

FREEMAN HONORS

Vol. 1, No. 2 SPG 2013 Newsletter of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College at Texas Southern University

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ABOUT THIS EDITION

This is the second edition of Freeman Honors, the newsletter with information on the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College at Texas Southern University.

It seeks to connect students, faculty and office personnel of the College with its benefactors and partners who may be in the University, alumni, professional and general communities.

The College anticipates that this connection will reflect and cultivate the relationships in a family whose members are dedicated to optimizing the preparation of College students for service as citizens and as leaders of our new Age of the Global.

Honors College Scholars Victorious In NAAHP's Debate Competition

The "power" team of Marcus Esther, Tiffany Massey and Marshaun Williams, three Honors College scholars and TSU Debate Team members, won the "finals" in the debate competition at the 21st Annual Conference of the National Association of African-American Honors Programs in October.

The success of team members came after weeks of preparation under TSU Debate Team Coach Dr. Thomas F. Freeman, as well as guidance from the Honors College Assistant Dean for Student Services, Dr. Candy Ratliff.

The topic was: "Resolved - States should repeal all 'Stand Your Ground' laws that remove a person's duty to retreat from an assailant and instead allow the use of deadly force if reasonably threatened."

HBCUs Claflin University and South Carolina State University convened the conference in their "home town" of Orangeburg, SC.

Scholars Enhance Preparation at Institute, Fair, and Conference of Thurgood Marshall College Fund

The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College was represented by six advanced scholars at the 12th Annual Thurgood Marshall College Fund Leadership Institute, Recruitment Fair and Conference in New York in October.

The six included London Maclin, Trevor Milton, Elzary Asberry, Divania Sykes, Chinonso Ezeudu, and Erik Granados (since then, graduated).

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund event provides a premier recruitment opportunity for students in public HBCUs.

The four-day event allows talented future leaders to meet some of the nation's top executives and other individuals in the corporate, education and government fields.

Students participated in interactive discussions and workshops designed to provide leadership training, career management, life skills development, and recruitment opportunities.

Dean's Message: On the New Curriculum

The Thomas F. Freeman Honors College is entering a new and important phase in the evolution of its academic program.

In this phase, students who entered the College in or after Fall 2011 have to take four 300-level and 400-level courses (three within their majors and one outside their majors) that are augmented with College themes.

The courses will be subjects of agreements that are between the students and their instructors and that must receive approval from the College.

The implementation of this requirement follows the nod the curriculum received from the University Curriculum Council at TSU last school year.

It bears in mind the fact that new students may have entered the College as freshmen, sophomores or juniors in or after the fall semester of 2011.

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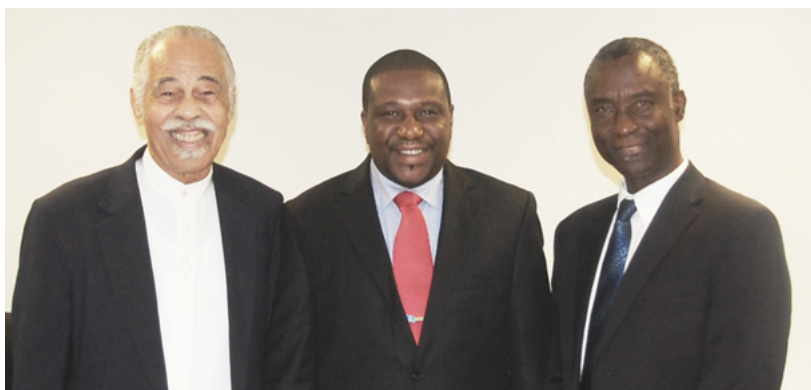
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STUDENT ASSISTANTS

New Assistants
Coming to College
in SPRING 2013
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In his visit to the Honors College in October of 2012, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Saint Lucia, Hon. Alva R. Baptiste (center) met with College students, faculty and staff.

They included Dr. Thomas F. Freeman (left), Dean Emeritus of the Honors College and Coach of the TSU Debate Team, and Dr. Humphrey A. Regis, Honors Dean, who also is from Saint Lucia.

Visiting Minister Connects His Work, College Themes

The Honors College in October hosted Hon. Alva Baptiste, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Civil Aviation in Saint Lucia in the Eastern Caribbean.

Hon. Baptiste told students in the College and in the Department of Aviation Science and Technology that he had responsibilities at the local level (for example, helping develop tourism in his district), the national level (administering the affairs of Saint Lucia in civil aviation and other areas), and the global level (representing his nation in such organizations as the United Nations and the Organization of American States).

In this way, he connected his work to the Local/National/Global theme in the Honors College. The theme stresses the simultaneous location of subjects - for example ideas, people, services, organizations, and even attributes - within local, national and global contexts.

The Minister also met with such TSU officials as President John Rudley, Provost Sunny Ohia, and Vice President Wendy Adair, as well as the deans and other representatives of various schools and colleges at TSU.

In addition, the College hosted for the Minister a reception the guests in which included Dr. Thomas, Freeman, scholars from the College, majors from the Department, and faculty and staff of the University.

The Minister came to TSU with Hon. Kent Hippolyte, the Saint Lucia Consul General in Miami; and Ms. Andrea Jean Baptiste and Mr. Sylvanus Donaie, president and chairperson of the Saint Lucia Association of Texas.

In addition, during his stay in Houston, the Minister visited the Mayor of Houston, Mayor Annise Parker; The Houston Port Authority; the Greater Houston Partnership-Chamber of Commerce; the Houston Police Department; and representatives of the Memorial Hermann Hospital System.

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Representing the Honors College at the special United Nations Day Dinner in Houston in October were Tdijiri Yakini, Marcus Esther, Dr. Candy Ratliff, Crystal Aladume, and Alejandra Ramos.

