



# MCSS NEWSLETTER

## MCSS FALL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN OXFORD

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### Conference Notes...

- Pre-register before October 1 and save \$10!
- A block of rooms is being held at Oxford Inn and Suites. To make your reservation, call 1.800.606.1497. Be sure to ask for the MCSS conference rate of \$89.
- Continuing Education Units will be offered to interested conference participants. The cost will be \$10 for .5 CEU's. In order to receive the CEU's, individuals must attend all conference sessions. No partial credit will be awarded.

The 2008 Mississippi Council for the Social Studies Fall Conference will be held on Thursday and Friday, October 16-17 at the Oxford Convention Center. The theme for this year's conference is *Embrace the Future*.

Beginning at 9:30 on Thursday morning, early bird arrivals will be given the option of attending a pre-conference clinic or taking an educational excursion to notable Oxford sites.. Presented by Martha Hudson from the Mississippi Geographical Alliance, the clinic, entitled *The Future is Here: Teaching Geography NOW!*, will provide ideas for teaching using creative, hands-on geography via the Teacher's Curriculum Institute GEOGRAPHY ALIVE! materials. The optional excursion will provide participants an opportunity to ride on an authentic Oxford Double Decker Bus as they visit William Faulkner's Rowan Oak, the campus of Ole Miss, and the historic Oxford Square.

The conference proper will officially begin with the Opening General Session at 1:00 p.m. at the Convention Center. Concurrent sessions and vendor displays will run throughout

Thursday afternoon. A welcome reception will be held that evening at the Downtown Inn and Suites with Mississippi author John T. Edge attending as a special guest.

Concurrent sessions and vendor displays will continue on Friday morning. Dr. Susan Glisson and Mr. David Molina of the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation will be the keynote speakers during the morning plenary session.



The conference will conclude on Friday with the annual luncheon and business meeting, during which time officer and delegate elections will be held.

To learn more about the conference, see the preliminary program inside or contact MCSS President Steven White (srwhite38@hotmail.com) or Executive Director Susie Burroughs (sburroughs@msstate.edu).



*There is wisdom in turning as often as possible from the familiar to the unfamiliar: it keeps the mind nimble, it kills prejudice, and it fosters humor.*

George Santayana  
(1863-1952)



*Life is not about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain.*

Anonymous

## Winter Institute to Conduct Plenary Session

The William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation will conduct the plenary session for the MCSS Fall Conference in Oxford. The title for the session is *Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching*. The Winter Institute will share the contexts of new scholarship on the civil rights movement that makes movement history more historically accurate and accessible to students interested in civic engagement. The session will share teaching strategies and tools for the classroom.

Dr. Susan Glisson, Executive Director and Mr. David Molina, Project Coordinator will present the timely and informative session.

In 1998, Glisson coordinated the only deep-South public forum for President Clinton's One America, an Initiative on Race, which led to the creation of the Institute for Racial Reconciliation. She

is the co-author (with Sam Chaltain and Charles Haynes) of *First Freedoms: A Documentary History of First Amendment Rights in America* (2006), and she edited *The Human Tradition in the Civil Rights Movement* (2006).

David Molina, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, came to Mississippi as a participant in the Mississippi Teacher Corps (MTC). Through MTC, he taught mathematics at Jim Hill High School in Jackson, where he and a colleague started the Jim Hill Civil Rights/Civil Liberties Club (CRCL) in an effort to maintain a space dedicated to the cultivation of critical inquiry in students. Molina's work as Project Coordinator at the Winter Institute is an expansion of the CRCL process, with a focus on developing and maintaining spaces for student criticism and inquiry throughout the state.



### **Ted Owenby: Luncheon Keynote Speaker** **Professor of History and Southern Studies** **Interim Director, Center for the Study of Southern Culture**

Ted Owenby is the author of *American Dreams in Mississippi: Consumers, Poverty, and Culture, 1830-1998* (1999) and *Subduing Satan: Religion, Recreation and Manhood in the Rural South, 1865-1920* (1990) and editor of *Black and White: Cultural Interaction in the Antebellum South* (1993). He is the editor of *Mississippi Folklife* and advisor for Southern Studies majors. He writes and teaches classes on the social and cultural history of the American South at the University of Mississippi. Dr. Owenby will deliver the Keynote Address during the Friday luncheon..

