

SUMMER 12

HOWARD

magazine

Renewing the
Bison
Legacy

Building on the Bison Legacy

It's been four years since Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., opened the 2008–2009 academic year with an optimistic message about the University's future. As he delivered his first full address as president of Howard during the 141st Opening Convocation, Ribeau reflected on the University's amazing legacy and how it had paved the way for so many. He also outlined some initial plans for how that legacy could be enhanced to help cultivate future generations of young men and women. He spoke of collective engagement and support from the entire Howard family. "Our responsibility is to ensure that this is fertile ground for that legacy to grow," he said.

Since then, the Ribeau administration has worked to "grow the legacy," with a focus on collaboration; academic, faculty and campus renewal; student achievement and retention; and renewed agendas for research and global initiatives. This issue of *Howard Magazine* features Ribeau's reflections on how these initiatives have impacted the University, while he provides a road map on how the University can continue to build on the Bison legacy.

Also featured in this issue is an interview with Wendell Freeland, a longtime civil rights attorney and a former Tuskegee Airman who earned his wings, so to speak, while an undergrad at Howard in the 1940s. Freeland is featured in the Profiles in Leadership column, where he explains how his early experiences at Howard emboldened him to wage personal battles against racism. With the release of the movie *Red Tails* earlier this year, which was co-produced by alumnus Chas "Charles" Floyd Johnson, there has been a renewed interest in the Airmen, many of whom are Howard alums. Thankfully, a new generation can now witness the courage that Freeland and his "fly boy" brothers demonstrated so long ago.

Finally, in keeping with Ribeau's directive of growing the legacy, the University recently launched a \$25 million scholarship campaign designed to reduce the disparity in unmet financial need for students in good academic standing. Ribeau announced the Bridging the Gap Student

Aid Campaign during this year's Charter Day Dinner in March. The primary goal of the campaign is student retention. Please take a moment to complete the envelope enclosed in this magazine and give back to your *alma mater* to support this campaign and others so that the fertile ground, which President Ribeau spoke about four years ago, will flourish.

We hope you enjoy this issue, and, as always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to send us an e-mail at magazine@howard.edu.

Raven Padgett, Editor

PRESIDENT

Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

Judi Moore Latta, Ph.D.

EDITOR

Raven Padgett

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Mobosola Asanpaola, Jordan Duckens, Jo-Ann English, Damien T. Frierson, M.S.W., Kerry-Ann Hamilton, Ph.D., Ron Harris, Shannen Hill, Tamara E. Holmes, Brittany Hutson, Yanick Rice Lamb, Rachel Mann, Debra Osemwegie, Grace I. Virtue, Ph.D., Aleia Woods

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Cesar, Marvin T. Jones, Justin D. Knight

Howard Magazine has a circulation of 80,000 and is published three times a year by the Office of University Communications. Please send address changes and letters to:
2225 Georgia Avenue, NW
Suite 603
Washington, DC 20059
Phone: 202-238-2330
Fax: 202-986-0409

E-mail: magazine@howard.edu

howardmagazine.idigitaledition.com


Cover photo: President Ribeau's leadership has left an indelible mark on the University, and has helped students think about how they can create their own Bison legacy.

Front cover photo: Cesar

Back cover illustration: Alex Barnes

Stay up-to-date with events and news at Howard.

www.howard.edu/newsroom and
www.howard.edu/Capstone.

 Howard.edu

Design and Copyediting

 tmg custom media

HOWARD

SUMMER12

features

I4 Renewing the Bison Legacy

Four years later, the tenure of President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., is defined by academic renewal and campus revitalization, while his vision for Howard University's future includes increasing research and global initiatives.

Footsteps: Hilltop News and Events



3 Spotlight On



4 On Campus: News and Events

Footprints: Alumni Profiles and Updates

- 22 Notable Alumni
- 24 Profiles in Leadership
- 26 Milestones: Alumni Achievements
- 30 In Memoriam
- 32 Bison Bookshelf





Connaitre Miller

By Brittany Hutson (B.A. '09)

At age 4, Connaitre Miller learned to play the piano simply by imitating songs she heard. But in her first year at Kansas State University, her dreams of becoming a classical pianist dissipated because, she says, she lacked the discipline to spend the required hours practicing. In her junior year, she enrolled in an elective class, Jazz Lab Band, even though she had no experience playing jazz music and hadn't grown up listening to it. She fell in love with the music and became especially interested in vocal jazz ensemble.

Today, Miller is sharing her talent and love for jazz with students in Howard's music department as an associate professor and vocal jazz coordinator. She is also the force behind the award-winning jazz vocal ensemble group, Afro Blue. Before arriving at Howard in 2001, Miller spent six years in South Australia at the Elder Conservatorium of Music, where she built a jazz vocal program. When Miller formed Afro Blue in 2002, she wanted to introduce students to the various styles of jazz.

"I had no idea it was going to take off the way it did," she says.

Last June, Miller organized the Afro Blue Reunion Jazz Choir, with 24 former and current Afro Blue members who performed with vocalist Bobby McFerrin at the 2011 DC Jazz Festival. This April, Afro Blue released its third CD, *The Best Is Yet to Come*, a compilation of music the group recorded from May 2010–May 2011.

But it was the prime-time debut this past fall on NBC's *The Sing-Off*, a reality singing competition series featuring the country's best a cappella groups, that placed Afro Blue in the national spotlight.

MARVIN T. JONES

“One of the best things about that experience was hearing other people tell me how much respect they had for all the people in Afro Blue. They represented Howard and young African Americans extremely well.”

Miller was initially cautious about having the group compete on the show.

“I don’t really like reality competitions,” she says. “People had sent me information about the show for two years and I had been ignoring it.”

Once Miller learned more about the show from the casting director, she decided the experience would be valuable for her students.

While the group—which included three current Howard students and seven alumni from 2011 and 2010—was dealing with the pressures of reality television, Miller was dealing with her own challenges. She was required to do arrangements for songs selected by the show’s producers, songs she had never heard before.

“I had never seen the show before, so I really didn’t know what the format was or what was involved in the show,” she says.

Though Afro Blue did not make it to the finals, Miller says it was a worthwhile experience for the group, which won adoring fans and received a crash course about the music business in eight weeks. Since then, the students that represented the group on the show have formed a performing entity called Afro Blue Vocal Band.

“One of the best things about that experience was hearing other people tell me how much respect they had for all the people in Afro Blue,” she says. “They represented Howard and young African Americans extremely well.”

Miller, whose postgraduate study is in choral conducting with an emphasis in jazz pedagogy from the University of Northern Colorado, admits that many students arrive to Howard’s music program with no jazz background, particularly because the music is not taught in public schools.

“It’s a shame, because jazz is African Americans’ musical gift to the world,” she says.

Miller serves as the northeastern vocal jazz representative for the National Association for Music Education’s Council for Jazz Education, an organization that advocates for jazz to be incorporated into music curriculums throughout the U.S.

Miller considers the work she has done with Afro Blue the biggest accomplishment of her career thus far. “I’m kind of a gypsy,” she says. “I don’t usually stay in one place too long, but God knows this is what I’m supposed to be doing right now.”

She has developed an undeniable bond with her students that remains even after they receive their diploma. Many, like Reginald Bowens (B.A. ’11), consider Miller a mother figure and often reach out to her for career guidance.

“She is a great teacher who caters to her students,” he says. “Because of the work she’s done within the jazz department, we’ve had more opportunities to perform and reach more people.” ■HU

Hutson is a writer based in Maryland.



Afro Blue’s success on *The Sing-Off* placed Howard’s music department in the national spotlight.

On Campus

News

The Rebirth of the Howard Theatre

In April, Howard University and the LeDroit Park community were reunited with an old friend, the Howard Theatre. The theater's return was led by Roy "Chip" Ellis (B.A. '89), whose Ellis Development Group sparked the \$29 million renovation. The revitalization effort was also supported by Howard University, which provided \$200,000 in grant funding from a HUD/HBCU community development block grant in 2008 for the

revitalization efforts. (For this and other contributions, a tribute to Howard University has been placed prominently on the donor wall in the theater lobby.)

The Howard Theatre is the oldest major

theater built for African Americans in the country. The venue launched some of the world's biggest stars and legends. From Duke Ellington to Marvin Gaye, anyone who was anyone had a moment in the

CEASAR

spotlight of its stage. The Howard Players performed often at the theater in the early 1900s. Ellis says the idea of “amateur night” was even created there.

In 2011, Ellis Development partnered with Four Points and the Jarvis Company to start building Progression Place, a mixed-use, transit-oriented development with 100,000 square feet of office space, a 205-unit luxury apartment building and more than 19,000 square feet of ground-level retail, as well as a two-level underground parking garage. With that underway, the theater was ready for renovation.

Today, the Howard Theatre boasts more than double its original square footage. The full-service bars, kitchen, green rooms and other amenities also make it a jewel for the city. The historic theater dons a replica of its original 1910 façade, topped by the “Jazz Man” and flanked by Duke Ellington immortalized in a statue.

An additional facility will be constructed directly adjacent to the south end of the theater and will be the home of the Howard Theatre Culture and Education Center. The center will house the Howard Theatre Museum, classrooms, a listening library, offices, a recording studio, conference rooms and a donor lounge.



Howard Scholars to Study Abroad

Two Howard University students, Kyle R. Burton and Rehana Packwood, received the Luard Scholarship and will spend their junior year studying in the United Kingdom.

Burton, a biology major from St. Louis, Mo., plans to become a transplant surgeon. He is vice president of programming for Phi Delta Epsilon International Medical Fraternity, D.C. Alpha Chapter, and honors council representative for the College of Arts and Sciences Honors Association. Packwood, a graphic design major from Orlando, Fla., serves on the executive board for the Japanese Culture Club on campus.

Since 1969, the Luard Scholarship—sponsored by the English-Speaking Union—has provided full junior-year-abroad scholarships to the United Kingdom for academically talented sophomores attending Howard or Hampton, as well as United Negro College Fund institutions.



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Law School Ranks Highly in Public Service

The Howard University School of Law was ranked by *The National Jurist* magazine as one of the top 20 schools in the nation for producing public service graduates.