Scholars Attend U.N. Day Dinner in Houston

Four scholars in the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College represented the College at the special October 23 dinner that marked United Nations Day in Houston.

The scholars heard Executive Director Patrick Madden of the United Nations Association of the United States extol the virtues of participation in its Houston Chapter, the

national Association, and such associated programs as the extremely popular Model United Nations.

They and other representatives of the College also heard from Hon. Teta Banks, the President of UNA-Houston and former Honorary Counsel of Liberia in Philadelphia.

She committed UNA-Houston to collaborating with the College in

the realization of the objectives of the Local/National/Global theme in its curriculum.

Other College personnel included Assistant Dean for Student Services Candy Ratliff and Dean Humphrey A. Regis.

The dinner took place at the Federal Reserve Bank Conference Center in Houston.

Honors College Spring 2013 Lecture Series: 'Science, Technology, and the Environment'

For Spring 2013, the focus in the Honors College lecture series will be on a major local, national and global priority - Science, Technology and the Environment.

The first lecture will be on the long history of inquiry or achievement in these areas by People of the African Continent and People of African Descent.

The lecture, *Millennia of African Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine*, will be presented by Dr. Charles S. Finch, the former Director of International Health at Morehouse College.

Two of his major works include *The African Background to Medical Science* and *The Star of Deep Beginnings: The Genesis of African Science and Technology*

The lecture will be in Room 114 of the School of Public Affairs / College of Liberal Arts and Behavioral Sciences building.

In the second lecture, Dean Robert Bullard of the School of Public Affairs at TSU will speak on Climate Change and Environmental Justice in the Age of Globalization.

Dr. Bullard, called "the father of environmental justice," recently co-authored *The Wrong Complexion for Protection*, which describes the government's response to natural and man-made disasters through a social justice and racial equity lens.

The theme also will be the major subject in the third lecture, on The Relationship Between Chronogeography and Health, which Dr. Astatkie Zikarge will present.

He is an assistant professor and an Environmental Health specialist in the Department of Health Sciences at Texas Southern University,

In the fourth lecture, Assistant Dean Karen Kossie-Chernyshev of the Honors College will shed light on her then-newly-published book, *Rediscovering Five Generations Hence: The Life and Work of Lillian Jones Horace*.

The lectures by Dr. Bullard, Dr. Zikarge and Dr. Kossie-Chernyshev will be in the Honors College Auditorium, in the lower level of the Robert J. Terry Library.

Readers may find details of the lectures and other Honors College programs by clicking on CALENDAR on the left side of the home page of the Honors College site: <http://www.tsu.edu/honorscollege>.

NEWS NOTES: Scholar Milestones

Congratulations to Jerome Kelly, Kenneth Stephen, and Athene Gonzales-Reed, past students of the Honors College

Kelly and Stephen both passed the July 2012 Texas State Bar Examination.

Kelly graduated summa cum laude in 2009 with the Bachelor of Science in Political Science.

Stephen graduated magna cum laude in 2009 with the Bachelor of Arts in management.

Gonzales-Reed completed the Executive Master of Business Administration.

Congratulations to the Fall 2012 graduates:

Reasha Burton, Bachelor of Science, Interdisciplinary Studies (Cum Laude)

Ki'Essence Culbreath, Bachelor of Science, Biology

Alicia Duke, Bachelor of Science, Biology

Asten J. Floyd, Doctor of Pharmacy

Deshara Goss, Bachelor of Arts, Social Work (Cum Laude)

Erik Granados, Bachelor of Arts, Journalism (Cum Laude)

Middy Ragwar, Bachelor's Degree, Business Administration (Magna Cum Laude)

Carrington Washington, Bachelor of Science, Biology

Maria Williams, Bachelor of Science, Chemistry

Morgan Woods, Bachelor's Degree, Business Administration (Cum Laude)

NEWS NOTES: Scholar Activities

Honors College Scholar Participates in a Walk for Obesity Awareness

Honors College scholar Allen White in September participated in last year's special 2.5-mile walk that marked Obesity Awareness Week.

The hosts for the event included State Senator Rodney Ellis, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, and Texas Southern University.

Four Honors Scholars Attend Performance of *La Boheme*, the Opera

Four scholars in Honors attended the performance of the opera *La Boheme* at the Houston Grand Opera in October.

Their attendance at the opera was sponsored by the Urban Academic Village at Texas Southern University.

The four scholars included Imtiaz Hasan; Gloria Lopez; Ndidi Cheidu; and Fitima Alvizo.

Honors Scholar Attends *New Jim Crow* Lecture at The Progressive Forum

Freshman Honors scholar Dominique Outing attended a public lecture in which writer Michelle Alexander discussed her new book, *The New Jim Crow*.

The Progressive Forum hosted the special lecture, held at the Wortham Theatre in Downtown Houston, on October 20.

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NEWS NOTES: Faculty Activities

Associate Dean Directs Hedda Gabler at TSU

Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College, directed the staging at TSU of Hedda Gabler by Henrik Ibsen.

The performances of the play took place November 15 through 18 at the Ollington Smith Playhouse.

College Assistant Dean Receives Book Support

Dr. Karen Kossie-Chernyshev, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the Honors College, received a \$600 grant from the Office of Research to facilitate the publication of her forthcoming edited book, *Rediscovering Five Generations Hence: The Life and Work of Lillian Jones Horace*.

The publication of the two-part edition by Texas A&M University Press will be accompanied by a presentation on it in the College in April 2013.

College Assistant Dean In Rice Documentary

Dr. Karen Kossie-Chernyshev, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in Honors and three times a graduate of Rice University, is to be one of the subjects in a special documentary on 15 black Rice alumni.

HoustonPBS intends to broadcast the documentary in February of 2013.

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