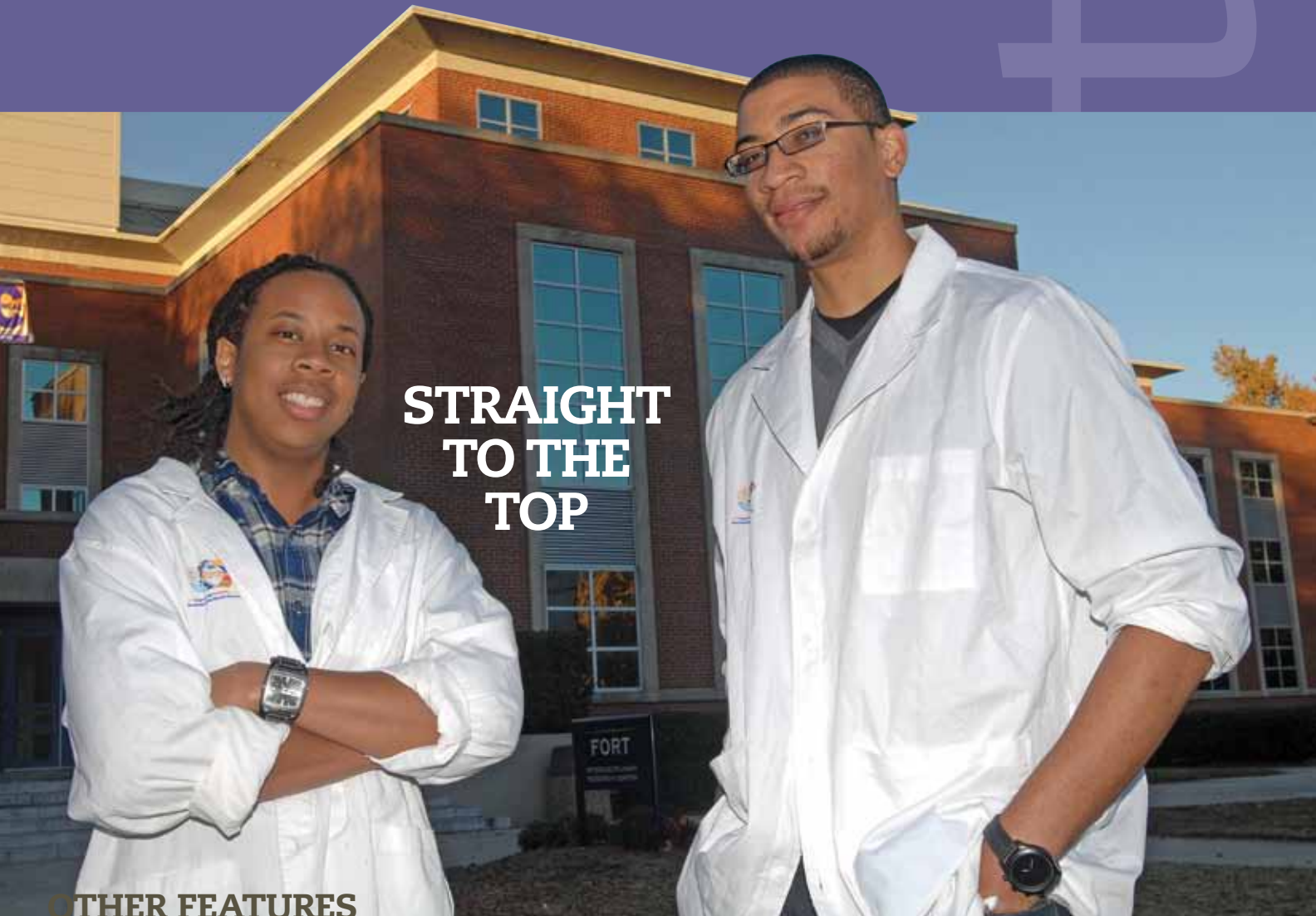




NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL
AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

Year
today



STRAIGHT TO THE TOP

OTHER FEATURES

Youth and Science

Making Good on a Promise

A Piece of Cake

SPRING | 2K
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North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is a learner-centered community that develops and preserves intellectual capital through interdisciplinary learning, discovery, engagement, and operational excellence.

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A&T TODAY
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Spring 2011

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insideaggieland

Tasha Smith Visits Aggieland



Actress Tasha Smith fields questions from students and others during her presentation in Harrison Auditorium last October.

Acclaimed screen and television actress Tasha Smith visited the campus of North Carolina A&T State University on Oct. 21, 2010, as part of the 2010-2011 Lyceum Series.

The Camden, N.J., native has appeared in several Tyler Perry films including the box office hit “Why Did I Get Married Too?” In addition, she has guest starred in numerous television series such as “Nip/Tuck,” “Girlfriends,” “Chicago Hope” and “America’s Next Top Model.”

In the afternoon, theatre students were treated to an exclusive master lecture course conducted by Smith at the Paul Robeson Theatre. During the course, she utilized a variety of methods including the 12-step program popularized by Ivana Chubbuck, her mentor, to maximize the potential of the participating students. Chubbuck has trained Hollywood stars such as Brad Pitt, Eva Mendes and Tom Cruise. Smith also answered questions and engaged students in a revealing exercise, commonly referred to in performing circles as an “emotional dump” that involves recounting feelings surrounding life-scarring events from their past.

Smith took the Harrison Auditorium stage that evening to share her life story with Aggies and the greater community.

When the actress isn’t performing or traveling, she operates the Tasha Smith Acting Workshop (TSAW) in Los Angeles, Calif., where she teaches aspiring actors the skills that are required for success in the entertainment industry. She considers it an honor to be able to sow into the lives of young performers and gave ample advice to the students in attendance on how to make their dreams into a reality.

“You must put forth your best into every role you are given with your time and excellence ... success does not come overnight,” she said.

For more information on Tasha Smith and her acting workshops, visit www.tsaw.com.

BoG Approves M.S. Degree Program in Nanoengineering

North Carolina A&T State University has received approval from the University of North Carolina Board of Governors for its Master of Science in Nanoengineering Degree Program.

The program, offered through the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering (JSNN), will begin in the fall semester of 2011.

“Our nanoengineering program continues A&T’s growth into the most challenging and most promising new fields of research,” said Chancellor Harold L. Martin Sr. “It offers unprecedented opportunities for our students and for the businesses, here in the Triad and around the world, that need great researchers to realize the revolutionary promise of nanotechnology.”

JSNN is a collaboration of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, offering innovative graduate programs in the emerging areas of nanoscience and nanoengineering. The new M.S. degree program in nanoengineering will focus on the principles and practices of engineering at nanoscale (e.g. the size of atomic and molecular clusters) to enable innovations in the nanoengineered materials, structures and devices widely used in industries such as nanoelectronics, materials and chemicals, pharmaceuticals, textiles, defense, communications, information technology and medicine.

In addition, a Ph.D. in nanoengineering has been proposed. Both degrees will be awarded by A&T.

James G. Ryan, founding dean of JSNN, said, “The approval of the M.S. in Nanoengineering Degree Program is a significant milestone in the development of the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. JSNN is now one of only a few schools in the United States to have both nanoscience and nanoengineering degree programs, and (this) brings us closer to our goal of leadership in nano-related education and research. The development of highly skilled research talent is a critical factor in attracting companies to the Piedmont and creating jobs in the knowledge economy.”

“The development of highly skilled research talent is a critical factor in attracting companies to the Piedmont and creating jobs in the knowledge economy.”

— James G. Ryan



insideaggieland continued

A&T to Participate in National Initiative

North Carolina A&T State University is one of 13 institutions chosen through a national competition sponsored by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) to participate in Preparing Critical Faculty for the Future (PCFF), a project that will support women of color faculty in science, technology, engineering, mathematics (STEM) disciplines in becoming strong academic and administrative leaders on campus and within their respective disciplines.

The PCFF project is funded by the National Science Foundation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities-Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP).

This new project will provide participants with the opportunity and the financial support to engage in and influence the national dialogue on improving undergraduate STEM education.

"Through this initiative, we hope to provide support to a network of scholars and teachers who can help each other and the rest of the nation as we all seek to improve undergraduate STEM education for students at HBCU's and for students, especially those historically underserved, at all different kinds of colleges and universities," said Alma Clayton-Pedersen, AAC&U senior scholar and project director.

The goals of the PCFF project are to provide professional and leadership development for women of color faculty in STEM disciplines or NSF natural and behavioral science disciplines and to improve undergraduate STEM education at HBCUs and beyond. This new project will provide participants with the opportunity and the financial support to engage in and influence the national dialogue on improving undergraduate STEM education.

Project participants will contribute to and gain from national efforts to develop and implement innovative STEM teaching and learning practices and effective curricular change strategies. By uncovering useful strategies for preparing women faculty of color for academic leadership in STEM fields, PCFF expects to improve STEM education broadly as well as at HBCUs.

A&T has nominated two faculty members to participate in all phases of the project along with colleagues from the other participating institutions. These two faculty members will be joined by a larger team of A&T faculty who will attend an AAC&U summer institute on engaging departments.

In addition to N.C. A&T, the selected institutions include Bennett College for Women, Central State University, J.F. Drake State Technical College, Livingstone College, North Carolina Central University, Spelman College, Tennessee State University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, University of Maryland at Eastern Shore, University of the District of Columbia, Wiley College and Winston-Salem State University.

For additional information about the project, visit www.aacu.org/pcff.



North Carolina A&T State University Marching Band members got the news of a lifetime on April 27, when they learned the band had been selected to perform in the 2012 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade®.

The Blue & Gold Marching Machine, under the direction of Kenneth Ruff, will be one of 11 marching ensembles in the 2012 parade out of more than 150 applicants nationwide. Their entertainment, musical ability, marching and performance skills took them to the top of the list and won them a slot in the legendary parade that will see them step into the line of march Thursday, November 22, 2012, before more than 3.5 million live spectators and a nationwide audience of more than 50 million viewers.

"We are thrilled that the North Carolina A&T Marching Band will be joining the Macy's Parade family in 2012. We were blown away by their exceptional entertainment, musical and marching skills," said Wesley Whatley, associate creative director of Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. "They are a world-class talent and we look forward to their New York City debut in front of millions of spectators next year."

The Macy's Parade takes more than a year to plan, with bands chosen over 18 months before their Parade step-off. For more than 80 years, the parade has marked the official start of the holiday season.

insideaggieland continued

Board of Visitors Reinstated



The North Carolina A&T State University Board of Visitors

The North Carolina A&T State University Board of Visitors was reestablished by Chancellor Harold L. Martin Sr. in November 2010.

The board is an unincorporated advisory association whose primary functions are to advise the chancellor on matters related to maintaining and enhancing the University's quality and excellence; assist the University in achieving its mission; provide feedback to the chancellor and senior administrators; assist the University in obtaining resources for the continued enhancement of the University; and serve as advocates for the University.