The schools were identified based on data collected from American Bar Association law schools across the nation. Top-rated schools had strong showings in job placement, curriculum and standard of living. Howard's ranking was within the government sector category. The other public service categories ranked by the magazine were prosecution and public defenders, state and local clerkships and public interest. The rankings appeared in the January 2012 issue of the magazine.

At Howard, 19 percent of new law school graduates take jobs in the government sector, a percentage that outranks a number of other law schools in the country. The School of Law's location also sets it apart. Ten of the top 15 law schools for government are located in either Washington, D.C., or in a state capital.



JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

New Leader at Helm of Moorland-Spingarn and University Libraries

Howard Dodson Jr., a national leader in the movement to preserve African-American history, was named director of the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center and the Howard University Library System. Dodson retired last year as director of Harlem's Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture after 27 years of service.

"Howard Dodson brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise," said President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D. "He will be instrumental as we execute our research agenda and preserve our cultural treasures."

Dodson says his main focus at Howard will be directed at the renovation of Moorland-Spingarn—recognized as one of the world's most comprehensive facilities for the documentation of the history and culture of people of African descent—and upgrading the University's library system. He has already increased the hours of operation at Moorland, from three to five days, and the Undergraduate Library is now open 24 hours a day. He also plans to relaunch the Moorland website.

"We have too few centers that are documenting the global Black experience. Moorland has been one of the most important ones for nearly 100 years," he said.

Dodson believes that Moorland-Spingarn is a direct passage to African-American history on Howard's campus and wants to build a stronger connection with students, the faculty and the University's curriculum.

"The students too often mistake the function of the library to be a place where you go to the stacks and you sit and be quiet. I want that to change," he says. "The library should be a proactive participant in the student learning enter-

prise. This is done by making the library more available for study and research."

Dodson is credited with extending the reach and reputation of the Schomburg Center through major exhibitions and acquisitions. Under his direction, the center's holdings doubled to 10 million, while attendance tripled to 120,000 people per year. Acquisitions included the collections of Malcolm X, Lorraine Hansberry and Maya Angelou.

Dodson was born in Chester, Pa., in 1939 and graduated from West Chester State College in 1961 with a degree in social studies and secondary education. In 1964, he earned a master's degree in history and political science from Villanova University. After graduation, he joined the Peace Corps, serving for two years in Ecuador and later as a national Peace Corps staff member.

Dodson's books include *Becoming American: The African-American Journey*; *In Motion: the African-American Migration Experience*; *Jubilee: the Emergence of African-American Culture*; and *The Black New Yorkers: The Schomburg Illustrated Chronology*.

In recognition of his contribution to the development of the Schomburg Center, Dodson has received honorary doctorates from Villanova University, the City University of New York, West Chester State University, Adelphi University and Widener University. In 2010, Dodson was designated a New York City "Living Landmark" by the New York Landmarks Conservancy.

"I do things with the aim of being successful," he says. "I have no aspirations to be less than the best."





President Ribeau Named Educator of the Year

Howard University President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., received the Educator of the Year Award at the World Affairs Council's 2012 Global Education Gala in Washington, D.C. The theme for the gala was "A National Priority: Bridging a Global Education Learning Gap."

Ribeau accepted the award on behalf of Howard faculty, students, staff and alumni and in recognition of the past and current roles the University has played in

international affairs and global education.

"Global education is an essential ingredient of democratic societies, and nations must prepare their citizens for involvement with a culturally diverse and interconnected worldwide community," Ribeau said. "True citizenship now assumes an awareness of different cultures and religions and global political, environmental, technological and economic systems."

Divinity School to Study Black Churches

The School of Divinity received a \$1 million, three-year research grant from the Lilly Endowment Inc. The grant—"Equipping the Saints: Promising Practices in Black Congregational Life"—will study African-American churches in three major cities and one rural location and document the best practices in those communities that lead to the spiritual, physical and mental health in Black congregations.

Divinity school faculty, doctoral students and others will work in teams, conducting research in Atlanta, Detroit, Washington, D.C., and Tuskegee, Ala.

"We will be looking at everything from youth, economic development and the worship experience to mental health, HIV/AIDS and criminal offenders," said Alton B. Pollard III, Ph.D., dean of the School of Divinity and the grant's principal investigator.

A Divinity school faculty member will head each research team. Within each community, the faculty will work with doctoral students and professors at local universities and colleges. The researchers will choose at least two churches in each community to examine, with no specific requirements other than having congregations that are primarily of African descent.

"They can be of any denomination, heritage, small or large," Pollard said. "They can be store front, they can be mega churches, none of them are out of bounds."

Pollard said the school will set up a resource bank on its website, and at the conclusion of the project will publish a book with contributions from those who worked on the project.



Alton B. Pollard III



The Department of Theatre Arts' season came to a close with *Passing Strange*, a semi-autobiographical story of a young Black man who leaves behind his middle-class upbringing in mid-1970s Los Angeles to travel to Europe in search of his artistic and personal identity. After sellout performances this season for *Miss Evers' Boys* and *For Colored Girls*, the Department of Theatre Arts is looking forward to another outstanding year.

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



School of Business Dean Barron Harvey, Ph.D. (front center), with the inaugural EMBA class

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT

Online MBA Program Launches

This spring, Howard University began classes for its new online Executive MBA program. The online format of the 42-credit hour, 18-month program is designed to deliver a management education that is accessible to professionals who desire to work full time while completing their degree.

"EMBA offers one of the best programs in terms of history and legacy and is presented on a platform accessible around the world," said Kim Wells, Ph.D., director of The School of Business Executive Education Programs.

The School of Business has been ranked among the top U.S. schools by *Bloomberg Businessweek*. *The Princeton Review* has consistently ranked Howard's MBA program as the top business program for the "Greatest Opportunity for Minority Students."



Calvin H. Sinnette, Ph.D.

Examining the Life of an Unsung Hero

In March, author Calvin H. Sinnette, Ph.D., (M.D. '49) gave a lecture in Founders Library on one of the unsung heroes of the Harlem Renaissance, alumnus Rudolph Fisher (M.D. '24). Sinnette, *emeritus* clinical professor of pediatrics in the College of Medicine and former assistant vice president of health affairs at Howard, has spent 20 years researching Fisher's contributions during that prolific era. He will soon publish his work in what will be the first biography of Fisher, a physician and radiologist at Howard, and the author of *The Walls of Jericho*, about Black life in Harlem. (Fisher is also credited with writing the first detective novel with Black characters.)

During the lecture, Sinnette shared much of his research on the man who was a contemporary of Langston Hughes and Zora Neale Hurston, and described the role that Howard University played in Fisher's life.

"What I found most interesting about him is the fact that he was so talented and had so much ability," says Sinnette. "Howard showed him that he could get the same kind of education that he could get anywhere and that there were brilliant faculty members and students here at Howard. He was proud to be a member of the student body."

JUSTIN D. KNIGHT



The 20th Annual Scandrett Disabilities Fund Fundraiser and Awards Ceremony was held in March. Arthur Scandrett (B.A. '69), pictured, center, established the fund to help the University's disabled students and through the years has distributed more than 70 scholarships. For more information, visit www.disabilitiesscholarship.com.

Bison Apps for This & That

By Yanick Rice Lamb

An Anacostia resident can learn more about community gardens in Southeast Washington or other quadrants of the District through a mobile application created by schoolchildren. Called Go Green D.C.: Community Garden Edition, the app is making its debut on Google Play this summer, thanks to alumna Leshell Hatley (B.S.C.E. '94; M.C.S. '98).

In 2009, Hatley founded Youth AppLab, an afterschool program that exposes African-American and Latino students to STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) topics through the creation of Android apps. Hatley is one of a growing number of Bison stimulating the development and use of apps to enlighten, empower and entertain.

In a 2011 Spring Tracking Survey, 36 percent of African-American and Hispanic respondents said they downloaded apps, compared with 28 percent of Whites, according to the Pew Research Center's Internet and American Life Project report, "Americans and Their Cell Phones."

Their ranks are increasing with the so-called "appification of the Web" and growing interest in targeted apps, each narrowly focused on anything from paying parking meter fees to playing Angry Birds. Apple says it has more than 500,000 apps in its App Store. By the start of 2012, 10 billion apps had been down-

loaded on Android devices and 18 billion on Mac products. Both Apple and Google claim 1 billion downloads a month.

Hatley is pleased that more people of color are using technology, but she says it's even more important to create it. That's why she founded the STEM afterschool program for middle and high school students through her nonprofit, Uplift Inc. For her efforts to diversify experts in STEM, Hatley won a \$162,000 grant from the MacArthur Foundation through its Digital Media and Learning Competition.

Other Bison developers attracting national attention include: Tiffani Bell, who after playing phone tag with her hair stylist, came up with Pencil You In so women can book salon appointments online; Kenicia Cross (B.A. '04), Angelique Michelle (B.A. '04) and Tiffany Long (B.F.A. '04), who allow people to have a stylist at their fingertips with the iCONIQ Virtual Wardrobe app; and Raissa Nebie (B.B.A. '02), who blends food and people with the Spoondate app.

While these are all unique, "one of the things we have to guard against is people building apps that already exist," cautions Todd Shurn, Ph.D., associate professor of systems and computer science. He encourages students to create one-of-a-kind apps that are appealing yet functional.

Shurn's Game Engine Programming class is working on an interdisciplinary project to create an educational app with Digitally Speaking columnist Ingrid Sturgis and her journalism students. Through a collaboration with Google, Legand L. Burge III, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of Systems and Computer Science, is teaching a class in which his students are developing free and paid Android apps. The apps range from one that can locate food trucks to a game that



Lamb

helps schoolchildren solve math problems, said Burge, who also taught Hatley and Bell.

During the spring semester, the University's Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) launched an "App of the Week" program to help students, faculty and staff learn more about technology and work more efficiently. ETS researches and highlights free tools for the program. These include Junos Pulse, which makes it easier to use PeopleSoft; OnLive Desktop, which lets users view their computer files on iPads; and an app to help students with final exams. ETS is also working with Howard's Center for Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment on technology training and rolling out a program on iTunes U.