## NCSS Annual Conference to be Held in Houston, Texas

On November 14-16, 2008, National Council for the Social Studies members will come together for the 88th NCSS Annual Conference in Houston Texas. The theme for this year's conference is *Embrace the Future!* Over 400 sessions, workshops, and clinics will be conducted



NCSS, founded in 1921, is devoted solely to social studies education.

on topics related to new directions in the disciplines, 21st century themes and skills, working with diverse learners, effective instructional strategies for the social studies, promoting critical thinking and deep understanding, and

creating knowledgeable and effective citizens. Special sessions will explore such topics as teaching ESL/ELL students, global awareness, civic education, and the intersections between science and social studies for 21st century learning. Speakers will include author Firoozeh Dumas and conservative icon

William Bennett. If you've never experienced an NCSS conference, let this be the year that you attend your first conference! To learn about the conference and other benefits of becoming an NCSS member, visit [www.ncss.org](http://www.ncss.org).



*We should try to be the parents of our future rather than the offspring of our past.*

Miguel de Unamuno  
(1864-1936)

## Call for 2009 Board of Directors Nominations

Elections will be held during the annual business meeting at the fall conference for President, Vice President, and District Directors from each of the four congressional districts. Having been elected last year to a two-year term, the following Directors will remain on the Board: CD 1: Tim Carter, CD 2: Sebrina Evers, CD 3: David Houston, and CD 4: Angela Sanders.

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates for the fall ballot. To nominate yourself or someone else to be considered by the Nominating Committee as a potential candidate for the MCSS Board, submit the following information:

- (1) the position the nominee would like to be considered for (i.e., officer position or Congressional District Director)
- (2) the name and contact information of the nominee (address, telephone, e-mail)
- (3) a brief description of the nominee's qualifications for the position
- (4) names and contact information of two professional references

**Mail this information to:**

Dr. Susie Burroughs

Chair, Nominating Committee

Dept. of Curriculum and Instruction - Box 9705; Mississippi State, MS 39762

**Deadline for nominations: October 1.**

Nominees will be notified of their candidacy status by October 7.



*It is easier to lead men to combat, stirring up their passion, than to restrain them and direct them toward the patient labors of peace.*

Andre Gide  
(1869-1951)

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
FALL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION/MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
Conference Theme: *Embrace the Future*  
Oxford Convention Center - Oxford  
October 16-17, 2008

(Please type or print.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Day Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Check One:    \_\_\_\_\_ Elementary                      \_\_\_\_\_ Middle/Junior High                      \_\_\_\_\_ High School  
                                 \_\_\_\_\_ College/University                      \_\_\_\_\_ Pre-service/Student                      \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Circle the CD in which you vote:                      CD 1                      CD 2                      CD 3                      CD 4

**PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS:**

**I. To pre-register for the conference - postmark deadline October 1:**

To pre-register for the fall conference, MCSS regular members enter \_\_\_\_\_  
\$60.00 on this line. Lifetime MCSS Members enter \$40.

**II. To register for the conference - after October 1:**

To register by mail after October 1 or to register on site, MCSS regular \_\_\_\_\_  
members enter \$70 on this line. Lifetime MCSS members enter \$50.

**\*\*\* Please note:** Pre-registration or registration for the conference includes the Monday evening welcome reception, all conference sessions, the luncheon and business meeting on Tuesday, and membership dues for 2009.

**III. To renew your MCSS membership only:**

If you will be unable to attend the fall conference but would like to renew \_\_\_\_\_  
Your MCSS membership for the 2009 year, enter the appropriate amount  
on this line. (Regular: \$20—Retired or Student: \$10—Lifetime: \$100)

**Mail this form along with a check, money order, or pre-approved purchase order to:**

Joyce Newell; MCSS Treasurer; 1209 Winwood Drive; Tupelo, MS 38801

*\*\*\* Checks, money orders, and purchase orders must be made payable to MCSS. \*\*\**

**IMPORTANT REMINDERS:**

To pay by purchase order, a pre-approved purchase order must accompany your registration form when it is submitted to the Treasurer. There are no exceptions to this policy. Requests for cancellation of registration and refund of monies paid must be made in writing to the MCSS Treasurer two weeks prior to the conference.

