



MRS. CLARICE ESTELLE FREEMAN

*Lifelong educator, community activist and
wife of Founding Dean, the late Dr. Thomas F. Freeman*

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Ms. Andreus Boise (left) addressing the Freeman Scholars at the Spring Opening Meeting

On Saturday, January 29, Freeman Scholars and Honors staff gathered for the first college-wide meeting and event for 2022. The meeting was held in the Walter J. McCoy Auditorium and featured guest speakers **Ms. Andreus Boise** (TSU Career & Professional Services Center), **Ms. Felicia Jackson** (Houston Area Urban League) and **Dr. Roger Hart** (Honors Faculty Fellow).

Dean's Message

Greetings,

Our spring/summer edition of Freeman Honors gives an overview of transformative moments for the Honors College. Those moments include: our first Biannual Research Conference; the annual Spring Tribute honoring former President John Rudley and former Provost Sunny Ohia, who created the College in 2009; a Houston City Councilman lectured on the topic, "Beyond Voting;" and the second Academic Signing Day, which reaped our largest freshman class in recent years, of over 50 scholars who will be seated Fall 2022. Also, included in this edition are other significant events and scholarly activities of our junior and senior Freeman Scholars.

Please enjoy!

Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard



Dr. Dianne Jemison Pollard

About This Edition

The award winning *Freeman Honors*, is the bi-annual newsletter of the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College at Texas Southern University. It connects the students, faculty and office personnel of the College with its many benefactors and partners in education within the University.

The College anticipates that this connection will reflect and cultivate the relationships in a family whose members are dedicated to maximizing the preparation of College students for service as citizens and as leaders in a global society.

Call to Alumni: Make Contact with the Honors College

We are continually updating our database of Honors alumni at Texas Southern University. The database includes information on those past students who have been in the Honors College, Frederick Douglass Honors Institute, and other honors activities or units that may have preceded them. If you are one of these alumni, please provide the information to the Honors College by contacting **Mr. Shandon Neal**, at Shandon.Neal@tsu.edu or 713.313.1180 or our front desk at 713.313.6725.

A Conversation with Mrs. Clarice Freeman



On Wednesday, February 2nd, the Honors College invited **Mrs. Clarice Freeman**, lifelong educator and wife of Founding Dean, **Dr. Thomas Freeman**, to share her stories and her wisdom with the TSU campus community as well as the Houston community via Zoom. Mr. and Miss Honors College, **Shaun Stevenson** (Senior, Biology) and **Lauren Bailey** (Biology '22) facilitated the informal interview and members of the Houston community were invited to join the virtual conversation, as it was live-streamed via Zoom.



Left to right: Dean Jemison Pollard, Lauren Bailey, Mrs. Freeman, Shaun Stevenson, Ms. Renuka Nair and Mr. Shandon Neal

Freshman Induction Spring 2022



Left to right: Marquis Thompson, Jazmin Igbneweka, Kennedy Lee, Madisyn Reddic, Kymani Gordon, Alexis Nunley, Miguel Garza, Zoe Russell, Chance Gardner, Rayah Wynn, Alessandro Villegas-Cavedoni, Taylor Tran, Triniti Boson, Pablo Reyes-Sanchez, Channing Below, Kristian Salas and Mikayla Wallace

After completing a successful first semester in the Honors College, the Freshmen were officially inducted into the College on Tuesday, February 15. The induction ceremony took place immediately after the Frederick Douglass Lecture by Dr. Jason Oby. Family and friends of the scholars were invited to attend.

Golden Key International Honour Society—TSU Chapter: 2022 Induction



Left to right: Ms. Renuka Nair (honorary member), Ms. Andreaus Boise-Fontenot (honorary member), Mr. Blake Melton (Biology), Ms. Carolina da Graca (Maritime Transportation '22), Mr. Mark Ddamulira (Civil Engineering/Physics), Mr. Aaron Daniels (Electrical Engineering), Ms. Renata Givens (Human Services & Consumer Sciences), Janiya Chapman (Political Science), Cierra Branch (Public Affairs), Ms. Randi Wright (Kinesiology), Mr. Shandon Neal (honorary member), Mr. Jalen Jackson (Biology) and honorary member Ms. Sarah Haiying Li (not pictured).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

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Frederick Douglass Lecture Series

The Frederick Douglass Lecture Series is a required attendance event for the Honors College Scholars. Two lectures are presented each semester and each has a community and/or global focus.