The University plans to develop its own apps in the future. "We are revamping our technology here at Howard," says Trina L. Coleman, Ph.D., executive director of ETS. "It will be a benefit to our students if we empower our staff and faculty to embrace technology more and be more understanding of how it works, what it can do and the things we have available."

Yanick Rice Lamb (M.B.A. '05), co-founder of Fully-Connected.com, is an associate professor and coordinator of the Print/Online Journalism Sequence at Howard University.



Charter Day 2012

Howard University celebrated its 145th year of “truth and service” in Cramton Auditorium in March during this year’s Charter Day Convocation. California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris (B.A. ’86) served as the keynote speaker.

Harris spoke on Howard’s mission of developing distinguished, historically aware and compassionate students, and reflected on how her accomplishments stemmed from her successes as a Howard

student. In January 2011, Harris became the first African-American and Indian-American woman to be elected California’s attorney general.

“You, my Howard students, are on the path right now,” she said. “It started on the first day you walked onto this campus. As a Howard student, you have a role to play right now. Start now and take advantage of all this campus and our nation’s capital have to offer. Start now

and I promise you, your impact will be greater.”

Five alumni were honored for their accomplishments during the 88th Annual Charter Day Dinner—George W. Draper III (J.D. ’81), law; Freda C. Lewis-Hall (M.D. ’80), medicine and health care leadership; C. David Moody Jr. (B. Arch. ’82), architecture; Sharon Pratt (B.A. ’65; J.D. ’68), politics; and M. Kasim Reed (B.A. ’92; J.D. ’95), politics.

CEASAR



Honoree Lewis-Hall with President Ribeau



President Ribeau with honoree Moody, trustee chair A. Barry Rand and trustee Cornelle Leverette Moore



President Ribeau with trustee Amy S. Hilliard and honoree Reed



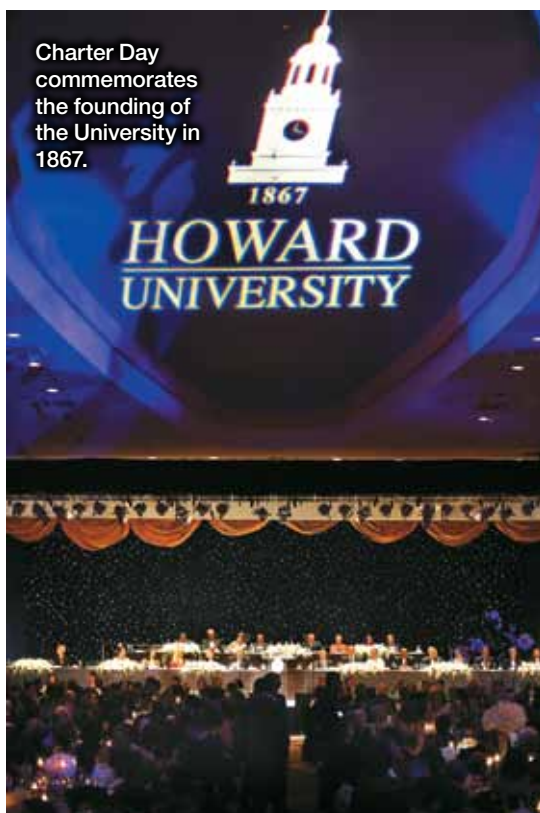
Harris gave an uplifting speech during this year's Charter Day Convocation.



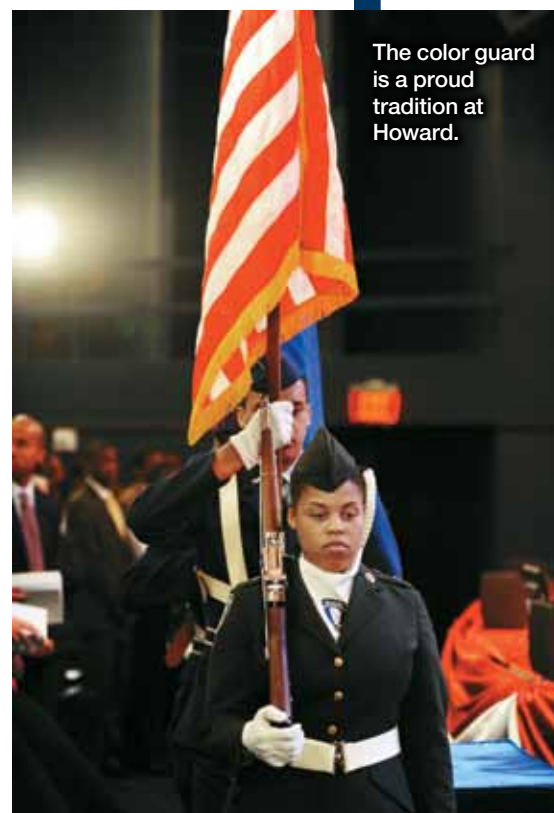
Honoree Draper, trustee chair Rand and trustee Larkin Arnold Jr.



Honoree Pratt, trustee chair Rand and trustee Benaree Pratt Wiley



Charter Day commemorates the founding of the University in 1867.



The color guard is a proud tradition at Howard.



School of Social Work students and faculty spent 10 days in South Africa engaged in various aspects of service learning.

Service Learning in South Africa

By Damien T. Frierson, M.S.W.

For the third consecutive year, students and faculty members from the Howard University School of Social Work (HUSW) traveled to Cape Town, South Africa, for 10 days as a part of the International Service Learning-Alternative Spring Break (ISL-ASB) program. From visiting child welfare programs, substance abuse agencies, refugee centers and community development programs to participating in local service activities, HUSW students learned how they can enhance their own social work practice in the U.S.

According to Cudore L. Snell (D.S.W. '88), dean of the School of Social Work

and a native of Cape Town, such programs have become critical to not only the social work profession but Howard's mission of preparing students to serve diverse communities.

"The need to educate students to live and work in an ever-growing global society is now stronger than ever," says Snell. "Programs like ours at Howard allow students to live up to our mission of preparing leadership for America and the global community."

In addition to their service activities, students were required to maintain journals chronicling their time in South Africa and will share their experiences as part of a presentation for the University community. After reflecting on his visit to Cape Town, Robert Taylor Jr., a first-year M.S.W. student, was inspired by the dedication that he noticed among the social workers at the different agencies. "You saw this sense of passion and purpose in the way social workers approached their work in South Africa," says Taylor. "It made me

consider how much more effective I can be as a social worker if I exude that same dedication to service.”

“ISL-ASB equips students with a better understanding of themselves as prospective social workers,” says Sandra Edmonds Crewe (Ph.D. ’97), associate dean for academic affairs and student advancement. “Coming face to face with the poverty of the townships amidst the beauty of Cape Town is the perfect storm. It awakens the students to the unique opportunities they have when they return home to fight harder for social justice and human rights.”

The program has continued to grow since it was first conceived as a part of HUSSW’s student leaders, faculty and administrators’ efforts to best utilize special funding from the University’s Net Tuition Revenue Rebate program in 2009. “Since that time we have been able to provide this opportunity to 67 students and 18 faculty members,” says Lucinda Acquaye, graduate assistant to the dean, who has coordinated the trip since it began.

This year’s highlights included visiting the University of the Western Cape, participating in communion services with anti-apartheid and human rights activist Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and being acknowledged as visitors during a session of parliament.

Still, students were most moved by their service within the local communities of Cape Town. The agencies that host HUSSW students also see the program as an opportunity for greater collaborations. Helen Shongwe, childcare worker and manager of Pinocchio Creche in Cape Town, views the visits as an opportunity to build friendships across cultures and countries.

“I think the interaction with us is better than telling people about what we do,” says Shongwe. “For us it is a moral boost, it is a spiritual boost—a wonderful way of fellowship with people from different areas and cultures.”

Frierson is a writer based in Maryland.



Alternative Spring Break 2012

This year, Howard students and staff volunteered in Atlanta, Chicago, Detroit, New Orleans, Washington, D.C. and Haiti for the annual Alternative Spring Break. Led by ASB Executive Director Paula Whetsel-Ribeau, Ph.D., the volunteers participated in numerous activities, including tutoring elementary school students, advocating for stricter gun laws and rebuilding and enhancing communities.

To read more about this year’s ASB program, visit www.howard.edu/asb/2012.







Renewing the Bison Legacy

By Tamara E. Holmes (B.A. '94)

Four years in, the tenure of President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., is defined by academic renewal and campus revitalization, while his vision for Howard University's future includes increasing research and global initiatives.

When President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., delivered the 141st Opening Convocation address on Sept. 26, 2008, a spirit of hope and promise punctuated the air. Cramton Auditorium was filled to capacity, as students, faculty, administrators, staff and alumni anticipated getting a preview of the University's future. For some, it would be their first opportunity to get a feel for the new president.

Ribeau spoke of Howard's history and the accomplishments of such alumni as former Virginia Gov. L. Douglas Wilder and Nobel Prize-winning author Toni Morrison, both of whom transformed their fields and the world with their contributions. But while he lauded Howard's storied past, he honed in on the future: "Our responsibility is to ensure that this is fertile ground for that legacy to grow," he said.

In order for that to happen, he continued, "we can't just say because we *were* that we *will be*. We must develop

academic programs, we must utilize our resources and we must have systems of reward and accountability that assure excellence in everything that we do."

He then outlined part of his plan for achieving that vision. He mentioned the need for renovated facilities and spoke of his desire to see Howard significantly expand its research portfolio as one of the country's premier research institutions. He also described the importance of developing a "customer service orientation," a proclamation that was met with thunderous applause and a standing ovation.

He even gave the Howard community an idea of what his leadership style would be. "Collaboration" and "transparency" were the words he used. "A leader cannot separate himself or herself from the people," he said.

Since that day four years ago, Ribeau has been making good on those promises.

PHOTOS BY CEASAR




“... we can’t just say because we *were* that we *will be*. We must develop academic programs, we must utilize our resources and we must have systems of reward and accountability that assure excellence in everything that we do.”

