



David Abney is a Delta State University alumnus who serves as COO of UPS.

DSU to present sixth annual international business symposium

Delta State University and the College of Business will present the 6th Annual International Business Symposium a two day event Monday, April 4th and Tuesday, April 5th.

The general session is scheduled for Monday, April 4th from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in Jobe Hall Auditorium on the main campus. The event will continue on Tuesday, April 5th with two question and answer sessions (9:25 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. and 10:50 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.).

The theme of this year's event is "Network Globally: Achieve Greatness" and is aimed at emphasizing the importance of creating a global network to achieve one's highest goals.

Delta State alumni and Chief Operating Officer of UPS, David Abney, a 1976 graduate, who sponsors the annual event with his wife, Sherry, is delighted to return to the Mississippi Delta to share with the students of Delta State University and members of the Cleveland community networking strategies critical for success in today's highly competitive business environment.

Joining Abney as guest presenters are Rice Powell and Andrew Gaston.

Powell is Deputy Chairman of the Management Board for Fresenius Medical Care and Chief Executive Officer of Fresenius Medical Care North America (FMCNA) effective January 1, 2010. He joined Fresenius Medical Care in 1997 and was appointed co-CEO of FMCNA in January 2004. He has 30 years of experience in the health-care industry. From 1978 to 1996 he held various positions at Baxter International Inc., Biogen Inc., and Ergo Sciences Inc. in the United States.

Gaston is President of East Mississippi Lumber Company, a retail hardware and building materials co-operation founded by his father in 1938. He is active in the Starkville community having served on the Boards of Habitat for Humanity, Starkville/MSU Symphony, and the Greater Starkville Development Partnership. He is past President of the Starkville Rotary Club and the Starkville Area Arts Council which presented him the highly coveted Award of Excellence in 2009.

This event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Carla A. Johnson at 662-846-4234.