The past year was a time of growth and achievement in the Division of Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University, and I hope this report helps you understand more about who we are and what we do.

During 2011, we filled key administrative positions in the division. Dr. George Hopper was confirmed as director of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station and as dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. He continues to serve as dean of the College of Forest Resources and director of the Forest and Wildlife Research Center. Consolidating the administration of the division’s two research units and two of our academic units allows us to manage more efficiently and coordinate funding efforts better.

Dr. Gary Jackson assumed the duties of director of the Mississippi State University Extension Service on January 1, 2011. Under his leadership, MSU Extension is upgrading the technology necessary to deliver educational outreach programs throughout the state. Distance education opportunities made possible by interactive video connections to all 82 county Extension offices and the effective use of social media are priorities, but Dr. Jackson also is working to ensure that county offices all have the staff and other resources needed to provide personal service to Mississippians.

MSU enrollment continued to increase during the past year. The university’s fall 2011 enrollment reached a record 20,434, up from 19,644 for fall 2010, and division units are part of the growth trend. For 2011, the College of Veterinary Medicine had the university’s highest percentage increase. The 441 students enrolled in CVM academic programs represented an increase of almost 9.5 percent over 2010 enrollment.

Keeping our buildings and other facilities up-to-date is an important part of attracting students and faculty to Mississippi State. One of the major building projects in the division has been the renovation of the Lloyd-Ricks-Watson building, which was completed in fall 2010. Departments in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences moved back into the campus landmark for the fall 2011 semester. The facility retains its historic character, but classrooms, offices, and meeting rooms all have up-to-date technology.

Construction is under way on a new office and laboratory building for MSU Extension personnel and MAFES scientists at the Delta Research and Extension Center in Stoneville. The project is expected to be completed this spring.

Renovations are continuing at the Wise Center, which is home to CVM, the Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences, and the university’s TV Center. An important part of the work is the renovation of CVM’s diagnostic laboratory necropsy area.

State-of-the-art laboratories are critical for training the young scientists our state and nation need. They are also necessary to continue the university’s strong commitment to research in support of the state’s No. 1 industry: agriculture. The National Science Foundation currently ranks MSU 6th in the nation in agricultural research expenditures.

The growth of our student population, the continuing success of the university’s outreach programs, our national prominence in research, and improvements to our facilities have all taken place in the face of the recent economic challenges. I am confident the men and women of the division, with the support of our stakeholders, will continue to improve the lives of all Mississippians through outstanding educational programs and quality research.

Gregg A. Bohach
Diverse academic programs, cutting-edge research, and outreach programs throughout the state are everyday realities for the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine at Mississippi State University. A land-grant institution, MSU is truly statewide.

The DAFVM is one of five divisions at MSU and includes the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Forest Resources, the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, the Forest and Wildlife Research Center, and the MSU Extension Service. The division coordinates MSU’s teaching, research, and extension programs in agriculture, forestry, and veterinary medicine. In addition, the College of Veterinary Medicine diagnoses and treats animals throughout Mississippi.

Academic programs in the division range from fashion design and horticulture to poultry science and forest management. Each year, division faculty members teach more than 1,800 undergraduate and more than 900 graduate students. Some of the division’s majors are among the most popular and fastest growing in Mississippi. For example, enrollment in Biochemistry has more than tripled since 2008.

The division’s research and extension programs offer support to the agriculture and forestry industries, which are the largest sectors of Mississippi’s economy, employing 29 percent of the state’s workforce and generating annual revenues of about $7.0 billion.

Division programs are funded by various federal, state, and private sources. In FY 2009, the most recent year reported, the National Science Foundation ranked MSU 6th nationally in agriculture research expenditures, with a total of $90.4 million in funding.

Recent renovations and new construction provide state-of-the-art facilities for students and researchers in agricultural production, health, energy, and natural resources. These include the Lloyd-Ricks-Watson Building, the Wise Center, and the Delta Research and Extension Center in Stoneville.

