

DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Unit Strategic Plan and Annual Report -- Academic Year 2007-08

_____Academic Unit xx Administrative/Support Unit

I. Unit Title: Center for Community and Economic Development

School/College or University Division: Academic Affairs

Unit Administrator: Deborah G. Moore

II. Educational Program Learning Outcome Assessment Plan (*Academics*)

Learner Outcomes identified for the major.

A. Learning Outcome <i>What should a graduate in the _____ (fill in major here) _____ major know, value, or be able to do at graduation and beyond?</i>	B. Data Collection & Analysis <i>1. What assessment tools and/or methods will you use to determine achievement of the learning outcome? 2. Describe how the data from these tools and/or methods will be/have been collected. 3.Explain the procedure to analyze the data.</i>	C. Results of Evaluation <i>What were the findings of the analysis?</i>	D. Use of Evaluation Results <i>1.List any specific recommendations. 2. Describe changes in curriculum, courses, or procedures that are proposed or were made/ are being made as a result of the program learning outcome assessment process.</i>
n/a			
n/a			

III. Goals

-- For the Current Year

A. **Goal # 1:** To revitalize communities by providing effective and efficient programs in community service for youth, mentors, emerging leaders, local government and non-profit organizations.

1. Institutional Goal which was supported by this goal:

SP Goal # 5 or QEP Goal # : [quote the goal(s) here] The citizens of the region will benefit from increases in university outreach, service, and partnership initiatives.

2. Evaluation Procedure(s): Center staff, faculty associates and graduate students are providing technical assistance for community and economic development projects in Delta communities. These processes are evaluated through the Institute for Community Based Research and other outside evaluators.

3. Actual Results of Evaluation: Communities are revitalized as a result of programs developed through the assistance of the Center. Through the MDLEY program and the VISTA program, organizations are receiving capacity building assistance. Through partnerships established as a result of the America Reads and Mississippi Delta Service Corps programs, communities and organizations are receiving the benefit of having direct service AmeriCorps members serving with their organizations. The BEEP program provides breast health education to residents in Bolivar County as well as breast clinicals and mammograms. The Institute for Community Based Research involves communities in action based participatory research to determine the most viable solution to problems in their communities. The Delta Rural Poll takes the perception of residents in eleven counties in the Mississippi Delta and reports this information to policy makers and during scholarly presentations.

4. Use of Evaluation Results: The results of the evaluations are used to strengthen the programs, report to the funders and to apply or reapply for additional programs.

B. **Goal #2.** . . . To build partnerships with communities, regional organizations, community colleges, the private sector and other institutions of higher education that will create a sense of community, which is consistent with the Center's Mission.

1. Institutional Goal which was supported by this goal:

SP Goal # 5 or QEP Goal # : [quote the goal(s) here] The citizens of the region will benefit from increases in university outreach, service, and partnership initiatives.

2. Evaluation Procedure(s): Increased opportunities for program development and organizations and program sustainability.

3. Actual Results of Evaluation: Partners complete an evaluation of the Center and its work which indicates 99% of the partnerships that are developed are beneficial to the partnering organization.

4. Use of Evaluation Results: To develop new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships.

-- For Coming Year(s)

A. **Goal # 1:** To deliver services and programs that maintain the identify of individuals, promote inclusion and foster appreciation among all members of the University and the Delta region.

1. Institutional Goal(s) supported by this goal:

SP Goal # 5 QEP Goal # : [quote the goal(s) here] The citizens of the region will benefit from increases in university outreach, service, and partnership initiatives.

2. Evaluation Procedure(s): Focus groups, workshop evaluations, efficacy survey.

3. Expected Results: (i.e. improvement percentages, increase/decrease in numbers, measurable data.) Increase in the number of partnerships and the number of individuals who can benefit from the services of the Center.

4. Anticipated/Intended Uses of Evaluation Results: To determine a more specific target audience and identify additional needs the Center needs to address.

B. **Goal #2:** To develop marketing strategies that will increase the awareness and value of the Center to the community.

1. Institutional Goal(s) supported by this goal:

SP Goal # 4 QEP Goal # : [quote the goal(s) here] Friends of Delta State University, along with the general public, will become more aware and more supportive of the institution.

2. Evaluation Procedure(s): To increase the visibility of the Center and its programs through the webpage, newsletters, portfolios and brochures.

3. Expected Results: (i.e. improvement percentages, increase/decrease in numbers, measurable data.) Through making the public more aware of the Center and its programs, the Center will be able to provide assistance to a wider variety of communities in the MS Delta.

4. Anticipated/Intended Uses of Evaluation Results: To determine a more specific target audience and identify additional needs the Center needs to address.

IV. Data and information for department:

Brief Description and/or Narrative of programmatic scope:

The Center for Community and Economic Development was established in August of 1994 to create a proactive stance in the University to address major development issues facing the region. The Delta State University Center for Community and Economic Development pursues excellence in its programs and activities as it seeks to improve the quality of life for the citizens of the Delta. The Center encourages faculty and staff of Delta State University to develop and conduct practical research projects, to provide public service educational programs, and to provide technical assistance to public and private sector organizations. The Center emphasizes on-campus teamwork and collaboration and seeks to develop partnerships with other private and public sector organizations and agencies with vested interests in leadership development and in community and economic development in the Delta region. The Center staff believes in the importance of education and in the power of all individuals, families, groups and institutions to act collectively to meet the needs of their communities.

The Center for Community and Economic Development serves as one of the arms through which Delta State University fulfills its regional mission. It crosses racial, economic and class divisions in strengthening and assisting communities in making their dreams and vision come alive. The Center supports Delta State University and community initiatives through research and by promoting partnerships and networking opportunities with other organizations in the region. The Center brings businesses, citizens, educational leaders, public officials, institutions of higher learning, and faculty together to develop innovative solutions to problems. Delta State University, through the Center, is showing that institutions of higher learning can be a driving force in helping to support community and economic development.

The Center's staff represents an array of diverse talents and backgrounds further enhancing its ability to provide effective programming and resources to the Delta. A general overview of the Center's programs is provided below with accomplishments of the 2007-2008 academic year:

AMERICORPS PROGRAMS

America Reads-Mississippi (ARM) is the largest AmeriCorps program in the State of Mississippi and addresses the AmeriCorps area of education. The mission is to improve the reading skills of students, encourage public awareness and the support of literacy, and helps to improve the number of certified teachers in Mississippi. Regional partnerships include five (5) universities: Alcorn State University, Delta State University, Jackson State University, Mississippi State University and University of Southern Mississippi. In addition, ARM has maintained strong partnering relationships with Barksdale Reading Institute, Early Childhood Institute, Head Start, Mississippi Commission for Volunteer Service, Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi Emergency Management Agency, Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, Mississippi Red Cross, and 80 schools across the state. The DSU region was awarded 50 members who serve in five school districts and seventeen school sites. On July 31, 2008, America Reads-Mississippi will have successfully completed its 10th year of operation.

