

The Wellspring

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Inclusion is the Wellspring of Democracy

Second Annual Civil Rights Summit for Teachers a Success

By Annette Hollowell

The atmosphere was electric that first morning in McComb High School at the second annual Civil Rights Education Summit. There were many familiar faces—some were presenters from the first summit held in Philadelphia, Mississippi, a year prior, and many were people from the local community, school administrators, and teachers. The crowd was there to exchange strategies on teaching civil rights history and integrating it into existing curriculum and testing demands. Attendees left having experienced that sort of intimate connection to history that teachers desire for their students.



Summit panelists Hollis Watkins, Jenice View, Maggie Donovan, and John Dittmer

Daily workshops included breakout sessions by scholars and presenters from schools, as well as organizations such as Facing History and Ourselves, Teaching for Change, the Southern Poverty Law Center, and the New York Historical Society. McComb teachers who had been involved in curriculum development training around local history also presented a workshop.

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Newsletter of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation
The University of Mississippi • A Great American Public University

Responsibility and Redemption

By Susan M. Glisson

*“I am saying as you must say, too, that in order to see where we are going, we not only must remember where we’ve been, but **we must understand where we have been.** This calls for a great deal of analytical thinking and evaluation of methods that have been used. We have to begin to think in terms of where do we really want to go and how can we get there.”*

—ELLA BAKER

More than ten years ago, members of various Christian denominations began to meet to explore the ways in which their faith impelled them to seek racial reconciliation. The group came to be called Mission Mississippi and has worked consistently since its inception to help heal broken relationships.

In 2004, a multiracial group of citizens in Neshoba County met to talk openly and honestly about the legacy of civil rights murders there. While their efforts helped yield a measure of justice for James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner, the more lasting impact has been the committed friendships established and devoted to making their community a better place for everyone.

A year later, people in Okolona and in Tallahatchie County began a deliberate community conversation about race. In Okolona, citizens see the links between a divided community and an impoverished quality of life for all. In Tallahatchie County, a biracial committee appointed by the local board of supervisors is exploring the legacy of the life and murder of Emmett Till, a fourteen-year-old black child murdered in 1955 for allegedly whistling at a white woman.

There are deep wounds in Mississippi around race. They are painful to address. But significantly, ordinary citizens from diverse backgrounds are intentionally beginning honest conversations about the past in the hope of a brighter future.

Let me restate what is happening in our state. People from all walks of life are taking responsibility for the past, the present, and the future. They are beginning to understand that, while no one alive today created racism, we have all inherited a system that keeps us apart. And in keeping us divided, we cannot all then benefit from the gifts and talents that each of us has. Indeed, some structures even prevent all of us from developing our gifts to their fullest potential. In its simplest form, that is all justice is—empowering people to exercise the gifts with which they’re born.

The Mississippi Coalition for Racial Justice has taken note of these important conversations. We intend to build on that work by challenging our fellow Mississippians to begin a statewide conversation on race. We will announce “The Welcome Table: A Year of Dialogue on Race” next year, to commence on June 21st, the anniversary of both the Neshoba murders and the first state conviction in those murders. Through a deliberate process of reflection, education, and training, we hope communities will engage in the sometimes difficult but necessary and rewarding work of bringing our state together.

We seek redemption for Mississippi. A good word, *redemption*, familiar to many of us from faith backgrounds. Have you explored what it means lately? Its origin is Latin, by way of Middle English, and it means literally “to buy back.” But it also means “to free” and “to restore or bring into a condition.” White civil rights activists suggested this meaning during Freedom Summer when they spoke of their freedom being entangled with the freedom of others. William Winter meant this when he told the widow of Medgar Evers that Evers “freed us white people, too.” And Mrs. Hamer sought it when she asserted, “Nobody’s free until everybody’s free.”

In October of this year, celebrated civil rights veteran Congressman John Lewis visited the UM campus and challenged us to build a Beloved South. He noted from a childhood experience that when storms arise and threaten community, those who care both for their own safety as well as their loved ones “stay with the house.” I second this assertion and suggest further that we must not only stay with the house but also put our house in order.

