



The Battering Ram

"Linked together in unity. Serving together with purpose."

This newsletter is an official publication of WSSU National Alumni Association
S. G. Atkins House ■ Winston-Salem, NC 27110
TheBatteringRam@wssunaa.org

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

HOMEcoming 2018

If you missed Homecoming, you missed an awesome weekend. The activities began with the Miss and Mr. Alumni Tea/Reception on Thursday, October 28. It was a grand affair as the former queens and kings welcomed the new Miss and Mr. Alumni to the Royal Family.

We had the pleasure of listening to the melodious voice of Miss Taylor Walker, a junior at Winston-Salem State University. The Alumni Kings, in memory of Mr. Bobby L. Williams, honored him by making him an honorary Mr. Alumni.

The activities that followed: Hall of Distinction/Crowning Ceremony were grand affairs and deserving of a standing crowd. The Hall of Distinction honorees were: Cheryl Brooks Akuma "77, Valeria Clark Edwards "78, Thomas Montiero "61, and Lillie M. Walters "70.

After the alums took care of all important matters and assured all was in order, we were ready to relax and have fun. Friday night – Royal Ram Soiree – music provided by D.J. Cleve. Saturday night – Grand Finale – groovy music was provided by D.J. Energizer.

It was Ram All Day, Every Day! It is so hard to be a Ram!
See You in 2019!

WINTER BOARD MEETING

January 12, 2019

9 am - 1 pm

**Mint Museum Uptown
(Auditorium)**

**500 S. Tryon Street
Charlotte, NC 28202**

**Make room reservations at
Fairfield Inn & Suites
Uptown**

**201 S. McDowell Street
701/971-4979**

Rate - \$119

**Complimentary hot break-
fast buffet, parking \$5**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings alumni and friends:

Teamwork is the key to winning. We must continue with our strategy for moving our Association forward.

Your involvement with the university and association has always been one of great significance.

Congratulations to Miss Alumni 2018 – Cherone Austin Johnson and Mr. Alumni 2018 – Anthony L. Pace. We must continue to give our time and financial support to Winston-Salem State University. I urge you to get fully immersed and give annually to the WSSU National Alumni Scholarship Endowment.

Congratulations to the 2018 Alumni Hall of Distinction Inductees – Mrs. Cheryl Brooks Akuma, Mrs. Valeria Clark Edwards, Mr. Thomas Monteiro and Ms. Lillie M. Walters.

It is our personal responsibility to be committed to making a difference. We must first be excited about who we are and believe in the mission. Please nominate a fellow Ram to be considered for the 2019 class before July 1, 2019.

I challenge each of you to reclaim a lost Ram and get them involved with the NAA.

I am proud to serve you as your national president. Remember that attitude is a small thing but makes a big difference. We are “Linked Together in Unity while Serving Together with Purpose.”

Sincerely,

Victor L. Bruinton

Victor L. Bruinton

CHAPTER NEWS

ATLANTA

The officers and members of the Atlanta Chapter celebrate our member and chapter treasurer, Cheryl Brooks Akuma, in being honored with the 2018 Hall of Distinction award during the 2018 Homecoming weekend.



FAYETTEVILLE



The Greater Fayetteville Area Chapter hosted the 5th Annual “Red & White Affair” Scholarship Luncheon on December 1, 2018. Our theme each year is “Celebrations of HBCU’s.” We have a roll call to

acknowledge all graduates from the 11 HBCU’s in North Carolina and the other 88 HBCU’s. We had the honor of having as our guest speaker, Miss Mikayla Raines, the youngest Alumni Queen for any HBCU. She graduated from Fayetteville State University at the age of 19 and completed her degree in one year of college studies. Four current WSSU students were awarded scholarships: Destiny McLean, Kandace Henry, Anye’a Hampton and Te’Drenna Coleman.

The chapter wishes to acknowledge our chapter president, Mrs. Barbara Brodie Williams-Pollard for a job well done.

She has held the position for 22 years. Barbara has been under the leadership of six national presidents and has served on numerous committees, both local and national. Barbara was crowned Miss Alumni 2009 and inducted into the Hall of Distinction in 2013. She resigned from her position in May, but will always be a member of GFAC!

Our monthly meeting is held the 1st Thursday of each month at the North Regional Library, Fayetteville, NC at 5:30 PM.

Additionally, Barbara Brodie Williams ‘78 and Eric T. Pollard ‘78 were married in September 2018.

HALL OF DISTINCTION INDUCTEES 2018



(L-R) Chancellor Elwood Robinson, Dr. Thomas L. Monteiro '61, Cheryl Akuma Brooks '77, Valeria Clark Edwards '78, Lillie M. Walters '70, National President Victor L. Bruinton

The Hall of Distinction ceremony was part of a combined event with the Crowning of Mr. and Miss Alumni on Friday, October 21, at the Embassy Suites- Gaines Ballroom in Winston-Salem, NC.

Initiated in 2007, the Alumni Hall of Distinction recognizes and honors alumni for their professional accomplishments, outstanding character, community service, and most importantly, their commitment to our alma mater.

Nominations for the Hall of Distinction are due by July 1 of each year.

See the Association website for details (wssunaa.org)

FORMER WSSU ALUMNI QUEEN REIGNS AGAIN



Our 2002 WSSU Alumni Queen, Beverly Evans, and a 1970 graduate, was crowned on October 20, 2018 in Durham, North Carolina, as the 2018 Queen of the National Alumni Association of Hillside High School. Beverly Evans was inducted into their Hall of Fame as well for her participation in the NASA Teacher in Space Program. She raised \$15,370 for this fundraising event for scholarships and equipment for Hillside High School, her alma mater. The

money raised by her is unprecedented and a record breaking feat for this organization. Beverly and her mother, Lou Suitt Barnes, set another record as being the first mother/daughter to be inducted into the Hillside High School Hall of Fame. Her mother was inducted in 2013. All Hail Our Queen!

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE

The WSSUNAA Scholarship Committee will begin the acceptance of scholarship applications for the 2019-2020 school year on January 1, 2019.

Scholarship applications are available on the alumni association website: WSSUNAA.ORG

1. On the home page, click on "Forms and Docs"
2. The "WSSUNAA Scholarship Process" is listed under "Documents"

The deadline for submission of applications in March 15, 2019.

MISS AND MR. ALUMNI CONTEST

ATTENTION: ALL CHAPTERS

As each chapter renews the prime directive to serve and support our university, what better way than a chapters full support around a candidate for Miss or Mr. Alumni.

As you know our biggest fundraiser is the Miss and Mr. Alumni contest.

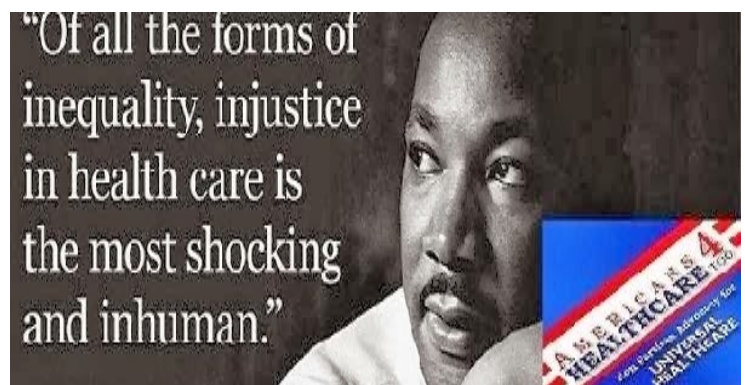
We are asking chapters to step forward with a candidate for the fundraiser this year.

Let's continue our alumni legacy with full support toward raising funds for scholarships.

No matter the number of years that may pass, we will always be Rams.

Please contact Committee Chair below.

Karen Patterson, class of 79
Miss and Mr. Alumni Committee Chair
336 575 7291



"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhuman."

2018 ALUMNI ACHIEVER AWARD RECIPIENTS

DISTINGUISHED
ALUMNI AWARD

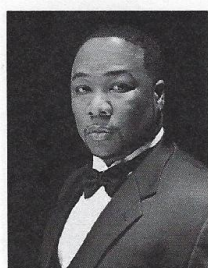


CURTIS RICHARDSON '76 AND EALINE M. RICHARDSON '71 - ENTREPRENEURS

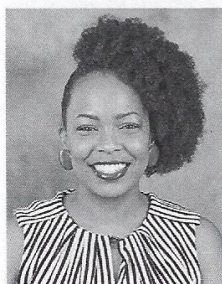
Having begun their careers in business and industry, they each now own their own business. Curtis is owner and president of Richardson Safety Equipment, established in 1985; and Earline owns and operates Earline's Interiors, Furniture Sales & Design, a business she began in 2003 after having owned and operated High Point Furniture Sales.

The Richardsons are known for their business acumen, community involvement and philanthropy. They were the first donors to name a space, the Curtis and Earline Richardson Hospitality Room, in the Bowman Gray Field House. They have led a number of fundraising campaigns for athletics, including one for player helmets, and spearheaded a fundraising concert featuring Whitley Phipps, with all proceeds going to the university scholarship fund.

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES, BUSINESS AND EDUCATION



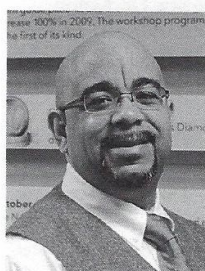
THOMAS BEARD '98 is a lyric-dramatic baritone that enjoys a national and an international reputation. In 2003 he became the only African-American male singer to be chosen personally by Maestro Placido Domingo to be part of the Washington National Opera's Placido Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program.



TRACY E. WHITE, Ph.D. '00 has taught at the secondary, undergraduate, and graduate levels. She taught as an adjunct professor at WSSU for eight years. She has also worked with a number of mathematics/science programs designed to strengthen the abilities of middle-grade and high school students, including the North Carolina Mathematics and Science Education Network, the NASA Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Aerospace Academy, and the Math & Science Academy of Excellence.

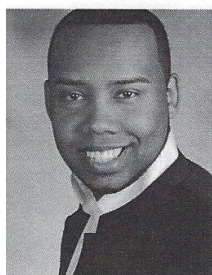


ASHANTI HOLLEY '02 currently serves as principal of Perth Amboy High School in New Jersey and as adjunct professor at Concordia University. She also co-founded Students With Ambitious Goals (SWAG), a non-profit organization that provides social and educational opportunities for teens, grades 9-12, including an annual college tour to HBCUs.

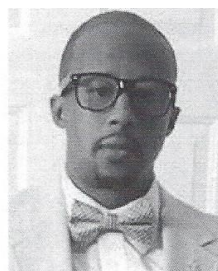


MICHAEL TRAMBER received an MBA from WSSU. As vice president of operations at Miracles in Sight, he is responsible for developing long-term strategies, creating lean and efficient operational processes, improving customer relationships, and monitoring the successes of each operational department. His calm demeanor, excellent interpersonal skills, and industry knowledge make him an outstanding and successful leader.

SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES



DR. CLIFTON KENON, JR '09 is senior diversity and inclusion officer and health scientist for reproductive health at the United States Agency for International Development. He was also invited by former First Lady Michelle Obama to speak at the White House. He has received numerous awards for his outstanding leadership.



DR. JEFFERY LUCAS '09 received the master's degree in occupational therapy from WSSU. He has worked in home health, community health, and acute care settings, inspiring his patients to set realistic and achievable goals for improved health outcomes and educating them and their families on the appropriate occupational therapy method to meet their needs.

2019 CIAA Basketball Tournament – February 25 thru March 2

♦ **RAMS HOST HOTEL** - Marriott City Center, Charlotte, NC

♦ **MAKING RESERVATIONS BY PHONE**

1. Dial 1-800-359-3204 toll free. Specify the *WSSU Attendees Room Block*.
2. Provide your arrival date and number of nights. 3 night minimum required.
3. Have a credit card available for the one night non-refundable deposit.



♦ **MAKING RESERVATIONS ONLINE**

Book your group rate for The WSSU - CIAA 2019 Attendees Room Block

Quick Tip If you receive a notification that the group rates are unavailable through the link, you can also call Central Reservations (1-800-359-3204) to check availability. Please specify the WSSU Group.

♦ **RESERVATION INFORMATION**

- Check-in time is after 3pm and check-out time is 12pm.
- Minimum 3 nights required with one night nonrefundable deposit of \$278 plus tax to be charged upon booking to the credit card on file. The remaining balance for room & tax will be charged on February 15, 2019. If we are unable to process any deposit, the reservation is subject to cancellation.
- If the reservation is cancelled for any reason, the deposit is forfeited.
- There is a maximum of 3 rooms per guest.

♦ **FOR TICKETS:**

Greetings from Winston-Salem State University Athletic Department. We wanted to be the first to let you know about the WSSU Elite Fan Package that we are rolling out to our HORN\$ members and major supporters. We appreciate your generosity and want to thank you for your continued support by offering you the following perks:

WSSU Elite Fan Package Includes

- 1 Ticket Card for the 2019 CIAA Basketball Tournament
- Two (2 total) complimentary regular game tickets for the 2018-2019 basketball season
- Access to Rams Hospitality Suite during the two regular games
- WSSU Fan Pack (includes specialty WSSU items)
- Opportunity to serve as an Honorary Basketball Coach for a Men's or Women's Game

The promotion has a value of \$450, but we are offering it to you for \$200. To order your packet today, call the WSSU Ticket Office at 336-750-3220 or click the website below:

https://tkr.xosn.com/tickets/EventsCentral.dbml?DB_OEM_ID=33400

Thank you again for supporting the WSSU Rams.

In Memoriam



Alice Frances Lindsey



**Mary Catherine
Hairston Foy**



**Lorraine Morton
Class of 1938**

By 1993, she was elected as Evanston's first African-American mayor. She led the city for 16 years, becoming the longest-serving mayor in the city's history.



**Dr. Lozelle Jenkins
De Luz**

Received BS in elementary education and was Homecoming Queen her senior year



**Allean Sims
Class of 1969**

Staunch, faithful supporter of Rams athletics



**Mildred T. Bryant
Kinston, NC**



JAMES JARRELL

He served Dudley and WSSU helping to organize reunions for both institutions and was a former president of the WSSU National Alumni Association. Using his skills as the 'TC Yearbook, he created the WSSU alumni publication *The Battering Ram*.



**Willie Preston Yellock
Class of 1975
Atlanta, GA**

Coached WSSU women's softball team from 1978 - 1982

HERE ARE 8 THINGS TO EXPECT FROM WSSU IN 2019

Source: wssu.edu website

The new year promises exciting changes around campus and in classrooms at Winston-Salem State University (WSSU). Here are eight things to expect in 2019.

MORE: 2018 a breakthrough year for WSSU

1. The opening of a \$53 million sciences building

First conceived in 2006, WSSU is expected to officially open a \$53 million sciences building in late 2019. The building, one of the first funded through the NC Connect Bond approved by voters in 2016, will anchor WSSU's Science District, and include interactive learning and community gathering spaces, and lab space to increase faculty and student collaboration.

2. 50th year as a university

In 1969, the state General Assembly paved the way for sustained growth at what was then Winston-Salem State College by granting the institution regional university status. This golden anniversary of becoming WSSU comes at a time of tremendous growth for the university.

3. Big events at WSSU

As with any year at WSSU, 2019 will have its big events. The Ram family should save the date for Homecoming 2019 on Nov. 2. Other events include: the WSSU annual Golf Classic in April and the Hanes Lecture Series, which launches Jan. 15 with "Tuskegee & Obamacare," a lecture from Dr. Darryl Scriven, dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, Business and Education.

4. Bowman Gray Stadium improvements

In November, city officials proposed \$9 million in improvements for Bowman Gray Stadium, WSSU's home football stadium since the 1940s. The project would be completed in phases over three years, with design work beginning in 2019.

5. Programming for new design studios

In 2018, faculty from WSSU and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts collaborated to create four new design studios at the Center for Design Innovation (CDI). New programming is being planned in 2019 as the studios develop.

6. Expansion of public health programs

In 2018, WSSU launched a new minor in public health, expanded the free health services students and faculty provide at the Rams Know H.O.W. Mobile Unit, launched Weight Matters, a community and campus weight management program, and created the Public Health Society, a new student organization. January will bring even more focus on public health with the addition of four new undergraduate courses.

7. New research programs

WSSU received a record \$2.3 million in National Science Foundation grants in 2018 to support research in chemistry, cybersecurity, biophysics, psychology and STEM education. These projects will have an impact in 2019, creating high-impact opportunities for WSSU students. The new year also promises more research from the Center for the Study of Economic Mobility (CSEM), which will announce the results of a survey that captures for the first time the lives of bus riders who rely on the city's public transportation to get to work.

8. Ram to lead American Library Association

In April, Wanda Brown '77, the director of library services at WSSU, will step into the role as president of the American Library Association, the oldest and largest library association in the world. Brown will become the first ALA president who is a librarian at an HBCU and the sixth African-American.

HOW TO CONTACT US



WEBSITE

www.wssunaa.org

E-Mail

alumni@wssunaa.org

ALUMNI OFFICE

336-750-2122

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday
11 am—2 pm
Paulette Marshall
Office Manager

THE BATTERING RAM

Please submit articles, suggestions, or comments to:
TheBatteringRam@wssunaa.org

Deadline dates for the four issues of *The Battering Ram*

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Due Date</u>
Winter	December 1
Spring	March 1
Summer	June 1
Fall	September 1

ASSOCIATION LOCK BOX

Please mail ALL membership dues and associated documentation ONLY to the Association lock box. If dues are mailed to the campus address, the process of receiving, posing, and receipting the information is delayed.

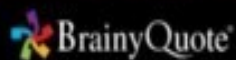
Dues and all other monies should be mailed to:

WSSU National Alumni Association
P. O. Box 890670
Charlotte, NC 28289-0670

Victor L. Bruinton, President
Catherine Pettie Hart, Editor

Life's most persistent and urgent
question is, 'What are you doing
for others?'

Martin Luther King, Jr.



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