



from the chancellor

The famous clergyman John Wesley exhorted us to “do all the good you can, by all the means you can.” Mr. Wesley’s rule is an appropriate theme for this issue of the Troy Magazine because we shine the light on several ways Troy University makes a positive impact on the world around it.

The cover story profiles our outstanding College of Communication and Fine Arts, which has a tremendous cultural impact on our region through its varied offerings of concerts, plays and art exhibits. A great deal of change is taking place in this College with the revival of a summer musical production, the introduction of a music industry discipline and the debut of an International Center for Creativity Collaboration in our Department of Art and Design.

This issue also examines the economic impact TROY has on the State of Alabama. We have just completed the first stage of a three-part study of our economic impact on the state, and we conservatively estimate that during 2005-2006 our University contributed \$336 million to the Alabama economy. As we grow our new Center for International Business and Economic Development, we believe our contribution as an economic engine will increase dramatically.

But I will always believe that the greatest testament to our success as a University is seen through the contributions and successes of our alumni. We provide updates on some of these shining stars, like Jill Dobson, who is an entertainment editor for a national magazine and a frequent commentator on MSNBC. We also profile Shahara Ruth, an Atlanta-based writer who has just completed a new play. Another “where are they now” feature introduces our alumni to the five Colley sisters who are Troy, AL-natives and loyal alumnae. We also pay tribute to Larry Hughes of Montgomery, AL, the recipient of our Distinguished Leadership Award for alumni, and Jimmy Gardner of Greenville, AL, who now serves as president of the Troy University Alumni Association.

TROY’s continued efforts at internationalization are not overlooked, as this issue contains information on our visiting professors from China and additions to the leadership of our international programs.

In closing, I am proud that this issue also includes the news that the Chi Omega house on our Sorority Hill has been named in memory of Mrs. Rachel Hawkins. Mrs. Hawkins and her husband, Dr. Doug Hawkins, president pro tem of our Board of Trustees, could be considered the “parents” of the Greek System at Troy University. The TROY family was saddened by the recent passing of Mrs. Hawkins. Her devotion to our University and the Troy community was inspiring to me and many others. I encourage all Trojans to emulate her life of leadership.

Sincerely,

Jack Hawkins, Jr., Ph.D.
Chancellor