



Keynote Speaker: Joseph S. Paul, University of Southern Mississippi

Dr. Joseph S. Paul has served more than 30 years as a University of Southern Mississippi student affairs administrator. Before becoming vice president for student affairs in February 1993, he held a variety of positions, including assistant director of student activities, assistant vice president and dean of student development. He also holds faculty rank in USM's College of Education and Psychology, teaching in the graduate program in educational leadership in addition to instructing a freshman leadership seminar. He has articles published in national periodicals and, in 1987, appeared on NBC's Today Show.

Beyond his work at Southern Miss, Paul has presented seminars and training in management and leadership for business, industry and education. He was a senior consultant with The Atlanta Consulting Group, a Fortune Top 50 management consulting firm. Clients Paul has worked with include UPS, RJR Nabisco, Ohio-Edison, Sanderson Farms, US Navy, Accenture and Horne CPA Health care group.

Paul holds a Ph.D. in administration of higher education from the University of Alabama and was named the university's Most Outstanding Doctoral Student in the field in 1985. The Bay St. Louis native earned a bachelor's degree in communication and political science from USM in 1975, graduating magna cum laude, and got a master's degree in communication and management from Southern Miss in 1978. He was inducted into the University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Hall of Fame in 2000.

In 1978, Paul was named the National Association of Student Personnel's Outstanding New Professional. In 1981, the Jaycees named him Mississippi's Outstanding Young Man. He is also a 1987 graduate of Leadership Mississippi training.

Among many civic activities Paul has served two terms as president of the United Way of Southeast Mississippi. He has also been president of the Hattiesburg Area Education Foundation, on the Board of Directors for the Hattiesburg Boys and Girls Club and has been a trustee for the Hattiesburg Public School District. He is co-founder of the Hattiesburg Leaders for a New Century program and has served on a statewide basis in leadership positions with the Mississippi Economic Council.

Paul, and his wife, the former Meg Pearson have two children. They are active members of Trinity Episcopal Church. They reside in Hattiesburg, Mississippi.