“What I heard him say is what I’ve seen him do,” says LaSalle Leffall (M.D. ’52), interim provost and senior vice president for Academic Affairs and Health Sciences. “He’s living up to what he’s outlined. He’s not just saying one thing and doing another.”

A Time of Great Change

As the unanimous choice of the University’s Board of Trustees to become Howard’s 16th president, Ribeau began his term during a time of tremendous change both in the country and in higher education. The United States was on the verge of electing its first African-American president. At the same time, the country was teetering dangerously close to another Great Depression. Colleges and universities across the country were experiencing their own crises as the



economic fallout impacted government funding, private giving and students' ability to secure loans for tuition and related educational costs.

"What happens in the national economy and what happens in higher education also impact Howard," says Ribeau, who was president of Bowling Green State University in Ohio for 13 years before coming to Howard.

While there were clearly enormous challenges facing Howard, Ribeau chose to focus on the progress that could be made, and set about charting a different course for the University. From the beginning, he sought to infuse Howard with a spirit of collaboration.

"In that first semester and throughout the first year, I visited all schools and colleges, hosted town halls and met with staff and students to learn about their expectations and ideas," he says.

He was also briefed on the results of a listening tour that had collected insights from alumni, friends and supporters of the University in the months

leading to his arrival at Howard. "All of that information created a composite that helped me weave together ways for people to work together collaboratively and build something that they would help to execute and to support," he says.

Perhaps the defining action of his term thus far has been the President's Commission on Academic Renewal (PCAR). When he arrived, the University was at a unique juncture in its history. Howard's role had traditionally been to educate African Americans when few other institutions of higher learning would. As a result, Howard had to be all things to all people, educating students in almost all disciplines and areas of study and preparing many of the nation's Black professionals.

However, with diversity in higher education, it no longer has to play this role to

the degree that it once had. Ribeau also recognized that it was difficult to finance and sustain all of the academic programs at the high level of excellence associated with the University's tradition. PCAR provided an opportunity for Howard to build upon its strengths and determine which programs it would focus on in the future.

A Historic Initiative

The faculty-led PCAR initiative was designed to review each of Howard's undergraduate, graduate and professional degree academic programs and align them with the University's mission, vision, strategic goals and available resources.

"Dr. Ribeau demonstrated a historically unique respect for the faculty in that he included faculty in a major decision like academic renewal," says Joan C. Payne, Ph.D., vice chair of the Faculty Senate and a professor in the School of Communications' Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. "The last time there was a group that gathered together for academic renewal, it was largely made up of administrators. This time it was largely made up of faculty."

The commission evaluated each academic program to identify strengths and weaknesses and to ensure the University would remain competitive in the higher education community. "To get faculty to come together in the social sciences and talk about programs in dentistry, or get the medical scientists and the health scientists to come together and talk about literature and art, is historic," says Ribeau.

The PCAR initiative also gave the University an opportunity to update its undergraduate core curriculum and its approach to the administration of its graduate programs. It culminated with a proposal to reallocate funding, faculty and staff resources to the strongest academic programs. Ribeau's final recommendations were met with approval by the Board of Trustees.

But not everyone was happy with the initiative and, Ribeau admits, there was some pushback. Yet the changes resulting from PCAR made good academic and business

sense. "There were some programs that hadn't graduated a student in five years and had two currently enrolled in courses. For them to get the same support as a program that has 1,200 students wasn't in the best interest of the University."

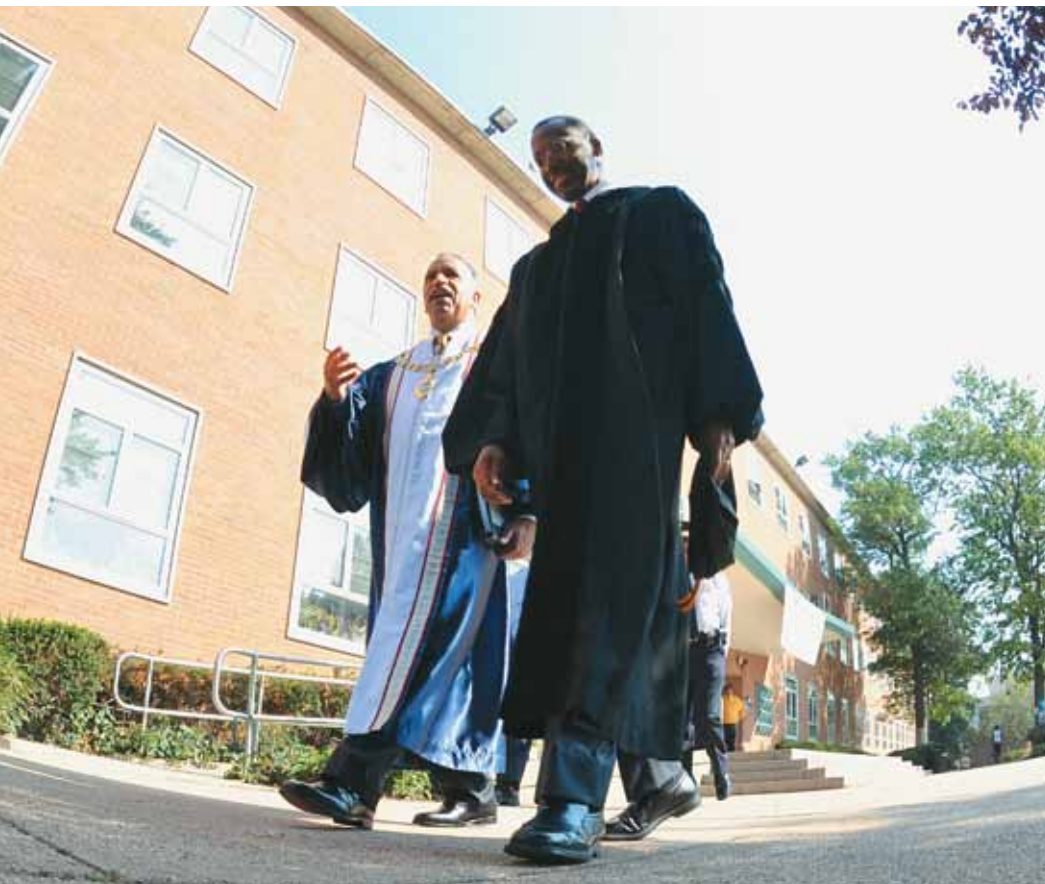
And while much of the attention surrounding PCAR focused on programs that were losing support, "I think we developed more new collaborative things through PCAR than we took away," Ribeau says.

As a result of PCAR, the University developed a new doctorate in computer science with a specialization in cybersecurity; a revised classics program reflecting ancient Mediterranean studies; and a recommendation to transform the general education curriculum that enhances teaching and learning outcomes. In response to a national need, in April the Board of Trustees approved a new undergraduate degree in elementary education and a master's degree in school psychology and counseling.

Another collaborative idea borne from PCAR was the decision to create "the Howard Experience," a course every new student will take to learn about the University's legacy and the expectations and responsibilities that come with being a Howard student. Ribeau is clear that the Howard Experience will not merely focus on the accomplishments of legends such as Thurgood Marshall. Rather, it will also seek to define the role Howard students can play in social justice today.

"It will look at what the Howard experience means when it comes to the environment and sustainability," says Ribeau. "What it means when it comes to cases like Trayvon Martin."

The PCAR experience has also led to a renewed focus on health studies, programs relevant to the African Diaspora and the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. "We should own the STEM space," says Ribeau. "The production of young women and men that graduate in the STEM areas is responsive to President Obama's national agenda and the need for the increased production of African-American STEM degree recipients." An emphasis on STEM



“Effective and competitive faculty and student research can only take place in a high-quality environment.”

also brings Howard full-circle, since the first Ph.D. program at the University was in chemistry, he points out.

The increased emphasis on research is in keeping with Ribeau’s desire to have Howard climb the ranks of the nation’s top research institutions, which is as much an aspirational objective as a substantive goal. Having the University strive to rank among the top research universities in the country is an undertaking many can wrap their minds around, but Ribeau is most concerned about students embracing a new way of learning.

“Research is an intellectual process,” he says. “It’s a way of discovering new ideas and insights and solving problems.”

To elevate its position as a research institution, Howard is making strides in many areas including funding, research administration support for faculty and the modernization of research facilities. “We have worked hard to increase our capacity in each of these areas,” he says.

A Plan for Renewal

The overhauls introduced by the Ribeau administration have not been confined to academic programs. Of the nearly 100 buildings on Howard’s main campus, Law School campus and Divinity School campus, more than 40 were built prior to 1950. The University has embarked upon a facilities renewal plan that will see the construction of two new residence halls, a new academic building—the Interdisciplinary Science Building—and a mixed-use recreation, health and wellness cen-



ter. In addition, there are upgrades being made to other buildings across campus, including Cramton Auditorium, Burr Gymnasium, Downing Hall, Chemistry, the Tubman Quadrangle, Locke Hall and the Adams Building.

“Effective and competitive faculty and student research can only take place in a high-quality environment,” says Ribeau.

Renewal is a theme that is also ensuring that Howard has the most efficient and productive administration and staff. One of Ribeau’s goals has been to provide high-quality services and support to students, faculty, staff, alumni and the general community. That means making sure areas such as finance, information technology, human resources and student support services run so smoothly that students and faculty don’t even think about them. In the past four years, Howard has automated many of these processes and examined whether it made sense to do some things differently. Some positions have been eliminated or consolidated, “but the benchmark is not just consolidation for consolidation’s sake,” says Ribeau.

The goal is to provide better services and more efficiency. “If we can save money, that’s important, but we need to be good at what we do,” he adds.

The Phased Retirement Program (PRP) is one of the prongs to Ribeau’s commitment to faculty renewal. Approximately two-thirds of Howard’s faculty is eligible to retire, a potential crisis that is shared by many institutions of higher learning across the country. To avoid a mass exodus that could hamper Howard’s ability to successfully operate its academic and research programs, Ribeau introduced the PRP, which allows faculty to progressively reduce their workload over a period of up to five years, and also creates an opportunity for Howard to recruit new faculty members.

