



ALPHA KAPPA MU

NEWSLETTER

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

“The scholar is the delegated intellect.
He is MAN THINKING.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson
“The American Scholar”

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Seventeen Muans Inducted at FAMU



New Members at Florida A and M University

The Kappa Iota Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society at Florida A & M University (FAMU) in Tallahassee, Florida inducted 17 new members (13 undergraduates, 3 graduates, and 1 honorary) during the 2009 winter term.

Brigét Horne, the chapter’s president, presided over the program and provided the greetings. Vice President Geldar Matungwa gave the invocation, and Angel Ford (of the Alpha Gamma Chapter) presented the history and the occasion. Secretary Benesemon Simmons introduced the speaker, Dr. Veronica Adams Yon, Associate Professor of English. She is the chapter faculty advisor and the honorary inductee.

Dr. Yon’s address, “Leaders Called for Such a Time as This,” referenced the biblical story of Esther as well as “Nature” and “The American Scholar,” two works by Ralph Waldo Emerson. Inductees were encouraged to look to nature and its Creator for lessons on how to make lasting contributions to the world. Timing, discipline, preparation, and fruitfulness were among some of the pointers shared as the speaker encouraged the inductees to go forth and lead.

Congratulations to Kappa Iota’s newest inductees. Their names, classifications, and majors are as follows: Melba Fisher, senior, Political Science; Alangé D. Foster, senior, Elementary Education; Krishula Edwards, junior, Political Science; Dr. Veronica Yon, Associate Professor of English, speaker and honorary inductee; Ariel Wright, graduate, Social Work; Bisola Adejobi, senior, Accounting; Nekiesha McDowall, junior, Psychology; Bobby Boone, junior, Architecture; Jonathan Fair, junior, Architecture; Mandela Zabulungi, senior, Political Science; Michael Ayala, senior, African American Studies; Samuel Phillips, senior, History; Timothy Harmon, junior, Business Administration; Leticia Hopkins, senior, Public Relations; Victoria Davis, graduate, Public Health; Evelyn Jackson, junior, History Education; and Alex DeJarnett, graduate, Public Administration.

Gore-Crawford Scholarship Recipients Announced



(Left to Right) Dr. Mollie B. Brown, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, and recipient Elizabeth Danielle Henderson

Two Alpha Kappa Muans are the recipients of the George W. Gore, Jr./Thomas J. Crawford, Jr. scholarships. Elizabeth Danielle Henderson of the Alpha Epsilon Chapter at Bennett College and Terri K. Benton of the Alpha Iota Chapter at Albany State University both ranked #1 in the competition.

Ms. Henderson, a chemistry major, plans to earn the Doctor of Pharmacy degree and return to work in her community. She expressed an interest in Campbell University in Buies Creek, North Carolina and Mercer University in Macon, Georgia.

Ms. Terri K. Benton obtained a degree in political science. She plans to earn a juris doctorate degree and to become an associate at a corporate law firm. She will perform pro bono services for the underserved members of the community. Her choices of colleges include the Mercer University Walter F. George School of Law in Macon, Georgia and the Emory University School of Law in Atlanta, Georgia.

The scholarships are named in honor of Dr. George W. Gore, Jr., the founder of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, and Thomas J. Crawford, Jr., Executive Secretary-Treasurer emeritus of the society. Both individuals are deceased.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Imagination and the Advancement of Culture

By: Dr. Ann E. Harris

There is something that we as your teachers cannot teach you, and that is imagination. We can't give you an imagination; we can inspire you to use this gift, because it is imagination that fuels information. I hope that you take good notes when you are in class, but I hope that you also ask yourself "what if" once in a while.

How often do you ask yourself "why not" when you are confronted with a problem that seems to have no solution? Why not? What if? I wonder? How often do these questions rise in your mind when you are studying or standing in line or paying your cell phone bill? You see, it isn't always enough just to have the "correct" answer, if you don't give it a closer look.

And you should wonder -- all the time. It is imagination that fuels our ability to solve problems -- simple or complex. And it is imagination coupled with information and reason that advances our culture -- that jumpstarts our technology that moves our science forward and even keeps us from suffocating under the weight of our own bureaucracy.

I encourage you to ask yourself "what if" as often as you can. For whatever your major, your chosen field, or the job you wind up taking until you get to your chosen field, you are the ones we will depend upon to advance our culture. Every generation has that contribution to make and that responsibility to uphold. You have only to take a glance at history to know this is true.