In addition to research done by the division’s dedicated faculty and support staff, both graduate and undergraduate students gain research experience at MSU facilities throughout the state.

The MSU Extension Service is crucial for the university’s land-grant mission, which includes teaching Mississippians about research they can use. MSU Extension partners with producer groups, state and federal agencies, counties and communities to provide educational programs and other outreach activities throughout the state. Extension programs focus on agriculture and natural resources, 4-H youth development, family resource management, and economic and community development.
ADMINISTRATION

Mark E. Keenum
President, Mississippi State University

Gregory A. Bohach
Vice President for Agriculture, Forestry, and Veterinary Medicine

Kent C. Hoblet
Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine

George M. Hopper
Director, Forest and Wildlife Research Center
Director, Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station
Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences
Dean, College of Forest Resources

Gary B. Jackson
Director, Mississippi State University Extension Service
CVM

- CVM students seek opportunities to enhance their experiences and serve the community. A group of second-year students planned and hosted CVM’s first annual veterinary camp for 13- to 15-year-olds. The hands-on camp gave participants a taste of veterinary school. The students are already planning next year’s camp.
- Facilities at CVM’s Wise Center on MSU’s main campus have been improved in a $6.79 million building envelope renovation. The center has 196 new parking spaces, and improvements have been made to areas damaged by Hurricane Rita. Next, the CVM’s necropsy laboratory will be renovated.
- New research conducted by Dr. Pat Gaunt at CVM’s Mississippi Aquatic Diagnostic Laboratory is helping the catfish industry understand a destructive disease of market-sized catfish. Her preliminary research is helping the industry identify the disease’s risk factors. The next step will be developing vaccines that could prevent serious losses to this important industry.

CALS

- The American Jersey Cattle Association ranked the MSU dairy herd No. 7 in milk production for 2010. The only university-owned herd to make the top rankings, the dairy herd has been ranked in the top 10 for the last four years.
- Landscape Architecture students recently revamped the Oktibbeha County Heritage Museum to manage storm water and demonstrate the importance of sustainable landscapes. Students also designed a new landscape for the Tennessee Williams Home and Welcome Center in Columbus, the new Convention and Visitors Bureau building next door and a planned art park nearby.
- New master’s and doctoral degrees have been approved in Human Development and Family Studies. These new degree options offer an interdisciplinary lifespan approach to the study of children, youth and families.

CALS

- The Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture major expanded to include concentrations in Wildlife Agricultural Conservation and Human-Wildlife Conflicts to address needs in natural resource conservation and sustainability.
- The student chapter of the Forest Products Society was recognized by the international organization as one of the top three chapters in the nation. The 28-member student chapter of the Society of American Foresters earned first place in the outstanding student chapter competition, beating 75 chapters from across the nation.
- MSU’s College of Forest Resources now provides an online graduate degree program through the distance learning capabilities of the university’s Division of Academic Outreach and Continuing Education.

FWRC

- Scientists in the Forest and Wildlife Research Center use nanotechnology to turn wood into highly absorbent charcoal and parts for automobiles. The new process creates magnetic charcoal with a high absorption capacity for environmental clean-up and specialty products, such as molding and panels for automobiles.
- Scientists have developed software that estimates the age and antler size of individual deer and can help managers determine the composition of the herd based on trail camera photographs.
- Research on the availability of woody biomass for fuel production found enough biomass in the state to produce 318 million gallons of ethanol, 470 million gallons of raw bio-oil or 300 million gallons of petroleum diesel each year. The study found that a new wood-to-energy industry could generate $152 million in net output.