In the end, the conversation is really about who will take responsibility for Mississippi’s future. Many communities have already accepted the challenge. Will you?

Civil Rights Summit for Teachers *continued from Front Cover*

The first evening after the workshops we gathered in the Burglund community at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center to honor the leaders of the McComb movement. For those who are still with us, like C.C. Bryant, it was an opportunity for all to express personal thanks for great sacrifices. For the departed, like Alynn Quinn and Ernest Nobles, we paid homage to their legacies through expressions to the families. It was a particularly special night for the Institute when our graduate intern Judith Barlow-Roberts presented a narrative and documentary on the life work of her grandfather, McComb Civil Rights activist C.C. Bryant. The second day of the summit, it was time to learn about some other trailblazers, the children. One of them was Brenda Travis, whose life was altered significantly when the Civil Rights Movement came to Mississippi. At age 16, after participating in a local sit-in, she was arrested, jailed, and eventually expelled from her school, separated from both her community and her family. Ms. Travis's Burglund classmates protested the expulsion and led a mass walkout from the school to the steps of McComb City Hall. As a result, many were jailed, and those in the senior class of 1962 who were on the verge of graduation were expelled and forced to finish their education in other cities. That afternoon in the auditorium, with her family gathered around her on stage, Brenda Travis relayed a powerful story in her hometown of McComb, a place she had not visited for some 40 years.

Towards the end of Ms. Travis's talk, McComb native and student activist Hollis Watkins, founder and President of Southern Echo, Inc., and a former voting rights organizer for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), joined her on stage. As they led the assembly in singing "We Shall Never Turn Back," the suffering of that community was tempered by a force of hope, from those who were youth in the 1960's to each parent and educator present in the auditorium.

That evening, the community gathered again at Higgins Middle School, formerly Burglund High School, for an honorary graduation ceremony for those protesters in the senior class who had been expelled. It was a beautiful ceremony as eleven individuals, clad in green and gold robes and holding candles, marched into the dimly lit gymnasium. Several hundred people attended the graduation, and as the proud graduates passed by the stands to

take their place on the stage, celebrating family members and friends called out the names of their mothers, fathers, and grandparents.

Joe Lewis, a member of the class of 1962, recounted the story of how the students banded together to question injus-



The McComb School District held a graduation ceremony for former student activists who would have been in the graduating class of 1962 but were expelled from Burglund High School for civil rights activities.

tice, in turn setting off a wildfire. Ms. Travis issued a challenge to the school district and the community to incorporate the stories of that generation into the curriculum and to divulge all information about what happened there, while moving boldly towards a brighter future for today's students. At the close of the ceremony, there were smiles all around as graduates autographed the ceremony programs. For many in the class of 1962, that evening was the first time that many of them had seen each other in nearly 40 years. Travis, who resides in Ontario, Calif., said "I didn't have the opportunity to walk those halls as a young person, so this event gives me a sense of redemption."

The annual Civil Rights Education Summit is growing into an instrumental networking mechanism for connecting educators to compelling community narratives. We'd like to offer special thanks to each esteemed presenter, participant, and friend for making these summits so rewarding and substantive. As we plan the third annual summit, to be held at the University of Mississippi in 2007, we encourage all who are interested in presenting, learning, and sharing to get involved.