ARM AmeriCorps teams at school sites tutor over 800 students full-time one-on-one and in small groups during the school day, before and after school, over school breaks, and in the summer. Annual statewide gain (on average) in reading has increased 1.5-2.5 reading levels for tutored students.

The DSU-ARM program spends \$477,300.00 for living allowances paid to 43 stipend AmeriCorps members at \$920.00 per month for 12 months or \$11,100.00 per year. Over 80% of these members are single parents and this living allowance serves as the only cash income within the household. Health insurance is provided to stipend members at no cost to the members. The DSU-ARM program spends \$56,892.00 for health care insurance (43 members paid at \$110.25 per member for 12 months). Liability insurance is included as a benefit for all AmeriCorps members at a cost of \$9,420.00 per year, 43 stipend members at \$18.25 per month and at \$5.05 per month for 7 district teacher assistants. Lack of adequate childcare and the inability to pay for services have hindered many people from maintaining employment. Stipend members are eligible (based on household income) for childcare voucher payments through the Corporation for National and Community Service. The DSU-ARM region currently has 13 stipend members enrolled providing childcare services to small children for the program year. Teachers have reported significant improvements in grades, class work, behavior, school attitudes, and attendance as a result of the individualized tutoring.

Member development is an important component of ARM. During the course of the program year members are required to attend monthly trainings in professional skills, personal development skills, and citizenship and civic engagement. Members leave the program with job readiness skills, work experience, and established long-term goals. Upon completion of 1700 hours per year, all AmeriCorps members earn \$4,725.00 in the form of an education award voucher. The DSU Region estimates awarding 46 members education awards this program year totaling \$217,350.00. The DSU Region has 11 members who have served in the program for 2 years and received an Associate Degree and/or Bachelors Degree.

Volunteer recruitment and community involvement is a vital part of the ARM program and is strongly encouraged. During this program year, ARM members in the DSU region alone, have recruited over 4,000 volunteers to assist with literacy and school related activities serving over 9,000 hours. In addition, members recruited 3,000 volunteers to assist with the four major National Service Day projects benefiting 8,000 people and involving 2,000 school students.

The America Reads-Mississippi Program has been continuously awarded funding for continuation. Each year, our program has exceeded the desired performance measures. ARM continues to be recognized as a national “model program” by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the largest program of its kind. To better serve our schools and communities, ARM has included a wellness component and disaster preparedness training to the member curriculum. In addition, ARM has developed an AmeriCorps alumnus.

Mississippi Delta Service Corps (MDSC) AmeriCorps program is based at the Center for Community and Economic Development at Delta State University in Cleveland, MS. It is part of a bi-state initiative that falls under the umbrella of the Lower Mississippi Delta Service Corps. Members of the program assist in making communities across the Mississippi Delta safer, healthier, better educated and more united.

The MDSC program received \$276,000.00 in funding from the Corporation for National and Community Service for the 2007-2008 service year. Twenty-three members were allotted to the program to serve in the area of tutoring, adequate and affordable housing, family service, youth enrichment and community education. Eighteen of the twenty members allotted will complete the program this year. Each will have received a \$11,100 living allowance and a post-educational award of \$4,725.00.

The program is economically important to DSU because **\$255,300** of expendable income is being brought into the region as well as **\$108,675.00** of educational award monies that members will use to attend institutions of higher learning. A large majority of our members attend Delta State University.

As of July 31, 2008, Mississippi Delta Service Corps (MDSC) has **23 members** serving in **9 counties** throughout the Delta. MDSC has collected **\$104,715.80 in-kind**. MDSC members have recruited and trained **2,155 community volunteers** who have donated **55,878 hours** of their time toward volunteering in local communities. Based on the value of service from the Economic Report of the President, at \$18.04 per hour, these volunteers gave **\$1,008,039.10** of their time to local organizations. Three MDSC members have assisted with the construction of **seven (7) affordable low income houses** in Clarksdale, Jonestown and Tutwiler. Thirteen MDSC members have assisted **546 youth** in various youth enrichment activities such as: arts and craft, tutoring, homework assistance, sports and recreational and cultural enrichment. Three MDSC members who serve as community educators have provided **homeowner**

training to 280 homeowner/potential homeowner in Sunflower, Humphrey, Washington and Holmes County. They have also distributed information about community risks and programs offered through their agency to **3,366 community members.**

Mississippi Delta Service Corps/AmeriCorps*VISTA (VISTA) The Center for Community and Economic Development at Delta State University received a grant in the amount of \$443,553.00 from the Corporation for National & Community Service for the 2006 – 2007 program year to continue the Mississippi Delta Service Corps (MDSC)/AmeriCorps*VISTA Program.

The MDSC/AmeriCorps*VISTA Program is comprised of twenty-three full-time VISTA members and eleven full-time Summer Associates who serve with programs to create and expand opportunities for low-income individuals in the following areas: (1) financial asset development; (2) welfare to work; (3) public health; and (4) children and youth. Through their service in these four focus areas, low-income communities will achieve long-lasting antipoverty objectives, partnerships will be promoted between public and private sectors, volunteers will be recruited and trained, resources will be mobilized to support the project, and communities will have the capacity to be self-sustainable.

Each VISTA member receives a \$9,996.00 subsistence allowance; the choice of a \$4,725.00 education award (\$1,000.00 for Summer Associates) or a \$1,200.00 year end stipend which yields approximately \$348,824.08 (This number is based on 18 members choosing the education award and 5 choosing the stipend) of expendable income for this region. VISTA members are assigned to 16 partnering organizations in 6 counties in the Mississippi Delta.

For the 2007-2008 service year, 1,805 community members have been recruited and trained to assist with the VISTA projects and have served a total of 11,348 hours. Based on the value of service from the Economic Report of the President, at \$18.04 per hour, these volunteers gave \$204,717.92 of their time to local communities, benefiting over 7,000 people. VISTA members solicited over \$328,778.00 dollars of in-kind and donated goods and services this service year.

Breast Education Early-Detection Project (BEEP) The Center for Community and Economic Development, Delta State University's School of Nursing, Delta Health Center in Mound Bayou, MS, Bolivar County, Bolivar Medical Center, Leaders of Delta Health and Wellness, and the AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America) program implemented a year round Breast Education and Early Detection Project in 2007.

The project's mission is: ***“Eradicating Breast Cancer as a Life-Threatening Disease by Advancing Education and Early Detection”***. This project is an innovative and effective approach to eradicating breast cancer; thereby increasing the number of women who adopt early detection methods. The approach targets a population of low-income women in communities that have limited access to preventive health services and links them to services that will address their breast health needs.

