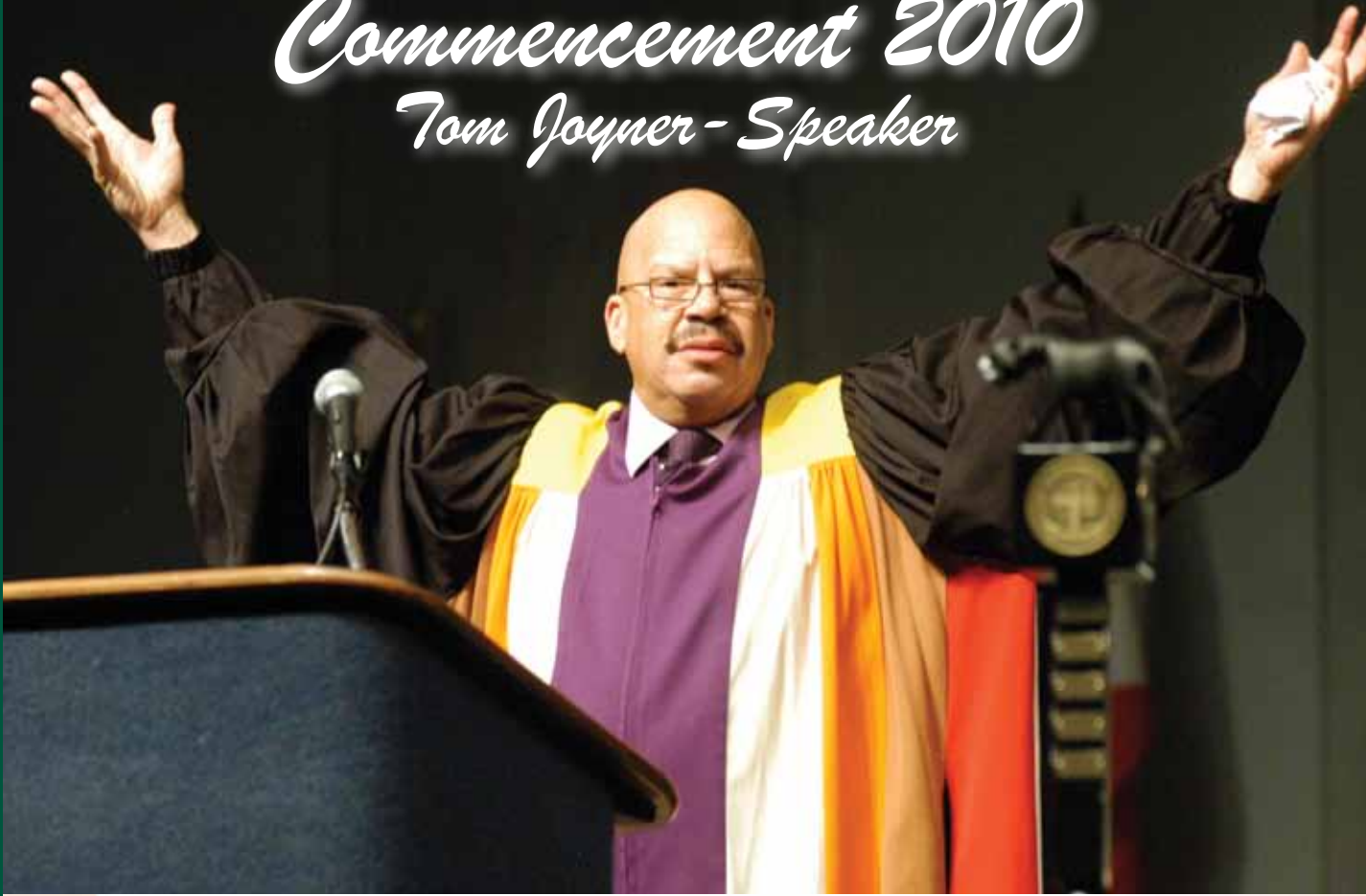


Spring/
Summer
2010

The Philanderian

Commencement 2010
Tom Joyner - Speaker



Alumni Reunion Weekend
&
National Alumni Association Convention
M. L. Harris Society

THINK JUSTICE



Leading The Way For A New HBCU Movement

“Many [HBCUs] are essentially trying to recruit an iPod generation with an 8-track mentality. Philander Smith College is staying relevant.”

This past June, I received an invitation from North Carolina Central University Chancellor Dr. Charlie Nelms to participate in the school’s centennial symposium. With a theme of setting the agenda for historically Black colleges and universities, more than 300 persons participated in the event that was featured in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, the nation’s most well-respected higher education publication.

There were a number of great speakers, including U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan who reiterated President Obama’s commitment to HBCUs, while challenging the group to become even more engaged in producing a higher number of college graduates. In his speech, “*Changing the HBCU Narrative: From Corrective Action to Creative Investment*,” Duncan called for improved graduation rates, and cited Philander Smith College for having

a “laser-like focus” on our rates. This is the second major speech given by Secretary Duncan concerning HBCUs, and Philander Smith College is the only HBCU he has cited in both instances.

During my symposium speech, I pushed the audience to think about how HBCUs must change the way in which we operate, citing a 2007 study which said:

I liken higher education to the auto industry. Many of the companies are losing market share by not embracing how much things have changed. They are arrogant, complacent or in denial. It is the same in higher education. The rate of change in higher education is inadequate compared to the rate of change in the world around higher education. We are going to have problems.