Points of Pride

- MAFES scientists are using a byproduct of ethanol production as feed for poultry, cattle and catfish. Distillers dried grains with solubles (DDGS) is left behind during the ethanol conversion. Scientists have found a diet containing the byproduct of DDGS may reduce feed costs for producers, which accounts for 50 percent or more of production costs.
- MAFES scientists have found an alternative to methyl bromide, which will be phased out in 2015, to ensure dried cured hams remain free from pests, safe for consumption, and savory.
- A new system to detect the presence of soybean cyst nematodes will shorten the testing time from 100 days to a few hours and save Mississippi producers millions of dollars. Scientists are also working on new varieties of soybeans that are resistant to nematodes.

MSU-ES

- The Extension Service increased external funding through grants and contracts in FY11. The record total of just over $18 million is an increase of about $6 million from the previous year. The money supports initiatives such as MarketMaker; fighting invasive species; supporting early childhood development; and combating obesity.
- The Extension Service launched a new initiative to teach instructional technology to adults in Mississippi’s rural counties. The cornerstone of this initiative is the broadband project, funded by a grant from government officials to jumpstart technology education.
- Extension was quickly and heavily involved in disaster response. When a massive tornado hit Smithville in April, assessments and data from Extension field agents were used by the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency. When Mississippi River flooding threatened the Delta, Extension was called on to develop plans for levee failure in response to flooding in lower Yazoo Basin. A publication was developed and distributed in response to flood situations. Extension forest and wildlife specialists were stationed in flooded areas to deal with wildlife in urban areas.
College of Veterinary Medicine

Thirty years ago, 22 students graduated from MSU’s College of Veterinary Medicine in its first-ever graduation ceremony. This year, 75 students graduated from CVM with a doctor of veterinary medicine degree. Establishing a veterinary college in Mississippi has brought quality veterinary education, valuable research and client-centered care to the region. CVM celebrated 30 years of accomplishments by holding a Pegasus Gala weekend in October. One of the event’s highlights was a special appearance by Jack Hanna, host of “Jack Hanna’s Into the Wild” and director emeritus of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium in Ohio. Faculty, staff and students celebrated the original class and all the people who have made possible each successive graduating class.

This past year has brought even more opportunities for CVM students, with expanded emergency and referral clinical rotations in the Jackson area. In Starkville, a partnership with Premier Imaging and MSU’s Institute for Imaging and Analytical Technologies, or I2AT, provides CVM students access to state-of-the-art diagnostic equipment. CVM’s faculty researches issues that affect the state’s top industries as well as human health.

A decade ago, MSU received funding to create a fish hatchery to raise specific pathogen free channel catfish. The catfish research conducted as a result of the hatchery focuses on infectious diseases that cause substantial losses to the state’s channel catfish industry. Researchers are also rearing killifish and mutant zebrafish for potential breakthroughs in illnesses such as cancer, Parkinson’s and other diseases. MSU’s fish hatchery is one of the few in the world using these species for research.

Dr. Andy Shores, a board-certified neurologist, leads a medical team dedicated to working with veterinary patients that have medical and surgical conditions involving the brain or nervous system. CVM is partnering with Premier Imaging in Starkville to provide state-of-the-art diagnostic imaging equipment and neurology consultations to clients while also giving CVM students clinical rotations and the opportunity to observe neurosurgical procedures at the college.—Tom Thompson

Jack Hanna, director emeritus of the Columbus (Ohio) Zoo and Aquarium and host of two television shows, entertained Starkville-area school children as the College of Veterinary Medicine celebrated its 30th anniversary.—Tom Thompson
The College of Forest Resources is the greenest college at Mississippi State University and the only one in the state offering four-year degree programs in natural resources. At the heart of this environmentally conscious college is the desire to provide students with the knowledge and skills needed to produce, manage, use and sustain forest, wildlife, fisheries, and other natural resources. Students in the college major in one of eleven concentrations, ranging from environmental conservation to conservation law enforcement. Each concentration provides hands-on learning through laboratories, field sessions and professional experience. Both students and landowners learn from demonstrations and observations in the 16,000 acres of Bulldog Forest properties throughout the state, which include donated timberlands and wetlands. By graduation, nearly every student has acquired professional experience in the field, which strengthens employment prospects. These students join an elite group of over 4,000 college alumni, who help conserve the earth’s natural resources and provide a sustainable environment every day. The new Master of Science degree in Forest Management Economics offered through distance learning enables students from across the globe to be part of one of the fastest-growing colleges on the MSU campus.

