strive each day to make you proud of our school of business and this issue should help you see some of those efforts.

With warmest wishes,

Marcelo Eduardo  
Eduardo@mc.edu

# MC MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS | WINTER 2024

# BUSINESS



MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE  
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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On the cover: Founded in 2021, the Women in Business Mentorship Program was created to foster relationships among its members. Pictured are Josie Fevig '24, Brittany McHann '09, and Emily Scott '25. Read the story on page 20.





**FACULTY WELCOME**  
JORDAN DILLON '20, '21

The School of Business is eager to welcome Jordan Dillon as a new faculty member. Dillon earned her B.S.B.A. with a concentration in Accounting in 2020, followed by an M.B.A. with a concentration in Accounting from MC in 2021. Before returning to Mississippi College as an accounting instructor, Dillon worked for the state legislature as a financial analyst for the Performance Evaluation and Expenditure Review (PEER) Committee. Jordan is excited to return to her *alma mater* as an educator. “Jordan is an exciting addition to our faculty. She relates so well to our students and she brings a wonderful, natural ability to teach and interact with them. She will be a wonderful faculty member for many years to come,” said Dr. Marcelo Eduardo, dean of the School of Business.



**FACULTY WELCOME**  
STEVEN D. MULHOLLEN '98, '01, '03

The School of Business is honored to introduce Steven D. Mulhollen as a new faculty member. Steven obtained his B.A. in Christian studies, M.B.A., and Certificate in Accounting from MC and has recently obtained a Ph.D. in Human Capital Development from the University of Southern Mississippi. Early in his career, Steven worked as a financial analyst but later decided to enter public accounting to pursue his passion for serving not-for-profit organizations. A few of the organizations he has worked for include Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and Phi Theta Kappa Foundation, HORNE, and Broadmoor Baptist Church. Dr. Marcelo Eduardo is delighted to have someone with Mulhollen’s experience on the MC Business faculty. “We know that he will bring his experience to the classroom, along with a heart to teach and impact our students,” Eduardo said. “Having a faculty member with his academic and professional background will bring great value to our program.”







**“NOT ONLY DID HE WANT US TO SUCCEED IN THE CLASSROOM, HE WOULD ALSO NEVER MISS A MOMENT TO GIVE US MEANINGFUL LIFE ADVICE.”**

WILLIETTE KINGDOM '24

**FACULTY FAREWELL**

DR. RANDALL ROBBINS



**“HIS REAL-WORLD EXAMPLES HELPED US CONNECT THE DOTS BETWEEN THEORY AND PRACTICE, MAKING HIS COURSES SOME OF THE MOST VALUABLE IN THE PROGRAM.”**

ANNA KATE MCCAIN '23

**FACULTY FAREWELL**

DR. MARK McCOMB

For four decades, Dr. Randall Robbins dedicated himself to shaping the minds of future business leaders in the School of Business at Mississippi College. During his tenure as a professor of management, Dr. Robbins taught Principles of Management, Human Resource Management, and Organizational Behavior.

Though he earned his Ph.D. in marketing, he shifted his focus to management throughout his career as a professor and equipped students with the skills needed to lead organizations effectively. Williette Kingdom '24 reflected on her time learning from Dr. Robbins. “Dr. Robbins was the type of person that practiced what he preached and had an unmatched character. He taught us to be compassionate as potential future managers. Not only did he want us to succeed in the classroom, he would also never miss a moment to give us meaningful life advice.”

**“Randall Robbins was an integral part of the MC Business family and well respected by students and colleagues. He was one of the most prepared and well-organized faculty members that I’ve had the pleasure of working with.”**

“His attention to detail and dedication to teaching has a lasting impact on many who had the opportunity to learn from him. We will always remember those colored markers,” Dr. Marcelo Eduardo said.

As Dr. Robbins steps away from the lecture hall, his legacy as a professor and mentor remains a guiding force for many. An avid hunter, Dr. Robbins can likely be found in a deer stand, enjoying retirement. Whether in business or in life, his lessons continue to resonate with those who had the privilege to learn from him.

Dr. Mark McComb, who dedicated almost three decades to teaching in the School of Business, left a lasting impact on countless students at Mississippi College. Dr. McComb brought real-world experience into the classroom, combining his background in manufacturing and operations with his passion for quantitative management.

**During his time at MC, McComb taught Business Statistics, Operations and Supply Chain Management, and Quantitative Management. His expertise, honed from years working with American Can Corporation and International Harvester, allowed him to offer students practical insights into industry practices, particularly in quality control and manufacturing.**

McComb was an individual with many interests. His degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and Ph.D. in Quantitative Management from the Illinois Institute of Technology show the range of his intellect. In addition to his academic pursuits, McComb’s life has been enriched by many interests, including a passion for sailing and motorcycles.

“Dr. McComb shared stories from his own career that tied into each concept discussed in class. These stories made complex concepts easier to understand. His real-world examples helped us connect the dots between theory and practice, making his courses some of the most valuable in the program,” said former student Anna Kate McCain '23.

The dean of the School of Business, Dr. Marcelo Eduardo, highlighted McComb’s impact as both an educator and mentor. “Dr. McComb was an extraordinary professor,” Eduardo said. “His ability to bridge academic theory with practical business applications set him apart. Students respected him not just for his knowledge, but for his genuine commitment to their success.”





# ***IT BOILS DOWN to BUSINESS***

EACH YEAR, PROFESSORS AND BUSINESS STUDENTS COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH FLAVORFUL CRAWFISH AND WONDERFUL LIVE MUSIC.

After such a successful school year, last year's celebration was no different. Students enjoyed a relaxing afternoon while spending quality time with peers in beautiful weather. They reminisced on all of the hard work that got them to the point for which they have all been waiting, finals week. During a time of intense studying, the crawfish boil serves as a relaxing break where students can laugh with peers and professors.

Dr. Bryan Hayes and his band, The Crooked Creek String Band, played live bluegrass music at the event. This was a fun addition to the crawfish boil and set the atmosphere perfectly.

The Student Advisory Board voted on fun awards to present to faculty members at the Crawfish Boil. The School of Business was excited to award faculty members with the annual "Selfie Awards."





