

October News Releases

Mark Stansbury Named Assistant to U of M President Raines

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Mark Stansbury has been appointed an assistant to University of Memphis President Shirley C. Raines. Among Stansbury's duties will be several related to diversity, including staff and student initiatives and curriculum plans. He will also represent Raines in working with the Benjamin Hooks Institute, a U of M-based program established by the former executive director of the NAACP.

Stansbury joined the staff of the University in 1989 as assistant to then-president Dr. Thomas Carpenter. He served in a similar capacity to Carpenter's successor and Raines' predecessor, Dr. V. Lane Rawlins.

He has also served as interim president of Shelby State Community College (now Southwest Tennessee Community College). He led Shelby State for two years, while on leave from The University of Memphis.

A native Memphian, Stansbury has also worked with the administrations of city and county mayors Dick Hackett, Willie W. Herenton, and Jim Rout, and he was a special assistant to former Tennessee Gov. Ned McWherter.

Stansbury has been actively involved with the NAACP, Leadership Memphis, the National Conference of Community and Justice, and the Memphis Race Relations and Diversity Institute. For his volunteer work, he received the Award of Merit, the highest award presented to a citizen by the mayor of Memphis. He was also named Parent of the Year by the Memphis Rotary Club for his contributions to the young people of the city. At the University of Memphis in 1993, he was the first person to receive the University's Campus Unity award.

A graduate of Lane College in Jackson, Tenn., Stansbury later served as Lane's public relations director. He also handled public relations for Holiday Inns, Inc., in Memphis for many years. He may be best known for his role as weekend announcer for Memphis radio station WDIA's gospel music program.

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