Tornadoes caused extensive damage to forestland in several Mississippi counties on April 27, resulting in an estimated economic impact of $30.4 million. Employees from the College of Forest Resources conducted workshops to help landowners manage and salvage damaged timber.—Kat Lawrence

High school students participating in the first-ever all-female Conservation Careers Discovery Day at the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge look for an endangered red-cockaded woodpecker. The College of Forest Resources sponsored the program and several other youth outreach events in 2011.—Scott Corey
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Forest and Wildlife Research Center

The Forest and Wildlife Research Center (FWRC) is the only research program in Mississippi focused on managing and using forest, wildlife, fisheries, and forest products while protecting and enhancing the environment. These state resources include more than 19.6 million acres of forestland; 14,000 miles of streams, rivers, and creeks; and countless populations of wildlife and fish.

Natural resources provide Mississippians with opportunities for recreation and jobs and create more than $21.9 billion in economic impact to the state. With so many economic and environmental issues facing the world, Mississippi is poised to offer solutions to environmental issues, thanks to the research of the FWRC.

Scientists in the FWRC are pioneers in the use of woody materials to create bio-oil and have discovered a way to turn bio-oil into a hydrocarbon fuel. As new plants and mills begin to show interest in the state, scientists in the FWRC have developed software to inventory natural resources. The software helps companies determine the best location for plants based on nearby resources and available transportation.

The abundant resources and rural nature of the state also provide opportunities for landowners to diversify their income through natural resource enterprises. FWRC scientists teach people how to develop recreational uses for their properties, which can help them achieve financial stability and increase their property values.

The FWRC continues to provide innovative, scientific solutions to many of the economic and environmental issues facing our state.

Wildlife and fisheries graduate student Edward Entsminger researches the impact of reduced mowing on native grasses and wildflowers to determine if maintenance costs can be reduced while maintaining highway safety. —Kat Lawrence

Proper land and herd management improve the quality and health of the white-tailed deer population in Mississippi. A white-tailed deer management workshop was held at MSU to educate landowners, hunters and foresters on the theory and application of deer management in the South. —Steve Gulledge
During the past year, personnel in the division were an important part of the state’s response to multiple emergencies. Support for commercial fishing and other industries impacted by the Gulf oil spill continued during FY2011. Units in the division also responded to the tornadoes that swept across much of north Mississippi and the flooding in the Mississippi Delta.

Students and faculty from the Animal and Dairy Sciences Department assisted livestock producers in Monroe and surrounding counties with fence repair and other tornado recovery work.

College of Forest Resources personnel conducted programs for forest landowners on salvaging storm-damaged timber and other timber management issues related to the tornadoes. The free workshops were conducted via webinar to allow people to participate from all over the state.

A flooding task force was established to aid recovery in flooded areas along the Mississippi and Yazoo rivers. One of the results was a replanting guide by MSU Extension and MAFES personnel for producers whose fields were flooded. The division’s quick response helped decrease the significant economic impact of the flood.

Personnel from the Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture were a resource for areas of the Delta dealing with deer, snakes, and other wildlife displaced by flooding.

College of Veterinary Medicine veterinarians provided clinical assistance as needed by local veterinarians, assisted with animal-related damage assessments, and served as liaisons to the Mississippi Board of Animal Health, the Mississippi Veterinary Medical Association, and the Alabama Veterinary Medical Association.

MSU Extension donated 40 refurbished computers to the Monroe County School District for schools in Smithville, a town devastated by the April 27 tornadoes. Extension agents also provided damage assessments to the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency.

