Serving Our Country
Editor’s Letter

A Proud Tradition

Courage. Honor. Duty. Sacrifice. These are some of the terms that come to mind when we think about the men and women in the U.S. military. In this issue of Howard Magazine, we pay tribute to the members of the Howard community who serve our country with such selflessness. It is a proud tradition that begins with the University’s namesake Oliver Otis Howard, a Civil War hero and activist of his time. Generations of Howard alumni, faculty and staff have valiantly served, while upholding the University’s motto of veritas et utilitas, or truth and service.

We recognize that this issue represents just a snapshot of those who have served through the decades, are currently serving or are preparing to take up the mantle. But we hope this snapshot also illustrates the historical legacy of leadership from Howard veterans who helped lay the foundation for our country. These veterans include Leo Rouse, D.D.S., a retired colonel who led the U.S. Army Dental Command and is currently dean of the College of Dentistry, and Lt. Col. Jennifer Krischer, detachment commander for Howard’s Air Force ROTC and the recently named deputy director for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance at the Combined Air Operations Center in Qatar. The next generation includes students such as Air Force Cadet Torrell Mills, who will become the vice wing commander for the cadet wing in the fall, and Army Cadet Terrance Williams, who was selected for active duty as an armor officer.

The next generation is also leading the charge when it comes to the “truth” portion of Howard’s motto. We may not have ever heard the name Trayvon Martin had it not been for Howard University School of Law students, who used social media to advocate for justice and launched a YouTube campaign that went viral. Today’s students may employ different methods of protest than previous generations, but the will to seek truth and justice remains the same. In this issue of the magazine, you can read more about the new trends in protest.

Finally, in fall 2012 we launched a mobile application for the magazine for Apple devices. With this issue, we are expanding it for the Android operating system. Please take a moment to visit www.howard.edu/howardmag and download the app. We hope you enjoy this issue, and, as always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to email us at magazine@howard.edu.

Raven Padgett, Editor
Serving Our Country
Members of the Howard community uphold the motto of Truth and Service with pride and patriotism.

A Strong Advocate for Veterans
Howard professor champions the cause for veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

Spirit of Activism Endures
From voting rights to the Trayvon Martin case, Howard students use social media to continue the fight for justice.
Many institutions, groups and individuals have contributed to the definition and refinement of our nation’s democratic framework, but few have done so like Howard University. It was conceived and chartered on March 2, 1867, by the 39th U.S. Congress to respond to the nation’s pressing need for teachers, ministers and other leaders in the aftermath of the Civil War, and as part of an effort to address the effects of generations of slavery.

Today, through teaching, research and service, Howard remains committed to the development of distinguished, historically aware and compassionate graduates and leaders and to the discovery of solutions to human problems in the nation and the world.

The scholarship and service of Howard’s faculty, students and alumni are markers for our nation’s evolution in the search for justice, the arts and humanities, the sciences, medicine and civic affairs. Members of the Howard community have also provided leadership and activism for our nation, which has helped define its possibilities and delivered substantive content to its democratic ideals.

Howard students and faculty played major roles in the civil rights movement, the struggle against colonization in other countries and the long and difficult campaign to end apartheid in South Africa. Their contemporary service and leadership activities are diverse and manifested through innovative Alternative Spring Break and Engineers Without Borders projects; elementary and secondary school student mentoring activities; voter education and participation projects; providing health services in economically challenged communities and nations; sorority- and fraternity-based community programs; and advocacy initiatives focused on issues such as capital punishment and affirmative action.

Service and leadership in our nation’s military is an important part of Howard’s tradition and legacy. The University is named in honor of Gen. Oliver O. Howard, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy who served as the University’s third president. Organized military training for students at the University began prior to the establishment of its initial ROTC detachment. By 1942, 450 Howard students had been awarded Army commissions; this group represented more than 50 percent of Blacks holding commissions at the beginning of World War II. They provided the core leadership, skills and advocacy that served as the base for the movement to desegregate the nation’s armed forces in 1948.

Today, the University’s ROTC program offers both Air Force and Army military science and leadership programs and has produced more African-American generals than any other university in the nation. Individuals such as Leo E. Rouse, dean of the College of Dentistry and former commander of the U.S. Army Dental Command, are examples of alumni who provided service and leadership in our nation’s armed forces.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said: “Intelligence is not enough. Intelligence plus character are the ingredients of real education.” King’s reference to character included an expectation that an intelligent person must engage with the community in the struggle for justice and provide leadership and service. This is the charge to which generations of Howard students and faculty have responded and continue to respond today.
Marked by humility and a devotion to service, the Rev. Dr. Bernard L. Richardson (B.A. ’75), the fourth dean of Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel, says that even as an undergraduate studying sociology he knew that he would return to his alma mater.

“When I was a senior, I told Dean [Evans] Crawford, who led Rankin at the time, that I would come back as the dean of the Chapel. I felt called to this position,” he says.

Since 1993, Richardson has served as the spiritual head of the Chapel’s religious life activities. Within his first year of leadership, he created two of the largest programs for the University—Alternative Spring Break (ASB) and the Chapel Assistants.

Richardson says he saw ASB as a “learning laboratory where students have the opportunity to work, serve and discern their calling.” Recalling his work as an undergraduate student, when he founded a peer counseling program, Richardson felt that the Chapel Assistants could assist the ministry of Rankin Chapel, and also serve as a familial support system for both the Howard community and the D.C. community.

The creation of those two programs allowed for more student-run and student-inspired programs, such as Wednesday Night Live, a worship service where students of varying beliefs can meet, as Richardson says, “to find common ground.”

A newer development is the implementation of Interfaith dialogue programs. Howard currently has an Interfaith Advisory Board of faculty and administrators, and the Chapel hosts a “Faith in the Workplace” series in which national leaders and professionals speak to members of the Howard community outside of the traditional preacher-congregation relationship. Last summer, the Chapel hosted President Obama’s Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge Conference.

“These programs educate our community with the understanding that you don’t have to be a preacher or minister to serve God. You serve God through your talents,” Richardson says. “Many students who are committed to their faith sometimes believe, unfortunately, that they’re not doing God’s work unless they’re standing behind a pulpit.”

Richardson also feels that programs like these and interfaith discussions help people understand the role that religion plays for people of different cultures or ethnic groups.

“Tradition grounds us, but in order to be effective, you have to know when to go beyond tradition,” he says.

He marvels at the insights and wisdom that Howard students possess. “The students have taught me so much,” he says. “I think it’s important that we learn from each other. The students are what keep me here.”

Richardson followed leaders such as Howard Thurman and dean emeritus Crawford and has established a legacy as a compassionate visionary. But he understands that the time will come for him to pass on to the next generation the legacy he has built upon. “I’d like to believe that God is already preparing someone to be the next dean of the Chapel,” he says.

He hopes that the Chapel will “continue to be a place where people can feel free to grow and learn about their faith, where the community can come together and where people continue to hold the spiritual and ethical dimensions of leadership in such high regard. It is so valuable to us as a university.”

Gibson, a recent graduate, is a former intern in the Office of University Communications.
New Buildings Enhance Renewal Efforts

Renderings for the new research building (top) and campus housing (opposite page) demonstrate the University’s renewal efforts that are underway.
Howard held an official groundbreaking on April 18 for two new campus residences and an Interdisciplinary Research Building. The three facilities are slated for completion in fall 2014.

Two of the buildings will be modern living-learning facilities that will accommodate 1,360 students. These facilities, located along the Fourth Street corridor, will primarily serve the University’s underclassmen population and will include communal social and study lounges, game rooms and a new home for the Office of Residence Life. These facilities will also include independent apartment units for faculty and staff, as well as classrooms and offices.

The third building is an 81,000-square-foot Interdisciplinary Research Building, which will be located next to the Howard Center, at 2201 Georgia Ave., NW. The IRB will include laboratories, instructional spaces, ground floor retail and centralized offices.

D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton joined Howard President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., board members, administrators and community leaders for the official groundbreaking.
On Campus

iTunes U Offers a New Learning Experience

The Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) group recently launched the Howard University site on iTunes U, joining dozens of colleges and universities across the world that use the Apple media site. The site allows universities to distribute content for classes, campus life and events.

“This is a way for Apple to support the learning environment, while providing Howard with an opportunity to display its rich legacy,” says Trina Coleman, Ph.D., executive director for technology at Howard.

Since its launch in 2007, iTunes U has featured content from universities worldwide, surpassing 300 million downloads in 2010. Content for the app is presented in different media—PDFs, audio, ePub books, iBooks and iPhone apps—and allows professors to capture lectures and manage and distribute course content.

“Apple iTunes can provide a platform where students can refer to class content before or after class,” Coleman says. “They can review material and replay it and pick up on things they may not have understood during the actual lecture time.”

But, she adds, “It is not meant to replace the classroom lecture. It is meant to enhance the classroom lecture.”