Just look at the past ten years: Facebook, Twitter, Wikipedia, iPod, September 11 and Katrina did not exist in 2000, but they all have meaning today. In terms of HBCUs, 10 years ago 16 of the top 20 schools that graduated Black students were HBCUs. Today, it is down to nine, with the largest producer being the University of Phoenix, surpassing FAMU, and four of the top 20 are either online or for-profit.

I suggested that HBCUs need a “Starbucks movement,” meaning that Black colleges and universities must become so appealing that students and parents go out of their way for this experience. This won’t happen with lots of marketing; Starbucks did none for many years, but that what they did do was to make something so exceptional that people talked about it, drawing in others.

Too often, HBCUs find themselves stuck in the past, talking about how we did things back in the day. Many are essentially trying to recruit an iPod generation with an 8-track mentality. Philander Smith College is staying relevant. Examples? Record numbers of students are applying. Major foundations are considering funding proposals. We’re receiving national media coverage in *The New York Times* and *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*.

This is not the time to become complacent. We have to keep developing new programs, new techniques, new services that are remarkable, because what we’re doing now will be outdated in ten years or sooner. Your support is critical for us to continue leading the way in the HBCU Starbucks movement.



Walter M. Kimbrough, Ph. D.

The Philanderian
SPRING / SUMMER 2010

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FEATURES

- 4** Alumni Spotlights: Judge L. Clifford Davis '45 & Carla Johnson '05
- 6** Kresge Foundation \$1.2 Million Grant
- 8** Bless The Mic Lecture Series
- 10** 15th Annual Elijah Pitts Golf Tournament
- 12-17** Cover Stories: Alumni Reunion Weekend, Commencement 2010 & National Alumni Association Convention
- 25** Honor Roll of Donors

DEPARTMENTS

- 12 & 16** Alumni News
- 18** Around Campus
- 20** Student Life
- 23** Faculty / Staff News & Admissions / Recruitment
- 21** Message from the Alumni Association President



Commencement 2010
Dr. Kimbrough talks with Commencement speaker Tom Joyner before the event.
page 14



Jazz Brunch
Tawanna Campbell entertains the audience during Alumni Reunion Weekend
page 12

On the Cover:

Top—Tom Joyner gives the Commencement 2010 address
Bottom— M. L. Harris Society inductees from left: Kathryn Worthen, Mr. Harry Roberson, Mrs. Erma Williams, Mr. Bennie Williams, Judge L. Clifford Davis, Dr. Freddie Nixon, Reverend Larry W. Ross, Mrs. Lillian Ross, Dr. Sherman E. Tate, Mr. Claybron Wisham and Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough

Alumni Spotlight

Living Justice: Judge L. Clifford Davis ‘45

Long before we were called upon to *Think Justice*, the **Honorable Judge L. Clifford Davis ‘45** was living it. For more than 50 years, a commitment to justice has flowed through the veins of this soft-spoken pioneer who continues, even now to think, live and, above all, fight for justice.

The Wilton, Ark., native, graduated from Philander Smith with a degree in business administration in 1945, and his quest for justice

began. After earning his law degree from Howard University in 1949, he was fully equipped to carry the torch that continues to light the path of righteousness for so many.

Taking charge is nothing new for a man who left Arkansas for the Fort Worth, Texas, area early in his legal career.

Having to endure such indignities as being called “boy” by some judges, receiving hate mail and being hung in effigy would prove no match for the legal lion whose legacy as a civil rights champion includes being teamed with the likes of the Honorable Thurgood Marshall and other warriors for equality.

As Philander Smith College propels its social justice initiative, not surprisingly, Davis, a member of the College’s top giving club, the M.L. Harris Society,

has now stepped up as a donor to the Renaissance 100 Scholars program.

He understands that his financial support is crucial to funding the College’s justice project, just as other donors and major foundations such as the prominent Kresge Foundation are contributing in a major way to help establish a Center for Social Justice at the campus.

Though still handling cases in Fort Worth, work



has never stopped Davis from making the five-hour trip to Little Rock to visit Philander Smith College. Whether he is counseling students, chatting with faculty and staff, or just strolling the yard, his presence does not go unnoticed. Of course, he does not have to travel five hours just to see students; he need only stop by the

L. Clifford Davis Elementary School in Fort Worth to touch the lives of young people, which he does regularly.

While Philander Smith’s mission – *to graduate academically accomplished students, grounded as advocates for social justice, determined to change the world for the better* – was modified only recently, the life and career of Judge Davis foretold what was to come at the institution where he received his solid

footing more than 50 years ago.

Thanks to his generosity and continued support, another promising Philanderian will have the opportunity to make the world better for others, following in the mighty footprint Judge Clifford L. Davis continues to impress.

Last year, Davis told the Texas Bar Blog in a profile feature about him that giving is at the heart of everything he does.

“I’ve known a lot of people around here for a long time,” he said. “If I can help them out, I help them out. If they can pay something, that’s good. If not, I’ll do it anyway.”

According to the blog piece, Davis said he tries to minimize work that may land him in court. “At my age, I don’t want to take on any lengthy

litigation because I always want my work to be up to my standards... The community has been good to me. I’ve been able to make a living and I’ve been supported for public office. I’m basically trying to give back.”

His commitment to service and philanthropy is evident in the way he’s molded his career within a legal framework built on hard work combined with generosity. “Pro bono has become a much more acceptable part of the practice of law, especially at large law firms. Almost every lawyer at some point will do some kind of pro bono work. It’s a great idea and a great service.”