The Office of Agricultural Communications developed several articles designed to address flood-related issues, including securing chemicals, dealing with mosquitoes, and dealing with Thirteen counties were declared federal disaster areas due to the flooding of the Mississippi River. A special MSU Extension Service publication addressed planting row crops after the flood. —Scott Corey
displaced wildlife. A permanent Disaster Preparedness and Recovery site on MSUcares.com contains topics ranging from disaster cleanup to wildlife issues.

Following the flood, MSU Extension Service Family and Consumer Sciences state program leader Paula Threadgill organized a workshop to train county agents to use moisture meters. Elmo Collum, Extension’s disaster response coordinator, and David Jones, assistant Extension professor in forest products, taught Extension personnel how to help clients evaluate the level of moisture in their homes in order to determine whether it was safe to return.

An EF-5 tornado, the most powerful and destructive type, hit the Smithville community of about 900, killing 16 residents. Within seconds, more than 80 percent of the town was destroyed, including all but one of 15 businesses. —Scott Corey

B.J. McClenton, Monroe County Extension director (left), and Charlie Stokes, area Extension agent, unload water from a semi-trailer to distribute in Monroe County after the April 26 and 27 tornadoes. —Scott Corey
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences continues to grow and offer diverse opportunities for students. The new Environmental Economics and Management degree is designed for students who are interested in environmental decision-making or environmental policy. The School of Human Sciences has expanded its graduate degree program to offer master’s and doctoral degrees in Human Development and Family Studies.

Recent retirements created an opportunity to reshape the leadership of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. Dr. George Hopper is now both the dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the dean of the College of Forest Resources. Other administrative changes include new department heads throughout the college. Michael Newman is the director of the School of Human Sciences, Mike Phillips is the new head of the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, and long-time administrator Jonathan Pote is the new head of the Agricultural and Biological Engineering Department. Jonathan Pote is the new head of the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering.

The university has merged the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology with the Department of Entomology and Plant Pathology. Scott Willard is head of the Department of Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, Entomology and Plant Pathology. Mary Beck has been selected as the new head of the Department of Poultry Science.

Enrollment for 2010-2011 increased 13 percent compared to the previous year and 22 percent compared to 2007. Student diversity continues to increase, as more urban and suburban students seek careers in agriculture and life sciences.

The American Jersey Cattle Association ranked the MSU dairy herd at No. 7 in milk production for 2010. The only university-owned herd to make the top rankings, the dairy herd has been ranked in the top 10 for the last four years.—Kat Lawrence

2011 graduate Rachel Quevas from Pass Christian, works on an alumni floral quilt project in floral design lab as part of the floral management program in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences. MSU has one of the few floral management programs and the only student-run florist in the nation.—Megan Bean

The American Jersey Cattle Association ranked the MSU dairy herd at No. 7 in milk production for 2010. The only university-owned herd to make the top rankings, the dairy herd has been ranked in the top 10 for the last four years.—Kat Lawrence

The American Jersey Cattle Association ranked the MSU dairy herd at No. 7 in milk production for 2010. The only university-owned herd to make the top rankings, the dairy herd has been ranked in the top 10 for the last four years.—Kat Lawrence
Scientists in the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (MAFES) manage a comprehensive and diverse research program focused on improving plant and animal production systems, food safety and economic development.

MAFES research projects seek to meet the needs of the state’s agricultural commodities producers. Each year, MAFES scientists and administrators meet with producers to discuss their needs related to producing the nation’s food and fiber. These producer meetings provide direction for MAFES research and outreach efforts. As research results become available, MAFES scientists host field days to teach producers new ways to increase productivity, protect the environment, and ensure a safe and plentiful food supply. Field days, workshops, and experiments are conducted on the Mississippi State University campus or at one of the 16 MAFES stations located throughout the state.

One MAFES study that received national attention this year was Dr. Ashli Brown’s research on giant pandas’ intestinal microbes, which break down woody plant materials. These microbes could be reproduced and used to develop cost-efficient biofuels that do not interfere with food crops.