Workshops are held throughout Bolivar County and are open to the general public. One-hundred low-income, underinsured, at-risk participants, county wide, will be eligible to receive free breast screenings. Scholarships are also made available in the amount of \$25.00 for fifty of the participants to assist with transportation. Funding for this program is made possible by the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Breast Cancer Foundation. Accomplishments for 2007:

- 35 Education Workshops held in Bolivar County
- 6 Health fairs
- 48 Mammograms
- 48 Clinical Breast Exams
- 48 Transportation Stipends
- 75% increase in monthly self-breast exams
- Served over 700 Bolivar County residents
- Hosted Komen RV where over 150 individuals received information
- October 1-6 proclaimed Breast Cancer Awareness Week for Bolivar County by Bolivar County Board of Supervisors
- Raised over \$10,000 in cash to supplement the program

- Hosted week long events October 1-6 for Breast Cancer Awareness
 - October 1, 2007 - **Kick-Off Day**, 10:30 a.m., Bologna Performing Arts Center Parking lot. A representative from the Board of Supervisors in Bolivar County and a representative from the Susan G. Komen Foundation for the Cure Breast Cancer Foundation were present to declare the week as Breast Cancer Awareness Week.

 - October 2, 2007 – **Paint the County Pink** – Ribbons were displayed and worn throughout all the municipalities in Bolivar County the entire week. Businesses displayed pink ribbons in their windows.

 - October 3, 2007- **Professional Women’s Breakfast, Invitation Only**, Delta State University Alumni House, 8 a.m.

 - October 4, 2007 – **Survivors/Memorial Day/Doctors Panel Discussion**, Delta State University Alumni House, 9 a.m.

 - October 5, 2007 – **Come Walk With Us – B.E.E.P. Walk**, 11:00 a.m., Delta State University Green Mile. Lunch was served to all walkers free of charge, courtesy of Lenny’ Sub Shop. Faculty, staff, students and community members walked the BEEP Walk on the Green Mile. We also celebrated B.E.E.P. Denim Day – all local businesses, schools, etc were asked to permit employees to wear blue jeans to work for a \$5.00 donation

October 6, 2007 – Delta State University Game – **Delta State University vs. Arkansas Tech** at 6 p.m. The Athletics Department had activities scheduled to support breast cancer awareness. Everyone that wore pink to the game got in free. The stadium was painted pink, all cancer survivors were recognized at the pre-game show. The players wore pink ribbons on their helmets. The cheerleaders also wore pink ribbons.

Delta Rural Poll (DRP) serves the people of the Mississippi Delta by collecting data for researchers to use in policy oriented research. Dr. Alan Barton has directed the Delta Rural Poll since its inception in 2003, in collaboration with a Coordinating Committee that consists of DSU faculty members. The Coordinating Committee added two new faculty members this past year: Dr. Leslie Fadiga-Stewart and Dr. Debarashmi Mitra, both assistant professors in the Division of Social Sciences.

Eric Atchison, a graduate student in the Community Development program, worked as a graduate assistant on the Delta Rural Poll project during the 2007–08 school year. Mr. Atchison was supported by a Hearin Fellowship through the Division of Social Sciences. He assisted in data collection and analysis, particularly on qualitative research building on the heritage tourism questions drawn from the 2005 survey. This is Mr. Atchison’s second year collaborating with the Delta Rural Poll.

In January, 2007, the Delta Rural Poll conducted its third biennial survey. Dr. Alan Barton prepared a report, issued in December, 2007, that summarized the data from this survey. The report is titled “The 2007 Delta Rural Poll: Methods and Characteristics of the Sample” and is Research Paper No. 07-01 in the DRP series. The paper can be found on the Delta Rural Poll webpage.

During the 2007-08 year, faculty and graduate students used data from the 2007 Delta Rural Poll in a number of research projects. Some of the products from these projects include an article in the journal *Sociological Spectrum* entitled “Socioeconomic Resources and Self-Rated Health: A Study in the Mississippi Delta.” The article was authored by John J. Green, Katie Kerstetter and Albert B. Nylander, and appeared in the March-April, 2008 issue (Vol. 28, No. 2).

The Delta Rural Poll also issued a Policy Brief in December, 2007, with the title “Attitudes About Smoking Bans in the Mississippi Delta,” authored by Alan W. Barton. Dr. Barton presented the results from this study at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association, held in Starkville, MS on February 21-22, 2008.

Graduate student Sharon Nguyen used data from the 2007 Delta Rural Poll in a practicum project, completed during Fall semester, 2007. She presented the results from her project at the Addressing Community Challenges by Empowering Students and Staff (ACCESS) Presentation and Recognition Ceremony, held at the CCED on November 29, 2007. The title of Ms. Nguyen’s practicum

project is “Exploring Youth Centers in the Mississippi Delta: Approaches for Community Action to Increase Involvement in Youth Centers.”

From October 24-27, 2007, several faculty members and graduate students attended the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Mid-South Sociological Association in Mobile, AL. At these meetings, Dr. John Green, Eleanor M. Green and Mechelle Wallace presented a paper using data from the DRP. The paper was titled “Framing Health, Sickness and Well-Being: A Comparative Exploratory Study” and was presented in the session on African American Health Outcomes. Dr. Alan Barton presented a paper on “Heritage Tourism in the Mississippi Delta: The Potential for Uneven Community Development,” using data from the 2005 Delta Rural Poll.

Alan Barton and Community Development graduate Sarah Leonard gave two professional presentations during 2008, based on work they have done on civil rights tourism in the Delta. They drew upon data from the 2005 Delta Rural Poll in these presentations. The first presentation was given at the 4th Annual Research and Scholarship Symposium, held on the Delta State campus from April 15-16, 2008. This presentation was called “Civil Rights, Heritage Tourism and Community Development in the Mississippi Delta.” In July, 2008, Dr. Barton and Ms. Leonard traveled to Manchester, NH to deliver a paper at the 71st Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, called “Civil Rights Tourism in the Mississippi Delta: A Viable Option for Racial Reconciliation?”

Alan Barton and graduate student Eric Atchison presented a paper titled “Ecotourism as a Community Development Strategy in the Mississippi Delta: Insights from Land Managers” at the 70th Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, held in Santa Clara, CA, between August 2-5, 2007. The paper was part of a session on the Tourism and Amenity Issues in Rural Areas, and drew on the heritage tourism questions from the 2005 Delta Rural Poll.

Using data from the 2007 Delta Rural Poll, Alan Barton created a poster titled “Perceptions of Social Problems in the Mississippi Delta.” This poster has been on display in the hallways of both Kethley Hall, in the Social Sciences Division, and the University Archives, in the Social Work Department. In addition, the poster was displayed at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association in Starkville, MS from February 21-22, 2008, and at the 4th Annual Delta Research and Scholarship Symposium held at DSU from April 15-16, 2008.

