



THE 129<sup>TH</sup>  
COMMENCEMENT  
FOR THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES (1877-2017)



SATURDAY, MAY 6, 2017  
10 A.M.  
STATEHOUSE CONVENTION CENTER  
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES & OFFICERS

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**Mr. Herman Davis, '73**  
PSC National Alumni  
Association

**Rev. Mark Norman, '94**  
Arkansas Conference, United  
Methodist Church

**Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr.**  
President/CEO, Philander  
Smith College

**Ms. Michelle Green, '17**  
President, Student Government  
Association (2016-2017)

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Faculty Representative  
Department of Mathematics

### TRUSTEES EMERITI

**Dr. Charles W. Donaldson, '69**

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**Mr. Charles O. Stewart**

**Mr. Sherman Tate, '70**

**MG (Ret) Harold Gwatney**

## PRESIDENT'S EXECUTIVE CABINET

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**Dr. Zollie Stevenson, Jr.**, *Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs*

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# HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE

Officially founded in 1877, Philander Smith College is the result of the first attempt west of the Mississippi River to make education available to freedmen (former African-American slaves). The forerunner of the College was Walden Seminary, named in honor of Dr. J. M. Walden, one of the originators and the first Corresponding Secretary of the Freedmen's Aid Society. In 1882, Dr. G. W. Gray, President of Little Rock University, the institution for the Arkansas Annual Conference, met Mrs. Adeline Smith, widow of Mr. Philander Smith of Oak Park, Illinois, while soliciting funds. The late Mr. Philander Smith had been a liberal donor to Asiatic Missions and had developed an interest in the work of the church in the South. In making her gift to Dr. Gray, Mrs. Smith designated \$10,500 for Walden Seminary. The trustees accepted the gift and gave it special recognition by changing the name of the struggling Walden Seminary to Philander Smith College. A new site for the school had already been purchased at Eleventh and Izard Streets. The gift made by Mrs. Smith was a significant contribution toward the construction of Budlong Hall, the first brick building on the new site.

Philander Smith College, which has a rich Christian heritage and acknowledges a definite obligation to The United Methodist Church, was also chartered as a four-year college on March 3, 1883. The first Baccalaureate Degree was conferred in 1888. The Presidents of Philander Smith College are recorded as follows: The first President is the Reverend Thomas Mason who resigned in 1896. He was succeeded by Reverend James Monroe Cox, Professor of Ancient Languages. Dr. Cox, who retired in 1924, was succeeded



by the Reverend George Collins Taylor, a graduate of the College. Dr. Taylor served as President from 1924 to 1936. In May, 1936, Dr. Marquis LaFayette Harris succeeded Dr. Taylor. Harris, who greatly enhanced the College, was succeeded by Dr. Roosevelt David Crockett, a graduate of the College on June 1, 1961. Dr. E.T. Dixon, Jr. took office on January 1, 1965 as Philander's Sixth President. Succeeding Dixon was

Dr. Walter R. Hazzard, who took office as the Seventh President of the College on July 1, 1969. Succeeding Hazzard was Dr. Grant S. Shockley who took office on January 1, 1980 as the Eighth President of Philander Smith College. Dr. Shockley was succeeded by Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr., who was elected unanimously by the Board of Trustees and took office August 20, 1983. When Dr. Carter resigned the presidency in August 1987, he was succeeded by Dr. Myer L. Titus, a 1954 graduate of the College. Dr. Titus retired as President on June 30, 1998. Elected by the Board of Trustees in February 1998 as the Eleventh and first female President of Philander Smith College was Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed. In 2004, Dr. Julius Scott succeeded Dr. Reed as Interim President. In 2004, the Board announced the selection of Dr. Walter M. Kimbrough as the Twelfth President of the College. In May 2012, Dr. Kimbrough resigned from the presidency. On July 1, 2012, Dr. Johnny M. Moore, a 1989 graduate, became the Thirteenth President of the College. Following the resignation of Dr. Moore in February 2014, Dr. Lloyd Hervey, a 1968 alumnus of Philander Smith College, was named Interim President. Succeeding Dr. Hervey was Dr. Roderick L. Smothers, Sr., the Fourteenth President of the College, who took office on January 1, 2015.

# MISSION OF THE COLLEGE

Philander Smith College is a small, privately supported and historically Black, four-year liberal arts institution related to the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. The College currently offers four degrees, including the Bachelor of Arts, the Bachelor of Science, the Bachelor of Business Administration, and the Bachelor of Social Work. The College's mission is: "To graduate

*academically accomplished students, grounded as advocates for social justice, determined to change the world for the better."* Philander Smith College, the only United Negro College Fund (UNCF)-member institution in Arkansas, strives to provide a quality college education for all regardless of race, religion, sex, national origin or ethnic background.