Gulf Coast Coalition Created, Holds Memorial Service on Katrina Anniversary

By Kate Medley

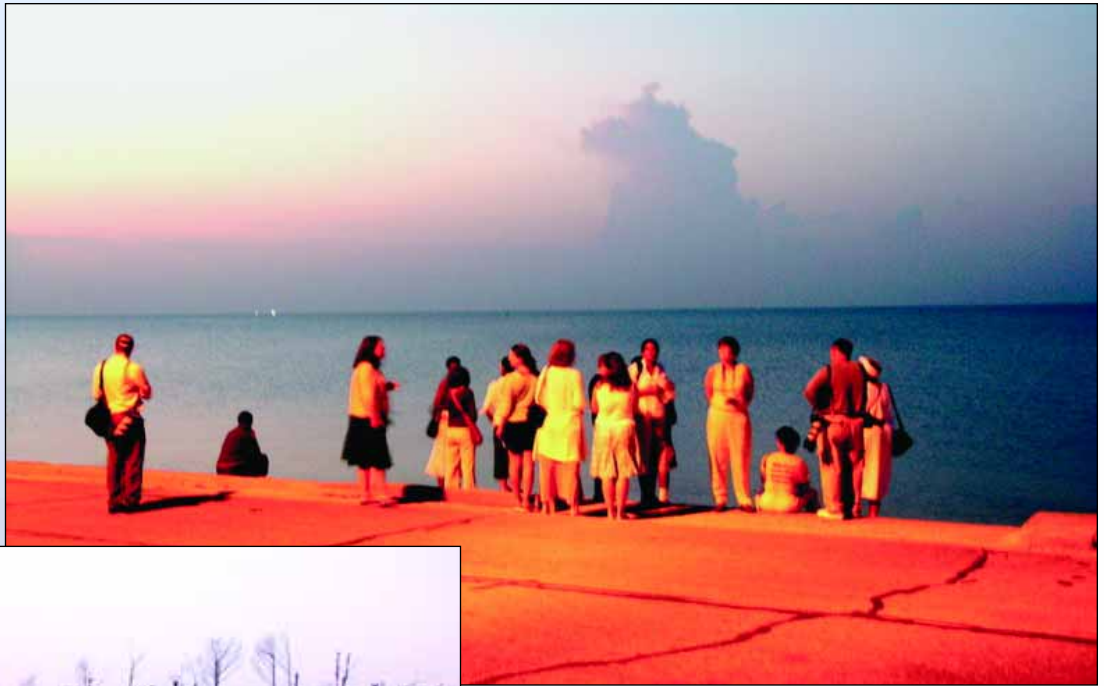
In June 2006, the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, together with Oxfam America and the Twenty-First Century Foundation, cosponsored a retreat in New Orleans, Louisiana, for Gulf Coast community leaders. During the three-day event, the group created a coalition, which is to be united by the goal of a sustainable recovery for south Mississippi in the wake of the devastation brought by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

The coalition of groups, called The Steps Coalition, has developed five pillars for a fair and sustainable recovery: affordable housing for homeowners and renters;



community continuity and protection of cultural resources; economic redevelopment; healthy stewardship of environmental resources; and just and humane treatment of all south Mississippi residents.

Melinda Harthcock, a graduate of Millsaps College and the University of Mississippi, was selected to be the facilitator for the Steps Coalition. As a member of the Interfaith Disaster Task Force, Harthcock has been assisting with the recovery



The Steps Coalition held a memorial service at Waveland, Mississippi, one year after Hurricane Katrina struck the Gulf Coast.

effort in coastal communities since the storm hit.

One of the first actions of the new coalition was to host a sunrise memorial service on the first anniversary of the hurricane. About 200 people attended the interfaith service that was held on the beach in Waveland, Mississippi, near where the eye of the hurricane came ashore.

“Steps will be a powerful tool in restoring the beautiful, yet injured, Gulf Coast and interior,” says Harthcock. “We call upon all Coast residents to help make Steps a successful advocate so that many will benefit and not continue to be left out. Join us.”

For more information, visit the Steps Coalition website: www.stepsouthms.org.

Race Reconciliation Group Plans Projects, Events

By Sandi P. Beason

Reprinted with permission from the *Northeast Daily Journal*

Blacks and whites can sit around the table together and discuss the things that unite and divide them, but real relationships form when people work together towards a common goal.

During a racial reconciliation meeting Monday, the group brainstormed projects that could be done together, to benefit the entire community. Ideas were varied.

“We want to be the model for the rest of the state,” said Dr. Susan Glisson, director of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation. “Mississippi has come farther than any other state, and it’s happened in communities like yours. None of that good work happened by accident.”