“The American Negro Spiritual: Soundtrack of our Journey”

DR. JASON OBY

Professor and Chair,
Department of Music
TSU

February 15, 2022



“Beyond Voting”

HON. EDWARD J. POLLARD

Houston City Council
Member, District J
Attorney, Pollard Legal Group LLC
March 23, 2022



2022 University Honors Day Convocation

April 6, 2022

The Texas Southern University Honors Day Convocation honored 2,985 students for their academic achievement.

Participating in the program, were Freeman Scholars **Blake Melton** (Senior/Biology: Invocation), **Javion Cox** (Junior/Theatre: Introduction to Speaker), **Judnie Michel** (Senior/Biology: Announcements) and **Destiny Smith** (Senior/Biology: Benediction).

Dr. Dakota Doman (Chief of Staff, Office of the President) presided over the ceremony and **Dean Jemison Pollard** chaired the program.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Attorney Marcus Esther

*TFF Honors College '15
Thurgood Marshall
School of Law '18*

The TFF Honors College Formula:

*Effective Leadership + Supportive Honors Faculty /
Staff = Scholar Success!*

1ST BIENNIAL HONORS RESEARCH CONFERENCE



The Honors College hosted its first Biennial Invitational Research Conference on Wednesday, March 30. Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs in the Honors College and Conference Chair, **Dr. Hector Miranda**, sent out a call for papers to program directors of Honors programs at Houston area institutions of higher education.

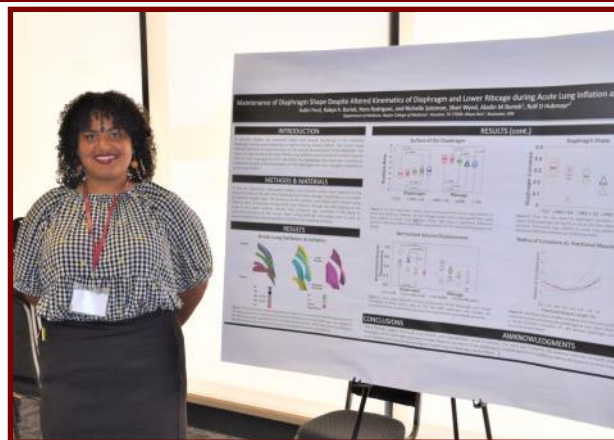
The agenda included oral and poster presentations by students. The participants hailed from Houston Baptist University Honors College, Houston Community College Honors Program, University of Houston Honors College, and the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College.

Attendees were greeted with welcome remarks from **Dean Jemison Pollard**, along with special remarks from Senior Associate Vice President for Research & Innovation, **Dr. Omonike Olaleye**. The keynote address was delivered by **Dr. Michelle Penn-Marshall**, Vice President for Research and Innovation at the Honors Research Luncheon.

SCENES FROM THE RESEARCH CONFERENCE



*Freeman Scholar and poster presenter
Emmanuel Joshua*



*Freeman Scholar and poster presenter
Aubri Ford*



*VP Michelle Penn-Marshall and Dr. Hector
Miranda*



*University of Houston poster presenter Citlali
Chavana*



*Honors College Graduate Research Assistants
Aliah Pinder and Kaelan King*



Participants from Houston Baptist University

Honors Spring Tribute and Luncheon



Left to right: Dr. Willie Capers, Dean Jemison Pollard, Dr. Brian Armstrong, Dr. Yi Qi, Dr. Reagan Flowers, President Crumpton-Young, Dr. John Rudley, Dr. Nina Cofer and Dr. Sunny Ohia

The fourth annual Honors Spring Tribute and Luncheon was held on Saturday, April 9, 2022, in the President's Lounge of the Sterling Student Life Center. Six key individuals, responsible for the development and growth of the Honors College, were honored: **Dr. Brian Armstrong, Dr. Willie Capers, Dr. Nina Cofer, Dr. Sunny Ohia, Dr. Yi Qi and Dr. John Rudley**. The keynote address was delivered by Honors College Advisory Board member and CEO of C-STEM, **Dr. Reagan Flowers**.