One of the goals expressed during the PCAR process was to attract an increasing number of new nationally recognized faculty members. Years ago, it was easier for Howard to attract the best and the brightest because African-American scholars were denied entrance into other institutions. Today, Howard must make the case for why talented faculty mem-

bers should build their careers at the University. Working with the Faculty Senate, Ribeau charged a committee to review faculty compensation. His goal is to design a plan that will enhance faculty performance-based compensation, which would position the University to recruit and retain outstanding faculty. The revitalization occurring across Howard’s campus will also help Howard make its case when recruiting faculty.

“We will showcase what we’re doing in Diaspora studies, we’ll showcase what we’re doing in STEM and we’ll have new facilities so people will want to come here,” Ribeau says. “The Phased Retirement Program, the facilities renewal and the compensation plan all come together to allow us to attract and retain the highest-quality faculty.”

Student Life and Learning

During his tenure, Ribeau has sought to transform the overall student experience. He launched the Students First Initiative (SFI) to enhance the University’s student-centered learning environment and to improve the quality of service delivery to students.

A steering committee composed of students, faculty, staff and alumni made recommendations to improve the student experience within the academic and extracurricular environments. The committee also assessed the immediate, organizational and long-term improvements that would be necessary to enhance the quality of student life and learning on campus and ultimately serve as the basis for policy development and resource allocation within the University.

“This program was designed to say symbolically that the students were the center of our efforts at Howard,” says Ribeau.

Tackling the Challenges Head On

Though he has accomplished a tremendous amount in his first four years, major challenges remain. With funding support from the federal government remaining flat over the past five years, the University will have to increase revenues from other sources, including tuition and fees, to

offset the rising cost of its operations and strategic investments while remaining committed to its mission to provide a Howard education to students with high academic standing and potential.

At this year’s Charter Day Dinner, the president was joined by three students as he unveiled a new need-based scholarship campaign, Bridging the Gap, which is designed to enhance student retention. Currently, Howard provides approximately \$80 million in institutional aid.

And, earlier this year, Ribeau announced steps the University would take to alleviate anticipated budget shortfalls for the 2012 fiscal year. Actions included staff realignments and reductions in targeted areas, stringent budget controls and a limited campus closure during spring break, while maintaining essential services. Refusing to take the University into a deficit, Ribeau also announced that additional strategies might be considered to address the budget shortfall.

During the spring semester, the University addressed concerns regarding retention agreements extended to three senior officers prior to Ribeau’s arrival. The University entered into the 2007 agreements to ensure its growth, sustainability and position in the higher education community. The agreements called for a one-time payment in 2010, as compensation for three additional years of service following the presidential transition.

A Focus on Transparency

When asked about the University’s challenges, Ribeau doesn’t gloss over them or make light of them. In fact, throughout his tenure, he’s shown a willingness to listen to complaints, as well as praise. Ask members of the University community to name a quality that stands out about him, and the word “transparency” comes up more than any other. Ribeau says it is not accidental. His experiences as a university president, provost, dean and professor inform his leadership style and have given him a unique window into how best to communicate with various stakeholders. In his first year, he developed the Budget

(continued on p. 21)

Campus Revitalization Offers a Renewed Vision for the 21st Century

By Jo-Ann English



When President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., was named the 16th president of Howard in 2008, he brought with him a vision to continue building the University into a world-class research institution with state-of-the-art facilities. That vision has provided the guidance necessary to reshape the University's physical plant, which is captured in the Central Campus Master Plan.

The Central Campus Master Plan, which has three phases, is a 10-year framework that guides campus facility planning and supports instructional, research, service, student, faculty and staff activities.

Enhancing the Campus Environment

The University is currently in the midst of Phase I, which includes renovations to Cramton Auditorium and L.K. Downing Hall, and the planning for the addition of two new underclassmen residence halls, a research facility and a campus wellness and recreation center. The buildings in Phase I are scheduled for development within one to three years.

The two residence halls will be built along the eastern edge of the campus, adjacent to existing underclassmen residence

halls. Currently, Howard houses 44 percent of its students, but with the addition of these and other housing facilities projected to be built within the plan, the University will be able to house approximately 70 percent of its student body. The first two residence halls will create a total of 1,300 new beds, with a goal to eventually generate 2,300 new beds.

Also included in Phase I is the construction of a facility housing some of the University's programs in interdisciplinary science, engineering computational science and biomedical sciences. The project is intended to help strengthen Howard's presence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and to accommodate collaborative research activity among the physical and health sciences.

The campus wellness and recreation center is the final building planned within Phase I and will offer the community access to fitness and wellness programs, intramurals and sport clubs. It will also enhance the surrounding residential community on the west side of Georgia Avenue and support the retail that will be developed in the Howard Town Center.

The master plan addresses 17 development sites for new buildings or major renovations and continues into Phases II and III. These development sites are primarily University-based, except for the Town Center, which will be a mixed-use residential and retail development. There are also plans to reconstruct the Georgia Avenue entrance of the University and to reconfigure the design of each building that currently "backs" Georgia Avenue.

In keeping with Howard's commitment to sustainability and reducing its carbon footprint, each building will be constructed in a way that is environmentally friendly, using appropriate materials and construction methods.

For additional information on the Central Campus Master Plan, please visit community.howard.edu.

English is the communications associate for the Office of University Communications.





Advisory Committee (BAC) to enhance fiscal and budgetary transparency. The BAC—composed of faculty, staff, students and administrators—meets regularly to discuss fiscal matters and provide substantive contributions to the budgetary process.

“Transparency means letting people know what’s going on,” he says.

That means budget deliberations are posted online. The PCAR process was not shrouded in secrecy. The Howard University Alumni Association has had access to the University’s financials. “There are no secrets,” Ribeau says. “The numbers are what they are.”

Ribeau has also placed a high priority on meeting with elected faculty, student, staff and alumni leaders to brief them on University issues and seek their timely input and counsel.

“As a senator and then a vice chair of the Senate, I have observed that Dr. Ribeau has met with us regularly and has kept a dialogue open,” says Payne. “We’ve not always agreed, but he has given every indication of being responsive to many of the major con-

cerns that we brought before him from the faculty. We have had unparalleled access to this president and to his officers.”

Ribeau’s emphasis on transparency and openness has also made students feel more valued, says Brandon Harris, president of the Howard University Student Association from 2010–2012 and a recent graduate.

“Every semester this year, we’ve had a town hall with him,” says Harris. “Last year during the PCAR process, he came and spoke. So anytime we’ve needed him to come and address the students, he has. He definitely has been responsive.”

When it comes to the next four years, the greatest challenge Howard faces is neither the budget nor the implementation of PCAR. Rather, it’s getting people to collaborate, Ribeau says. “There’s nothing that we can’t improve on if we get people to work together,” he says. “That means collaboration between administrators, faculty, students, staff and alumni.”

A lot has changed since that September day when Ribeau introduced himself to the

“We have had unparalleled access to this president and to his officers.”

Howard community. That first African-American president of the United States is seeking re-election. The economy is on the upswing. And one thing is clear to many in the Howard community, including Leffall, who has seen several presidents come and go since he first attended Howard’s medical school 64 years ago.

“You expect a different president to come in to move things forward, and I believe President Ribeau has done that,” he says. “Howard is in a better place than it was four years ago.” ■HU

Holmes is a writer based in Maryland.

Notable

Alumni

By Grace I. Virtue (M.A. '97; Ph.D. '01)

Keith Norris, M.D.

Prominent researcher is on a mission to eliminate health disparities.

At age 29, Keith Norris (M.D. '80) lost both of his parents, who were still in their 50s, to complications from hypertension. That experience left Norris on a personal quest to identify ways to prevent and treat common diseases in minority populations, particularly hypertension and chronic kidney disease.


"It's a constant reminder of how many of our loved ones die early from conditions that can be prevented or treated," Norris says.

Last year, the National Medical Association presented Norris with its Meritorious Achievement Award for his work in research, education and commitment to promote health and prevent disease. The award is given each year to an individual for national and international achievement and prominence.

"It was humbling to receive such an honor, and yet it reinforced the reason for doing the type of work I and so many others do: to reduce disparities and improve the lives of those who have few resources," he says.

Although he clearly values the recognition, it is not why Norris, who entered medical school at 19, became singularly





"It reinforced the reason for doing the type of work I and so many others do: to reduce disparities and improve the lives of those who have few resources."

focused on reducing health disparities in minority communities. Common areas where there are huge gaps between White and minority populations in incidence and quality of outcome include asthma, diabetes, hypertension and complications, such as renal disease, and some forms of cancer. Kidney disease is especially troubling, for example, with Blacks being three to four times more likely to have the severest form of the disease and to require dialysis treatment.

After completing medical school and residency at Howard, Norris went to Los Angeles and entered a nephrology fellowship at the combined David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA and West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Medical Center program. At the end of the fellowship, he went to work part time at the medical center and part time in private practice before joining the faculty at Charles Drew University, where he has been for 22 years.

"I went to Drew because my training in hypertension and kidney disease could be more easily focused on disadvantaged communities and I could fulfill my desire to teach at a minority institution," he explains.

Norris is now one of about 20 principal investigators for the African-American Study of Kidney Disease and Hypertension. The group has published multiple seminal papers on refining the use of angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitors for the care of African Americans at risk for hypertensive end-stage renal disease, which previously was thought to be a less effective treatment for this population. To date, the group leads the largest comparative drug intervention trial focusing on renal outcomes in African Americans.

In 1995, Norris was selected to join the inaugural National Kidney Foundation's (NKF) Dialysis Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI), where he spent a decade helping to transform practice guidelines

and national health policy for patients with chronic kidney disease.

"I was one of a handful of minority specialists, and we felt it was important to have minority representation on the committee because severe chronic kidney disease is so common among people of color. The KDOQI guidelines have impacted many CMS [Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services] performance metrics and had an important role in ensuring equity for minority health in the area of chronic kidney disease," he says.

Norris continues to serve as a member of the NKF Kidney Early Evaluation Program's executive committee. He also serves as principal investigator for the National Institutes of Health-funded Research Centers in Minority Institutions (RCMI) Translational Research Network, a national initiative to advance research approaches to reducing health disparities.