Howard’s new site will not only focus on courses; a “Collections” section will highlight events and culture at Howard. There are currently 10 collections on the site: Howard University School of Law, Number 44: Barack Obama, Great Speakers at Howard, Howard University Middle School of Mathematics and Science, Athletics, Words of Faith from President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., Radio Production, Howard University Hospital, Hilltop Life and Scholastic Competition.

Coleman reassures faculty members who might be reluctant to use the platform.

“I want to engage the faculty first,” Coleman says. “For those who aren’t quite ready, we will work to determine the best way to get them up to speed so that if they want to use it they won’t be limited because of their technical skills. Furthermore, the service is available for both Mac and PC users.”

Coleman hopes to reach out to the entire Howard community with iTunes U, including prospective students and alumni. She wants professors to not only get involved on an individual level, but also think about content and events to upload to the Collections series.

“This helps brand the University and also shows the world the good things that are happening at Howard,” Coleman says.

To access Howard University iTunes U, download iTunes from the Apple website. Go to the iTunes store, click on the iTunes U tab and click on the Universities and Colleges tab. Scroll down and click on Howard University.
Edwidge Danticat Delivers Compelling Lecture

Haitian author Edwidge Danticat was the featured speaker during the 61st annual Charles Eaton Burch Memorial Lecture, held in Rankin Chapel in February. The lecture is named after the head of the Department of English in the 1930s, who was an expert on 18th-century British literature.

Danticat spoke passionately about the necessity of sharing one’s personal story. “There is no greater agony than burying an untold story inside of you,” she said. “It is important to share our stories so that others can use it for comfort and inspiration. Diversity is about knowing each other’s story, not having different color faces in the room.”

Danticat expressed the need to find the commonality in others. If others practiced compassion and understanding, she said, many misconceptions would be eliminated and personal and national relations would improve.

Danticat immigrated to the U.S. when she was 12 years old. Two years later she published her first work in English, “A Haitian-American Christmas: Cremaice and Creole Theatre,” in a New York magazine written by teenagers. In 1994, she published her first novel, Breath, Eyes, Memory, which became a part of Oprah’s Book Club. Throughout her career she has received a number of awards, including the Caribbean Writer Fiction Award, the American Book Award and the Flaiano Prize for literature.

White House Honors Physics Professor

George Carruthers, Ph.D., professor in the Department of Physics and Astronomy, received the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, the nation’s highest honor for technology achievement. The award was presented to him by President Barack Obama at a White House ceremony on Feb. 1. Carruthers is currently a scientist at the U.S. Naval Research Laboratory. Among his many outstanding innovations and achievements is his invention of the “Image Converter for Detecting Electromagnetic Radiation Especially in Short Wave Lengths,” which was used during the first lunar walk of the Apollo 16 mission in 1972.

Saadia Doyle Breaks Long-standing Records

On Feb. 18, in Daytona Beach, Fla., Saadia Doyle made basketball history, becoming the all-time leading scorer in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) and for Howard, with more than 2,100 points. She is also third on the all-time list for career rebounds with more than 1,100. At 5 feet 11 inches, the guard from Atlanta was named the 2012–2013 MEAC Pre-Season Player of the Year.

“When I started this journey five years ago, I never imagined that all of this would happen for me,” she says. “I guess it won’t really hit me until years from now when I have gotten away from the game completely.”

Doyle says that after graduation, if the opportunity arises she will play professionally either in the WNBA or overseas, and if she doesn’t play professional basketball, she will instead teach high school and open a health and wellness facility.
On Campus

Howard vs. Harvard

The Howard University Debate Team took on rivals from Harvard University in a friendly debate on Feb. 22, in Cramton Auditorium. The matchup marked the first time a Harvard team had traveled to the Howard campus for a debate. The teams debated two topics—whether gun manufacturers should be held liable for mass killings and if women should be required to sign up for the Selective Service System.

Alternative Spring Break 2013

Howard University students volunteered in seven U.S. cities and Haiti during this year’s Alternative Spring Break (ASB). More than 400 students provided 16,000 hours of service while working in communities in Atlanta, Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, Memphis, New Orleans, Washington, D.C., and in Croix des Bouquets and Petion Ville in Haiti. They tackled a number of issues, including illiteracy, homelessness, gang violence and gun control. Paula Whetsel-Ribeau, Ed.D., the first lady of Howard, is the executive director for ASB. Visit www.howard.edu/asb2013 to read about the work students completed in these communities.
Cinematographer
Reels in the Howard
Community

“It is not our abilities that show who we really are, it is our choices.”
This phrase holds true for cinematographer and director Ernest Dickerson
(B.Arch. ’79), who returned to the campus earlier this year to conduct a lecture
series geared toward aspiring directors and cinematographers at Howard University.
Although Dickerson graduated from Howard with a degree in architecture, he
always had a love for film and television.
“I’ve always been interested in how movies were made ... but it was just an interest,
not a career plan,” Dickerson said.
Inspired by film innovators like Howard’s own Haile Gerima, Dickerson attended film school at New York
University with Spike Lee—whom he worked with extensively on many films,
including serving as the director of photography for Malcolm X. He has also
worked on several television shows, such as Treme, Dexter and The Walking Dead.
During the lecture series, Dickerson mentored students in film and cinematography,
inspiring the next generation in the field. Additionally, during workshops, students split into director/cinematographer teams and later presented
their own creative interpretations of a movie scene.
“Hopefully, [the lecture series will] encourage them to keep doing what they love to do. When I joined the field,
there weren’t many African Americans giving practical, professional advice. I just wanted to do this for the students,”
Dickerson said.

Dickerson mentored students during a recent campus visit.

Professor
Receives
Just Award

Georgia M. Dunston, Ph.D., in
the Department of Microbiology,
received the prestigious E.E. Just Lectureship from
the American Society for Cell
Biology. Named after biologist
Ernest Everett Just, who is
noted for his role in the develop-
ment of the cell surface,
the award is given to minority
scientists who have demonstrat-
ated outstanding scholastic
achievement.
Dunston has made many strides in her career. Her
research on the human
genome variation in disease
susceptibility and health
disparities has been at the
forefront of Howard’s efforts
to build national and interna-
tional research collaborations
focused on the genetics of
diseases common in African
Diaspora populations.
“It is a tremendous honor to
have been named the recipient
of this award. It is especially
gratifying for two reasons,”
said Dunston. “First, because
it symbolizes the creative abil-
ity and perseverance of an
African-American scientist on
the faculty of Howard Univer-
sity 100 years ago who was
successful in pursuing his
passion for research and was
recognized for his scholarship
and pioneering accomplish-
ments. Second, because it is
recognition by colleagues and
peers who share my passion
for science and for increas-
ing the number of minority
students who pursue research
careers in biology and the life
sciences.”
On Campus

President Ribeau delivers remarks during the Charter Day Convocation.

Trustee chairman emeritus Savage served as the keynote speaker.

Charter Day 2013
Alumnus Frank Savage (B.A. ’62),
chief executive of Savage Holdings
and chairman emeritus of the Howard
University Board of Trustees, delivered
the keynote address at the Charter Day
Convocation on March 8, in Cramton
Auditorium. Savage exhorted students
and faculty to preserve Howard’s position
as an exemplar of intellectual and social
achievement and challenged community
members to restore their commitment
to the University, emphasizing that the
responsibility of extending Howard’s
legacy belonged to all.

“Not only does our community need
Howard, the world needs Howard,”
Savage said.

The Charter Day Dinner was held
the following evening to honor four
outstanding alumni: Winston A.
Anderson (B.S. ’62; M.S. ’63) in the field
of research and biomedicine; Janine
Austin Clayton (M.D. ’89) in the field
of women’s health; A. Scott Bolden (J.D.
’87) in the field of law; and Leslie H.
Hicks, Ph.D. (B.S. ’49), in the fields of
psychology and education.

During the dinner, trustee emeritus
John Jacob presented a check for
$50,000 for the Bridging the Gap
Student Aid campaign. The campaign
gained an additional $350,000 in pledges
during the dinner.

This year’s Charter Day celebration
marked the 146th anniversary of
the charter enacted by Congress and
subsequently approved by President
Andrew Johnson on March 2, 1867, which
established Howard University.
Retired Army
Col. Leo Rouse, D.D.S.,
Air Force
Cadet Torrell Mills
and Air Force
Lt. Col. Jennifer Krischer
represent Howard’s proud tradition of serving our country with distinction.
Members of the Howard community uphold the motto of Truth and Service with pride and patriotism.

By Kenneth J. Cooper

The life of Leo E. Rouse (B.S. ’69; D.D.S. ’73) has been wrapped around Howard University, then the military and then back around the University again. Howard prepared him to serve as a career officer in the Army, which in turn prepared him to be dean of the College of Dentistry.