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE  
ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT SERVICES

PRESIDENT RODERICK L. SMOTHERS, SR., PH.D, PRESIDING

*Prelude*

MR. CAMRYN STILLMAN

ORGANIST

*Processional*

POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCES, MARCH NO. 4 (ELGAR)..... MR. CAMRYN STILLMAN, ORGANIST

*Welcome*

DR. RODERICK L. SMOTHERS, SR.

14th President, Philander Smith College

*Invocation*

REV. MARK NORMAN, '94

Southeast District Superintendent, Arkansas Conference, The United Methodist Church

*Presentation of the Colors \**

LITTLE ROCK JR. ROTC, CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

*Pledge of Allegiance*

*National Anthem*

STAR SPANGLED BANNER (KEY) .....Ms. CRISSHAUNDR A PULLOM, '13, SOLOIST

\* Please stand.



PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE  
ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT SERVICES

*Negro National Anthem*

LIFT EVERY VOICE ..... PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGIATE CHOIR

*Greeting from the Board of Trustees*

MRS. PAT LILE

Chairwoman, Philander Smith College Board of Trustees

*Greetings from the Faculty*

DR. CYNTHIA BURROUGHS

President, Faculty Senate

*The Reading of the Holy Scripture*

OLD TESTAMENT (PSALM 124) ..... MISS NYASHE CLARK, '17

NEW TESTAMENT (PHILIPPIANS 3: 12-16) ..... MR. DAVID PEARSON, '17

*Observance of the Occasion*

DR. ZOLLIE STEVENSON, JR.

Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Reflections*

MISS MONIQUE POLK, '17

Senior Class President



PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE  
ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT SERVICES

*The General Board of Higher Education and  
Ministry's Exemplary Teacher Award, 2016-2017*

*Ozell Sutton Medal of Justice Presentation*

*Musical Selection*

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGIATE CHOIR  
Mr. Karliss Chapple, '01, Director

*Introduction of Speaker*

DR. RODERICK L. SMOTHERS, SR.  
14th President, Philander Smith College

*Commencement Address*

MR. ROLAND MARTIN  
American Journalist, Syndicated Columnist, Political Commentator

*Conferring of Degrees Ceremony*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES ..... DR. RODERICK L. SMOTHERS, SR.  
14th President, Philander Smith College

TRUSTEE AUTHORIZATION..... MRS. PAT LILE, CHAIRWOMAN  
Philander Smith College Board of Trustees



**PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE**  
**ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT SERVICES**

*Presentations of Candidates and Granting of Degrees*

**CANDIDATES FOR THE HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS**

*will be presented by Mrs. Pat Lile, Chairwoman, Board of Trustees  
And Dr. Sherece Y. West-Scantlebury, Vice-Chairwoman, Board of Trustees*

**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE**

*will be presented by Dr. Samar Swaid, Chair, Division of Natural and Physical Sciences  
and Dr. Lloyd E. Hervey, '68, Interim Chair, Division of Education*

**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK DEGREE**

*will be presented by Dr. Daniel Egbe, Chair, Division of Social Sciences*

**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEGREE**

*will be presented by Dr. Kathryn Davis, Chair, Division of Business and Economics and Philander  
Smith Management Institute (PSMI)*

**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE**

*will be presented by Dr. Lia Steele-Marcell, Chair, Division of Arts and Humanities and  
Dr. Daniel Egbe, Chair, Division of Social Sciences*

*Musical Selection*

PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGIATE CHOIR

*Mr. Karliss Chapple, '01, Director*

*Induction into the National Alumni Association*

MR. HERMAN DAVIS, '73

*President, National Alumni Association*



PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE  
ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT SERVICES

*Presentation of Senior of the Year*

MR. HERMAN DAVIS, '73

President, National Alumni Association

*Closing Remarks*

DR. RODERICK L. SMOTHERS, SR.

14th President, Philander Smith College

*Alma Mater*

Dear Alma Mater, tried and true,  
We'll win respect and love for you,  
We pledge our hearts to you each day,  
To do our best, at work, at play.  
Dear P.S.C., when from your fold,  
We'll lift the dear old Green and Gold.  
O'er Alma Mater vigil keep,  
Her high ideals we'll strive to meet.  
When college days are at an end,  
Our hearts will ever toward you bend.  
With loyalty, we'll always be,  
A part of you, Dear P.S.C.