Several research support units were merged this year to improve research and delivery. In another move to maximize productivity and efficiency, MAFES is working with experiment stations at Louisiana State University and the University of Arkansas to share resources and expertise. Under the leadership of newly appointed director Dr. George Hopper, MAFES will continue to develop programs that enhance the quality of life for Mississippians and help farmers meet the rigorous demands of producing food and fiber in the most profitable, compatible, and environmentally safe manner.
MSU Extension Service

The Extension Service does not look the same today as it did in 1914 when it was established and farmers were about 30 percent of the American workforce. As time and technology have progressed, the Extension Service has adapted programming to meet the needs of its clients and communities. Extension remains committed to agriculture and natural resources but also supports community resource development, 4-H youth development, and family and consumer sciences.

Programs that did not even exist a few years ago are among the most popular today. Field days and short courses continue to be staples in Extension’s educational programming, but BodyWalk experiences for school-age children, ATV safety training and other new programs have grown in importance.

Dr. Gary Jackson became the Extension director in January and has spent his first year working to strengthen and reestablish Extension’s relationships with stakeholder groups, local community leaders, and legislators.

The Extension Service invested heavily in technology this year to upgrade the tools that make it possible to reach audiences where they are. Its presence in all 82 counties, including four Research and Extension Centers, multiple centers and institutes, and both state-level and field staff members make it possible for Extension to respond to needs quickly.

This infrastructure allowed the Extension Service to provide disaster assistance this year during and after the flooding of the Mississippi River and after the touchdowns of several tornadoes.

The Extension Service has the knowledge base of MSU, the convenience of local county offices, and the trust of Mississippians.

The Mississippi State Senate assigned MSU Extension Service the task of devising an ATV safety course, which will allow riders to earn an ATV safety certification.—Scott Corey

Master Gardener William Tucker learned about high tunnels from staff at the Lee County Extension office. He used a U.S. Department of Agriculture grant to build a high tunnel, which extended his growing season for tomatoes, squash, and more.—Scott Corey
The FY 2011 budget was about 8 percent below the previous year’s budget.

Several administrative positions were combined in FY 2011 as a means of becoming more efficient and reducing operating costs.

The FY 2011 DAFVM budget included stimulus funds, which made up about $1.7 million of the College of Veterinary Medicine’s budget.

Combines CVM, FWRC, MSU-ES, and MAFES. Does not include CALS or CFR.

The terms “Other,” “Restricted,” and “Designated” are accounting terms used to categorize fund types. “Restricted” generally refers to externally sponsored funding, such as grants. “Designated” indicates funds designated for a specific purpose. “Other” describes funds not designated or restricted, such as sales and self-generated funds.
Veterinary student Angie Kirk completed a fellowship with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. She worked in the agency’s National Center for Animal Health Emergency Management and learned about the many organizations that work together to respond to animal health emergencies. After her nine weeks at USDA, Kirk spent a week in a program hosted at Cornell University and Plum Island Animal Disease Center to learn about transboundary diseases.

Dr. Ronald McLaughlin was selected president-elect of the American Association of Veterinary Clinicians’ Executive Board. In this role, he will further the AAVC’s mission to improve and promote veterinary clinical teaching, service and research.

Wildlife, Fisheries, and Aquaculture associate professor Dr. Kevin M. Hunt received the National Academic Advising Association’s 2010 Outstanding Academic Advising Award in the Faculty category.

Forestry graduate students Michael Crosby and David Wilkinson collaborated on a tornado damage assessment model that assesses timber damage after a tornado or other natural disaster more quickly and accurately than current models. The images developed are on display at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Air and Space Museum as part of the Looking at Earth exhibit. The Mississippi Forestry Commission is also interested in the project.

