



Distinguished platform guests listened as President Stroup reaffirmed MSU's positive mission.

President Stroup Inaugurated

By John McDonald

SPEAKS OF COMMITMENT TO MSU'S ORIGINAL VALUES

When Dr. Kala M. Stroup was inaugurated as the seventh president of Murray State University on April 28, she expressed feelings of humility, pride, and appreciation. "This ceremony," she said, "enables us to embark upon a new, yet ever continuing commitment to those values and principles upon which this institution was founded over 60 years ago."

As President Stroup spoke about a common bond shared by the university community, a distinguished audience reflected her enthusiasm. Kentucky Governor Martha Layne Collins, Senator Wendell H. Ford, Congressman Carroll Hubbard, President Emeritus

Harry M. Sparks, Dr. Emily Taylor of the American Council on Higher Education, and other board members, special guests, and university delegates were present for the celebration. But none were more proud than the family of Kala Stroup. Her husband Joe; her children, Chandler and Megan; and her parents, John and Lucille Mays of Kansas; will not soon forget the Inauguration of Dr. Kala M. Stroup as seventh president of Murray State University.

The day began with a brunch for delegates and guests. The Inauguration Ceremony followed. A procession of delegates, faculty and guests opened the



Lovett Auditorium was in rare form as the Inauguration Ceremony prepared to begin.

event to the music of the Wind Ensemble. The University Choir also performed.

Chairman Frymire presided over the ceremony. Several leaders delivered greetings to the new president, including Gov. Collins. "I count on her not only to lead Murray State," said Collins, "but also to join other university presidents and the Council on Higher Education in lending leadership to the entire range of education in Kentucky."

Dr. Stroup responded to the greetings with a promise to commit her efforts to improving education. She said she would provide a kind of presidential leadership that is best exercised through a cooperative spirit.

Dr. Stroup referred to the university as a stained-glass window. "It is bits and pieces held together by a structure that forms part of the image...Its beauty is in its irregularity - its lack of standardization...Its brilliance is in its respect for diversity, colors, and shapes. The vision is made of diverse, small, separate pieces that form a whole more magnificent than any single piece.

"It seems to change in tones," she explained, "yet, it remains constant. It provides a vision of hope and warmth. This window can withstand very rough weather. It endures."

Following President Stroup's speech, the Wind Ensemble performed *Ceremonial, Song and Celebration*,

written by Paul Shahan, assistant dean of the College of Creative Expression.

When the Lovett Auditorium event ended, a special reception awaited at nearby Pogue Library. The day concluded with the annual Alumni Banquet and an Inaugural Ball at the Curris Center.



Governor Collins and President Stroup were accompanied by state and campus security personnel.