For example, the computer scientist Joseph Licklider wrote in 1960:

"It seems reasonable to envision, for a time 10 or 15 years hence, a "thinking center" that will incorporate the functions of present-day libraries together with anticipated advances in information storage and retrieval." (Man-Computer Symbiosis)

So nearly 50 years ago, Licklider was able to imagine what we now know as the Internet, and not only did he imagine it, his work with computers helped to make it a reality. What if?

And then there was Keith Glennan, the first NASA administrator, who began to imagine a program for a manned space flight to land on the moon, more than ten years before Neil Armstrong left his historic footprints there. When he began to imagine such an achievement, there was no rocket capable of making the trip, and no such thing as a Lunar Module. Why not?

And let me assure you that ideas that change the world are not always new technology. Sometimes it is the idea that despite our History, nations can live in peace; so what if we sign something called the Atlantic Charter in anticipation of the end of war? What if we can do more after the second war to end all wars and create something even more lasting, like the United Nations?

Or what if medical professionals from all over the world could get together and organize themselves into an emergency action group, an international medical humanitarian organization that provides emergency assistance to those most in need, calling themselves Doctors Without Borders?

Or what if one day, one solitary relief worker named Dan West were to decide that it just wasn't enough just to provide the hungry of the world with a meal, or with temporary supplies that would eventually run out? What if he said one day, "These children don't need a cup, they need a cow," and the organization he began grew into what we now call Heifer International, an organization attempting to end world poverty through gifts of livestock and training in sustainable farming?

You don't have to look very far to find that someone's imagination has touched your life. People with ideas change lives. People with good ideas change the world. When you use the internet; when you see the work of NASA, or of the United Nations, or of Doctors Without Borders, or of Heifer International, you know that ideas change lives.



ALPHA KAPPA MU OFFICERS

National Honor Society
Founded at Tennessee A & I State College
(Tennessee State University)
Nashville, Tennessee, November, 1937
Member of the Association of College Honor Societies

Founder

Dr. George W. Gore, Jr. (Deceased)

Executive Secretary-Treasurer Emeritus

Mr. Thomas J. Crawford, Jr. (Deceased)

President

Dr. Ann Harris, Alpha Gamma Chapter
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Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

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Convention Secretary

Dr. Ann W. Morris
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Greenwood, South Carolina 29646

Assistant Secretary

Vacant

Director of Public Relations

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Historian

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Mrs. Jeraldine W. Walker, Region V
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Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

Dr. Barbara P. Washington
Region VI, Mu Delta
Mississippi Valley State University
Itta Bena, Mississippi 38941

Dr. T. Bernard Clayton, Region VII
Kappa Mu
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Marshall, Texas 75670

Dr. Francis Dorsey, Region VIII
Mu Mu
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Kent, Ohio 44242

*** Newsletter Deadline Set ***

Please submit your articles and photographs to the e-mail address

BLMGO3@bellsouth.net by
Friday, October 29, 2010.

The late Senator Robert Kennedy is often quoted as having said:

***"Some men see things as they are and say why.
I dream things that never were and say why not."***

I'll leave you with Robert Kennedy's words, and I hope that you will all commit to be a part of the change that will come into your lives. Why not?

**Pictorial Highlights of the 60th National Convention of Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society
Alcorn State University and Mississippi Valley State University, Natchez, Mississippi
April 1 – 4, 2009**



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Andrea M. Ewings Is A Law School Graduate

Andrea M. Ewings, a 2004 Magna Cum Laude and Presidential Scholar graduate of Albany State University (ASU), received her Juris Doctorate Degree from the University of Georgia in 2009. Miss Ewings received a B.A. degree in Political Science from ASU.

While attending ASU, she was a member of the Alpha Iota Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society. At the University of Georgia, Miss Ewings was active in the Black Law Students Association (BLSA). She was also instrumental in implementing a new BLSA committee called Academics in Athens which focused on mentoring and providing academic services and workshops to area high school students. She plans a career in criminal prosecution. Miss Ewings is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Miss Terri Benton, a 2009 Gore/Crawford Scholar, Enrolls in Law School

Miss Terri Benton, a 2009 graduate of Albany State University (ASU) and a George W. Gore/Thomas J. Crawford, Jr. Scholar, has enrolled at Mercer University's Law School. In four years at ASU, she built an impressive resume as a Presidential Scholar, Velma Fudge Grant Honors Program member, and one of the top students in her major, political science.

