

# Vice President's Letter



Building is an ongoing process on any university campus, whether it involves the remodeling of existing structures to meet changing needs or construction of new facilities.

Recent changes here at Mississippi State include the completion of a major renovation of the Colvard Student Union and the move by the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering to a new building.

Located on Creelman Street between Dorman Hall and McCarthy Gym, the new 40,000-square-foot, three-story agricultural and biological engineering building houses a program that is steeped in history and that is continuing to make history.

The agricultural engineering program at MSU is the oldest in the region, and the department includes one of the first biological engineering programs in the nation. The new building's state-of-the-art capabilities will advance learning opportunities for students pursuing careers that deal with many of the challenges facing the state, the nation and the world.

Students in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering are preparing to enter medical school, work in biomedical engineering companies, conduct research to develop new renewable energy sources, manage agricultural enterprises and enter a variety of other careers.

While building structures is important for any university, helping students prepare for the next stage of their lives is the focus of all the academic departments in the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine at MSU. Having the right facilities, dedicated faculty and strong academic programs makes graduates of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the College of Forest Resources and the College of Veterinary Medicine well prepared for their chosen careers.

MSU's dedication to quality educational programs is not just limited to the Starkville campus. Branch stations of the Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station are located throughout the state, and the MSU Extension Service has offices in every county.

A new feature of Landmarks, 1/82, begins on page 26 of this issue. It profiles one of Mississippi's 82 counties and the MSU facilities located in the county. Through those facilities, every Mississippian has access to MSU.

Vance H. Watson

## MISSISSIPPI LANDMARKS

Research, Education and Outreach in the Division of Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary Medicine

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