

## BJ-ML SPA FOCUS



Willie and Christine Payne (3rd and 4th from left) stand with Dean Herrington (far left) among scholarship recipients.



George Pontikes (far left) stands with scholarship recipients and Dean Herrington (far right).

**B**J-ML School of Public Affairs hosted a Student Scholarship Recipients Reception honoring Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs Payne and Pontikes Scholarship Recipients.

◆ **The Willie and Christine Payne Scholarship** recognizes students who demonstrate outstanding character, academic achievement, and promise for a career in public service. The Payne Scholarship supports students who are innovative, creative, energetic, and eager to make a difference in their communities.

Recipients of the Payne Scholarship were *Alisa Morgan, Ariel Arredondo, Shifawn Falley, Janae Seymore and Donovan Bosen.*

◆ **The George and Laura Pontikes Scholarship** recognized students who demonstrate exceptional intellectual achievement and who have engaged in or shown a commitment to community service.

Recipients of the Pontikes Scholarship were *Ashley Johnson, Jose Cedillos and Quonna Coleman.*

### Calendar of Events

JAN. 23, 2007

ANNUAL AWARD  
 RECEPTION FUNDRAISER  
 BJ-ML SPA

### Join Us

If you are thinking about a degree in Administration of Justice (BS), Political Science (BA), Public Affairs (BS), Public Administration (MPA), or Urban Planning and Environmental Policy (Masters or Ph.D.), please contact us at [Robinson\\_cg@tsu.edu](mailto:Robinson_cg@tsu.edu) or (713) 313-6848.

If you are an alumnus of the School of Public Affairs, please contact us at [Robinson\\_cg@tsu.edu](mailto:Robinson_cg@tsu.edu) or (713) 313-6848. We want to hear from you and work with you for the "common good."

We're making a world of difference one community at a time...join us.

## BJ-ML SPA Guest Speaker: Charles R. Savino

In November Charles R. Savino, ACIP, Executive Vice President of CIS Market Research was invited as a guest speaker. In his position he is responsible for the overall performance of the firm's professional consulting service. Mr. Savino has over three decades of project management, community planning, research and land development experience. He has also held positions with Rice University as Director of Research of the Rice Center, a research corporation affiliated with Rice University. He received both a Master of City Planning degree and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

### Alumni Highlights

**Marcus Davis** ('98) of the Breakfast Klub and **Ronald Reynolds** ('96) of Esquire Title Company were recipients of the 12th Annual African American Business Achievement Pinnacle Awards. Four businesses were honored at the awards gala sponsored by the Houston Citizens Chamber of Commerce in October.

**Christina D. Sanders** ('06), former SGA President at Texas Southern University and current Texas State Coordinator of Black Youth Vote, a young voter mobilization program of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, was interviewed live on CNN Radio. Ms. Sanders gave commentary on the black youth vote and the mid-term elections.

## FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Dr. Michael O. Adams, Professor and Director of the Masters of Public Administration (MPA) Program in the Barbara Jordan – Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs, has presented a paper on the “Impact of Race, Ethnicity and Immigration on Houston’s Geopolitical and Economic Development” at the Bogazici University – National Association for Ethnic Studies Conference in Istanbul, Turkey November 15-17, 2006.

Faculty and students from the Department of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy were out in force to support a “Town Hall Meeting” in Houston Super Neighborhoods 39 & 40 on Thursday, October 26. The session was held in support of an ongoing “Plan Update and Implementation Campaign” for the neighborhood being led by Dr. Bradshaw Hovey with funding by the City of Houston Department of Housing and Community Development.

Associate Dean Carroll Robinson of the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs; UPEP faculty members Dr. Arthur Sullivan, Dr. Lalita Sen and Dr. Mustapha Beydoun; graduate assistants on the project, Yvonne Fedee and April Gobert; and UPEP graduate students Julio Montes, Anthony Rodriguez, Noel Estwick, Dorcaus Robinson, Nycole Simpkins, Dorris Ellis Robinson, Lester King served as small group facilitators. BJ-ML student Theresa Dews sang the invocation and benediction.

BJ-ML SPA Professor of Public Affairs, Dr. Walter McCoy has been invited to join the Environmental Justice Task Force for District 146 by State Representative-Elect Borris Miles. This task force consists of thoughtful community

leaders who will meet to advise State Representative-Elect Miles and his staff on the needs and issues concerning the men, women, children, and businesses in District 146.

BJ-ML SPA Dean, Dr. Theophilus Herrington and Interim Director of Public Administration, Dr. Michael Adams represented the BJ-ML School of Public Affairs at the 2006 National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) Conference. The theme of the 2006 NASPAA Annual Conference was “The Future of the Public Sector.” The conference addressed such topics as Governance, not Government: multi-sectoral public service, Globalization and the internationalization of public affairs, Poverty, growing income inequality, and social equity, the roles of non-profits, philanthropy, and government, and the rise of advocacy and social entrepreneurship. The October conference had four specialized accreditation sessions. Keynote speakers included the Honorable Paul H. O’Neill former Secretary of Treasury and former Vice President Walter F. Mondale.

BJ-ML Public Affairs/Public Administration programs hosted a MPA Student Workshop entitled “Can Government Be Great?” The presenters were Assistant Professor of Public Affairs, Dr. Gbolahan Osho who discussed “The Role of Information Management in Public Administration: Maximization of Governmental Efficiency Through Technological Innovations,” Associate Dean of External Affairs, Mr. Carroll G. Robinson who discussed “Who Will Speak For The People: Public Administrative Challenges in our Quest for Greatness,” and Sugar Land Assistant City

Manager, Mr. David Ellison who discussed “Leadership Dialogue With Emerging Professionals” – October 17, 2006.

BJ-ML SPA Associate Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy, Dr. Qisheng Pan presented working plans at the project kick-off meeting for the TX DOT project 5415 – “Develop Emissions, Truck Trips and Railcars Estimation Methodology for Major Texas Ports” at the TX DOT Houston District. This project is a two year research project from Sept. 1, 2006 to Aug. 31, 2008. Four researchers and six graduate assistants from the School of Public Affairs and the School of Science & Technology are working on this project – October 20, 2006.

BJ-ML SPA Professor of Administration of Justice, Dr. Helen Taylor Greene attended The Foundation for Community Empowerment’s J. McDonald Williams Institute Second Annual Conference in Dallas, Texas. Dr. Greene was a panelist for the session on Crime and a presenter at the roundtable on Returning Home: The Voices of the Formerly Incarcerated – October 23, 2006.

BJ-ML SPA Professor of Administration of Justice, Dr. Helen Taylor Greene co-authored an article entitled, “Prisoner Reentry in Dallas,” published in the Williams Review, October, 2006.

BJ-ML SPA Urban Planning and Environmental Policy Department delivered a GIS Presentation to the Greater Houston Partnership. Associate Dean Robinson, Drs. Sullivan, Sen and Beydoun participated in the presentation – October 27, 2006.