Mack Presides Over Forum

Dr. Ally Mack participated in the 2007 Spring Convocation by presiding over a forum on the “Research Excellence and the Core Sufficiency for Global Education: Recommendations for Change at JSU.” The forum sought to answer such pivotal and dire questions as: How might JSU’s curriculum and core values interact to produce leaders who can contribute to the end of genocide, poverty, and historical injustices? What is the way forward? What about curriculum change, the pursuit of research excellence, and global education at JSU?

The presenters at the forum included Dr. Paul Tchounwou, Interim Associate Dean in the College of Science and Technology and Dr. Mario Azevedo, Professor and Chair, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics and Professor and Scholar-in-Residence, Department of History.

In the August 2006 faculty and staff Convocation, Dr. Mack presented a forum at the Fall 2006 Convocation Forum entitled “The Core’s Sufficiency for Global Education.” During this Session Dr. Ally Mack, took part in a panel discussion on the internationalization of JSU where she highlighted recent changes in the international community that affect JSU faculty and students at home and abroad.

She concluded her message by emphasizing that “The time is now and the place is here for us to begin preparing ourselves and our students for the world that is increasingly defining even the most minute details of our daily lives.”
During the Jackson State University’s International Education week in November of 2003, Michael E. Palmely, Chief of Mission-Designate for U.S. Interest Section in Havana, Cuba spoke with JSU freshmen students and all others who’d listen to try to spark interest in working with the Foreign Services Department. During his appeal to students, he discussed the variety of opportunities within the department as well as discussed the academic backgrounds needed to pursue such careers.

**Vietnamese Group on Women’s Empowerment**

The International Visitors Center of Jackson has had the honor of hosting a great number of guests from around the world. Annually IVCJ provides professional and requisite cultural programming activities for hundreds of international guests in the Red Carpet State. These guests are selected by U.S. Embassy officials in their respective country of origin as being outstanding in their profession or field, thus future leaders of the country.

One such group of leaders who’s visited Mississippi under the auspices of the U.S. Department of State was a group of women leaders from Vietnam. The group consisted of non-government organization leaders, journalists and scientists and two interpreters. While in the state the visitors met with area professionals on a variety of issues on the economic and social advancement of women in Mississippi and the US including: League of Women Voters spokes-person, Minta Uzodima, Mississippi Center for Legal Services Director, Linda McMillian.

**Fulbrighters at JSU**

Jackson State has had the distinct honor of hosting Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants over the years. This year one of the participants is Ms. Victoria Ren. She arrived in the U.S. on August 15 from China and will serve as teaching assistant (TA) for nine months. She comes with five years teaching experience from the Chinese TA, Victoria Ken

Arabic TA, Nejiba Khebifi

The other Fulbright Scholar on the Jackson State campus is Ms Najiba Khelifi. She comes from the country of Tunisia. In Tunisia she served as the English as a Second Language Instructor at the International Institute of Human Sciences of Tunisia. She holds a B.A. in English and International Relations.

**Things to come...**

Department of International Studies Scholarship Applications Accepted until April 6, 2007

JSU International Week April 23-27, 2006

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International Week 2006

The Division of International Studies held its annual International Week during the second week in April. The week long event was filled with symposiums, seminars and festivities to expose and introduce Jacksonians, young and old, to a myriad of world cultures and issues outside of the U.S. borders.

The week began with the parade of flags and the opening ceremony on the campus plaza. Speakers included JSU President Ronald Mason; Dean of International Studies Dr. Ally Mack, Senator Hillman Frazier, and other distinguished guests and elected officials.

Students from across the state participated in an international bazaar throughout the week. JSU Students took part in a mock United Nations meeting.

The week was brought to a close with the annual Scholarship Banquet featuring the keynote speaker His Excellency Charles A. Minor, Liberian Ambassador to the U.S.

DIS Launches China Study

Nine students traveled to China during the months of June and July to study Chinese language and culture. This experience was organized by the Division of International Studies working in collaboration with the newly established Office of China Initiatives.

Every morning consisted of learning oral and written language and each afternoon consisted of cultural activities such as Chinese cooking and dancing. “I was immersed fully into the Chinese culture”, said Henderson. “During my stay, I realized how important it is to learn another language. It’s a matter of survival”.

Henderson says that she now sees the importance of learning a foreign language, not only as a means of survival, but to secure a place in the world’s diversified business culture. Henderson along with seven other students from JSU and other colleges across the state including Millsaps and Rust College took part in the program and were able visit the Great Wall of China, one of the seven wonders of the world and many other historic sites.

IVCJ Participates in Network D.C.

Derwin Miller, Program Officer for the International Visitors Center of Jackson took part in the “Network D.C.” program sponsored by the National Council of Internal Visitors. The program was held in Washington D.C. from October 23-25. The purpose of the program was to provide programming agencies with information regarding the professional and leisure resources available in the State of Mississippi as well as to expose IVCJ staff to U.S. international exchange protocol.

Congratulations to the 2006-2007 Gillman Award Recipients from JSU

Shakevia Johnson
TaKeshia Fields
Look Who’s Been to Jackson Mississippi!

Vietnamese Group on Women’s Empowerment (September ‘06)

Mr. Jaco Waye from Madagascar and Ms. Blanca Partida Acosta from Mexico (June ‘06)

Group from China on Agricultural Development (November ‘06)

Mr. Kyaw San from Burma (June ‘06)

U.S. Ambassador to Zambia, Madam Inong Mbikusita– Lewanika

Karen Brown (Center) Journalist from Australia (May 2006)