(Written in 1968 by Dr. Carl Gordon Harris, '52)

*Benediction*

REV. RONNIE MILLER-YOW

Chaplain/Dean of Religious Life and Campus Culture

*Recessional*

TRUMPET VOLUNTARY (CLARK) ..... MR. CAMRYN STILLMAN, ORGANIST





# PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

## ROLAND MARTIN

**R**oland Martin is the host and managing editor of TV One's NewsOne Now, the first daily morning news program in history to focus on news and analysis of politics, entertainment, sports, and culture from an explicitly African American perspective. Martin is a nationally syndicated columnist with Creators Syndicate, and is senior analyst for the Tom Joyner Morning Show, where his daily segment is heard on more than 100 stations and 8 million people daily. He is the author of three books: *Listening to the Spirit Within: 50 Perspectives on Faith; Speak, Brother! A Black Man's View of America;* and *The First: President Barack Obama's Road to the White House* as originally reported by Roland S. Martin.

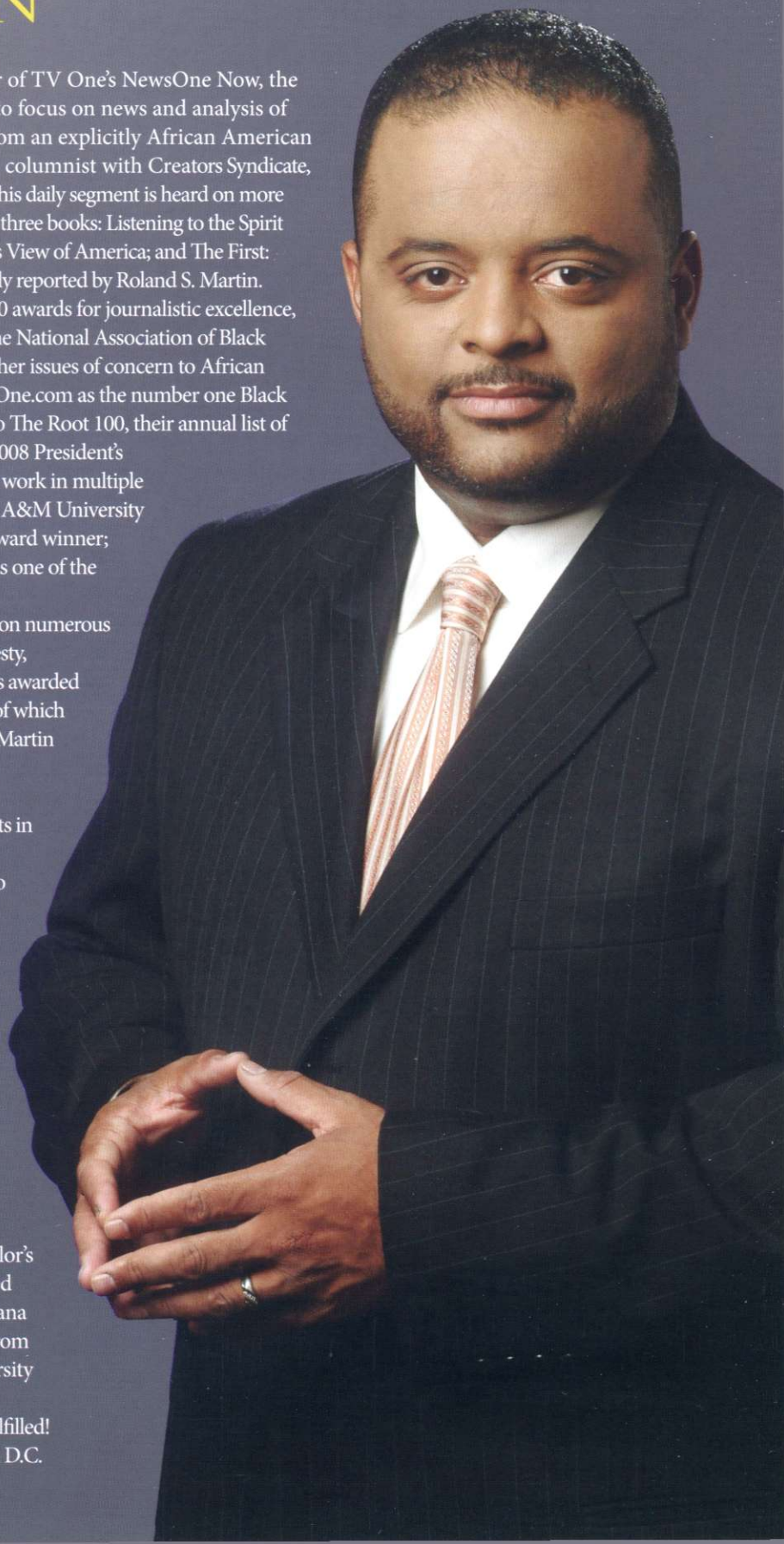
In his career, Martin has been showered with more than 30 awards for journalistic excellence, including being named the Journalist of the Year in 2013 by the National Association of Black Journalists for his extensive focus on voter suppression and other issues of concern to African Americans during the 2012 election. He was named by NewsOne.com as the number one Black pundit in the country; and he has been named several times to The Root 100, their annual list of influential African Americans. Martin was also awarded the 2008 President's Award by the National Association of Black Journalists for his work in multiple media platforms. In 2008, he was also inducted into the Texas A&M University Journalism Hall of Honor. He is a two-time NAACP Image Award winner; and has been named by Ebony Magazine on three occasions as one of the 150 Most Influential African Americans in the United States.