**THE ANNUAL  
FACULTY  
SELFIE AWARDS**  
— GO TO... —



**MOST LIKELY  
TO ANALYZE  
EVERY LINE  
HE WAITS IN**

Dr. Mark McComb



**MOST LIKELY  
TO MAKE YOU  
QUESTION  
EVERYTHING  
(in a good way)**

Dr. Bobby Perkins



**MOST  
LIKELY  
TO SPARK  
A DEBATE**

Dr. Kevin Pauli



**THE  
"BACK IN  
MY DAY"  
AWARD**

Dr. Randall Robbins



**MOST LIKELY  
TO HAVE  
THOUGHT OF  
EVERYTHING**

Dr. Michelle  
Beauchamp



**MOST LIKELY  
TO BE AT AN  
LSU BASKETBALL  
GAME**

Dr. Kristena Gaylor



**MOST LIKELY  
TO HAVE  
COOLER SHOES  
THAN YOU**

Dr. Steve Mulhollen



**MOST LIKELY  
TO SHOW YOU  
A PICTURE  
OF HER  
CHILDREN**

Dr. Taylor Corso



**MOST LIKELY  
TO CONVINC  
YOU TO  
CHANGE YOUR  
MAJOR TO  
ACCOUNTING**

Dr. Mark Morgan



**MOST LIKELY  
TO OFFER  
YOU A RIDE TO  
THE AIRPORT**

Dr. Sara Kimmel



**MOST LIKELY  
TO HAVE THE  
CLEANEST  
OFFICE**

Dr. Stephen Trouard



**MOST LIKELY TO  
TALK TO YOU  
ABOUT THE  
BLOOMBERG  
TERMINAL AWARD**

Dr. Chuck Beauchamp



**MOST LIKELY  
TO REMEMBER  
YOUR NAME**

Dr. Will Tabor



**MOST LIKELY  
TO VACATION  
IN A NATIONAL  
PARK**

Dr. Retha Price



**GIRL  
POWER  
AWARD**

Dr. Tammy Arthur



**PROBABLY  
HAS KIDS THAT  
ARE SMARTER  
THAN YOU AWARD**

Dr. Brandon Bolen



**BEST  
DRESSED  
AWARD**

Professor  
Jordan Dillon



**MOST LIKELY TO  
PRACTICE HIS  
GOLF SWING  
DURING CLASS**

Dr. Chris Smith



**LET'S GET  
RIGHT TO  
BUSINESS  
AWARD**

Dr. Brooks Poole



**PROBABLY  
IN GUAM  
AWARD**

Dr. Billy Morehead



**MOST LIKELY  
TO ANSWER  
YOUR EMAIL AT  
ANYTIME OF THE  
DAY OR NIGHT**

Dr. Marcelo Eduardo



**MOST LIKELY  
TO KNOW ALL  
THE ANSWERS**

Ms. Michele Ricker



# A TALE of TWO CITIES

TRANSFORMING  
PERSPECTIVES  
THROUGH STUDY IN  
LONDON AND PARIS

## *THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS VALUES THE KNOWLEDGE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS THAT CAN BE GAINED THROUGH STUDYING ABROAD.*

For business students, this experience is especially invaluable as it equips them with a global mindset and the skills needed to navigate the interconnected world of business.

The annual study abroad trip to London and Paris provides an exceptional opportunity for business students to grow their understanding of international business. Organized by Professors, Dr. Bobby Perkins and Dr. Chris Smith, the journey is eagerly anticipated by students, offering a blend of academic enrichment and cultural exploration.

Fifteen students embarked on the trip that began in London. The key locations visited by the group were the National Gallery of Art, the British Library, the British Museum, British Parliament, Westminster Abbey, Windsor Castle, Victoria and Albert Museums, National History Museum, Science Museum, and Imperial War Museum. The students were also treated to two iconic West End productions of “Frozen” and “Wicked.”

After exploring London, MC students took the Eurostar through the English Channel to Paris. In Paris, students continued their journey to the Louvre Museum, Palace of Versailles, Champs Elysees, Arc De Triomphe, and the Eiffel Tower. The group also took a beautiful sunset boat ride down the Seine River.

The group was given one day off in London and Paris to enjoy a smaller group experience. In London, some activities that students chose to attend included a Premier League soccer match, touring the Tower of London, exploring Greenwich and Evensong at St. Paul’s Cathedral. In Paris, groups

chose to visit museums such as L’Orangerie Museum and D’Orsay Museum. Others chose to attend a Sacre Coeur game, visit Notre Dame, and go antique shopping.



**In addition to gaining a cross-cultural worldview, this program involves students presenting papers on international issues, fostering critical thinking and research skills.**

Students explored differences between the United Kingdom, United States, and France. Some topics explored include religious histories, comparisons of healthcare systems, marketing styles, the education systems, and differing tax structures. These presentations encourage students to analyze global challenges, propose solutions, and engage thought-provoking discussion, which are vital for developing a comprehensive understanding of international business dynamics.

The annual study abroad trip to London and Paris serves as a gateway for business students to explore the world of international business, enrich their academic understanding, and cultural essential skills for a successful career.





# RISE

## AGAINST HUNGER

**THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS SERVICE CLUB MEMBERS MADE IT THEIR GOAL TO PROVIDE 10,000 MEALS FOR THOSE IN NEED.**

**U**nder the guidance of Dr. Sara Kimmel, MC students raised \$6,481, surpassing their goal. Partnering with Rise Against Hunger, the volunteers packaged 10,000 meals which were delivered to people in food insecure areas.

Rise Against Hunger is a North Carolina-based organization whose goal is to end hunger by empowering communities, nourishing lives, and responding to emergencies. The organization provides nutritious foods that serve as support for immune systems and promote cognitive development in children.

After months of preparation and spreading awareness, the Rise Against Hunger truck arrived on campus. MC School of Business students and volunteers from the community set up in Alumni Hall for the big packaging event. Working quickly, the volunteers packaged the 10,000 meals that were then loaded back on the truck to be shipped across the globe.

This event was special to witness as the campus came together to serve others. All donations and volunteers were so greatly appreciated and are guaranteed to make an impact. The School of Business is thankful to the School of Nursing and the Department of Kinesiology for their efforts to help the Service Club. The School of Business Service Club hopes to partner with Rise Against Hunger in the future to continue fighting food insecurity.