“I participated in ROTC here at Howard. It was that experience that really got me started on my career choice to remain in the Army,” recalls Rouse, who retired as a colonel in 1997 and returned to campus a few months later as associate dean for clinical affairs in the College of Dentistry.
During his final year in ROTC, Rouse’s outstanding performance at a national competition against other cadets from top military schools earned him a deferment from the Vietnam War draft. That break allowed him to remain at Howard and complete dental school.

After graduating, Rouse launched a distinguished 24-year career in the Army. He was promoted to commander of the U.S. Army Dental Command, becoming its first African-American leader. Along the way up the ranks, he was trained as a professor at the Academy of Health Sciences at Fort Sam Houston in Texas.

“I had five years there that literally prepared me to be a university faculty member,” Rouse says.

Rouse stands in a long line of Howard graduates who have served as military officers. The campus Army and Air Force ROTC were established right after World War II. Since then, Howard’s ROTC detachment has produced more African-American generals than any other university.

The line of career military officers who have transferred their knowledge and leadership skills to Howard is even longer, extending all the way back to the beginning. The University’s founder and namesake, Oliver O. Howard, was an Army general during the Civil War and held that rank while serving as the third president.

In recent decades, the College of Dentistry has had a concentration of retired officers. Two of Rouse’s mentors in the Army, including Ezra Merritt Sr. (D.D.S. ’62) and William Kate (D.D.S. ’60), were on the college’s faculty and helped recruit Rouse to return to the dental school.

Faculty members and alumni who were officers, as well as current ROTC cadets, see military service as a reflection of Howard’s motto, adopted in 1910: veritas et utilitas, or truth and service. Being in the military means serving the country. Being a Howard student means learning to serve the broad community and actually doing it.

“Selfless service, that’s what we used to call it in the military. I think Howard looks for the same thing,” says Esther Childers, a retired Army colonel who serves as chair of the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology and assistant dean of academic affairs for the College of Dentistry.

ROTC cadets put the motto into practice. “We do try to connect it. We spend a great deal of time focusing on service here in this city. We also have
a significant service component focused on veterans and wounded warriors,” says Lt. Col. Jennifer Krischer (M.A. ’00), the Air Force detachment’s commander.

Army Cadet Terrance Williams says Howard’s motto correlates with one of the Army’s values: selfless service. “I think that they really go hand in hand. Howard’s mission is to build educated leaders who serve the world. The Army ROTC mission is really the same thing.”

Williams will graduate in July and receive his commission as an Army officer, just as Rouse did in 1969 after completing his undergraduate studies and the same ROTC program.

A Foundation for the Future
When Rouse enrolled in Howard in 1965, male students were required to complete two years of ROTC. His father, who served as a Navy cook during World War II, advised him to continue and take advanced training for two more years.

His junior year Rouse put in his work-study hours as President Mordecai Wyatt Johnson’s driver. He took the University’s first Black president from his home on Buchanan Street to his office in Founders Library and on errands to the bank.

“He played a pivotal role in my life in terms of my maturation. I learned a lot about Howard’s history. It was just a blessing to be in his space at that time,” Rouse says.

Rouse had to stop driving Johnson because of a ROTC commitment. The rising senior was going to Fort Indiantown Gap in Pennslyvania to participate in a six-week summer camp where cadets from across the country test their skills as officers-in-training. Some cadets were coming from top military schools—Norwich University in Vermont and Virginia Military Institute.

A lot was at stake for Rouse. He wanted to go to dental school at Howard. To do that, he needed a draft deferment. To get that, he had to perform with distinction at the summer camp.

“In my particular battalion, I was the only African American. I had the opportunity to be the commander of the entire brigade for a weekend.”

He received the Distinguished Military Graduate honor, got a draft deferment and then entered the dental school. He received advanced dental training at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, D.C., and at Fort Dix in New Jersey. His career also took him to Germany and South Korea.

In 1984, he was assigned to the faculty of the Academy of Health Sciences, where the Army trains everyone from physicians and dentists to their assistants and medics.

“I provided leadership training for individuals who were pursuing careers as clinic chiefs, commanders and ancillary personnel in the Army dental system,” Rouse explains.

He departed in 1989 to assume his first command in the dental corps, at Fort Devens in Massachusetts. Two years later, he was back at the health academy to chair the dental science division. His last tour at Fort Sam Houston—and in the Army—was as the second commander of the reorganized Dental Command, or DENCOM, beginning in 1995.

“I had operational control of the dental assets worldwide,” Rouse notes. “I managed a budget of $180 million. I had 4,000 folks who worked for me. I had 172 dental clinics.”

Like other senior officers, he had his sights set on rising to general. But the frequent moves were taking a toll on his family.

Even before his retirement, Rouse received calls from people at the College of Dentistry, including Merritt, who had retired as an Army colonel in 1992 and quickly returned to campus as clinical associate professor and chief of patient assignments. Along with Kate, a retired colonel who was dean of clinical affairs, Merritt helped persuade Rouse to make the same Howard-Army-Howard loop.

“I was basically Dr. Kate’s recommendation to replace him as clinical dean,” Rouse says. “While I was in the military, he was one of those mentors who kept good track of me. The other is Col. Ezra Merritt.”

A Family Tradition
Merritt had already served in the Army for three years when he graduated from the dental school, earning college benefits under the GI bill. He reentered the Army as a dentist in the dental corps, spending one year in Vietnam. After 30 years of service, he retired as one of two Black colonels in
the Army Dental Corps. He joined the College of Dentistry faculty in 1992.

During his six years on the faculty, Merritt sometimes brought his namesake, son Ezra Jr. (D.D.S. ’12), then in elementary and middle school, to the office. “I think that probably influenced him,” Merritt says.

After the younger Merritt graduated, he entered the Navy and is currently completing his residency at the Navy Medical Center Portsmouth in Virginia. “I kind of grew up going to work with him during the summertime, walking around, talking to the faculty, observing things,” he says.

Born at Fort Stewart in Georgia, Merritt Jr. grew up knowing about the family’s military tradition. Not only did his father serve in the armed forces, but two uncles, two aunts and a grandfather also served.

“I grew up in a structured household and always planned to go into the military, regardless of occupation,” he explains. “My plan is to make the Navy a career at this point. I’d like to stay in for 20 years at least.”

He says the motto-induced service he did at Howard “mirrors pretty closely” the community service that the Navy does.

“Howard is definitely big on service. We did a lot of volunteer work built into our program. We had to do a certain number of hours volunteering. In a lot of classes, they honed in on that once we start our practice, we should think about going into underserved communities,” Merritt Jr. says.

A New Legacy

The Army ROTC has 63 cadets, 80 percent of whom are Howard students and 49 percent of whom are female. The Air Force ROTC, which also has 63 cadets, about half from Howard, is 65 percent minority and 63 percent female.

Typically, female cadets make up 15 to 20 percent of an Air Force ROTC detachment, says Krischer, the commander since 2010.

“We’re a very unique detachment because of that,” Krischer says. “Our focus here is strength through diversity. We actually offer an HBCU experience to non-HBCU students who come from crosstown universities and are on campus twice a week. I think that is an amazing opportunity for them.”

Krischer knows that experience firsthand. After receiving her master’s degree in African Studies, she helped set up the military’s Africa Command as an intelligence officer.

In August, she will begin a one-year deployment to Al-Udeid, Qatar, where she will serve as deputy director for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance at the Combined Air Operations Center.

The detachment also practices the Air Force’s core value of “service before self.” During spring break, cadets spent a day visiting a veterans retirement home, keeping residents company and helping them out. Some cadets have also visited wounded warriors at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md.

“Some of our cadets have gone up there and visited,” Krischer says. “One of our cadets is actually
very active in a program that supports families of fallen soldiers.”

Air Force Cadet Torrell Mills, a junior and the recently elected Mr. Howard, has absorbed the Air Force’s value of “service before self” and the Howard motto’s emphasis on community service. Mills was selected to be the vice wing commander for the cadet wing this fall.

“I definitely aspire to serve my country. I’m the first in my family, my direct line for three generations, to join the military,” Mills says. “I definitely want to start a trend with my family, serving my country and giving back to the community.”

Cadet Williams says ROTC and the Army train leaders whose selfless service is in keeping with Howard’s motto.

“You’re building educated, competent leaders who can make tough decisions but also make those decisions knowing they are going to affect more than just your own personal outcomes,” Williams says.

“They’re going to affect the outcomes of other people in the nation, the community or just your squad, your platoon, your battalion.”

Childers was at Walter Reed in what was then called the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology when she retired in 2004 after 24 years in the Army. As an oral pathologist, one of her missions involved identifying casualties of the Sept. 11, 2001, attack on the Pentagon. That forensic work was done at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

“It’s a difficult job, but you do it to serve the families,” Childers says. “It’s the same thing with soldiers in battle. They’re serving and sacrificing for others.”