Norris is engaged in developing a newly patented therapeutic drug to counteract the adverse effects of stress on the body and its cells that lead to inflammation and premature organ damage. Preliminary cell culture and animal studies are highly promising, and initial clinical trials for safety and efficacy are under way.

Norris believes Howard's College of Medicine provided an outstanding foundation for his career. "I felt extremely well prepared when I arrived at UCLA and felt my clinical skills and knowledge base were second to none," he says.

His advice to current students is to take advantage of the multiple dimensions of Howard, keep in mind the mission to serve, build upon and recognize the legacy of those gone before and always remember the words of the late Charles R. Drew, M.D.: "Excellence of performance transcends artificial barriers created by man." ■HU

Virtue is a writer based in Maryland.

Profiles in Leadership

Wendell G. Freeland

Former Tuskegee Airman began his successful flight at Howard.

By Raven Padgett

A \$250 academic scholarship brought Wendell G. Freeland (B.A. '47) to Howard to study history and political science. It was a world apart from the one in which he had grown up, just 90 minutes away in Baltimore.

"Before I won the scholarship, I didn't even think about attending college," says Freeland, now 87. "I was 16 years old, a poor kid from Baltimore, coming to this beautiful campus to study under these great men and women. I felt privileged. It was a wonderful experience."

And while his service during World War II temporarily took him away from the Hilltop, a desire to study under luminaries such as Frank Snowden and Rayford Logan drew him back. The civil rights attorney and former Tuskegee Airman credits his time at Howard with shaping him into the leader he is today.

Once a member of the *Hilltop* newspaper's editorial board, Freeland showed early signs of the activism that would define his law career. The intellectual discourse that was prevalent on campus and

the guidance from his professors allowed him to flourish.

But there was a war going on and Freeland wanted to help end fascism, so after studying at Howard for two years, he joined the Army Air Corps in 1943. He soon found himself part of the Tuskegee Airmen, an experimental program introduced in 1941 to train Black pilots. Freeland trained as a navigator and a bombardier and was sent to Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University), home base for the newly trained aviators.

PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF SIDNEY L. DAVIS/
PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW

As a member of the famed Airmen, Freeland served as a lieutenant and flew B-25s with the 477th Bombardment Group.

The Black pilots flew dozens of missions and soared in the air, but back on the ground, they couldn't escape the racism that challenged their intellect and bravery. Freeland was determined to help eliminate injustice whenever he saw it, something he says he learned from his Howard professors.

Civil Disobedience

In 1945, Freeland's unit was transferred to Freeman Field, Ind. The armed forces were still segregated, so when he and other soldiers tried to integrate an all-White officer's club, they were arrested. After refusing to sign papers that would acknowledge acceptance of the segregated policies, Freeland and his comrades were charged with mutiny, which came with the penalty of death. The charges were eventually dropped, but the historical significance can't be denied—the resistance became known as the Freeman Field Mutiny and helped set the stage for the sit-ins during the civil rights movement.

Just 20 years old at the time, Freeland says his time at Howard had already colored his notion of when to stand up and when to speak up.

"I don't know if it was the courage of youth, but I was definitely buttressed by my experience at Howard," he says. "We considered ourselves the best and brightest, so we were going to act that way in life."

For Freeland, being part of the Freeman Field Mutiny was the beginning of what would become a lifetime of fighting injustice and racial discrimination. After the war ended, he returned to Howard, where he graduated *cum laude*. He earned his law degree from the University of Maryland, then moved to Pittsburgh and began practicing in 1951.

In the early 1950s, he successfully sued the city of Pittsburgh to legally integrate the swimming pool at the city's main municipal park. And over the years, he has built a career on helping clients whose voices are often misunderstood or ignored. More recently,



Freeland saw success in a case that was 150 years old. After reading an article in a law magazine about George Vashon, the first African American to graduate from Oberlin College and the first Black professor at Howard University, whose application for the Pennsylvania bar was rejected in 1847 and 1868, Freeland decided to take on the case. He petitioned the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to overturn the ruling on behalf of the Vashon family and, in 2010, the court posthumously admitted Vashon to the bar.

"I consider these two cases the bookends to my career," says Freeland.

Through the years, he has been an active leader in his field, serving as senior vice president of the National Urban League and president of the Pittsburgh chapter of the Urban League.

In 2007, he and his "fly boy" brothers received the Congressional Gold Medal from President George W. Bush. In January 2008, he and a group of Airmen were personally invited to attend the inauguration of President Barack Obama. Freeland traveled to Washington, D.C., and on that brisk January morning when Obama took the oath of office, a flood of emotions overtook him.

"It was the most exhilarating and poignant moment of my life," says Freeland. "For many of us who are in our 70s and 80s, his election showed just how far we had come, how much we had fought for."

Freeland says he saw *Red Tails*, a movie about the Airmen, earlier this year (Chas "Charles" Floyd Johnson, B.A. '62; J.D. '65, served as co-producer), and was gratified knowing that more people—regardless of race and age—would understand more fully the experiences of the Airmen. He was especially happy that a new generation could learn about their leadership and courage.

"It's important for young people, like Howard students, to see this and know that we were the same age as they are today when we broke these barriers," he says.

Freeland adds: "For us, we had an obligation to civil rights and to carry on the tradition of Howard of being leaders in our fields. At the time, we were taught that Howard was the 'Capstone for Negro education' so we tried to uphold that in our lives and in whatever we were striving to do." ■HU

Padgett is editor of Howard Magazine.

Milestones

Alumni

'50s

Harvey Webb Jr., B.S. 1956; D.D.S. 1960; M.S. 1962, wrote the novel *Wash: Faith in Hard Times*, which chronicles the struggles of a Black man in the post-Civil War South.

'60s

Hon. Ricardo C. Jackson, J.D. 1965, senior judge, Court of Common Pleas of Philadelphia County, Pa., received the Justice Sonia Sotomayor Diversity Award from the Philadelphia Bar Association.



H. Patrick Swygert, B.A. 1965; J.D. 1968, Howard University *president emeritus*, was the keynote speaker at the *Philadelphia*

Tribune's second annual Christopher J. Perry/Carter G. Woodson Black History Awards Luncheon. Swygert was president of Howard from 1995 to 2008.



Rev. John Dortch, B.A. 1968, was installed as the pastor of Central Baptist Church in Beauford, S.C.

'70s

Donald Strother Jr., B.A. 1972, retired from the U.S. Department of Labor after 42 years of dedicated service.



Dr. Reed Tuckson, B.S. 1973, was named one of the "50 Most Influential Physician Executives in Healthcare" for

2012 by *Modern Healthcare*. A renowned leader in health care, Tuckson currently serves as the executive vice president and chief of medical affairs at UnitedHealth Group, a Fortune 25 health care company that serves more than 75 million people worldwide. He is a member of Howard's Board of Trustees.

George E. Miller III, Ph.D. 1979, a former astrophysicist for NASA, was named president of Martin University. Miller has served as vice president for academic affairs and provost at several universities, including Johnson C. Smith and Bowie State, and most recently as vice president for academic affairs and presidential professor of chemistry at Claflin University.

'80s

Linda M.S. Thomas, B.S.Ch.E. 1981, was named the 2012 Industry Engineer of the Year for the Puget Sound Engineering Council. Thomas is an associate technical fellow in Systems Safety Engineering at the Boeing Company.

Erik P. Christian, B.A. 1982, was inducted into the 2012 Hall of Honor at Archbishop Carroll High School in Washington, D.C. He was honored during the school's 20th annual spring benefit and induction ceremony.

Kelvin Phillips, B.A. 1986, wrote and directed *A Swingin' Trio*, which was featured in the 2012 D.C. Independent Film Festival.



Reginald A. Greene, B.A. 1989; J.D. 1995, is the founder and managing attorney of Greene Legal Group LLC.

After 10 years as an associate at two of the largest law firms in the world and six years as senior counsel for AT&T, Greene founded his own law firm in Atlanta, and 2012 marks its one-year anniversary.

'90s

Brian G. Easley, M.Ed. 1992, earned his Ph.D. in human development, with a concentration in adult learning and human resource development from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) in the spring of 2011. His dissertation is titled "Developmental Networks, Black Feminist

We Want to Know!

Share the milestones in your life with old friends and classmates. Please send the information to magazine@howard.edu or mail to *Howard Magazine*, 2225 Georgia Ave., NW Suite 603 Washington, DC 20059



Thought and Black Women Federal Executives: A Case Study Approach.”



Kasim Reed, B.A. 1992; J.D. 1995, made the top 10 list of “Root 100” notable African Americans. Reed is cited as the

10th most influential personality of the 100 honorees. Reed currently serves as the 59th mayor of Atlanta and is on Howard’s Board of Trustees.



Adrian Loving, B.F.A. 1993, was commissioned by Thomson Reuters to perform a music program for the pre- and post-receptions of

the 2012 White House Correspondents’ Association dinner, April 28. Loving, a DJ, performed a special curated set of ambient and upbeat music, accompanied by percussionist Thomas Pipkin and violinist Chelsea Green.

Allison Green, M.A. 1995, senior vice president for diversity and inclusion for Lincoln Financial Group, was named to *Savoy* magazine’s 2012 Top 100 Most Influential Blacks in Corporate America. Green serves on the Urban League of Philadelphia’s Board of Directors and the National Diversity Council, Pennsylvania Chapter Board of Directors. In 2011, *Black Enterprise* magazine honored Green as one of the Top Executives in Diversity.



Rev. Dexter U. Nutall, J.D. 1995, was selected by Washington, D.C., Mayor Vincent C. Gray as the new director of



Baltimore Chapter of HUAA Celebrates Milestone

The Howard University Baltimore Alumni Association, believed to be the University’s oldest chartered alumni club, is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year.

The club was founded in 1922 by a group of prominent doctors and attorneys who wanted to bring together alumni in the Baltimore area and to encourage young people to pursue their education at Howard.

“The primary goal of HUAC of Baltimore is to award scholarships to deserving students from the Baltimore metropolitan area who plan to attend or who are currently attending Howard University,” says Donyale DeShazo Smith, chapter president (B.B.A. ’93).

