

OAKWOOD

M A G A Z I N E



Oakwood Serves
and Learns
in Community
Classroom on...

Agape Day

**Congressman
John Lewis
Receives Award**

*Oakwood Plans for
Health Action Clinic*





OAKWOOD

M A G A Z I N E

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Cover photo by Anthony Chornes II

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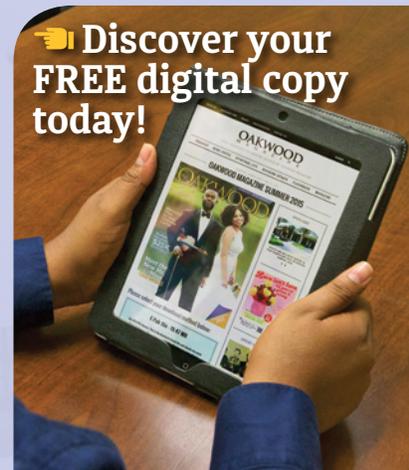


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Write to Us.

We appreciate your comments, critiques, and commendations of *Oakwood Magazine*. We plan to include letters in upcoming issues. If published, your letter may be edited for content, style or space. Please send your letters of 300 words or less to: pr@oakwood.edu

If you receive more than one copy of the *Oakwood Magazine*, or if your address has changed, please contact us at pr@oakwood.edu



NOTE:

In the fall 2015 issue, we incorrectly listed Rachel Frazier's major. She is actually a **Biochemistry Major**.



Snapshot

Oakwood University Church held its Fall "Back to School Revival" on August 19-22, 2015. Highlights of the Revival included former NBA player Ed O'Bannon, who shared his testimony of the importance of making correct choices, knowing that the choices you make today impact the choices you will be able to make tomorrow; a sermon by Carlton Byrd, D.Min., senior pastor of the Oakwood University Church; and music by the Aeolians and special guests Anthony Brown and Group Therapy. —Paul Goodridge, associate pastor, Oakwood University Church



Applying Love to Leadership and Service

Note: While participating in Agape Day last semester, this excerpt from my book, *Loving Leadership*, came to mind. I wanted to share this with you because a major component of what we do, here at Oakwood, is prepare leaders for service. Our service to others can't be done without love.

When we apply love to leadership we must conclude that leadership and service,

however celebrated, rewarded, or applauded, if done without love is profitless. This is Paul's message to the church and to us. He writes in 1 Corinthians 13:2-4 (in the *Contemporary English Version*): "what if I could prophesy and understand all secrets and all knowledge? And what if I had faith that moved mountains? I would be nothing, unless I loved others.

What if I gave away all that I owned and let myself be burned alive? I would gain nothing, unless I loved others."

Paul's insistence is clear: if our service and leadership is motivated by love, our interaction with others will be transformational, for us and the people we serve. Such followers will be elevated, challenged, inspired, and motivated by our leadership. Our employees will trust our mission focus. Our colleagues will want to be like us. Our supervisors will tell others what a privilege it is to work with us. Our neighbors will speak of us to their friends. And, the organizations that we lead will reap both measurable and intangible benefits.

But far more important than these organiza-

tional benefits, your spiritual communion and fellowship with God will be deepened in immeasurable ways. To know the love of God so deeply, on a daily basis, is to be transformed in attitude, outlook, character, and practice.

In following Ellen G. White's counsel to read the "love chapter" every day, I encourage you to make 1 Corinthians 13 a part of your daily personal worship. I guarantee you



"If our service and leadership is motivated by love, our interaction with others will be transformational, for us and the people we serve."

that your encounter with this lofty passage on a daily basis will transform your attitudes, outlook, and relationships. The passage will take you to realms in God's spirit that you have never imagined. That's because God's powerful word always accomplishes transformation when it is received with humility and faith. 🙏

Leslie N. Pollard

Oakwood Serves and Learns in Community Classroom on Agape Day

by Naomi Coggs, Student Writer

Abryana Gittens and
Brea Fleming



Taking a moment
with the kids at
Oakwood's Child
Development Center



You can see more photos at
[flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity](https://www.flickr.com/photos/OakwoodUniversity/)



Since 2005, Oakwood University has designated one day as Agape Day, when classroom instruction is officially set aside so that students and employees can “depart to serve” in the Huntsville/Madison County area, and learn in the “community classroom.”