Of Childers, who arrived in 2004, Rouse says: “I watched her mature through the military system. She’s now in my administration. I marvel how she teaches her students. She gets awards every year from her students.”

The affection is mutual.

“I loved my Army career,” Childers says. “But I love my current career as well. I really love the opportunity to work with our young people.”

During his decade as dean, Rouse has commissioned 18 graduates of the dental school as Army officers, a privilege that comes with his rank, even in retirement.

“My proudest moment was last year’s Commencement, which was Col. Merritt’s 50th anniversary from Howard’s dental school, and the day his son graduated under my watch,” Rouse says.

“For me personally to be his son’s mentor for four years as his dean, and his dad was my mentor in the military, was most satisfying. Ezra also came to commission his son into the Navy. It was an honor to witness that. It truly is a proud tradition.”

Cooper is a Pulitzer Prize–winning writer based in Boston.
A Strong Advocate for Veterans

Tyeasha Williams

Today, 31.3 million Americans are living with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and an estimated 1 in 5 military personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan are suffering from it. For those with PTSD, each day can become a struggle as they face insomnia, depression, stress, job loss and isolation.

"Many people used to be reluctant to seek treatment for PTSD for fear of stigma, feelings of guilt and not wanting to be considered mentally ill," says Thomas A. Mellman, M.D., a professor in Howard's Department of Psychiatry, and a principal investigator for the Georgetown-Howard Universities Center for Clinical and Translational Science.

Mellman has dedicated most of his career to the clinical study of anxiety disorders, particularly PTSD. In his more than 20 years as a medical doctor and clinical researcher, he has treated countless veteran and civilian patients, educating people about PTSD and how the proper treatment can offer patients a reprieve from the distress associated with the illness. He says that he became inspired by war veterans, especially those who served in Vietnam, while he trained in the Cleveland VA Hospital early in his career and later worked at the Miami VA Hospital.

After a fellowship with the National Institute of Mental Health, Mellman spent several years at the University of Miami treating veterans from World War II, the Korean War and Vietnam. He noticed that culture and generational differences distinguished the two groups; however, both were reluctant to seek treatment.

"Prior war generations were diagnosed less because PTSD was not readily recognized as a mental disorder," he says.

Still, treatment for PTSD has evolved since the earlier war eras. Mellman says that there are far more resources and knowledge to treat those who are susceptible to the disorder, and to treat them sooner. Options for treatment include psychotherapy, in which patients talk about the traumatic event in personal detail. Medication is also used; however, its use is only encouraged as a supplement to psychotherapy or to help secondary consequences of the disorder such as insomnia or depression.

Mellman also says that the stigma associated with seeking treatment interferes less than it has in the past. Treatment and early detection afford patients the opportunity to cope with and overcome reactions to traumatic events. Thus, education and awareness can increase the likelihood that those diagnosed with the condition will reemerge as productive, emotionally stable individuals.

Williams, a recent graduate, is a former intern in the Office of University Communications.
On March 7, 2013, a little more than a year after the killing of 17-year-old Trayvon Martin, Howard students packed the Moot Court Room at the School of Law to hear Martin’s mother, Sybrina Fulton, speak. Fulton looked out at the room of future attorneys and described being asked by reporters how the public outcry surrounding her son’s death began. “You can rest assured I mentioned Howard University,” she said.

Indeed, Howard played a major role in getting the Trayvon Martin case public exposure when major news networks such as CNN did not yet have it on their radar. Nathan Zewdu, the 2012–2013 president...
of the Student Bar Association at the School of Law, said the movement started when a student emailed fellow classmates that an unarmed teenager had been killed in Sanford, Fla., by a neighborhood watch captain. The shooter, George Zimmerman, had yet to be arrested. Outraged students rallied at the injustice.

“Using Twitter, using Facebook, we began our version of activism, taking the Internet by storm and using media to our advantage,” Zewdu told the Moot Court Room audience.

One of the fruits of their efforts was the production of a two-and-a-half-minute video called “Am I Suspicious?” in which Howard students and alumni wearing hoodies and eating Skittles challenged viewers to look past stereotypes perpetuated about young Black men. The video was released on YouTube and went viral, garnering 350,000 views within a week. Students also participated in rallies held across the country, raising awareness about the case, and they worked behind the scenes, conducting legal research on the constitutionality of Stand Your Ground laws.

Alumni also joined the cause. Kevin Cunningham (J.D. ’09) learned about the incident on a listserv and created a petition on the social activism website Change.org demanding that Zimmerman be charged with a crime. The petition garnered more than 2 million signatures.

While Howard’s response to the Trayvon Martin case is one of the most visible examples of social activism at the University in recent years, it’s hardly an anomaly. “Howard has always had pockets of students who were engaged in some kind of activism work,” says Daryl Harris, Ph.D., chair of the Department of Political Science.

The spirit of activism that has deep roots in Howard’s history is alive today, although the issues may be different and the methods used may have changed.

A Storied Past
Ask 10 people to name an example of Howard student activism and you may get 10 different answers, some pertaining to issues at the University itself and others related to national or international causes off campus.

One of the biggest protests occurred in 1968 when a Howard student takeover of the campus inspired a wave of takeovers at other institutions across the country, including at Columbia University and San Francisco State University. Students organized a sit-in and took over the Administration Building for four days. They protested the threatened expulsion of classmates who had been accused of disrupting the Charter Day celebration, and they had other demands, including a greater emphasis on Black history and culture in the curriculum and a closer tie between the University and the community.

“Whenever you’re dealing with student protests, you have to look at how the University responds, and if there were demands, you want to see if those demands were met,” says E. Ethelbert Miller (B.A. ’72), the director of Howard’s African American Resource Center. The students in the 1968 protest did, in fact, get many of their demands met, as did students two decades later.

In 1989, Howard students took over the Administration Building again with another sit-in when then-Republican National Committee Chairman Harvey LeRoy “Lee” Atwater was appointed to Howard’s Board of Trustees. Not only did students want Atwater to resign but they had other demands, including calls for improvements to housing, security and student services. The students’ demands were largely met, including the resignation of Atwater.

Howard student activism has also helped spark societal change. In the 1930s, Howard students participated in protests against job discrimination and segregation in Washington, D.C. During the civil rights movement, students—including activist Stokely Carmichael—participated in protests across the country.

Howard students have also worked to affect global change. For example, the Howard community played a major role in protesting apartheid in South Africa. The relationship between Howard and South Africa dates back to 1871 with the first South African student to attend Howard, says Charles Johnson, Ph.D., an assistant professor in the Department of History. “The student activism grew out of that relationship,” Johnson says.

Changing Times, Changing Causes
The issues students rally around naturally depend upon what’s happening politically and socially in society.

For example, the election of the nation’s first Black president inspired many Howard students to play an active role in President Barack Obama’s campaign both in 2008 and 2012. A number of students joined efforts to get out the vote in swing states such as Ohio, Virginia and Pennsylvania, Harris says.

Howard students participate in a 1968 protest.
The spirit of activism that has deep roots in Howard’s history is alive today, although the issues may be different and the methods used may have changed.

Legal cases of the day also inspire many of the causes that Howard students take up. The law school’s Civil Rights Clinic actively looks for legal cases in which Howard students can offer an argument that might otherwise be missing, says Okianer Christian Dark, interim dean and professor at the Howard University School of Law. Earlier this year, law students filed three briefs for cases being heard in the U.S. Supreme Court. One case concerned the constitutionality of a Maryland statute that allows police to collect DNA evidence from people who have not been convicted of a crime. The other two had to do with the constitutionality of certain provisions of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Law students also made their presence felt at a rally outside the high court when the Voting Rights Act was argued in February.

Some student protests have created headlines in their own right. In 2011, Howard students protested the looming execution of Troy Davis, a Georgia inmate who was on death row. Students carried signs reading “No to Legal Lynching” and sat along the fence outside the White House. When they refused to move, 12 students and a professor were arrested.

Students have also responded to tragedies through Howard’s Alternative Spring Break program. In recent years, students have traveled to Haiti to help earthquake victims, New Orleans to support those ravaged by Hurricane Katrina and Chicago to lend a hand to those impacted by gun violence.

“Alternative Spring Break grows out of an activist community organizing tradition that is still here and vibrant,” says Harris.

**New Methods Are Born**

While the tools of social activism were once rallies and sit-ins, today much of the power lies in hashtags and tweets. When Howard law students started organizing the Trayvon Martin campaign, they divided the work and responsibilities. “Five years ago, no one would have been charged with leading social media, but that’s actually the position I took on,” says Amanda A. Butler-Jones, president of the School of Law Class of 2014.

She created a Facebook group called the Howard University Students for Justice and used YouTube and Twitter to get the word out about the case and other issues that students were focused on. “I was tweeting [media personalities] Roland Martin and Soledad O’Brien every day, letting them know Howard University School of Law is here, and this is what we’re doing,” Butler-Jones says.