L to r: Freeman Scholars and international students, Carolina da Graca (Maritime Transportation '22) and Melvira Teufack (Biology)



Dr. Hector Miranda with keynote speaker Dr. Reagan Flowers

Honors Spring Tribute and Luncheon (contd.)



*Honors Faculty member, Dr. Obot Ekwere with
Mrs. Clarice Freeman*



*Honoree Dr. Yi Qi (center) with her twin
daughters*



*Honoree Dr. Nina Cofer with her son
Kenneth M. Cofer, III*



*Freeman Scholar and Mistress of Ceremony,
Serena Enemodia with honoree Dr. Sunny Ohia*

Spring 2022 Undergraduate Research and Internships Symposium

Celebrating scholarly research and internship experiences, the symposium serves as a forum for junior level scholars to present their work completed as part of the course augmentation proposals (CAPs). The presentation topics and content are based on the scholars' chosen fields of study. Participants are given 10-15 minutes to present their research.

Taylor Adams

San Antonio Police Dept. Internship

"Role of Forensics in Routine Police Investigation"

Farhan Ahmed

AVST 351/ Prof. Booker

"Pilot Preparedness: Unexpected Turn of Events"

Cierra Branch

MGMT 300/ Dr. Wright

"Futuristic Idea in Education"

Samserai Cardenas

EDCI 456/ Dr. Scott

"ESL y Tu: The Importance of Effective ESL Classes in Texas"

Devansh Chadha

FIN 319/ Dr. Iqbal

"Commercial Banking"

Janiya Chapman

AJ 301/ Prof. Whiting

"Examining the Sanctioning Outcomes of Murder Convictions: Disparity Between Minorities and Whites"

Tannard Darensburg, Jr.

PSY 238/ Prof. Venzant

"Behavioral & Psychiatric Disorders Within the Child and Family Spectrum"

Rathea Hersi

PHAR 422/ Dr. Charles

"Pharmacokinetics and the Effects of Escitalopram"

Kester Iwelumor

Internship

"Ethical Issues Surrounding the Probation and Parole System"

Jaina Johnson

AJ 301/ Prof. Whiting

"Ethics in the Criminal Justice System"

A'Nyah Joseph

AJ 412/ Prof. Owdley

"Focus on Cybersecurity: The Ransomware Attack on the Colonial Pipeline"

Bashir Kalyesubula

Internship

"A Model Using Machine and Deep Learning to Assist Evaluating Free Body Diagrams"

Alyss Kerl

Internship

"A Day in the Life of a Funeral Director"

Brian Martinez

ACCT 331 / Dr. Alexander

"Pay for Performance: A Source of Loyalty or Displeasure"

Dexter Maryland

Internship

"Public Service in Harris County"

Blake Melton

Internship

"Anesthesia: Anesthesiology, Surgery, Side Effects, Types, Risk"

Judnie Michel

BIOL 443/ Dr. Jackson

"Sickle Cell Anemia: Hydroxyurea and other Treatment Options"

Nora Rodriguez-Santiago

Internship

"Pressure-generating Capacity of the Diaphragm in Dogs: Effects of Forceful Efforts at High Lung Volume"

Alexa Romero

AJ 301/Prof. Mason

"The Rule of Law: Examination of the U.S. Justice system"

Cristian Sanchez-Comacho

MGMT 300/Dr. Allagoa-Warren

"A Day Without Immigrants: The Importance of Healthy Relationships in the Workplace"

Cameron Steel

RDG 302/Dr. Benford

"African American Fathers: An Essential Component of EC-6 Literary Instruction"

Destiny Smith

BIOL 454/Prof. Patel

"Anxiety and its Effects on Business in Retail Pharmacy"

Melvira Teufack

BIOL 347/Dr. Rosenzweig

"Autism and Vaccines: Correlation or Causation?"

