

College of Education Dean's Advisory Council formed to offer guidance and serve as ambassadors for the college

For release: June 8, 2009

For information, contact [Joanna Curtis](#) 901/678-4036

Memphis, TN – Don Wagner, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Memphis, has formed an advisory council made up of community leaders who share a commitment to education and to the academic programs of the College.

Wagner, who came to the U of M from the University of Cincinnati in January 2009, said, "I'm pleased that we've been able to bring together a group of distinguished alumni and friends of the College who represent different segments of our community but share a willingness to provide guidance and support to ensure the College remains forward-looking and relevant as it strives to meet the needs of a dynamic region."

The Dean's Advisory Council members for the 2009-10 year include:

Dr. Barbara Prescott, B.S. '71, M.E. '73, *Chair*
Licensed Professional Counselor
Vice President, Allie Prescott & Partners

John Avis, B.A. '74, M.E. '76
Head of School
Collegiate School of Memphis

Nancy Bogatin
Community Volunteer

Dot Neale
Corporate Community Relations Manager
IBM Corporation

Otis Sanford
Editor/Opinions and Editorials
The Commercial Appeal

Linda Sklar, M.E. '74
Director, Division of Optional Schools & Advanced
Academics
Memphis City Schools

Cato Johnson, B.S. '70, M.S. '71, *Chair-elect*
Senior Vice President of Corporate Affairs
Methodist LeBonheur Healthcare

Dr. Steven J. Bares
President & Executive Director
Memphis Bioworks Foundation

Dorothy Gant Johnson, M.E. '82
Executive Director
Shelby County Books from Birth

Nathan A. Pera, III
Chairman
ETC of the Americas, Inc.

Dr. Deborah Schadt, M.S. '93, PhD '96
Owner/President, Schadt Professional Development
Licensed Professional Counselor

Dr. Joan Thomas
Associate Professor
Loewenberg School of Nursing
University of Memphis

The College of Education dates to 1912, when the U of M's predecessor, West Tennessee State Normal School, first opened for the education of teachers. Today, the College enrolls more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students in its nationally-accredited professional programs. In the College's four departments, 57 degree programs prepare students for varied career paths in education, health, sports sciences, and counseling.

#####