The hard work paid off, as Howard students heard from media outlets across the country and from as far away as Switzerland at the height of the campaign.

While some old-school activists complain that social media hampers activism because one might feel that a blog post negates the need to rally, Butler-Jones disagrees. “That individual may not have been planning to attend the march anyway,” she says. “If we can enable that individual to sit behind their laptop and help us, then I want to make it as easy as possible for them to do that.”

And, the growth in social media has not stopped Howard students from using more traditional protest methods such as marches, sit-ins and rallies, as evidenced by the White House and Supreme Court protests that students have participated in recently.

**Future of Activism**

While it’s clear that Howard has a strong history of activism, today’s students maintain that the legacy will endure and grow. Students often quote former School of Law Dean Charles Hamilton Houston, who said that “a lawyer is either a social engineer or a parasite on society.”

Students involved in today’s causes often reach out to alumni to get their take on current issues and to ask for their help. Alumni also keep an eye on what current Howard students are doing. When students were organizing around the Trayvon Martin case, for example, many alumni reached out to ask how they could lend a hand.

“Having those conversations with alumni and friends of Howard about why we were involved, why we were taking the position we were and why it was important made me proud to be a Howard student,” says Butler-Jones. “But I think it also made alumni proud to know their school is carrying on that tradition and that legacy.”

And the spirit of activism doesn’t end with graduation. It’s hard to find a social cause or issue that Howard alumni don’t have a stake in, whether he or she attends a march, writes a letter, starts an online petition or likes a Facebook page. Howard alumni have successfully involved themselves in causes that affect them personally or that impact those who are unable to defend themselves.

“I’m greatly encouraged and optimistic about the future because I know that when vulnerable communities need a spokesperson to take action on their behalf, Howard students will take responsibility,” says Dark.

“Our future will be in excellent hands.”

Holmes is a writer based in Maryland.
A. Scott Bolden

By Otesa Middleton Miles (B.A. ’94)

Hours before the sun rises, A. Scott Bolden (J.D. ’87), a self-described insomniac, awakens.

“I’m up at 4 or 5 a.m. every day,” Bolden says. Why?

“Excellence,” he says. “That’s what drives me. I strive to be excellent every day.”

“There’s no time to wait. Time is of the essence. I’m representing Howard University, my mother, my father,” says Bolden, who often pays homage to the institutions and people who cleared his path, particularly his undergraduat alma mater, Morehouse College, and his fellow Howard University School of Law alumnus, Thurgood Marshall.

Bolden is managing partner of the Washington, D.C., office of the law firm Reed Smith LLP and directs a staff of 165 that generates $50 million annually. His K Street office opens up to a spacious deck with a view of the Washington Monument, and his client roster reads like an elite capital city guest list, including pro football player Albert Haynesworth. His practice is mainly focused on regulatory and criminal defense litigation. He also sits on numerous boards, including the Howard University School of Law Board of Visitors and the D.C. Chamber of Commerce.

Yet, he points to an early setback at Howard that equipped him with a deeper drive to be successful.

“The best lesson I ever had at Howard was failing a contracts class my first year. I wasn’t focused,” says Bolden, who received an alumni achievement award in the field of law at the 89th Charter Day Dinner in March. “That failing grade barred me from being on the law journal my first year. It taught me that it’s one thing to talk about excellence, but it’s another thing to strive to be excellent every day.”

Bolden credits his father, retired Illinois Circuit Court Judge Raymond Bolden, for sparking his interest in the law. “I grew up watching him try cases in all-White courtrooms. My father was my superhero. It had a powerful impact on me and what it meant to be a strong, educated, well-respected man, who happened to be African American and a magnificent lawyer,” Bolden says. “I’m nothing more now in 2013 than a reflection of him.”

Knowing he would pursue a legal career, Bolden chose Howard over other schools. “I knew Howard’s law school had a long history of social justice and social engineering, desegregating schools and hotels,” he says. “I’m a second-generation lawyer, so coming to Howard seemed to be the right way to stand on the shoulders of my father, Thurgood Marshall and Charles Hamilton Houston. I wanted to be as great as they were. Because of Howard and its history, it made sense to get my legal training here.”

The values and mission of Howard’s School of Law are still urgently needed, Bolden says, despite his post as managing partner of a top firm. “We may have arrived, but it’s still a lonely place,” he says. “This doesn’t mean the fight is over.”

Bolden, who The Washington Post called “Washington’s Newest Super Lawyer,” has simple advice for young lawyers in training: “Pass the bar—early and often. Don’t stop at one.”

He points out that he failed the New York bar exam on his first attempt. “My professor’s strenuous teachings and demands were great preparation. I knew the worst part of failure isn’t the failure. The worst part is if you don’t get up and come back from failure.”

Bolden tackles legal and life challenges with zeal, including scaling Tanzania’s Mount Kilimanjaro and walking across the Sahara Desert to raise money
for the U.K.’s Norwood Hope Centre, which assists children who have learning disabilities. But there was one challenge, he admits, that helped him grow as a person.

In 2001, Bolden met his 18-year-old daughter for the first time, a story he wrote about years later in The Washington Post Magazine. During his time at Morehouse, a woman he dated told him she was pregnant, and at the time Bolden didn’t accept that he was the child’s father. When he did, it was after his marriage ended and he’d run what was at the time the most expensive losing effort for the D.C. City Council.

“I was in a very painful place,” he says. “I started to make legal arguments. I thought of ways I could avoid … but it was time for me to find my daughter, confirm she was mine and be responsible.

“Finding, acknowledging and falling in love with my daughter was redemption. Writing about it was cathartic,” says Bolden, who shares close relationships with his oldest daughter, Shayla; twin daughters, McKenzie and McKay, from his marriage; and granddaughter, Ashanti. “I have not been perfect, but I have asked God to forgive me. I certainly believe he has forgiven me.”

In September 2014, Bolden will marry his fiancée, Erika Martin, a fashion sales consultant who appeared on the reality television series Real Housewives of D.C. With a wall of plaques and awards, including the 2012 D.C. Chamber of Commerce Chamber’s Choice Award, Bolden says he hopes his legacy will be that “he tried to help somebody,” a goal he works on by volunteering and raising money for Recreation Wish List Committee’s Southeast Tennis and Learning Center.

“God doesn’t bless us simply to celebrate,” he says. “He blesses us so we can give back to others to celebrate.”

Middleton Miles is a writer based in Virginia.
Q&A

with Stefanie Brown James, former national African-American vote director for the 2012 Obama for America Campaign.

Stefanie Brown James (B.B.A. ’04) demonstrated leadership capabilities early on at Howard University. During her junior year, she was elected president of the Howard University Student Association (HUSA), becoming the youngest female to ever hold the position. Since graduating with a degree in business management, the Ohio native has been dedicating her life to community engagement and empowerment.

Brown James served as the national field director and the national director of the Youth and College Division for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). More recently, she was appointed as the national African-American vote director for the 2012 Obama for America Campaign. In this position, she organized the African Americans for Obama program and managed the national strategy to engage Black leaders and voters, getting them to register and reelect President Barack Obama. Because of her leadership, African-American voter registration and early voting turnout increased dramatically and significantly aided the president’s reelection. In 2011, she started Brown Girls Lead, an organization to help empower girls to become leaders. Essence.com named her one of the “Top 10 Emerging Political Leaders of 2012.”

In an interview with Criscia Dawson for Howard Magazine, Brown James offers insights on how serving as HUSA president prepared her for her current leadership positions and how important...
it is for her to serve as a role model for young Black women.

**Howard Magazine: What qualities do you think are necessary to be an effective leader?**

**Stefanie Brown James:** Service, selflessness, putting others before you and being very strong, dedicated and committed to whatever it is that you are working on. I believe having the spirit to serve other people is important. At the end of the day, leaders are in the position to work, make the lives of others better, provide direction and provide a sense of purpose.

**HM: How did serving as HUSA president prepare you to be a leader in your field?**

**Brown James:** It taught me very early on to be prepared and the importance of having a strong team behind you and in front of you. It is important to surround yourself with positive people who believe in you and who can also tell you the truth, even when it’s something that you don’t want to hear. Running for HUSA also taught me that it’s important to see the big picture of things. There were times when there was an issue that the student body didn’t understand, and they felt as though it wasn’t an important issue that would benefit them. But it actually was a situation that benefited the University as a whole. I think that it’s important to see that leaders have the authority to communicate difficult and unclear situations to the people who they are working on behalf of so that they can see the big picture as to why things are important.

**HM: What are the mission and the goals for your organization, Brown Girls Lead?**

**Brown James:** I started the organization after being a panelist at a Howard event for women. Unfortunately, many of the young ladies in attendance had either no viewpoint on leadership or a negative viewpoint when it came to leadership. It showed me that it was important for alumni and other professional Black women to give back to the young ladies on campus to help them become stronger leaders. Brown Girls Lead focuses on personal, professional and public skills development. We’re really hoping to help break the glass ceiling of leadership for young Black women in communities across the country.