The maximum board membership is 60. Currently, there are 35 members: Alma Adams, N.C. State Representative; Clara Adams-Ender, retired brigadier general; Joe L. Anderson Sr., president, Rochester N.Y. Alumni Chapter; Michelle Ballard, assistant vice president, BB&T; David Barksdale, chief banking officer, New Bridge Bank; Claudette Bennett, chief, Racial Statistics Branch, U.S. Department. of Commerce; Ernestine Bennett, president, EB Enterprises; Chuck Burns, city executive, First Citizens Bank; and Robert China, vice president, Fortress Credit Corp.

George Clopton, vice president of operations, Polo Ralph Lauren; Carolyn Q. Coleman, Guilford County Commissioner; Kimberly Gatling, partner, Smith Moore Leatherwood, LLP; Kevin Gray, program associate, Weaver Foundation; Derric A. Gregory Sr., CPA, senior pastor, Mount Bright Baptist Church; Michael Hardison, consultant; Marc Howze, factory manager, John Deere Turf Care; Terrence Jenkins, television personality, BET Network; and Stephanie Johnson, senior manager of corporate accounting, Cox Media Group Inc.

Frankie Jones, president/CEO, Phoenix One Enterprises; Jim Kee, Greensboro City Council District 2; Cornelius "CC" Lamberth Jr., president, C2 Contractors, LLC; Royall M. Mack Sr., founder and CEO of Ciara Enterprises and current chairman of the Board of Visitors; Vonnetta Mickens, manager, Americas Diversity Operations; Lonnie Miles, CEO, Miles-McClellan Construction; Henry McKoy, retired senior foreign service officer; Kenneth Owens, CPA, manager of real estate, Coca Cola Refreshments; and Princess Palmer, partner, KPMG

Joe Parker Jr., retired, Wachovia Bank; Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, vice president of corporate public affairs, Progress Energy; Annette Smith, vice president of nursing/patient service, Wesley Long Hospital; James Smith, owner/operator, McDonalds; Jini D. Thornton, CPA, CEO, Envision Business Management Group; Ponce DeLeon Tidwell Jr., assistant general counsel, Eli Lilly & Company; Janeen Uzzell, manager of global program, General Electric; and Stacey Youngdale, director of talent management, AB Volvo.

Each member also serves on one or more standing committees in the areas of academic affairs, public affairs, marketing and communications, and external partnerships.

The Board of Visitors meets twice each calendar year. For additional information, contact Wendell F. Phillips, director of state and community relations in the Division of University Advancement and staff liaison to the board, (336) 334-7600 or wfphilli@ncat.edu.

Master's Program Hosts "Leandro" Judge

The Master of School Administration program at North Carolina A&T State University hosted Superior Court Judge Howard Edwards Manning Jr. on Nov. 30, in Proctor Hall.

Manning presided over the *Leandro v. State of North Carolina* case. The lawsuit was filed in 1994 on behalf of students and parents from five low-wealth counties, arguing that the state failed to adequately fund rural school districts. Later, some urban districts were allowed to intervene claiming the state also had failed to adequately fund them because of their higher rates of disadvantaged students.

The judge's rulings in the case, which have been largely upheld by the North Carolina Supreme Court, said that the state had failed to provide a "sound, basic education" to all students. The rulings have compelled policymakers to develop new funding for schools serving low-income communities and to establish mechanisms that seek to ensure that every classroom has an effective teacher and each school an effective principal.

insideaggieland continued

Honorary Degrees Awarded



Sandra Hughes '69 and Charles F. Bolden Jr.

Former news anchor Sandra Hughes and NASA administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr. were awarded the Doctor of Humanities degree during North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University's annual Fall Commencement ceremonies, Dec. 11, 2010, at the Greensboro Coliseum where Bolden also delivered the keynote address. Willie A. Deese '79, executive vice president and president of Merck Manufacturing, was awarded the Doctor of Humanities degree during the Spring Commencement ceremonies held May 7 at the Coliseum.

Hughes, a trailblazing news anchor and multimedia journalist, has made numerous contributions to the advancement of broadcast journalism in a career that spanned nearly 40 years. The history-making broadcaster was the first African American woman in the Piedmont region of North Carolina to host her own daily talk show, as well as the entertainment show "P.M. Magazine" in the Southeast region.

A native of Durham, N.C., Hughes was raised in Greensboro and received her B.A. degree in English from N.C. A&T in 1969. She started her broadcasting career at WFMY in 1972. In 1974, she became host of her own talk show, "Sandra and Friends." During that time, some members of the WFMY viewing audience objected to seeing a woman of color on the air and, as a result, she was met with threatening letters, hateful phone calls and public confrontations. Despite the adversity, she persevered and carried out her duties to much success.



N.C. A&T Board of Trustees Chairman Pamela McCorkle Buncum '81 and Willie A. Deese '77

Recently retired, Hughes currently serves as an endowed professor and high school outreach coordinator in the North Carolina A&T State University Department of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Bolden was nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to head the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in 2009. His confirmation marked the beginning of his second stint with the nation's premier space agency, having previously served 14 years as a member of NASA's Astronaut Office during his 34-year career with the U.S. Marine Corps.

As an administrator, Bolden leads the NASA team and manages its resources to advance the agency's mission and goals. Prior to his stint as an administrator, the Columbia, S.C., native was CEO of JACK and PANTHER LLC, a small business enterprise that provided leadership, military and aerospace consulting and motivational speaking.

Bolden is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy where he received his B.S. degree in electrical science. He has an M.S. degree in systems management from the University of Southern California. He was inducted into the U.S. Astronaut Hall of Fame in 2006.

One of the top 10 procurement leaders in the world, Deese began his career at Digital Equipment Corporation in Springfield, Mass., where he served in a variety of procurement and materials management functions, ultimately becoming site manager. He was a co-op student at Digital Equipment Corporation during his junior year at A&T, and credits the experience as being the turning point in his life.

Deese joined SmithKline Beecham (SKB) Pharmaceuticals in 1992, and transformed procurement processes throughout the laboratory testing industry. In 1995, he was promoted to vice president of purchasing. Recognizing tremendous talent, in 1996, Kaiser Permanente, SKB's biggest client, recruited Deese as the vice president of national purchasing. A short time later, SKB persisted in recruiting Deese as the senior vice president and director of its \$6 billion purchasing unit. In 2004, he joined Merck & Co., Inc. as senior vice president for global procurement, and by 2005 he was appointed president of Merck Manufacturing Division and became a member of Merck's Management Committee.

The Davidson, N.C., native is an alumnus and strong supporter of A&T's School of Business and Economics where he has established an endowed scholarship to support students in the B-school. (Deese also holds an MBA from Western New England College, and he is a certified purchasing manager.) His other notable accomplishments include serving as co-chair of the university's \$100 million capital campaign, From Generation to Generation, membership on the N.C. A&T Board of Trustees, School of Business and Economics Executive Advisory Council, induction into Beta Gamma Sigma International Honor Society, serving as chair of the School of Business and Economics Building Dedication and Alumni Reunion Steering Committees, and receiving the Alumni Excellence Award and the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Award.

McNair Celebration, Research Symposium Held



McNair '71

The 25th Annual Ronald E. McNair Commemorative Celebration and 10th National Research Symposium were held Jan. 26-28 on campus. The theme was "Striving for Excellence, While Continuing the Dream."

This annual program pays tribute to the life of Ronald E. McNair, a scholar, distinguished physicist and one of America's first African American astronauts. McNair graduated magna cum laude with a B.S. degree in physics from N.C. A&T in 1971 and earned a Ph.D. in laser physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1976. He died Jan. 20, 1986, in a fiery explosion nine miles above the Atlantic Ocean along with six other crew members aboard the space shuttle Challenger.

Randal Pinkett, an author, entrepreneur, scholar, community servant and Season 4 winner of NBC's The Apprentice with Donald Trump, gave the keynote address at the Commemorative Celebration Luncheon that was held Jan. 28. Pinkett is the co-founder, chairman and CEO of BCT Partners, a multi-million dollar management, technology and policy consulting firm based in Newark, N.J., that works with corporations, government agencies and nonprofit organizations in the areas of housing and community development, economic development, human services, government, healthcare and education.

Other activities during the three-day celebration and symposium included plenary discussions, a memorial march and conversations with McNair's friends. For information about the 2012 event, call (336) 334-7109.

campus briefs

Faculty and Staff



Goldie S. Byrd '78, Nathan F. Simms Endowed Professor of Biology, has been appointed dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Byrd joined the faculty at North Carolina A&T State University in 2003 as chair of the Department of Biology. She has been actively involved in developing new curricula and creating pre-matriculation programs, Saturday academies and developmental opportunities for students and faculty colleagues. Her cross-disciplinary research has generated over \$37 million in external support.

Her passion for teaching, mentoring and research has been recognized in the state, across the nation and around the world. She has received an Award for Teaching Excellence from the University of North Carolina Board of Governors (2001) and a Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring from President Barack Obama (2010).

Byrd's research on Alzheimer's disease has been recognized nationally and internationally by the Alzheimer's Association and the National Black College Hall of Fame. In addition, her business and managerial expertise was recognized with a *Greensboro Business Journal* Women in Business Award (2010).

Anjail R. Ahmad, associate professor in the English department and director of the Creative Writing Program, has been appointed to the North Carolina Writers' Network Board of Directors. The North Carolina Writers' Network is a 3,000-member organization that serves writers and builds audiences for literature, advocates for the literary arts and provides information and support services to writers throughout the state.

Solomon Bililign, professor in the physics department and director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Interdisciplinary Scientific Environmental Technology Cooperative Science Center (NOAA-ISET CSC), was honored as one of the 100 notable black individuals in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields at the World Festival on Black Arts and Culture, held in Dakar, Senegal, Dec. 10-31, 2010. This honor came from the Robert R. Taylor Network based at the Center for Educational Computing Initiatives at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Robin N. Cogger has been appointed dean of the College of Engineering, effective July. Cogger will replace Winsor Alexander, interim dean.

Cogger is the founder and director of the Center for Biomedical Engineering Systems at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is also a professor of the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering

Science within the William States Lee College of Engineering, where she served as interim chair of the department from July 2008 through June 2009.

Over the past 15 years, Cogger's research in Charlotte has focused on solving design and performance problems related to tissue engineered organs, with special emphasis on the development and safe storage of liver replacement devices. Her research has resulted in extensive publications in the areas of liver tissue engineering and cryopreservation as well as two patent applications. She also has been recognized for her research with a National Science Foundation Faculty Early CAREER Award.

Cogger earned her B.S. degree from Cornell University and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees are from the University of California, Berkeley, all in mechanical engineering. Her post-doctoral research training was completed at Harvard Medical School. She is a fellow of both the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

Abdollah Homaifar, Duke Energy Eminent Professor in the department of electrical and computer engineering, had his recent proposal, "Development of the Satellite Image Base Retrieval Application (SIBRA) in Support of Structural Indexing of Satellite Images (SISI)," funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in the amount of \$50,000.

Imagery data collected and processed daily by NOAA and the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) is voluminous and complex due to the high dimensionality of each image set. Thermal and visual components also pose a different level of complexity when fusing these images. In addition, the dynamic nature of the data requires a large computer memory for storing the data.