Glisson and others at the institute have been in Okolona for months, working on ways to break down barriers that divide the city.

Among the plans during Monday’s brainstorming ses-

sion were a community-wide Thanksgiving service, a gospel singing, civil rights storytelling in schools and an Oct. 28 “love-in” at the downtown park.

“The city has declared October as racial reconciliation month,” said Mayor Sherman Carothers. “We are trying to

think of some type of function to promote that throughout the city.”

Patsy Gregory, director of the Chamber of Commerce, suggested that diversity training be held within city departments. They all agreed that one area had to be tackled: Religion. Glisson suggested that area ministers preach one sermon on race issues during the month of October. “Have we all asked our ministers why they’re not coming to these meetings?” asked Steven Shultz, Chamber of Commerce board chairman. “Some of them are afraid they’ll lose their positions,” Carothers said

Regina Pickens, city councilwoman, suggested that group members do something simple, like attending a church service with someone of a different color. At night’s end, the nearly 30 people in the room split off into groups to discuss how to make the ideas happen.

“If a group comes together—white, black, Hispanic—and people work together and share bread and do programs and get to know each other, in the long run, everybody benefits, and the more we will realize we have the same issues, regardless of the color of our skin.”

—GENE BARTON

“If a group comes together—white, black, Hispanic—and people work together and share bread and do programs and get to know each other, in the long run, everybody benefits,” said Gene Barton, city attorney. “The more we will realize we have the same issues, regardless of the color of our skin.”

If you are interested in the work of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, you can contact us at:

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Tallahatchie County Begins Remembrance of Emmett Till

By Susan M. Glisson

In October 2005, the Tallahatchie County Board of Supervisors created the Emmett Till Memorial Committee to commemorate the life and legacy of Emmett Till. Till, a fourteen-year-old African American child, who was murdered while visiting relatives in Mississippi in 1955. Two white men were acquitted of the crime in a trial held in the Sumner, Mississippi, courthouse, but they later confessed to the murder in a national magazine.

The murder and the lack of accountability for it have long haunted residents in Tallahatchie County. The new bi-racial commission is charged with acknowledging the horrific nature of the crime and helping local communities to move forward together, to build a stronger culture where such events do not occur. The Winter Institute has been supporting the work of the commission since last spring.

To accomplish this task, the commission will create a civil rights trail of significant sites, establish a youth center in honor of Till, and develop curriculum for the local schools. Jerome Little, president of the Board of Supervisors and vice-chair of the commission said, “I hope we improve race relations and improve tolerance of each others’ views. We need to address economic development in our communities. We hope to improve commitment to our communities.”

“Blacks and whites have lived together in close proximity in the Delta for 150 years...without any open and honest exchange of ideas and feelings. That is what I hope we can change.”

—BETTY PEARSON

Betty Pearson, a life-long resident of the county, attended all five days of the Till trial. As a member of the commission, she noted, “My primary interest in the work of the Commission is in the opportunity it gives us to develop a new

kind of bi-racial community here. This is the first time in fifty plus years that there has been any open dialogue about the Till murder and trial. And that is not just about this case.



Members of the Emmett Till Memorial Commission, from Tallahatchie County, met with members of the Philadelphia Coalition in Neshoba County, at the site of the Neshoba murders.

Blacks and whites have lived together in close proximity in the Delta for 150 years, often in quite intimate working relationships, but without any open and honest exchange of ideas and feelings. That is what I hope we can change.”

The Till Commission is modeling its work on that of the multi-racial Philadelphia Coalition, which came together to call for justice in the Neshoba murders in 1964. Representatives from both groups met last June in Philadelphia, in a meeting facilitated by the Winter Institute. They shared stories of the pain around each community’s civil rights history and their hopes to build on the work of those who fought for freedom.

Next spring, the Till Commission intends to announce a community development plan that will honor Till’s life.