**HM: Under your leadership, the NAACP was able to enroll 200,000 people to vote in the 2008 and 2010 election cycles. What does the NAACP need to do in order to continue to increase voter registration?**

**Brown James:** All of my positions with the NAACP have been centered around working with NAACP units across the country to help with organizing and mobilization. When I served as the national field director and the director of the Youth and College Division, our department was the link between the units and the national office. We focused on issue-based campaigns, training and everything else that connects to strengthening the units to do civil rights work. The NAACP did an excellent job this past presidential campaign cycle. It’s important that they have an infrastructure that can support technology, such as social media, and platforms that can help make voter registration easier. Also, it is really important that we make sure we are reaching all of the people in our community, whether it’s a part of a community that is hard to reach or isn’t traditionally engaged. We need to go knock on those doors. We need to have forums in those neighborhoods.

**HM: What strategies did you use to increase the African-American voter turnout during the past presidential election?**

**Brown James:** A lot of the work that we did on the Obama campaign focused on on-the-ground foot soldiers. That is a traditional civil rights tactic that we saw from early on. It’s important to have neighbors talk to neighbors and register the people in their communities. You have to have people who are committed to making direct person-to-person connections. Recruiting volunteers, training volunteers, getting them resources so that they can do their work and empowering them to do their work is surely important. I know that’s why we were able to increase African-American voter turnout through our Obama campaign network. We focused on the community first and we reached out to them.

**HM: What are your next steps? What part will your past experiences in politics and community engagement play in your future endeavors?**

**Brown James:** My husband and I started a consulting company called Vestige Strategies, a public affairs firm in D.C. that is focused on community engagement, organizing and government relations. I want to take my years of experience in working on community engagement and be able to help organizations, companies and political candidates to really have a stronger level of outreach to the Black community. That’s my passion. Also, I want to continue to grow and develop Brown Girls Lead and have it expand to other universities across the country.

**HM: Howard alumni continue to make remarkable strides in their fields, both nationally and internationally. What do you hope your legacy will be?**

**Brown James:** I really hope that through me people can understand how powerful they truly are and they are able to create sustainable changes in their community. I truly believe in people power. I think that by coming together we can achieve so much, but it’s important that we understand that life isn’t just about us. It is about the work that we can contribute here. How we can better our community and how we can create a stronger future for our children. I am a person who is dedicated to uplifting the Black community. I think that’s what I’ve been put on this earth to do: to make things better for our community, which I think in turn will help the entire country. Everybody can do something; we just all need to do something.

_Dawson, a recent graduate, is a former intern in the Office of University Communications._
Federal Judge Damon J. Keith, was written by Trevor Coleman and will be published this fall by Wayne State University Press. Keith is a senior judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Charles Mitchell, M.D. 1966, was honored by the Dallas Urban League with the “2013 Legacy Award.” Before retiring in 2010, Mitchell was an orthopedic surgeon in Dallas for 37 years. He is currently an orthopedic consultant.

Audrey Brodie Collins, B.A. 1967, received the Los Angeles County Bar Association’s Outstanding Jurist Award in 2012. A district court judge, Collins served as chief judge of the Central District of California from 1999 through 2012. She was also the recipient of the California Women Lawyers’ Joan Dempsey Klein Distinguished Jurist Award.

Calvin D. Hawkins, J.D. 1970, received the 2013 Spirit of Justice Award by the Indiana Civil Rights Commission for his civic and professional endeavors to the bench and bar. The Spirit of Justice Award is the highest honor given annually to commemorate the life of Martin Luther King Jr.

Edward Welburn, B.F.A. 1972, received the Corporate Business Award at the 21st annual Trumpet Awards, an annual event that celebrates African-American history, success and achievement. Welburn is the vice president of Global Design for General Motors (GM). He is just the sixth design leader in GM history, and the first to lead all of the company’s Global Design Centers.

Paulette Brown, B.A. 1973, is the uncontested nominee for the American Bar Association president in 2015, which would make her the first
minority woman to hold the post. Brown is a labor and employment partner at Edwards Wildman Palmer and the firm’s chief diversity officer. Her practice focuses on employment litigation and defending employers in discrimination actions, including class actions.

Larry Delano Coleman, B.A. 1973; J.D. 1976, is the pastor of Brooks Chapel A.M.E. Church in Butler, Mo. Coleman incorporated The Amen Society, which publicized a little-known battle during the Civil War involving the defeat of a Confederate brigade by the first Kansas Colored Volunteer Infantry. As a result, there is a statue dedication at the Bates County courthouse, and the state of Missouri officially recognizes the “Battle of Island Mound” site as historic.

Charlene Porter, B.A. 1974, wrote Boldface Lies, a historical novel set in 1920s Denver that paints a multidimensional picture of race, love, deception and regret. It was one of five finalists selected for an NAACP Image Award in the category of “Outstanding Literary Work: Debut Author.”

Clifford Muse, M.A. 1976; Ph.D. 1990, wrote the foreword for Frederick Douglass in Washington, D.C.: The Lion of Anacostia by journalist John Muller. Muse is the archivist for Howard University’s Moorland-Spingarn Research Center.

Joe L. Webster, B.A. 1977; J.D. 1979, was appointed a U.S. magistrate judge for the Middle District of North Carolina. Webster practiced law from 1979 through 2006. In 2006, he was appointed as a North Carolina administrative law judge, Office of Administrative Hearings, a position he maintained until his current appointment.

Floyd Thomas, B.Arch. 1979; B.S.C.H.E. 1981, was elected chairman of the Caroline County (Va.) Board of Supervisors. He was originally elected in 1991. He and his wife, Linda Johnson, B.A. 1981, will celebrate their 30th wedding anniversary this year.

Paula R. Bruner, B.A. 1982; J.D. 1985, an attorney with the EEOC, was selected by the African American Cultural Preservation Committee to be the 2013 keynote speaker and guest lecturer for the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday commemorative week of activities in Saipan, the capital of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Burlington-Camden Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity in New Jersey also honored Bruner as an African American Woman Achiever for her work in law and government. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority.

Charles Lawrence, B.A. 1982, published 15 Things Teenagers Should Know Upon Leaving High School,
Chicago Courthouse Named for Alumnus

George Leighton (B.A. 1940) was honored in June 2012 when the Cook County Criminal Courthouse in Chicago was renamed “The Honorable George N. Leighton Criminal Court Building.”

Born George Neves Leitão in Bedford, Mass., to Cape Verdean immigrants, his journey from working in fields picking cranberries and having no high school diploma to becoming a renowned civil rights lawyer and judge is an inspiring one.

“Although at the time I didn’t have a formal education, I read and wrote. I won second place in an essay-writing contest where Eleanor Roosevelt was a judge. I read enough, studied enough and wrote enough. I had all the confidence in the world,” says Leighton. “But when your knees are being eaten alive by the cranberry vines and the August sun is beating on your head, you look up and say, ‘There has to be a better way of making a living than this.’”

In 1936, he began attending Howard University, which changed the course of his life. In 1940, he graduated as an unclassified student with magna cum laude honors.

In 1946, shortly after graduating from Harvard Law School on a full scholarship, Leighton contacted Walter White, the head of the NAACP at the time. After going to Chicago to meet him, Leighton became a part of the NAACP’s defense team, along with Thurgood Marshall. He later served as a judge with the Cook County Circuit Court in Illinois. He also served on the Illinois Appellate Court, the first African American to do so.

Throughout his career as a lawyer, Leighton has been a champion for people who had no voice, people who were unjustly convicted of crimes they did not commit. A lot of his work was done pro bono.

Today, the centenarian doesn’t recall what sparked his interest in becoming a lawyer and judge, but he gives all the credit to God for his incredible journey, which also included serving as a captain in World War II and as president of the Chicago chapter of the NAACP.

—Sarafina Wright

which empowers teenagers with information that allows them to be successful early, as well as later in life.

Darryl Orlando Ledbetter, B.A. 1984, was unanimously elected as the president of the Pro Football Writers of America during its annual meeting at Super Bowl XLVII. Ledbetter is an Atlanta Falcons beat writer for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution. An award-winning journalist, Ledbetter has covered the Falcons since 2005 and also covered the Green Bay Packers for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and the Cincinnati Bengals for the Cincinnati Enquirer.

Kamala Harris, B.A. 1986, was named one of TIME magazine’s 100 Most Influential people in the world. Harris is the first African American, first South Asian and first woman to be elected California’s attorney general.

John Kennedy, J.D. 1986, was appointed senior vice president of the Los Angeles Urban League. In his new role, Kennedy will oversee the league’s corporate, foundation and government fundraising efforts and serve as the league’s liaison on government and public policy issues at the federal, state and local levels. He will also oversee the league’s membership and volunteer initiatives and the league’s auxiliary organizations, the Guild and the Young Professionals.

