

and continuously trusted with new levels of responsibility. General Collins's leadership skills led to assignments in command and staff positions at every level, including company, battalion, regiment, brigade, and the adjutant general's primary staff in both a traditional and Active Guard Reserve status.

General Collins's record of military service also includes being called to Active Duty in Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm and commanding the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team during combat operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004 to 2006.

The commitment, courage and sacrifice demonstrated by General Collins is reflected in the many awards and decorations earned over his distinguished career. These honors include, but are not limited to, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Mississippi Magnolia Cross.

General Collins is a true patriot and one of the most respected leaders in Mississippi. His care and commitment for our citizen soldiers and their families is unwavering. On a personal level, I am grateful for the opportunity to work closely with General Collins. His strength of character, gracious presence, and warm personality always make him a pleasure to be around.

It is an honor to commend General Collins and to express appreciation to him for a job well done. The State of Mississippi and United States of America are better because of you.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MEN AND WOMEN IN RADIO

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I wish to commend the men and women who work in radio broadcasting and to thank the National Broadcasting Professionals Coalition of Radio and Music for ensuring all those working in this profession are properly recognized for their contributions to society. The legislature in my home State of Georgia passed a resolution during the 2016 legislative session recognizing an entire week of April as "Men and Women in Radio Broadcasting Week" in our State, proposed by Atlanta radio host Dee Hill.

Today I particularly recognize the "Fabulous Five" women who were recently honored for their contributions at the Women in Radio reception in Atlanta, GA, hosted by Dee Hill Presentations and Annabella's Foundation, Inc. I congratulate these women—Carol Blackmon, Regina Allen Slaughter, Michele Williams, Sylvia James, and Myrna Taylor-Ransom—who have marked outstanding professional achievements in their industry.

These women and all those who work in radio broadcasting are the producers of radio shows, station managers, disc jockeys, radio hosts, and traffic report-

ers. They are the pioneers of internet radio, blog talk radio, and podcasts. They are in front of the microphone and working behind the scenes to produce radio shows and keep radio stations on the air. We thank them all for their fine work to keep our Nation informed, to encourage debate, and to entertain us.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE SALT LAKE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, my home State of Utah has long been one of the best kept secrets in America. But this is beginning to change. Utah is increasingly recognized as one of the best places in the world to live, study, work, raise a family, start a business, and build communities. In fact, many call Utah the next Silicon Valley, as the Beehive State is fast becoming one of the most popular destinations in America for venture-capital funding and pioneering businesses.

Central to the success of our State's business community is the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce, Utah's largest business association, with members in each of the State's 29 counties, representing more than 8,000 businesses and nearly half the State's workforce.

For generations, the Salt Lake Chamber has played a pivotal role in building a strong and dynamic economy across Utah, by supporting its members, forging collaborative and productive partnerships, and investing in local communities in every corner of the State.

On June 8, 2016, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce recognized the Salt Lake Chamber's record of success by awarding it a five-star accreditation—a highly esteemed designation carried by only 204 of the approximately 7,000 chambers of commerce across the country. Receiving a five-star accreditation proves what many Utahns already knew to be true: the Salt Lake Chamber embodies the enterprising and cooperative spirit of our State and our people.

On behalf of the people of Utah, I congratulate the Salt Lake Chamber—and the thousands of Utah businesses and workers they support—for this well-deserved and impressive distinction, and I thank the chamber's staff, board, and volunteers for the outstanding work that the five-star accreditation represents.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT WITT

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure and the highest regards that I speak on the accomplishments of my valued constituent and friend, Dr. Robert Witt. On August 31, 2016, Dr. Witt retired after 4 years as chancellor of the University of Alabama System and 13 total years of service with the system.

Dr. Witt served as the 26th president of the University of Alabama from 2003–2012, which were some of the most

successful years in the history of the university. Indeed, I believe it will be difficult for any other president of the university to match his success. When Dr. Witt first arrived in Tuscaloosa, he pursued a strategy called for increasing enrollment, stimulating growth in research, supporting economic expansion in Alabama, raising faculty salaries, boosting financial aid, and expanding university facilities. And he accomplished it all.

Dr. Witt's record of groundbreaking enrollment is unparalleled. In 2003, there were less than 20,000 students on campus. His plan called for increasing student enrollment to 28,000 by 2013. This goal was achieved much sooner, as the university enrolled 28,807 students in 2009. Throughout Dr. Witt's tenure, the University of Alabama experienced explosive growth with phenomenal increases in enrollment of both instate and out-of-State students.

The university had a record-breaking year in 2012, when 33,602 students registered for classes. Each subsequent year brought another record student enrollment, and today the student population exceeds 37,000. The Washington Post recently named the university as the fastest growing flagship university in the Nation after finding it has experienced a stunning 92 percent rate of growth. The Post's analysis acknowledged that the growth at the University of Alabama has surpassed that of all the other growing Southeastern Conference universities.

Even with this unprecedented and dramatic growth, academic quality and scholarship opportunities increased. This increase in student population was accompanied by new construction and renovations to campus buildings, such as new residence halls and dining facilities. Dr. Witt's vision positioned the University of Alabama as one of the fastest growing public research institutions in the Nation.

Dr. Witt brilliantly created the university's honors college in 2003. It has grown today to more than 6,500 students. The honors college is rooted in four pillars of the educational experience: innovative scholarship, advanced research, civic engagement, and cultural interaction. It has been instrumental in attracting the very top tier of academic talent from all over the Nation and the world to the school.

The growth of the student population was complemented by the athletic success. After several trying years on the football field, Dr. Witt and his administration selected Nick Saban as the head football coach in 2007. Nine years and four national championships later, Coach Saban proved to be the best of his profession. Dr. Witt has stated that hiring Coach Saban was the best financial investment that the university has ever made. Sports success increased enthusiasm among the alumni, students, and prospective students. Dr. Witt used this excitement to further his goals. The university's capital improvement campaign goal was exceeded by several