Merci Wilson

SOCW 347/Prof. Cooper

"Teen Suicide Legislation"

Aliyah Webb

SOC 359/ Dr. Mosley

"Ethics in the Criminal Justice System"

SENIOR THESIS MAY 2022

Jessica Allagoa

Degree: B.S. in Biology

Thesis Title:

The Environmental Influence on Autism Spectrum Disorder in Sub-Saharan Africa

Advisor: Dr. Hector Miranda

Lauren Bailey

Degree: B.S. in Biology

Thesis Title:

Mortuary Science: Green Coffins and Other Non-Traditional Burial Methods that Prioritize our Environment

Advisor: Dr. Hector Miranda

Mariah Campbell

Degree: B.A. in Journalism

Thesis Title:

The Beautiful Black Butterfly: Overcoming Rejection, Depression and Low Self-Esteem

Advisor: Dr. Christian Ulasi

Serena Enemodia

Degree: B.S. in Biology

Thesis Title:

Personality Traits: A Correlation Examination of Neuroticism and Civic Engagement

Advisor: Dr. Hector Miranda

Carolina da Graca

Degree: B.S. in Maritime Transportation Management and Security

Thesis Title:

Analysis of the Environmental and security Risks Related to Crude Oil Transportation

Advisor: Dr. Yi Qi

Aubri Ford

Degree: B.S. in Biology

Thesis Title:

Evaluation of Diaphragmatic Movement in the Respiratory System of an Emphysema Patient

Advisor: Dr. Ayodotun Sodipe

Jacob Hines

Degree: B.B.A. in Finance

Thesis Title:

The Systemic Lack of Financial Literacy Disproportionately Affecting the Black Community

Advisor: Dr. Mayur Desai

Merritt Johnson

Degree: B.A. Entertainment and Recording Industry Management / Political Science

Thesis Title:

The Environmental Impact of Elon Musk

Advisor: Dr. Christian Ulasi

Emmanuel Joshua

Degree: B.S. in Computer Science

Thesis Title:

Is Artificial Intelligence Redefining our Civilization?

Advisor: Dr. Yi Qi

Daniel Kuddabujja

Degree: Pharm.D. in Pharmacy Practice

Thesis Title:

Luteolin Glucuronide Age-Dependent Fecal Hydrolysis by Rat Glucuronidase Enzyme

Advisor: Dr. Willie Capers

Haleigh Malveaux

Degree: B.S. in Biology

Thesis Title:

Investigation of the Development of Autism in Vaccinated Caucasian Children

Advisor: Dr. Ayodotun Sodipe

Aasir Mecca (B.J. McCaskill)

Degree: B.A. in Political Science

Thesis Title:

For Posterity's Sake: Intersectionality of the Systemic and Systematic Oppression of Marginalized Groups and the Climate Crisis

Advisor: Dr. David Baker

Desmonae McCloud

Degree: B.B.A. in Finance

Thesis Title:

The Need to Incorporate Financial Literacy in K-12 Education

Advisor: Dr. Monica Rasmus

Janai Minga

Degree: Pharm.D. in Pharmacy Practice

Thesis Title:

Impacts of Empagliflozin on Patients with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus and at Risk of Adverse Cardiovascular Events

Advisor: Dr. Willie Capers

Camryn Roberts

Degree: B.A. in Music

Thesis Title:

Methods within Music

Advisor: Dr. Tanya Allen

Lauryn Stovall

Degree: B.B.A. in Marketing

Thesis Title:

COVID-19 and the U.S. Economy

Advisor: Dr. Claudius Claiborne

Igor Vouffo

Degree: B.S. in Chemistry

Thesis Title:

The Dynamics of Chemical Reaction Networks

Advisor: Dr. Yunjiao Wang

Spring 2022 Graduation Recognition and Luncheon

On Wednesday, April 27, Freeman Scholars who completed all requirements of the Honors College curriculum, received a certificate of Graduation with Honors Distinction. Graduates also receive the Honors Stole and medallion along with other alumni-themed gifts.

Congratulations to our Spring 2022 graduates!