After 60 years as a lawyer, Davis has no plans to let up. “I have a little saying: ‘Never stop because it’s hard to get started.’ “

Stepping Up, Giving Back: Carla Johnson ‘05

Carla Johnson knows about sacrifice during challenging times. After high school, the Indianapolis, Ind., native entered Philander Smith College on a full academic scholarship. Once on campus, she had no difficulty immersing herself in student life and even wore the crown of Miss PSC. Upon graduating *summa cum laude* in 2005, however, her life took an unfamiliar turn.

Pursuing her dream of becoming an attorney, Carla was enrolled as a full-time law school student, but an extremely disappointing first year found her fighting for her law school life. On the brink of losing her free education, she was forced to reach deep within, as well as outward and back in the direction of her Philander Smith College mentors. It was with their encouragement and support that she gained the confidence to successfully petition for re-entry into law school.

Not only was Carla able to resume her law studies, but in 2009, she proudly graduated *with*

honors from the William H. Bowen School of Law at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Today, she is based in Memphis, Tenn., where she is an associate attorney with the Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz firm.



Carla epitomizes the type of student Philander Smith College hopes to continue to attract. And because of the great support she received to complete her education she fully understands the importance of paying it forward.

This is why she recently pledged her support to the **Renaissance 100 Scholarship Program**. Since graduating, Carla has remained active in campus affairs and her financial commitment is just the latest

expression of her continued interest in her alma mater.

With a newfound focus on helping fund scholarships for deserving students, Carla now provides support for Philander Smith scholars like her younger self – those who may need a little extra boost to help survive challenging times.

Kresge Foundation Award \$1.2 Million Grant to Create

During a press conference on Aug. 12, Philander Smith College announced its first major gift toward its social justice initiative, a \$1.2 million grant from The Kresge Foundation. This gift will establish the Center for Social Justice on the campus of the private, historically black institution and includes a \$300,000 challenge grant.

Kresge’s multi-year support will help fund the hiring of key staff that will oversee the college’s social justice initiative. An executive director and program staff will train faculty to infuse social justice into their curriculum, establish a visiting professor program in the field and implement an incentive program for students to focus on civic engagement, among other projects

designed to establish a Center for Social Justice.

“I’m honored to present this grant on behalf of The Kresge Foundation because the vision for the Center for Social Justice at Philander Smith College is aligned closely with the objectives we

have focused on for more than 80 years,” said William Moses, program officer for The Kresge Foundation.

“Our education work supports greater post-secondary access and success for low-income and under-represented students. We are impressed not only with Philander Smith’s proud

tradition as an HBCU committed to these same values, but with the creation a new Center for Social Justice that will exemplify them everyday.”

The challenge portion of the grant requires the college to raise \$300,000 in private support by Dec. 31, 2012 to secure a matching \$300,000 gift from Kresge. The goal of the challenge is to help increase the college’s endowment and rate of alumni giving.

“We are extremely grateful to The Kresge Foundation for their confidence in our mission to graduate students who are grounded as advocates for social justice,” said Philander Smith College President Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough. “In 2007 when we adopted the social justice initiative, our vision was to create a Center



William “Bill” Moses, program officer for The Kresge Foundation, announces support for Philander Smith’s social justice initiative.



The announcement was made before faculty, staff, administrators, students and community/business leaders.

Philander Smith College Center for Social Justice



On hand for remarks at the news conference announcing The Kresge Foundation grant were Bob Birch, regional president of Centennial Bank of North Little Rock, Ark., and chairman of the Philander Smith board of trustees, along with John Silvanus Wilson Jr., executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

devoted to these issues. Now, with Kresge's support, we are able to make some monumental strides toward the realization of that goal."

"We are thrilled about Kresge's support of our social justice project, and the foundation's challenge grant to help increase our endowment and alumni giving will help to fortify Philander Smith's fiscal strength for years to come, and for that we are truly grateful," said Dr. Shannon Fleming, vice president for advancement.

The Kresge Foundation is a \$3.1 billion Michigan-based private, national foundation that seeks to influence the quality of life for future generations through its support of nonprofit organizations in six areas of interest: health, the environment, community development, arts and culture, education and human services.

Grants from The Kresge Foundation are highly sought after and considered a loud statement in support of the recipient organization and its projects.

Selection Underway for Social Justice Initiative Leader

The job description of the person hired to fill the role of the Philander Smith College Director of the Social Justice Initiative reads like one that could be used to recruit the leader of social conglomerate like AmeriCorps, the Red Cross or even a small country.

When Dr. Walter Kimbrough developed the job description did he have someone in mind for the job like Nelson Mandela or Julian Bond?

"Not at all, even though the 29 applications I have are quite impressive," Kimbrough said. "And not all of them represent academia. I see someone filling this job with the background and experience that takes this message of social justice beyond this campus." He said he hopes to have the position filled before the end of the Fall semester.

The job opening is no longer posted on the PSC website. To get a better understanding of what the person will be doing besides reporting directly to Dr. Kimbrough and developing the social justice initiatives and implementation strategies, here's what the job will entail:

The director is charged with managing the initiative, fund raising, forging partnerships with campus supporters, engaging local, regional and national groups and agencies committed to justice issues, and infusing social justice into the curriculum.

'Spring Season 2010' *Bless the Mic*



Michelle Singletary



Iyanla Vanzant



Dr. Tricia Rose



Sapphire

Personal finance guru **Michelle Singletary** kicked off the Spring 2010 semester of the *Bless the Mic* Lecture Series on Jan. 21 with practical advice on how to manage the affairs of the pocketbook.

Using a PowerPoint presentation to illustrate her talk, Singletary was alternately humorous and gravely serious lecturing to a crowd of mostly students about how to achieve financial success. Singletary gave five steps to financial freedom which included: Save automatically; Invest early; Eliminate debt; Vary your investment; and Spend less than is earned.