Dr. Barton also revamped the Delta Rural Poll webpage over the past year. The webpage, which can be linked from the CCED homepage (<http://www.deltastate.edu/pages/426.asp>) features a new look and easy-to-access pages that summarize data from the DRP. Pages include data on attitudes about heritage tourism and visitation to heritage tourism sites, both from the 2005 survey, and social capital indicators, perceptions of social problems, and attitudes about smoking bans from the 2007 DRP. There is also a page that compares demographic indicators from the 2003, 2005 and 2007 Delta Rural Polls. The webpage also features links to all of the

papers and policy briefs produced by the Delta Rural Poll, annual reports, a paper and a slideshow that introduce the Delta Rural Poll, and information on the faculty members that work with the Delta Rural Poll.

The Delta Rural Poll also reapplied for approval from the Delta State University Institutional Review Board (IRB) during Fall semester, 2007. The Delta Rural Poll originally received clearance from the IRB in 2003, and has filed annual Continuing Review reports since then. This year, the DRP filed a new application for a full IRB review. Approval for the DRP project was granted by the IRB of February 25, 2008.

Institute for Community Based Research (ICBR) The 2007-2008 year was one of great activity within the Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research. As a group of faculty, students and community development practitioners, the Institute works with diverse nonprofit organizations and foundations to use research to inform social, economic and health improvement initiatives. Partnerships continue to deepen at the same time as the network expands. As documented in this brief summary report, the Institute has been rather productive, positioning itself well as a leader in the state and region on participatory and action oriented research.

Significant successes and positive changes within the Institute over the course of the past year include the following.

- The Institute sponsored the Second Annual Recognition and Scholarship Banquet to celebrate and raise funds for the Community Development Student Research Fund housed in the Delta State University Foundation. Fundraising activities topped \$3,000. Monies from the previous year's activities were used to support research projects for five students.
- After the pilot course taught in spring 2007, the Addressing Community Challenges by Empowering Students and Staff (ACCESS) course was offered again in fall 2007 and spring 2008. Combining numbers from both semesters, there were 11 Community Development graduate students who went through the course for practicum credit, and they worked with a total of nine different partner organizations.
- Building from its success with the Delta Hospital Emergency Room Survey (described in the next section), the Institute was asked by the Mississippi Primary Health Care Association to participate in a funded project to survey nonemergency patients at three to five hospital emergency rooms. If the design and budget are approved, data collection for this project will take place in fall 2008.
- The Institute continues its work with the Dreyfus Health Foundation for assessment and evaluation, and has expanded this to a new project to assess the community economic development potential and challenges for alternative food-based businesses

(e.g. farmers markets, locally-owned restaurants) that may generate income and help to improve access to nutritious foods. DHF has assigned an intern working in Clarksdale, MS to this project, and it is providing funds to the Institute to cover the cost of a graduate assistantship.

- The Institute expanded its Mississippi Gulf Coast collaboration with Southeastern Louisiana University, the University of Michigan, Coastal Women for Change and Visions of Hope. A survey was conducted in Biloxi and Gulfport on recovery issues from Hurricane Katrina. Additionally, a joint proposal was submitted to the Centers for Disease Control to continue this and other initiatives. A proposal to the National Institutes of Health is in progress.
- As recognition of the Institute's work on the Gulf Coast in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Green was asked to participate in the Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN). A meeting of the group was held in Nashville, TN.
- Over the course of the year, the Institute partnered with researchers, the Center for Community and Economic Development and nonprofit organizations to submit proposals for support of projects beyond those listed above. Submissions were made to the Delta Health Alliance and U.S. Department of Agriculture, among others.
- Institute researchers co-authored papers and presentations across disciplinary boundaries. For instance, a team of community sociologists and public health researchers published a peer-reviewed article together and are involved in presentations at the professional conferences of their respective disciplines.
- Looking toward the future, the Institute has been going through a strategic planning process to address current capacity, future needs and resources. The plan is expected to be formalized and put into action over the course of this next year. Important changes involve: movement toward creating a "virtual research center" to include partners nationally and internationally, organization of specialty units (e.g. capacity building and monitoring/evaluation), creation of a Research Fellows designation for consultants, and incorporation of the Delta Rural Poll within the Institute structure.
- Institute Director Dr. John J. Green was awarded tenure and promotion. He is now Associate Professor of Sociology and Community Development.
- Dr. Green was awarded the Delta State University Foundation Award for Excellence in Research. Dr. Alan Barton, Director of the Delta Rural Poll, was also recognized through an Excellence in Research Award.

- Dr. Green was chosen as President-Elect of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association. He will play a leadership role with the 2008 meeting to be held at Jacksonville State University (AL) in his capacity as President-Elect. The Division of Social Sciences and Institute will host the meetings on the campus of Delta State University during his term of President for the 2009 meeting.
- Dr. Green was elected to a two-year term on the Council of the Rural Sociological Society.

Active Projects

The Institute is involved with a wide variety of projects and programs linking development, food security and health. The following is a list of selected efforts from the previous year. They are in alphabetical order by project name. (Some of these projects span the course of more than one year.)

Addressing Community Challenges by Empowering Students and Staff (ACCESS) in the Mississippi Delta. This project provides training and guidance to graduate students to work with nonprofit organizations to develop and implement assessment and evaluation projects. Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research. Funded by the American Sociological Association's Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy.

Delta Hospital Emergency Room Survey. The purpose of this project has been to assess the structural and cultural reasons for parents bringing children to a hospital emergency room for so-called non-emergency reasons. The analysis is being used to inform planning for interventions to expand access to non-emergency care. Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research in Partnership with the Children's Health Fund. Funded by the Children's Health Fund.

Enhancing the Capacity of Nonprofit Organizations in the Aftermath of Disaster. This project involved assessment of community organizations working on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, providing technical assistance and training, mini-grants for organizational improvement, and engaging in on-going empowerment evaluation. Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research in Partnership with the Southeastern Louisiana University Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice and the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Funded by the Foundation for the Mid South.

Evaluation of Mississippi Delta Leaders Empowering Youth (MDLEY). This project seeks to develop the capacity of nonprofit organizations and their leaders to better work with youth. It includes assessment of community organizations working in the Mississippi Delta, providing technical assistance and training, mini-grants for organizational improvement, and engaging in on-going empowerment evaluation. Delta State University Center for Community and Economic Development in Partnership with the Mississippi Center for Nonprofits and Institute for Community-Based Research. Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Evaluation of the Reducing Risk Exposure and Increasing Health and Safety through Farmworker-Farmer Partnership Training Project. As a strategy to improve the health of farmworkers, this project sought to provide training for farmers, managers and farmworkers on workplace safety, using participatory and action oriented methods. Rural Coalition and Community-Based Partner Organizations. Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Risk Management Agency.