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
FALL CONFERENCE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM**

**Conference Theme: *Embrace the Future***

**Oxford Convention Center - Oxford**

**October 16-17, 2008**

**Thursday, October 16**

8:30-9:30	MCSS Board Meeting
9:00-12:00	Vendor Set-Up (displays not open for viewing)
9:30-11:30	Optional Pre-Conference Clinic: <i>The Future is Here: Teaching Geography Now!!</i>
9:30-11:30	Optional Excursion: Double Decker Bus Tour
9:30-1:00	On-Site Conference Registration: Oxford Convention Center
1:00-1:50	Opening General Session
2:00-6:00	Vendor Alley (displays open for viewing)
2:00-2:50	Concurrent Session #1
3:00-3:50	Concurrent Sessions #2
4:00-4:50	Concurrent Sessions #3
4:00-6:00	On-Site Conference Registration
6:00-8:00	Welcome Reception: Downtown Inn and Suites

**Friday, October 17**

8:30-11:00	Vendor Alley (displays open for viewing)
8:30-9:20	Concurrent Sessions #4
9:30-10:20	Plenary Session: <i>Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching</i>
10:30-11:20	Concurrent Sessions #5
11:30-1:00	Luncheon, Business Meeting, and Closing Session

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**Concurrent Sessions**

- First Timer's Session
- No Child Left Inside: Go Outside and Teach Geography!
- Social Studies Textbooks: How They Represent the Middle East
- Food is the Best Way to Explore Other Cultures and Economies
- Learn How to Achieve Measurable Economic and Financial Literacy
- West Africa's LITERARY Heritage: From Timbuktu to Jackson State University
- Using Primary Source Materials to Interact with History
- Developing Trends in Hispanic Representation of US History Books
- Complexity, Adaptive Education, and Global Studies
- Technology - A Key Component of Effective Social Studies Instruction
- Introducing the Mississippi Heritage Trust Mississippi Historic Preservation Curriculum
- Pre AP Social Studies for Middle School
- Seize Asia: Bringing Japan to the classroom
- Strange Things in Geography
- Professional Development Opportunities for Social Studies Teachers
- We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution
- Representative Democracy in America
- Project Citizen

**MISSISSIPPI COUNCIL FOR THE SOCIAL STUDIES  
THE JESSE PALMER SOCIAL STUDIES  
EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

The Mississippi Council for the Social Studies invites nominations of educators to be considered for the 2008 Jesse Palmer Social Studies Educator of the Year Award. Established in memory of Dr. Jesse Palmer, this award is given each year to an educator who demonstrates exemplary knowledge, skills, and dispositions in promoting quality social studies education in Mississippi schools.

To be considered for this award, an educator must have at least three years of teaching experience, be currently involved in a social studies-related profession, and submit an application packet that includes the following:

**I. Vitae**

- A. Name and contact information (address, phone number, e-mail)
- B. Current and past education-related employment
- C. Educational background (degrees held, specialized training, other)
- D. Positions of leadership held (professional, civic, other)
- E. Honors and awards received
- F. Participation in professional organizations (memberships, service, other)
- G. Workshops, seminars, professional development of note (organized, presented, attended)
- H. Other relevant information as deemed appropriate

**II. Questionnaire (Answer each of the following in a paragraph or more.)**

- A. Why did you choose to become a professional educator?
- B. What is your philosophy of teaching?
- C. What is your approach to social studies education?
- D. In what ways do you “go above and beyond” to be the best professional you can be?

**III. Supporting Documentation**

- A. Letter of recommendation from a current supervisor
- B. Letter of recommendation from a current colleague
- C. Letter of recommendation from a current or former student

**To be considered as an award recipient for this calendar year,  
application packets must be postmarked no later than October 1 and mailed to:**

MCSS Awards Committee  
Bill Patrick, Chair  
228 Melbourne Rd  
Jackson MS 39206

**Questions about this application process should be e-mailed to Bill Patrick at  
BOLEP02@aol.com**

## Update from the Mississippi Department of Education Social Studies Specialist

### Social Studies Curriculum Update

The 2008-2009 school year is upon us and the Mississippi Department of Education Office of Curriculum and Instruction is embarking upon a total overhaul of the Social Studies Curriculum Framework K-12. This process will take anywhere between 18-24 months, with an anticipated pilot year of 2010-2011. The revision committees are hard at work looking at national standards, innovative design methods, and content to devise a framework that is more in depth, rigorous, and engaging for students.