Her advice was sprinkled with childhood reflections on the personal finance advice of her beloved "Big Mama," who raised Singletary and her four siblings on a nurse's aide salary. Her grandmother never paid her bills late and always saved a portion of her paycheck for retirement. "It was amazing how she handled money," Singletary shared. Describing herself as "cheap," Singletary also wove in comical stories of how she and husband handle money matters while raising their three children.

Singletary writes the syndicated column "The Color of Money" for the *Washington Post*. She has hosted radio and TV programs as a finance expert and is the author of three books including her latest, *The Power to Prosper: 21 Days to Financial Freedom*, released in January 2010.

Fittingly, the talk concluded with Singletary challenging the audience to a 21-day fast from unnecessary spending – not using a debit or credit card and buying only necessities.

Writing about her visit on his blog, President Kimbrough said Singletary "takes the honors for best *Bless the Mic* speaker" on account of the abundance of practical information she offered and her "down-to-earth" presentation style.

Besides Singletary, other notable speakers gracing the stage this past spring were motivational speaker and author **Iyanla Vanzant** (March 16), **Dr. Tricia Rose** (March 25), Brown University professor and author of *The Hip Hop Wars* and **Sapphire** (April 21), author of the novel *Push*, which became the basis of the Oscar nominated film *Precious*.



BlessTheMic
A Hip-Hop President's Lecture Series
PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2010
Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, Author,
 Professor, and Cultural Critic



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2010
NeNe Leakes, *The Real Housewives
 of Atlanta*



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2010
Anya Kamenetz, Author, *Generation
 Debt*



THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2010
Leslie Sanchez, CNN Republican
 Strategist



TUESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2011
Dr. Steve Perry, Founder & Principal,
 Capitol Preparatory Magnet School
 (Hartford, CT) and Author, *Raggedy
 Schools*



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2011
Dr. Ian Smith, Health and Fitness
 Expert and Author, *The Fat Smash
 Diet*



THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011
Jacque Reid, Media Personality



2010-2011 Lecture Schedule

All lectures in the **BlessTheMic**
 series begin at 7 p.m. in the
 M. L. Harris Auditorium,
 are **free** and open to the public.
 For more information please
 call 501-370-5279.

No tickets or RSVPs required



THINK JUSTICE

900 Daisy Bates Drive
 Little Rock, AR 72202
www.philander.edu

The 15th Annual Elijah Pitts Memorial Golf Tournament

Years after its founding, the **Elijah Pitts Memorial Golf Tournament** is still going strong. Each year teams from across the central Arkansas area look forward to taking the Rebsamen Golf Course in Little Rock for a day of golf and fellowship all in the name of raising scholarship funds for Philander Smith students.

This year's tournament took place May 15 and was co-hosted by **Ron Pitts** of California, the Fox Sports broadcaster and son of Elijah Pitts for whom the event is named. Pitts was a member of one of the 21 teams that competed that day. In addition to a good time on the golf course, golfers also receive lunch and prizes.

The 15th annual tournament raised \$15,000.

The Tournament's Namesake Elijah Pitts was a running back for the Green Bay Packers from 1961 to 1969 and again in 1971. Though the Mayflower, Ark., native enjoyed a successful career, winning four NFL championships and two Super Bowls (I and II), his was hardly an obvious path. A sharecropper's son, Pitts attended high school in Conway (the high school at Mayflower was too small to field a football team) and chose to play on the collegiate level at Philander Smith College. He was taken by the Green Bay Packers in the 13th round of the 1961 draft.

Pitts established the golf tournament to raise support for his alma mater. Although he lived in Buffalo, New York, he was active with the event until his death in 1998 at age 60.



President Walter M. Kimbrough and host Ron Pitts address the participants before the tourney begins.

Thanks to this year's sponsors:

Dillard's
 Verizon Wireless
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 Arkansas Blue Cross & Blue Shield
 Bank of the Ozarks
 Centennial Bank
 City of Little Rock
 Cortinez Law Firm
 Fed Ex
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 Pepsi
 AmeriServe

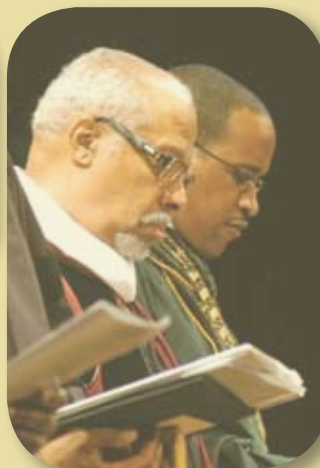


Tournament participants warm up before teeing off.

Mark Your Calendars!

3rd Annual Alumni Reunion Weekend! & 2011 National Alumni Convention

April 28 - May 1
Commencement
&



Baccalaureate Service



The Absolute Gift of Song

PSC alumnus, Tawanna Campbell '05, created a soulful afternoon of entertainment that had hands clapping and feet patting at the Jazz & Champagne Reception held during Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010. With songs ranging from neo-soul to the blues, Campbell's talent displayed her way of giving back to honor her alma mater. The room filled with rhythmic sounds as she bantered with the crowd throughout her performance. Alumni danced and sang along with the hometown girl turned educator. As the requests poured in, the music continued.

Philander Smith College also had a request for her. When asked if she would participate in Alumni Reunion Weekend, she responded "absolutely." Can in-kind donations make a difference? Well, our answer was absolutely.

