



# Resolution

**The following is a Resolution by the President of The University of Southern Mississippi and the Board of Directors of The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association naming the Alumni Association's Traditions Committee as a clearinghouse for any and all proposed changes or alterations to Southern Miss traditions. This resolution is to preserve the traditions of The University of Southern Mississippi as they were originally intended. The traditions identified in this resolution are not intended to be a complete list and other traditions may develop that will become incorporated into *The Drawl*.**

Whereas, The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association, formed in 1917 with its first president being T.A. Sewell, and formally incorporated under the laws of the State of Mississippi in 1955 by then Executive Secretary Powell. G. Ogletree, has always included in its organizational mission the enhancement and protection of the institution's traditions; and

Whereas, the importance of the University's traditions to the Southern Miss Alumni Association are clearly demonstrated through various means such as the statement of the Alumni Association's theme, "Tradition, Pride, Loyalty, Excellence!" and the Association's creation of a University traditions manual, *The Drawl*; and

Whereas, The Legacy, the student alumni association, is the campus leader in promoting spirit and enthusiasm at Southern Miss, and works with the Alumni Association to uphold the University's traditions by leading events such as The Legacy of Southern Miss Series, the Painting of the Eagle Walk, and painting the Little Rock; and

Whereas, on multiple occasions University traditions have been eliminated, altered or otherwise negatively affected by individual decisions at various levels of University administration; and

Whereas, the official school colors are black and gold, as they were suggested by Florence Burrow Pope and voted by the institution's first student body in 1912; and

Whereas, the Golden Eagle is the institution's athletic mascot and the Golden Eagle costume, worn by a student, is named Seymour with the full name of Seymour d'Campus; and

Whereas, "Southern Miss to the Top!" the University's motto, is used to celebrate or recognize Southern Miss accomplishments and as a response cheer at athletic events; and

Whereas, the Southern Miss Shout Out cheer is initiated randomly by The Pride or fans during athletic or other University events; and

Whereas, the Alma Mater, written in 1941, is played during athletic and academic events; and

Whereas, “Southern Miss to the Top!” is the University fight song and is used on many occasions including after the football team scores; and

Whereas, the Dixie Darlings represent the spirit and tradition of Southern Miss by performing at all home football games; and

Whereas, “Are You from Dixie?” is played after the extra point following a Southern Miss touchdown and as the Dixie Darlings dance onto the field during the Pride’s pre-game performance; and

Whereas, “Amazing Grace” is played by The Pride of Mississippi at halftime of the final home game of each football season; and

Whereas, the Fifth Quarter Concert takes place immediately following a Southern Miss home football game when The Pride of Mississippi performs a mini-concert from the stadium while fans congregate on the field; and

Whereas, Homecoming, the date of which is selected by the Alumni Association Board of Directors, takes place each fall and serves as the primary occasion of gathering for alumni and students as they celebrate Southern Miss; and

Whereas, Founders’ Day is March 30 of each year and is celebrated by alumni, students, faculty and staff with ceremonies on the Hattiesburg and Gulf Coast campuses and gatherings of alumni and friends across the country and around the globe; and

Whereas, the Official Ring was created by a group of students, faculty, staff, and alumni and is adorned with images of the University, including the Gulf Coast campuses, and is awarded each year to students or alumni who are academically eligible at the Official Ring Ceremony held in conjunction with Founders’ Day; and

Whereas, the University honors its doctoral graduates by offering custom regalia, which is a stately color of antique gold, with black and white accents and a uniquely Southern Miss design; and

Whereas, the All-American Rose Garden, planted in 1973 by the Hattiesburg Area Rose Society and maintained by the Southern Miss Physical Plant, is an accredited Public Rose Garden by All-American Rose Selections Inc., and consists of 32 separate beds located near the front of campus, each containing its own unique hybrid of rose; and

Whereas, Friday Night at the Fountain consists of entertainment and a pep rally and takes place at the Aubrey K. Lucas Administration Building fountain the night prior to a home football game; and

Whereas, the Seymour’s Sidekicks Spirit Line consists of children who are members of Seymour’s Sidekicks and their parents and forms at the start of the second half of a home football game as the Golden Eagles enter the playing field; and

Whereas, Eagle Fest weekend is held at the end of spring football practice featuring the Black and Gold football game, additional athletic events and campus tours; and

Whereas, M. M. Roberts stadium is nicknamed "The Rock", Reed Green Coliseum is nicknamed "The Greenhouse" and Pete Taylor Park is nicknamed "The Pete"; and

Whereas, The District is the primary area for student tailgating and is located in front of the Ogletree Alumni House and is also open to all alumni and Southern Miss fans alike; and

Whereas, the Right Field Roost is the primary tailgating location in Pete Taylor Park for Southern Miss baseball fans and is located along the first base line and in right field; and

Whereas, the Little Rock, located in The District, is painted by members of The Legacy and other interested students and features slogans in support of Southern Miss athletics to increase support and enthusiasm throughout campus; and

Whereas, the Eagle Walk is located under the East Side of "The Rock" and proudly displays the University's achievements in athletics, as well as providing a gathering place on game day to cheer the Golden Eagle football team as they make their way to the stadium and also provides the freshman class the opportunity to apply a fresh coat of gold paint to the Eagle Walk during Golden Eagle Welcome Week; and

Whereas, this is not an exhaustive list of the traditions of the University and new traditions are bound to develop over time;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

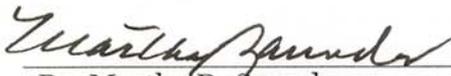
THEREIN, we do hereby acknowledge these traditions to stand as the official traditions of The University of Southern Mississippi; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that no tradition outlined in this document or any practice which may later be identified as a tradition and included in *The Drawl* will be changed or altered without the express written permission of The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association's Traditions Committee.

Adopted on July 24, 2007.

On behalf of the University:

On behalf of the Alumni Association:

  
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Dr. Martha D. Saunders  
President  
The University of Southern Mississippi

  
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Lou Ann Poynter  
President  
The University of Southern Mississippi  
Alumni Association