RISING IN

# FAITH

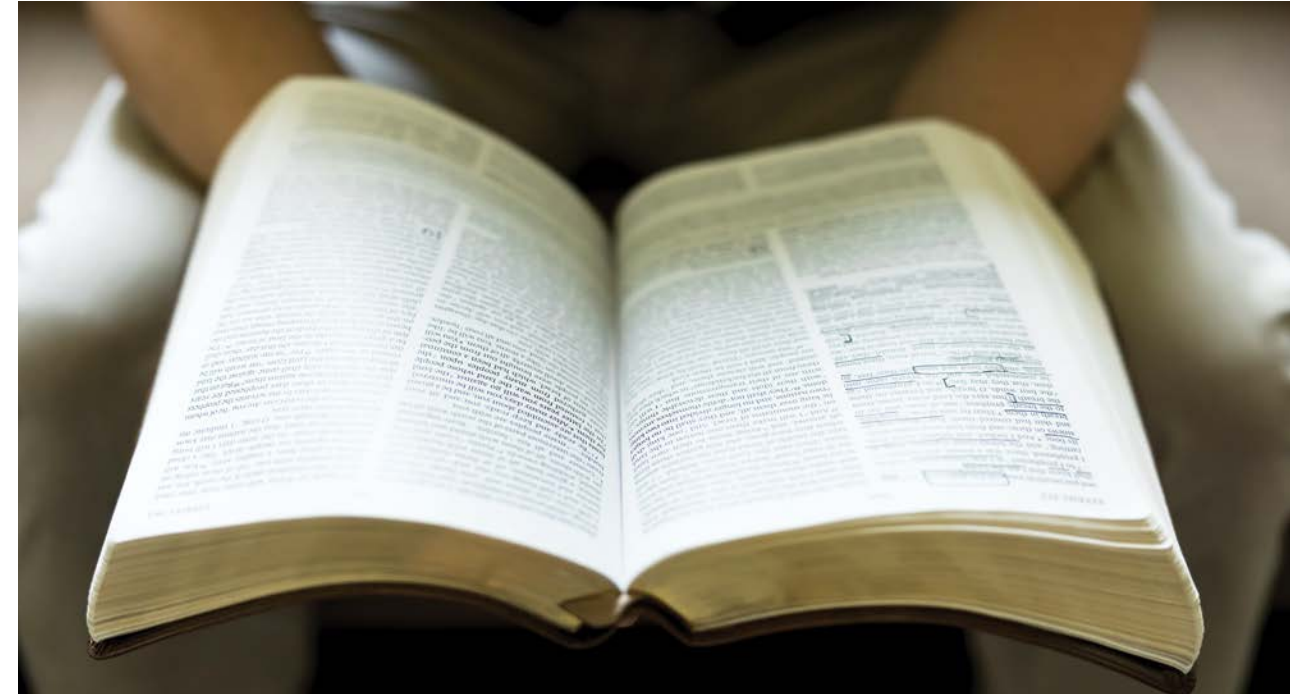
THE CENTER FOR FAITH, SERVICE, AND ETHICS

The School of Business announces The Center for Faith, Service, and Ethics, encouraging students to fulfill the Great Commission in any vocation they choose.



“THE MISSION OF THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS IS TO PROVIDE AN OUTSTANDING BUSINESS EDUCATION IN A CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENT.”  
DR. MARCELO EDUARDO

Pictured: “Servant Savior” by Dr. Samuel Gore



*IN MATTHEW 28:18-20, ALSO KNOWN AS THE GREAT COMMISSION – THE RESURRECTED JESUS CHRIST INSTRUCTS HIS FOLLOWERS TO “GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES OF ALL NATIONS.”*

**B**ut how might Christians not called to ministry accomplish this command? The School of Business at Mississippi College intends to help our students answer that question by launching The Center for Faith, Service, and Ethics.

Dr. Billy Morehead, professor of accountancy at MC Business and director of the Center, said students can serve as the “hands and feet” of Jesus in a variety of ways. By partnering with business and faith leaders at MC and in the surrounding community, the Center will help provide a holistic view of their Christian responsibility.

“Our goal is to equip students to live out the Great Commission through their vocations,” Morehead said. “We want them to be aware there’s more to fulfilling the Great Commission than sitting behind a desk doing a job all day long. It’s a combination of being a servant leader like Christ was, modeling His life, and living it out in their daily lives, regardless of their job.”

**“Too many people think the only Christian vocations are pastor, missionary, minister of music, or something similar,” says Dr. Billy Morehead.**



Dr. Billy Morehead

“We’re all called to go and make disciples. Some of us do that through our vocations, regardless of what they may be – as accountants, bankers, managers, graphic designers, or teachers. Our focus at MC is to make that mission more intentional,” Dr. Morehead continues.

Following the model of Christ and others throughout Scripture, Morehead is leading the Center in developing the mentoring and discipleship program to equip MC students to honor and glorify God with a life of faith, integrity, service, and leadership throughout their professional and personal lives.

According to Marcelo Eduardo, dean of the School of Business, the Center’s motto, “Equipping Students to Go and Make Disciples,” is central to MC Business’ values. “The mission of the School of Business is to provide an outstanding business education in a Christian environment,” Eduardo said.



“OUR ULTIMATE GOAL IS TO PLAY A SIGNIFICANT AND INTENTIONAL ROLE IN DEVELOPING PROFESSIONALS WHO VIEW BUSINESS AS THEIR VOCATION AND AN INTEGRAL PART OF THEIR CHRISTIAN JOURNEY.”

DR. BILLY MOREHEAD

RISE TO A LIFE OF PURPOSE



HERE YOU RISE



Dr. Marcelo Eduardo

“As we strive to be recognized for our academic excellence and our commitment to the cause of Christ, we firmly believe that a significant component of the Christian environment we build is a strong focus on ethical awareness and behavior and a keen sense of service to others. This focus is powerfully built on the foundation of our faith. Thus, a center that advances these goals is a perfect fit for our mission.” Dr. Eduardo continues.

The Center will be focused on three foundational pillars: academics, faith and ethics, and service and leadership with Christ at “The Center.”

Through the academics pillar, the Center will support the School of Business’ goals by helping promote the quality and reputation of its academic programs. Working with faculty, the Center will review and support courses to ensure an ethics component is included across the business curriculum. The Center will also support service learning initiatives for business majors.

As part of the faith and ethics pillar, MC Business will coordinate and continue to grow the annual Faith and Ethics Week event. The Center plans to pilot a mentoring program with volunteer Christian business leaders beginning in Fall 2024. MC Business students will have the opportunity to volunteer as mentees in the program. A library of video podcasts of business leaders emphasizing faith-driven ethical behavior, service, and leadership will be available on the Center’s website.

The Center will promote and enhance a faith-driven service and leadership orientation, including outreach and community responsibility. It will sponsor and evaluate service opportunities for students, promote an increase in the number of courses with service-learning components, and encourage the addition of a Servant Leadership academic minor in the School of Business.

“Our ultimate goal is to play a significant and intentional role in developing professionals who view business as their vocation and an integral part of their Christian journey,” Morehead said. “We strive to equip them with the tools, knowledge, and experiences that will allow them to effectively intersect their work and their faith in advancing the kingdom. The Center will facilitate this mission.”



# *EMPOWERING WOMEN, INSPIRING SUCCESS*

THE WOMEN IN BUSINESS  
MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

**O**n one Thursday each month in Self Hall, you will find Women in Business socializing, networking, and investing in one another to become outstanding young business professionals and daughters of Christ. Women in Business is one of the student organizations within the School of Business, led by Dr. Tammy Arthur and Professor Jordan Dillon. The organization seeks to provide networking opportunities and a supportive community for female students to grow professionally while building confidence to use their spiritual gifts.