Lena Ampadu (B.S. ’74), former vice president, hopes to see the chapter expand by at least 90 members for each year of the club’s existence, which, according to Ampadu, should not be an impossible goal.

“I would like to see the Bison legacy continued through the support of alumni who are willing and eager to give back to Howard not only financially, but spiritually and morally,” says Ampadu.

One of the club’s main goals is still fundraising, but there is an increasing emphasis on keeping alumni connected to the University, particularly because of its proximity to Washington, D.C.

“We no longer rely on telephone calls and snail mail as the only means to announce upcoming meetings and events, but we send communication via e-mail and social networks like Facebook and Bison Roundup,” says Smith.

The gala celebrating the anniversary will take place on Sept. 23, 2012, from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Eubie Blake Center in Baltimore, and is open to all who wish to support the legacy of Howard University. Please contact huacb1@hotmail.com for more details.

—Debra Osemwegie

Milestones

Alumni

the District's Office on Religious Affairs. Nutall will advise the mayor and his staff on religious affairs and serve as a liaison between the mayor's office and the District's faith communities.

Jesse Walton Jr., B.B.A. 1996, was



promoted to associate vice president at Morgan Stanley Smith Barney's wealth management office in Alpharetta, Ga.

In January 2012, he earned the Certified Private Wealth AdvisorSM designation, designed for financial advisors and consultants who work with high-net-worth clients on the life cycle of wealth. Walton received *Atlanta* magazine's Five Star Wealth Manager Award for 2009 and was featured in the March 2012 *Cobb Life* magazine's 20 Under 40. He is also an active member of the 100 Black Men of Atlanta Inc.

Saundra Jordan, Pharm.D. 1999, received the Branch President Award by the Greater Long Branch NAACP at its Annual Freedom Fund Luncheon in October 2010.

'00s

Russell Hicks, B.B.A. 2000, received



the Black Male Engagement Leadership Award, which was established to recognize Black men from all walks of life who engage

others in making communities stronger. Hicks, owner of Ebony Suns Enterprises, LLC, received a \$20,500 award that

enables him to lead Flash Mob, an initiative in which young Black men learn to create and implement a business branding campaign via social media.

Alex Dixon, B.B.A. 2003, launched Confess Media, an innovative multimedia firm that sells high-definition photos to visitors upon arrival at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas. The company specializes in custom photography experiences featuring the famous "Welcome to Las Vegas" sign.

Kenicia Cross, B.A. 2004, and **Angelique Michelle, B.A. 2004**, established iCONIQ



Wardrobe, an image-consulting firm, and in

November 2011 launched a dress line called iCONIQ Collection for women. They also created a software application called iCONIQ Virtual Wardrobe, which is a computerized closet that catalogs and organizes closets and wardrobes.

Wanda Brown, J.D. 2005, was appointed to the St. Mary's County Board of Education's ethics panel. She will serve a two-year term. Brown is an attorney in the Enforcement Division of the Office of the General Counsel at the Federal Election Commission. She is the secretary to the National Treasury Employees Union, Chapter 204.

Sherece Tolbert, J.D. 2005, was named deputy assistant general counsel for the Single Family Mortgage Division of the Office of Insured Housing.

Clarion E. Johnson, J.D. 2007, began a Pickering Fellowship at the National Center for Law and Economic Justice in January 2012.



Smith

Alumni Launch Travel Series



Gross

Tracy Gross (B.A. '89), Jabari Smith (B.A. '07), The Legendary Chris Washington (B.A. '91) and Doodlebug (Craig Irving) are developing an African-American adventure TV series, *Black Diaspora Travels* (blackdiasporatravels.org). Gross is a veteran of television/film and event production, and has worked on programs such as *Saturday Night Live*, *The Emmys*, *The Oscars*, *The BET Awards* and *The Wayne Brady Show*. She has conducted two month-long motorcycle tours in Asia—Rajasthan, India, and Vietnam, respectively. Her travel to Cuba resulted in an award-winning photography series on Afro-Cuban life. She currently works as a photojournalist depicting the ethnic and female travel experience. She is a columnist for SoulOfAmerica.com, EthicalTraveler.org, ImblacknTravel.com and AmateurTraveler.com. She is also an associate producer for *Unseen Travels*.

Influence Over Time

Winston Harris' (M.F.A. '98) inspirations range from artist Alvin Loving, Ph.D., to musician Jill Scott. His new Influence Over Time art exhibit shows the evolution of Harris' artistry. One of the ideas for the exhibit came from his wanting to pay tribute to the artists that had mentored him. The other idea came from his appreciation of the essence of time.

Harris recently completed an artist-in-residence program at the University of Maryland's Department of Printmaking. "The artwork identifies my interest to recognize the importance of time as an event itself, what part it plays in one's life or how one uses it," says Harris.

Harris studied art in the printmaking department at Howard University, where he met one of his greatest influences, professor Michael Platt. While at Howard, Harris says he learned how to network and take advantage of every opportunity. "Howard prepared me for the real world," he says.

Many of the pieces in the exhibit resemble watches and clocks, and Harris combines digital imaging with more traditional techniques of creating art.

Music also plays a prominent role in the abstract, mixed-media drawings and prints by Harris. While creating, he says he listens to all genres of music, stretching from rock to neo soul. One of his first jobs as a professional artist was working with the iconic rap group Public Enemy on the set design of their 1990 tour.

The Influence Over Time exhibit runs through Aug. 31, 2012, at the University of Maryland University College.

—Shannen Hill

Members of the Bison family gathered at the ninth annual St. Martin Book Fair in June 2011. The theme of the fair was "Freedom of Expression" and featured Nobel laureate Derek Walcott. Pictured are Joseph Lake Jr., fair presenter Susan Borden Evans, Esq. (B.S. '70), Lasana Sekou, the fair's co-founder, and Mwalimu Sandra Brown (B.A. '69), immediate past president of the Howard University Alumni Association. Attendees not pictured include Stephanie Stokes Oliver, a fair presenter, and her husband, Reginald Oliver (B.A. '74). The 10th anniversary of the St. Martin Book Fair was held May 31–June 2.



LISTEN for the melody...

"Cultural activities in Oberlin are so satisfying, when we go back to visit in New York City... I can focus on spending that time with friends."

~ Betty



KENDAL[®]
at Oberlin

Together, transforming the
experience of aging.[®]

A vibrant retirement living
community in Oberlin, Ohio

www.kao.kendal.org

[Facebook.com/kendalatoberlin](https://www.facebook.com/kendalatoberlin)

1-800-548-9469



In Memoriam

Alumni



Renowned sculptor and printmaker **Elizabeth Catlett, B.A. 1935**, died April 2, 2012. She was 96 years old. Catlett once said: "I have always wanted my art to service Black people—to reflect us, to relate to us, to stimulate us, to make us aware of our potential," and she did that throughout her career with her depictions of strong and resilient African-American and Mexican women.

Catlett was raised in Washington, D.C., and graduated from Dunbar High School. She enrolled at Howard after being denied entry at Carnegie Technical Institute (now Carnegie Mellon University) in Pittsburgh. (In 2008, the university officially publicly apologized to Catlett and awarded her an honorary doctorate.) In 1940, she became the first student to earn a master's degree in sculpture at the University of Iowa.

Catlett credited Howard with teaching her the discipline necessary to be an artist. It was also at Howard that she learned about Mexican muralists, who later became a major influence in her life and work. In March 1977, she received the annual Alumni Award from Howard for "Sculpture and Creative Arts" at the 110th Charter Day Celebration. In 1996, the University honored Elizabeth Catlett with the degree Doctor of Humanities, and in 2010, the Department of Art gave her a Lifetime Achievement Award.

Her work can still be found on display on Howard's campus, including the sculpture "Students Aspire," located by the chemical engineering wing of the College of Engineering.

Church for 65 years, serving in many capacities.

Flora Dorsey Young, B.A. 1950, died Feb. 9, 2012. Young was an advocate for social justice and worked tirelessly to advance civil rights. She was a sociology professor at Rowan University and was among the first Black faculty members hired in 1968 at what was then Glassboro State College. She helped establish the school's Sociology department, and during her career she influenced and taught more than 4,500 students. She was 83 years old.

Donald H. Bailey, B.S.C.E. 1951, died Nov. 4, 2008.

Jeremiah Hawkins, B.Mus.Ed. 1952, died Feb. 16, 2012. Hawkins served many positions in the Army. He received numerous awards, including the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Stars, two Meritorious Service Medals and two Army Commendation Medals. Aside from his military achievements, Hawkins was a member of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and Ft. Meade Flying Club.

Thelma Delores Elmore, Dip.N. 1953, died May 27, 2011. She was a graduate of the Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing.

Rev. Glenwood Paris Roane, J.D. 1957, died Dec. 30, 2011. He was a career diplomat with the U.S. Department of State/U.S. Agency for International Development for more than 26 years, assisting developing communities in Ghana, Kenya, Liberia and Egypt. He was also pastor of the Second Congregational United Church of Christ. Throughout his distinguished career, he received numerous awards and was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

'40s

Rev. Harold T. Branch, B.A. 1943, died Jan. 19, 2012. Branch was the first African American to serve on the Corpus Christi (Texas) Housing Authority, where he served as both chairman and vice chairman. He also was a member of the War on Poverty Board for Nueces County and was president of the Coastal Bend Civic Association.

Durward C. Archer, B.S.E.E. 1948, died July 8, 2011.

William Saunders, B.S. 1948; M.S. 1952, died Jan. 30, 2012. Saunders served as a Tuskegee Airman during World War II. He joined a Boston police force in 1956 that had only a handful of Black officers and became a top-flight detective before being promoted to the command

staff. He later rose to the rank of night commander. He was 84 years old.

Charles Anderson Augustus, M.D. 1949, died Jan. 26, 2012. He was the first African American to serve a medical internship in the U.S. Army and went on to open his own private practice in Florida. He was a member of Grace Episcopal Church, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the Miami-Dade Medical Association and the National Medical Association.