October 6 was Agape Day 2015. The day began at 8:45 a.m., when approximately 500 volunteers in their bright yellow T-shirts boarded the buses to be transported to work sites in the greater Huntsville area. Work projects included painting, planting, weeding, general cleanup, assisting senior citizens, and reading to elementary school children. There were 35 work sites this year, including the CASA Community Garden, the Alabama Constitution Village, the Huntsville Botanical Garden, Christmas Charities Year Round, Downtown Rescue Mission, Habitat for Humanity, Huntsville Historic Depot, and the U.S. Space and Rocket Center.

Agape Day was first launched as an initiative between the Division of Academic Administration and the Freshman Studies Department. It is now coordinated by the Department of Service Learning. Patricia Daniel, coordinator, shared, “Agape Day was a blessing to those who rendered service and to those who were beneficiaries of the service. Students who participated want to continue relationships with those they served. Community members and service recipients appreciate the way that Oakwood is helping people and want us to return in the near future.” 🌟



▲ Samuel Ronneau

La-Sean Stewart,
Timothy Harris, and
Karissa John prepare
gift bags at Christmas
Charities Year Round.

PHOTO BY ROLAND SCOTT

Agape Day



Miss Oakwood, Lauren Eaton, reads to the kids at Oscar Mason Library

“It makes me want to do more community service in the future because you can see the changes that you’ve made in the community. I felt like I was spending my time in a good way.”

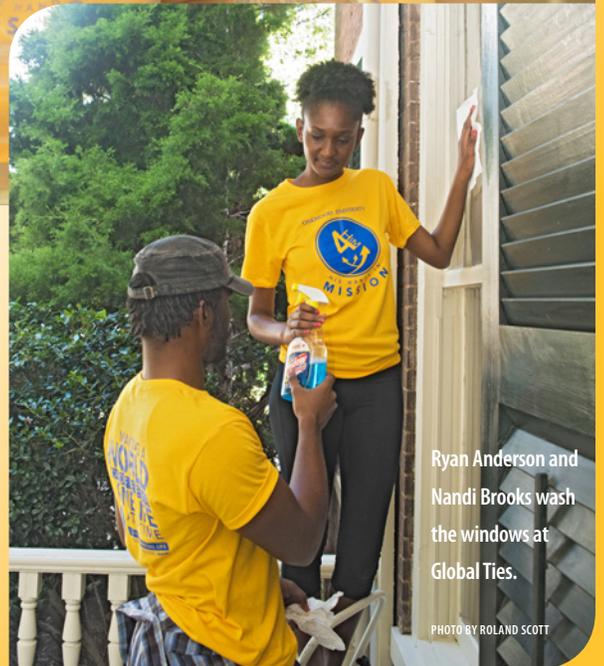
—Halen Stonewall



Leah Davis, Hilliairie Cowan, Jean Anderson, and Erika Gloster.

“Giving back to the community gives me a sense of hope and makes me feel like I am really fulfilling the purpose of Oakwood.”

—Aaron Moore



Ryan Anderson and Nandi Brooks wash the windows at Global Ties.

PHOTO BY ROLAND SCOTT

▲ You can see a video about Agape Day by going to OakwoodMagazine.com



Health Clinic to Provide Opportunities for Training and Service

by Karen Benn Marshall, Ed.D, Shirna Gullo, DNP, and Janice Thomas, M.D.

Prevention through education and early intervention are two possible keys to stopping preventable chronic diseases. Oakwood University recently launched the Healthy Campus 2020 initiative, which includes plans to reach the surrounding community. This outreach initiative will provide a Community Health Action Clinic which will offer a holistic approach to address many healthcare needs. One special aspect of this clinic will involve collaborating with the healthcare disciplines at Oakwood so that students can participate in service-learning opportunities at the clinic.

As part of the Healthy Campus 2020 initiative, students are actively learning and practicing the eight laws of health. These eight principles—sunlight, temperance, adequate rest, nutrition, drink water, outdoors, utilize physical activity, and trust in God—all play a key role in preventing many chronic diseases and will help bring optimum health and success in life.

As students gain hands-on health career training through the Community Health Action Clinic, they are able to gain experience that will be useful to them when they graduate and when they depart to serve in their own communities. Community service is at the core of Oakwood University's mission, vision and its very motto, "Enter to learn; depart to serve."