Josie Fevig '24  
Brittany McHann '09  
Emily Scott '25





“I HAVE A NEW RESPECT FOR THE CHALLENGES THAT COLLEGE STUDENTS FACE TODAY. IT IS FAR DIFFERENT FROM MY EXPERIENCE DECADES AGO. THE YOUNG LADIES I HAVE HELPED ALONG THE WAY ARE SMART, ENGAGING, AND READY TO TAKE ON WHATEVER COMES NEXT.” — LAURA JACKSON '87, '96



Sabrina Mahbub '25, Josie Fevig '24, Laura Jackson '87, '96, Brittany McHann '09, Emily Scott '25, Anna Kate McCain '23, '25, Jana Parrish '85, '92

*EMPOWERING WOMEN, INSPIRING SUCCESS*

*FOUNDED IN 2014, MC WOMEN IN BUSINESS WAS CREATED TO FOSTER RELATIONSHIPS AMONG ITS MEMBERS, PARTICULARLY WITH ESTABLISHED BUSINESSWOMEN.*

The initiative took a significant step forward in fall 2021 with the launch of the “Success on Track” mentoring program. This program pairs select upperclassmen with alumni in their field, and has since expanded to include long-distance mentors who connect with their mentees virtually.

Dr. Tammy Arthur explains, “Our goal for the mentoring program is to provide an opportunity for students to learn about career paths and options from alumni working in the field and to offer perspective on issues specific to women in the workplace. The program also provides an opportunity for alumni to be involved with the School of Business by sharing their knowledge and experience with our students.”



Dr. Tammy Arthur

The mentorship program is structured to last one year, with mentors and mentees meeting at least once per semester. Among the dedicated mentors is Laura Jackson '87, '96 who graduated with an accounting degree and an MBA. Now serving as COO/CFO at MC, Laura says she joined the program to give back the support she received early in her career. She meets with her mentees monthly, providing guidance on academics, resumes, and professional attire. “I have a new

respect for the challenges that college students face today. It is far different from my experience decades ago. The young ladies I have helped along the way are smart, engaging, and ready to take on whatever comes next,” Jackson said.



Sabrina Mahbub '25  
Laura Jackson '87, '96

Another committed mentor, Jana Parrish, graduated with a BSEd in Elementary Education in 1985 and an MBA in 1992. As the Director of Accounting at But God Ministries, Jana joined the program to offer real-world advice and “to give back to the university that gave me so much.” Jana finds great fulfillment in her interactions with mentees, consistently impressed with their character and faith.

Focusing on the real-life applications and helping mentees balance professional and personal life, mentor Brittany McHann, a 2009 graduate with a B.S. in Business Administration, co-owns Highland Realty with her husband. Brittany values the relationships she has formed through the program. She remains accessible to her mentees via email and phone and is eager to arrange face-to-face meetings when possible. Brittany expressed her support for the program by stating, “I wish I had this program when I was at MC. This program is extremely beneficial and it builds connections.”

The impact of the mentorship program extends to its mentees, shaping their professional journeys. Josephine Fevig, who graduated with a degree in Business Administration in 2024, joined the program to network with successful professionals and gain valuable insights. She reflects on the advice she received, noting, “The best advice I received was to seek guidance from experienced individuals and network with those who have walked the path I aspire to.” Josephine admires her mentors as “strong, hardworking, courageous, and tenacious” women, characteristics she aspires to embody.





Anna Kate McCain '23, '25  
Jana Parrish '85, '92

Anna Kate McCain, an MBA student pursuing graduation in May 2025, reflects fondly on her experience in the mentorship program. As part of the inaugural class of mentors and mentees, she formed a strong bond with her mentor, Jana Parrish. Majoring in finance as an undergraduate student, Anna Kate was eager to learn from someone actively working in the field. She reflected on her experience in the program by sharing, "I am thankful for Jana's mentorship and the relationship we have formed over the past few years. She has shown me how to exemplify strong Christian values in the workplace, no matter the industry."

Emily Scott, a marketing major set to graduate in May 2025, found inspiration in her mentor, Brittany McHann. Emily shares, "Brittany advised me to prioritize the relational side of the job. Being thoughtful and helpful to everyone, even those who aren't your clients, sets you up for success in business and in life." Emily continues to stay in touch with Brittany, applying her mentor's advice to grow and serve her community. Sabrina Mahbub, a senior accounting major, expressed her gratitude for the guidance she has received through monthly appointments with her mentor, Laura Jackson. This connection has served as a support system that has led to success throughout her degree program.

**Women in Business hopes to expand the mentorship program in the coming years to include underclassmen. Discussions are underway to pair freshmen and sophomores with upperclassmen or recent alumni, encouraging earlier career planning and network building. The Women in Business mentorship program stands as a testament to the power of connection, guidance, and community, making a lasting impact on both mentors and mentees as they navigate their professional and personal paths.**



"BRITTANY ADVISED ME TO PRIORITIZE THE RELATIONAL SIDE OF THE JOB. BEING THOUGHTFUL AND HELPFUL TO EVERYONE, EVEN THOSE WHO AREN'T YOUR CLIENTS, SETS YOU UP FOR SUCCESS IN BUSINESS AND IN LIFE." — EMILY SCOTT '25

Josie Fevig '24  
Brittany McHann '09





· 2022 ·

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## ALUMNA OF THE YEAR

*Paula Graves Ardelean '83*

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MC SCHOOL OF BUSINESS IS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE PAULA ARDELEAN AS ITS 2022 ALUMNA OF THE YEAR.

**PAULA ARDELEAN  
GRADUATED FROM MISSISSIPPI  
COLLEGE IN 1983.**

Ardelean continued her education at the University of Mississippi School of Law where she graduated with honors in 1986. While studying at the University of Mississippi, she received a summer clerking position at Butler Snow LLP. Upon graduation, she accepted a position as a law associate at Butler Snow, where she enjoyed a long career.

“The education I received from the MC School of Business was a critical factor in my success in law school and, even more so, later in my employment law practice,” Paula said.

Ardelean’s background inspired her to focus her practice in business related areas, and she found her niche in employment law. Her talents include

employment policies, practices, and contracts. Baxter Healthcare, Dillard’s, Ergon, and Georgia Pacific are just a few of the well-respected companies that have utilized Ardelean’s expertise.

**Ardelean gained partner status at Butler Snow just five years after becoming an associate, making her the third female partner in the firm’s history.**

She has written on a variety of employment law topics including the Pregnancy Discrimination Act, best practices on background checks, pitfalls to avoid in ADA accommodations and sexual harassment, and discrimination and harassment issues.

Today, Paula graciously invests her time and wisdom into the students in the MC School of Business through the Women in Business mentorship program.

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**CAREER ACCOLADES** — Best Lawyers in America Lawyer of the Year in the Employment Law • Mississippi Bar Young Lawyer Division President’s Award for Public Service • Served on the governing body of the Labor and Employment Section of the American Bar Association • Fellow in the College of Labor and Employment Lawyers • Martindale-Hubell Pre-eminent AV listing





· 2023 ·

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## ALUMNI OF THE YEAR

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*Jana '85,'92 and Scottie Parrish '86*

MC SCHOOL OF BUSINESS IS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE JANA AND SCOTTIE PARRISH AS ITS 2023 ALUMNI OF THE YEAR.

***THE HUSBAND-AND-WIFE DUO HAS CRAFTED CONSIDERABLE CAREERS IN THE FINANCIAL INDUSTRY.***

**S**cottie Parrish received a B.S.B.A. with an emphasis in management from Mississippi College in 1986. He followed his undergraduate studies with a degree from the University of Mississippi School of Banking.