'50s

James McKinley Robinson Sr., M.S. 1950, died Feb. 2, 2012. Robinson was a career educator and taught at Fisk University and in the Nashville Public Schools. He also served in the Army during World War II. He was a member of Gordon Memorial Methodist Episcopal

'60s

David A. Hammock Jr., M.D. 1961, died Dec. 1, 2011. After completing his residency in obstetrics and gynecology, Hammock practiced until 1976,

then moved to South Carolina, where he opened his OB/GYN practice. He was also a part of the clinical staff at the University of South Carolina's School of Medicine. He continued to practice until 2008.

Phyllis Etheridge Young, B.S. 1961; M.S. 1966, died Sept. 29, 2011. In 1980, Young was a co-founder of Parents United, a coalition that lobbied for school funding. She went on to become the first African-American woman to hold the position of Federal Highway Administration's state administrator for Mississippi. Young was also a president of the Xi Omega chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

Eloise Y. Spicer, B.A. 1961; Ph.D. 1999, died Jan. 26, 2012. Her passion for education led her to a 30-year teaching career in D.C. Public Schools. She retired in 1990 and returned to Howard to fulfill her promise of translating into Spanish and publishing the poetry of her teacher/mentor Sterling A. Brown.

Ved P. Bansal, B.S.M.E. 1962, died Oct. 3, 2011.

George Boulware, M.D. 1962, died Feb. 12, 2012. Boulware was a pioneering physician in rural western Pennsylvania. He interned at Freedmen's Hospital, and he opened his own practice in 1969. Throughout his career, Boulware co-owned and managed several bariatric weight control research centers in western Pennsylvania. He was also a member of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He was 85 years old.

Jewell Brown, Dip.N. 1962, died on May 19, 2011. Brown was a graduate of Freedmen's Hospital School of Nursing.

William Ross Hill Jr., LL.B. 1966, died Nov. 17, 2011. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1952 to 1956. Hill also played trombone professionally in New York, Washington, D.C., and Memphis, Tenn., during the 1960s. From 1966 to 1968, he served as a staff attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, and during that time also served on President

Lyndon B. Johnson's National Advisory Commission on Civil Disorders.

William Arthur Blakey, J.D. 1968, died Oct. 15, 2010. Blakey's career as an attorney spanned more than 40 years. He led the lobbying efforts that resulted in the passage of the Historically Black College and University Act, as well as the Thurgood Marshall Legal Education Opportunity Program Act funded by the U.S. Congress. In 2005, he began his own practice, William A. Blakey and Associates, in Washington, D.C. Deeply devoted to service, he spent time as a mentor to countless youth and young professionals.

Wendell Carl Harp, B.Arch. 1969, died Dec. 2, 2011. Harp was an architect, developer and civic leader. He was one of the founding members of the Black Workshop Inc., an urban architectural and design firm. In 1973, he became a member of the American Institute of Architects and was noted as the youngest registered architect in the nation. Harp was also a co-founding partner of Architects Environmental Collaborative International P.C. and founded Renaissance Management Company.

Richard McDaniel, J.D. 1969, died Feb. 1, 2012. Throughout his career, McDaniel advocated for the equality of African Americans and women. He began

his legal career as a corporate attorney, but decided instead on private practice and joined the law firm of Cecil B. Moore. Eventually, he became a solo practitioner, specializing in domestic and personal injury cases. He was a member of the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, the Philadelphia Bar Association and Frontiers International. He also served on the boards of Community Legal Services and the Philadelphia chapter of the NAACP.

'80s

Cassandra V. Thorne, B.A. 1984, died Nov. 26, 2011. Thorne was an occupational therapist who devoted her life to the service of others. She was 52 years old.

'00s

Kibibi Dillon, B.F.A. 2003, died Dec. 27, 2011. Dillon was an off-Broadway producer, popular comedienne, actor and director who co-founded LAUNCH Worldwide, which produced many off-Broadway productions for unique artists. She was 33 years old.



The life of **Ofield Dukes**, who died Dec. 6, 2011, was celebrated on Jan. 13 at Shiloh Baptist Church in Washington, D.C.

Luminaries from the Washington political establishment and public relations community, as well as members of the Howard University family, gathered to honor the memory of the public relations pioneer and longtime Howard communications professor.

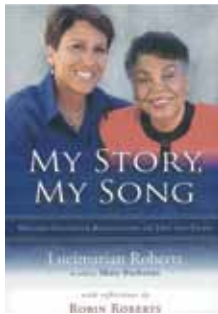
Dukes was warmly remembered as the "dean of African-American public relations" and as a contributing figure during the civil rights era. During the administration of U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson, Dukes served as communications adviser to Vice President Hubert Humphrey and as deputy director of information for the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity.

Dukes taught public relations at Howard for more than 18 years.

In 1969, Dukes opened his own public relations firm, Ofield Dukes & Associates. He played a major role in organizing the first march by Stevie Wonder to declare Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday a national holiday. He founded the Black Public Relations Society of Washington in 1993.

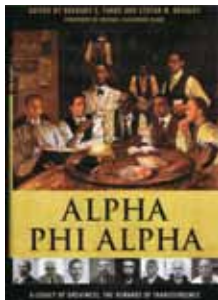
JASON MICCOLO JOHNSON

Bison Bookshelf



My Story, My Song (Abingdon Press), by **Lucimarian Roberts** (B.S. '46), is a heartwarming memoir that shares pivotal moments in the author's life. The book, peppered with personal reflections from

daughter Robin Roberts, co-anchor of *Good Morning America*, reveals how faith and music have provided the author with strength and hope to face life's challenges.



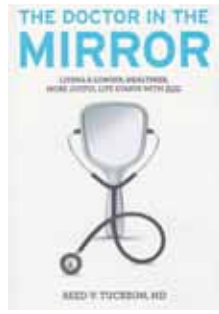
Alpha Phi Alpha (The University Press of Kentucky), edited by **Gregory S. Parks** (B.S. '96) and Stefan M. Bradley, details the origins of the Black Greek fraternity founded in 1906. The book

examines the organization's identity, explores the challenges of protecting the image and brand and discusses how the organization can identify and train future Alpha men.



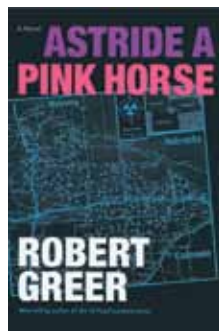
Tap Into Your Juice (Windy City Publishers), by Amy S. Hilliard (B.S. '74), motivates readers to use varied principles to build on successes in their lives. The book is interactive and allows readers to express personal

goals as well as achievements and talents. As a successful entrepreneur herself, Hilliard offers her advice through her personal selection of inspirational thoughts.



The Doctor in the Mirror (United Healthcare Services Inc.), by **Reed V. Tuckson** (B.S. '73), challenges readers to take an honest look in the mirror and visualize what is preventing them

from achieving better health. In each chapter, Tuckson provides resources on how to age gracefully and lead a healthier life.



Astride a Pink Horse (North Atlantic Books), by **Robert Greer** (D.D.S. '69), explores the legacy of Wyoming's nuclear age and describes how governmental conspiracy, death and vengeance

drive people in the post-Cold War era. "The Cold War ended years ago, or did it?" is a question that compels three amateur detectives to find out the real truth behind it all.



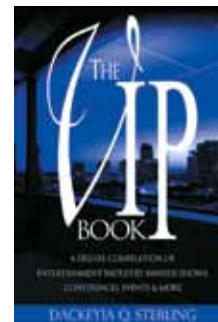
Headscarf Politics in Turkey (Palgrave Macmillan), by **Merve Kavacki** (Ph.D. '07), includes voices of contemporary Turkish women who wear headscarves, and their daily struggles in search of their

niche in a secular Turkish society.



Conditioning 4 Excellence (AuthorHouse Publishing), by **Tim Watson** (B.A. '92), is a motivational book that coaches readers on how to improve their lives. It offers suggestions on how to be

successful with family, careers, friendship, finance, love and fitness.



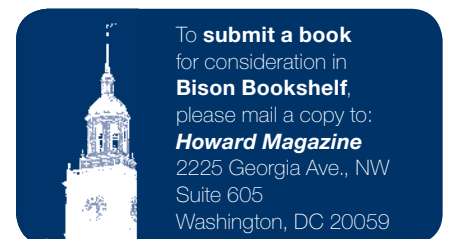
The VIP Book: A Deluxe Compilation of Entertainment Industry Events & More (Entertainment Power Players), by **Dackeyia Q. Sterling** (B.A. '93), is a unique resource book of entertain-

ment industry events to fill your calendar, including awards shows, conferences, conventions, expos, festivals, seminars and summits.



The Village That Shaped Us (Dale Publishing), by **Dianne Dale** (B.S. '63; M.S. '70; M.P.A. '74), takes

a look at Washington, D.C.'s vibrant Anacostia community in 1867. Dale employs oral history, vivid imagery and intriguing memoirs to describe what it was like for four generations of Black families to live in Freedmen's Village during times of slavery and African-American hardship.



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2012



HOWARD UNIVERSITY



You are the legacy.

STAY CONNECTED:

Register today online at www.howard.edu/alumni for the online community. Find classmates, update your information and create your own alumni email address. You will need your ID number which is the 10-digit code above your name on the mailing label of this magazine.

SUPPORT HU:

Give back so future generations can enjoy the advantages of a Howard education. Visit www.howard.edu/alumni and click on GIVE NOW to make a donation.

JOIN HUAA:

Visit www.howard.edu/alumni/huaa for your **1 year complimentary membership for the Class of 2012**. Stay informed of HUAA events and activities. The Alumni Association supports you locally and nationally. Welcome to the Alumni family.



Presented by the Howard University Department of Alumni Relations

2225 Georgia Avenue, NW, Suite 931, Washington DC 20059 • 202-238-2430 • Fax: 202-667-0839 • howardalumni@howard.edu



<http://www.facebook.com/howarduniversity> • <http://www.facebook.com/thehuaa>



@HowardU • @THEHUA

HOWARD

Howard University
Office of University Communications
2225 Georgia Ave., NW, Sixth Fl.
Washington, DC 20059

Nonprofit
U.S. Postage
Paid
Permit No. 6115
Washington, DC