May 1-3, 2010 was a weekend to remember as the jointly held **2nd Annual Alumni Reunion Weekend** and **54th Annual National Alumni Association Convention** converged with the **2010 Commencement** ceremonies to make a scrapbook full of memories for the more than 150 registered alumni who were in attendance.

The weekend's theme, "**Uniting with History,**" encompassed the passion and purpose of all three events and at the Baccalaureate worship service, many alums turned out in full regalia and proudly kept with tradition marching behind the alumni banner. Additionally, the Jazz Champagne Reception, the Alumni Dialogue Circle with board members, the State of the College address and the class meetings provided several opportunities for engagement.

The highlight of a weekend with so many high points was the **Celebration Banquet**

Continued on page 16

Uniting
with
history...



2, 2010



Proud PSC Panther Athletes of the '50s '60s (left to right): Bennie Williams, William Rush, and Howard Hill. Frank James, Hubert "Geese" Ausbie, Harry Roberson, Theodore Clements, Claybron Wisham, Manuel Twillie, and Wilbert Gaines.



President Walter M. Kimbrough with NAA President Erma Williams and husband Bennie R. Williams



Adell Thompson, Mary Ragston, and former PSC President Myer L. Titus go through the buffet line during the Alumni Reunion Weekend picnic.



Alum, Alice Charles '70 selects her favorite karaoke song to perform during ARW picnic.

Commencement



Speaker Tom Joyner and members of the President's Cabinet



Dr. Frank James '61, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Crisshaundra Pullom

Philander Smith College held its 133th Commencement Ceremony at the Statehouse Convention Center on Saturday, May 1, 2010. A total of 96 graduates received their degrees. Of those graduates, 33 were awarded Honors or were designated with Distinction in Field.

Mr. Thomas "Tom" Joyner, Host of the nationally syndicated *The Tom Joyner Morning Show*, founder of **REACH Media Inc.**, the **Tom Joyner Foundation**, and **BlackAmericaWeb.com**. delivered the keynote address to an audience of more than 2,000.

Mr. Joyner and alum **Harry Roberson Jr. '50** were awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters for their contributions to the College.

Prior to Commencement, the annual Baccalaureate Service took place at the M. L. Harris Auditorium at Philander Smith College on Friday, April 30. **Rev. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks, Jr. Senior Minister** Metropolitan Baptist Church, Washington, DC was the speaker to the audience of more than 400.

"We are very proud of our 2010 graduates," said Walter M. Kimbrough, President. He added that it is an honor to have these wonderful speakers participate in the commencement ceremony.

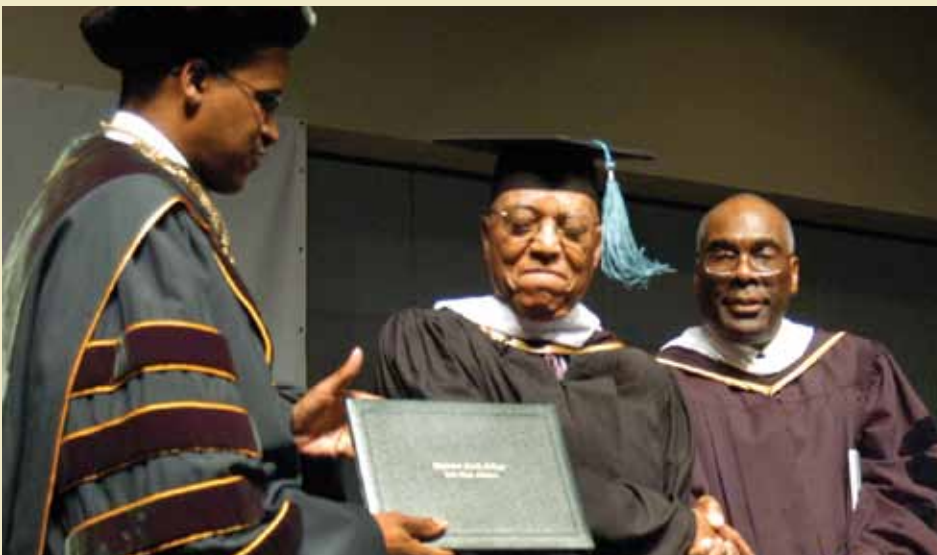
The Philander Smith Collegiate Choir performed at both services under the direction of Professor Karliss Chapple. The *Chosen Generation*, Philander's Gospel Choir, performed at the Baccalaureate Service under the direction of Jeremy Carter, PSC senior.



Kamara Wilson, senior



Jamal Williams, Senior Class President



Harry Roberson, Jr., '50, receives the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from President Walter M. Kimbrough and Rev. Larry Ross, Board of Trustees chair

ent 2010



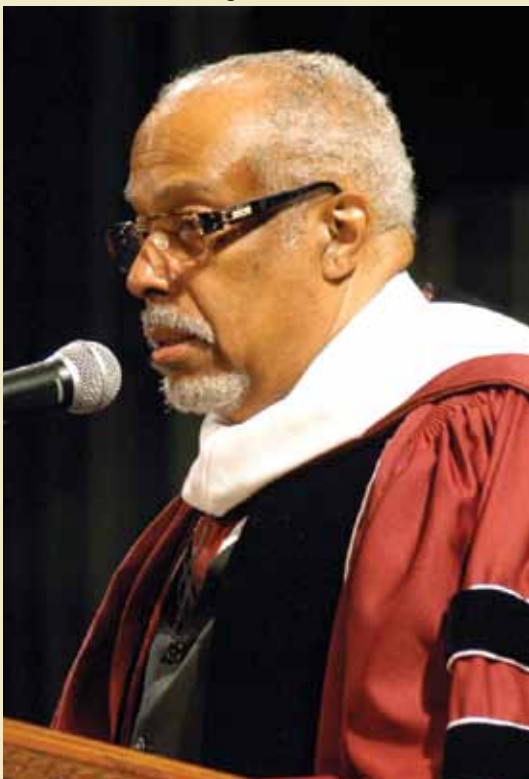
Professor Karliss Chapple, Director of the Philander Smith Collegiate Choir