Parrish enjoyed a successful career in the banking sector. During his employment, he served in elevated roles including branch manager, vice president, and senior vice president. His wealth of experience included jobs at AmSouth Bank, Trustmark National Bank, Bankplus, Bancorp-South, and Renasant Bank. He recently retired as a senior vice president from Regions Bank.

“One of the greatest lessons learned while I was at MC was what Dr. Bo Roberts always told his students, ‘you can do anything with hard work and

dedication,’” said Scottie Parrish. “I still carry that with me to this day.”

Jana Parrish found similar career success in banking compliance. After earning her M.B.A. at MC in 1992, she served as a trust officer at Union Planters Trust and Asset Management before joining Pinnacle Trust Company, where she rose to executive vice president of compliance. Recently, Jana transitioned to the role of Director of Accounting at But God Ministries.

“The School of Business taught me facts and figures, but more importantly, it taught me how to think for myself and question the status quo, while acting with compassion for others,” Jana Parrish said.

**“The two most important things I learned while in M.B.A. school were endurance and resourcefulness. Learning follow-through skills and how to search for answers and ideas have served me well.”**

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**SERVICE AT MC** — Scottie is an M Club member and he serves on the National Alumni Association Board of Directors, where he was president in 2018. Jana is a mentor in the Women in Business Mentoring Program and she has served as an Alumni support team leader. The couple is also involved in the Mississippi College Foundation.





· 2023 ·

# HONORS DAY

EACH SPRING, MC HAS  
THE OPPORTUNITY TO HONOR  
OUR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS  
IN THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS.

The various criteria considered  
were grade point average, leadership  
roles, and hard work in the classroom.

For these reasons, we bestowed  
the following awards and  
recognitions to our students.







## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Cooper Gadman and Hope Joy Owens** were selected as the recipients of the Amy Brand Memorial Award. This award is given in memory of Amy Brand, an Assistant Professor in the School of Business, to outstanding juniors majoring in business administration, marketing, finance, or entrepreneurship.

**Katie Garris and Austin Lincoln** were selected as recipients of the Jacqueline Jones Outstanding Junior Accounting Student Award which is made possible by Harper Rains Knight and Company. This award honors outstanding juniors who are majoring in accounting.

**Anna Katherine McCain** was the recipient of the June Brabham Outstanding Woman in Business Award. Selected by the female business faculty, this award is given to a young woman who has demonstrated excellence, determination, and a promising future in the world of business.

**Tanner Thurman and Wilson Logan** were the recipients of the G.M Rogers Memorial Award. This award is given to the graduating business administration majors who have the best record in the department and show the greatest promise in the field.

**Caroline Callender, Joseph Bailey Smith, and Kolby McWilliams** were selected as the recipients of the Beta Gamma Sigma Award, which is given to graduating senior business majors with the highest quality grade point average.

**Sidney Cooper Kelly and Kaitlyn Williamson** were the recipients of the Outstanding Marketing Major Award, which is given to graduating marketing majors based on scholarship, leadership, and school participation.

**Avery Hederman and Luke Horst** were selected as the recipients of the Mississippi Society of CPAs Award, which is given to senior accounting majors with the best general promise in the field of accounting.



**Zachary Meilstrup and Sofia Melgar** were selected as the recipients of the Outstanding Finance Major Award, which is given to the top finance majors based on scholarship, leadership, and school participation.

**Kaylee Foster** was the recipient of the *Wall Street Journal* Award. This award is given to the best all-around senior in the School of Business based on scholarship, leadership, and school participation.

**Mary Catherine Burgess** was the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student in Accounting Award, which is given to the graduate student with the most promise in the field of accounting.

**Macghan Lee** was the recipient of the Outstanding Governmental Accounting Award, which is given to the student who excels in the area of governmental accounting.

**Luke Boarman and Anna Kathryn Charbonnet** were selected as the recipients of the Outstanding Junior in Finance Award, which is given to junior finance majors who have shown outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

**Diana Williams and Everest Benson** were the recipients of the Outstanding Entrepreneurship Major Award, which is given to senior entrepreneurship majors who have shown outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

**Lauren Crain, Autumn Phillips, and Willette Kingdom** were the recipients of the Outstanding Junior in Business Administration Award, which is given to junior business administration majors who have shown outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

**Kaitlyn Williamson** was the recipient of the Cathy Jeffcoats Servant Leadership Business Award, which is given to the School of Business student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the school, university, and community.

**Beatrice Currie** was the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student in the MBA Award, which is given to the graduate student with the most promising future in the world of business.





**SANDRA PARKS OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD** — This recognition is named in honor of beloved professor Sandra Parks. Parks was an assistant professor of accounting, and is legendary for her concern and commitment for the well-being and academic success of MC Business students. It is only appropriate that the outstanding academic achievement award is associated with her name.

- |                    |                   |                       |                   |                    |
|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Caroline Callender | Bruen Branning    | Luke Sims             | Zachary Meilstrup | Dierrah McInnis    |
| John Corkern       | Kaylee Foster     | Tanner Thurman        | Parker Wilson     | Sofia Melgar       |
| William Horn       | Avery Hederman    | Sam Wilder            | Cooper Kelly      | Kaitlyn Williamson |
| Luke Horst         | Erica Adams       | Diana Williams        | Rylie Robertson   | Anna Pittman       |
| Aaron Lincoln      | Emma Doucet       | William Atkins        | Anna Jane Vancor  | Santiago Diosa     |
| Austin Long        | Elaena Hutcherson | Peyton DePriest       | Bailey Smith      | Everest Benson     |
| Grant Mahaney      | Alexis Laughlin   | Cameron Greer         | Hannah Waters     | Dylan Gilbert      |
| William Presley    | Wilson Logan      | Anna Katherine McCain | Jay Berrios       | Chase Cooper       |
| Seth Watson        | Gracie Phillips   | Kolby McWilliams      | Joshua Bryan      |                    |
|                    | Joshua Rojero     |                       | Allen England     |                    |

**BETA GAMMA SIGMA INDUCTEES** — Beta Gamma Sigma is a national honors society for business students. Membership signifies that these students are in the top 10% of their class.