Martin spent six years as a contributor for CNN, appearing on numerous shows and earning accolades near and far for his no-holds honesty, conviction and perspective on various issues. In 2009, CNN was awarded the Peabody Award for its outstanding 2008 election coverage, of which Martin was a member of the Best Political Team on Television. Martin has been named one of the top 50 political pundits by the Daily Telegraph in the United Kingdom, and has appeared numerous times on a variety of American networks, as well as media outlets in Canada, Columbia, Italy, Australia and South Africa.

From October 2005 to October 2008, he served as a radio talk show for WVON-AM in Chicago, first as mid-day host and later as morning drive host. He is also the former executive editor/general manager of the Chicago Defender, the nation's most historic Black newspaper. He is the former founding news editor for Savoy Magazine under the team of New York-based Vanguard Media, and the former founding editor of BlackAmericaWeb.com. He has also written pieces for *Ebony* and *Essence* magazines.

Mr. Martin is a life member of the National Association of Black Journalists, and a life member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.. He is a 1987 graduate of Jack Yates High School-Magnet School of Communications, and a 1991 graduate of Texas A&M University, where he earned a bachelor's of science degree in journalism. In May 2008, Martin received a master's degree in Christian Communications from Louisiana Baptist University. He has been awarded honorary degrees from Florida Memorial University, University of Maryland-University College and Lemoyne-Owen College.

He is married to the Rev. Jacquie Hood Martin, author of *Fulfilled! The Art and Joy of Balanced Living*. They reside in Washington, D.C.





# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

## DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

Bishop Felton E. May (Posthumous)  
Major General (Ret) Harold Gwatney  
Mr. Rush Harding, III

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

### Division of Natural & Physical Sciences

#### Biology

Baker, Kayla Ambrielle  
Bell, Aionyea  
    Cum Laude  
Clark, Nyashe Sharnell  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Colebrooke, Lauriel Sandira  
    Cum Laude  
Danquah, Julius Bright  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Freeman, Ji` Vone J.  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Ingram, Edrea Konii Rochelle  
Kyere, Felix Akwasi  
    2nd Rank in Class  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Lawson, Courtney Lynne  
    Cum Laude  
Price, Jlynn Michae  
Roshell, Sha` Rece Dawn LaTrese  
Warren, Kaprese  
    Magna Cum Laude  
White, Olichia Ayanna  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Wilson, Jamikhan S.  
    Cum Laude  
Wright, Precious-Symone  
    Cum Laude

#### Chemistry

Aidoo, Prince \*\*  
    3rd Rank in Class  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field

## Computer Science

DeHart, Jasmine Mae  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Iragena, Jacques  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Kabulo, Joel  
    Cum Laude  
Kelly, Trishawna  
    Cum Laude  
Lewis, Antwane  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Maat, Mnsa  
    Cum Laude  
Moronfolu, Monolaji \*\*  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Ngoga, Michel  
Seneza, Gaston  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field

## Mathematics

Jagessar, Sarah Sarojini  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Warren, Kaprese  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Wells, Oram DeShawn

## Bachelor of Social Work

Buirse`, Vanessa Eleana  
    Cum Laude  
Kee, Darrian  
Love-Robinson, Shanyla Christine  
Manning III, Isom Sam  
Richmond, Kiasha Danielle  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Robinson, Anita I.  
Shackelford, Taylor Renee  
    Cum Laude

## BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

### Division of Business & Economics Business Administration

Brewer, Andriana  
Canady Jr., Dewayne Edward  
Clark, Kaelyn Marie  
Doyle, Alicia  
Ebbs, Keiyana Nicole  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Eison, Kaliah Nasia  
    Cum Laude  
Green, Michelle Marie  
    Cum Laude  
Hamilton, Jamal Andrew \*\*  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Johnson, Sha` Condria Nicole  
McMillen, Danielle Cherelle  
    Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Mitchell, Jovonte Deshan  
Nobles, Dakota Damazio Marquise  
Polk, Monique Nicole  
    Cum Laude  
Richardson, Tiffany Lashun  
    Cum Laude  
Ross, Areba Shamille  
    Magna Cum Laude  
Ward, Christopher J.  
Williams, JaNiece LaCarol  
Williams, Lesley  
    Cum Laude