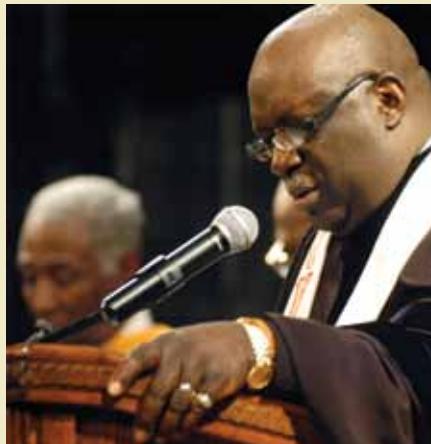
Tameaka Brooks, sophomore



Marcel Jagne-Shaw
president, Student Government Assoc.



Rev. Dr. H. Beecher Hicks



Rev. C. E. McAdoo '69



Brittany James, senior



Tariq Cummings, senior



Acolytes — Senior class members
Erin Lett and Edward Wiley



Lauren Allen, Vice President Senior Class



Rev. Ronnie Miller-Yow



Manuel A. Twillie stresses a point during NAA Convention General Session



Dialogue Circle Q & A with alums who are members of the Board of Trustees



Banquet keynote speaker, President Walter M. Kimbrough, delivering candid message to alums



V. P. for Institutional Advancement, Dr. Shannon Fleming, extends greetings to alumni and friends during the Celebration Banquet.



Continued from page 12

held at the Hilton Little Rock hotel. President Walter M. Kimbrough was the keynote speaker and delivered a candid message focused on the seriousness of alumni giving. “*Maximizing Alumni Reunion Giving,*” specifically for scholarships, was the recurrent theme of his presentation.

Fortunately, the alumni responded positively to the president’s message because by the banquet’s end, more than \$28,000 was raised. Further, at the urging of outgoing Board of Trustees Chair **Rev. Larry Ross ‘69**, 35 alumni stood up and committed more than \$350,000 in scholarship pledges.

The banquet not only was a showcase for the record number of alumni giving, but it also included the inductions of the newest members of Philander Smith’s pinnacle giving club, the **M.L. Harris Society**, as well as the **Minton Legacy Society**. Plus, the **Golden Alumni** were given special recognition and the honor of **NAA Alumni of the Year** was awarded to **Sybil Bunn ‘59**.



PSC student, Ms. [Name], shows banquet attendees the selection.



The 2010 Golden Alumni



Alums stand as they...



Jasmine Walker, graduates with a



NAA President, Erma Williams presents donor award to '63 alumnus, Dr. Etta F. Carter '63.



Dr. Jill E. Trice, Chair of the Distinguished Alumni Committee, presents the 2010 award to Sybil W. Bunn '59 graduate.



Alumni Celebrants after receiving their 50-year stoles



Professor Karliss Chapple, PSC Director of Choral Activities and Assistant Professor of Music, directs members of the combined Collegiate and Alumni Choir.



Alumni pledge their support to the Renaissance 100 Scholars Program.



Outgoing board chair, Rev. Larry W. Ross, appeals to fellow alumni for their commitment to the Renaissance 100 Scholars Program.

Religious Emphasis Week: Feb. 21-26, 2010

In the three years since its inception, Religious Emphasis Week at Philander Smith has grown into one of the most anticipated observances of the academic year. Sponsored and coordinated by the Office of Religious Life, led by Chaplain Rev. Ronnie Miller-Yow, Religious Emphasis Week is an ecumenical celebration highlighted each year by the community-inspired Living Legends Banquet.

Warming things up at the Opening Worship Service at Wesley Chapel was retired United Methodist **Bishop Violet Fisher**, the guest minister.

The week's other impressive speakers were **Dr. Abraham Smith** of the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, and **Min. Kevin Cooper '08**, a graduate student at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, along with **Dr. Vashti Murphy McKenzie**,

presiding prelate of the Thirteenth Episcopal district of the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church and the first woman elected bishop in the AME church.

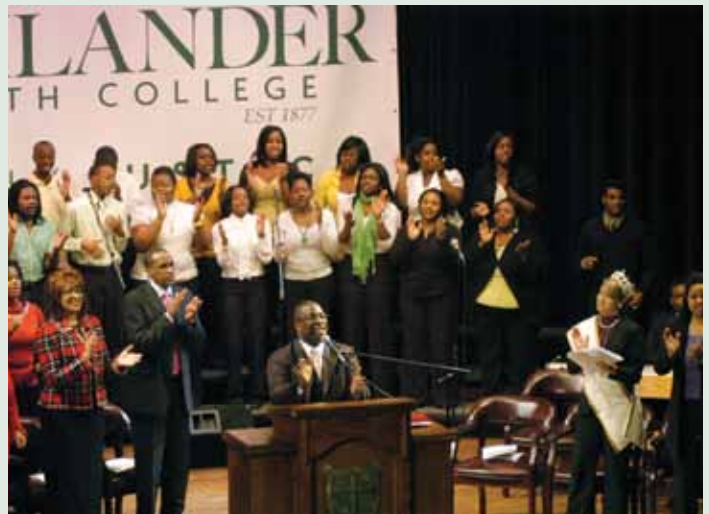
The Living Legends Banquet at the Kendall Center rounded out the week's events that also saw an American



Bishop Vashti McKenzie

Red Cross blood drive and a ministry fair. The 'living legends' feted this year were community activist **Annie Abrams '72**; **Rev. O.C. Jones**, pastor of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in North Little Rock, Ark.; **Dr. Raphael Lewis '62**, PSC Division of Social Science chairman and professor; retired Arkansas Conference United Methodist **Bishop Kenneth Hicks**; and Philander Smith College junior **Chinelo Bivens**.