- |                        |                         |                   |                |                    |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Will Atkins            | Anna Kathryn Charbonnet | Daniel Grewatz    | Maeghan Lee    | Gracie Phillips    |
| Mary Catherine Burgess | Matthew Cooper          | David Horn        | Logan March    | Alexandria Szakal  |
|                        |                         | Williette Kingdom | Hope Joy Owens | Brittany Williford |
|                        |                         |                   |                | Tham Le            |

**STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD**

- |                 |                |                       |                    |                   |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Alana Canady    | Haddon Anthony | Sofia Melgar          | Gracie Phillips    | Peyton DePriest   |
| Beatrice Currie | Jonathan Crump | Wesley Thurman        | Kaitlyn Williamson | William Horn      |
|                 | Lindsey Harris | Anna Katherine McCain | Katie Garris       | Williette Kingdom |
|                 | Maeghan Lee    | Avery Hederman        | Kaylee Foster      |                   |
|                 | Sydney Sawyer  | Dierrah McInnis       | Luke Horst         |                   |
|                 | Preston Speed  |                       |                    |                   |

**BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

- |                   |                   |                     |                     |                   |
|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Alex Riley        | Deacon Robinson   | Jacob Gunter        | Lindsey Harris      | Peyton DePriest   |
| Alondra Reyes     | Dylan Gilbert     | Jake Cotten         | Loren Pate          | Preston Speed     |
| Drew Chandler     | Elaena Hutcherson | James Araya         | Luke Horst          | Rebecca Stafford  |
| Anna Pittman      | Ellie Henderson   | John Corkern        | Maeghan Lee         | Reece Hindt       |
| Aveeya McAllister | Emily Scott       | Jonathan Pyburn     | Malia Kossina       | Riley Street      |
| Avery Burleson    | Emily McNemar     | Jonathan Youngblood | Mary Frances Duncan | Ryleigh Kenney    |
| Blayne Boyd       | Emma Doucet       | Jonathan Crump      | Mary Grace Powers   | Gracie Guest      |
| Brooke Neal       | Ethan Estis       | Joseph Henry        | Meagan Gautier      | Sofia Melgar      |
| Collin LeFlore    | Evan Carite       | Josephine Fevig     | Megan Collins       | Spence Butler     |
| Colwin Allan      | Haddon Anthony    | Joshua Griffin      | Megan Bryant        | Sydney Burrell    |
| Conner Clark      | Haley Kretz       | Katie House         | Meleah Brunson      | Lunden Lizenby    |
| Dalton Moore      | Hannah Favara     | Kayden Lightkep     | Mia Foster          | Tyler Heard       |
| David Schmid      | Harley Bowman     | Kayla Lindsey       | Michael Long        | Walker Ellis      |
|                   | Harrison Ray      | Kiersten Mengel     | Nathan Yow          | Tanner Thurman    |
|                   | Jackson Williford | Lauren Crain        | Tucker Ellzy        | William Shea      |
|                   | Jacob Caillouet   | Brock Kelly         | Nethanya Zapata     | Williette Kingdom |
|                   | Jacob Hankins     |                     |                     | Zachary Meilstrup |





·2024·

# HONORS DAY

EACH SPRING, MC HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO HONOR OUR OUTSTANDING STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS.

The various criteria considered were grade point average, leadership roles, and hard work in the classroom.

For these reasons, we bestowed the following awards and recognitions to our students.





## SPECIAL AWARDS

**Emily Rebekah Scott and Loren Grace Pate** were selected as the recipients of the Amy Brand Memorial Award. This award is given in memory of Amy Brand, an Assistant Professor in the School of Business, to outstanding juniors majoring in business administration, marketing, finance, or entrepreneurship.

**Preston Armstrong Speed, Erica Faith Luckie, and Brooke Lynn Neal** were selected as recipients of the Jacqueline Jones Outstanding Junior Accounting Student Award which is made possible by Harper Rains Knight and Company. This award honors outstanding juniors who are majoring in accounting.

**Sydney Ruth Sawyer** was the recipient of the June Brabham Outstanding Woman in Business Award. Selected by the female business faculty, this award is given to a young woman who has demonstrated excellence, determination, and a promising future in the world of business.

**Williette Kingdom and Katherine Elizabeth House** were the recipients of the G.M Rogers Memorial Award. This award is given to the graduating business administration majors who have the best record in the department and show the greatest promise in the field.

**Maeghan Grace Lee, Katherine Dolores Garris, Lauren Yuchinglin Crain, and Williette Kingdom** were selected as the recipients of the Beta Gamma Sigma Award, which is given to graduating senior business majors with the highest quality grade point average.

**Hope Joy Owens and Katherine Dolores Garris** were the recipients of the Outstanding Marketing Major Award, which is given to graduating marketing majors based on scholarship, leadership, and school participation.

**Austin Gray Lincoln and Maeghan Grace Lee** were selected as the recipients of the Mississippi Society of CPAs Award, which is given to senior accounting majors with the best general promise in the field of accounting.



**Lauren Yuchinglin Crain and Dario Yunion Rouvier** were selected as the recipients of the Outstanding Finance Major Award, which is given to the top finance majors based on scholarship, leadership, and school participation.

**Avery Elizabeth Hederman** was the recipient of the *Wall Street Journal* Award. This award is given to the best all-around senior in the School of Business based on scholarship, leadership, and school participation.

**Kaylee Mechelle Foster** was the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student in Accounting Award, which is given to the graduate student with the most promise in the field of accounting.

**Katherine Dolores Garris** was the recipient of the Outstanding Governmental Accounting Award, which is given to the student who excels in the area of governmental accounting.

**Jonathan James Crump, Kayleigh Elizabeth Canoy, and Jeffrey Liddell Jr.** were selected as the recipients of the Outstanding Junior in Finance Award, which

is given to junior finance majors who have shown outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

**Brock Thomas Rowland** was the recipient of the Outstanding Entrepreneurship Major Award, which is given to a senior entrepreneurship major who has shown outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

**Anna Marie Rutledge** was the recipient of the Outstanding Junior in Business Administration Award, which is given to a junior business administration major who has shown outstanding academic and leadership qualities.

**Lauren Isabella Rice** was the recipient of the Cathy Jeffcoats Servant Leadership Business Award, which is given to the School of Business student who has demonstrated outstanding service to the school, university, and community.

**Joseph Dylan Gatewood** was the recipient of the Outstanding Graduate Student in the MBA Award, which is given to the graduate student with the most promising future in the world of business.





**BETA GAMMA SIGMA INDUCTEES** — Beta Gamma Sigma is a national honors society for business students. Membership signifies that these students are in the top 10% of their class.

- |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Kayleigh Canoy<br>Ellie Henderson<br>Joseph Henry<br>Haley Kretz | Jeffrey Liddell Jr.<br>Brooke Neal<br>Rebecca Stafford<br>Elijah Todd | Reed Travelstead<br>Amelia White<br>Michael Shine<br>Jackson Williford | Wonderful Lin<br>Abigail Moak<br>Emily Scott<br>Gracie Guest | Erica Sims<br>Elizabeth Fleming<br>Justin Fridley<br>Jonathan Crump |
|--|---|--|--|---|

**STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD**

- |                                 |  |   |  |   |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Preston Speed<br>Avery Hederman | Haddon Anthony<br>Jonathan Crump<br>Katherine Garris<br>Kaylee Foster<br>Lindsey Harris<br>Maeghan Lee | Sydney Sawyer<br>Williette Kingdom<br>Luke Boarman<br>Laura Cangelosi<br>Anna Kathryn<br>Charbonnet | Lauren Crain<br>Gracie Guest<br>Dario Rouvier<br>Erica Luckie<br>Austin Lincoln<br>Haley Kretz | Nathan Brock<br>Jonathan Dickey<br>Kathleen Perkins<br>Mia Foster |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|---|

