

RESOLUTION FOR

Vida Mays

WHEREAS, Vida Mays has dedicated twelve years of service to Southeast Missouri State University; and

WHEREAS, she provided expert pre-college counseling to countless students and families during her tenure as the Director of Pre-Collegiate Programs; and

WHEREAS, she has distinguished herself by showing involvement and dedication to the University's service region through the administration of the Bootheel Partnership Gear-Up Program, an initiative that provided participating students with positive role models that helped open their minds to opportunities and choices that await them after high school; and

WHEREAS, the university's relationships with the Hayti, Caruthersville, Charleston and Pemiscot County Public School Districts were strengthened as a result of their participation in the Bootheel Partnership Gear-Up Program; and

WHEREAS, Vida was instrumental in the success of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner celebrations from 2009 through 2011, where nationally recognized speakers Michael Eric Dyson, Christopher Gardner, and Roland Martin attracted record attendance and community support for this significant university event; and

WHEREAS, In 2009 and in the years thereafter, Vida sought and received the College Access Challenge Grant, a grant funded through the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 for the purpose of fostering partnerships aimed at increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, Vida worked with the Cape Girardeau Public School District to use the College Access Challenge Grant to lower the districts high school dropout rate and increase college attendance rates; and

WHEREAS, she is recognized as a mentor of countless first-generation college students whose lives were transformed as a result of her efforts to provide summer programming, one-on-one mentoring, college tours, and the encouragement to achieve one's full potential in life; and

WHEREAS, she leaves behind a large group of colleagues who hold her in the highest regard, both professionally and personally;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Regents expresses its appreciation and congratulations on behalf of the University and its students, faculty, staff, and administration on this twelfth day of April, Two Thousand Thirteen.



Doyle Privett

Doyle L. Privett

President, Board of Regents
Southeast Missouri State University