Rev. Quintin L. Robertson, B.B.A. 1986, is the director of the Urban Theological Institute at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He also serves as an associate minister at Sanctuary Church of God in Christ.
Nydia D. Thomas, J.D. 1987, is a contributing author and editor of the 8th edition of Texas Juvenile Law. This two-volume legal treatise is the foremost reference guide for judges, attorneys and juvenile justice system professionals in Texas. Thomas is special counsel for legal education and technical assistance at the Texas Juvenile Justice Department in Austin.

Debra J. Barksdale, M.S.N. 1988, an associate professor in the School of Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, was named director of the new doctor of nursing practice degree program at the university. Barksdale’s research focuses on stress, emotions and cardiovascular disease in African Americans. She is the current president of the National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties.

Sherrillynn Parrish, M.D. 1988, received the March of Dimes Foundation’s Born to Shine Award, which honors local top physicians in the fields of maternal and child health. For the past 20 years, Parrish has been a champion of women’s health. In addition to her role as chief of the Gynecology Division at Our Lady of Lourdes Medical Center, Parrish is also a physician at Lourdes Medical Associates Women’s Healthcare of Collingswood and Sicklerville and serves on the board of trustees at Our Lady of Lourdes Health Care Services.

Corinthia Cromwell, Mus.B. 1989, released a second CD, Piece (Peace) of Mind: Outside the Lines. Cromwell is a psalmist and saxophonist, and the CD contains nine gospel songs and six jazz songs. She is a protégé of jazz great Wynton Marsalis.

Kimberly M. Esmond Adams, B.A. 1989, was reelected without opposition to a second term as judge on the Superior Court of Fulton County, Ga., Atlanta Judicial Circuit. The Fulton Superior Court is the largest and busiest trial court in the state of Georgia. Adams was also recently selected as a recipient of the “Justice Robert Benham Award” for community service. Most recently, she was honored with the “Distinguished Alumnus Award” by the Atlanta chapter of the Howard University Alumni Association.

Todd G. Morgan, B.A. 1989, married Janet M. Fowler on Sept. 15, 2012, aboard the Inner Harbor Spirit cruise ship in Baltimore. The couple continued the celebration of their nuptials with their honeymoon in Oranjestad, Aruba. The newlyweds currently reside in Ellicott City, Md.
Ronnie Stewart, Ph.D. 1990, was named to the Oracle Charter High School’s Board of Trustees in Buffalo, N.Y. Stewart is a professor of sociology at Buffalo State College. His teachings focus on the African-American family, race and ethnic relations, gender studies and community development.

Dawn Kelly, B.A. 1991, received the 2013 Pat Tobin Media Professional Award. The award recognizes a public relations, advertising or marketing professional who has had a distinctive impact in the media realm, and whose work has resulted in positive media coverage of the Black community. Kelly is the vice president and account team leader of Global Communications for Prudential Financial, Inc.

Rev. Marshall Paul Hughes Mitchell, B.A. 1993, is the newly installed pastor of Salem Baptist Church of Jenkintown, Pa. Prior to serving as the pastor, Mitchell developed the production company Different Drummer, known as an alternative and innovative voice in the film industry. Mitchell also serves on the board of trustees for the University of Pennsylvania and on Howard University’s School of Divinity Board of Visitors.

Chuck (Charles) Dodd, B.B.A. 1994, was appointed director of Information Technology Services for the City of Detroit. Dodd previously held the title of deputy director of Information Technology Services. In his new role, he oversees and provides leadership for the safeguarding of key data and communications for the city, including in the areas of network infrastructure and security, data center operation and technology innovation.

Eveline Pierre, B.A. 1996, recently hit five separate Amazon.com best-seller lists with her book The Secret to Winning Big. Co-authored with Brian Tracy, the book reached best-seller status in the following categories: direct marketing, marketing, entrepreneurship, marketing and sales, and small business and entrepreneurship.

Christina M. Crockett, B.A. 1998, received the John S. Nolan Fellowship by the American Bar Association (ABA) tax section in recognition of her service with the Tax Section’s Employee Benefits Committee. For the past several years, Crockett has served as a lawyer liaison for two employee benefits subcommittees, developing continuing legal education (CLE) materials for tax section meetings, arranging and coordinating government speakers for the meetings and serving as a guest practitioner panelist for various ABA CLE programs.

Isiah Marshall Jr., M.S.W. 1998; Ph.D. 2008, was named the program director of graduate social work at Daemen College. Prior to this position, Marshall was the undergraduate social work program coordinator at Winston-Salem State, where he led the program through its initial accreditation with the Council on Social Work Education.

Kyle Bacon, B.B.A. 2003, was honored by the White House as a Champion of Change. A mentor program coordinator for the U.S. Dream Academy learning center in Washington, D.C., Bacon uses his skills in business and education for development, program creation and intervention efforts. He has served public and independent schools in Ohio, Maryland and D.C., and has been effective in significantly improving students’ academic skills.

Amanda Miller Littlejohn, B.A. 2004, received the National Black Public Relations Society’s 2012 Practitioner of the Year Award. The award is given to practitioners who excel in a number of communications platforms to develop exciting, creative public relations and marketing programs. Littlejohn is the president and CEO of Mopwater Social Public Relations, which she started five years ago.

Tanesha Richardson, B.S.N. 2004, was selected to activate the command of Charlie Company, U.S. Army Element, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC) in Bethesda, Md. She is the commander for all Inpatient Army Nurses of WRNMMC, the largest joint-service merger and medical center in the Department of Defense. She is the first Black female
Alumnus Hits New Movie Out of the Park

Chadwick Boseman, B.F.A. 2000, is getting rave reviews for his role as the great Jackie Robinson in the movie biopic 42. The movie chronicles Robinson’s rookie year with the Brooklyn Dodgers and the courage it took to break the color barrier in Major League Baseball. Boseman has appeared in a number of stage productions, and has had television roles in shows such as Third Watch, Lincoln Heights and Persons Unknown. In addition to his acting roles, he is a playwright and screenwriter. The South Carolina native is also a graduate of the British American Dramatic Academy at Oxford.

Isha M. Sharpe, B.S. 2005; M.S.W. 2007, received the 2012 Employee of the Year Award for her work in the District of Columbia as a community supervision officer. This prestigious award is given to one officer each year who exhibits the values set forth by the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency.


James Tolbert II, M.C.S. 2006, received a Modern-Day Technology Award at the 2013 Black Engineer of the Year Awards (BEYA) STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Global Competitiveness Conference. BEYA is the nation's largest annual gathering of STEM professionals and leaders who are committed to increasing underrepresented populations in the technology workforce. Tolbert is a senior software engineer at the MITRE Corp.

Tremanisha M. Stewart, B.S. 2007, was elected to the Fairfield Township Board of Education in Bridgeton, N.J., becoming the youngest member on the board. She currently works at Head Start and is a health sciences adjunct professor.

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Wayetu Moore, B.A. 2008, hosted an art exhibit in Tribeca for the launch of *The Haiti Series*, a collection of six stories that feature the vibrant culture and people of Haiti. The exhibited panels also appeared as illustrations in Edwidge Danticat’s second children’s book, *The Last Mapou*, which will be published as a part of the series. Moore is the founder and publisher of One Moore Book.

The Associated Press’ Atlanta bureau. Lucas will be the bureau’s breaking news staffer for nights, reporting on spot news as it develops. Before joining the *Daily News staff* in March 2011, Lucas worked as a local reporter for *The News Journal* in Wilmington, Del.

Camonia Long, Ph.D. 2010, has been working in a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Hawaii Cancer Center in Honolulu. Long commuted from Dallas to Waco to complete her master’s degree at Baylor University.

Phillip Lucas, B.A. 2010, a night crime and breaking-news reporter at the *Philadelphia Daily News*, joined the *Howard Journal* in six staff positions and is also available on the university’s iPhone and iPad. *University of Howard App* is also available through the store for free on the Apple and Android platforms.

Melissa Noel, B.A. 2010, received a master of arts degree in journalism from the City University of New York’s Graduate School of Journalism. At the CUNY J-School she specialized in television news and urban reporting.

**Love Is in the Air**

Every year alumni can be expected to return to the Hilltop to enjoy laughs and entertainment during Homecoming, celebrate the achievement of family and friends during Commencement, or just stop by the Yard to reminisce and reflect on what has changed since their collegiate days. But it isn’t every day a Bison decides to change his life forever by proposing to a former classmate.

John Long (B.B.A. ’10) brought his college sweetheart, Brittnée Adjoua (B.B.A. ’10), back to the place where it all began to ask her to be his wife. The two met their sophomore year in the School of Business’ 21st Century Advantage Program.

Earlier this year, John surprised Brittnée with a proposal on the Yard. The couple is now preparing for a destination wedding, which will be held in the spring of 2014.