**BUSINESS SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

- |  |   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Michael Long<br>Nelson Ellzy<br>Jacob Hankins<br>Brayden Nelson<br>Brooklyn Laird<br>Carson Brinkmann<br>Emmanuel<br>Agyepong<br>Silas Herndon<br>Jacob Proctor<br>Collin LeFlore<br>Hannah Favara<br>Mitchell Mark<br>Andrew Chandler<br>Brooke Neal<br>Ashlynn Decker<br>Jack Gwatney<br>Carter Hall<br>Ella MacGregor | Wesley Williams<br>Williette Kingdom<br>Mary Grace Powers<br>Ethan Estis<br>Rebecca Stafford<br>Ryleigh Kenney<br>Collett Hudson<br>Miles Hester<br>Lindsey Harris<br>Harrison Ray<br>Dalton Moore<br>Haley Kretz<br>Preston Speed<br>Loren Pate<br>Mia Foster<br>Conner Clark<br>Jonathan Pyburn<br>Emily Scott<br>Lauren Crain<br>Katherine House<br>Garrett Viator<br>Sydney Burrell<br>Gracie Guest | David Schmid<br>Joseph Henry<br>Ellie Henderson<br>Kathleen Perkins<br>Ni Van<br>Thad Gardner<br>Lauren Jordan<br>Christian Coker<br>Nathan Taylor<br>Jonathan Dickey<br>Leighton Kelly<br>George Hindt<br>Meleah Brunson<br>Malia Kossina<br>Megan Bryant<br>Maeghan Lee<br>Evan Carite<br>Jacob Gunter<br>Meagan Gautier<br>Walker Ellis<br>Kiersten Mengel<br>Isabella Hedgepeth<br>Michael Sutton | Laura Cangelosi<br>Aden Swaminathan<br>Wyatt Gregory<br>Seth Gammill<br>Shasa Cohran<br>Kaleb Pennington<br>Reginald Spencer<br>Cameron Louis<br>Jake Cotten<br>William Shea<br>Colwin Allan<br>Bradley Keenan<br>Emily Kautz<br>Spencer Sears<br>Rebecca Perry<br>Jonathan<br>Youngblood<br>Nathan Yow<br>Bethany Fewell<br>Josephine Fevig<br>Mary Duncan<br>Luke Ivy<br>Tanner McMillan | Blayze Boyd<br>Jonathan Crump<br>Katie Smith<br>Nathan Brock<br>Rachel Davis<br>Joshua Griffin<br>Caleb Boutwell<br>Haddon Anthony<br>Kayden Lightkep<br>Collier Carlisle<br>Kayla Lindsey<br>Alex Riley<br>Troy Lizenby<br>Jackson Williford<br>Addison Vickers<br>Johnathan Rule<br>Anna Hill<br>Sonora Skagerberg<br>Lydia Trillet<br>Caleb Grubbs<br>Kaiden Harrell<br>Parker Albright<br>Charles Mckinley |
|--|---|---|--|--|



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- |  |   |  |  |   |
|--|---|--|--|---|
| Michaela Ford<br>Maeghan Lee<br>Josephine Fevig<br>Katherine House<br>Williette Kingdom<br>Soliday Phauk<br>Autumn Phillips<br>Brock Rowland | Lauren Crain<br>Lindsey Harris<br>Mallory Burnside<br>Lakelynn Fancher<br>Benjamin Gadman<br>Hope Joy Owens<br>Katherine Garris<br>Luke Boarman | Austin Lincoln<br>Sydney Sawyer<br>Mia Foster<br>Dario Rouvier<br>Ethan Estis<br>Wonderful Lin<br>Jacob Gunter<br>Roane Townes | Mary Grace Powers<br>Charles Lowther<br>Caleb Ries<br>Coulter Clement<br>Michael Long<br>Gregory Bryant<br>Joseph Jarvis | Christopher Thompson<br>Abigail Gachupin-Nava<br>Fernanda Cota Moreno |
|--|---|--|--|---|



Where  
**FAITH**  
and  
**BUSINESS**  
Meet

THE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS PROUDLY HOSTS THE FAITH, SERVICE,  
AND BUSINESS ETHICS WEEK EACH SPRING SEMESTER.

Stan Buckley  
Philip Vandercook  
Rita Wray

As the School of Business strives to fulfill our mission to provide the highest quality business degree in the context of a Christian environment, we strongly believe that one of the hallmarks of the Christian environment is a decisive emphasis on ethical behavior and integrity built on the foundation of our faith.

This special event provides MC with an opportunity to validate and emphasize our faith precepts and bring them to life through the experiences and approaches of successful men and women in the business world. This is a chance for our business students to see the intersection and interaction of faith and work and how these individuals' faith impacts their daily decisions.





This page: Senator Robin Robinson

Right page top left: Stan Buckley, Philip Vandercook, Rita Wray, Jessica Graves

Right page top right: David Maron '92, Rebecca Poisson, Amber Redmont '19, '21, Josh Murray '99

Right page bottom right: Laura Jackson '87, '96 and William Taylor III



**T**he Faith, Service, and Business Ethics week began as guest speakers, many of whom are MC alumni, gave lectures to various classes in Self Hall. These speakers discussed topics related to their field of business and how their faith plays a part in their career and business decisions.

This format provides a setting where students are able to ask questions and connect with the business professionals on a deeper level throughout the week. These speakers bring in new perspectives and challenge the students to think of ways they can rely on their faith to approach ethical dilemmas within the world of business.

**The culmination of the Faith, Service, and Business Ethics week is the luncheon, which is well-attended by the entire School of Business student body, faculty, and special guests. With over 600 attendees, the luncheon begins with a panel discussion on ethical issues. Over the past two years, the panels have featured multiple distinguished panelists.**

In 2024, the panel included Jessica Graves, Director of International Capacity Development at M4 Institute; Rita Wray, Founder/CEO of Wray Enterprises; Philip H. Vandercook, Executive Director of Global Maritime Ministries; and Stan Buckley, Founder and Executive Director of But God Ministries. The discussion was moderated by Professor Steven Mulhollen.

The 2023 Faith and Business Ethics Week also featured an impressive panel: Amber Kaminski Redmont, Product Management Advisor for FedEx; Josh Murray, Owner of Max Out Financial Group; Rebecca Poisson, Director of Public Relations for the Faith Driven Entrepreneur; and David Maron, Chief Legal Counsel and Deputy Chief of Staff to Governor Tate Reeves.

The 2023 panel was moderated by Dr. Bobby Perkins, MC Business Law and Ethics professor, who engaged the panel with questions about how they have dealt with unethical scenarios, their view on controversial issues within the workplace, and their advice to students for a life of faith in the business world. Each panelist shared a common belief, having a strong Christian faith is crucial in determining

right from wrong. This faith must be applied to all aspects of life, and that does not exclude tough business decisions.

