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Winter Institute Gets \$3 Million Grant from Kellogg Foundation

FEBRUARY 27, 2012 BY EDWIN SMITH



OXFORD, Miss. – The William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation at the University of Mississippi plans to use a \$3.1 million grant to spur civil equity and community engagement and continue to build communities both locally and globally.

Part of the new three-year award from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation will help develop curricula and directly educate youth, groups and individuals in increasingly disparate locations. The Kellogg Foundation supports children, families, and communities as they strengthen and create conditions that propel vulnerable children to achieve success as individuals and as contributors to the larger community and society.

"We are excited to be a part of the Kellogg Foundation's commitment to the state of Mississippi and the improvement of children's lives here," said Susan Glisson, executive director of the Winter Institute. "This grant will permit us to significantly expand our ongoing community work, as well as pursue appropriate regional, national and international partnerships that would benefit our work in Mississippi."

The institute's long- and short-range goals for the funds include hiring a director of community outreach, hiring an academic director to help create a minor in civic communications within the College of Liberal Arts and making the temporary youth director's job into a full-time position.

"Kellogg has funded our Summer Youth Institute and Welcome Table events since 2007," Glisson said. "During the course of conversations with their board of directors, the Winter Institute was encouraged to consider increasing the amount of funding requested to expand our operational capacity."

"The expiration of all our initial funding and the need to revisit our strategic plan simultaneously coincided with the application for and approval of this proposal."

The William Winter Institute is a leader in Mississippi, but also nationally and internationally, in both civil rights and community engagement, said Gail Christopher, Kellogg Foundation vice president for program strategy.

"This grant allows the institute to expand their proven strategy for racial healing and reconciliation," Christopher said. "We see their work as integral to our continued efforts to help uproot the myth of racial hierarchies."

Former Mississippi Gov. William Winter expressed enthusiasm over the Kellogg Foundation's major support for the institute and its ongoing activities.

"This grant is the conformation of the credibility that the Winter Institute has achieved, and obviously been recognized by the Kellogg Foundation," Winter said. "There's still much work to be done, and this grant will enable us to be a major force and continue to make noticeable advances in racial reconciliation in this part of the country."

Both UM public policy leadership majors and local community leaders had expressed a desire for a more academic approach to civic communications.

"Their interests led to the decision to create the minor," Glisson said. "As for future partnerships, the Winter Institute has already begun negotiations with both the Youth Link in Belfast, Northern Ireland, and the Apartheid Archives Project at the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa."

Others affiliated both directly and indirectly with the Winter Institute were also congratulatory.

"This award will allow the Philadelphia Coalition to continue its work to ensure that every child in Neshoba County has an opportunity to not only learn about their local and state history, but to learn about the environment that leads to that history and ways to ensure that the negative lessons learned are never allowed to occur again," said Leroy Clemons, chair of the Philadelphia Coalition, on the impact of this gift for Mississippi communities.

Upon receiving the news, Clemons said "I felt like the farmer watching the rain fall on his drought-

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Students Learn 'Real Politics' in Washington, D.C., Winter Session

OXFORD, Miss. – Eleven University of Mississippi students spent their winter break learning about the people who work behind the scenes of the American government in Washington, D.C. Lead by Jonathan Klingler, assistant professor of political science, the students of Pol 391: Applied Politics met not with candidates, but with the people who make candidates'

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OXFORD, Miss. – Stephanie Jennings Teague, of Chicago, sees her commitment of \$100,000 to the Patterson School of Accountancy's new building at the University of Mississippi as a means of saying "thank you." "It is a way to show a small token of my appreciation to Ole Miss, the faculty and staff, and the accounting

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U.S. inflation roller coaster prompts fresh look at long-ignored money supply By Michael S. Derby NEW YORK – The amount of money sloshing around the U.S. economy shrank last year for the first time on record, a development that some economists believe bolsters the case for U.S. inflation pressures continuing to abate. The Federal Reserve's

stricken crop for the first time. I just smiled!"

"The W.K. Kellogg Foundation's very generous grant will enable the William Winter Institute to increase its capacity to support local Mississippi communities as they seek to make the state a better place for all of us," said Glenn Hopkins, dean of UM's College of Liberal Arts, to which the Winter Institute is connected.

Founded in 1999, the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation builds more inclusive communities by promoting diversity and citizenship and by supporting projects that help communities solve local challenges.

For more information, visit the [W.W. Kellogg Foundation](#), [William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation](#), or call 662-915-6727.

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