The SIBRA project is directed towards building a user-friendly similar search engine for the DMSP satellite imagery database. Its goal is to find similar image matches to any query image and this is to be done in sub-linear search time complexity.

Three A&T professors were among 36 leaders in the minority cancer community chosen for the Minority-Serving Institution Faculty Scholars in Cancer Research Awards: Patrick M. Martin, assistant professor of biology, for abstract #2933, "Inhibition of MAPK signaling prevents Fra-1-mediated CD44 expression in human brain tumor cells"; **Checo J. Rorie**, assistant professor of biology, abstract 2141, "The differential apoptotic responses of normal breast cells versus luminal and triple negative breast cancer cells to chemotherapeutic agents"; and **Shengmin Sang**, research associate professor at the Center for Excellence in Post-Harvest Technologies in Kannapolis, N.C., abstract 4617, "Bioactive phytochemicals in wheat bran for colon cancer prevention."

The awards are given to scientists who are working at the level of assistant professor or above at a minority-serving institution and who are engaged in meritorious basic, clinical, translational or epidemiological cancer research. They were presented during the AACR 102nd Annual Meeting, April 2-6.

Yevgeniy Rastigeyev, assistant professor in the mathematics department, has received a three-year grant in the amount of \$999,452 from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for the establishment of an HBCU-Research Infrastructure for Science and Engineering (RISE) Center for Advanced Multi-Scale Computational Algorithms. The proposed project will allow A&T to develop a new research and educational capacity in the area of scientific computing advanced numerical method and their application to a variety of multi-scale physiochemical problems of practical interest.

campus briefs

Faculty and Staff *continued*



DeWayne Wickham (2nd left), *USA Today* columnist and distinguished professor/director of the Institute for Advanced Journalism Studies at N.C. A&T, and other members of The Trotter Group – which is comprised of black columnists from across the country – interviewed President Barack Obama in the Roosevelt Room at the White House on Oct. 15, 2010. The President responded to questions and comments that ran the gamut from the economy, unemployment, federal workforce compensation and TARP (Troubled Asset Relief Program), to Afghanistan, midterm elections, education and the 100th anniversary of the Civil War.

In February, Wickham was appointed interim chair of the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at A&T.

Sanjiv Sarin, professor of industrial and systems engineering and associate dean of the College of Engineering, has been appointed interim associate vice chancellor for research/dean of graduate studies. Sarin has been a faculty member at A&T since 1983, and he has served as associate dean for the College of Engineering for the past nine years. He has authored/co-authored more than 50 peer reviewed articles and has participated in over 30 research and academic program development grants valued over \$8 million.

Sarin serves as activity director for the Title III HBGI doctoral fellowship program and as the administrative liaison for the NSF Engineering Research Center. He is also a senior member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers, a member of the American Society for Engineering Education, a registered Professional Engineer in North Carolina, and serves as an ABET and SACS evaluator.

Sarin received a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and a master's degree in mechanical engineering with industrial engineering concentration from IIT Delhi and a Ph.D. in industrial engineering from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

Harmohindar Singh, professor in the department of civil, architectural and environmental engineering, and director of the Center for Energy, Research and Technology (CERT), was recognized by the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE) at the 33rd World Energy Engineering Congress (WEEC), Dec. 7, 2010, in Washington, D.C. Awards were presented to individuals and organizations making contributions to the energy industry in their designated regions. Singh, who was awarded for his work in energy professional development, was among the three winners from Region II, which represents Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, Washington, D.C., West Virginia and Puerto Rico.

Alice Stewart, associate professor of strategic management in the department of business administration, won the first-place prize in the Graduate Admission Council's (GMAC) Ideas to Innovation Challenge. The honor came with a cash prize of \$50,000.

GMAC presented more than \$260,000 in prizes to 20 individuals whose ideas to creatively change management education rose above all other entries in the council's global challenge. More than 650 people from 60 countries participated in the contest last year. Stewart won the challenge with her idea to allow management education students to use stackable knowledge units to craft customized degree programs closely aligned with today's information-based technology.



Inez Tuck '70 has been appointed dean of the School of Nursing, effective July 1. She will replace Patricia Chamings, interim dean.

Tuck is an advocate for lifelong education, having obtained degrees in nursing, business and child development and family relations. She has held numerous positions in the School of Nursing at Virginia

Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., from 1997 to the present, as professor of nursing in the Department of Adult Health and Nursing Systems, professor and chair of the Department of Integrative Systems, associate professor, associate dean of doctoral programs, and research and associate dean of graduate programs, M.S. and Ph.D.

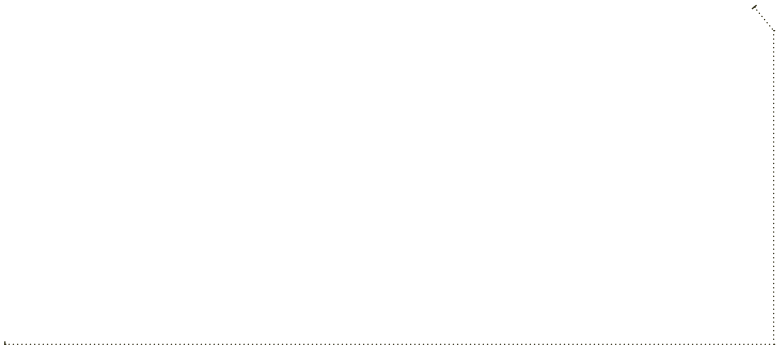
Tuck's career history also includes the College of Nursing at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (1990-97) and the Department of Nursing at North Carolina Central University (1988-1990). She also has taught at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina at Greensboro and A&T.

An A&T nursing graduate, Tuck received her M.N. degree from the University of Florida in psychiatric/mental health nursing, Ph.D. in child development and family relations from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and M.B.A. from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in business administration.

Godfrey Uzochukwu, director of the Waste Management Institute, presented a Knowledge Systems of Science Paper, "Increasing Capacity in Environmental Areas of Mathematics, Science, Engineering, Technology and Workforce Diversity," at the International Conference on Science and Society in Madrid, Spain, Nov. 11-13, 2010. The conference examined the knowledge systems of science, social impacts of science, values and ethics of science, politics of science, and the economics of science.

campus briefs

Students



Stefan Boskovic, a sophomore majoring in atmospheric sciences and meteorology major, presented his research, “Characterizing the Fourth O-H Overtone of Peracetic Acid Using Cavity Ring-Down Spectroscopy,” at the State of North Carolina Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium, hosted at Meredith College on Saturday, Nov. 20, 2010.

Alessandra Brown, a senior journalism and mass communication major, was selected by The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to participate in its nationally recognized internship program, January-May 2011. In January, she began serving as the National Symphony Orchestra Press Intern as part of the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the Kennedy Center.

Brown was selected along with 25 other students from an annual pool or more than 300 applicants. She is a Thurgood Marshall College Fund Leadership Institute Scholar, University of North Carolina Merit Scholarship winner, and a Journalism and Mass Communication Academic Pride Scholarship Award recipient. While in school, she became a member of the national academic honor societies Phi Kappa Phi, Kappa Tau Alpha, Alpha Kappa Mu and Alpha Chi. She also earned a Pre-MBA certificate from Yale University in the summer of 2010.

Randi Burks, a junior in the department of journalism and mass communication, won a Region 2 Mark of Excellence Award from the Society of Professional Journalists for a radio feature story she produced about UniverSoul Circus’ visit to A&T’s campus in the fall of 2010. Burks competed with other journalism students from Region 2, which is comprised of colleges and universities in North Carolina, Virginia, Delaware, the District of Columbia and Maryland.

Carlos Crawford Jr. and **Shannon Landvater** were selected as the Outstanding Undergraduate Student and Outstanding Graduate Student, respectively, by the College of Arts and Sciences Awards and Citations Committee for their achievements.

Crawford, who is majoring in chemistry, has published in one publication as well as research on lanthanides studies and emission enhancement through dual donor sensitization. He tutors and is a member of numerous organizations including The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Golden Key Honor Society, The Honors Program and the American Chemical Society (student affiliate).

Landvater is pursuing a master’s degree in biology. She was one of six students chosen to participate in a summer research program at the Construction and Engineering Research Laboratory (CERL) in Illinois. As a result, she was invited to write a proposal that was accepted and is allowing her to continue working with CERL and is supporting her graduate research to isolate and clone organophosphate degrading enzymes from bacteria.

John H. Hunt III, a senior nursing major from Raleigh, N.C., was the guest speaker for the School of Nursing’s Annual Research Day that was held in October, 2010. Hunt was also the recipient of the Minority Health International Research Training Program (MHIRT) Scholarship that enabled him to conduct research on HIV positive nurses caring for HIV positive patients in South Africa for 11 weeks. He is a former Aggies quarterback and is a member of Sigma Theta Tau Nursing Honor Society and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.



Endya L. Frye graduated at the top of her class in December 2010, with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. The 21-year-old Greensboro, N.C., native obtained her Bachelor of Science degree in biology in three and a half years. She said her parents instilled in her the importance of working hard, doing her best and shooting for the top.

“As a child, I always wanted to gain more knowledge. Whenever I would get bored, I would move to another level of understanding,” she said.

Frye has only received two B’s in her entire educational career; the rest have been A’s.

At A&T Frye was active in extracurricular activities, holding leadership positions in numerous organizations including Beta Beta Beta Biological Science Honor Society, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students and the University Honors Program. She also participated in the Science Enrichment Preparation Program and the Medical Education Development Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and she presented at the Southern Regional Honor’s Conference, National African American Association of Honors Programs Conference, and the 12th Annual Life and Physical Sciences Research Symposium. Frye co-founded the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students Shadowing Program and interned at Thurston Arthritis Research Center.

“You have teachers, students and others who can help you. You don’t need to limit yourself to just you. Never give up when people tell you a teacher is hard. Take it as a challenge, one that you can overcome.”

Persephone Johnston and **Tariq Walker** were the 2010-2011 recipients of the Carla Macon Granville Engineering Scholarship (CMGES), which was established in 1998 by 15 industrial engineering alumni in memory of their classmate, the scholarship’s namesake who died from breast cancer in 1995 while enrolled as a graduate student in the industrial engineering program at A&T. While the scholarship was originally established to assist aspiring industrial engineering students, it has since opened to all concentrations within the College of Engineering. Both Johnston, a senior industrial engineering and systems major from Littleton, N.C., and Walker, a senior architectural engineering major from Columbus, Ohio, were awarded \$5,000.

The North Carolina State Internship Program has selected **Augustine Joseph Jr.**, a junior political science major with a concentration in English, to work in the Intergovernmental Office of Governor Beverly Eaves Perdue in Washington, D.C., May 23-July 29. The purpose of the internship is to provide experience and understanding in the field of political science. Joseph, a native of Durham, N.C., is one of 59 student interns serving for the state of North Carolina. He will serve as a congressional assistant in intergovernmental relations.



campus briefs

Students continued



The North Carolina A&T State University Choir performed at the White House in February. The choir was invited by President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle and the Visitors Office in celebration of Black History Month.