Dr. Bruce D. Leopold, head of MSU’s Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Aquaculture, was honored with the prestigious Henry S. Mosby Award at the National Wild Turkey Federation’s 35th annual National Convention and Sport Show. Leopold was recognized for his dedication to conservation, to improving human-wildlife relationships, and to resolving human-wildlife conflicts through teaching, research, and extension. Leopold was also named a Fellow of The Wildlife Society.

Dr. Andrew W. Ezell, head of MSU’S Department of Forestry, is a new Fellow of the Society of American Foresters. He was honored by the organization for contributions to the professional organization and the nation’s forestry industry.
Mississippi State University plant physiologist Dr. K. Raja Reddy received the 2010 Outstanding Research Award in Cotton Physiology at the 2011 Beltwide Cotton Physiology Conference. A professor in MSU’s Department of Plant and Soil Sciences, he was honored for significantly contributing to the understanding of cotton physiology, growth, and development.

Dr. Alex Corzo, associate professor in the Department of Poultry Science, received the National Chicken Council Broiler Research Award from the Poultry Science Association. The award recognizes distinctive research that has a strong economic impact on the broiler industry.

Sophomore Agricultural Information Science major Mattie Carter is an ambassador for Farm Bureau. Mattie received the distinction for her leadership in telling the farm story and her ability to inform others of the importance of agriculture to the state.

Dr. Steve Turner, head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Mississippi State University, received the 2011 Southern Agricultural Economics Association’s Lifetime Achievement Award at the organization’s annual meeting. Turner was chosen for the award because he has made significant contributions to the field of Southern agricultural economics for the past 25 years through teaching, research, and public service.

Rita Green, an Extension family resource management area agent based in Grenada County, was appointed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack to a three-year term on the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education and Economics Advisory Board. Green will represent consumer interests and serve on the specialty crop and the relevancy and adequacy committees.

Lionel “Bo” Beaulieu received the 2011 Excellence in Extension award for his significant accomplishments as director of the Southern Rural Development Center at Mississippi State University. This award from the Southern Rural Sociological Association recognizes the contributions of members in extending the work of rural sociology in the South.
**DAFVM: FY 2011**

Grants & Contracts, Expenditures

- **CVM** $3.7 million
- **MAFES** $24.8 million
- **MSU-ES** $13.8 million
- **FWRC** $6.7 million
- **TOTAL** $49 million

**Mississippi’s Top Commodities**

**Production Value 2011**

- **POULTRY & EGGS** $2.44 billion
- **FORESTRY** $1.04 billion
- **SOYBEANS** $860 million
- **COTTON** $599 million
- **CORN** $595 million
- **CATFISH** $222 million
- **CATTLE/CALVES** $155 million
- **RICE** $153 million
- **HAY** $138 million
- **WHEAT** $127 million
- **HOGS** $104 million
- **HORTICULTURE** $94 million
- **SWEET POTATOES** $66 million
- **MILK** $42 million
- **GRAIN SORGHUM** $22 million
- **PEANUTS** $16 million
- **GOVERNMENT PAYMENTS** $357 million
- **TOTAL** $7 BILLION

**DAFVM: Enrollment, Fall 2011**

- **MSU Total Enrollment** 20,424
  - **CALS Undergrad** 1,474
  - **CALS Grad** 343
  - **CFR Undergrad** 323
  - **CFR Grad** 163
  - **CVM Undergrad** 41
  - **CVM Grad/Professional** 400
  - **DAFVM TOTAL** 2,744

- **300,000** pounds of cheese produced by MAFES in 2011
- **4 million** contacts made by Extension Service personnel in an average year
- **369,000** gallons of milk produced each year by MSU’s jersey herd
- **9.5 percent** increase in enrollment at CVM in 2011 compared to 2010
- **1.14 billion** dollars of state revenue generated by hunting each year
- **650,000** insect specimens at the Mississippi Entomological Museum at MSU
- **9 percent** of all jobs in Mississippi that are forestry-related
DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND VETERINARY MEDICINE
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