Religious Emphasis Week 2010 culminated with **Rev. E. Dewey Smith**, senior pastor and teacher of the Greater Travelers Rest Baptist Church-The House of Hope of Decatur, Ga., who set Wesley Chapel ablaze with his fiery preaching of the gospel.



Rev. Ronnie Miller-Yow leads a song of praise



PSC students participate in the blood drive



Kevin Cooper '08 during Chapel



Dr. Raphael Lewis '62, Annie Abrams '72, Rev. O.C. Jones, Bishop Kenneth Hicks, Chinelo Bivens

On-campus Housing Expands with new ‘Green’ Dorm

On August 26, Philander Smith College officials held the grand opening ceremony for a new 60-bed, three story dormitory registered to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Certification (LEED).

“Building a LEED-certified or green building is just another way for us to demonstrate our social justice commitment and, in this case, to increase campus awareness of environmental justice,” said President Walter M. Kimbrough.

The 19,770-square foot Residential Suites is now home to 60 upperclassmen since the start of the fall semester. Suite amenities include 12 private single occupancy rooms with private baths and 48-private single occupancy rooms with shared double occupancy bathrooms. Additional amenities are card access entry, Internet and cable TV access, lounge/common areas and living learning communities.



President Kimbrough makes remarks at the grand opening of the new dorm.

Minority Health Summit: “Healthy People 2020”



From left, Carmona, Satcher, Elders '52

The Arkansas Minority Health Commission collaborated with a host of community partners April 15 to convene the Arkansas Minority Health Summit 2010 on the Philander Smith College campus.

Among the distinguished speakers who were focused on the conference theme of “*Healthy People 2020: Health Equity for all Arkansans*” was a panel of former U.S. Surgeon Generals including Dr. Richard Carmona, Dr. David Satcher and 1952 Philander Smith alumnus Dr. Joycelyn M. Elders.

Campus Treated to Phenomenal Music Event

PS Director of Cultural Affairs **Lawrence Hamilton** and *One Special Angel* sponsored a performance of the **American Spiritual Ensemble** on Feb. 1 in the M.L. Harris Auditorium.

Founded in 1995, members of the American Spiritual Ensemble have sung in theaters and opera houses around the world showcasing dynamic repertoire ranging from opera to spirituals to Broadway. The Ensemble’s mission is to keep the American Negro spiritual alive.

Each year Hamilton exposes his dynamic theatrical and cultural acumen to an audience composed of primarily faculty, staff and the Central Arkansas community.

The Ensemble’s performance was a free and public event.



The American Spiritual Ensemble performs in Harris Auditorium



White

Royalty Revealed

Students also have elected a new **Miss Philander Smith College** for the 2010-2011 term: **Felicia White**, a senior math and business major from San Antonio, Texas.

Felicia will be crowned in September at a formal coronation ceremony. She succeeds Francennett Herrera, who was the first woman of Hispanic origin to serve as Miss PSC.



Jamal Williams makes the presentation to President Kimbrough

Senior Gift 2010

The Philander Smith College Class of 2010 will be remembered for many things, but chief among those memories will no doubt be their remarkable senior class gift.

Jamal Williams, senior class president, worked all year to make the presentation, a commissioned sculpture of Mr. Philander Smith for whom the College is named, possible by securing contributions from the majority of his fellow seniors.

President Kimbrough was particularly impressed by the Class of 2010's gift, remarking that it was "definitely the best one in my almost six years here."

The bust was created by Dr. Blake Ketchum, a traditional figurative sculptor based in Pennsylvania, Pa., whose work has been commissioned by clients all over the world.

Visitors to campus can view the sculpture which is located at the south entrances t the Kendall Center.

New SGA Administration

The 2010-2011 academic year will begin with new student government leadership.

Billing themselves as "A Real Administration Addressing Real Problems, Offering Real Solutions," the students slated to serve in the upcoming year are: **Gerald Thomas**, president; **Sade Daniels**, vice president; **Carmela Myles**, secretary; **Bryshondra Williams**, vice president of finance; **Kiara Potts**, sergeant-at-arms; **Thurman Green**, constitutional advisor; and **Cessily Martre**, chaplain.



Gerald Thomas and Sade Daniels

A Fiscal Victory

The **Second Annual Budgetball Tournament** on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., gave the eight-man team from Philander Smith College a second chance to avenge last year's stinging tournament loss. And this time, the Philander Smith squad did not leave the nation's capital empty-handed.

On May 21, 16 teams of real-life fiscal policymakers (including the U.S. Department of Treasury and the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget) and students from five colleges and universities journeyed to D.C. on an all-expenses paid trip to participate in the championship on the grounds of the Washington Monument.

During tournament play, U.S. Treasury Secretary Tim Geithner's stopped by the action and his appearance apparently gave the Treasury's team a boost in the semifinals against Central State University. But Central State roared back to advance in the finals against Philander Smith which had been quietly winning games on its side of the brackets. Ultimately the Panthers outwitted their finals opponent and walked away with 2010 Budgetball bragging rights.