“This was a monumental milestone for me and my students. Even most world renowned performers can’t boast of having performed in the White House and spending an entire day on the premises. This experience was bigger than the usual Carnegie Hall debut. It was the ultimate,” said Travis Alexander, choir director.

For security reasons, only 28 of the 42 students enrolled in the choir were allowed to participate. However, all members of the choir were given an opportunity to participate in a rigorous and competitive audition.

Choir members selected to participate in the performance included sopranos **Angelica McRae**, **Christa Shepherd**, **Stacie Lyles**, **Quannesha Smith**, **Chelsey Stanley**, **Chelsea Davis**, **Najaya Ruffin** and **Nadia Harper**; altos **Asheley Lindsay**, **Akiera Hill**, **Deja Edmund**, **Andrea Whitehead**, **Asheena Moore**, **Jasmine Boone**, **Lukeia Elmore** and **Sierra Perry**; tenors **Ricky Lattimore**, **James Thomas**, **Brandon Monroe**, **Martavious Patton**, **Aaron Graham** and **T. J. Harris**; and basses **Brandon Bellerand**, **Marquise Broadnax**, **Drorester Alexander**, **Dominique Wharton**, **Jerry Jackson** and **Howard Brown**.

The group’s repertoire included Negro spirituals and patriotic music.

Theo Saw, a senior history education major, presented a paper, “America’s Pursuit of Détente, 1960-1980,” at the National Association of African American Honors Programs, held Nov. 12, 2010, on the campus of N.C. A&T. His paper examined the United States’ pursuit of détente as a policy aimed at improving the relationship between the United States and Soviet Union during the Cold War.

Kevin Wilson Jr., a senior journalism and mass communication major, was responsible for the video of Thurgood Marshall College Fund’s visit to the United States Congress and Senate during the Civic Responsibility Conference that was held Feb. 15-17 in Washington, D.C. His footage was shown at TMCF’s Member Universities Professional Institute in March. Wilson is an aspiring filmmaker, director, writer and producer. He was a TMCF Distinguished Scholar of the Month in April.

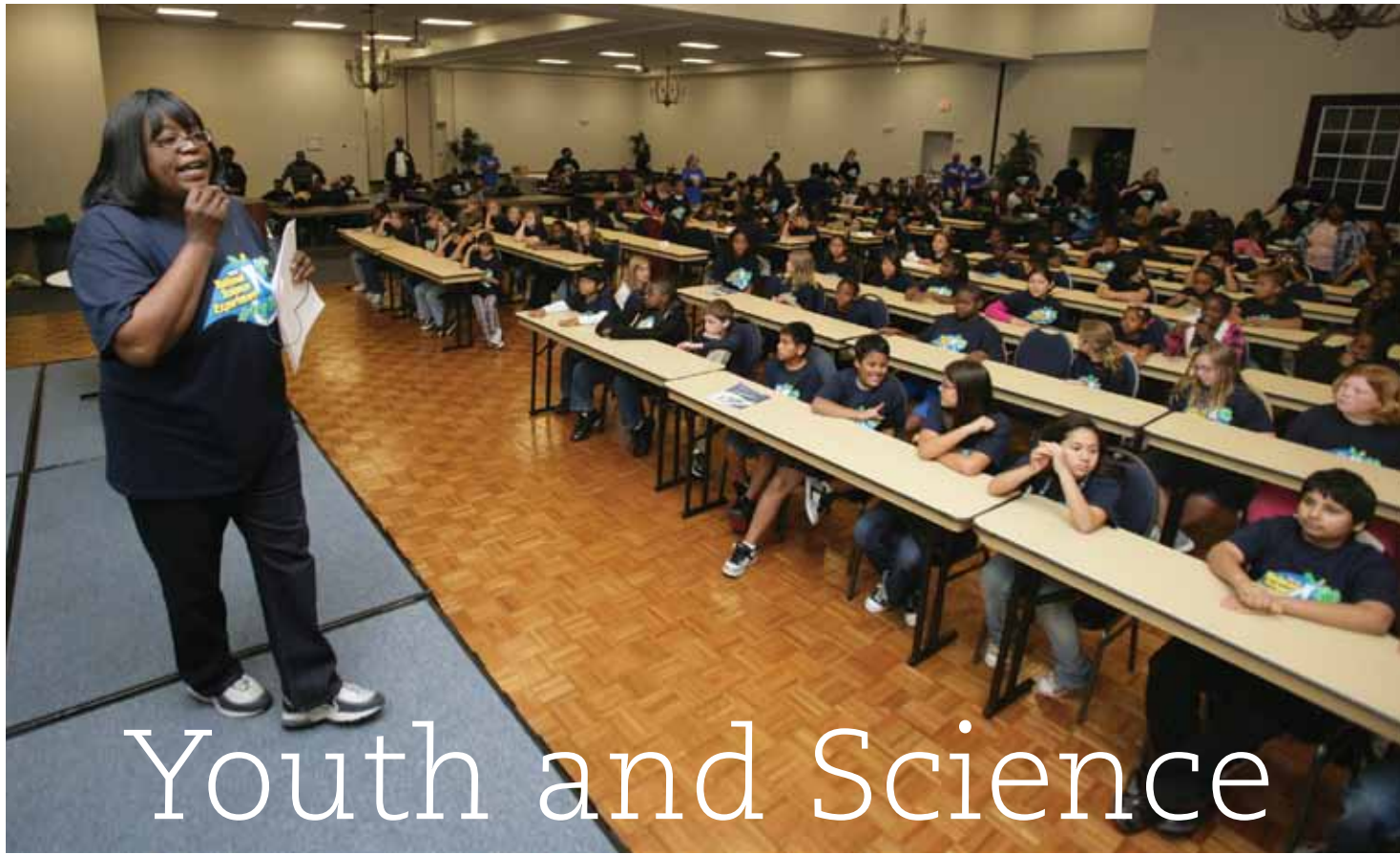
Eleven students enrolled in the Global Business Environment course in the School of Business and Economics traveled to Punta Gorda, Belize, over the spring break to learn about a global business environment while serving the community. While there the students worked with 18 local small business owners and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to review their business performance.

The participants and their majors were **Cerita Carpenter**, management; **Glenda Clark**, political Science; **Ronald Griswell**, management; **Farrahn Hawkins**, supply chain management; **Artis Jones**, management information systems; **Joshua Rice**, management/entrepreneurship concentration; **Alius Richardson**, marketing/management; **Shauntae Trott**, management; **Lauren Wilkes**, marketing; **Mia Fennell**, supply chain management; and **Tamala Murphy**, management information systems. The students were accompanied by their professor, Chi Anyansi-Archibong.

Six graduate students who received their degrees in May, were honored by the Division of Research and Economic Development for outstanding dissertations and master’s theses. The awards were given for the first time this year, and they reflect the increasingly important role of graduate education and research at the university. Winners were selected by the School of Graduate Studies.

Winners of the Best Dissertation Award, all Ph.D. students, their fields of study and dissertation titles are **Husniyah Abdus-Salaam**, industrial engineering, “Examining the Influence of Dependent Demand Arrivals on Patient Scheduling”; **Sylvia Burgess**, leadership studies, “Spiritual Capital: The Relationship with Civic Engagement among Faith-Based Leaders”; and **Khaliah Hughes**, industrial engineering, “Integration of Cognitive and Physical Factors to Model Human Performance in Fluid Power Systems.”

Winners of the first Best Master’s Thesis Award are **John German**, physics, “Position Resolution and Efficiency of the Lucite Hodoscope for the SANE Experiment at Jefferson Lab”; **Semienawit Ghebrezadik**, chemical engineering, “Groundwater Remediation Using Micro and Nano-Sized Zvi and Kmno4 to Treat Trichloroethylene (Tce) Contamination”; and **Priscilla Randolph**, food and nutritional sciences, “Combinational Effects of a Bioactive Nutrient and Radiation on Human-Derived Ewing’s Sarcoma Cells.”



Youth and Science

4-H is winning formula for STEM-focused nation

By Cathy Gant Hill
Writer, Cooperative Extension Program

Last fall, nearly 270 Guilford County fifth-grade students came to the Alumni-Foundation Event Center on A&T's campus to participate in a three-part, 4-H National Youth Science Day experiment on water quality.



The prognosticators are nervous.

From where the big thinkers sit, the fate of our nation rests in classrooms where students are woefully unprepared and uninterested in science-based careers. America's future as a scientific and technological powerhouse promises to be bleak and dependent unless a drastic and sustained change is made, scientists fear.

"Everyone knows that across the nation, we're falling behind other countries for science, technology, engineering and mathematics," says Stephanie Luster-Teasley, an assistant professor in the College of Engineering and a 1996 alumna of North Carolina A&T State University. "This is especially true for women and minorities. We're not seeing the numbers going into those fields from this demographic."

Luster-Teasley is part of a national cadre of scientists, educators and specialists pushing for the type of drastic change that will restore the United States' scientific edge. Additionally, there is an all-out effort from 4-H to prepare at least one million new school-age children to excel in science by 2013, and N.C. A&T is an active participant in that campaign.

Last fall, nearly 270 Guilford County fifth-grade students came to the Alumni-Foundation Event Center on A&T's campus to participate in a three-part, 4-H National Youth Science Day experiment on water quality – an experiment that was created by A&T scientists from across three disciplines and schools. The local children were part of an international corral that also conducted the A&T-created experiment on the same day: 3,000 North Carolina students as well as youth in 46 other states and U.S. territories, and at such international U.S. military bases as those in Antarctica and South Korea.

Any way you look at them, the statistics on science achievement are disturbing. Only one in five American high school seniors is skilled in science, according to a science assessment exam. Or put another way, a whopping 80 percent of American high school seniors do not have a good grasp of science skills. It's no longer a question of whether the beaker is half empty or half full; the hard truth is that the beaker is close to empty.



North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is among the first land-grant universities that competed to design the experiment and is the first land-grant HBCU to win the competition. In addition to the honor of winning, A&T's status as the experiment designer also allows the university's logo to appear on national and international marketing materials.

Results from the 2009 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) show that only 34 percent of fourth-grade, 30 percent of eighth-grade and 21 percent of 12th-grade students are proficient and above in science. Although the statistics are an improvement from 2005 scores, they are still low enough that U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan worries about the country's global competitiveness.

"When (only) 1 or 2 percent of children score at the advanced levels on NAEP, the next generation will not be ready to be world-class inventors, doctors and engineers," Duncan has said.

This descending academic slope portends a less than stellar future for American technological advancement, except that there are rallying movements to fix the problem.

Enter 4-H, which at six million adolescents is the largest youth organization in the country. To help meet its goal of preparing a million students to excel in science-based fields by 2013, 4-H established the annual National Youth Science Day and a companion science experiment. After the first experiment in 2008, the organization then invited land-grant universities around the country to compete for the honor of creating the country's leading experiment for young people.