Exploratory Study of Health Among Delta State University Students. Based on a survey of students, this project is intended to inform campus leaders on health and safety concerns in need of attention. Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research in Partnership with J. Alvarez (DSU Health, Physical Education and Recreation) and C. Smithhart (DSU Physical and Biological Sciences). Funded by DSU President Dr. J. Hilpert's Health and Wellness Research and Awareness Fund.

Farmers Market and Food Security Collaborative. This project concerns the potential of farmers markets and other alternative food initiatives to help expand food security at the community and regional levels. Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research, Dreyfus Health Foundation, Heifer International and the Cleveland Farmers Market. Funded by the Dreyfus Health Foundation and Heifer International's South Central U.S. Program.

*Local Evaluation of the AmeriCorps*Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) Program.* The VISTA program seeks to expand the capacity of community organizations to reduce poverty. The program pairs volunteers with community organizations. The Institute is working to evaluate the outcomes of VISTA initiatives relevant to organizational capacity and sustainability. Delta State University Center for Community and Economic Development and the Institute for Community-Based Research. Funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

Local Evaluation of the Healthy Start Program in the Mississippi Delta. The Healthy Start Program is attempting to reduce the prevalence of negative birth outcomes and improve maternal and child health. Tougaloo College Health and Wellness Center, Delta Health Partners and the Delta State University Institute for Community-Based Research. Funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Local Evaluation of the Partners Investing in Nursing's Future Initiative. This initiative is focused on retaining nursing students, expanding graduation rates and reducing the nursing shortage in the Mississippi Delta. Dreyfus Health Foundation, Delta State University School of Nursing and the Institute for Community-Based Research. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Northwest Health Foundation.

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters

As a research organization, the Institute is diligent about having its work reviewed, published and disseminated. Peer-reviewed/edited works over the course of the last year are listed below.

Arbuckle, J., C. Valdivia, A. Raedeke, J.J. Green and J.S. Rikoon. Forthcoming in Paper, Published Online April 2008. "Non-Operator Landowner Interest in Agroforestry Practices in Two Missouri Watersheds." *Agroforestry Systems*.

Green, J.J. Forthcoming. "Community Development as Social Movement: A Contribution to Models of Practice." *Community Development*.

Green, J.J. and A.M. Kleiner. Forthcoming. "Exploring Global Agrifood Politics and the Position of Limited Resource Farmers in the United States." In *The Politics of Globalization*. Edited by S. Dasgupta. London: Sage Publications.

Green, J.J. and T. Ernest. 2008. "Plantations." In *The Encyclopedia of Rural America*. Edited by G. Goreham. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO.

Green, J.J., K. Kerstetter and A.B. Nylander III. 2008. "Socioeconomic Resources and Self-Rated Health: A Study in the Mississippi Delta." *Sociological Spectrum* 28(2): 194-212.

Kleiner, A.M. and J.J. Green. 2008. "Expanding the Marketing Opportunities and Sustainable Production Potential for Minority and Limited Resource Agricultural Producers in Louisiana and Mississippi." *Southern Rural Sociology* 23(1): 149-169.

Green, J.J., A.M. Kleiner and J.P. Montgomery. 2007. "The Texture of Local Disaster Response: Service Providers' Views Following Hurricane Katrina." *Southern Rural Sociology* 22(2): 28-44.

Kleiner, A.M., J.J. Green and A.B. Nylander. 2007. "A Community Study of Disaster Impacts and Redevelopment Issues Facing East Biloxi, Mississippi." In *The Sociology of Katrina: Perspectives on a Modern Catastrophe*. Edited by D. Brunzma, S. Overfelt and S. Picou. Lanham, MD: Rowman and Littlefield.

Additional Papers Submitted for Publication in Edited Books

Green, J.J. "Collaborative Research Informs Development Initiatives in the Mississippi Delta: The Institute for Community-Based Research and the Delta Rural Poll." Submitted for Possible Publication in *The Social Science Research Center's Sixtieth Anniversary*. Edited by J. Puhr. Mississippi State: Mississippi State University.

Green, J.J. and D. Mitra. "Socioeconomic Resources, Gender and Health: Implications for the Mississippi Delta in the Global Era." Submitted for Possible Publication in *Gender and Empowerment*. Edited by S. Dasgupta. London: Sage Publications.

Working Papers for Partner Organizations

The Institute regularly produces working papers for its partner organizations. This is a priority on all projects. A sample selection of working papers is provided below.

Bunko, A., D. Thomas, J.P. Montgomery, J.J. Green and Anna M. Kleiner. 2008. "Report of Evaluation and Needs Assessment Survey for Visions of Hope." Working Paper for Visions of Hope and the Foundation for the Mid South.

Green, J.J. and S. Leonard. 2008. "Evaluation of the Reducing Risk Exposure and Increasing Health and Safety through Farmworker-Farmer Partnership Training Project." Working Paper for the Rural Coalition and U.S. Department of Agriculture Risk Management Agency.

Leonard, S. and J.J. Green. 2008. "Summary Evaluation of the Mississippi Delta Healthy Start Program." Working Paper for the Tougaloo College Health and Wellness Center and Delta Health Partners.

Kerstetter, K., J.J. Green, A.M. Kleiner, J.P. Montgomery and A. Edwards. 2008. "Enhancing the Capacity of Nonprofit Organizations in the Aftermath of Disaster: Lessons Learned from the Field." Working Paper for the Foundation for the Mid South.

Green, J.J. and M. Wallace. 2007. "Mississippi Delta Leaders Empowering Youth: Year One Formative Evaluation." Working Paper for the Center for Community and Economic Development, Delta State University.

Presentations at Professional Conferences

An important part of the research review and dissemination process consists of oral and poster presentations at professional conferences. Every year, Institute researchers present work at a wide variety of venues. Here is a sample of the many presentations delivered in the past year.

Atchison, E. 2008. "Investigating the Relationship between Local Heritage and Redevelopment Efforts on the Mississippi Gulf Coast." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association. Mississippi State, MS.

Atchison, E. 2008. "Post-Disaster Displacement and Community Attachment on the Mississippi Gulf Coast." Presented at the Delta Research and Scholarship Symposium. Cleveland, MS.

Betz, R., J.J. Green, J. Muschell, A. Ramgoolam and R. Grant. 2008. "Viewing Access to Health Care in the Delta through the Hospital Emergency Room." Poster Presented at the Delta Research and Scholarship Symposium. Cleveland, MS.

Green, J.J., J. Alvarez, C. Smithhart and E. Edmond. 2008. "Allergy, Sinus, Asthma... Delta Crud? Exploration of Health among Students at a Regional University." Presented at the Delta Research and Scholarship Symposium. Cleveland, MS.