She was awarded the George W. Woodruff Scholarship from Mercer University's Law School. She was chosen as one of 13 finalists for the Woodruff Scholarship which awards a full tuition and a \$5,000 stipend each year as long as the person remains in good academic standing. Ms. Benton stated that receiving the scholarship is wonderful. Considering the economic hardships we are living in, she would only have to take out a small loan for living expenses. The Gore/Crawford Scholarship will help pay for these expenses. At ASU, Miss Benton received a full scholarship and not having loans really prepared her for law school because if she has to obtain loans for graduate school, then it would be fine since she does not have any previous loans.

Last summer Benton was one of four students who attended a pre-law summer institute at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln, Nebraska. While there, she received the confirmation she needed in settling her mind on a career as a lawyer.

Benton stated that she went because she knew she wanted to be a lawyer, but she wanted to make sure before she put in all the time, effort, and sacrifice, not to mention the cost. She enjoyed all the classes and actually received an award in one of the classes for having the highest average. The classes focused on torts, contracts, and employment discrimination. She was paired with two mentors, one of which worked in corporate law and explained the day-to-day transactions to her and allowed her to meet some other lawyers in the firm.

Ms. Benton is a Macon, Georgia native and a graduate of Central High School. She knew as early as seventh grade that she wanted to be a lawyer after participating in a mock trial. She enjoys the art of persuasion as well as the volubility that comes with the legal profession. After establishing herself as an attorney, Ms. Benton hopes to one day start a few non-profit mentoring organizations promoting academic achievement and success for young women. Ms. Benton is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

Dr. Kimberly S. Fields Named an Association of College Honor Societies Advisor Grant Program Recipient

Dr. Kimberly S. Fields, Advisor for the Alpha Iota Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society at Albany State University (ASU), was named one of the ten recipients of the Advisor Grant Program from the Association of College Honor Societies (ACHS) in 2009. The name of the program is "Social Responsibility: The Power of the Association of College Honor Societies to Make a Difference – A Chapter Leadership Project".

The goal of this grant program is to encourage cross-campus collaboration and new initiatives among student organizations related to social responsibility. Ten \$500 grants were available for pilot projects to achieve the following objective: conduct initiative or a pilot project related to social responsibility, or strengthen the current social responsibility or sustainability initiative of individuals and the campus. The funding is intended as an honorarium to the advisor for facilitating and reporting on the outcomes of this pilot project. The grant was awarded after the project report was received.

Dr. Fields' funded Project was "Financial Responsibility, Independence, Empowerment, Networking, and Determination (FRIEND)".

Dr. Fields currently serves as Special Education Coordinator/Assistant Professor/Advisor in the College of Education at ASU. She received a B.A. degree in English, a M.Ed. degree in Special Education, and an Ed.S. in Educational Leadership and Supervision from ASU. The Ed.D. degree in Curriculum and Instruction was awarded by Georgia Southern University, Statesboro, Georgia.

Dr. Fields has worked as a high school English teacher and a Special Education teacher.

Dr. Fields was named as one of Southwest Georgia's 40 Under Forty in 2009 and Albany State University Teacher of the Year 2006-2007. This was her first year serving as the advisor for the Alpha Iota Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Shartia Brantley, Alpha Iota Alumnae, Lists Postings

Shartia R. Brantley, a 1997 graduate of Albany State University in Albany, Georgia, has postings on CNBC.Com and TheGrio.com. Currently, she serves as segment producer and news associate for CNBC in Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey.

In addition to her current responsibilities, she prepares postings for The Grio. In order to access her information, please go to the following websites: www.thegrio.com and www.cnbc.com.

Ms. Brantley received a B.S. degree in accounting from Albany State University, a MBA from The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio in June 1999, and a M.S. degree from the Columbia University, New York, New York in 2007.



A Look At . . . The Orangeburg, South Carolina Massacre

Bishop Marcus Matthews survived one of the first fatal shootings on a college campus in American History. Each February 8th, Matthews, an Episcopal leader of the New York West Area, pauses to remember that night in 1968 on the front lawn of the historically black South Carolina State University in Orangeburg.

He remembers a brief moment of silence before "what sounded like hail or rainstorm" in the air around him. The sound was gunshots from the South Carolina state troopers firing into a crowd of more than 100 students from the university and neighboring United Methodist-related Claflin College who gathered to protest racial discrimination in the community. (Editor's Note: The shootings occurred on February 8th, two nights after an effort by students to bowl at the city's only bowling alley. The owner refused to allow the students the opportunity to bowl. Tensions rose and violence erupted. Afterwards, 28 students were injured and three were dead.)

"Many of us began to crawl back on the campus. You had to crawl or you'd get shot," said Matthews.

The 28 students were shot in their backs, sides, and even their feet as they attempted to flee what is often referred to as the Orangeburg Massacre.