Youth and Science



That's when Claudette Smith, the 4-H program leader for The Cooperative Extension Program at A&T, stepped up to the plate. Having served on the selection committee for the second national experiment in 2009, Smith was confident that A&T had the academic talent to compete; and she was right. Against universities with more faculties and more muscle, A&T emerged from among a field of 19 competitors to create the 2010 National Science Experiment. The winning creation was rechristened "4-H2O" and was launched across the country and abroad with plans for students to conduct it en masse on Oct. 6, 4-H National Youth Science Day.

As it turned out, though, going up against a national field of land-grant heavyweights was the simplest part of the trial. Finding the right campus collaborators to design the experiment proved to be a whole other odyssey.

Smith never doubted A&T's academic ability to create a national level experiment. However, finding just the right collaborators would require her to look beyond her own School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences. When schedule conflicts and previous commitments prevented SAES faculty from participating, she had to regroup.

"It was very hard," Smith says. "After that, I started searching some of the other schools and colleges on campus, going to their Web sites."

When all the sifting was done, Smith found gold with biology Associate Professor Gregory Goins of the College of Arts and Sciences, and Luster-Teasley, whose interests include water and water-related environmental issues. Both Goins and Luster-Teasley had been looking for opportunities beyond their collegiate classrooms to inspire more students to scientific scholarship and careers. Goins is also the principal investigator on the National Science Foundation-sponsored project, Integrative Biomathematical Learning and Empowerment Network for Diversity (iBLEND).

With coordination and planning from Smith, the team created a three-part water quality experiment demonstrating the importance of water quality and its relevance to climate change; and working with National 4-H Council and 4-H National Headquarters also developed educational materials and a curriculum that outlined how to conduct the experiment.

All three scholars had grown up, either immersed in nature – as with Goins and Luster-Teasley – or with domestic-level experiments – as with Smith. They all could relate their own experiences to what it would take to reach children: those who already love science as well as that greater mass of those waiting to be challenged.

"We're really losing girls in grades 5-6 because of peer pressure," says Luster-Teasley. "I remember getting teased in school (at that age) for being smart and being interested in science and math."

It was her African American female third-grade teacher who not only set an example for Luster-Teasley, but continually told her how well she was performing and that girls could be scientists. Supportive parents and summer enrichment science programs helped her maintain her focus.

"That's why this 4-H experiment is so good," Luster-Teasley says. "It gives the kids involved in 4-H the opportunity to do something hands on that's fun and interactive."

"It's really cool that we had A&T as a lead institution because the students got a chance to see minority people designing the experiment and leading the experiment."

A major factor in the success of the event is owed to corporate sponsor IBM, which underwrote activities for the entire day. Because of IBM's support, each of the nearly 270 students, their teachers and volunteer staff were given and wore special T-shirts emblazoned with the 4-H 2010 National Youth Science Day logo. IBM also provided staff volunteers to help with the experiments, assisted students in playing the company's specially developed 4-H Eco-Challenge online game, and paid for students to eat lunch on campus.



Fifth-grade students came to the Alumni-Foundation Event Center by the busloads to blow bubbles in Bromothymol blue water, to explore why the water changed different colors, and to learn how the exercise related to climate change, during the 4-H National Youth Science Day experiment on water quality.

WERE YOU A MEMBER OF 4-H? If so, please help us document your experience by visiting www.ag.ncat.eduextension/4hbackground_survey.asp and completing this brief survey. Please pass the link on to other friends. 4-H at The Cooperative Extension Program at A&T would like to hear from you.

"Some of the children had no idea what a college cafeteria looked like," Smith said. "Watching their reaction to the array of food and size of the cafeteria was rewarding. Just the walk from the event center to the dining hall, excited them. They felt they were in college for the day."

"When children have an experience like this, it awakens them to the possibilities of the future."

What's ahead for the United States is still debatable. Organizers and participants in the National Youth Science Day event at A&T are more hopeful that a surge in science is brewing because of 4-H and other efforts. Although an exact number of participants in the experiment has not been tallied, National 4-H has charted that 470 events were held in 2010, compared to 255 events the year before. Also, 4-H sold nearly double the number of kits to conduct the experiment: 4,500 in 2010 compared to 2,300 in 2009.

The science experiment events are not the only technological push being made by 4-H and The Cooperative Extension Program at A&T. Smith and her 4-H campus team are providing resources to 4-H and Youth Development staffs across the state and to community partners, helping them conduct robotics and other programs for children in communities with limited resources.

Although 4-H has long been known in rural parts of North Carolina and the rest of the country, the organization also has a rapidly developing base in urban areas such as Greensboro. A&T's affiliation with 4-H dates back to the era of the Great Depression and Smith is adamant about emphasizing the association. Before desegregation, when A&T hosted the annual 4-H Congress of statewide members, 1500 or so 4-H students from across the state would gather each summer at A&T. And as early as 1936, 4-H counted more than 10,000 African American North Carolina youth as members, Smith says.

"We are trying to maintain a legacy in 4-H that A&T had for many, many years," Smith says. "This science experiment helped us to get that visibility in the state and on our campus that 4-H is alive and well here."

And ready to make the future a more scientific place.

To learn more about the 4-H National Youth Science Day, visit <https://site.4-h.org/nysd>.



Straight to the Top

Two A&T students go directly into a doctoral program upon receiving their bachelor's degrees.

By Jeuron O. Dove '08



As part of their doctoral studies, Chris Smith (top photo, left) and Leon White (bottom) are conducting research on biomaterials that can be used in biomedical applications.

In today's uncertain economic climate, many recent college graduates have found that furthering their education at the master's or doctoral level has become a necessity to compete in the local and global marketplace. However, few dream it possible to go straight into a doctoral program after receiving the bachelor's degree.

Chris Smith, 23, and Leon White, 21, graduated from North Carolina A&T State University with B.S. degrees in mechanical engineering, Smith in 2009 and White in 2010, only to find themselves back at N.C. A&T working toward a doctorate in mechanical engineering through the university's National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center (ERC) for Revolutionizing Metallic Biomaterials.

"We were very pleased with their performance as undergraduates and that is why we decided to recruit them into the program," said Samuel Owusu-Ofori, chair of the mechanical engineering department.

Owusu-Ofori said that not just anyone is selected into the program, citing that the majority of the students participating are 26-27 years old with master's level and real-world work experience in the field. "We feel that they can make it," he added.

Specifically, their innovative work will go a long way in the advancement of solutions to aid orthopedic and cranial problems.

Smith, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, entered A&T in 2005, and White, a native of Largo, Md., came in 2006. Both had outstanding academic records upon graduation and were active in several engineering honor societies. Smith interned with the Renewable Energy Department of the Chevron Oil Company and the National Park Services, while White interned with Hewlett Packard and Northrop Grumman, the latter company being the world's fourth largest defense contractor.

"As I got closer to my senior year, I began to realize that I didn't want a typical nine to five working lifestyle," said White. That was a notable admission considering he had job offers in excess of \$70,000.

However, their future plans would change after a series of encounters with Jagannathan Sankar, Distinguished University Professor and White House Millennium Researcher, who is director of the ERC. Sankar was the guiding force that pushed them to enter the program.

"These students really believed in my vision for the ERC and they're just some great guys overall," described Sankar.

Both students worked with the ERC as undergraduates and fully believed that entering into the program would be in the best interest for where they wanted to go in their future careers. However, there were natural insecurities that arose when they began to fully grasp the magnitude of the opportunity they had been afforded. White recalls that he never realized the full importance of the program until he was in it and admitted to moments along the way where he hit the proverbial brick wall:

"When I came in, I felt like much of what I would be doing would be similar to what I did as an undergrad; but I quickly discovered there was a steep learning curve."

One of the major differences was that outside of class, the majority of their time is spent conducting research in the labs. Coming from a mechanical engineering background into a program with such a heavy emphasis on bioengineering also posed a mental hurdle they had to quickly overcome.

The research the pair carries out deals primarily with the creation of biomaterials that can be used in biomedical applications. Specifically, their innovative work will go a long way in the advancement of solutions to aid orthopedic and cranial problems.

Smith's main research focus is on the processing of porous and non-porous magnesium alloys with a focus on the elemental composition of calcium, magnesium, zinc.

White diverts his attention to magnesium anodization, an electrolytic process that essentially puts a natural outside layer onto a metal surface to prevent its corrosion rate. By using an anodized layer, White hopes to create biodegradable implants that are more resistant to corrosion.

To learn more about this process, White participated in a weeklong study this past November at the Hannover Medical School in Hannover, Germany. The school is one of the global research partner institutions of the ERC and a leader in bioimplant technologies within the Euro Union. Sankar believes his students must learn from the best minds to become global leaders themselves.

Interacting with the diverse faculty and students of the ERC on a daily basis gives Smith and White an edge that others of similar age and experience in the research arena may lack. They also work with colleagues of very diverse cultural and ethnic backgrounds such as those of African, East Asian, Middle Eastern and Russian descent.

"This has been my first real introduction to the world. Whenever you think of globalization, you think of diversity and being around different people. If you are around one group of people, you're generally getting one perspective; but being around others helps you to think at another level," explained Smith. He says this type of interaction has made him a better individual on a professional and personal level.

Leonard Uitenham, chair of the chemical and bioengineering department, also was supportive of their decision from the outset.

"There is such a temptation to go immediately into the workforce after graduation and I commend these two for taking this important step. There is a certain amount of attraction that comes with getting this type of degree at such an early age," Uitenham said. "The fact that two African American men are doing this is great, but don't get me wrong, this would be a tremendous accomplishment for any of our students, period."

Sankar added that taking this initiative and earning the Ph.D. will put them ahead of the competition when it comes to pursuing their future career objectives and making them into true leaders. He anticipates that one of the proudest moments of his career will be their (next) commencement.

Aside from the research and academic scope of this endeavor, there is a special bond that connects the young men to Sankar. White used an analogy of basketball legend Michael Jordan to describe Sankar's approach.

"It's like Jordan with his six championship rings and numerous accolades, yet he still takes out the time to help kids at basketball camps. Sankar has done so much in his lifetime, yet he still wants those around him to become better," White said.

By Brian Holloway '94

New Game Zone Planned for 2011 Football Season



The 2011 Aggie football season is approaching, and several changes will be awaiting fans.

“North Carolina A&T State University has restructured its operations for the upcoming football season with a new Aggie Game Zone initiative that is designed to reduce gridlock in the tailgating and parking sections of Aggie Stadium,” said Earl Hilton, athletics director. “The new Game Zone area also aims to improve safety and allow for a more pleasant experience for all Aggie football fans to enjoy.”

The Game Zone encompasses the areas in and around Aggie Stadium used for parking, tailgating and general entry. The area includes the northwest side of Aggie Stadium at the corners of Lindsay Street and Headquarters Drive, extending south to the corner of Sullivan Street and Benbow Road, and north to Headquarters Drive.

All vehicles will be required to have a valid parking pass and game ticket or tailgate pass to gain access. (Each tailgate space holder is required to be a season ticket holder to receive that space, so they do not need an additional ticket besides the season ticket.)

In addition, every individual two years of age and older – whether a pedestrian, a passenger in a vehicle or a tailgating guest – will be required to have a valid game day or season ticket for entry into the Game Zone, which includes admission to the game. The cost to enter the Game Zone area will be the same as general admission, \$25-\$35, based on the game.

