



# GAMMA SIGMA DELTA

*The Honor Society of Agriculture*

## Mississippi State University Chapter *Spring 2009 Newsletter*

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*“The binding together of  
earth, the mother of all, and  
the practice of agriculture, and  
**March 25 Deadline to  
register for the banquet.***

### What is Gamma Sigma Delta?

*Gamma Sigma Delta* is an honor society dedicated to recognizing your accomplishments as a student, faculty or staff member, alumnus, or industry or university supporter. Your election to the Society is more than an honor. It is a challenge and an obligation to contribute to the understanding and furthering of agriculture and related sciences, including forestry, natural resources, human ecology, and veterinary medicine.

*Gamma Sigma Delta* promotes and recognizes achievements of individuals who excel. Membership in Gamma Sigma Delta is an indicator of exceptional academic and/or professional performance. No group of professionals has a more important task than those in agriculture and related sciences. As a member of Gamma Sigma Delta you can help promote public understanding of the importance of agriculture in the world today.

### The Mississippi State University Chapter

The objectives of this Chapter shall be to encourage high standards of scholarship in all branches of agricultural science and education and a high degree of excellence in the practice of agricultural pursuits.

--Constitution and bylaws, Article II

**Call for 2009 Membership and Award Nominations**  
**Deadline March 18, 2009**

All Gamma Sigma Delta members are invited to submit nominations for 2009 awards and membership to the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society.

Nomination forms are available and have previously been forwarded electronically for the following categories and criteria:

**Undergraduate Membership**

- \*Members of senior class
- \*Have high moral character
- \*In dept. at least one year
- \*Rank in the upper 15%
- \*Have a minimum 3.25 QPA

**Graduate Membership**

- \*Have a minimum 3.5 QPA
- \*Minimum 12 hours at MSU
- \*Show promise of making worthwhile contributions

**Faculty & Staff Membership**

- \*Faculty or staff in DAFVM
- \*Minimum 3 yrs. at MSU
- \*Exceptional ability in teaching, research, or extension

**Alumni Membership**

- \*Graduate of MSU DAFVM
- \*Minimum of 5 yrs. since graduation
- \*Exceptional service to agricultural development in Mississippi.

**Undergraduate scholarships**

- \*Juniors completed 74%-84% of total hours; with at least 30% earned at MSU
- \*Seniors will complete requirements for graduation this spring with at least 25% earned at MSU

**Teaching, Extension, or Research Awards**

- \*Members of faculty or staff in DAFVM

**UPCOMING 2009 SPRING EVENTS:**

- March 18**     **Deadline to submit student and faculty membership nominations and awards.** All department heads received nomination forms and lists of eligible undergrad students. Please contact Wes Schilling for more forms, or submit completed forms to Wes Schilling.  
**Officers meeting: City Bagel**  
Friday March 6, at 6:30 a.m.
- March 25**     **Deadline to register for the banquet.**  
Send your reservations to Susan Seal.
- March 26**     **Gamma Sigma Delta Annual Meeting**  
**Thursday at 2:00 p.m.**  
**Dorman Hall, Room 120**  
All GSD members are invited to attend our annual business meeting for committee reports and updates.
- April 8**        **GSD Annual Banquet**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Leo Seal M Club**  
Join us in celebrating invited new members, student scholarship and faculty awards, and a great meal. Our invited guest speaker **Walt Grayson** who is the host of the television show, "Mississippi Roads" and "Look Around Mississippi". Walt Grayson is a member of the Mississippi Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

**Walt Grayson will be the Featured Speaker for the GSD 2009 Annual Banquet scheduled to be held *April 8th* at 6 p.m. at the Leo Seal M-Club**



Walt Grayson is a native Mississippian, born and raised in Greenville. His Mississippi roots run deep with five generations of his family buried in Mississippi soil. Walt's interest in broadcasting started early. He was an announcer for Greenville radio station WJPR while still in high school.

His first television experience came as a weekend weather fill-in and an occasional travel feature reporter, all the while still working full time in radio at Jackson's WSLI. Walt joined the WLBT team as a weather anchor in 1984. Walt takes viewers on a "Look Around Mississippi" weekly on WLBT. In addition, Walt is the host of Mississippi ETV's *Mississippi Roads* program.

His hobbies include collecting records and working on old radios, as well as writing and photography.

He is his own videographer for his Look Around stories. Walt also writes a monthly newspaper article for the Electric Power Associations of Mississippi. And is the author of three books: *Jackson the Good Life* and *Looking Around Mississippi with Walt Grayson*, as well as *Looking Around Mississippi Some More! With Walt Grayson*.

Walt has been inducted into the Associated Press MISSISSIPPI BROADCASTERS HALL OF FAME.

**2008 Undergraduate Memberships**

**Agricultural Economics**

Melissa Lynn Brewer

**Agricultural Information Systems**

Brittany Beasley

Sylvia Clark

**Agricultural Engineering Technology and Business**

Joseph David McDaniel

**Animal and Dairy Sciences**

Erin Boss

Megan Dorris

Jonathan Michael Greene

Sara Lindsey Murphy

Tribetta Spires

**Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Marion Harris

Nisma Mujahid

Grant Ramsey

**Food Science, Nutrition and Health Promotion**

Holly Darnell

Elena Dent

Melanie Dye

Marci Robins

Jane Grey Wiggers

Alice Anne Williams

**Human Sciences**

Courtney Darlene Carver

Hannah Comer

Linda Collins Donald

Alexia Lois Martin Owens

Samantha Webb

**Landscape Architecture**

Jeremy Matte

**Wildlife and Fisheries**

Amber Breland

Nicole Hodges

**2008 Graduate Student Memberships**

**Agricultural Economics**

John Mark Looney

**College of Veterinary Medicine**

Dorothy Jackson

April King

Jessica Platz

Summer Christon Westbrook

**Food Science, Nutrition and Health Promotion**

Michelle Lee

Ramandeep Sekhon

**Poultry Science**

Brenna McGruder

**2008 Faculty & Staff Memberships**

**PROFESSIONAL INITIATES**

**Agricultural Economics**

Alan Barefield

**College of Veterinary Medicine**

Diana Eubanks

**Mississippi State University Extension Service**

Ernie Flint

**ALUMNI INITIATES**

John Rounsaville

**2008 GSD Award Winners**

**2008 Junior Scholarship Winner**

**2008 Senior Scholarship Winner**

Ms. Marion Daniels Harris,

Major: Biochemistry

**2008 Teaching Award of Merit Winner**

Dr. Keith Coble, Agricultural Economics

**2008 Research Award of Merit Winner**

Dr. Peter Ryan, Animal and Dairy Science

**2008 Extension Award of Merit**

Dr. C.W. "Bill" Herndon, Agricultural

Economics

