

BUILDING WITH PURPOSE

"Extending the Vision of Excellence to Excellence and Beyond"



Johnny Matthew Moore, Ph.D.

THIRTEENTH PRESIDENT OF PHILANDER SMITH COLLEGE

MAY THE FOURTH

TWO THOUSAND THIRTEEN

PRESIDENT MOORE BUILDS WITH PURPOSE

PRESIDENT, JOHNNY M. MOORE is charting a new course for Philander Smith College. Dr. Moore's vision for academic excellence builds off the historic foundation laid by Dr. M. Lafayette Harris, 4th President of Philander Smith College, 1936-1960.

Dr. Harris stated, "We are requested to build an Ark, to Build a life, to live with a purpose. And, the challenge of Christian institutions the world over, and the challenge of every thinking man or woman is the same challenge which was given to Noah years ago--- build with purpose."

At the inception of his presidency, Dr. Moore launched an independent college-wide organizational assessment to ascertain the status of the Philander Smith College. Findings from the assessment revealed the necessity to restructure at both the administration and academic levels of the college. Therefore, President Moore will be bringing in his own Executive Cabinet.

With regard to academics, Dr. Moore is implementing a liberal arts college structure with functional Department Chairs. This replaces the previous Division Chair model. The Department Chairs will now be empowered to be administrators of their disciplines, and responsible for the academic decision-making regarding curriculum, academic advisement, and all matters concerning the proper academic matriculation of students in their respective degree programs.

President Moore appointed an Academic Deficiency Committee to evaluate and meet with each student to design their program to improve academic performance. This effort will result in implementing and designing student programs tailored to meet the specific needs of each student, who are academically deficient and on academic probation.

Academic units are being realigned to be consistent with other colleges and universities.

- Freshmen Orientation is aligned with Academic Administration and is no longer under Student Affairs. This strengthens the academic preparation of entering first year students. A Director will be named to lead this effort.
- Developmental Studies will replace the former Academic Success

Center and merge with the teaching faculty in the Departments of English and Mathematics.

- Position descriptions are being audited and/or revised to ensure that they are in alignment with the role, duties and responsibilities.
- A five year plan is being instituted for increasing admission standards.
- A technological assessment is taking place to improve hard and software capability. IT protocol and operating procedures are being reviewed and revised.
- The development of a comprehensive plan for STEM is being instituted in tandem with the direction of the Association of American Colleges & Universities examining Transforming STEM Education
- Faculty are currently charged with redesigning their course syllabi to reflect more academic rigor.
- Faculty evaluation and performance standards are being reviewed and revised.
- A college-wide strategic planning committee was instituted to assess the current status of the institution, review the former strategic plan and develop a new five year strategic plan.
- Campus Security is being examined and a plan will be implemented to ensure the safety of the college.

President Moore has designed a projected time-line for the completion and further implementation of the academic restructuring, and academic performance of the college.