Game Zone and season tickets are available during the University Ticket Office’s regular business hours. Tickets also are available for purchase online at www.ncat.edu/~tickets and may be purchased with a VISA, MasterCard or American Express card. A new feature to online purchasing is the eTicket, which will allow fans to print a general admission ticket from home, bring the printout to be scanned at the game, and eliminate waiting in line to purchase a ticket. Satellite locations will be available to purchase tickets on the day of the game.

Another new facet to Aggie athletics will be a new state-of-the-art press box at Aggie stadium that will boast of expanded space for the news media that cover sporting events and hospitality suites that will be available for fans to name and lease. The latter will represent a new way for fans to enjoy Aggie Football.

These changes are being implemented to enhance the game day experience.

“A&T has some of the best fans in the world, and we have always appreciated their continued support,” said Hilton. “I look forward to rolling out this new initiative and believe it will create a more festive and safe environment for our fans and the community.”

A&T officials encourage fans to purchase season tickets in advance to avoid the rush. Visit www.ncataggies.com for more information about the season, the Game Zone and Aggie Athletics, or call the Athletics Department at (336) 334-7686.



Aggies Release 2011 Football Schedule

Rod Broadway’s first game as the head football coach at North Carolina A&T will occur Saturday, Sept. 3, at Aggie Stadium. N.C. A&T’s 2011 football schedule features five home and six away dates. (The opposition was undetermined at press time.)

The Aggies head to Boone, N.C., Saturday, Sept. 10, to face the Appalachian State Mountaineers, who won three straight Division I-FCS National Championships from 2005-07. They also have won the Southern Conference six straight seasons.

On Saturday, Sept. 24, the Aggies return to Aggie Stadium to play the Coastal Carolina Chanticleers. The two teams last faced each other in 2009. Bethune-Cookman Wildcats comes to Greensboro, Saturday, Oct. 8.

The Greatest Homecoming on Earth will be held Saturday, Oct. 15, when the Aggies face the Delaware State Hornets. The historic rivalry between A&T and N.C. Central moves to the final game of the season with the two teams clashing at Aggie Stadium on Nov. 19.

A&T faces Morgan State on Oct. 1, and the remaining five road games include a stretch of four straight conference games, Oct. 22-Nov. 12, against Howard, Norfolk State, Florida A&M and S.C. State.

For the complete football schedule at a glance, visit www.ncataggies.com. Game dates and times are subject to change.

Aggies Honor Exceptional Student-Athletes

Seventy percent of the softball team’s roster earns academic honors



L-R: N.C. A&T Athletics Director Earl Hilton, Assistant Track Coach James Daniels, student-athlete Arianna Betts (Athletics Director Academic Excellence Award recipient) and Chancellor Harold L. Martin Sr.

Seventy-seven student-athletes were honored for their academic excellence April 7 at the 2011 North Carolina A&T Academic Luncheon. The scholar athletes were recognized for finishing the 2010-2011 school year with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

The N.C. A&T cheerleading squad led the athletics department with 19 students listed for their academic achievement. Women’s track and field led the varsity sports. The team not only had an impressive 12 members named, but the majority of the roster – two out of every three athletes on the team – are scholar athletes. Proportionately, the softball team had the edge throughout the department. Nine of head coach Mamie Jones’ 13 players posted a 3.0 or higher.

“Academic excellence is an important part of building a viable, stable and respectable athletics department,” said Earl Hilton, director of athletics. “It is not bought cheaply. While others find many other things to do with their time, these students choose to study. It shows they already have the ability to make the right decisions.”

The guest speaker was legendary A&T quarterback Alan Hooker, executive director of Veritas Sports Academy. Hooker has more than 20 years of experience in the education field. Before beginning his professional career, he starred for four years at A&T (1984-87). He broke 15 passing records during his career and nine of those records still stand.

The Aggies continued the celebration of athletes on April 25, during the annual All-Sports Banquet where basketball legend Artis Gilmore was the guest speaker. Gilmore was recently elected into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

2011 Academic Luncheon Honorees

Baseball: Tyler Boone, Malik Clark, Carvell Copeland, Matthew Erskine, Kelvin Freeman, Stefan Jordan, Andre McKoy, Mark Nales, Esterlin Paulino, Michael Radford, Reginald Washington

Bowling: Amber Brown, Sarah Taylor, April Terry

Cheerleading: Abernathy, Jasmine Allen, Kristen Bagley, Jytavia Broome, Alexandria Dillard, Rayven Dulin, Nicole Jones, Jennifer McClendon, Tia Mills, Ra Muse, Quantetsa Respass, Jamiese Rushing, Jasmine Silas, Moniqucia Simmons, Lauren Towns, Ashley Washington, Courtney Whitset, Tiffany Whitset, Randi Wilson

Football: Julian Alford, Demonta Brown, Travis Cosby, Donald Mattocks, Devin Moore, William Robinson, Marque Sutton, Jamal Wardlaw

Men’s Basketball: Marc Hill, Jared Williams

Men’s Track and Field: Danzeto Cephas, Jonathan Hancock, Patrick Mills, Kendrick Smith, Isaiah Thompson

Softball: Morgan Chappell, Lauren Clement, Sabrina Edmonds, Hope Fletcher, Juanita Jernigan, Tranea Jones, Tiffany Macklin, Dominique Smith, Erica Turner

Swimming: Allison Byrd, Jasmine Gurley, Keshia McDonald

Women’s Basketball: Lillian Bullock, Tracy King, Crystal Murdaugh

Women’s Tennis: Victorea Austin, Chloe McSwain

Women’s Track and Field: Janessa Benn, Arianna Betts, Amanda Breeden, Natalia Bygrave, Shakia Forbes, Ruth-Cassandra Hunt, Kayla Jackson, Samira Johnson, Krystin Lawson, Chantel Luedeke, Kristin Rush, Camille Wilkerson

Volleyball: Tatiana Cooper, Chelsea Fox, Amber Inman, Devonte’ Reese

Shumate to Step Down as Head Baseball Coach

Shumate led the Aggies to the 2005 MEAC Championship

An era in North Carolina A&T baseball will come to an end this summer. Effective July 31, Keith Shumate will no longer be the head baseball coach at N.C. A&T. Shumate offered his resignation to Director of Athletics Earl Hilton in April.

“This is certainly a sad day for North Carolina A&T Athletics. We’re losing a great baseball coach and an even greater human being from our staff,” said Hilton. “While we hate to see him depart, we support Keith’s decision. He has a fantastic knowledge of the game, and we have certainly benefited from it over the years. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.”

Shumate came to A&T in 1997. The year before Shumate’s arrival, the Aggies went 4-45.

In 15 seasons under Shumate, the Aggies broke the school record for wins six times, including last season’s 31 wins that earned the program its first ever 30-win season.

“I am extremely grateful to the players, coaches, fans, alumni, administration and colleagues with whom I worked over the past 15 years,” said Shumate. “I felt strongly that God sent me here when no one wanted the leadership of a struggling baseball program. My time here has been one of service while we built a program.”

Shumate leaves behind a remarkable legacy. In 2005, he led the baseball program to its only MEAC Championship with a 10-9 win over Norfolk State. The MEAC title game has featured the Aggies four out of the last six years.

Rebuilding the program became possible because of Shumate’s ability to recruit outstanding players. He has coached 11 players who have signed professional baseball contracts. Five of those players were drafted in the Major League Baseball Draft. Shumate also has coached three All-Americans and three Louisville Slugger Freshman All-Americans, and 17 players have earned first-team All-MEAC honors under him.

Two players earned MEAC Player of the Year honors. In 2010, Esterlin Paulino won MEAC Pitcher of the Year and Kelvin Freeman earned MEAC Rookie of the Year. Shumate currently has 294 career wins.

MAKING GOOD ON A PROMISE



For alumna Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, giving back to the place she considers home is akin to a moral obligation.

By Jeuron O. Dove '08

“There is no doubt as to why I give so much of my time, talent and resources back to this institution,” says Pinnix-Ragland. “This school has given me so much of what I have today, for which I am forever grateful.”

Pinnix-Ragland is vice president of Corporate Public Affairs and vice chair of the Corporate Diversity Council for Progress Energy, a Fortune 500 electric utility company headquartered in Raleigh, N.C., that serves about 3.1 million customers across the Carolinas and Florida, with \$10 billion in annual revenues. She graduated magna cum laude with a B.S. degree in accounting in 1977, and received an M.B.A. from the Fuqua Business School at Duke University in 1986.

Even before entering A&T as a student, she was quite familiar with the university. An uncle of hers was a professor in the College of Engineering around the time she applied, and several members from both sides of her family had attended A&T.

The Hillsborough, N.C., native’s decision to attend A&T was largely influenced by a university faculty member.

“He stopped by our family’s restaurant and asked what my plans were for college. I told him that I was leaning towards attending another school. Then he asked why I was not going to A&T and the rest is history.”

No discussion about the impact that her time at A&T made on her career would be complete without bringing up Quiester Craig, dean of the School of Business and Economics.

“Dr. Craig had the vision and it was our job to carry it out,” said Pinnix-Ragland.

During that period, the accounting department was in the process of receiving accreditation. She describes her classmates as a focused, deliberate and determined group, and says Craig instilled within them the necessary values for the career success they experienced in life.

“I believe we all had this feeling that our class would leave behind a legacy for others to follow ... and despite the intensity of the curriculum, it was one I would readily do again.”

Pinnix-Ragland believes the nationwide reputation of the business school is due to its strong leadership. In addition to the core skills she was taught, it was the analytical thinking that really made the difference in changing the way she approached things. Today, she still applies those methods in her daily operations.

In addition to Craig, there were other members of the A&T community whom contributed greatly to her development during her time as a student. Former professors Danny Poe, Lydal Hyman and (former N.C. Senator) Katie Dorsett made a profound impact on her life, while she considers alumni (retired N.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice) Henry Frye and his wife Shirley as second parents.

Since leaving A&T, Pinnix-Ragland has made good on her promise to ensure future generations of Aggies can have the same opportunities for success that she did. She regularly contributes to the Department of Accounting and the College of Engineering. In addition, she has taken fellow Aggies under her wing in a mentorship capacity, and some have gone on to achieve success at the managerial level in her company.

“I believe we all had this feeling that our class would leave behind a legacy for others to follow ... and despite the intensity of the curriculum, it was one I would readily do again.”

Pinnix-Ragland joined Progress Energy (then Carolina Power & Light) in 1980, and has served in a variety of positions in the company’s communications, customer operations-construction, maintenance and restoration, customer service, economic development, management services, treasury and auditing functions. She has been an officer with the company since 1998. Before CP&L, she was an auditor with Arthur Anderson & Co. and an accountant with Colgate-Palmolive, both based in New York.

In her current role, Pinnix-Ragland works with federal agencies and national organizations to develop strategic relationships that will communicate the impact of energy policy on their constituents. Some of these groups include: the Environmental Protection Agency, National Association of County Commissioners, Federal Energy Regulation Commission and the National Organization of Regulatory Utilities.