Institute Helps Lead Affordable Housing Movement in Lafayette County

By April Grayson

In Spring 2005, Winter Institute director Susan Glisson approached Oxford mayor Richard Howorth after she heard that the university was planning to demolish on-campus faculty housing to make way for other building projects. That call sparked the formation of the mayor's affordable housing taskforce and L-O-U (short for Lafayette-Oxford-University) HOME, leading to a partnership between the faith-based Amos Network, the University of Mississippi, the City of Oxford, and Lafayette County.

Although the three houses originally scheduled for demolition were not included due to deadline pressures, the University created an agreement to donate other houses for redistribution to low-income families in need of a home.

Associate Director of UM's Physical Plant Department Buddy Kahler said, "We think it's a great opportunity to reuse the houses and offer them up for those who can use them rather than just demolishing them and hauling them off as garbage. They're nice homes that can be re-established and used by the community."

Since August 2006, five homes have been removed from the UM campus and handed over to the County as part of a state-funded HOME Grant to provide low-income residents with affordable housing.

Lafayette County Administrator Richard Copp emphasized, "These houses aren't just being given to people. [Recipients are] having to qualify for mortgages and are providing the lion's share of the value of this home."

Applicants for one of the recycled homes must complete a new homeowner's course, as well as meet eligibility requirements, including maximum income levels, qualification for a \$30,000 home loan, and ownership of property where the house can be placed. They also must agree to pay-back provisions designed to ensure that they do not sell the home and pocket the profit.

The Oxford-Lafayette Amos Network is conducting new homeowner training. The Amos Network also formed a Homeowner's Association to provide a support system to help ensure that applicants for the homes are educated about the responsibilities and practicalities of home ownership.

Glisson said, "I think that all universities have a unique challenge to serve the communities in which they are established. When it comes to finding affordable housing, the University of Mississippi has definitely set forth an example for other institutions to observe and emulate."



Talking Towards the Future: A Year-long Dialogue with the Mississippi Coalition for Racial Justice

by Amy Schmidt

Formed in 2005, in the aftermath of the Neshoba County trial for the murder of civil rights workers, the Mississippi Coalition for Racial Justice is an ad-hoc group comprised of diverse individuals as well as faith-based and non-profit organizations.

Focusing on civic change, community development, and social equality, the Coalition seeks to address racial and economic inequities of the past and of the present in order to provide a course to a more inclusive, socially just future with an improvement in the quality of life for Mississippians.

Coalition members represent a wide variety of organizations, including the Mississippi Center for Justice, the Jackson Urban League, the Philadelphia Coalition, the Parish Street Community Coalition, the John M. Perkins Foundation, Parents for Public Schools, the Molpus Woodlands Group, Mission Mississippi, the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, and the Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life. The Coalition also includes representatives from a number of churches and denominations across the state, including members from both the Catholic and Episcopal Diocese as well as from several Baptist and Methodist churches. Coalition members hail from communities as diverse as

Jackson, Philadelphia, Clinton, Madison, and Oxford.

Relationship building, dialogue, and community development will be integral to achieving the Coalition's goals of social justice and improved quality of life. To that end, the group is currently planning "The Welcome Table: A Year of Initiating a Dialogue on Race," which will commence in June 2007. Through the year-long dialogue, the Coalition hopes to promote Senate Bill 2718, which calls for civil rights history to be taught in elementary and secondary schools.

In addition to promoting the bill, the Coalition will facilitate a larger community dialogue on race through more honest appraisals of the past and will highlight and build upon working dialogic models across the state. The year-long dialogue will focus on reflection, education, and training, which the Coalition will offer to communities that are beginning or continuing dialogues on race, with ways to measure each stage of the process.

Though they will not always be easy, ideally the dialogues will include community members of all ages, backgrounds, and affiliations and will eventually achieve material impacts and systemic change. The Mississippi Coalition for Racial Justice invites all Mississippians to participate in the dialogues and to work to improve the conditions in our state.



Students and community leaders gathered to discuss the Mississippi Coalition's upcoming Year of Dialogue.

UM Students Form Respect Mississippi

by Patrick Weems

Respect Mississippi is a new student organization created to address a problem we face at the University of Mississippi: lack of diversity.