Green, J.J., E. Atchison, R. Betz, E. Edmond and M. Wallace. 2008. "Applied Sociology Workshop: Applying Sociological Knowledge in the Public Sphere through Community- Based Research and Evaluation." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association. Mississippi State, MS.

Green, J.J., A.M. Kleiner, J. Strassburg and R. Betz. 2008. "Pursuing Alternative Food Systems in the Lower Mississippi Delta: Insights and Lessons Learned from Farmers Markets and the Farmers Market WIC Program." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Manchester, NH.

Kerstetter, K. and J.J. Green. 2008. "Strategies for Increasing Student and Community Engagement in the Research Process." A Workshop Held at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Manchester, NH.

Kleiner, A.M., J.J. Green, J.P. Montgomery and K. Kerstetter. 2008. "Organizational Capacity in the Post-Disaster Context: Assessing Needs, Assets and Lessons Learned." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Manchester, NH.

Leonard, S. and M. Wallace. 2008. "I Want More Than Just The Clinic: How Low- Income Mothers Navigate Health Systems in the Mississippi Delta." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society. Manchester, NH.

Wallace, M. 2008. "Mississippi Delta Leaders Empowering Youth: A Formative Evaluation." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association. Mississippi State, MS.

Green, J.J. 2007. "Community Organizations and Disaster: A Study of Relief and Recovery Services in the Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina." Presented to the Department of Sociology and Department of Community, Agriculture, Recreation and Resource Studies at Michigan State University. East Lansing, MI.

Green, J.J. 2007. "Livelihoods, Risk and Resilience: A Framework for Addressing Poverty, Workforce Development and Employment." Presented to the Welfare Peer Technical Assistance Network of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Olive Branch, MS.

Green, J.J., E. Green and M. Wallace. 2007. "Framing Health, Sickness and Well- Being: A Comparative Exploratory Study." Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Mid South Sociological Association. Mobile, AL.

Workshops and Conferences

The Institute played a role in planning and implementing several campus/community activities, including the Delta Research and Scholarship Symposium sponsored by the Delta State University Research Committee and the Delta Music Institute's Hip Hop Conference.

To assist with building the capacity of community and regional partners to collect and analyze data to inform development projects, the Institute designed and conducted two workshops for the Delta Health Alliance.

Green, J.J. 2008. "Data Utilization and Sharing: From Research to Action." Presented to the Delta Health Alliance Partners and Projects Training. Madison, MS.

Green, J.J. 2007. "The Art and Science of Focus Group Research for Social and Health Research." A Workshop for the Delta Health Alliance. Cleveland, MS.

A workshop on using research to inform organizational development was held in Biloxi, MS with participation from five community-based groups. A follow-up workshop was conducted to better network these groups with foundations.

Mississippi Delta Leaders Empowering Youth (MDLEY) Year 2 of the MDLEY program has proved to be very fruitful in capacity building of our partnering FBCOs and the partnering lead organizations. Thus far \$24,000 has been distributed to our 16 partnering FBCOs this year. \$16,000 is yet to be distributed this year. FBCOs have used their sub-grant awards in several different capacity-building ways. Some of them include, but are not limited to equipment procurement, training for advisory boards and/or board of directors, logo creation, website development, creation of marketing materials, staff training, acquiring office space, and others.

Approximately 19 different programmed capacity building trainings have been made available to our partnering FBCOs thus far, and another 9 are currently scheduled for this program year. Some of those training topics include fiscal management, time management, board governance, learning the ins and outs of marketing, basics of faith-based management, outcomes measurement, grant writing, strategic planning, and others, including some webinar opportunities. Also, several opportunities for networking were made available to partnering FBCOs who attended the Center for Nonprofits state-wide annual conference. A smaller conference focused specifically on our geographical area of the state is planned for September. We have also hosted a youth violence workshop and a 2-day Gang Awareness Summit for adults in excess of the training activities previously mentioned. Also, as a collaborative effort of all entities involved with the MDLEY program, we organized and sponsored a youth gang awareness conference for 9th and 10th grades students in all counties that the MDLEY program serves. Over 500 youth were in attendance.

The work plan for year two included a minimum of 17 hours of on-site, one-on-one technical assistance provided by a professional consultant to each of our 16 FBCOs. Thus far, the FBCOs have completed a total of 194 hours – an average of 12 hours per organization. We hear time and time again that this technical assistance piece is the most beneficial of the program. The consultants are free to tailor their services to best fit each individual organization. The only defined requirement in year 2 is the development of a strategic plan for each organization. FBCOs have already began the process, if not finished it to completion. We are working to have some, if not most of the FBCOs showcase their work thus far at the regional conference planned for September. MDLEY Accomplishments for 2007:

- 517 hours of training
- 290 hours of on-site, personalized, professional assistance
- \$64,000 in sub-grant awards

MDLEY Cohort built capacity by:

- Applying/obtaining 501 © 3
- Creation, implementation of active working Advisory Board and/or Board of Directors
- Training for Advisory Board and/or Board of Directors
- Development of written policies and procedures
- Development and implementation of fundraising plans
- Staff Development
- Volunteer Recruitment

Youth Entrepreneurial Program (YEP) The Youth Entrepreneurial Program (YEP I did it!) was first piloted in the summer of 2007. Ten junior and senior high school students were recruited into the program with 7 completing. The first YEP program was a partnership between the Center for Community and Economic Development/DSU, the College of Business/DSU, Beauty Queens, AmeriCorps*VISTA and Cleveland Youth Council.

Kareem Silvani from Beauty Queen invested financial resources and his time into making sure the program was successful. Cleveland Youth Council provided a mini grant of \$2,000.00 and students who participated in the program. The Center for Community and Economic Development implemented the program. The pilot project was a huge success. After 8 weeks of intensive classwork, training and job shadowing, seven students completed the program with future plans to open their own business. Last year's winners received 1st place \$1000.00 and a part time job, 2nd place-A Dell laptop and 3rd place \$500.00.

The partners came together again this year to offer class II of YEP. Many hours were spent with the students teaching them how to develop their business plan, professional etiquette, communication skills, conflict resolution, budgeting, marketing, accounting, business financials, and customer service. The students were paired with business owners in Cleveland to get hands on experience of owning their own business. Thirteen students completed the program on July 30th and now have a strong foundation for opening their own business. The students competed for cash scholarships of 1st place-\$1000.00, 2nd place \$600.00 and 3rd place \$400.00. The program is slated again for next summer and will be implemented as a two-week camp as opposed to an eight week ½ day program. Contact has also been made with several schools to integrate the program into the school curriculums.

Comparative Data (enrollment, CHP, majors, graduation rates, etc): n/a

Grants, Contracts, Partnerships, Other Accomplishments:

- Seven students graduated from the piloted Youth Entrepreneurial Program July 2007. Thirteen graduated July 2008.