Pinnix-Ragland has set many benchmarks as a trailblazing female working in the financial, operational and political arenas, having become one of the first female officers at Progress Energy. She has held five vice presidency jobs throughout her career and is the first female and African American to chair the North Carolina State Board of Community Colleges.

Among numerous honors and boards, Pinnix-Ragland is proud to have received A&T’s Distinguished Alumni Award (2003) and to be a member of the Board of Visitors (2010-2012).

As a female in corporate America, Pinnix-Ragland says it is prudent to work hard and think smart. Despite coming from a financial background, she readily adapted and learned all aspects of her company. She wanted to know exactly how the business end was run so that she would be competent enough to take her product out to the key drivers in the community that influence the business.

There are a few points that she likes to stress when it comes to helping current students unlock their potential: she wants young people to know that math and science can be fun and that understanding quantitative problem solving is critical to one’s overall success no matter what career field they enter. There is also the belief that no task is too difficult to complete.

“As long as you have confidence and courage you can achieve any success that you want. Only you can hold yourself back.”

alumni news

AGGIES ON THE MOVE



1950s

The North Carolina Press Association recently honored **Henry E. Frye Sr. '53** of Greensboro, N.C., for his lifetime of service to the state, including becoming the first African American elected to the N.C. House of Representatives in the 20th century and the first African American to serve as chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court.

1960s

The Hon. Betty J. Williams '66 was reelected to Kings County (Brooklyn) Civil Court in November 2010, for a second 10-year term. In January, Justice Williams was reassigned to Kings County Criminal Court where she will continue to preside in the Misdemeanor Brooklyn Treatment Court (MBTC) and its felony counterpart, Part 70, where long-term substance abuse offenders are given the opportunity to receive treatment instead of incarceration.

Outside the courtroom, Williams is co-chair of the National Association of Women Judges' (NAWJ) Women in Prison Committee and chair emeritus of the New York Association of Women Judges, Women in Prison Committee (WIPC). She has organized, facilitated, and participated in numerous prisoner workshops at correctional facilities for women throughout New York. Of her many accomplishments as a judge, Williams is particularly thankful to have been involved in the creation of the Kings County Criminal Court Career and Education Center (2009) and the Brooklyn Youth GED Program (2010).

1970s

Harold L. Martin Sr. '74, chancellor of North Carolina A&T State University, is the recipient of the 2011 John L. Sanders Student Advocate Award. Since 2001, members of the University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments nominate and select an individual who has advocated and improved the quality of life and education for students in the UNC system.

Frank E. Batts Sr. '76 is the first African American to reach the rank of major general in the Virginia Army National Guard. Gen. Batts is commander of the 29th Infantry Division, based at Fort Belvoir. He served in Afghanistan from May 2004 until April 2005. When he is not serving in the Guard, Batts is an electronics engineer at NASA Langley Research Center.

Bonnie Newman Davis '79, an associate professor of journalism at Virginia Commonwealth University's (VCU) School of Mass Communications, has been selected as Journalism Educator of the Year by the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ).

For several years, Davis served as academic director of the VCU's Urban Journalism Workshop, an intense two-week journalism program for high school students that is co-sponsored by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc. She chairs the Virginius Dabney Committee for Visiting Professors in the School of Mass Communications, and the College of Humanities & Sciences Library Committee. She is the immediate past secretary for the College of Humanities & Sciences Faculty Council, and is faculty adviser for the VCU student chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Davis also serves as an informal adviser to the university's student chapter of NABJ, and is a co-founder of the former Richmond Association of Black Journalists, which won NABJ's Chapter of the Year in 1998. From 1999-2003, Davis served on NABJ's national board as the mid-Atlantic regional director.

In addition to her longtime affiliation with NABJ, Davis is also a member of the Diversity Committee for the national Society of Professional Journalists, and serves on the board of SPJ's Virginia Pro Chapter. She also holds memberships in the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication and the Online News Association.

President Barack Obama has appointed **Donna A. James '79** as chair of the National Women's Business Council (NWBC). For 25 years, James honed her skills as a corporate executive at Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. Most recently, she served as president of Nationwide Strategic Investments, a division of Nationwide Insurance. In this role, she had direct responsibility for rationalizing and executing growth or exit strategies for five different U.S. and global based financial services subsidiaries. She is currently the president and chief executive officer of Lardon & Associates LLC., a small consulting firm that specializes in advising business leaders on issues related to governance, new business development, strategy, financial and risk management and leadership development.

1980s

Lawrence M. Dowdy '84 of Wagram, N.C., has been appointed by the Office of Governor Beverly Purdue to serve as the Faith-based Outreach Coordinator for the State of North Carolina. The position is housed within the governor's Office of Citizen and Faith-based Outreach, which works with citizens and faith leaders throughout the state. His primary responsibility is to serve as the liaison between the Governor's Office and the faith community. He also will be responsible for the implementation and coordination of the governor's Faith-based Leadership Advisory Council.

Dowdy has a Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, and has served in the ministry for more than 28 years. He is the pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church in Proctorville, N.C., and vice moderator for the Lumber River Baptist Association.

Dmitri L. Stockton '86, the London-based head of global banking for General Electric Co., has been named president and chief executive officer of the \$119 billion GE Asset Management in Stamford, Conn. Stockton joined GE in 1987, and he has risen through the ranks, starting in sales and eventually landing executive roles at GE Capital. In 2001, he was appointed to lead GE Capital Bank in Switzerland. From 2005 to 2008, he was CEO of the company's central and eastern European banking group. He was made a vice president in 2005.

1990s

Keisha Boggan '91, principal of Francis C. Hammond 1 Middle School in Alexandria, Va., has been named a Distinguished Educational Leadership by *The Washington Post*. Boggan was nominated by her school community and Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) Superintendent Morton Sherman for this annual award. She is in her 16th year as an ACPS educator and her fifth year as a middle school principal.

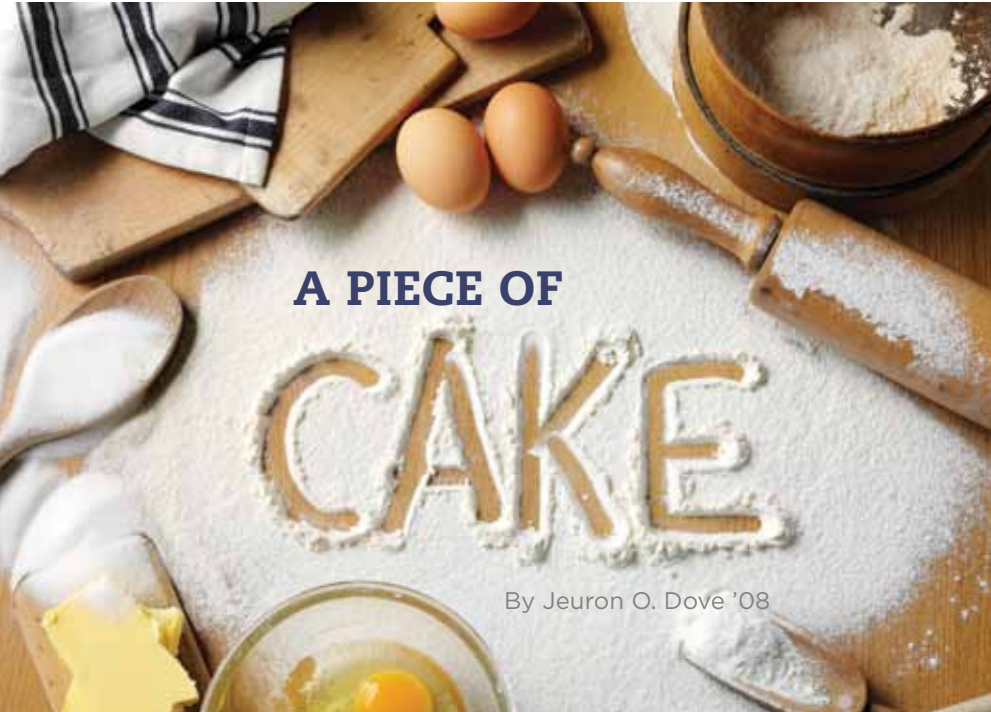
"She has a deep understanding of the complex strengths and needs of our middle school students," says Sherman. "We are extremely proud of Ms. Boggan and join The Washington Post in honoring her work. She is a gem in the Alexandria community."

Cecily V.M. Nash Welch '92 of Alpharetta, Ga., is a new member of the Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC), which provides an organized public forum for IRS officials and the public to discuss key tax administration issues. Members are selected to represent the taxpaying public, tax professionals, small and large businesses, and the payroll community. The council provides the IRS leadership with important feedback, observations and suggestions.

Welch is a senior tax manager with S.J. Gorowitz Accounting and Tax Services, Inc. She has lectured frequently to professional organizations and has experience in domestic and international financial audits. She is a member of AICPA and is active in the Georgia Society of CPAs-Tax Section and Estate Planning Section.

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alumni news



A PIECE OF

CAKE

By Jeuron O. Dove '08

Alumnus Bryant L. Martin '94 bakes up sweet success.

For some, a slice of cake is nothing more than a sugary treat consumed during special occasions. For A&T alumnus Bryant L. Martin, a cake is a three-dimensional confection that is as vivid as any work of art imaginable.

Martin, a Greensboro native, is owner of Sweet Indulgence Cake Design LLC, an online cake decorating company. He never intended to become a cake designer, but in hindsight, he learned the techniques of the trade during his adolescent years.

In junior high, Martin entered art contests that were at the collegiate skill level. Instead of attending summer camp, he and his siblings worked in the family business. It was there that he learned his first lessons in cake decorating from an aunt.

“I practiced calligraphy and got pretty good at it. She told me that if I could learn to do that, then I could learn to pipe icing onto a cake,” said Martin.

His early works consisted of things he emulated from watching others, and before long he was able to make his own simple butter cream arrangements. He would improve his craft over the next few years.

Upon entering A&T in 1990, Martin originally planned to study biology, but ended up switching to business administration. He obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration and is currently pursuing a master's in technology education with a concentration in training and development for industry, also at A&T.

Following graduation, he was employed at a Vanguard Cellular (currently Cellular One) location in Greensboro. This was where his first major career break came through.

“They would have this St. Patrick's Day party every year and they wanted some cakes designed in the shape of shamrocks. The funny thing was that no one there knew how to design cakes in that shape.”

After taking up the challenge, some coworkers wondered whether Martin could pull it off. However, he successfully accomplished the feat and produced an edible display that fed the hundreds who attended the event. And today, he produces cakes that range in unique designs from realistic depictions of a pair of Air Jordan sneakers to a Louis Vuitton handbag.

Martin believes in dedicating as much time and care as possible to his craft. To that end, he offers a consultation and free sampling for clients.

“When customers tell me about their events, my goal is to make cakes that best represent them.”

The best way to achieve this outcome is through a process he refers to as “reverse engineering.” He describes it as starting out with a vision of the end result and working backwards from there to get the desired product.