The group started out of a discussion in my living room with some other Ole Miss students about the irrational amount of segregation that exists on our campus. We called the group “Respect Mississippi” because people outside of the state do not respect Mississippi due to terrible stigmas associated with the place we love and call home. In addition, people inside the state, through ignorance and racism, do not respect their fellow Mississippians.



University of Mississippi students organized RespectMississippi, a new student group sponsored by the Winter Institute.

After a couple of more discussions, we decided to invite Susan Glisson and Annette Hollowell from the Winter Institute to join us. Since then, the Institute has helped us in every way possible to reconcile a much-divided campus.

The Winter Institute and Susan have helped the group make strides in setting goals and addressing issues on campus. Respect Mississippi currently has the goal of promoting diversity through dialogue, educational projects, and service in the community.

The first way the group has addressed diversity on campus is by inviting members of the Black Student Union, the International Student Organization, and multiple Greek groups to discuss issues that face Ole Miss about racial diversity. The group does not want to stop with dialogue;

instead, we feel the best way to bring people together is by working in cooperation to accomplish goals.

Some of the goals Respect Mississippi has created for itself are projects which further education. The first education project is a play written by Ron McDaniel, a former intern at the Winter Institute. Once under way, the play will travel to schools around the state to teach students about the Civil Rights era.

Along with the play, students from Respect Mississippi have been helping the Winter Institute research for the current Civil Rights County Project. This project will help preserve historical information about the Civil Rights Movement in each county of Mississippi, and the compiled research will be available on the Winter Institute website in 2007.

Along with educational projects, we want to make sure the organization reaches out to the community. Our first service project will be in conjunction with Manna, a food ministry through the Episcopal Church of Ole Miss. Currently, Manna provides meals to around 100 people every Thursday. Respect Mississippi wants to add to Manna by delivering food, but then taking the next step of sitting down and eating a meal with the people to whom Manna delivers its food. We feel that, through this experience, Respect Mississippi members will gain invaluable knowledge, and the recipients of the food will have some company while eating. Eventually, we hope friendships can be formed.

Currently, Respect Mississippi is a University of Mississippi organization, but we have been talking with students at other Mississippi schools who are interested in starting chapters of Respect Mississippi to explore racial reconciliation. It is past time for our generation of Mississippians to learn that our differences are worth understanding, and the relationships reaching beyond those differences will build a stronger, better future for our great state.

Civil Rights Education and Accountability: Why Senate Bill 2718 is Important

by Deborah Duncan Owens

If I could identify one unifying theme in public education these days, it would be accountability. It's the rationale for virtually everything we do as school administrators and teachers. It's the reason test scores are so much a part of the school culture. We're accountable to society for how well our children are doing academically. We debate sometimes about how much we rely on standardized tests and how much we are narrowing our curriculum because of testing. However, I think most educators would agree that accountability is a good thing. Senate Bill 2718 represents a key link between educational accountability and legal accountability.



Deborah Owens in the classroom at Philadelphia Elementary School.

In recent years the state of Mississippi has demonstrated great courage with regard to legal accountability. The conviction of Byron De La Beckwith for the murder of Medgar Evers stood as a landmark case in a state's responsibility to bring justice to those people who fought vigorously—to the point of committing murder—to deny the civil rights of African Americans.

What followed were convictions in the murders of Vernon Dahmer in Hattiesburg, Rodney Pool in Humphreys County, Ben Chester White in Natchez, and James Chaney, Andrew Goodman, and Michael Schwerner in Neshoba County. Most recently Mississippi overturned the conviction of Clyde Kennard, an African American man who unsuccessfully attempted to enroll at the University of Southern

Mississippi and was later falsely convicted of robbery.

Additionally, the state is investigating the possibility of successfully obtaining convictions for the 1955 Emmett Till murder. Mississippi is addressing its own accountability in the violence that occurred to its citizens who simply sought voting rights and full participation in American society. Simultaneously, with the establishment of the Civil Rights Education Commission, Mississippi is addressing its responsibility for educating its students about its civil rights history.

