Ally Mack wins Excellence in Trade Education Award

Jackson State University Professor and Dean of the Division of International Studies Ally Mack was presented the Excellence in Trade Education Award on Nov. 12 by the Mississippi World Trade Center. This was the Center’s first year presenting an award for Excellence in Trade Education.

“It was an honor to be the first recipient of the Mississippi World Trade Center award recognizing the crucial role that education plays in international trade,” Mack said. “Thus, I am delighted that Jackson State University was the first recipient and that it is being recognized for its efforts in this area.”

For the past 30 years, Mack has worked to internationalize Mississippi through the International Visitors Center of Jackson and the Mississippi Consortium for International Development. From her efforts, better engagement in the international trade arena has occurred.

MISSISSIPPI WORLD TRADE CENTER

The International visitor Center of Jackson welcomes Sara Williams, as a program officer. Ms Williams has been a supporter for IVCJ for over 15 years, hosting participants and providing home stays.

Mrs. Williams is a native of Madison and has been married for twenty-nine years to Shadric Williams and is the mother of two daughters, Adrienne and Iman. She is an active member of Tema Life Church. A graduate of Clark-Atlanta University, prior to joining IVCJ, Sara worked as a community activist and served on many non-profit boards across the Southern region.

Shallow understanding from people of goodwill, is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will

Martin Luther King, Jr.
Changes in the Global landscape of Mississippi impact Globalization worldwide. It is the International Visitors Center’s Mission and Challenge. Our professional development programs plans are to provide direct people to people contact with established seasoned leaders, and those critical thinkers. These programs will enable our visitors to discover and share ideas.

The International Visitors Center of Jackson in conjunction with the Division of International Studies is leading the charge and providing a public policy voice for international development education.

IVCJ is continually working to advance, support and expand international relationships between Mississippi and other nations. We believe this promotion will bind close ties with the political leadership and provide a foundation for Mississippi to engage in a global agenda.

IVCJ’s work is accomplished through a strong volunteer efforts this volunteer involvement ensures relevant, and hospitable services to all who come to our great state.

The Near East and South Asia Undergraduate Exchange Program (NESA)

Anas Alfarra was born on October 1991 in Cairo Egypt. Anas is a NESA student from Gaza, Palestine, and he declares his acceptance to the program was the happiest day of his life, as was the day he arrived at Jackson State University, to pursue his studies. “This was the greatest opportunity for me’. As a Palestinian, he had never visited Jerusalem… Palestinian are not allowed. With him being selected for this program, the government of Jerusalem were gracious enough to grant him a three (3) hour pass to complete his paper work at the US Consulate, where they personally put him in a car and transported him (for four hours) to the airport in Jordan. Although he was leaving his family, to travel thousands of miles, to a unknown place, his mother, father and sisters rejoiced, with tears of joy and pain. He was coming the United States to study. Anas is a wonderful addition to the JSU family. His family is proud, he maintains a 3.95 GPA.

The Near East and South Asia Undergraduate (NESA) program is sponsored by the bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, and is administered by Georgetown University’s Center for Intercultural Education and Development. The program provides full scholarships for outstanding students from the Near East and South Asia for one academic year of non-degree undergraduate study in the United States at an accredited two and/or four year institutions.

This program is designed to increase the mutual understanding between young emerging leaders form the Near East and South Asia and in the United States by providing meaningful academic and cultural experience at U.S. academic institutions. The immersion experience at American campuses ensures that participants gain a first hand understanding of the American way of life, which builds lasting bonds of friendship and results in the development of peaceful and constructive relations between their nations and the United States. The IVCJ welcomes the NESA students to the great State of Mississippi, and is working with the division of international studies to make sure that the students have a meaningful cultural experience.

JSU/DIS Welcome University of Zululand Students

Eight students and faculty advisor from the University Zululand visited city of Jackson, state of Mississippi and the campus of Jackson State University on November 7-21, 2009. This was the second group of students from the University Zululand that the University has hosted.

Each group audits classes that are the same or similar to their area of concentration as well as volunteer for community service. During their leisure time, they had the opportunity to visit and exchange ideas with our students about their career aspirations and cultural differences. The Zululand students were welcomed by local host families for ten days.

Yolanda Davis, Study Aboard Coordinator stated that ‘we want the students to experience our culture as well as academic life while feeling that this is their home away from home.’ The students spent time at Jim Hill High School, Northwest Middle School, The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Stewpot community kitchen.
The International Visitor Center of Jackson (IVCJ) is so excited about our New Year of programming professional Development for our future visitors. We are creating new professional partners, by utilizing our rich resources and great southern heritage. The International Visitors Center of Jackson would like to thank are many partners and welcome the new partners: Mississippi Forestry Suppliers, The Veterans of the Civil Rights Project, The Mississippi Education Working Group. The IVCJ looks forward to promoting Mississippi to the International Community.

Habitat for Humanity and women throughout the tri-county area are partnering together to offer women the opportunity to hone their building skills during the upcoming Women Build 2010. “Love In Action” is a phrase that is heard a lot at Habitat For Humanity Metro Jackson. For the ladies who volunteer for the women build, it might seem that their “Love in Action” is simply building homes for families in need. Yet that is only the surface of what happens when people join the HFH/MJ network of sponsors and volunteers.

Shirley Harrison, a seasoned volunteer with habitat wants the community to know that volunteering at a Habitat build site is nothing short of total enrichment, in body, mind and spirit. It is all of the people involved in every aspect... our sponsors, volunteers, homeowners, donors, those people who see that building a home for a family also build a home for the heart. Women Build celebrates the commitment of metro Jackson women to moving families out of poverty housing. The Women Build is Scheduled for four Friday and Saturday weekends in April, beginning Friday April 9, 2010 and ending Saturday, May 1, 2010.

Come on join us... Work hard, feel good!
Things to come...

JSU International Week
April 12-16, 2010

Scholarship Applications accepted until March 26, 2010

Upcoming IV’s

Pakistan: Politics and Civic Engagement in America

Education for Girls: Volunteerism United

American Youth: Inspiring Leadership and Civil Participation

GOOD OLE SOUTHERN HOSPITALITY