### U. S. S. A. T. P. Update

The United States History Subject Area Testing Program will not be affected by the curriculum revision process this year. The test blueprint and practice tests are available online at the MDE web

site (<http://www.mde.k12.ms.us>). These documents are great resources to help prepare students for the test.

### History Teacher of the Year Update

Congratulations goes to Mr. Charles Yarborough, history teacher at the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, for being awarded the 2007-2008 Gilder-Lehrman *Preserve America* History Teacher of the Year for the state of Mississippi. Mr. Yarborough will receive \$1,000.00 from the Gilder-Lehrman Foundation and the media center at MSMS will receive some great history resources from the foundation as well. Mr. Yarborough is now eligible to apply for National History Teacher of the Year honors.

*Chauncey Spears*  
MDE Social Studies Specialist

## In the Author's Corner...

### Mississippi Author John T. Edge

John T. Edge will be a special guest at the MCSS Fall Conference. His work for *Saveur* and other magazines has been featured in every edition of the *Best Food Writing* compilation since 2001. He has been nominated for four James Beard Foundation Awards and was a 2004 finalist for the M.F.K. Fisher Distinguished Writing Award, also from the James Beard Foundation. Edge holds a master's degree in Southern Studies from the University of Mississippi, where his thesis was on "potlikker." Edge is director of the Southern Foodways Alliance, an institute of the Center for the Study of Southern Culture at the University of Mississippi.



Edge has a number of books to his credit, including the James Beard Award-nominated cookbook, *A Gracious Plenty: Recipes and Recollections from the American South*. In addition, he is the editor of the foodways volume of the *Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*.

Edge serves as culinary curator for the weekend edition of NPR's *All Things Considered*. He has been featured on dozens of television shows, including *CBS Sunday Morning* and *Iron Chef*. Edge lives in Oxford, Mississippi, with his son, Jess, and his wife, Blair Hobbs, a teacher and painter. To learn more about Mr. Edge, visit his website at [www.johntedge.com](http://www.johntedge.com).

**Dr. Susie Burroughs**  
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SOCIAL STUDIES,  
AN AFFILIATE OF  
THE NATIONAL  
COUNCIL FOR THE  
SOCIAL STUDIES

**Visit us on the web at:**  
**<http://mcss.org.msstate.edu>**

## F.Y.I.

- Looking for fascinating, free social studies activities? Visit <http://www.free.ed.gov>. There you will find lesson plans that invite students to examine George Washington's annotated copy of an early draft of the Constitution, to compare Thomas Jefferson's original draft of the Declaration of Independence to the final document. You will also find *Historians on America*, which considers 11 developments that altered the course of U.S. history, including: the trial of John Peter Zenger and the birth of freedom of the press, the Constitutional Convention, George Washington's concept of a limited Presidency, the Interstate Highway System, and the G.I. Bill of Rights. You will also find U.S. Institute of Peace publications that feature analyses and policy recommendations on current international affairs issues, such as Iran's international politics and influence in the Middle East.
- *The American Promise* series tells the story of individuals meeting the challenges of democracy. The accompanying standards-based teaching guide suggests ways for teachers to use the series in their classrooms. Visit <http://www.farmers.com/FarmComm/AmericanPromise/index.html> to learn more and to order the kit.
- This fall, *Facing History and Ourselves* is offering an 8-week facilitated on-line seminar, "Holocaust and Human Behavior." Participants gain full access to the in-depth professional development services, curricular resources, and ongoing support and may earn graduate credits. Dates: of the seminar are September 25-November 19 and October 16-December 17. To learn more, visit <http://www.facinghistory.org/OnlineSeminar>.
- Training is available for teachers to learn how to use the Mississippi Stock Market Game program. The classroom program is an effective tool to teach students about the free enterprise system. Teachers attending the no-cost training receive .5 CEU's along with the curriculum. For information, contact Dr. Pam Smith at (601) 974-1325.
- "The Geography of Mississippi" by Martha Hutson is the September feature in *Mississippi History Now*. The article is accompanied by a lesson plan by Karla Smith. *Mississippi History Now* is the online publication (<http://mshistory.k12.ms.us>) of the Mississippi Historical Society and the Mississippi Department of Education. More than 100 articles on the state's history, along with lesson plans, are archived on the site.