Two university students, Samuel Hammond, Jr., 18, and Henry Smith, 19, were killed. Delano Middleton, a 17-year-old high school student, who was visiting the campus to walk his mother home from her job at the campus infirmary, also was slain in the shooting.

James Salley, associate vice-chancellor for institutional advancement for the United Methodist-related Africa University, was Middleton's classmate at Wilkinson High School.

"It was horrible," Salley said. "You have to imagine there was a young man in class with me since first grade until his death."

Salley says that his friend "Bump," a nickname for Middleton, was an "all-star athlete, good student, and solid citizen." All the students were devastated when they went to school on the following day and heard the news. "People were angry, confused. And it made no sense to us that three people would be killed," Salley said.

Scars Still Present

The February 8th event followed many acts of nonviolence and civil disobedience by students in Orangeburg. For days, Matthews and other students at South Carolina State and Claflin had attempted to integrate a local whites-only bowling alley to no avail.

"The bowling alley was a symbol of the segregation and the racism that was evident in the Orangeburg community at that time," Matthews said. "It just happened to be close to the school; it could have easily been a restaurant or some other white-only facility.

Matthews did not see any students carrying arms during their gathering on the lawn on February 8th. The students were outdoors to rally and sing freedom songs, hoping maybe they could leave campus and go to the bowling alley once again, he said.

But the night ended tragically and ignited fear and anger in the hearts of many who experienced it.

"When we returned to the campus, there was never any professional counseling or ways to help us through this," Matthew said.

Matthew is thankful he received support from his pastor and church family at Cumberland United Methodist in Florence, South Carolina, but considers it a tragedy that the community did not have intentional methods for healing.

"I dare say some of those scars and wounds have not been healed because it's an event that has not really been talked about," said Salley.

While the school shooting at Kent State University in 1970 received droves of national attention, few news entities even discussed the tragedy at South Carolina State two years earlier. The massacre is seldom recognized.

Justice for All

Prior to speaking at a February 8, 2010 commemoration service, Salley said he wanted current students to remember the massacre that occurred 42 years ago. "Students have always taken a stand, and they should continue to take a stand," he said.

Matthews says that turbulent time in history shaped him forever. He remembers that the United Methodist Church was the only religious group in the state that took a stand against racism.

"That made me feel good to be a United Methodist because that reinforced for me that we were a church that spoke out for justice for all. And I was aware that our church was predominantly white, but we still spoke out," Matthews said.

A new documentary, "Scarred Justice: The Orangebug Massacre 1968," aired on PBS stations in February 2010.

--Reprinted from a United Methodist News Service Report ... By: Ciona D. Rouse
Rouse is a freelance writer based in Nashville, Tennessee.

D'Andrea Burns Jackson Receives Doctorate

D'Andrea Burns Jackson, inducted into the Alpha Iota Chapter at Albany State University (ASU) in Georgia, received the Ed.D. degree in educational administration last year from Georgia Southern University in Statesboro, Georgia.

Dr. Jackson received a B. S. degree in accounting from ASU in 1997, the MBA, with a finance concentration, from the University of Cincinnati in Ohio in 1998, and the Ed.S in educational administration and supervision from ASU in 2004.

She has worked as a business education teacher at the T.W. Josey High School and George P. Butler High School in Augusta, Georgia. Currently, she serves as assistant principal at the Ursula E. Collins Elementary School in Augusta.

While at ASU, Dr. Jackson served as secretary-treasurer of the Alpha Iota Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. In addition, she was the treasurer when the chapter hosted the Alpha Kappa Mu National Convention in 1997.

Dr. Jackson is a member of the Augusta alumnae chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., where she serves as the assistant treasurer. She is married to Douglas Jackson, and they have two children, Donovan and Drew.



Induction Ceremony Held at Morgan State University

By: Andrea Carrington, Morgan Student



New Muans at Morgan State University

On Tuesday, March 17, 2009, twenty-one students at Morgan State University were inducted into the Pi Lambda Psi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. Dr. Milford A. Jeremiah, chapter advisor, directed the ceremony.

Attorney Stacey B. Jones, a member of the Society and a Morgan graduate delivered the honor's address and shared her experiences as a student at Morgan State University. Specifically, she stressed that persistence is the key in anything that a person undertakes and that excellence is color-blind.

After the induction ritual was conducted, friends and family members, about 105 in attendance, expressed their sentiments about the achievement of the inductees. Tears were shed, and smiles and laughter were present. The inductees then took group pictures to mark the event.