### Concentration in Accounting

Brandon, Broderick Alexander  
Garcia, Kairah Cache`  
Harris, Tierra Monique  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Wheeler, Mary Esther  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Wright, Destiny Loreal  
    Cum Laude

\*Summer 2016

\*\*Fall 2016



# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

## **Organizational Management**

Anderson, Shandrae Perry  
Booth, Tia Lynette Hood  
    Cum Laude  
Franks, Roshaunda Chanel \*\*  
    Cum Laude  
Gregory, Ashley M.  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Haney, Janila Joann  
    Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Harris, Elonda Shonta  
Johnson, Marian Evonne  
Johnson, Titus  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Jones, Kory  
Knight, Anbria` Jarla  
    Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Lindsey, Karen Denise  
    Cum Laude  
Meeks, Mona L.  
Miller, Jasmine Gabrielle  
Minor, Jessica Christine  
    Distinction in Field  
Moore, De` Vonta  
Norman, Simeon Lequan  
    Distinction in Field  
Pearson, David Micah  
    Distinction in Field  
Rice, Ashley Renee  
    Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Smith, Lucinda Lyntae  
Summerville, Marina S.  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Taylor, Ordrean Shunta \*\*  
Young Jr., Robert

## **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

### **Division of Humanities**

#### **English**

Briggs, Freddya Niccole  
    Cum Laude  
Minniefield, Raven Louise  
    Cum Laude  
Thomas, Shelby Rose Davis  
Yarbrough, Mariah Sierra Nicole  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field

### **Division of Education**

#### **Physical Education**

Askew, Jonia Anisia  
Brown, Adam Christopher  
    Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Collins, Donna Rose \*\*  
    Cum Laude  
Gibson, JaMicah Jamar \*\*  
    Cum Laude  
Heard, Tamara Raqueal \*  
Spicer, Braylon

### **Division of Social Sciences**

#### **Political Science**

Bolton, Isaiah Nolen  
Keels, Kamronn Alexis  
Levvi, Monique A.  
    Cum Laude  
Murray, Phillip Julius  
Phillips-Peters, Tiffany Marie  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Wright, Clayton LaVaughn  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field

## **Psychology**

Bell-Ashley, Sharon Yvette \*\*  
    Cum Laude  
Howell, Katlyn Renee  
    Cum Laude  
Jones, Kyra T. \*\*  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Jones, Synthea Nicole  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Joyner-Price, Santrice  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Randolph, Aleah B.  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Reed, Trunell Leon \*  
Rolle, Tarai Dominique Tyrone  
    1st Rank in Class  
    Summa Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
Secret, Jasmine Aleiyah  
    Cum Laude  
Vail, Shaborn  
Versey, Brittany K.  
    Distinction in Field

## **Sociology**

Cotton, Ferreiz  
Henry, Dessa R.  
    Magna Cum Laude  
    Distinction in Field  
McGriff, Zavante  
Russell, Kimwonyanna L.

\*Summer 2016

\*\*Fall 2016



## OZELL SUTTON MEDAL OF JUSTICE HONOREE

### M. JOYCELYN ELDERS, M.D.

Joycelyn Elders was born Minnie Lee Jones in Schaal, Arkansas on August 13, 1933. In college, she changed her name to Minnie Joycelyn Lee (later using just Joycelyn). In 1952, she received her B.A. in biology from Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Arkansas. After working as a nurse's aid in a Veterans Administration hospital in Milwaukee for a period, she joined the Army in May 1953. During her 3 years in the Army, she was trained as a physical therapist. She then attended the University of Arkansas Medical School, where she obtained her M.D. degree in 1960. After completing an internship at the University of Minnesota Hospital and a residency in pediatrics at the University of Arkansas Medical Center, Elders earned an M.S. in Biochemistry in 1967.

Elders then received a National Institutes of Health career development award, also serving as assistant professor in pediatrics at the University of Arkansas Medical Center from 1967. She was promoted to associate professor in 1971 and professor in 1976. Her research interests focused on endocrinology, and she received certification as a pediatric endocrinologist in 1978. She became an expert on childhood sexual development.



In 1987, Elders was appointed Director of the Arkansas Department of Health by then-Governor Bill Clinton. Her accomplishments in this position included a ten-fold increase in the number of early childhood screenings annually and almost a doubling of the immunization rate for two-year-olds in Arkansas. In 1992, she was elected President of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers.

Elders became Surgeon General of the Public Health Service

on September 8, 1993, appointed by President Clinton. She was the first African American to serve in the position. As Surgeon General, Elders argued the case for universal health coverage, and was a spokesperson for President Clinton's health care reform effort. She was a strong advocate for comprehensive health education, including sex education, in schools. She was outspoken in her views, and was forced to resign after only 15 months in the position as a result of a controversial remark about sex education. Her last day in office was December 31, 1994. She returned to the University of Arkansas Medical Center as professor of pediatrics.





## HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS POSTHUMOUS

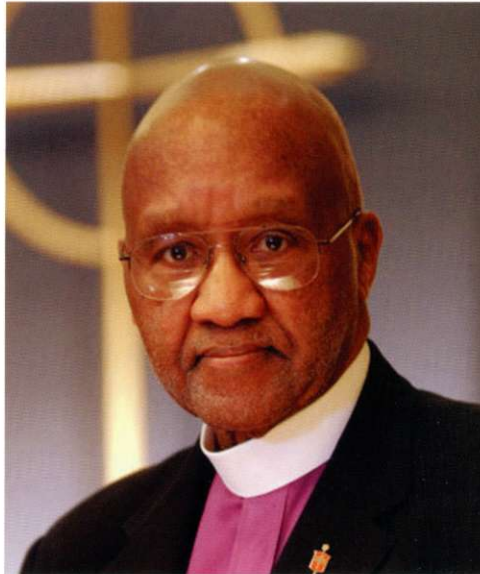
# BISHOP FELTON MAY (1935 -2017)

**F**elton Edwin May was born in Chicago. After receiving a B.A. from Judson College, he was ordained deacon in the Northern Illinois Conference by Bishop Charles Wesley Brashares. He served two appointments in Chicago: St. James Church and Maple Park Church, a new church start. He then transferred to the Peninsula Annual Conference where he served as associate executive director of the Methodist Action Program in Wilmington, Delaware. In 1970, he was ordained an elder by Bishop John Wesley Lord after receiving an M. Div.

Degree from Crozer Theological Seminary. In the Peninsula Conference, he also served as pastor of Ezion-Mt. Carmel Church, Wilmington, superintendent of the Easton District and director of the Conference Council on Ministries.

He was a delegate to the Northeastern Jurisdictional Conference from 1972 to 1984, and a delegate to General Conference from 1976 to 1984. After his election to the episcopacy in 1984, he was assigned to the Harrisburg Episcopal Area where he served until 1996. In 1996, he was assigned to the Washington Episcopal Area. After retirement in September 2004, he accepted the position of Dean of the Harry R. Kendall Science and Health Mission Center at Philander Smith College, Little Rock, Arkansas.

In 1990, he served as Bishop-on-Special Assignment to organize and coordinate the United Methodist Bishops' Initiative on Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Violence in Washington, D.C. Bishop May has served as a member of the General Council on Ministries, the General Board of Global Ministries, and the General Board of Higher



Education and Ministry. He has also served as chair of the National Shalom Zone Committee, the Special Program on Substance Abuse and Related Violence, the Commission on Pan-Methodist Cooperation, the General Board of Global Ministries' Finance Committee, the Northeastern Jurisdiction Board of the Multi-Ethnic Center, the Advance for Christ and His Church Committee, and the Council of Bishops' Emerging Issues Committee.

In 1999, Bishop May served as a member of the White House Presidential Mission on Children Orphaned by AIDS, which traveled to Africa. The mission's study of HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa led to a Clinton Administration recommendation that U.S. spending in response to the crisis of AIDS worldwide be increased by \$100 million. He was also a participant in the White House's Faith Leaders for One America Initiative, the UN Millennium World Peace Summit of Religious and Spiritual Leaders, and the Camp David Presidential Retreat Interfaith Chapel Committee.

Bishop May's articles have appeared in the New York Times, Christian Social Action and Parents Magazine as well as other publications and curriculum. He has received honorary degrees from Lebanon Valley College, Lycoming College, Wesley College and Rusk College.

Phyllis Henry and Felton Edwin May were married on June 22, 1963. They have two children, Daphne Endrea Snead and Felton May II and eight grandchildren.



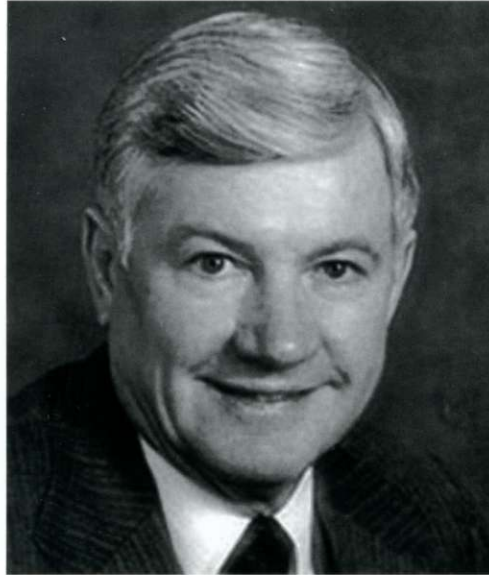


## HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

# MAJOR GENERAL (RET) HAROLD GWATNEY

**H**arold Gwatney started his automobile career in 1942, sweeping floors and washing parts at his uncle's garage. In 1944, he went to work at Critz Chevrolet in North Little Rock as a mechanic's helper and by 1946 was a certified mechanic—all of this prior to High School graduation. After graduation from high school in 1947, Harold Gwatney held several positions at different car dealerships and in the Arkansas National Guard. On November 7, 1957, Chevrolet approved a franchise for Harold Gwatney Chevrolet Co.

