

Bio file



Stan Soffin named new ombudsman

Stanley I. Soffin was appointed the MSU ombudsman by the MSU Board of Trustees at its July 23 meeting. Soffin's appointment is effective Aug. 16.

Also appointed were Diane Ebert-May as director of Lyman Briggs School and Joseph F. Marshall as chairperson of the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology.

"I'm pleased with the opportunity to serve the University in a new capacity," Soffin said. "My predecessors have defined and validated this unique position over the past 30 years, and I'm committed to continuing their dedication to fair and neutral counsel in resolving disputes."

Soffin has a master's degree in journalism and a doctorate in American Studies from MSU.

Soffin joined the MSU faculty in 1968 as a journalism instructor. Since then he has served a number of administrative and academic roles, including director of the School of Journalism since 1982.

During his 16-year tenure as director of the School of Journalism, he was responsible for several grants totaling more than \$1.5 million, including the prestigious Knight Chair in Journalism, funded by the John S.

and James L. Knight Foundation. He raised money to support more than 15 endowed scholarships, programs for visiting journalists-in-residence and a minority teacher certification program for minority secondary school teachers.

He also was instrumental in developing the school's Victims and the Media Program and the Hispanics in Journalism Program.

Ebert-May's appointment, which includes a tenured professorship in the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, is effective Aug. 16.

Ebert-May is currently director of the Science and Mathematics Learning Center at Northern Arizona University (NAU), a post she has held since 1989. She also is an associate professor in NAU's Department of Biological Sciences.

Prior to her Northern Arizona appointments, Ebert-May was assistant provost, Office of International Programs and Special Sessions, at the University of Delaware. She also taught in the university's School of Life Sciences and the College of Education's Science Curriculum Development Laboratory.

Ebert-May has a bachelor of science degree in botany and secondary education from the

University of Wisconsin-Madison and master of arts degree and a doctorate in biology from the University of Colorado-Boulder.

Marshall's appointment includes a tenured professorship in the Department of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Biology.

Marshall comes to MSU's East Lansing campus from Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals Inc. (SCH), where he was director of obstetrics and gynecology. SCH is a medical education corporation and a clinical campus of the College of Human Medicine.

As director of SCH's obstetrics and gynecology department for nearly 20 years, Marshall earned a national reputation as an expert on infant mortality issues. He has long been involved in the Saginaw County Infant Mortality Coalition, a group that has successfully lowered infant mortality rates in that county to below the state average.

In addition, Marshall was instrumental in establishing the Family Health Continuum Project, a countywide program that helps pregnant women receive adequate health care.

Marshall earned his medical degree from Wayne State University. He completed his residency at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital.