

OAKWOOD

M A Z I N E



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

SOCIAL & JUSTICE

Journey through excerpts of stories concerning Oakwood University and social justice.



2016 HBCU AWARDS Winner—2016



OAKWOOD

M A G A Z I N E

EDITORIAL STAFF

Publisher: **Kisha Norris**

Editor: **George Johnson, Jr.**

Managing Editor: **Debbe Millet**

Circulation Manager: **Carla Noel**

Advertising Manager: **Richard Hodnett**

Graphic Designer: **Ron J. Pride**

Photographer: **Anthony Chornes, II**

Webmaster: **Kanique Mighty-Nugent**

Videography: **Oakwood University Broadcasting Network (OUBN)**

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Leslie N. Pollard
PRESIDENT

Karen Benn Marshall
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

Sabrina R. Cotton
VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION

David A. Knight
VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT SERVICES

Prudence L. Pollard
VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH & FACULTY DEVELOPMENT

Kisha R. Norris
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR ADVANCEMENT & DEVELOPMENT

Howard Weems
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR SPIRITUAL LIFE and SENIOR CHAPLAIN

Kirk R. Nugent
CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER

OAKWOOD MAGAZINE is published by the Office of Integrated Marketing & Public Relations, Oakwood University.

Email: pr@oakwood.edu

Address editorial correspondence and/or questions to us at the
Office of Integrated Marketing & Public Relations
7000 Adventist Boulevard, NW
Huntsville, Alabama 35896
(256) 726-7202

www.oakwoodmagazine.com

OAKWOOD MAGAZINE is the official journal of Oakwood University.

www.oakwood.edu

Printing & distribution: **College Press**
4981 Industrial Dr, Collegedale, TN 37315
(423) 396-2164 | www.cplitho.com



THIS FIRE BURNS TO SYMBOLIZE GOD'S VISION FOR OAKWOOD

"In regard to this school here at Huntsville, I wish to say that for the past two or three years I have been receiving instruction as to what it should be, and what those who come here as students are to become. All that is done by those connected with this school, is to be done with the realization that this is the Lord's institution...Those who come to this school... are to be taught in the right lines, and are to live in close connection with God."

Ellen G. White, June 7, 1904
Oakwood School Chapel
Huntsville, Alabama

Gift From the 2002 Senior Class

Special thanks to the U.S.M. Senate 2002-2003 for their contribution towards the completion and erection of our eternal flame.



ABOUT THE COVER

The cover image depicts historical accounts of social injustice. Read more on page 14 about how Oakwood University has participated in this conversation.

Photo/illustration by Ocie Maddox, Jr.

Contents OAKWOOD MAGAZINE



- 5 A Message from the President
▶ Social Justice Matters
- 6 Oakwood University Welcomes New Students for 2016-2017 School Year
- 8 Honoring a Ministry Giant
- 10 Oakwood Students Awarded Education Fellowship
- 13 Career Pathways Grant to Improve Job Placement Outcomes for Graduates
- 14 Oakwood University & Social Justice

Want a different option?
Try OakwoodMagazine.com



Available on iPad®, iPhone®, Android®, and KINDLE Fire™.



The Eternal Flame, located in front of the Eva B. Dykes Library, symbolizes God's vision for Oakwood.

FEATURES

- 26 Why Choose Oakwood?: Reason Number 6
▶ Ambassador Pride: Meet the Oakwood University Athletics Department
- 44 OU 101
▶ 1904 - 1909: Promise and Progress
- 47 End Notes
▶ Take a Deeper Look

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE

Last spring, our public policy and pre-law students formed an organization called the United Collegiate Black Scholars (UCBS). UCBS partners with scholars at sister historically black colleges and universities (HCBUs) and elsewhere to find the best policy solutions for America. These solutions, called "The Prescription," are the set of public policy recommendations that address the most pressing issues in our community: mass incarceration, education equity, business development, voting access, religious liberty, and more.

This summer, Dr. Leslie Pollard challenged the University and its friends to use the arena of public policy for the purpose of serving our communities. Dr. Pollard recognizes Oakwood's responsibility to not only educate but, also, to be a place where servants find their purpose and build their leadership arsenals.

On page 14 read how Oakwood University has been involved in the conversation and action concerning social justice.

—Preston Foster, Assistant Professor and Director of Public Policy

Contents CONTINUED

PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II



At the conclusion of the spring 2016 semester, the Office of Spiritual Life (OSL) conducted a baptism for students. See more stories on page 32 about how OSL is championing the transformational ministry of Seventh-day Adventist education.



18 Division Update: Academic Administration

- ▶ Oakwood Approved to Offer Distance Education
- ▶ University Colloquium 2016: "New Directions in Higher Education"

22 Division Update: Financial Administration

- ▶ Meet Some of the Beneficiaries of Your Edible Arrangements® Fruit Orders
- ▶ Oakwood's Grounds Recognized for Beauty

24 Division Update: Student Services

- ▶ Meet Team USM 2016-2017
- ▶ Student Services Hosts Annual Leadership Conference

28 Division Update: Information Technology

- ▶ Dealing with a Ransomware Attack
- ▶ Keeping on the Pulse Through Industry-related Conferences

32 Office of Spiritual Life

- ▶ Missionary Volunteers Share Love and Resources in Kenya
- ▶ Oakwood's First Biblical Foundations Faculty Development Summer Institute

34 Division Update: Research & Faculty Development

- ▶ The Faculty Research Symposium Celebrates 5th Year
- ▶ Fair Brings Health Awareness to Community
- ▶ Faculty Publications 2015/16
- ▶ Religion Faculty Member Receives Fulbright-Hays Fellowship

38 Division Update: Advancement & Development

- ▶ Maiden Voyage of the Oakwood University Alumni Cruise
- ▶ Meet Our Newest Gates Millennium Scholar

Online Extras

When you see



go to:

[flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity](https://www.flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity)

for more photos.

When you see



go to:

OakwoodMagazine.com

for a video story.



Find out what's happening at Oakwood University. Get *InsideOakwood*.

Sign up today!

www.tinyurl.com/InsideOakwood



InsideOakwood is published by the Office of Integrated Marketing & Public Relations



Social Justice Matters

M meet my granddaughter, Genesis, pictured here participating in a historic Civil Rights event.

The date was March 8, 2015. The place was Selma, Alabama. The occasion was the 50-year celebration of the famous Selma Civil Rights March. On that day, Oakwood University joined a grateful nation in celebrating the courage of our forefathers and foremothers on the re-creation of what is called Bloody Sunday. Together, with thousands from every race and class and cultural group, we marched arm-in-arm and hand-in-hand across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma.

In the canon of our nation’s historical struggle for justice and equity, Selma stands as a sacred place, where freedom-loving Americans challenged our nation to live up to the meaning of its creed—justice, equality, and freedom for all of God’s children. And whether in Ferguson, Missouri; Sanford, Florida; New York City; Dallas, Texas; Chicago, Illinois; or Baltimore, Maryland, Oakwood University graduates, employees, students, and friends, will be on the front lines! After all, was Oakwood not founded on these principles? Long before it became a 21st century rallying cry, did not Ellen G. White, founder of Oakwood University, believe that black lives mattered? All one has to do is read her March 21, 1891 “Our Duty to the Colored People” sermon to the General Conference in Battle Creek to know that she believed and preached that the then-despised Negro race was held in special regard by God and Christ. Her God-given belief formed the cornerstone upon which Oakwood University was founded 120 years ago.

After the tumultuous events of the summer of 2016, it is clear that the struggle for justice continues. Why would and should we be involved and engaged in the ministry of social justice? I submit that we engage because Christ has called us to have compassionate concern for and commitment to the “least of these.” Our duty is evident in the following passages from the prophet Isaiah: “Is not this

the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you.” (Isaiah 58:6-8).

Or, listen to Matthew in the New Testament—“Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me

“Why would and should we be involved and engaged in the ministry of social justice?”

food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:34-40)

In this issue of *Oakwood Magazine* we speak to the role that Oakwood is playing to promote the principles of social justice—principles upon which Oakwood was founded. Enjoy the reading, and wherever you live, go out and make a difference! 🙌



Leslie N. Pollard



Oakwood University Welcomes New Students

by Debbe Millet

GET CONNECTED!



New Student Orientation Week, themed “Get Connected! Stay Connected!” was held August 10-16, 2016. Hundreds of new students and their families arrived on campus, ready to complete the steps of registration, and move into the residence halls. The move in sometimes involves one last trip to the store to pick up a few more items needed for a comfortable stay. Chaplains from the Office of Spiritual Life and several local pastors offered prayer over the residence halls, with individuals and groups, and with staff members. President Pollard and several administrators warmly greeted many new students as well.



PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II



Students for 2016-2017 School Year

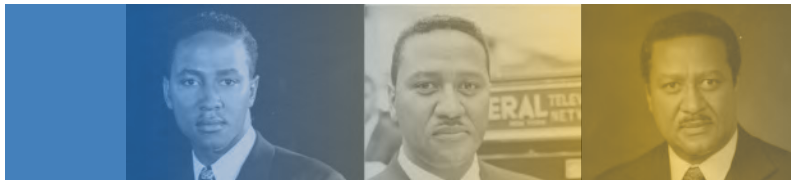


STAY CONNECTED!



20
WELCOME TO
THE CLASS OF
20





“Elder Brooks was a great preacher and one of God’s true saints. I watched him walk the halls of our office and used to repeat in my head ‘he is a prince among men.’”

—Daniel R. Jackson, president of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in North America

On June 5, 2016, retired Seventh-day Adventist evangelist C.D. Brooks passed to rest after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. Brooks worked as a pastor, administrator, evangelist, and chaplain for the church since 1951 when he graduated from Oakwood College (now Oakwood University) in Huntsville, Alabama, with a degree in theology.

“Interviewing C.D. Brooks for his biography was truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience. He is renowned for his preaching prowess, but few know that in person he is the consummate Christian gentleman, characterized by kindness, warmth, courteousness, and graciousness.”

—Dr. Benjamin Baker, co-author of *C.D.: The Man Behind The Message*

Brooks’ first love was evangelism and he continued to conduct meetings after taking on the role of church administrator for the General Conference (GC), located in Silver Spring, Maryland. “Evangelism is the elixir that warms up a cold church,” Brooks said, “the force that moves the members from standing on the premises to standing on the promises.”

Charles Decatur (C.D.) Brooks was born in Greensboro, North Carolina, on July 24, 1930, the tenth child of Marvin and Mattie Brooks. Although Methodists at the time, shortly after C.D.’s birth the Brooks family began observing the seventh-day Sabbath in honor of a pledge Mattie Brooks made to God while in a hospital bed suffering from a near-fatal illness.

Learning more truth years later from reading *The Great Controversy*, C.D., along with his mother and six sisters, was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church on a Sabbath in 1940. In 1947 after attending an evangelistic tent meeting, C.D. remained under the tent long after the last person had departed.

“Charles, I want you to make truth clear,” C.D.

distinctly heard a voice say, and then had a vision of himself standing behind the pulpit at the front of the tent, proclaiming the truth with power and clarity. Brooks immediately jettisoned his career plans for dentistry for the ministry, setting his sights on Oakwood.

At Oakwood, Brooks met the love of his life, Walterene Wagner, daughter of John H. Wagner, Sr., a stalwart of 20th century black Adventism. Along with other roles, Wagner was the first president of Allegheny Conference, one of the five inaugural leaders of regional conferences in 1945.

Brooks heard God speak for the second time in his life when a voice said to him, concerning Walterene, “Charles, this is the young lady you will marry.” The two were united in marriage on September 14, 1952, at the Ebenezer Seventh-day Adventist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. C.D. served the Columbia Union as a pastor, evangelist and administrator until 1971, working mostly in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and Ohio.

In 1971, C.D. Brooks was asked by General Conference President Robert Pierson to serve as a field secretary for the Seventh-day Adventist world church, a role he held until 1995, making him the longest tenured field secretary in church history. While serving at the GC, Brooks took on the dual role as speaker/director for the Breath of Life Ministry, a new television ministry of the GC that was produced at the Adventist Media Center in Thousand Oaks, California. Brooks partnered with Walter Arties, Louis B. Reynolds, and the Breath of Life Quartet to produce television programming that reached out to audiences all around the world. As speaker-director of Breath of Life, Brooks took his place among legendary Adventist media revolutionaries such as H.M.S. Richards, George Vandeman, and William Fagal. In 1989 the ministry was broadcast on Black Entertainment Television (BET), and reached a potential audience of more than 90 million people a week.

Brooks was speaker/director of Breath of Life Ministries for 23 years, from 1974 to 1997. In his



Charles and Walterene Brooks

HONORING A



“Widely considered an exemplary servant-leader, Elder Brooks served as a role model to thousands of younger ministers, including myself.”

—Dr. Leslie N. Pollard

time at the helm, the ministry brought approximately 15,000 people to Christ, established 15 Breath of Life congregations, and was viewed by untold millions.

In 1996, health challenges forced Brooks to retire from the General Conference and in 1997 he stepped down as speaker/director for Breath of Life. Brooks had a long and productive retirement and in 2007, in honor of E.E. Cleveland, Charles Bradford, and C.D. Brooks, the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center (BCBLC) was established. The center is housed on the campus of Oakwood University in a 10,000-square-foot, \$2.5 million state-of-the-art edifice.

On December 1, 2010, the Ellen G. White Estate elected Brooks a lifetime member of the Ellen G. White Estate Board. The North American Division invited Brooks to be its chaplain in residence in 2013, a position he held until his death.

Elder C.D. Brooks is survived by his beloved wife of almost 64 years, Walterene, his children Diedra and Charles II “Skip”, and three grandchildren, two boys and a girl. 🙏

—Prepared by the North American Division Office of Communication, with information gleaned from a life sketch of C.D. Brooks written by Benjamin Baker, Ph.D.



Carlton P. Byrd, Walter Arties, C.D. Brooks, and Walter Pearson



C.D. Brooks, E.E. Cleveland, and Charles Bradford

“The far reaching legacy of Pastor Brooks will only be fully realized until we get to the kingdom. I’m confident that around God’s great throne countless individuals will thank Jesus, the Light of the world, for the gift of salvation, and then they will thank Pastor Brooks for sharing this Light.”

—Dr. Carlton P. Byrd, senior pastor of the Oakwood University Church and speaker/director for Breath of Life Ministries

MINISTRY GIANT

See the entire funeral service at: tinyurl.com/CDBrooksFuneral
(Courtesy of Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church)

FALL 2016 [OAKWOOD MAGAZINE] 9

Oakwood Students Awarded



2016 Walton-UNCF
K-12 Education
Fellows

Prior to the conclusion of the Spring 2016 semester, three Oakwood University students were awarded the Walton-UNCF K-12 Education Fellowship. The Fellowship Program is a leadership and talent development initiative aimed at building a robust pipeline of high-achieving African Americans engaged in improving K-12 education in America. The program selects undergraduate juniors from historically black colleges or universities (HBCU) to participate in a leadership development and paid intern placement program that partners with innovative K-12 education enterprises.

Congratulations to Darren Daley, Deja Langston, and Jajuan Sanders for being selected as a 2016 Walton-UNCF K-12 Education Fellowship recipients. Read on to share their summer internship experiences.

Darren Daly

Internship Host Organization:
Gestalt Community Schools
Location: Memphis, TN

As a Walton fellow, my summer was well spent working with Gestalt Community Schools in Memphis, Tennessee. Gestalt, a college-preparatory charter school system, operates six schools in the



“I too want to start my own branch of charter schools for inner-city youth.”

Memphis community and services more than 2,000 scholars starting from kindergarten leading to 12th grade. In my short eight weeks with Gestalt, I saw how Gestalt provides strong academic outcomes for their scholars and core values – achievement, community, humility, innovation, and zeal.

I was able to work with the academic team specifically under the Managing Director of Professional Development, Bobbie Turner. One of Ms. Turner’s major duties is to provide proper training for new

PHOTOS COURTESY OF UNCF

Education Fellowship

and returning teachers within the organization on the culture and curriculum of the school system. As Ms. Turner's assistant, I was able to help prepare various materials and assist her in the logistics of the two-week long training. I also maintained the functionality of the office, organized information with curriculums, and supervised a junior intern.

The eight weeks provided me with great vision and promise for my career as an educator. The strong history and vision instilled in their staff motivated me to continue on to become the best educator possible. I really cannot express the impact Gestalt as left on my life. This internship has helped me to gain knowledge and resources that will better my development as a future educator and administrator.

Due to the life-changing impact of Gestalt Community Schools co-founder Yetta Lewis and Derwin Sisnett, I, too, want to start my own branch of charter schools for inner city youth. This internship guided the development of my personal philosophy for teaching "touching one scholar at a time and preparing their mind for growth in learning."

Deja Langston

Internship Host Organization:
Black Alliance for
Educational Options
Location: Memphis, TN

I had the privilege to intern with the Black Alliance for Educational Options, also known as BAEO, in Memphis, Tennessee. BAEO is a nonprofit organization that actively advocates to ensure that parents and low-income families of Black children have an equal choice in obtaining high quality education. The sector of education that BAEO works in is policy, which is an angle I never thought would interest me. Being enlightened to the hard work and the importance of knowing the policies and how they affect the education system as a whole gave me insight as to how involved I should be and how much more information there is for me to unravel so that I may be the impact or perhaps a stepping stone in developing a more productive, beneficial, and equal education here in America.

Through being included in a few of the methods that BAEO uses, such as supporting other similarly focused organizations, educating and interacting with their audience, and educating themselves on the surrounding activities, the Walton K-12 Education Fellowship program has awarded me with affirmation that further ignited my passion for education.

Jajuan Sanders

Internship Host Organization:
Leadership for Educational Equity
Location: Washington, DC

The Walton UNCF Fellowship is one of the most rewarding experiences that I've ever had. I interned at Leadership for Educational Equity. It is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that aims to inspire a diverse, enduring movement of leaders to engage civically within their communities to end the injustice of educational inequity. I had the opportunity to improve their 360-degree performance review model. In addition, I was also invited to participate in their Policy and Advocacy Summer Fellowship,



which was an amazing experience which taught me so much about the education system.

At the conclusion of my internship, I partic-

PHOTO BY DAVID F. TURNER



"The fellowship is something that I would recommend to anyone, especially those who are passionate about education reform."

Overall, the fellowship is something that I would recommend to anyone, especially those who are passionate about education reform. 🙌

Eligibility and qualifications to become a Walton-UNCF Fellow:

- At least a 3.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale
- African American
- A U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Must be enrolled in a HBCU institution
- Classified as a junior at time of application
- Have demonstrated leadership experience within college campus and/or community
- One letter of recommendation from a faculty member or school administrator

Main components of the Walton-UNCF K-12 Education Fellowship:

Summer Internship

One of the principle elements of this fellowship is the paid summer internship program that exposes fellows to professional careers at leading K-12 education organizations and schools.

Student Leadership Conference

Students selected for the fellowship

will be required to participate in a three-day professional development Student Leadership Conference prior to the start of their internship. The Student Leadership Conference aims to provide a framework and forum for equipping fellows with the skill sets they will need to be successful interns and early career professionals. Fellows will gain enhanced critical thinking skills; stronger project management abilities; improved verbal and written communication; sharpened workplace productivity; quality workplace readiness and etiquette; greater understanding of their leadership style; and improved networking skills.

Education Fellowship Case Competition

This case competition is a required component designed to strengthen fellows' critical thinking, problem solving, and teamwork skills. Fellows are placed into teams to develop a solution to address a specific K-12 education issue in an assigned city, state or local school community. Teams will incorporate their knowledge of their city's education landscape, utilize content presen-

tations from the Student Leadership Conference and their individual assessment of resources and policies needed to improve education.

Career Coaching

As part of the professional development provided to each intern, UNCF will provide professional coaches and resources to work with interns virtually over the course of their summer internship experience.

Alumni and Networking Opportunities

This fellowship program aims to support its alumni even after they have completed their undergraduate degree with the goal of assisting alumni in securing entry-level career positions in schools and/or in organizations supporting K-12 education; and cultivating alumni exposure to networking opportunities with leading education leaders. Alumni will be offered select opportunities to participate in national conferences sponsored by leading education organizations as well as local events where they can share their experience with the community and inspire future Walton-UNCF Fellows.

—Information gathered from Walton-UNCF brochure

Career Pathways Grant to Improve Job Placement Outcomes for Graduates



Brian Bridges, Ph.D., vice president of Research and Member Engagement at the United Negro College Fund, discusses Career Pathways, which focuses on career placement of students after graduation.



Oakwood University is among 30 colleges that has been selected as planning grant awardees for the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) new Career Pathways Initiative (CPI), a highly competitive grant process open to four-year historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) and predominantly black institutions (PBIs). Lilly Endowment Inc. committed \$50 million in October 2015 to launch the UNCF CPI to improve the job placement outcomes of graduates from HBCUs and PBIs.

Institutions will employ various strategies to achieve this goal, including aligning curricula with local and national workforce needs, developing intentional career pathway options for students across their collegiate experience, and strengthening their career service operations. The collective planning grant distribution totals \$2.55 million. With a student enrollment of 1,733, (2015-16 enrollment figures) Oakwood University is on Tier II on the distribution scale, and as such, Oakwood will receive a grant of \$100,000.

"We applaud all of the institutions that put their best foot forward in the interest of their students' future careers, and we com-

mend the 30 institutions that were selected," said Dr. Michael L. Lomax, UNCF president and CEO.

During the 2016 University Colloquium this past August, Oakwood University had the opportunity to hear guest speaker Brian Bridges, Ph.D., who serves as the vice president of Research and Member Engagement at UNCF. Dr. Bridges was on hand to answer all questions related to Oakwood's participation in the CPI program.

"The UNCF CPI has the potential to transform participating institutions, and elevate the HBCU narrative around post-collegiate outcomes," said Dr. Bridges. "UNCF is grateful to the Lilly Endowment for this historic gift and pleased

"The UNCF CPI has the potential to transform participating institutions, and elevate the HBCU narrative around post-collegiate outcomes."

that Oakwood University—along with 28 other HBCUs and one Predominantly Black Institution—are diligently working during this planning grant period to develop innovative programs to help students immediately transition to meaningful careers. We look forward to awarding implementation grants to a subset of these institutions in the fall to commence the long-term work of CPI," he said.

The rigorous and competitive grant process opened in December 2015, to 87 eligible public and pri-

ivate institutions, of which 81 were HBCUs and six were PBIs. The eligible institutions must have met select criteria, including being an accredited four-year degree-granting institution that awards most of its degrees at the bachelor's level. Of the 87 eligible institutions, 70 applied for the planning grant and 30 were selected as grantees.

Of the 30 recipients, 29 are HBCUs and one is a PBI. Twenty-three of the selected grantees are among the 37 private UNCF-supported institutions. The six-month planning grants are one-time awards that help the institutions research and envision programs that will strengthen their efforts to prepare students for sustaining and meaningful careers. Award amounts vary based on the institution's student enrollment.


CPI is designed to support participating institutions to strengthen career guidance and leverage the liberal arts education of students by adding—where needed—certain skills, experiences and knowledge required by employers. Programs will be expected to engage college faculty in the development of curricula that is aligned with workforce needs to better prepare students to compete in careers of their choice. The initiative also will help institutions build partnerships with local and national employers and improve student career services. 

PHOTO BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

SOCIAL & JUSTICE

From the students who protested in 1932 for more African American teachers and for J.L. Moran to become the first black president of Oakwood, to the precursor of the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the Ashby Auditorium in 1962, to the "Selma 6" who participated in the Selma-to-Montgomery march in 1965, to more recent demonstrations related to the #BlackLivesMatter Movement, Oakwood University employees and students have always found opportunities to express their concerns and feelings about social justice.

Journey through these excerpts of stories within the last two years concerning Oakwood University and social justice.

2014

A Moment of Silence for Mike Brown

by Camille Moore and Zhari Clay, student writers

Emotions were running high in Ferguson, Missouri, after the fatal shooting of Mike Brown on August 9, 2014. Out of solidarity for the family and supporters of Brown, Oakwood University participated in a national moment of silence. In the midst of a busy orientation week, the decision was made to support other peaceful protestors. The new class of 2018 gathered to remember a student who would have been attending orientation at another campus that same week. USM President Tahjai Conkerite shared, "It could have literally been me or any student at Oakwood University. If we are not more aware of the world around us than it could happen to us just as easily."

Dr. Leslie Pollard was also in attendance. He explained the frustrations of the young black community and how to move on in the future. He said, "The death of Mike Brown has sent a shock wave through the young adult community—it has been a wake-up call. In my conversations with this generation, one thing surfaces consistently in our discussions of the Mike Brown killing. His death has reawakened their underlying fear that, in spite of all hopes to the contrary, America may not be post-racial. Progress may seem like a fleeting effort in our society, but it is imperative to have a voice and reject indifference. Of all the significant quotes, one stands out. Martin Luther King, Jr. said 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.'"



Oakwood Hosts Discussions on Police Brutality

by Monica Spencer, student writer

More than 400 students gathered inside the Millet Activity Center on September 15, 2014, to take part in the United Student Movement's "Shots Fired" panel discussion. Organized by the United Student Movement's religious vice president Jordaan Houston, this event addressed the recent events of police brutality, ways in which one can avoid these unfortunate issues, and how to encourage a more positive relationship between the community and law enforcement.

On October 27, 2014, "Mr. Oakwood," Jordan Harris, hosted a panel discussion for the student body about how to appropriately respond to law enforcement. Harris' event was very timely, as local and national media has been dealing with this hot topic. His guests included an attorney and an officer from the Huntsville Police Department.



Official Statement From Oakwood University

Re: March on Wynn Drive to University Blvd.
Friday, December 5, 2014

☀️ We are deeply saddened by the recent losses of life that raise serious questions about justice and human rights. This is a deeply emotional time and these events have triggered a myriad of feelings with our students, faculty, and staff.

We understand that some of our Oakwood students along with other students have been involved in the organizing of a demonstration (#ShutItDownHSV) for December 5, 2014, at 4:30 p.m. We support the rights of our students to peacefully protest. However, we are deeply concerned about the safety and well-being of our students and anyone else who has planned to participate. We do not support the breaking of traffic laws and ask every Oakwood student, "If you choose to participate, to do so peacefully and lawfully, in accordance with the laws of the city of Huntsville."

We also invite students who wish to express themselves, but do not wish to march to join us on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. in Moran Hall to help assemble an action plan for how Oakwood students can support the mission of creating "One Huntsville."



A Response From the Oakwood University President

🌐 Tonight I stood among our students as they made their voices heard. I marched with them. I felt their unrest. I could sense that they wanted change and equality. As I looked at their faces, I couldn't help but think how this experience would change them forever. Being able to protest for change is a beautiful thing. And we are proud of how they conducted themselves in the midst of their pain and anger.

We want to thank Oakwood University Police Department and Huntsville Police Department for their service tonight as our students peacefully made their way down the streets of Huntsville.

Our forward movement doesn't stop here. We invite students who wish to express themselves regarding the recent issues to join us on Sunday, December 7, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. in Moran Hall to help assemble an action plan for how Oakwood students can support the mission of creating "One Huntsville."

—Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., MBA
President, Oakwood University



2015

📍 On March 8, 2015, a busload of Oakwoodites traveled from Huntsville to Selma, Alabama, to participate in the Selma Jubilee March across the Edmund Pettus Bridge. The group is pictured here at a stop on the National Historic Trail outside of Selma.



2015 CONT.



Oakwood Prays for Baltimore

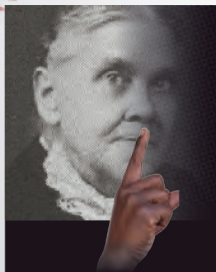
On April 28, 2015, the Office of Spiritual Life held a prayer service for unity and peace after the tragic events that have recently occurred in Baltimore, Maryland.

Oakwood University currently has eight students who are from the Baltimore area, as well as three staff members who have ties to "Charm City." They were surrounded by a group of fellow students and employees on the Eva B. Dykes Library patio.

Local Huntsville news affiliate stations WHNT, WAAY, and WAFF came to cover the story.

Oakwood Address the Issue of Social Justice Through Symposiums

On September 23-24, 2015, the Office of Spiritual Life hosted guest speaker Ganoune Diop, Ph.D., director of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, for a two-day symposium, titled Social Justice and the Church. During the Wednesday night prayer meeting, Diop spoke about injustice on a global scale and God's response to injustice. He followed up the conversation on Thursday morning, at Chapel, with a Q&A session moderated by USM Vice President, Gabriel Carter, and Oakwood's NAACP Chapter Vice President, Christopher Johnson.



On October 17 through 22, 2015, the Ellen G. White Research Center hosted a symposium celebrating the legacy of Mrs. White and her contribution to social justice. Among the special guests in attendance was Elder Charles E. Bradford, retired president of the North American Division. He shared about Mrs. White's support and care for the African American community in a time when it was less than popular to do so. He also commented on the importance of Mrs. White's efforts to diffuse racial apathy in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Congressman John Lewis Receives 2015 Social Justice Award

On October 31, 2015, Congressman John Lewis, (D, GA) was honored by the Oakwood University Church, receiving the 2015 Social Justice Award. Representative Lewis is well respected for his work in the United States Congress representing Georgia's 5th district. He is a member of the House Ways and Means Committee and also serves as a ranking member of the Oversight Subcommittee and member of the Human Resources Subcommittee. He was honored for his longstanding work as a civil rights activist advocating for progressive social movements and the human rights struggle in the United States. He is best known for his work with the Freedom Rides of 1961, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), the March on Washington in August 1963, and the historic march across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama, on March 7, 1965.



Oakwood Students Respond to Mizzou Unrest

by Shevaun Bryan, WHNT 19

November 12, 2015—A movement started in the midwest, taken on by students everywhere, who feel it is their duty to stand behind those in need and against discrimination on campuses nationwide. "We had an opportunity to invite the student body here at Oakwood University to how a sign of solidarity to the students at the University of Missouri," said student president Kyle Smith.

Hundreds of Oakwoodites dressed in all-black as part of a nationwide movement on multiple campuses. The movement is called #ConcernedStudent1950, named for the year the first student of color graduated from Mizzou. Racial unrest at the midwest institution include reports of a swastika made of feces found in a dorm bathroom, as well as terroristic threats.



2016

Voter Registration Drive Kicks Off Black History Month

by Naomi Coggs, student writer

As part of Oakwood's Black History Month activities, Oakwood's NAACP Chapter and the Madison County Board of Voter Registration sponsored a Voter Registration Drive at Blake Center on February 4, 2016. Oakwood students and employees won't have to go far to vote in the upcoming election, because the Oakwood University Church has been a voting site since the early 2000s, experiencing a historic turnout during the 2008 and 2012 presidential elections.



The right to vote is a responsibility of the American people allowing each voice to be heard, and the voter registration drive is a fitting way to continue making changes in the black community. During the Civil Rights Movement, activists fought long and hard for the right to vote.

Now, new voters like Junior Class President Michael Taylor are able to cast their vote this election season. This political science major is excited to be a part of the political process, sharing that "Being able to cast my first vote has always been something I've looked forward to. I've been following politics since I was in the second grade so this is very exciting for me."

"If I go to the grocery store, I want to feel like I can go to the grocery store and someone is not going to make me feel less than I am," said Sandra Watkins, president of the school's NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) student chapter.

Oakwood University's president joins that of Alabama A&M University and about a dozen other HBCU presidents who signed a petition showing support for Mizzou. "A few of the student leaders composed a document in support and those of us that wanted to coming signed our names to the letter," said Smith.

One Oakwoodite took a recent grad school visit to Mizzou, and saw the unrest herself. "The underlying feeling, everything comes down to, is hurt," said junior Renissa Arnold. "You want to feel respected and understood when you're on a campus."

The students say it's not about white or black, HBCU or PWI, but for everyone to feel supported and welcomed.

Oakwood's President Calls for Action

by George Johnson, Jr.

As a response to the shootings of Alton Sterling and Philando Castile on July 5-6, 2016, respectively, on July 7, 2016, Dr. Leslie N. Pollard utilized Facebook Live to ask one question—"what could be done to ensure the safety of our black men." His question was a direct response to that week's report of the two fatal shootings, both occurring within 24 hours of each other.

The Facebook Live "Call to Action" specifically invited Oakwood graduates, who are practicing law, to come together on a conference call and brainstorm on solutions of how to end the violence and be a redemptive force for justice. In addition to the 300 conference call participants, Facebook Live registered almost 6,800 viewers for the live feed, with an audience reach of 329,000 persons, according to Facebook analytics. Participants included alumni and friends who felt compelled to find out how they could help.



Various topics were discussed including:

- Education on how to interact with law enforcement
- Sensitivity training/education for law enforcement
- How to serve communities by engaging with the creation of public policy
- Establishment of a core group of attorneys who can help students
- Establishment of a national standard for reasonable force
- Lobbying members of Congress for peace initiatives

Oakwood Hosts Town Hall Meeting: A Plan for Peace

by Debbe Millet

On July 19, 2016, Oakwood University's Peters Media Center was the site of Huntsville's WAAY TV Town Hall: A Plan for Peace, a program that sought to engage community leaders, clergy, law enforcement, activists and concerned citizens in a dialogue about being proactive instead of reactive when it comes to race relations in the community.

The panel discussion was moderated by news anchors Demetria McClenton, Justin McFarland, and Bill Young. Panel members included Dr. Leslie Pollard, president of Oakwood University; Kirk Giles, deputy chief of police in Huntsville; Nate Allen, police chief in Decatur, Alabama; James Russell, FBI supervisory agent; Brian Davis, CEO of Wellstone Behavioral Health; and Pastor Troy Garner of the Fellowship of Faith Church in Huntsville. Special guests included Aladin Beshir from the Huntsville Islamic Center; Black Lives Matter activist Afu Okosun; Sherrie Saunders, radio blog talk show host; and Laura Hodge of the U.S. Attorney's Office in Northern Alabama.

The program was aired live on TV, waaytv.com, Facebook, Fire TV and Roku. According to WAAY TV News Director Sari Padorr, the live broadcast on Facebook reached nearly 200,000 people and more than 4,100 viewed it for a considerable amount of time.





ACADEMIC ADMINISTRATION

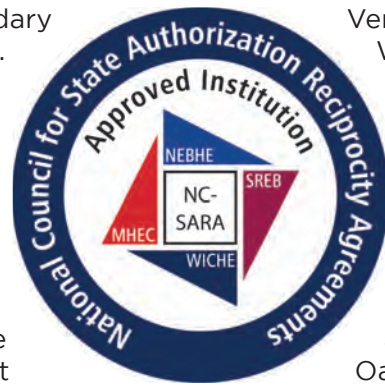
Karen Benn Marshall Ed.D., Vice President

Oakwood Approved to Offer Distance Education

Oakwood University has been approved to participate in the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements. NC-SARA is a voluntary, regional approach to state oversight of postsecondary distance education. The SARA agreement allows students to take online courses in a variety of states. According to Oakwood University President, Dr. Leslie Pollard, “We cannot overstate the significance of Oakwood’s receipt of approval to participate in NC-SARA. Our team of online leaders has been working and praying for this approval. This new footprint expands our ability to deliver our educational products to the broadest possible audiences within the United States.”

Students in the following states are now eligible to take online classes at Oakwood University: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota,

Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.



“We cannot overstate the significance of Oakwood’s receipt of approval to participate in NC-SARA. Our team of online leaders has been working and praying for this approval.”

allows Oakwood University to make its academic programs more widely available through Oakwood Online University,” said Karen Benn-Marshall, Ed.D., vice president for Academic Administration.

All institutions that are a part of the SARA initiative are governed to make sure the courses and programs offered are high-quality opportunities that can help students reach their goals. SARA is overseen by a National Council and administered by four regional education compacts.

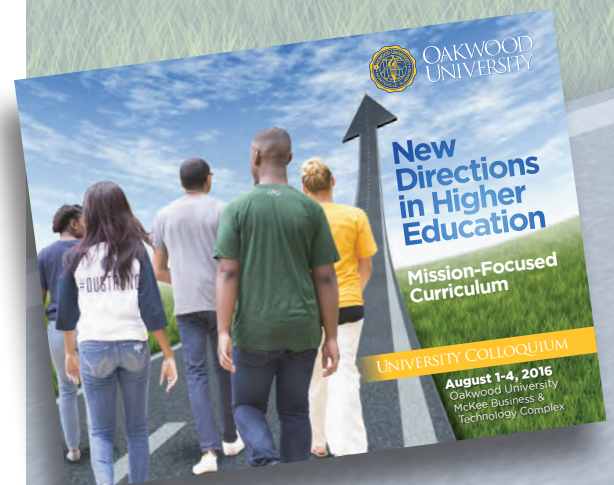
For more information concerning Oakwood Online University, please call Keith Burton, Ph.D., coordinator, at (256) 726-7883 or send an email to kburton@oakwood.edu.



Dr. Leslie N. Pollard

Oakwood University hosted its Colloquium 2016 on August 1-4. This annual event marks the beginning of the school year, for the purpose of equipping and inspiring employees through information presented by guest speakers, discussions, and seminars. The theme, “New Directions in Higher Education,” focused on the recognition of, and response to, challenges facing Seventh-day Adventist Colleges and Universities in general, and HBCUs in particular.

Pictures here tell the story of what happened during the 4-day event.

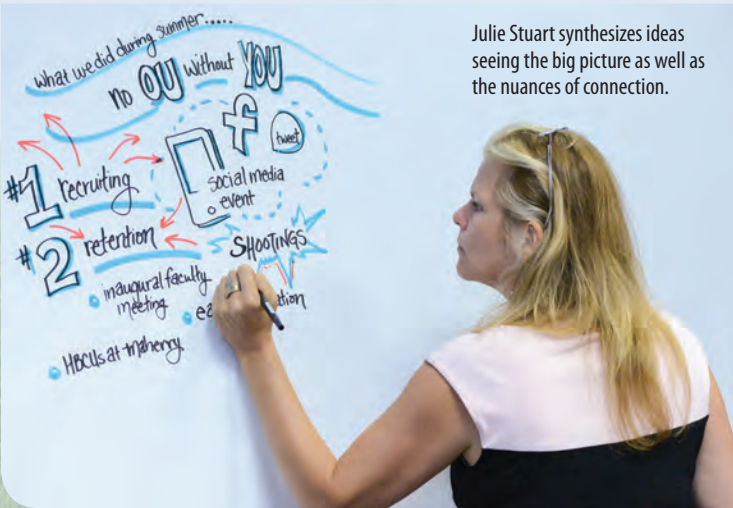




University Colloquium 2016: "New Directions in Higher Education"



Career pathways employer panel—"What skills do students need to be employable?"
Panelist: Juanita Phillips, '97, Allen Reid, '94, Brian Bridges, Tom Houser, and Frank Williams.



Julie Stuart synthesizes ideas seeing the big picture as well as the nuances of connection.



Colloquium participants take a moment to pray for the new school year.



Pastor Debleaire Snell delivers daily worship thoughts.



Tarsee Li, Ph.D., professor in the Religion Department



Ellen Eldridge from Adventist Risk Management discusses insurance plans.



Allen Reid, '94, gives his testimony about his Oakwood experience.



A presentation from the LGBTQ Taskforce.



Having a ball at the Family Fun Festival.



James Kelly, Kisha Norris, and Raymond King



FRESH IS ALWAYS BEST!

We deliver throughout the U.S.



Join Oakwood University in celebrating 120 years of academic excellence! You can also make any occasion a sweet celebration by purchasing an Edible Arrangements® fruit bouquet. Proceeds from all sales placed at our Huntsville, Alabama, stores and on **1-844-FRUIT-OU** go to support our students at Oakwood University.



edible[®]
arrangements
Pick fruit. It's fresher.™

Call our toll-free number to order!
We deliver throughout the U.S.

1-844-FRUIT-OU

1 - 8 4 4 - 3 7 8 - 4 8 6 8



AN OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY INDUSTRY



Containers may vary. Edible Arrangements®, the Fruit Basket Logo, and other marks mentioned herein are registered trademarks of Edible Arrangements, LLC. All rights reserved.



Meet Some of the Beneficiaries of Your Edible Arrangements® Fruit Orders

Priority number six of Oakwood University's Strategic Plan specifically outlines fiscal growth, responsible management, and long-term stability of Oakwood University. According to the action plan, "the Division of Financial Administration will secure the fiscal health of Oakwood University by the creation of non-tuition revenue by managing internal financial resources in harmony with the strategic mission of the institution, and by decreasing dependence on governmental sources of income through the recovery of industries appropriate for the 21st century." This priority, proposed by President Leslie Pollard in his first University address on January 25, 2011, challenged the financial reality of Oakwood University's budget—a budget dependent on 60% tuition and fees.

In years past, Oakwood operated a number of industries: a laundry that serviced the Huntsville community and the Redstone Arsenal, a dairy with cows that produced milk for the Huntsville community, a bakery, horseshoeing, and other industries. For two years now, Oakwood University has been marketing the services of our own Edible Arrangements stores in Huntsville. We've been asking you to consider purchasing fruit bouquets for any occasion at our stores by simply calling **(844) FRUIT-OU**—and many of you have complied. For this we say, thank you!

So now that you've had an opportunity to taste the product from our industry, it's time for you to meet some of the student workers who have benefited from working at the stores. It is because of your orders

placed at our stores that they can continue to work and earn funds to attend Oakwood University. And for this we say, thank you!

Working at Edible Arrangements has been one of a kind experience. I have to thank my manager, Mr. Taylor, for going above and beyond



Janelle Douglass

to care for his workers. The spiritual atmosphere alone sets the tone for how the workday goes. Working with fellow college students helps to make working more fun. I also have to thank my supervisor Therry Thomas for taking me under his wing and showing me how the store operates. I now hold a supervisory position which entails opening and closing the store, managing the kitchen, and other duties. This job has helped me professionally by teaching me more

in-depth skills of providing quality customer service. It has helped me improve my time management and problem solving skills. This job has helped me financially by teaching me how to budget my money more efficiently and has contributed to meeting my basic needs as well. Overall this position has helped to enhance my work ethic along with my people skills in the work place.

—Janelle Douglas
Senior, Mathematics Major

My experience with Edible Arrangements began a few weeks before Mother's Day 2016. During those few weeks, I had learned how to make countless numbers of arrangements before a holiday that would bring in hundreds of orders. I remember being a bit overwhelmed with everything that I had to learn, but the workers there helped me and answered every question I had for them. Mr. Taylor



Hydia Lee

is also a very encouraging boss. The atmosphere is very welcoming, and the customers are extremely nice. Working at Edible Arrangements helped me improve my customer service skills and has sharpened my ability to learn and apply what I learned quickly and efficiently. Edible Arrangements is a great place to work with an amazing staff and I am glad I work here.

—Hydia Lee
Sophomore, Elementary Education Major

I love working at Edible Arrangements because the work environment is a positive Christian atmosphere. Starting the day out with prayer and inviting Christ to be in the midst of our day helps the flow of service. Being able to work with fellow Christians



Dylan Newton

is a benefit to young people who are making life-changing decisions about their walk with Christ and education.

As a driver, I get the opportunity to meet people in the community and to make a lasting impression

on the service we provide. I take my position as a delivery driver seriously because I truly want to reflect Christ's character to everyone I meet. During the day, I focus on great customer service to our clients, which in return benefits the company and Oakwood. Working at Edible Arrangements helps me financially and without this job, I would not be able to

attend Oakwood University to continue my educational goals and to become a positive impact on the community. 🙏

—Dylan Newton
Senior, Health Science Major

Oakwood's Grounds Recognized for Beauty



PHOTO BY ANTHONY CHORNES-11

On July 29, 2016, Oakwood University hosted the Huntsville Beautification Awards for the second consecutive year. Mayor Tommy Battle, City Council President Will Culver, and other elected officials were present for the awards ceremony. The city's Beautification Board was created in 1956, to improve the appearance of Huntsville by recognizing the efforts of private and public sectors in making a more healthful and beautiful city. Oakwood University has received a Beautification Award for 16 consecutive years, won the Mayor's Award in 2010, and has earned a placed on the City's Honor Roll since 2008.





STUDENT SERVICES
David Knight, MA, Vice President

Meet Team USM 2016-2017

President
Gabriel Carter
Classification: Senior
Major: English



Executive Vice President
Greg Darville II
Classification: Junior
Major: Biology



Social Vice President
Maxanne Caines
Classification: Junior
Major: Political Science



Academic Vice President
Michael Taylor
Classification: Senior
Major: Political Science



Financial Vice President
Andrew Taylor
Classification: Junior
Major: Accounting



Special Events Coordinator
Samuel S. Bagley II
Classification: Junior
Major: Biology

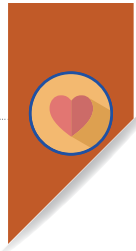


Religious Vice President
Bright Baah
Classification: Senior
Major: Ministerial
Theology



Athletic Vice President
Ehvann Holland
Classification: Senior
Major: Nursing





Executive Secretary
Danielle Clarke
Classification: Junior
Major: Biology



Public Relations
Rashad Mattison
Classification: Junior
Major: Business
Marketing



Public Relations
Joy Gullo
Classification: Junior
Major: Biology

Parliamentarian
Josiah Taylor
Classification: Junior
Major: Political Science



Public Relations
Elijah Leftridge
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Communication



Newspaper Editor
TBA

Civic Engagement
Coordinator
Courtney Harris
Classification: Senior
Major: English



Music Coordinator
T. James Jackson
Classification: Junior
Major: History and
Ministerial Theology



Senate Secretary
Subirah Hendrickson
Classification: Sophomore
Major: Biology



Yearbook Editor
Nandi Brooks
Classification: Junior
Major: Communication

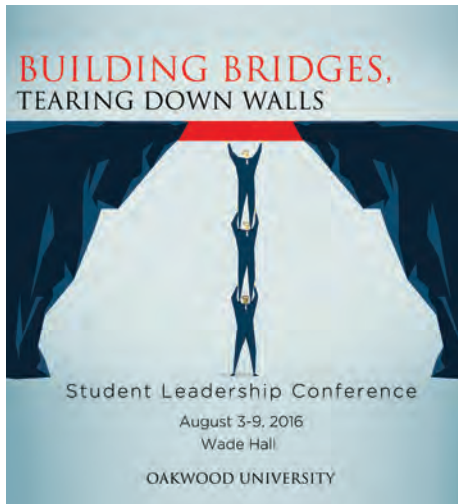




Student Services Hosts Annual Leadership Conference

by **Adrienne Matthews**, assistant vice president, Student Services

The annual **Student Leadership Conference** was held August 3-9, 2016, under the theme “Building Bridges, Tearing Down Walls.”



The resident assistants and other residence hall student leaders kicked off the week of leadership training at Shocco Springs Conference Center in Talladega, Alabama. The general sessions, lead by Chaplain Kimberly Mann, were both interactive and complete with thought provoking messages.

The residence life staff facilitated the “Nuts & Bolts” sessions where the residence assistants (RAs) shared their perspectives on the training modules, covering a variety of the following topics: Time Management, The Role of the RA, and Community Building. RAs provided different perspectives on how to reach students without compromising the standards and policies of Oakwood University.

The second half of the Student Leadership Conference took place at Oakwood University in Wade Hall’s multipurpose room. The United Student Movement and Navigators joined the residence life student leaders to learn about having the right tools for leadership to build the right bridge. The keynote speaker was Walter V. Murray, CPA, CEO, and founder of Integrated Behavioral Health Care, Inc. Murray shared a variety of leadership concepts including becom-

WHY CHOOSE OAKWOOD?:

Ambassador Pride

Meet the Oakwood University Athletics Department

No one can deny that Oakwood University students exhibit a great sense of pride in everything they do. From their academic prowess, to their style of dress, to their impeccable musical ability, the Oakwood student demonstrates a sense of uniqueness. This is definitely something that is noticed by all who are able to experience it.

So what about that Ambassador Pride? Oakwood University offers various competitive sports opportunities for both men and women. The sports

season at Oakwood begins as early as August and continues through April. According to Athletic Director James Roddy, the sports program at Oakwood helps students understand the value of teamwork, which can be applied in the work place as well as in eternal



James Roddy

lessons. “We make sure our young people understand that even though we can be competitive in athletics, we can be a strong Christian in everything that we do,” he said. Roddy, and his athletic coach-

es encourage the players to be involved spiritual activities and outreach programs.

MEN’S SPORTS

Baseball

- Head Coach: Timothy Cartwright

Basketball (USCAA Champions)

- Head Coach: Simon Jacob

Soccer

- Head Coach: Francisco Burgos

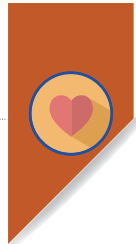
WOMEN’S SPORTS

Basketball

- Head Coach: Tony Oliver

Soccer

- Head Coach: Anthony Walker



Dean Stepp and Dean Caldwell

ing a BBL that TDW (Bridge Building Leader that Tears Down Walls), God’s Disruptive Innovation, and the Who, What, and

Why of Bridge Building Leadership. Murray challenged the student leaders not to settle for the status quo. More than 50 student leaders joined in discussions though his newly created Facebook group for Bridge Building Leadership.

Dr. Leslie Pollard, president of Oakwood University, shared effective ways on how to lead millennials. Leaders were able to gain a wealth of information from the following areas:

- OU Health and Counseling Services—Sanitha Douglas and Grace Arnold
- Oakwood University Police Department—Chief Melvin Harris
- Center for Student Success—Dean Helen Fischle
- Title IX—Dean Ryan Smith



Residence hall student leaders

Pastor Kyle Crawford, pastor of youth and young adults at First Church in Huntsville, provided stirring morning devotionals. 🙏

PHOTOS BY LINDA ANDERSON

REASON NUMBER 6



Softball

- Head Coach: Dave Joseph

Volleyball

- Head Coach: Bianca Richardson
- Assistant Coach: Wayne Bucknor



INTRAMURAL SPORTS

Intramurals is the most popular extracurricular activity on campus. Each year, students participate in one or many of the competitive and/or recreational sports activities offered. The Intramural Program offers team competition in men’s and women’s divisions. The activities are varied in skill level so that there is an opportunity for every individual to participate. Intramurals is also a great way to meet new people and stay active at the same time. Teams can be formed in a variety of ways through residence halls, groups of friends, and off-campus groups. 🙏



Check out the Athletics Department website at oakwoodambassadors.com for team rosters and schedules.

Go Ambassadors!





Dealing with a Ransomware Attack

If you spend time looking for biblical justification for technology use you won't find any specific references because technology, by itself, isn't inherently good or bad. It's a tool who's outcome is directly connected to the motives or intent of the one wielding it. In this fast-paced society, there are many examples of both good and bad technology: 3D printing of vital organs to save lives is a positive example, while ransomware programs like Cryptolocker or Locky is a negative example.

This past spring, Oakwood University along with several other universities, hospitals, and organizations great and small, experienced major ransomware attacks. Oakwood University didn't lose any data, but critical systems were compromised necessitating a total rebuild to ensure 100% confidence. No one invites these things to happen, but this is the world we live in and we've taken this terrible situation and turned it into something good.

Here's a brief synopsis of the new developments IT Security that has implemented in response to this incident:

- **Windows XP** systems upgraded or removed
- **User password complexity** revised and intervals between mandatory changes significantly decreased
- **All administrative rights** removed and a process created for users to regain administrative rights should they need it
- **Carbon Black** was selected as our primary server end point protection
- **Eset** was selected as our primary desktop endpoint protection
- **System Center Configuration Manager** (SCCM) selected as our backup endpoint protection
- **LogRhythm** selected as our network monitoring platform
- **KnowBe4** chosen as our primary



training platform. This product delivers "new school" security awareness training combined with set-it-and-forget-it simulated phishing attacks for an extremely effective user education program.

In addition to software, hardware, and training, we are excited to introduce to you Julian Waddell, our new IT security specialist. He was already a member of our team but has been transitioned into this new role for which he is uniquely qualified, having spent years as a security specialist for several government contractors. We want to say a special word of thanks to the IT Staff at the Southern Union and our student technicians who worked long hours to ensure the campus could recover in the most effective and efficient manner possible.



KEEPING ON THE PULSE THROUGH INDUSTRY-RELATED CONFERENCES

During last school year and this past summer, members of the Information Technology Division

attended conferences and events that allowed them to learn various things all while keeping abreast of industry standards.

Jenzabar, a leading provider of enterprise software, strategies, and services developed exclusively for higher education, hosted an annual conference in Dallas, Texas, on June 1-4, 2016.

"I was able to share and network with colleagues from other schools who use the Jenzabar system. The JAM Conference is great for seeing the best way to utilize the Jenzabar System in the most efficient manner. We were able to solve real issues by getting in touch with the Jenzabar service team."

*- Anthony Walker,
Administrative Systems Director*

The 8th Annual National Cyber Summit, held June 7-9, 2016, in Huntsville, brought together military, government, commercial, and academic attendees to focus on cyber security across the life cycle.

"I was able to experience the evolution of the security industry from both the professional side and hacker side. As an attendee, what brought about the most excitement were the hacking challenges, and the new security tech

KINGDOM Growth

**It's one of the results when
Christ's followers carry out
the Gospel Commission.**

**When Jesus says in Matthew 28:19, 20 to make disciples everywhere,
baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, we,
at Breath of Life, take this mandate seriously.**

**In 2015, the Lord led us in planting two new churches. The new Breath of Life Church in San Antonio, TX
is off to an amazing start with nearly 150 newly baptized members! The new Breath of Life Church in
Stamford, CT is also off to an incredible beginning with nearly 100 newly baptized members!**

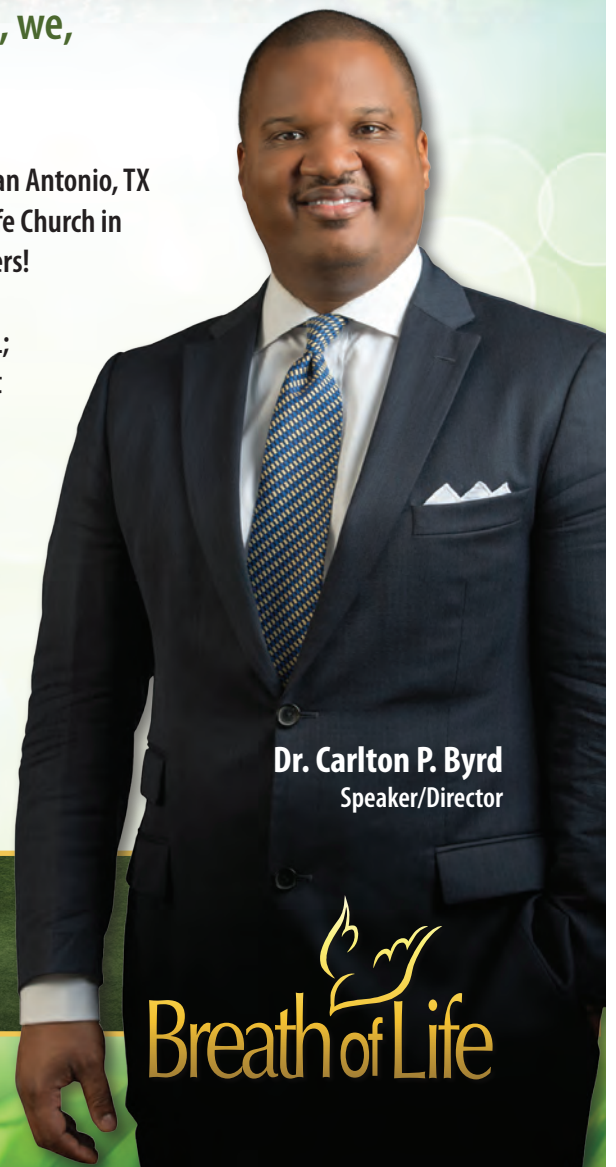
**Thus far in 2016, the Lord has blessed us with major evangelistic campaigns in Orlando, FL;
Huntsville, AL; and Brooklyn, NY where hundreds of individuals have accepted Jesus Christ
as their personal Savior and been baptized! Additionally, the Lord enabled us to have the
ABC Television Easter Special broadcast nationally across the United States! The year,
however, is not over! We believe that God still has work for us to do in 2016!**

***To join us in sharing the wonderful message of Jesus
Christ, and to grow His kingdom by planting more
churches in these exciting and challenging days, we
ask for your continued prayers and financial support.***

**For great Bible resources, an archive of past programs, to join our weekly prayer group,
and/or to contribute financially to Breath of Life, please contact us today:**

256.929.6460 • P.O. Box 5960 • Huntsville, AL 35814

For national and regional television broadcast schedules, please visit our website at www.breathoflife.tv



Dr. Carlton P. Byrd
Speaker/Director


Breath of Life

Get Inspired. Make a Gift.
See the Difference.

The Oakwood University
Annual Fund Campaign
supports the basics for our
students. From student aid to
academic department support,
your gift makes a difference for
the future of Oakwood. Don't
delay—make your gift today!

Make a secure gift online at:
www.OUgiving.com, or call us
at: **256-726-7201**, to speak to a
development associate.

Invest in Future Leaders



OAKWOOD
UNIVERSITY



that hadn't been made public outside of the conference."

*- Julian Waddell,
IT Security Specialist*

The first Oakwood/Southern technology collaboration visit brought the entire Technology Team at Southern Adventist University together with the entire Technology Team at Oakwood University.

"Their usage of technology is beneficial to faculty, staff and students. They utilize multiple phases of security procedures to access rooms, keeping the environment safe."

*- Djuvane Martin,
Technical Support Specialist*

The National Association of Broadcasters Show is the premier media and entertainment conference. Attendees representing every sector of the industry

convened in Las Vegas on April 16-21, 2016, to embrace the immersive experiences reshaping the new reality of media.

"I'm always amazed with the exhibits at NAB because it gives us a glimpse of the direction media is moving."

*- Anthonye Perkins,
OUBN/Media Center Director*

Laserfiche Enterprise Content Management (ECM) Software organizes digital documents and automates document-driven processes so that the right people have the right information at the right times—helping your organization make smarter, faster decisions. Oakwood, along with several other Adventist entities, has chosen Laserfiche as their primary document management solution and attended the Adventist Laserfiche Conference in Silver Spring, Maryland, on June 13-16, 2016, to receive training

on the new platform.

"The training at the GC was incredibly informative. The classroom allowed me to gain hands-on experience in a practical real world scenario. Loved every moment and felt like everyone needs this software yesterday!"

*- Levi Woodson,
Application Support Specialist*

Kirk Nugent, Oakwood's Chief Information Officer, was a facilitator at the Southern Union IT Summit this past April as well as a speaker at the Adventist Risk Management Conference this past September. OU Technology Division is committed to not only providing the campus stellar technological/media support and services but also staying connected to the broader community: driving innovation, pushing the limits of possibility, and translating these advancements into relevant tools... all for His Glory! 🙏



**PLANNING TO BE
READY FOR
YOUR FUTURE?**

Have you remembered to include Oakwood University in your will or trust?

WWW.OAKWOOD.EDU

You're just one
step away from
the peace of mind
that you deserve!

Call Us
TODAY

256-726-7586

Lewis Jones
Assistant Director of Development/
Planned Giving Officer



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
Trust Services & Planned Giving



Missionary Volunteers Share Love and Resources in Kenya

As told by Amanda Monroig

I was a child when I watched for the first time an ad on television soliciting donations for children in Africa. I was impressed by the images showing the need for shelter, food, and medical care. These images were recorded in my mind and I dreamed of one day becoming a missionary doctor, traveling to Africa, and opening a free services clinic. With this aim, I finished a degree in Medical Microbiology at the University of Puerto Rico and hoped to continue preparing for this cause. I know that God was leading me in this direction because He wanted me participate in the Oakwood University 4HIM mission trip to Africa. I know this because the doors opened in a miraculous way.

One morning, I received a call from my sister, Astrid Monroig, informing me that Oakwood University was organizing a mission trip to Kenya. Immediately, I contacted Chaplain Ronald Pollard in the Office of Spiritual Life so that I could attend.

We visited two major cities: Nairobi, the capital city, and Mombasa. I had the opportunity to visit several orphanages - Motherly Care Children's Home & Educational Centre in Nairobi. As missionaries, we donated food and performed various tasks such as hand washing, preparing food, cleaning and planting trees. In addition, we visited, Canaan, another orphanage located in Mombasa where 30 children lived. It was gratifying to note the motivation and effort of the children to learn despite the sun, heat, lack of materials or the hundreds of flies around them. 4HIM donated mattresses for all beds,

food, and cleaning supplies among other essentials. I will never forget the children's smiling faces and how happy they were to receive our love despite living in such difficult situations.

One little boy named Ray stands out in my mind. I remember him because of his intelligent gaze and the sweet way that he approached me and raised his hand gently to touch my face. As I spoke with him, I realized he had an infection in the outer ear caused by the bacterium

On another occasion, in Mombasa, we visited Pastor William Amere who works with people living on the streets: some are drug addicts, patients with HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, toxoplasmosis, cirrhosis, bronchitis, visual problems, dementia, psychosis, schizophrenia, etc. Chaplain Pollard shared a message of salvation with them. We also donated necessities and many of the people who lived there told us about their addictions and diseases. On



Amanda Monroig



streptococcus pyogenes. The next day, I brought a first aid kit to help him and immediately the other children began to show me skin wounds to see if I could help them. Most were small mosquito bites or infected wounds. At the end of the day, Ray touched my face, looked into my eyes and said, "Amanda, thank you, I love you." It was a moment I cannot explain but I asked God to send many missionaries to contribute to the great need of the orphanages.

another occasion, we visited the slum in Kibera. It is one of the poorest places in Nairobi, where 1.5 million of people live. It is shocking to see how people and children walked barefoot in dirty water and stagnant waste, and where many houses were just a couple of sheets of zinc. As a missionary group, we visited an Adventist church in this community where we distributed donations, and sang and shared stories. We also visited Tchuda, another slum located



in Mombasa. 4HIM volunteers visited various homes in the community to pray and invite them to a service in the Adventist church, where we distributed items for the children.

When we finished praying for some of the families, I found this verse in the Bible: “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

Ray touched my face, looked into my eyes and said, “Amanda, thank you, I love you.”

1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18 is definitely a lesson that I will keep forever. It is obvious that this mission trip

confirmed the calling that I have to serve in Africa and continue helping people in Kenya, especially children. I will be communicating with different non-profit organizations in order to get a group of physicians to visit some of the orphanages. I ask for continuous prayer for all orphans, children living on the streets, sick people, and those in need both physically and spiritually. 🙏

Oakwood’s First Biblical Foundations Faculty Development Summer Institute

by Howard Weems, Ph.D.

Oakwood University administration continues to guard its mission by ensuring that each class is taught from a Biblical Foundation. Correspondingly, each staff member should exhibit the same faith-based ethos when interacting with students and each other. To this end, on May 20-29, 2016, a donor sponsored the Biblical Foundations Summer Institute on the Royal Caribbean, Allure of the Seas cruise ship for about 50 faculty, staff, and their spouses. Among those who presented at the institute were: Dr. Leslie Pollard, Elder Ed Zinke, Dr. Cheryl Galley, Dr. Dedrick Blue, Dr. Prudence Pollard, Dr. James Mbyirukira, Dr. Karen Benn Marshall, Dean Hyacinth Burton, Dr. Howard Weems, and Dr. Finbar Benjamin.

Although the premise for the trip was that the Bible is the foundation for our lives and helps us to achieve God’s goal of restoring His image, and teach students to think biblically, the activities on the cruise consisted of a healthy balance of workshops, presentations, group engagements, recreation, and excursions on three beautiful Caribbean Islands. The ship docked at Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, Philipsburg, St. Maarten, and



Ed Zinke presents during the Faculty Development Summer Institute

Nassau, Bahamas.

Academic Administration, Research & Faculty Development, and the Office of Spiritual Life, and their support staff joined forces and developed learning outcomes for the trip. The planning committee, consisting of Karen Benn Marshall, Prudence Pollard (Chair), Howard Weems, and Olivia Beverly, planned that by the end of the institute, faculty attendee would be able to:

- Identify the biblical foundations relevant to each academic discipline represented at the Institute

- Produce a biblically-based critical analysis of the normative assumptions of their chosen academic discipline
- Revise course syllabi to reflect the deeper biblically-based critical analysis of the foundations of his/her discipline

The above mentioned objectives were achieved. We express sincere appreciation to our sponsor and each faculty and staff who worked untiringly to make this instituted a reality. 🙏



The Faculty Research Symposium Celebrates 5th Year: Viewed Through the Lens of Recent Graduate

by Reginald Mattison '15

I enrolled at Oakwood University because it was the obvious choice, considering I attended a black Adventist high school. However, the decision to stay enrolled at Oakwood wasn't as innate. It was the faculty, who took time to teach, mentor, and become involved in the shaping of my career, which cemented my decision to remain enrolled at Oakwood University.

The faculty at Oakwood University are a living embodiment of Proverbs 4:7, "The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight." (English Standard Version). This is demonstrated, in part, through the Faculty Development Grant Program and the numerous scholarly publications and presentations they give throughout the year (see page 36). As a first generation graduate and now employee of this University, I can affirm that learning does not stop in the classroom, our professors continue inquiring and learning outside the classroom as well. Their dedication to pedagogical improvement and scholarly inquiry proves that Oakwood University is an incubator of scientific/scholarly thought. This was evident at the 5th Annual Faculty Research Symposium, held April 19, 2016, in the McKee Business & Technology Building.

The keynote speaker, Zsakeba Henderson, MD, a graduate of Oakwood University with a BS in biochemistry,

is a physician. Dr. Henderson currently serves as a Medical Officer at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is a board-certified obstetrician-gynecologist and leads the Division's activities in support of state-based perinatal quality



Keynote speaker Dr. Zsakeba Henderson, '95

improvement collaborative. She presented "Strategies to Improve Maternal and Infant Health, and Address Disparities in Maternal and Infant Mortality." In addition, Dr. Henderson shared her "Oakwood story" which included the practical lessons taught by our faculty: lessons of hard work, persistence, and knowing how to function as a minority in any environment. Dr. Henderson's success is built upon the attention and dedication of Oakwood University faculty.

Our faculty displayed the full continuum of scholarly thought by presenting on a wide range of research

topics from food mold, "Inhibition of Botrytis cinerea with Essential Oils" by Dr. Kevin Anderson; to music manuscripts, "Manuscript 258: Influence on and References to the Development of the Symphony Orchestra in British Musical Life on the Caribbean Island of Jamaica" by Dr. Audley Chambers. The School of Arts and Sciences, represented by Dr. Pamelea Cook, Dr. Carmen Bucknor, and Dean Helen Fischle, presented "Religiosity, Race, and Willingness to Engage in Bystander Intervention on an HBCU Campus." Notably, Dr. Carmiele Wilkerson's presentation, "A Tale of Two Windrush Immigrants," opened the eyes of faculty, and students, to how scholarly inquiry is conducted within the discipline of English and Literature.

Dr. Olivia Beverly and Dr. Dana Wilchcombe represented the School of Education and Social Sciences. Dr. Beverly presented to attendees her research regarding students' reading scores from reading assessments. She furthered her project by asserting that these reading scores can be predictors to whether a student fully matriculates through a university. Dr. Wilchcombe presented the case of using differentiated instructional practices within the HBCU community. As a professor in the teacher education department, Dr. Wilchcombe's research can be considered as the scholarship of teaching and learning, and she encourages her future teachers to adopt differentiated instructional practices once they graduate to teaching their own class.

Dr. Fiona Lewis, Associate Professor of Dietetics in the School of Nursing and Health Professions, ended the Symposium by presenting results from her study, Students Perspectives on Student Centered Obesity Prevention



and Weight Management Programs. Her results provided insight to how Oakwood students are thinking about the new initiative of Healthy Campus 2020 and what students are looking for in a weight management program.

These are all examples as to why the faculty at Oakwood form the lifeblood of our university, as they model what they teach. But if these are not good enough to convince you of the scholarly inquiry happening at Oakwood, I encourage you see our list of faculty publications on page 36-37 and plan to attend next year's Faculty Research Symposium on April 18, 2017.

Bio:

Reginald Mattison, a native of Atlanta, Georgia, and graduate of Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy, concluded his "Oakwood experience" in May 2015 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. He currently serves as Research Project Assistant for the Office of Research



& Grants. While a student, Reginald conducted Breast Cancer research at Loma Linda University, and won second place during Oakwood Biomedical Research Poster competition in 2014. This is where his knowledge of research was applied and his love for the field developed. From 2013 to 2015, Reginald was the Student Research Leader for the LifeCore Research Initiative. Along with this position, Reginald also served in numerous student leadership organizations and student research organizations at Oakwood.

Reginald believes that prayer, patience, and persistence are keys to success, and brings this mindset to everything he seeks to accomplish. Reginald is planning on continuing his education in the field of psychometrics and higher education administration. 🙏

Fair Brings Health Awareness to Community

by Shirna Gullo, DNP, MSN, BSN, RN

On Sunday, May 15, 2016, Oakwood University, the Breath of Life Ministry, and the South Central Conference of Seventh-day Adventists partnered to bring the "Breathe and Stand Out" Health Fair to the Huntsville community. Held on the campus of Oakwood University, the event hosted cooking demonstrations, food tasting, fitness testing, and free health screenings provided by the Huntsville Hospital Mobile Medical Unit, and games and inflatables for children.

Huntsville Hospital's Mobile Medical Unit was the main feature as they provided free medical care via biometric testing to the participants. The testing included BMI (body mass index), blood pressure, heart rate, glucose, and cholesterol measurements). All of this was provided free of charge as a service to the community. One hundred participants were served by the Huntsville Hospital Mobile Medical Unit.

"Ministry must reach beyond the

four walls of the church," said Oakwood University Church Senior Pastor Carlton Byrd. "This Breathe and Stand Out Health Fair is our gift to the Huntsville and Northern Alabama area," said Oakwood University President Leslie Pollard. "We want to have a healthy community, as well as a healthy campus," he said. 🙏



PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II



Faculty Publications 2015/16

List compiled by the Office of the Vice President for Research and Faculty Development



Wayne Bucknor, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, School of Arts and Sciences, Music
(2015). *Con Amor* [Musical Score]. Iglesia Adventista del Septimo Dia.



Francisco Burgos Suarez, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, School of Arts and Sciences, English and Foreign Languages
(2015). *IFELE: SP 103 Beginning Spanish III*. Columbus, OH: The Educational Publisher INC. Biblio Publishing.



Samson Chama, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, School of Education and Social Sciences, Social Work
(2016). "Predicting sexual abstinence among Seventh-day Adventist emerging adults," with Cort, Malcolm and Ramirez, Octavio. *The Social Science Journal*, 199-208. doi:10.1016/j.soscij.2016.02.010

(2016). "Skillz Kenya: An HIV/AIDS Youth Prevention Initiative" with Ndeche, E. in D. Conrad and A. White, A. *Sports-Based Health Interventions: Case Studies from Around the World* (pp. 161-171). New York: Springer.



Jason M. Ferdinand, DMA – Associate Professor, School of Arts & Sciences, Music
(2016). *A Choral Triptych: Three Prayer Responses* [Musical Score]. Chicago, IL: GIA Publications.

(2015). *Aeolianology: a capella, Volume 1 and Volume 2* [Recorded by Aeolians] with Murphy, S. Huntsville, Alabama, United States of America.



Ramona Hyman, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, School of Arts & Sciences, English and Foreign Languages
(2015). *I Am Black America*. Charleston, SC: Create Space.

(2015, September 18). "Paul: God's Transformative Example," in Lyndelle Brower

Chiomenti (Ed.), *Collegiate Quarterly: Biblical Missionaries*. Nampa, ID: Pacific Press Publishing Association.

(2016). "Practical lessons from the woman with the issue of blood," *Ministry: International Journal for Pastors*, 17-19.



Tarsee Li, Ph.D. – Professor, School of Religion, Religion & Theology
(2015). Review of Kalimi, I and Richardson, S. (Eds.) "Sennacherib at the Gates of Jerusalem," *Andrews University Seminary Studies* 53, 222-224.



Samuel London, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, School of Education & Social Sciences, History & Political Science
(2016, May). "The Indomitable Anna Knight: A Life of Christian Service" *Old Huntsville Magazine*. 48-49.



Gilbert Ojwang, Ph.D. – Professor, School of Religion, Religion & Theology
(2016). "Juridical Impotence in the Naboth Story in the Context of Kenya's New Land Laws," in A. Brenner and A. C. Lee, *Texts @ Contexts, Vol. 1* (p. 3). Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press.

(2016, January, February, March). "The Lesson in Brief," *Adult Sabbath School Study Guide: Rebellion and Redemption*. Silver Spring, MD: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.



Darayas Patel, Ph.D. – Professor, School of Arts & Sciences, Mathematics & Computer Science
(2015). "Multi-beam pulsed laser deposition: new method of making nanocomposite coatings" with Darwish, Abdalla M.; Wilson, Simeon; Blackwell, Ashley; Taylor, Keylantra; Sarkisov, Sergey; Mele, Paolo; and Koplitz, Brent. *Photonic Fiber and Crystal Devices: Advances in Materials and Innovations*

in Device Applications IX (p. 958605). Bellingham: SPIE. doi: 10.1117/12.2214633

(2015). "Polymer-inorganic naocomposite thin film emitters, optoelectronic chemical sensors, and enegy harvesters produced by multiple-beam pulsed laser deposition" with Darwish, Abdalla M.; Wilson, Simeon; Blackwell, Ashley; Taylor, Keylantra; Sarkisov, Sergey; Mele, Paolo; Johnson, Michael W.; Zhang, Xiaodong; and Koplitz, Brent. *Photonic Fiber and Crystal Devices: Advances in Materials and Innovations in Device Application IX* (p. 958602). Bellingham: SPIE. doi: 10.1117/12.2185498

(2015). "Ammonia Sensor Based on Polymer-Inorganic Nano-Composite Thin Film Upconversion Light Emitter Prepared by Double-Beam Pulsed Laser Deposition" with Darwish, Amdallah M.; Wilson, Simeon; Blackwell, Ashley; Taylor, Keylanta.; Sarkisov, Sergey S.; and Koplitz, Brent. *American Journal of Materials Science*, 8-15. doi: 10.5923/s.materials.201502.02

(2015). "Optical properties and size distribution of the nano-colloids made of rare-earth ion-doped NaYF₄" with Lewis, Ashley; Wright III, Donald M.; Lewis, Danielle; Valentine, Rueben; Valentine, Maucus; Wessley, Dennis; Sarkisov, Sergey; and Darwish, Abdalla. *Optical Components and Materials XII* (p. 93591L). Bellingham: SPIE. doi: 10.1117/12.2077680



Adriana Perera, MM – Associate Professor, School of Arts & Sciences, Music
(2015, December). "Alza Tu Mirada" [Musical Score]. In *Bienvenidos Adorar*. 6-9.

(2015, August). "Música y Pensamiento Positivo," *El Centinela*. 40-42.

(2016, February 9). Adoración intima: más allá de los ritos," *Semana De Oración: Ministerio de Familia y Departamento de Jóvenes*. 18-20.

(2016, January 31). Cantar Con El Corazón. *NAD Ministerial*. Retrieved from <http://www.>



nadministerial.org/article/1304/worship-resourceees/cantar-con-el-corazon

(2016). *We Give Thanks* [Musical Score]. Silver Springs, MD: Advent Source.



Prudence Pollard, Ph.D. – Vice President for Research & Faculty Development, Professor, School of Business and Adult & Continuing Education, Business and Information Systems (2015, Summer). “Missional Educational Leadership in Urban Setting,” *The Journal of Adventist Education*, 36-41.



Ramirez, Octavio, Ph.D. – Professor, School of Education & Social Sciences, Social Work (2016). “Predicting sexual abstinence among Seventh-day Adventist emerging adults,” with Cort, Malcolm and Chama, Samson. *The Social Science Journal*, 199-208. doi:10.1016/j.soscij.2016.02.010



G. Russel Seay, Ph.D. – Assistant Professor, School of Religion, Religion & Theology (2015, Fall). “Pope Francis: The American Pope,” *Regional Voice*. 20-23

(2015, May/June). “So, what ever happened to the Sabbath?” *Message Magazine*. 16-17.

(2015, May 15). “Why I’m Still an Adventist,” *Insight*, p. 15



Alexander Volkov, Ph.D. – Professor, School of Arts & Sciences, Chemistry (2016, February). “Biosensors, memristors and actutators in eletrical networks of plants,” *International Journal of Parallel, Emergent and Distributed Systems*. doi:10.1080/017445760.2013.1141209

(2016). “Memristors in Biomembranes,” with Markin, Vladislav S. in Ales Iglič; Chandrashekar V. Kulkarni; and Michael

Rappolt, *Advances in Biomembranes and Lipid Self-Assembly Vol. 24.*, Amsterdam: Elsevier B.C.

(2015). “Memristors: Memory elements in potato tubers,” with Nyasani, Eunice K.; Blockman, Avery. L.; and Volkova, Maya I. *Plant Signaling & Behavior*. doi:10.1080/15592324.2015.1071750

(2016). “Electrophysiology of pumpkin seeds: Memristors in vivo,” with Nyasani, Eunice K.; Tuckett, Clayton; Greenman, Esther. A.; and Markin, Vladislav S. *Plant Signaling & Behavior*. doi:10.1080/15592325.2016.1151600



Carmiele Y. Wilkerson, Ph.D. – Associate Professor, School of Arts & Sciences, English and Foreign Languages (2015). “Victims of trafficking and shamming the system: The violence against women act and the immigration marraige fraud amendment,” *Journal of Trafficking, Organized Crime and Security*, 62-75. 🇺🇸

Religion Faculty Member Receives Fulbright-Hays Fellowship

Dr. Keith Augustus Burton, director of the Center for Adventist-Muslim Relations, participated in the 2016 Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program. The seminar took place during the entire month of June in Senegal, West Africa. He joined 15 professors from higher education institutions across the United States. This year’s seminar theme focused on Senegal’s success in fostering religious pluralism in a majority Muslim society, with a particular emphasis on Christian-Muslim relations. Dr. Burton focused on the benefits of affirming interfaith diversity as he developed methods for transferring these skills in an interdisciplinary environment.

Sponsored by the United States Department



Serigne Mbaye Nguirane, Spiritual Leader of the Mouride (a Sufi Muslim sect) with Dr. Burton (right)

of Education, the Fulbright-Hays Seminars Abroad Program is the result of a 1961 Congressional act that encourages cultural exchange between American academics and their counterparts in other parts of the world. Institutional support was also provided by the Division of Research & Faculty Development at Oakwood University. 🇺🇸



Maiden Voyage of the Oakwood University Alumni Cruise

By Daniel Smith, Greater Orlando Chapter President
OUAA-GOC President and Cruise Coordinator

Imagine if you will, crystal blue waters, shimmering off rays of sunlight, sparkling off the reflection from the ocean, while relaxing on the deck of a supersized ocean liner as friends and family are all around enjoying each other's company and helping Oakwood University at the same time. If you think that this description sounds too good to be true, then you missed out on one of the most spectacular events that took place this year. The Oakwood University Alumni Celebration at Sea Cruise took place on June 9-13, 2016, and sailed out of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and docked in Nassau and Freeport, Bahamas.

The Cruise was not just a fun-at-sea event, but the purpose was also to reconnect with alumni in the Bahamas and start a Oakwood University Alumni Chapter as well as participate in mission work excursions. University personnel were also involved in recruitment at the New Bahamas Academy of the graduating seniors. The cruise featured a daily workout and devotional led by fitness & health coach Michelle Cooper; Sabbath School speaker Nyse Collins (3ABN Host & Wellness Author); Divine Worship speaker, Pastor Patrick Graham; and



musical guests Paul Heflin and Angela Bryant Brown. Attendees also participated in a mission excursion at the Freeport Church, which was organized by Winton Forde of Mission Hope. Jeff Johnson provided comedy relief on Saturday evening.

The next Alumni Cruise will take place June 3-10, 2017. Watch for details at ouaagoc.weebly.com.



Richard Hodnett recruiting seniors at Nassau SDA Academy.

PHOTO BY DR. DANIEL STAINTE-ELIE

Greater Orlando Chapter
2016 ALUMNI
Celebration At
Sea Cruise
THE BAHAMAS

Special Guests:
 PASTOR PATRICK GRAHAM
 PASTOR PAUL GRAHAM
 RECORDING ARTIST ANGELA BROWN
 RECORDING ARTIST PAUL HEFLIN
 HEALTH FITNESS & BEAUTY COACH MICHELLE COOPER
 3ABN WELLNESS HOST EDUCATOR NYSE COLLINS

OUAAGOC.WEEBLY.COM | JUNE 9-13, 2016

REGISTER WITH
ADVENTISTRAVEL.COM
917-734-4859 or 256-585-1998

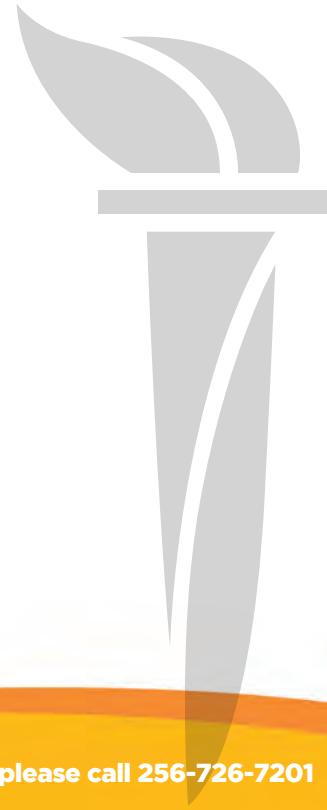
CALL FOR PRICING

TITNARY
 DAY TIME DATES
 9 June Tallahassee 8:00am - 10:00am
 10 June Nassau, Bahamas 8:00am - 10:00am
 11 June Freeport, Bahamas 8:00am - 10:00am
 12 June Nassau, Bahamas 8:00am - 10:00am
 13 June Freeport, Bahamas 8:00am - 10:00am

OUAA-GOC Head & Chair (100% reimbursement meeting OK Covered)
 Mission Trip Excursion (optional) (Bahamas Churches & Company)
 Sabbath School (optional) (General Mission Trip Excursion) (optional)
 New College Health & Wellness Encouragement Inquiry - 3ABN
 Book Order - Book Traveler!



SAVE the DATES



UNCF NORTH ALABAMA CAMPAIGN

2016/2017 Events

UNCF Golf Classic

Monday, October 24, 2016, 12:00 p.m.
The Ledges of Huntsville

UNCF Women's Leadership Tea

Sunday, November 13, 2016, 3:00 p.m.
The Ledges of Huntsville | Ballroom

The 39th Annual UNCF Gala

Thursday, April 13, 2017
VIP Reception, 5:30 p.m. | Gala, 6:30 p.m.
Von Braun Center | North Hall

For more information on any of our events, please call 256-726-7201

LEAVE A LEGACY



Help us celebrate the new Peters Media Center, home of Oakwood University Broadcasting Network (OUBN). The sidewalk leading to this state-of-the-art facility, dubbed The **Legacy Walkway**, is paved with bricks. Oakwood University is excited to offer you the opportunity to pave the way into the next 120 years of success by purchasing a brick to be set on campus. Our **Legacy Walkway** features names of donors, loved ones, special remembrances, and favorite sayings. Customized bricks are a great opportunity to congratulate a recent graduate, celebrate a degree or accomplishment, or honor your loved ones.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to leave more than a memory at Oakwood University. You can leave your own legacy as we continue the Building on the Past Campaign.

It's easy to create your own personalized brick today.

Visit www.bricksrus.com/order/oakwood or call 256-726-7201.



GOD FIRST!

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

WWW.OAKWOOD.EDU



PHOTO BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II

Meet our Newest Gates Millennium Scholar

by Jeffery Wilder, student writer

The Gates Millennium Scholars (GMS) program, established in 1999, is a 1.6 billion dollar initiative funded by grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The goal of the GMS program is to promote academic excellence and to provide an opportunity for outstanding minority students with significant financial need to reach their highest potential by:

- Reducing financial barriers for African American, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian Pacific Islander American and Hispanic American students with high academic and leadership promise who have significant financial need.
- Increasing the representation of these target groups in the disciplines of computer science, education, engineering, library science, mathematics, public health and the sciences, where these groups are severely under-represented.
- Developing a diversified cadre of future leaders for America by facilitating successful completion of bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees.
- Providing seamless support from undergraduate through doctoral programs for students selected as Gates Millennium Scholars entering target disciplines.

—Information supplied by www.gmsp.org

**“Education is not preparation for life: education is life itself.”
—John Dewey**

Keviez Wilson is the embodiment of the above-mentioned quote. His story of perseverance and excellence is demonstrated in his behavior. Keviez understands that dedication and prayer are the only ways to reach success. He is a freshman at Oakwood studying to receive a degree in biology. After finishing Oakwood, he hopes to continue his education in pursuit of his Ph.D. and M.D. in cancer research.

Jeffery Wilder (JW): How does it feel to receive a Gates Millennium Scholarship?

Keviez Wilson (KW): Well, in one word I would say blessed. A lot of prayer and hard work went into this process. The fact that I was even considered for it blows my mind, but I just know God has a plan for me.

JW: In your opinion how difficult was the application process?

KW: Very difficult and I didn't want to do it. If it wasn't for my mom and her encouragement, I wouldn't have done it.

JW: What has this experience taught you?

KW: Prayer has become a big thing for me thus far. I know that through prayer, anything can happen.

JW: Did you set out with a specific plan or goal to receive this scholarship as a freshman in high school?

KW: My brother applied for it during his senior year, and was a finalist. Unfortunately, he didn't get it, which is very ironic. But because of him, I had the scholarship in the back of my mind. However, getting good grades was already something that I worked hard to achieve.

It wasn't necessarily to get the scholarship. I was able to apply simply because of the work I had done.

JW: How will this scholarship successfully help you reach your goals and aspirations?

KW: One of the main things it will do is keep me focused because I have everything to lose. I am a fun guy and I like to do fun things, but now I have to force myself to be disciplined a lot more, because I cannot lose this scholarship.

JW: How does your family feel about your accomplishments?

KW: Very happy. My family is elated, because if I didn't have this scholarship I don't know what school I would have been able to attend since both my mother and brother are in school as well.

JW: With a scholarship of this magnitude [having full financial support], you could have chosen any school around the world. Why Oakwood University?

KW: I actually didn't want to come to Oakwood at first. I originally wanted to go to Howard University after attending a summer program there. However, God kept pressing on my heart to come to Oakwood. After hearing several sermons about following God's will and never looking back, I made the decision to attend Oakwood. And soon after, I started receiving calls about different scholarships that I had applied for and everything seemed to just fall in line perfectly for me. 🙏



Ashley Thornhill, senior biochemistry major, has been a Gates Millennium Scholar since 2012.

PHOTO BY MARIAN SMITH

YOU'RE NEVER FAR FROM YOUR...



Adventist
BookCenter.com



Free shipping on \$50 or more on qualifying products. Visit AdventistBookCenter.com for details.



The JoAnne Powell Show

***The JoAnne Powell Show* Congratulates the **Oakwood University Alumni Association** as it celebrating 90 years and **Oakwood University** for 120 years!**



"WHERE SOCIAL MEDIA MEETS TV"

***The JoAnne Powell Show* a new online TV talk show **LIVE EVERY WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON** from 1:00-2:00pm PST on the World Center of Broadcast Media Network @ **WCOBM.com** in **HOLLYWOOD**. National News, Entertainment and other Adventures with a local flavor. Watch with your Smartphone, PC or Tablet.**

CONTEND TOGETHER

WE'RE IN THIS FIGHT TOGETHER












OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

DECEMBER 4-7, 2016

WWW.PELCPOWER.COM



DR. JESSE WILSON
PELC Director

Fall Shareathon • November 16-20, 2016
Call 256.726.7444 or visit wjou.org



Praise WJOU
OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
90.1 FM
wjou.org

MANY VOICES
ONE PRAISE

Every day...24/7
request line: 256.722.9990
station: 256.726.7418
email: wjou@oakwood.edu



Facebook:
[WJOU Praise 90.1 FM](https://www.facebook.com/WJOU-Praise-90.1-FM)



Twitter:
[@wjoufm](https://twitter.com/wjoufm)



Tuner:
Praise 90.1

WJOU IS A BROADCAST SERVICE OF OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY





"Home of the Kitchen Sink"

Open for almost 40 years and Stanlieo's is still owned and operated by the Watson family.

We will always strive to have quality, quantity, and service above all others.

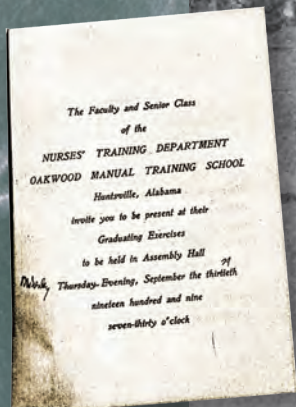
Location 1:
605 Jordan Lane
Huntsville, AL 35816
256.837.7220
256.837.7221
Fax: 256.837.9868
stanlieos71@yahoo.com

Location 2:
602 Goveners Drive
Huntsville, AL 35801
256.536.6585
Fax: 256.536.6587



Check out our great veggie sub choices!





▲ George I. Butler – GC President in 1904, and Chair of Oakwood's Board in the early 1900s.

◀ Students of the Nursing Preparatory Major

READERS: This section of the magazine seeks to tell the Oakwood Story—in bite-sized pieces. The narrative is compiled from information found in the Eva B. Dykes Library and the Oakwood University Archives.

The debate about closing Oakwood ended with a resolute decision to keep it open and an ambitious agenda for improving the newly named Oakwood Manual Training School (1904-1917) was adopted. However, three different principals within two years threatened this progressive plan. George I. Butler, Southern Union Conference president and recently elected board chairperson, provided stable and effective leadership. During his nearly 10-year tenure, the Board implemented decisions that transformed the physical plant and the curriculum.

Bathrooms, laundry rooms, the principal's residence, teachers' cottages, a print shop, a tool house, and cistern as well as a 700 ft. sewer line were constructed in 1905-1906. To help raise funds for Oakwood and other work in the South, Ellen G. White wrote an urgent offering appeal that appeared in the *Review and Herald*. This letter was to be read in all churches on Sabbath, October 7, 1905, and a special offering taken.¹

A year later, on October 11, 1906, a tragic fire destroyed Chapel Hall and claimed the life of student, John Willingham. In looking to rebuild this signature building, George I. Butler and the Southern Union Conference Committee voted to expand campus facilities rather than merely to replace Chapel Hall. This decision resulted in the construction of Study Hall (1907), an administration building that included classrooms and a chapel; the Oakwood Press (1908) which published the *Gospel Herald* from 1911-1915; a kitchen/dining room (1908), a boys dorm named Butler Hall (1908) in honor of George I. Butler; and the sanitarium (1909) still in use today as East Hall, the oldest building on campus, and home to Advancement & Development and Integrated Marketing & Public Relations.

Similarly, the academic program grew, diversified, and introduced concentrations between 1904 and 1908. The preparatory curriculum included arithmetic, Bible, geography, language, vocal music, writing and elements of agriculture. The Training curriculum included

Promise and Progress



▲ Sanitarium (East Hall)
◀ Lottie Isbell Blake, M.D.
Chapel Hall ▶

advanced physiology, Bible doctrines, Bible history, bookkeeping, civil government, elementary algebra, elements of physics, history, pedagogy and botany. In an effort to elevate the instruction offered, Lottie Isbell Blake, M.D., the first black faculty and the first professor with a doctorate, was hired to teach hygiene, simple treatments, and physiology in 1905.

Reflective of its new name, manual training courses increased and included caring for stock, feeding and care of cows, crop rotation; selection, care, use and repair of agricultural tools and equipment, cultivation of soil, fertilizers, and culture of fruit trees and small fruits (1904); broom making, blacksmithing, chair caning, and bee culture (1905-1906). Young women studied canning and drying of fruits, darning, mending, dishwashing, sewing, household economy, and floriculture. Both men and women studied food combining, menu preparation, hygienic cooking, landscape gardening, milking and dairy products, and raising poultry. The property expanded when 600 acres of land were purchased; several sources of revenue were explored. Ellen G. White embarked on another plan to raise funds for

Oakwood. She urged church members to sell copies of her book, *Christ's Object Lessons*, so that the school could benefit from the profit made through sales.² Monetary gifts and equipment from donors were also solicited.

In 1907 through 1908, students began specializing in particular areas of study such as Bible, Mission and Church School, Stenographer and Secretary, Sacred Music, and Nurse Preparatory. The Nurse Preparatory major was the first to graduate students. Ruth Baskin, LaCotte Green, Amelia Knapp, Mary Moore, and Anna Parkins made up Oakwood's first graduating class, the Class of 1909. The promise of developing "Christian workers" to serve their communities was realized and the progress continues. ☺

REFERENCES

Warren, M.A. (2010). *Oakwood! A Vision Splendid Continues: 1896-2010*, pp. 75-108. <https://archive.org/details/oakwoodvision18962010warr>

¹ White, Ellen G. (1905). *The Collection for the Colored Work*. [http://adventistdigitalibrary.org/adl-351322/advent-review-and-sabbath-herald-september-28-1905?solr_nav\[id\]=38ec6731022b8adbe6a8&solr_nav\[page\]=0&solr_nav\[offset\]=0](http://adventistdigitalibrary.org/adl-351322/advent-review-and-sabbath-herald-september-28-1905?solr_nav[id]=38ec6731022b8adbe6a8&solr_nav[page]=0&solr_nav[offset]=0)

² White, Ellen G. (1905). *Manuscript 103. The Huntsville School*. <http://m.egwritings.org/en/book/10639.23>

FIND SOMEONE

TO WIN

Look closely and you'll see someone the Lord wants you to reach. Send them *Message*.



1-800-765-6955
www.MessageMagazine.com

FALL 2016

Connect with us!



messagemagazine



message1898

Find the Message Magazine App on



iTunes

or



Google Play

Subscribe through your church campaign for the campaign price.

Subscribe on messagemagazine.com/subscribe

Subscribe by calling us at: 1-800-456-3991



Call us

if you have questions, want to talk, or want to pray with someone:

1-855-463-2273,
OR, 1855-God Cares.



END NOTES

George Johnson, Jr., Director of Integrated Marketing & Public Relations

Take a Deeper Look

In this my final editorial, I share with you a memory from about eight years ago when my wife and I decided to experience one of the greatest American dreams for our family—purchasing our first home. After we attended a first-time homebuyer’s workshop, and many meetings with a financial advisor, we felt we were ready for this investment.

We were really excited when we met our realtor. She sat with us and asked about the type of home we’d like to live in. This being our first home, we had all of the specifics written down. We had a list of our wants and needs. Some of the necessities included a yard for the boys to play in, a family room, and neighbors who weren’t noisy. Everyone has his or her desires for the perfect home, right?

Many a Sunday (and even some weekdays) we found ourselves looking at homes. Some homes were single-family homes and others were townhomes. Some were just a few years old while others held memories of a few decades. We didn’t want to rush this decision as this was going to be a huge investment.

During our search, there was one specific house that stood out in my mind. The home had well manicured landscaping already developed. It also had nice columns on the front porch, which gave the home a very regal look. The front porch would allow our family to sit and enjoy the outdoors. It was in a very convenient area of town, which would allow us easy access to family, friends, and work. There were so many positives about this home – this had to be “our house.”

After checking out everything outside, the realtor let us in. As we walked in the front door, we began to see things that we weren’t really expecting. The wooden floorboards seemed a little uneven as we walked across the floor. The walls seemed to have stains from water damage. And to top it all off, there was a strong odor of mildew.

What happened to our perfect-looking prospective home? This home that appeared to look perfect from the outside had many problems going on in the inside. Maybe we could overlook the things that were wrong in the inside. Could this be possible?

Thinking back now about that home, I see an object lesson. How many of us (and I count myself in that number) have a perfect looking outward appearance but have a few things on the inside that we need to work on? 1 Samuel 16:7 says, “... for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.” This is a clear reminder that a person can gain the favor of men by putting forth the most polished image of spirituality, professionalism or philanthropy, but what matters the most is what happens on the inside—our heart.

Lord, I pray today that I not only concern myself with how I appear on the outside, but how you truly see me on the inside. Amen.



Accolades

During the HBCU Executive Media Training Institute on July 14-17, 2016, in Washington, D.C., *Oakwood Magazine* was named “Best HBCU Alumni Publication.”

According to the website, the HBCU Awards acknowledges and celebrates achievement at historically Black colleges and universities throughout the United States. Crowning winners in the fields of leadership, arts, athletics, research, and community engagement, this is the first and only event to recognize the influence and impact of HBCUs on American culture.

“Oakwood deserves a lot of credit for the quality of its publication this year,” said Jarrett Carter, Sr., founding editor of *HBCU Digest* and organizer of the event. “In an extraordinary submission cycle of beautiful design and quality writing, Oakwood stood out for the strong combination of its storytelling, information provision, and graphic appeal,” he said. Finalists in the category included *Florida A&M University Magazine*, *Alcorn: The Magazine*, and *NCCU Now Magazine*.

Director of Integrated Marketing & Public Relations and Magazine Editor George Johnson, Jr., pictured, shares the award with Kisha Norris, publisher; Debbe Millet, managing editor; Richard Hodnett, advertising manager; Ron Pride, designer; Anthony Chornes, II, photographer; Kanique Mighty-Nugent, webmaster; and OUBN.



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY
 7000 Adventist Boulevard, NW
 Huntsville, AL 35896

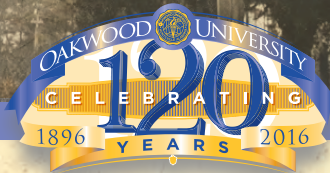
FOUNDER'S DAY

Celebration

COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES ON NOVEMBER 9-16, 2016



CELEBRATING 120 YEARS



OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

I HAVE STRONG ASSURANCE THAT THE RIGHT THING IS BEING DONE AT HUNTSVILLE. LET ALL CONNECTED WITH THIS SCHOOL BE INTERESTED IN ITS SUCCESS...LET LESSONS BE GIVEN IN VARIOUS LINES THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO THE CHARACTER BUILDING. "WE ARE LABORERS TOGETHER WITH GOD; YE ARE GOD'S HUSBANDRY, YE ARE GOD'S BUILDING."

— MARCH 28, 1905, OAKWOOD FOUNDER, ELLEN G. WHITE



For more information, visit oakwood.edu

OakwoodUniversity @OakwoodU OakwoodU