Throughout the 60's, 70's and 80's, Gwatney started a variety of business and ventures; including, an apartment complex, a national bank, Harold Gwatney Realty Co., Jacksonville Properties, Dalco Enterprises, Inc., Consolidated Insurance Co. and Financial Properties Insurance Co. At the same time, Gwatney held a variety of ranks in the Army



National Guard; he was promoted to Major General in 1981 and retired in 1989.

In June 1989, Gwatney moved to Memphis to help his son, Russell, in their second Chevrolet dealership purchased in 1988. Shortly after moving to Memphis, he purchased a third Chevrolet dealership and broke ground on one of the first original Saturn dealerships in the nation. In 1993, he purchased the Ford dealership in Millington. In 1994, he built his second Saturn store known as Saturn of

Germantown and in 1998 he built his third Saturn store, Saturn of Jackson in Jackson, Tennessee.

Throughout his career, Harold Gwatney has been very involved in the community including serving two terms on the North Little Rock City Council. Gwatney was also active in the Memphis Area Chamber of Commerce, and many other civic and charitable organizations.





## HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS

# RUSH HARDING III

**R**ush F. Harding, III graduated from Clarendon High School in Clarendon, Arkansas in 1972. In high school, Rush was President of the student body. He was an Eagle Scout, captain of the football and basketball teams, and Governor of Arkansas Boys' State in 1971. He was Co-valedictorian of his senior class. He received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point from Senator John McClellan in 1972.

He transferred during his sophomore year to what is now the University of Central Arkansas. As a student at UCA, he was a member of the men's basketball team, a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, and a member of the Wesley Foundation. He was President of his social fraternity, made the Dean's list and graduated with honors with a degree in math and English.

Upon graduation, he joined T. J. Raney & Sons and in 1979, along with Adron Crews and five other partners, founded the investment banking firm known as Crews & Associates. He served Crews as Executive Vice President from 1979 to 1996. He was named President in 1996 and Chief Executive Officer in 2000. Crews & Associates was sold in 2000 to First Security Bancorp, a \$5.5 billion bank holding



company headquartered in Searcy, Arkansas.

He currently serves on the board of First Security Bancorp and St. Vincent's Hospital. He is a former long term Board member of Pulaski Academy. He served on the Board of the University of Central Arkansas for four decades and was named a "Distinguished Alumnus" in 2006. He has served on the Boards of the Arkansas Arts Center, Philander Smith College, and the Methodist Foundation of Arkansas. He is a member of the First United

Methodist Church in Little Rock. He and his wife, Linda, were named "Arkansas Outstanding Philanthropists of the Year" by the Association of Fundraising Professionals in 2007. Rush was named "Arkansan of the Year" by Easter Seals of Arkansas in 2014.

His parents are the late Rush (Buddy) Harding, Jr. and Martha Stone Harding. He is married to Linda Turner Harding and they have three children: Shaylea, Rush IV, and Payne.

He and Linda are very proud of their three grandchildren: Elowen, Ruby, and Rush Flowers Harding V (Five).





# CLASS OF 1967

## 50 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Frederick Bell  
James Blue\*  
Rachel Booth-Whitfield  
Glenda Braggs Howard  
Willie Brewer  
Ruth Broughton  
Thomas Broughton  
Harry Budd\*  
Emma Buffington Duren  
Emma Burren  
Rachel Butler - Foster  
Lee Callaway  
Cleter Christian  
Barbara Dixon\*  
Freddie Dixon  
Mary Edwards  
Norman Ellis  
Erna Frazier  
Bama Gardner\*  
Albert Hardin  
Peggy Hemphill  
Bonnie Holt Bryant  
Clemetta Hood  
Oma Hughes  
Rose Jennings Milanez  
Ardelic Jones  
Carolyn Jones  
Rose Love\*  
Emanuel Lupo\*  
Brenda Martin  
Herbert Martin  
Nola McBroom  
Albert McClinton Henderson