As an educator I've been surprised and saddened by how

little our students, as well as teachers, know about Mississippi's civil rights history. While students from other states routinely travel to Mississippi to honor our civil rights leaders and learn more about our place in history, our own students know little beyond Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rosa Parks.

They don't know about the contributions made by Fannie Lou Hamer, Unita Blackwell, Medgar Evers, Aaron Henry, and Dr. Gilbert Mason, among many others. They don't know about the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, the Biloxi Beach Wade-In, Freedom Schools, and Freedom Summer.

Mississippians are proud of their literary, musical, and artistic heritage. It's time for our students to learn, and be proud of, our historical heritage, too, as part of the movement which led to the passage of the Civil Rights Act.

The people, according to Thomas Jefferson, are the "ultimate guardians of their own liberty." Public education, therefore, is necessary in order to enable citizens to judge for themselves what will secure or endanger their freedom. As educators we recognize our accountability to ensure that our students are successful academically. As a state we are likewise accountable for ensuring that our students understand their roles as citizens and members of participatory government. A civil rights curriculum is an important step in the development of a truly educated citizenry in Mississippi.

Institute Creates Will D. Campbell Lecture Series on Faith and Social Justice

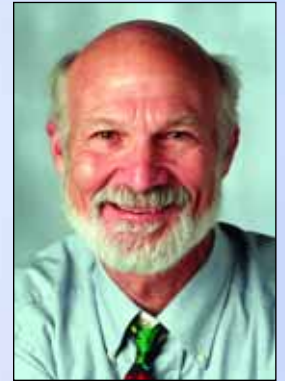
By Susan M. Glisson

Will D. Campbell is a noted author and civil rights activist. As a chaplain at UM in the 1950s, he advocated integration, a courageous decision that did not win him many friends. Upon leaving the university, Campbell became active in the civil rights movement. Among many accomplishments in that cause, he helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, escorted the Little Rock Nine into Central High School, and supported the Nashville direct action campaign.

As the movement gained momentum, Campbell became an advocate of reconciliation, encouraging movement activists to reach out to white supremacists, believing that racism harms both blacks and whites. Later, Campbell began a respected writing career, publishing such favorites as *Brother to a Dragonfly* and *And Also With You*. Through networks of

ure in matters of race.

On November 27, at UM's Oxford campus, Dr. Stanley Hauerwas inaugurated the Will D. Campbell Lecture Series on Faith and Social Justice. Hauerwas is the Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at the Divinity School of Duke University. Though he is often identified as an ethicist, Hauerwas's work is more properly described as theology. While his work involves questions many associate with ethics, his primary intent is to show in what way theological convictions make no sense unless they