Download a special edition of the Howard University Alumni Association’s newsletter at http://p0.vresp.com/NQm47b for more great Bison love stories.

—Ashley Bayton
In Memoriam

Alumni

’40s

Mary Imogene Steele Woodford, B.A. 1940, died Feb. 3, 2013. Woodford taught as a substitute high school teacher for several years and remained a lifelong member of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, the Links and the NAACP. She also belonged to the Boulé honorary society and the American Association of University Women.

Anita F. Allen, B.A. 1945, died Feb. 7, 2013. Allen was a president of the D.C. school board in the early 1970s. Early in her career, Allen taught at Howard and was a cataloguer at the Library of Congress before working as a management analyst with the Department of the Army. She later taught report writing to federal employees at the General Services Administration. In 1965, she joined the Department of Health, Education and Welfare’s office, where she managed federal funds for public schools and grants to historically Black colleges. She retired in 1981. She was 87 years old.

Thelma Elizabeth Lash, Dip.N. 1947, died Nov. 17, 2012. Lash completed her nursing training at Cook County Hospital in Chicago. She was subsequently hired by Akron City Hospital to be the second African-American nurse, and the first African-American nurse in the city of Akron to work in obstetrics and gynecology.

Frederick W. Barnes, B.A. 1949; B.D. 1958, died Jan. 18, 2013. Barnes was the presiding elder emeritus of the Washington District of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference of the AME Zion Church and pastor emeritus of Contee AME Zion Church in Washington, D.C. He was 93 years old.

’50s

Doris B. Ashton, B.A. 1950, died Feb. 1, 2013. Ashton was a cum laude graduate from Howard, earning a degree in English literature. She received her master’s degree from New York University, where she also graduated with honors. She was a teacher and guidance counselor in the D.C. public school system.

Abraham S. Venable, B.A. 1951; M.A. 1953, died Feb. 21, 2013. Venable was the former executive director of urban affairs at General Motors, where he dedicated himself to improving the position of minorities in all facets of the company’s operations. He served in a number of assignments at the U.S. Department of Commerce before becoming the first minority director of the Minority Business Development Agency. He was 82 years old.

Carolia Queen Clark, Dip.N. 1953, died May 5, 2012. Clark graduated from the Freedmen’s Hospital School of Nursing.

Eldridge Leaphart Sr., B.S.E.E. 1953, died July 8, 2012. Leaphart worked as an electronics engineer with Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Ohio for 33
years. He also served in various roles with the Dayton chapter of the Howard University Alumni Club. He was a member of Bethel Baptist Church for 50 years, serving in many capacities.

Beverly Roscoe Dorsey, M.D. 1954, died April 12, 2011. Dorsey was a 1st lieutenant with the U.S. Army in Europe and the Philippines. He and his wife of 57 years, Beverly Horton, practiced medicine together for 37 years in Binghamton, N.Y. Dorsey was a member of many medical organizations, including the Broome County Medical Society, the American Medical Association and the National Medical Association.

Randolph William Bromery, B.A. 1956, died Feb. 26, 2013. Bromery was a distinguished geologist who ushered in a new age of diversity at the University of Massachusetts Amherst during his tenure as chancellor. He helped found the Committee for the Collegiate Education of Black Students, a program designed to recruit Black students to the school. And in 2000, he and his wife established a fund to help minority students pursue degrees in geosciences. Bromery was the recipient of nine honorary degrees from colleges and universities, served as president of the Geological Society of America and was honored as the National Academy of Science’s Outstanding Black Scientist in 1997. He was 87 years old.

Henry H. Jones Sr., LL.B. 1956, died Dec. 26, 2012. Jones was a professor of law at Howard University for 38 years until his retirement in 2007. He was 86 years old.

Calvin H. Norman Jr., M.D. 1956, died Dec. 29, 2012. Norman was president of his medical school class in 1956. He was 89 years old.

Ronald F. Swann, B.S.C.E. 1958, died on March 13, 2010. He was a retired structural naval architect with the Department of Navy, where he received many recognitions, including the Superior Civilian Service Award.

Barbara G. Laurie, B.Arch. 1985, died Feb. 7, 2013. Laurie served the University for 20 years, and her contributions to Howard University and the Department of Architecture included serving as the coordinator for the Intern Development Program, National Organization of Minority Architects and Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. Her work as a teacher was instrumental in guiding the studies of a generation of architecture students. She was also a trusted and loyal mentor to many throughout their careers.

Laurie concluded her tenure at Howard as associate professor of architecture. After an award-winning association with Devrouaux & Purnell Architects, Laurie founded and was managing principal of DP + Partners, LLC. Her landmark work, 200+, provided focused visibility for African-American women in architecture. She was also the past president of AIA/DC, president of the Washington Architectural Foundation, board member of the D.C. Preservation League and trustee of Howard University Math & Science Middle School. She was 52 years old.

Lloyd A. Walwyn, B.S. 1963; M.D. 1967; M.B.A. 1991, died July 11, 2012. Walwyn completed a surgical internship and residency in Orthopedic Surgery at St. Mary’s Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich. He served as chief of the Orthopedic-Neurosurgery Division and president of Medical Staff at Nashville Memorial Hospital, as well as president of Medical Staff at Hendersonville Hospital and Skyline Hospital. He was 73 years old.

Sherman R. White Sr., B.S. 1964, died Feb. 27, 2013. White served as a writer, photographer and sales manager at the Charlottesville-Albemarle Tribune for more than 50 years. He was also a longtime employee of Centel Communications and later worked as a quality control engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, from which he retired. After he retired, White spearheaded the “Get on the Bus” program, which provided funding for Charlottesville’s Black students to attend an annual historically Black colleges and universities forum held at the Alfred Street Baptist Church in Alexandria, Va.

Austin D. Lane, J.D. 1961, died Oct. 27, 2012. Lane taught at the Howard University School of Law from 1964 to 1973. He later became the University’s dean for student legal affairs and veterans affairs, and retired in 1986 as dean for special student services. He was 79 years old.

Velma Constance Dunnaville, M.S. 1963, died May 24, 2012. Dunnaville was a home economics teacher in the D.C. Public School System. She taught at MacFarland Junior High, Banneker Junior High, Lincoln Junior High and Wilson Senior High School. She retired from teaching in 1989 after 28 years of service. She was 88 years old.

‘60s

Summer 2013

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Opportunity Denied: Limiting Black Women to Devalued Work (Rutgers University Press), by Enobong Hannah Branch (B.S. ’02), is a comprehensive examination of race and gender across many decades. From free Black women in 1860 to 2008, the author provides an overview of the development of Black women’s work and labor opportunities and the impact of occupational segregation.

Community Educators: A Resource for Educating and Developing Our Youth (Kettering Foundation Press), by Patricia Moore Harbour (B.F.A. ’65), affirms an unwavering connection between community, democratic action and education. The book calls for greater collective efforts toward educating youth.

The Promise Keeper (PublishAmerica), by L. Marie Wood (B.A. ’95), is a novel about love and loss, as seen through the lens of an African girl who becomes a vampire and the keeper of life-altering promise.

Race: Are We So Different? (Wiley-Blackwell), by Alan H. Goodman, Yolanda T. Moses and Joseph L. Jones (B.A. ’97), offers fascinating commentary on race and how its definition has changed through American history. The authors explore contemporary experiences of race and racism and the ways it can influence laws, traditions and social institutions.

The Price of Promotion (Cross-Books Publishing), by Miriam V. Osborne Elliott (B.A. ’88; M.A. ’90), provides guidance on assessing and setting life goals through introspection and identifying the paths needed to achieve them.

Memoirs of the Prodigal Son: The Road to Redemption (Disciple Publishing Company), by John C. Dorch (B.A. ’68), reveals a touching tale of a man who fell from grace but then began a spiritual journey that transformed numerous lives.

Dream College: How to Help Your Child Get into the Top Schools (SuperCollege, LLC), by Kpakpundu Ezeze (B.F.A. ’72), directs students and parents on an empowering path toward making the dream of attending a particular college/university a reality.

She Makes More: Inside the Minds of Female Breadwinners (CreateSpace), by Dawn DeLavallade (B.S. ’96), includes reflections from female breadwinners, an increasing phenomenon in U.S. marriages, and encourages honest dialogue between them and their spouses.

God, Walk Me Through This (CreateSpace), by Tracy Vinson (B.A. ’94), is a Christian devotional book designed to empower readers to jump-start their faith and renew their inner spirit through the application of scripture passages.

Young Man in a Hurry (Godzchild Inc.), by William Hopkins (B.A. ’62), is a memoir that chronicles the author’s 65-year odyssey, reflected through historical events like the Korean War.

To submit a book for consideration in Bison Bookshelf, please mail a copy to: Howard Magazine 2225 Georgia Ave., NW Suite 614 Washington, DC 20059
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You came, you conquered, now go show the world what it truly means to be a Howard University Bison!