Patricia McDaniel Hughes  
Billy McGuire Branch  
Cherilyn Minnis  
Rosalind Molden  
Linda Moses Kamara  
Annie Noble  
Bobbie Norman  
Carolyn Payton Slater  
Addie Peterson  
Bonnie Reed  
Harold Reeder  
Odie Richard  
Audron Robertson\*  
Billy Robinson  
Arthur Robinson\*  
Rochester Rodgers  
David Roper  
Annie Scott  
Jamie Simelton  
Bennie Smith  
Dorothy Smith  
Larry Stagers  
Alice Straughter  
Mary Taylor Robinson  
Queen Tipton Eldridge  
Elizabeth Vaden Stephens  
Robert Whitfield  
Bernestine Whitmore  
Harvey Wiley  
William Wiley  
Wanda Williams  
Kathryn Winston  
Jerri Wright - Conners

\*Deceased







# COMMENCEMENT & REGALIA

## COMMENCEMENT

The term “Commencement” derives from a practice in the Medieval University where it was customary for a candidate for an academic degree to present a public lecture or disputation to the faculty and other scholars gathered to hear it. If the disputation was successfully defended and accepted, the candidate was “Admitted” to the degree “with all the rights, privileges and responsibilities thereunto appertaining.” This first public lecture or disputation was originally called an “Inception.” It signified the beginning or “Commencement” of the scholar’s academic career in the degree to which he/she had been admitted. The ceremony surrounding this inception or “graduation” has subsequently come to be called Commencement.

## HONOR CORDS

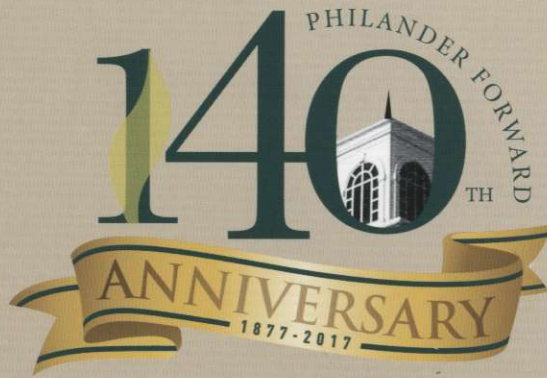
The Honor Cords are used to recognize students’ achievements during commencement, and they identify those students who have the right to wear the cords. At Philander, the green, white & gold cord represents Summa Cum Laude which is with Highest Distinction (3.75 - 4.0 GPA); the gold & white cord represents Magna Cum Laude, which is with High Distinction (3.5 – 3.7499 GPA); the white cord represents Cum Laude which is with Distinction (3.0 – 3.49 GPA); and the old gold cord represents Distinction in Field of Study. Various other colors are used to identify members of the Honors Society, fraternities, sororities, and others.



## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The distinctive dress associated with academic processions and convocations dates from the Middle Ages when long-sleeved, hooded gowns were necessary for warmth in the unheated stone colleges. Most of the scholars were clerics in holy orders, and they wore cloaks to which were attached hoods that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads. Over the centuries, much diversity occurred in academic costumes. To bring some order to this diversity in 1894 in the United States, the Intercollegiate Commission met in New York and agreed on a code of academic dress which has become the standard for most colleges and universities. According to this code, both the styling and color of the regalia have significance. The design of the gown indicates the degree. The bachelor's gown is simple, with a full sleeve. The master's gown is much like the bachelor's except for the long sleeves, which hang loose. The doctor's gown is fuller and more elaborate. It has velvet edging and three velvet stripes on the full, gathered sleeves. Usually, the color of the gown is black. Hoods, which are worn over the gowns, are similar for all degrees although differing slightly in length. The candidates for the Bachelor's Degree usually do not wear the hood. The hood has a velvet edging, which indicates the area of the degree. The inside or lining of the hood is satin in the colors of the college or university granting the degree. A partial list of the degree colors to be found on the edge of the hood or the trimming on the doctor's gown is given below. The usual cap, proper for all degrees, is the black mortarboard, although some colleges use the beret to represent the doctorate.. Tassels, usually black, are worn over the left front quarter of the cap for a degree holder and on the right for a candidate for a degree. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread. Holders may also wear tassels in the colors of the college or university granting the degree.

Agriculture	Maize	Public Administration	Peacock Blue
Music	Pink	Engineering	Orange
Arts, Letters, Humanities	White	Public Health	Salmon
Medicine	Green	Fine Arts, Architecture	Brown
Business Administration	Drab	Science	Golden Yellow
Oratory Speech	Silver Grey	Forestry	Russet
Dentistry	Lilac	Social Science	Cream
Philosophy	Dark Blue	Journalism	Crimson
Economics	Copper	Social Services	Citron
Physical Education	Sage Green	Law	Purple
Education	Light Blue	Theology/Divinity	Scarlet



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