The highlight of the week is the keynote speech that takes place at the end of the luncheon. In 2024, the School of Business had the pleasure to welcome Robin Robinson as our keynote speaker. Robin Robinson was elected in November 2023 to serve the people of Mississippi in Senate District 42. She currently serves as Vice Chairman of the Senate Tourism Committee and serves on the following committees: Appropriations as Secretary of the Appropriations Committee, Education and Workforce Development, Veterans and Military Affairs, Technology, Drug Policy, and Municipalities.

As a lifelong resident of Jones County, Robin has served as a respected community leader, education advocate, volunteer, trailblazer, and director for the only Fortune 1000 company headquartered within the state of Mississippi.



In 2023, the School of Business was honored to host keynote speaker Lex Taylor. William A. "Lex" Taylor III is the Chairman and CEO of Taylor Machine Works located in Louisville, Mississippi. In this position, Lex leads one of the largest American-made, privately owned manufacturers in the world. Taylor Machine Works is at the forefront of the materials handling industry. The company manufactures high-capacity forklifts, lift trucks, and container handling equipment for a variety of industries.

**In both 2023 and 2024, each panelist and keynote speaker emphasized a common belief: having a strong Christian faith is crucial for discerning right from wrong. This faith must be applied to all aspects of life, including challenging business decisions.**





**“LOVING GOD  
AND SERVING  
OTHERS  
CANNOT BE  
SEPARATED.”**

STEVEN SMITH '92

“SERVING OTHERS TO THE GLORY OF GOD IS THE

**HIGHEST  
HONOR.”**

MC BUSINESS WAS FORTUNATE TO WELCOME STEVEN SMITH '92 AS A GUEST SPEAKER OF THE MC BUSINESS SPEAKER SERIES.

Steven Smith has dedicated his life to guiding the next generation to a life of service to the Lord. A 1992 graduate of Mississippi College, Steven's passion for education and faith led him to the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, where he earned his Master of Divinity with a specialization in psychology and counseling.

Since joining the staff at First Baptist Church in Jackson in 1997, Steven has accepted the role of associate pastor of college students, young adults, and discipleship. Students across the Mississippi College campus and throughout the Jackson Metro area recognize Steven as a familiar face, and he has encouraged many to deepen their faith, build community, and pursue both personal and spiritual growth. During his time in Self Hall, Steven encouraged students by expressing, “Serving others to the glory of God is the highest honor,” and he has inspired countless students to adopt this perspective in their daily lives.

These qualities resonate deeply with the values of MC Business, and we were excited to welcome him to Self Hall to speak to our students about service. Steven reminded students, “If you want to have the character of God and the attitude of God, then you must be committed to the practices that get you there.” Encouraging students to connect their faith to service, Steven expressed, “Loving God and serving others cannot be separated.”

As he continues to make a difference in the lives of those around him, his vision remains faithful: to empower young adults to confidently navigate their faith journeys with purpose.







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## THE TALK OF THE *TOWN*

MC BUSINESS WELCOMED ERIN AND BEN NAPIER TO THE MC BUSINESS SPEAKER SERIES.

In 2023, Ben and Erin Napier from the hit HGTV show, *Home Town*, came to Self Hall to speak to the School of Business students. The show is based on the Napier's life and their passion for restoring houses within their beautiful hometown of Laurel, Mississippi.

Ben Napier is a woodworker and entrepreneur. Erin is a graphic designer by trade. Together, they are co-owners of Laurel Mercantile Co., in addition to two

other small businesses: Scotsman General Store and Scent Library. Between the three stores, they offer a wide variety of products from apparel to butcher blocks and wax melts.

The Napiers implement their firm Christian values into everything they do, a key topic of discussion during their Speaker Series panel. Students described this event as one of their all-time favorite Speaker Series.

THE NAPIERS WERE ALSO KEYNOTE SPEAKERS AT THE SPRING SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET, WHICH RAISED MORE THAN \$330,000 TO SUPPORT SCHOLARSHIPS AT MC AND PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH FINANCIAL NEEDS WITH A CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

Pictured: Avery Hederman '23,  
Erin and Ben Napier





RANDY MASCAGNI HAD A VISION OF STARTING HIS OWN BUSINESS WITH A MISSION TO HELP OTHERS ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS, ENHANCE THEIR LIVES, AND BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE.

**F**rom this entrepreneurial dream, Mascagni Wealth Management was born. Its growth and success have validated Randy's vision and created a successful financial advising firm that is a pillar of the Clinton, Mississippi business community.

Mascagni Wealth Management offers a complete range of services, including wealth management, retirement planning, and investment management. Guided by Randy's dedication to helping others, the firm prioritizes building personal relationships, ensuring that every client feels valued and understood. This commitment is reflected in its fiduciary approach that prioritizes the clients' best interest in an environment committed to personal, ethical financial services.



Collin Mascagni, Julie Sanders, Sam Buchanan, Kristen Meyer, Matt Brown '96, Randy Mascagni '86



Traylon Lewis '22, '23, Jessica McLendon '21, Mackenzie Skinner '21, '22, Brooke Stanley '20, '21, Kaitlyn Dortch '22, Brady McDaniel '22, '23, Grant Baker '17

GRANTHAMPOOLE, ONE OF MISSISSIPPI'S LARGEST REGIONAL ACCOUNTING FIRMS, HAS OFFICES IN THE METRO JACKSON AREA, OXFORD, AND HATTIESBURG.

**T**he firm was established when J. Thomas Grantham Jr. and James E. Poole Jr. merged their respective practices, reuniting after beginning their careers together as young accountants. With over 40 years of combined experience, GranthamPoole provides a range of solutions, including tax and audit support, financial planning, estate management, and business consulting. As the firm has expanded in both size and reputation, it has also remained steadfast in its core values. GranthamPoole has created a working family that honors and serves God by serving one another, their clients, and their community with trust, integrity, and excellence.



Robert Cunningham, Lynn Lister '83, Dickens Fournet, Ken Papizan '96





**“OUR  
CORPORATE  
PARTNERS  
ARE  
INTEGRAL  
TO THE LIFE  
OF THE  
SCHOOL OF  
BUSINESS.”**

Their support is far reaching in that they are supporting the larger cause of allowing us to mold and shape a valuable work force for our economy.

But just as important, their support is also a strong vote of confidence and encouragement to pursue our mission to provide an outstanding business education in a Christian environment.”

DR. MARCELO EDUARDO



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THE MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS MISSION is to provide a quality business education in a Christian environment. We serve undergraduate and graduate students from the region providing a setting where Christian values are emphasized through ethical awareness, biblical principles and a supportive faculty. In this environment, the school seeks to prepare students with a sound understanding of essential business principles, effective communication skills, and an appreciation for social responsibility and ethical values. The school is committed to academic quality through effective teaching, relevant programs, and faculty scholarship through contributions to practice, learning and pedagogy, and discipline-based research.

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