Top row, left to right: Carolina da Graca (Maritime Transportation) and Aasir Mecca (Political Science)
Second row, left to right: Igor Vouffo (Chemistry), Lauryn Stovall (Marketing) and Jacob Hines (Finance)
Third row, left to right: Desmonae McCloud (Finance), Camryn Roberts (Music), Merritt Johnson (Entertainment & Recording Industry Mgmt.) and Aubri Ford (Biology)
Front row, left to right: Lauren Bailey (Biology), Haleigh Malveaux (Biology), Jessica Allagoa (Biology) and Mariah Campbell (Journalism)

Academic Signing Day 2022



Left to right: Faith Kadiri, Jaden Vaughan, Kateyln Toole-Stephens, Michael Vouffo, Lauryn Patterson, Kamille Patton and Jaidyn Wright

On Friday, April 29, 2022, the Honors College hosted its second annual Academic Signing Day in the lobby of the Library Learning Center. Seven (7) high school scholars committed to the Thomas F. Freeman Honors College for their college education, as their family and friends, along with members of the community and media witnessed the ceremonial signing of academic contracts. All seven are high-achieving scholars who met the Honors criteria including a 3.5 or higher GPA. The new recruits were welcomed by upper-class Freeman Scholars including **Mariah Campbell** (Journalism, '22, Miss Junior 2020-21 and Miss TSU 2021-22), **Aasir Mecca** (Political Science '22, Mister Honors College 2018-2019, Mister Junior 2019-20) and **Dexter Maryland** (Political Science, SGA President 2022-23) who had special messages for the newly admitted scholars as they shared their personal experiences as scholars and campus leaders.

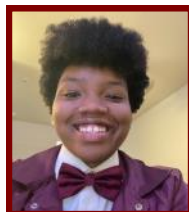
TSU Administration and college/school representatives also welcomed the new scholars and celebrated their high school achievements: **Dr. Dakota Doman** (Office of the President), **Dr. Dwalah Fisher** (Provost's Office), **Ms. Melinda Spaulding** (University Advancement), **Dr. Monica Rasmus** (COPHS), **Dr. Aladdin Sleem** (COSET) and **Mr. Eddie Bebley** (BJML-SOPA).

Summer of Transformation: Student Internships



ALESSANDRO CAVEDONI-VILLEGAS
Political Science
Immigration Law Intern
Blessinger Legal PLLC. Falls Church, VA

MARK DDAMULIRA
Physics and Mathematics
Engineering intern
Blue Water Bridge, Michigan
Department Of Transportation



MADISON GRISAFI
Engineering Technology
Production Technology Intern
Marvel Studios (Disney)

JALEN JACKSON
Biology
HBCU Student Fellow
AfroLatinidades Institute, University
of California



EMMANUEL JOSHUA
Computer Science
Software Development Engineer Intern
Amazon

**CRISTIAN LEONARDO
SANCHEZ**
Finance
Financial credit analyst Intern
First Bank, Denver Colorado



BRIAN MARTINEZ
Accounting
Audit & Assurance Intern
Deloitte

DEXTER MARYLAND
Political Science
Congressional Intern
U.S. Representative Steve Cohen



JANAI MINGA
Pharmacy
Pharmacist Intern
Baylor College of Medicine- SMS Program

DEVIN ROBINSON
Political Science
TechConnect Intern
Houston Councilwoman
Karla Cisneros



SHAUN STEVENSON
Biology
Research Technician Intern
Houston Methodist Research Institute

MELVIRA TEUFACK
Biology
Intern
Baylor College of Medicine



OMOKHUWELE UMORU
Physics and Mathematics
Machine Learning Intern
Logitech

Summer Happenings



LEADERSHIP SUMMIT: WOODLANDS RESORT & CONFERENCE CENTER
Team Building & Coaching Skills Workshop
Facilitator Brent Scarpo (center) with the Honors College Team
Monday, August 1st and Tuesday, August 2nd

SUNDAY AUGUST 14: CELEBRATING 102nd BIRTHDAY



Dean Jemison Pollard with Dr. Carlotta Freeman (center) and 102nd birthday honoree, Mrs. Clarice Freeman



Dean Jemison Pollard presenting a gift from the Honors College

FREEMAN HONORS

HONORS COLLEGE CORE VALUES

HONESTY, INTEGRITY, COMMUNITY, CREATIVITY AND EXCELLENCE

The Scholar



Dr. Thomas F. Freeman

1919-2020



TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

Thomas F. Freeman Honors College