



**In Memoriam:  
Laura Beck Kitchens  
October 6, 1974-March 6, 2009**

The MSU Foundation deeply mourns the loss of Laura Beck Kitchens – colleague, friend and fellow Bulldog.

Laura served the MSU Foundation from November 2002 through December 2007, first as director of the Fund for Excellence (now the Annual Fund) and then as marketing and communications coordinator.

Laura earned a bachelor's degree from MSU in communications in 1997, with an emphasis in public relations and a minor in history. She followed with a master's degree in business administration, also from Mississippi State, in 1999.

As marketing and communications coordinator, she was involved in many visible aspects of the MSU Foundation and the Alumni Association, including writing articles for each issue of E-Bark and Bully's Bark. In her role as director of the Fund for Excellence, Laura made many significant contributions as well. She revamped and relocated the Bulldog Calling Center, MSU's telefunding center, growing the program and moving it to the Hunter Henry Center.

Laura's passion for Mississippi State led her to begin her career as an enrollment counselor in the late 1990s, recruiting future Bulldogs to her alma mater. She also worked as a client advocate and public relations specialist with The Morse Group communications firm in Florence, Ala., and served as director of marketing and development for Scenic Land School in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Mississippi State was a family affair for Laura. Both her husband, Shane Kitchens, and father, Oscar Beck, are alumni.

Laura's family has established the Laura Beck Kitchens Memorial Scholarship at MSU and asked that memorials be made to support the scholarship. If you would like to make a donation, please [click here](#) or contact Cathy Lammons at 662.325.7843. If giving online, be sure to designate your gift to the Laura Beck Kitchens Memorial Scholarship.

During her tenure at Mississippi State, Laura made tremendous contributions to her alma mater. Her unwavering spirit will be missed, but never forgotten.