- A MS Delta Alumni Chapter has been established for AmeriCorps.
- Forty-five AmeriCorps Reads-Mississippi members completed the FDIC MoneySmart curriculum.
- Ninety-one AmeriCorps members completed their term of service in the three AmeriCorps programs.
- Linda Stringfellow organized and coordinated activities for World AIDS Day for ten communities.
- The VISTA staff and members coordinated pinning ceremonies for service men, law enforcement officers and fire fighters in memory of those who lost their lives on September 11th.
- Meg Jones was appointed to chair for Oktoberfest.
- VISTA named an annual award in honor of board member, Dr. John Green. This award will be presented annually to an outstanding VISTA member.
- During the Make-a-Difference Day service project in October, America Reads Mississippi members collected and donated over 1500 books to children and 440 coats to the underprivileged.
- Mississippi Delta Service Corps in partnership with other CCED sponsored programs, hosted a black history program in February 2008. Over 150 people attended. Mayor Heather Hudson from Greenville was the guest speaker.
- CCED sponsored the 5th Delta Health and Wellness Day (DHWD). DHWD is a health fair sponsored in partnership with the DSU School of Nursing, Cleveland School District and area healthcare providers...Over 1000 people attended the fair and received free testing and information about health. Over 500 elementary school students participated in the Kids Korner and over 30 different kinds of tests and screenings were offered. Meg Jones and Kristen Pyron led this effort.
- CCED sponsored the 6th Multiple Sclerosis Walk in downtown Cleveland. Over 150 individuals participated in the Walk. Over \$10,000.00 was collected as a result of the walk. Meg Jones served as chair of the Walk.

- Deborah Moore coordinated service projects for 44 international students and staff from MS State University on July 19th. Students stayed on the DSU campus on the night of July 19th. Service projects were conducted in Shaw, Doddsville, Cleveland, Beulah and Gunnison.
- MDLEY program sponsored the first Youth Gang Awareness Conference in May. Over 500 youth and chaperones were in attendance. Nationally known consultant, Marc Fomby was the presenter.
- MDLEY program also sponsored an Adult Gang Awareness Summit in July for its cohort of FBCOs, community leaders, law enforcement and social workers from four Delta counties. Over 50 people were in attendance.
- The Federal Reserve Bank of St Louis-Memphis Branch held its Exploring Innovation in Community Development Week, April 14-18, 2008. Staff members in the Community Affairs department at the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis scheduled activities in the Bank's Eighth District, which includes all of Arkansas and portions of Illinois, Missouri, Tennessee, Mississippi, Indiana and Kentucky. Featured speakers, resource fairs and workshops will highlight innovations in community development issues, such as housing finance, entrepreneurship, tourism and early childhood development. Delta State University's (DSU) Center for Community and Economic Development, College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Business, Delta Regional Development and Congressman Bennie Thompson's Office partnered with the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis-Memphis Branch to host a kick-off forum on April 14th. The event was held in the H.L. Nowell Student Union-State Room, from 5:00-8:30 p.m. The DSU event focused on Cultural/Heritage and Eco-Tourism, and Early Childhood Development. Over 100 individuals were in attendance.
- Deborah Moore works with municipal officials and citizens in the Second Congressional District in partnership with Geri Adams from Congressman Thompson's office. They meet every two weeks to provide technical assistance to the officials and citizens. A strategic plan is underway for tourism in these communities. They have developed brochures, newsletters, webpages and revitalization projects.
- On February 7, 2008 Delta State University, in cooperation with its Center for Community and Economic Development, Special Projects, Career Services and Delta Center for Culture and Learning held a community forum on youth development and engagement. The forum's topic: ***"How to strengthen and capture the vision, talents and passion of youth, the real future of the South"*** gave youth the opportunity to share their thoughts and experiences with other citizens to gain collective ideas and strategies about how to solve some of the greatest challenges facing the Delta today. This forum was part of an initiative by the Southern Growth Policies Board to gain information about developing the potential of Southern youth, listening to their views, and inspiring them to take action that is critical to the region's future success. The findings from all of

the community forums around the South were compiled into Southern Growth's annual report, and each participating community was recognized at the 2008 conference in June in Little Rock, Arkansas.

- The Center for Community and Economic Development partnered with DSU's Division of Social Sciences to sponsor a gender studies retreat. The purposes of the retreat was to:
 - Network with people on campus and the wider community who have interests in gender related issues.
 - Assess the resources and needs for gender studies in communities in the Mississippi Delta.
 - Inform scholarly initiatives of practical value at DSU.
 - Determine the gender interests of retreat participants.
 - Affect the activities of the *Gender Studies Group*.
 - Ascertain what lessons can be learned from others in academe and in the Mississippi Delta.
- The Center for Community and Economic Development was featured in the March issue of the Delta Business Journal.
- The Breast Education Early-detection Project was featured in the Spring issue of the DSU Alumni Magazine.
- A total of 28,900 people were beneficiaries of programs and events sponsored by the Center for Community and Economic Development during the 2007-2008 year.

Below is a table showing grants secured by CCED staff and faculty associates during the 2007-2008 academic year:

Sponsor of Grant	Grant Amount	Project Title	Project Director
Heifer Project International	\$4,949 (contract)	Farmers' Market Survey	John Green
Tougaloo College	\$10,000 (contract)	Tougaloo Health and Wellness	John Green
Corporation for National and Community Service	\$359,733	America Reads Mississippi	Carla Ross/Deborah Moore
Entergy	\$500.00	MS Walk	Deborah Moore
Corporation for National and Community Service	\$276,000	Mississippi Delta Service Corps	Larry Webster/Deborah Moore
Delta Health Alliance	\$2,250 (contract)	Focus Group Training	John Green
U.S. Dept of Health and	\$242,800	Mississippi Delta Leaders	Meg Jones/Deborah Moore

Human Services		Empowering Youth	
Susan G. Komen Foundation	\$38,100	Breast Education Early-detection Project	Deborah Moore
Corporation for National and Community Service	\$433,553	VISTA	Linda Stringfellow/Deborah Moore
Total	\$1,367,885		

Economic Development initiatives and/or impact:

The chart below shows total funding for AmeriCorps programs, number of members, number of staff, number of partnering sites, number of years in existence total cash match, total living allowance and total education awards for AmeriCorps programs at the Center for Community and Economic Development during the 2007-2008 year.