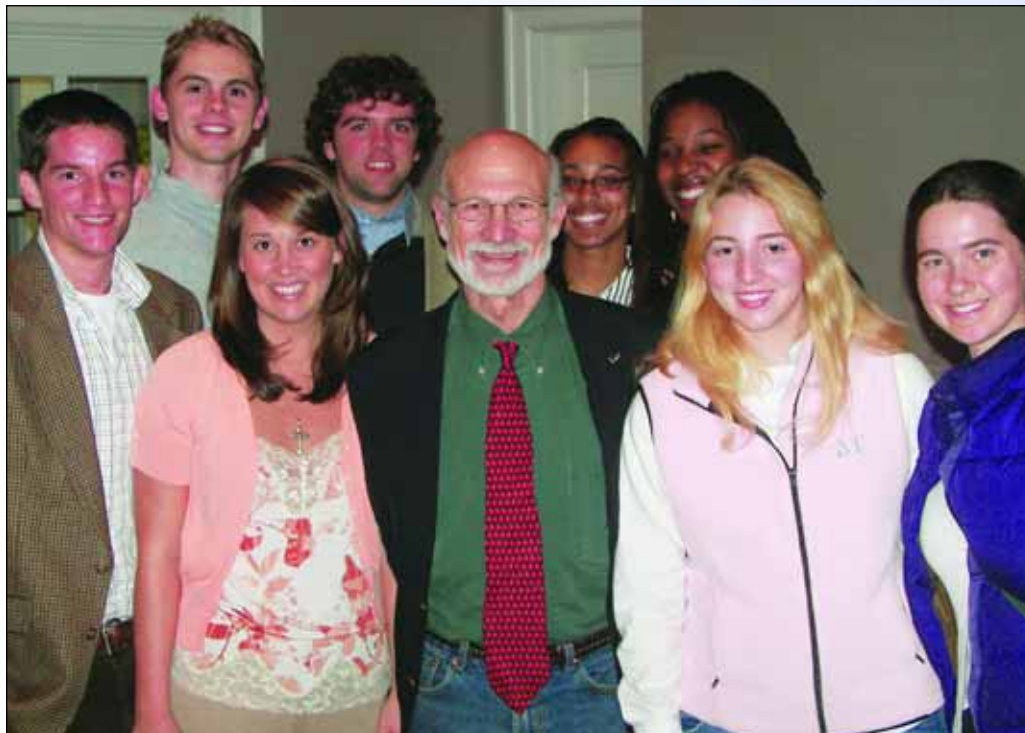


Professor Stanley Hauerwas

are actually embodied in our lives. Professor Hauerwas's publications include *The Peaceable Kingdom: A Primer in Christian Ethics*, *A Better Hope: Resources for a Church Confronting Capitalism, Democracy, and Postmodernity* and *Performing the Faith: Bonhoeffer and the Practice of Nonviolence*.

Hauerwas spoke about the legacy of Campbell's work in an essay entitled, "Race: The 'More' It Is About," which detailed Campbell's deep commitment to community and to faithfulness to the Christian gospel in matters of race. Over two hundred people attended the evening talk, which was followed by a lengthy and invigorating question and answer session. Hauerwas also spent time with undergraduates while on campus.

The event was co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Southern Culture, the First Presbyterian Church, the Reformed University Fellowship, and St. Peter's Episcopal Church.



Professor Stanley Hauerwas, speaker for the inaugural Will D. Campbell Lecture on Faith and Social Justice, met with UM students during his visit to the campus.

devoted friends and generations of students who have read his work, Campbell's influence on the national dialogue on race is immense. It is appropriate, therefore, that the Winter Institute name a lecture series for this seminal prophetic fig-

New Book Provides Sampling of Gov. William Winter's Writings

by Tobie Baker

From politics and leadership to athletics and even pets, the writings of former Gov. William Winter are available in a new book.

Spanning six decades of Winter's public service and other involvement, *The Measure of Our Days: Writings of William F. Winter* (University Press of Mississippi, 2006), presents a collection of Winter's most thoughtful writings, attesting to his progressive political and moral philosophy.

"I combed through hundreds and hundreds of Governor Winter's speeches, lectures, commentaries, articles and personal musings over a three-year period to compile this collection of timeless writings," said Andrew P. Mullins Jr., who edited the volume. "It's a must-read for anyone interested in Mississippi history, admirers of Governor Winter, progressive educators and lawmakers, and even attorneys and journalists."

Proceeds from the book are to be donated to the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation at

the University of Mississippi.

Three consistent themes emerge from Winter's writings: his commitment to workable social contract, his belief in the value of every citizen and his deep, abiding love for Mississippi, according to Mullins, executive assistant to UM Chancellor Robert Khayat and Winter's education advisor while he was governor.

Unlike many public figures, Winter penned all his own speeches, enriching the political and cultural life of Mississippi and the United States for more than five decades. He served as an infantryman in World War II, as a Mississippi House representative 1947-59, as governor of Mississippi 1980-84, as a member of President Bill Clinton's Advisory Board on Race 1997-98 and as a

longtime advocate for education and racial reconciliation.

To order the book, contact your local bookstore, or visit http://www.upress.state.ms.us/catalog/fall2006/the_measure_of_our_days.html.



Andy Mullins and William Winter met with Winter Institute staff and interns during a signing for their new book, a collection of Gov. Winter's writings.



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