While a large portion of his business comes from traditional occasions such as weddings, baby showers and graduations, he also serves the corporate sector, which he feels is an area those in his field have not fully taken advantage of for its market potential. He designed a Delta Airlines jet cake for the Greensboro First Flight Celebration in recognition of the Delta PTI carrier consistently reaching its flight schedules on time and one for the 20th anniversary of R&R Transportation, a local trucking company. The O.Henry and Proximity Hotels of Greensboro have also utilized his services.

While he had enjoyed cake designing for a number of years, it was the nation's recent economic climate that motivated him to transform his hobby into an occupation. He figured it would be therapeutic to turn something he enjoyed into a business.

In addition to expanding his business acumen, Martin also has expanded his repertoire of ingredients. He has transitioned from using standard butter cream varieties of frosting to becoming proficient with royal icing, gum paste and modeling chocolate.

“When someone looks at my cakes, I want them to think that they are real.”

Martin believes the biggest challenge facing the industry is to make well-decorated cakes that tastes great. Though many of his cakes are designed for events that take place weeks or months later, his ultimate goal is to produce a quality cake within a 24-hour period.

In 2006, Martin received the opportunity of a lifetime when he held an internship under “Cake Designer to the Stars” Sylvia Weinstock, who has created cakes for the likes of Donald Trump and Kimora-Lee Simmons. While visiting New York, Martin took advantage of his time there and met her. He purposely requested to purchase a cake of hers with as intricate of a design as possible to study. The cake was \$800. He offered to work under her during an entire summer without pay and even got to assist her on a high-profile wedding cake where Preston Bailey, “Wedding and Event Designer to The Stars,” was the coordinator of the event.

“I was afforded the opportunity to take the talent she showed me and bring it back to what I do here.”

Another career break came when he was reintroduced to the A&T community as a result of his relationship with Leonora Bryant, director of the Office of Alumni Affairs. He has created cakes for the last three Homecoming alumni receptions and for the installation of Chancellor Harold L. Martin Sr.

Bryant Martin's business is home based, and he is shopping for a potential storefront. Despite not having a physical location, a good portion of his business is generated from the company's Facebook page.

Martin has a core group of friends and family members who assist him with his work. He teaches them different aspects of what he does so that they can eventually branch out on their own.

Despite the notoriety for his confections, cake designing is not his full-time occupation. He is a technical instructor for IBM, a job that requires extensive travel across the country. His goal is to support himself solely through Sweet Indulgences.

“You need to think about what you are good at and then pursue it. Whenever something pushes against you to not achieve your goal, push back and find a way to make it happen.”

AGGIES ON THE MOVE

continued

Ron Edwards '94 has joined Hampton Roads (Va.) Transit as the new chief safety and security officer, a role in which he manages the safety, security and risk management departments. Edwards has over 14 years of experience in the safety profession, which began in 1997, when he accepted the position of industrial hygienist compliance officer with the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

Edwards also has held positions with Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and Booz Allen Hamilton, where he worked with several transit properties across the United States including Maryland Transit Administration, Charlotte Area Transit System and Valley Metro in Phoenix, Ariz. In addition, he once played professional football with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams and the Cincinnati Bengals.

2000s

William C. Rollings Jr. '01 is a print supervisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He is responsible for three printing plants in Washington, D.C., Maryland and Virginia, and he supervises a staff of 21. Rollings has received three Franklin Awards – the highest award in his field – from Global Publishing Solutions for outstanding service.

Brooke Myatt '03, Miss A&T 2002-2003, is featured in fashion layout for *CYH* (Celebrate Your Heritage) magazine. Myatt started her company, Brooke Myatt Photography and Graphic Arts, shortly after graduating summa cum laude from A&T with a B.S. degree in graphic communications, printing and publishing. With Debbie Allen gracing the cover, Myatt worked double time as photographer and model for the fall fashion layout for *CYH's* September/October 2010 issue.

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AGGIES ON THE MOVE continued



Carl M. Humphrey '02 has joined the ranks of international businessman in Shanghai, China, having recently launched an airplane-themed club there called Departure 10 Ultra Lounge. Through the vision of pioneering entrepreneurs collectively known as The Departure Group, of which Humphrey is a member, the lounge caters to both professionals and party-goers who expect great service, style and a cool vibe in a distinctive atmosphere.

“It is my hope that young people will be given the confidence to succeed as a result of my international experience,” says Humphrey. “That is what encourages me to work hard every day.”

The lounge is already being hailed as a major landmark in Shanghai entertainment and is the first airplane-themed ultra lounge to grace the city.



Guilford County Schools (GCS) teacher **Kimberly James** is a recipient of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award, what some call the “Oscar of Teaching.” James, an exceptional children teacher at Triangle Lake Montessori in High Point, N.C., is among the nation’s 55 most recent recipients of the Milken Educator Award, which carries with it an unrestricted financial award of \$25,000. The 2010 GCS Elementary Teacher of the Year is noted for knowing the best instructional practices for her students.

James earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Wake Forest University in 1993, a special education license from North Carolina A&T State University in 2005, and is pursuing a master’s degree in education leadership from Western Governors University.

Victor Collins '07 is the founder of The Create Nothing Other Than Excellence Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to increase reading, writing and math literacy among young African American students. C.N.O.T.E also seeks to build solid relationships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Educational and mentoring programs will begin in 2012. For information about the foundation, visit www.cnotestyle.com, or write P.O. Box 1901, Columbus, OH 43216.



Emmanuel Letsu-Dake '08, a research scientist (III)-human centered systems at Honeywell Aerospace – Advanced Technology, is the recipient of a 2011 Technical Achievement Award for his work on the User Centered Design of the Honeywell In-Trail Procedures Display. This prestigious award, which is given to less than one percent of the total Honeywell Aerospace engineering population, celebrates technical excellence, innovation and creativity that contribute significantly to Honeywell’s growth. In honor of this recognition, Letsu-Dake was invited to attend the annual Honeywell Aerospace Technology Awards Night, May 25, at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa in Phoenix, Ariz.

Devon Rollins '08, a senior information systems engineer and technical subject matter expert in cyber crime for The MITRE Corporation, received the Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering and Science (GEM) Student Leadership Award at the 25th Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Global Competitiveness Conference held in Washington, D.C., Feb. 17-19.

As a member of MITRE’s Cyber and Investigative Technologies Department, his work focuses on developing and integrating leading-edge technology and techniques to support cyber investigations with a national security emphasis. Rollins, who began working at MITRE as an intern in 2008, has been a mentor and tutor for at-risk youth and served as the director of alumni relations for SponsorChange, a nonprofit organization that forgives student loan debt in exchange for civic service.

IN MEMORIAM

ALUMNI (2010)
Ruby A. Abbott, date?
Ruby Delaney Collins '58, Aug. 15
Anthony L. Davis '50, Aug. 4
Glaceria Rogers Donnell, Oct. 8
Roy Lee Everett, May 27
Zetta Scales Farmer, Nov. 26
Richard Dwaine Ford, Aug. 8
Nathaniel R. Gardner Sr., June 10
Lois Harris, Sept. 19
Samuel Westbrook Hicks III, Dec. 30
Walter W. Jackson '57, Dec. 6
James Louis Jeffries Jr. '94, Dec. 5
Esther Troxler Jenkins, June 13
Lynn Stone Levine '84, Oct. 12
Beatrice Carr Jones Maye '37, Dec. 12
Lucille Fair McCormick, March 31
Helburn “Bud” Meadows '52, July 29
Beulah Mae Martin Moore, Nov. 4
William Carter Parker Jr. '61, Sept. 18
Annie Riggsbee-Battle '69, July 31
Evelyn Tanner Spencer '71, Sept. 3
Constance R. Wimbush “Connie” Ward '78, Oct. 12
Raymond Camp Wilkins '52, July 19
James R. Williams '66, Dec. 24
Franklin Wright, Aug. 12

ALUMNI (2011)
George W. Bonner '45, Jan. 22
Stephanie Bromell '89, date?
Nelda Scott Bynum '45, March 10
Lisa Maria Harmon '88, Jan. 18
Charles Albert “Chuck” Harrison '59, March 16
Jerry Brian Hart Sr., Jan. 14
Wendell Henderson Carr Sr. '65, March 12
Bettie Louise Godfrey '63, Feb. 24
Estell Harper '49, Jan. 21
Kenneth Phillips Lakes, March 19
Edward L. Poole, March 6
General Wayne Talbert, Jan. 13

STUDENTS (2010)
Andre Jospin Masakidi Milandu, sophomore, Aug. 19
Stanley Arnes Ward, graduate student, Aug. 11

STUDENTS (2011)
William Wall, graduate student, April 25

EMPLOYEES (2010)
Brigette Edith Archibald, professor of German and faculty senator, Dec. 15
Dorothy Mae Prince Barnett, retired dean, School of Education, Nov. 3
Nina Mae Ervin Bridges, retired administrative assistant, School of Graduate Studies, Sept. 24
H.D. Flowers II, former executive director, Paul Robeson Theatre, July 3
Sadie Irvin Johnson, former nursing supervisor, Sebastian Health Center, July 27
Janine Dye Jackson Lee, retired, food services, Oct. 23
Ruth B. Marshall, retired, Shaw Food Services, Sept. 8
Willard Morrisie Wiley, retired supervisor of HVAC, Physical Plant, Oct. 4

EMPLOYEES (2011)
Mildred J. Bonner, retired professor of psychology, April 8
Edna Johnson Ragins, chair, Department of Marketing, Transportation and Supply Chain, School of Business and Economics, May 9
Phyllis Annette Walker, pharmacy technician, Sebastian Health Center, Jan. 8



Collis Crews, a junior history major at North Carolina A&T State University was selected for the 2011 Freedom Ride, an experiential learning opportunity for college students in conjunction with the broadcast of Freedom Riders and the 50th anniversary of the original May 1961 Freedom Rides. From May 6-16, the Ride was a moving classroom in which Crews and 39 other college students from across the country retraced the route of the original Freedom Rides. Accompanied by filmmaker



Stanley Nelson, original Freedom Riders and others, the Ride engaged students as they learned the extraordinary commitment and courage of the individuals who participated in the Freedom Rides as well as the history that was taking place during that era.

The film, "Freedom Riders," premiered May 16 on PBS' AMERICAN EXPERIENCE, television's most watched history series.

Pictured above, left to right, are Freedom Riders Robert Singleton, Helen Irene Singleton, Ernest "Rip" Patton Jr., Collis Crews and Joan Trumpauer Mulholland. Also pictured are Melvin "Skip" Alston (3rd from right), chairman of the International Civil Rights Center & Museum (ICRCM) Board of Directors, and Hurley W. Derrickson (far right), ICRCM board member.



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Sometimes, a classroom is more than a space filled with desks, students and a professor. Sometimes it's a gateway—a place where we finally begin answering the question "what do you want to be when you grow up?" At [North Carolina A&T State University](#), we offer students the chance to see themselves in the careers they've dreamt of pursuing. That means ensuring that the learning experience at our university mirrors the world awaiting our students after they leave. Because at A&T, a degree doesn't mean you're finished learning. It means you're about to begin making a difference in the world.



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