

# Anne Marie Currie

**CARUTHERSVILLE, MISSOURI NATIVE,** Anne Marie Currie, grew up in a tiny town along the Mighty Mississippi in the boot heel of Missouri. Her ties to State were paternal. Her father graduated in business administration from MSU and loved his time in college.

When selecting a school, she knew she wanted the sense of community, which defined her hometown but wasn't sure which colleges would provide such a place. She visited three universities before making a decision, all about equal distances from home: Mississippi State, the University of Alabama, and the University of Missouri.

"The feeling I had when I walked onto MSU's campus, one of welcome and hospitality, was overwhelming," Currie said. "I truly felt that people at MSU were here to help me.

Currie said there was a sense that everyone at the university wanted to help her succeed as a student and prepare her to go out into the world and help others. She said the big draw was that the university made her feel like a person instead of just a number. The family connection mattered, too.

"Of course, when I made the decision to attend MSU, my dad was thrilled to bring out his cowbell," Currie laughed.

When Currie arrived on campus, she knew she would be active in the university's community. She joined the student association, worked as counselor in the new maroon camp, and served as an orientation leader. During her academic career, she became a member of Chi Omega sorority, serving in numerous leadership roles including as the organization's

president this year. She is also in the honor societies Lambda Sigma and Mortar Board. She was asked to serve as Miss MSU for homecoming, a selection based on an interview process. Plus, there is the rigor required for a biochemistry degree complete with challenging classes and labs.

"Being here at Mississippi State and in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, you are constantly being poured into and provided outlets and resources to use," Currie said. "That level of support and engagement has paved the way for an amazing experience."

She begins her day early with a morning devotional and a run. Her sorority sisters joke that she is the first one up in the house every morning. After breakfast, she dashes to class, then to a host of labs and meetings. After that, she hits the books, oftentimes until midnight. Then she gets up the next day and does it all over again. She says that rigor is preparing her for her next challenge: attending the University of Tennessee College of Dentistry in Memphis this fall.

Currie says choosing MSU is the best life decision she has made thus far and the memories she's made here will last a lifetime.

"The little moments of college, the late night ice cream run, grabbing a quick bite, or going for a walk with friends is something I'll miss as I make the transition to dental school," Currie said.

And the busy schedule has definitely been a balancing act for Currie.

"Being sorority president has been like a full-time job that's not listed as a job," Currie said. "You never know what is going to come across your desk, whether



it's someone that needs a friend or a helping hand, logistics with the university, philanthropy events, or resolving a need within the national organization."

She says the responsibility has definitely kept her on her toes and been an amazing leadership experience in both leading her sorority and as an orientation leader.

Currie has found that the opportunities afforded students is one of the many things that sets Mississippi State apart.

"It is empowering to be able to make a difference," she said. "It has truly been an amazing time. While I am excited about the future, it is sad to be leaving campus."

When she does return to campus, she says she will visit her favorite place, the Drill Field.

"When you walk from Dorman Hall, where I spend a lot of time in class, and then you walk onto the Drill Field and you see Lee Hall, it has to be my favorite image of campus," Currie said. "It's like

you can feel the history of Mississippi State in that space, you see the diversity on campus, and you can picture the cadets that once performed drills there. When I am in that space, it makes me so proud to call this my campus. We have the prettiest campus, I think it is because we are an agricultural school, and I am so fortunate to have been able to go to school here and call this place home."

Seniors Anne Marie Currie of Caruthersville, Missouri, and Nicolas D. "Nick" Harris of Millington, Tennessee, are Miss and Mr. MSU 2017. Currie, a biochemistry/pre-dental major, and Harris, a communication/public relations major, are presented during halftime of the MSU vs. University of Kentucky homecoming football game on October 21, 2017. (Photo by Russ Houston)