Budgetball debuted in an exhibition tournament at Philander Smith in March 2009. The new sport is designed to raise awareness about the issue of the federal debt and encourage discussion and debate about America's fiscal future.



Chaplain **Rev. Ronnie Miller-Yow** served as Budgetball campus advisor and freshman **Carmela Myles** was the student coordinator. Students **Kenneth Meredith, Javon Brown, Terrance Thornton, Brandon Bell, Ivory Warmack, Cori McReynolds, Shalonie Hutcherson** and **Joy Robertson** made up the winning tournament team.

BMI + PBD = Student Success

The **Black Male Initiative (BMI)** and **Platinum by Design (PBD)** programs are forging ahead with their work of reaching out to the male and female students. Participants and mentors from both groups recently came together for a group picture on the steps of the Cox Administration building.



In the photograph, the women are outfitted with their special PBD scarves which they wear in the manner that best expresses them individually and the males are sporting custom BMI ties.

Michael Hutchinson, assistant to the President, directs the Black Male Initiative and **Dr. Juliana Mosley**, vice president for student affairs, is the brainchild behind Platinum by Design. Both programs are generating buzz throughout the higher education community for their innovative approaches.

Save The Date



Homecoming 2010



Nov. 7 - 13

2010 Renaissance Awards Banquet



Clifford and Alma Minton Student Award
Sade Daniels, senior



Student Employee of the Year Award
Joell Etienne, senior



Lacerine Walsh Faculty Award
Lawrence Hamilton
 Director of Cultural Affairs



Willie Mae Shockley Staff Award
Chris Watson
 Assistant Director of Title III

Faculty/Staff Retirements



Jesse Gatewood, Assistant Professor of Psychology retired after 13 years.



Gracie Carter, left, archivist for the Reynolds Library and Technology Center retired after 19 years.

Hundreds Attend High School Open House



More than 400 high school students from 15 states participated the High School Open house on March 27. The annual event is sponsored by the Philander Smith College Office of Admissions. Several schools brought buses full of students and a number of scholarships were awarded that day to applicants.

The Office of Admissions said that the number of students attending was a new record. The event helped recruit nearly 200 first-time freshmen this fall.

Message From The National Alumni Association President



Dear Alumni,

It is truly my pleasure to greet you as president of the National Alumni Association of Philander Smith College. I am humbly honored to serve a second term in this position, and I sincerely thank all of you for your support during my first term. Our successes can be directly attributed to your hard work and dedication to our dear alma mater. I solicit your loyal and continued support to Philander Smith College and the National Alumni Association for the next two years.

In my second term, I would like for us to continue to focus on increasing our total membership, with special emphasis on alumni in the central Arkansas area, and our at-large membership. I would appreciate your feedback, comments and suggestions as to how we can accomplish this task.

In case you missed it, the 2010 NAA Convention was a historic event. For the first time ever, we joined with the college for the National Alumni Convention/Alumni Reunion Weekend during Commencement weekend. This created a unique opportunity for alumni not only to reminisce with other alums, but also to attend the graduation exercises as well as other entertaining activities on campus.

Evaluations received from alumni were overwhelming positive. Thanks very much to the Class Agents who worked tirelessly to contact their classmates. Thanks to their efforts, alumni attendance was at an all time high for the Reunion Banquet. Please save the date for next year's NAA Convention/Alumni Reunion Weekend, April 28 – May 1, 2011.

I would also like to express my thanks and appreciation to alumni for the very generous contributions and pledges which were made to the College during the convention. For the second year in a row, we have contributed in excess of \$25,000. In addition to the contributions made, 32 alumni made four-year pledges to the Renaissance 100 Scholars Program.

Alumni you have been great! Again, thanks for all that you did to make the successes of the past two years possible. I look forward to working with you for the next two exciting years.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erma P. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Erma P. Williams

“I would like for us to continue to focus on increasing our total membership, with special emphasis on alumni in the central Arkansas area, and our at-large membership.”

Honor Roll of Donors

Philander Smith College wishes to offer sincere appreciation to the host of individuals and organizations whose generous philanthropic contributions have increased our capacity to offer much needed scholarship support to our deserving students, in addition to ensuring operational support for the College.

Therefore, on the following pages we recognize donors who made gifts to Philander Smith College from the period of **July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010**.

While every effort was made to accurately list our benefactors, errors and omissions sometimes occur. If this is the case, please accept our sincere apologies and be sure to contact the Office of Institutional Advancement at (501) 370-5392 or (501) 370-5271. You may also send an e-mail to amarshall@philander.edu.

Support for the Renaissance 100 Scholars Program was increased greatly during the fiscal year. Alumni graciously committed to an additional 35 scholarships amounting to over \$90,000/year for four years at our Reunion weekend. Members of the Board of Trustees also committed to another five Renaissance 100 scholarships at the \$17,500 level amounting to \$87,500 for 2010-2011. Totals for the Renaissance 100 (verbal commitments and signed gift agreements) are 63 donors committed to 73 scholarships.

We realize that the past couple years have been difficult financial times for our nation, so your continued philanthropic support means all the more to us. Even in these precarious times, we have seen many alumni step up their levels of giving and we have proudly welcomed new donors into the fold. For each and every dollar, we are grateful.

It is because of your steadfast partnership that we are able to continue the work of graduating a new generation of leaders ready to change the world for the better.

Thank you!



Shannon Fleming, Ed.D.

Vice President for Institutional Advancement

Thank you

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The Graduating Class of 2010



More Commencement photos and story on pages 14-15.