Program	# of Members	# of Staff	Amount of Funding	Cash Match/Donation Requested From Partnering Sites	# of Sites	# of Yrs. Program Has Been in Existence	Total Amount of Living Allowance	Total Amount of Education Award
America Reads-Mississippi (ARM)	50 43 stipend 7 ed-award	2.5	\$359,773.00	\$172,000.00	17	10	\$477,300.00	\$217,350.00
Mississippi Delta Service Corps	23	2	\$276,000.00	\$126,500.00	10	13	\$255,300.00	\$99,225.00
Mississippi Delta Service Corps/AmeriCorps*VISTA (MDSC A*VISTA)	23	3	\$433,553.00	\$34,500.00	9	4	\$238,308.00 Includes end of year stipends	\$85,050.00
Total	96	7.5	\$1,069,326.00	\$333,000.00	36	27	\$970,908.00	\$401,625.00

The chart below shows total in-kind contributions, number of volunteers and value of time donated by volunteers in the three AmeriCorps programs at the Center for Community and Economic Development during the 2007-2008 year.

Program	Total # of Community Volunteers	Total # Hours Served	Value of Volunteer Hours	Total In-kind Contributions
America Reads-Mississippi (ARM)	7,000	21,000	\$378,840.00	\$192,000.00
Mississippi Delta Service Corps	2,155	55,878	\$1,008,039.00	\$104,716.00
Mississippi Delta Service Corps/AmeriCorps*VISTA	1,808	11,348	\$204,718.00	\$328,778.00
Total	10,963	88,226	\$1,591,597.00	\$625,494.00

Diversity Compliance Initiatives and Progress:

Committees reporting to unit (Committee records archived in _____): n/a

V. Personnel:

Noteworthy activities and accomplishments:

Deborah Moore and Linda Stringfellow received certification as Economic Development Finance Professionals (EDFP) from the National Development Council (NDC). Certification is a designation given to individuals who successfully complete an intensive economic development finance training services that is conducted by NDC. The courses provide individuals working in the field of economic development with training in credit analysis, real estate financing, loan packaging, deal structuring and negotiating, and the creation and implementation of development programs.

Anne Beard, Nurse Educator for BEEP completed her Masters Degree in May and completed her thesis which was a research project on BEEP and its participants.

Deborah Moore and Linda Stringfellow are enrolled in the Human Capital Development PhD program at the University of Southern Mississippi. Plans are to complete the course work for the program by July 2009.

Chiquikta Fountain and Beronica Baldrige are enrolled in an undergraduate program at Delta State University.

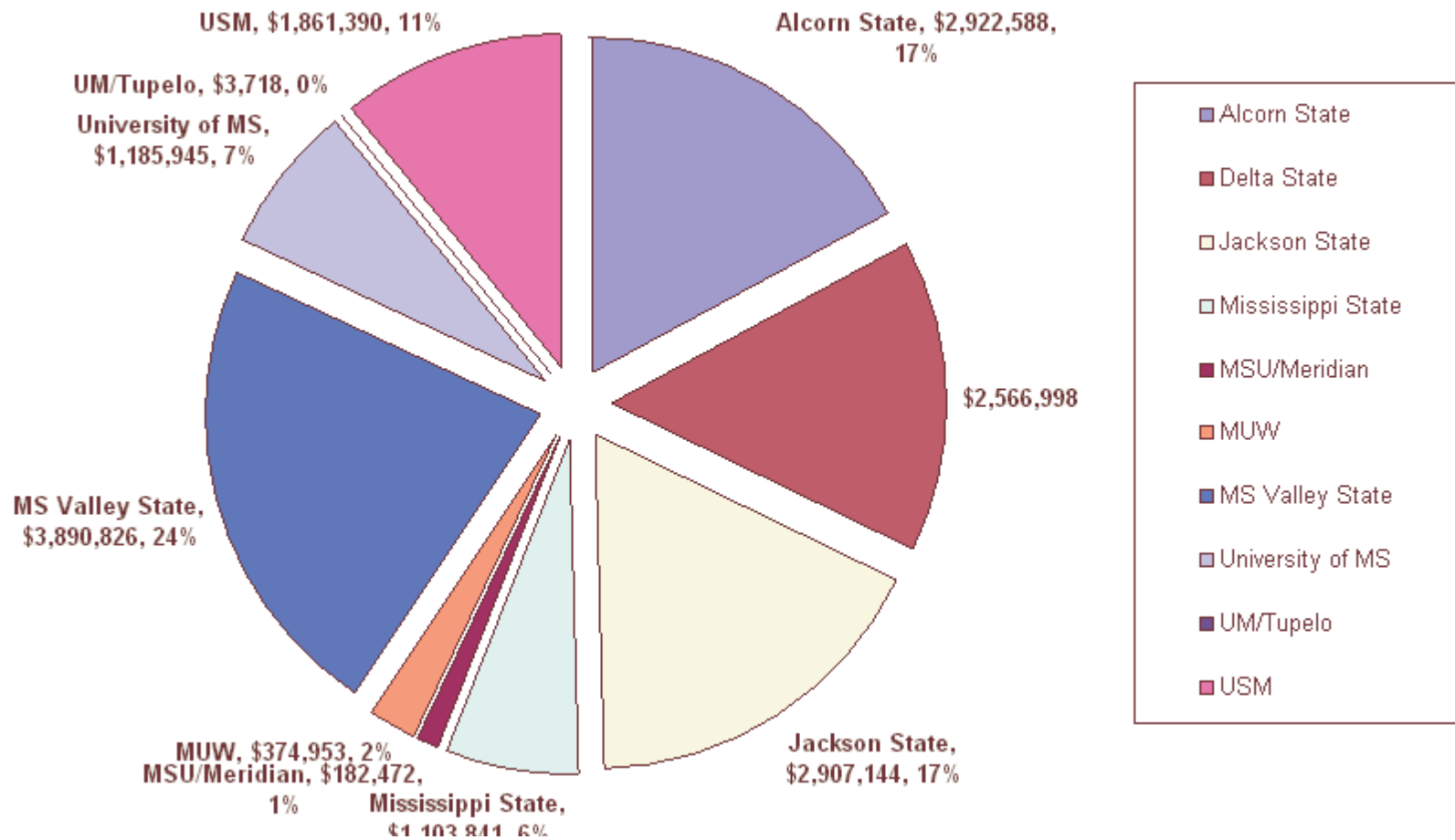
New position(s) requested, with justification: n/a

Recommended change of status: n/a

Alcorn State	\$2,922,588
Delta State	\$2,566,998
Jackson State	\$2,907,144
Mississippi State	\$1,103,841
MSU/Meridian	\$182,472
MUW	\$374,953
MS Valley State	\$3,890,826
University of MS	\$1,185,945
UM/Tupelo	\$3,718
USM	\$1,861,390

**COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES
RECEIVING EDUCATION AWARD
PAYMENTS: 1995-2006**

TOTAL: \$16,999,875



* The above information was obtained from MS Campus Compact (Center for Community and Civic Engagement at the University of Southern Mississippi.) Figures for 2007 have not been obtained yet.

VI. Degree Program Addition/Deletions and/or Major Curriculum Changes: n/a

Changes made in the past year:

Recommended changes for the coming year(s):