Oakwood's commitment to the community is evidenced by the establishment of the Community Health Action Clinic. This clinic will provide preventative health care and bring more awareness to the community about lifestyle choices that can affect one's health and well-being. The clinic will also provide opportunities for the reinforcement of student learning and will make a measurable and sustainable improvement in the health status of the community.

Why the increased need for healthcare careers and training? According to the *U.S. News*



and World Report (Taylor, 2015), healthcare jobs are among the top 10 in the job market. Of the top 10, dentists, nurse practitioners, physicians, dental hygienists, physical therapists, registered nurses, and physician assistants are among the top seven in healthcare jobs. With the plethora of healthcare options available, traditional students, as well as adults embarking on a new career, have many lucrative options from which to choose. Furthermore, Americans are continuing to gray year-by-year as the population ages. Changes in the healthcare system have made

provisions for increased access to healthcare by older Americans (Taylor, 2015). Healthcare needs have increased greatly, as Americans continue to grow older and live longer. Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015) indicate that

chronic diseases account for seven out of 10 deaths, annually. Eighty-six percent of healthcare costs are spent on treating chronic diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, obesity, stroke, arthritis, and cancer.

Oakwood University's new Community Health Action Clinic will help meet the needs of its community, while providing opportunities for health care training and community service for its students. The Community Health Action Clinic is slated for a grand opening in 2016. If you are interested in donating to this initiative, please visit www.ougiving.com



Taylor, E. (2015). The 36 top healthcare jobs of 2015: An industry dedicated to quality care. Retrieved from <http://money.usnews.com/money/careers/slideshows/the-36-top-health-care-jobs-of-2015>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2015). Chronic disease prevention and health promotion. Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/index.htm>

OAKWOOD LIVE!

Yields Success

by Naomi Coggs, Student Writer

▶ You can see a video about Oakwood LIVE! by going to OakwoodMagazine.com.



akwood Live! took place on October 11-13, 2015, showing hundreds of prospective students just why Oakwood University would be the best place at which to further their education.

More than 700 guests, including students and chaperones, enjoyed a plethora of activities throughout the program. Some groups arrived before the official Sunday start date to experience a full weekend on the Oakwood campus, which included the Friday evening worship service. The spiritual momentum continued on Sabbath morning with Carlton Byrd, D.Min.,

senior pastor of Oakwood University Church, leading the worship experience.

The lively bunch also relished in a variety of recreational activities on Sunday night, ranging from a block party, to a basketball tournament, and roller skating. But that wasn't all—on Monday, prospective students lived “A Day in the Life of an Oakwood Student,” attending mock academic classes, showcased by Oakwood’s academic departments. For students still undecided about their future major, more information was provided at the Academic Fair. Monday night was capped off with a concert, showcasing the wide range of talent found at the University.

Oakwood Live! concluded with a special



▶ To view more pictures from Oakwood Live!, please visit www.flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity



chapel service on Tuesday, with MyRon Edmonds, D.Min., and an open discussion in which students could ask questions about Oakwood.

Porsha Bowdery, an Oakwood Live! participant, said, "My experience at Oakwood University was incredible. I liked the opportunity to stay in my own dorm room and had a great time meeting diverse people. I liked going to the basketball game, because I love basketball! I stayed and watched the whole game. Going to the cadaver lab class was very interesting, learning about different parts of the body. I would recommend [attending] Oakwood Live! next year." 📍

OAKWOOD
LIVE!

SAVE THE DATE

**GET
READY
TO GET
LIVE!**

**OCTOBER
2016**

Oakwood University Joins Partnership for a Healthier America



On September 21, 2015, Oakwood University announced that it joined the Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA), which works with the private sector and PHA honorary chair First Lady Michelle Obama to make healthier choices easier, in a three-year commitment to adopt guidelines

and programming. holistic approach to a healthy mind, body, and soul. Our goal is to make Oakwood University the healthiest campus in America,” said Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.

Oakwood University is a part of the third cohort of schools joining the PHA’s Healthier Campus Initiative, which includes 37 other colleges and universities, collectively impacting more than 800,000 students and 250,000 faculty and staff. The third cohort includes:

- Des Moines Area Community College
- Des Moines University
- Florida State University
- Howard University
- Mississippi State University
- Northern Arizona University
- Oakwood University
- University of Arizona
- University of New England
- University of North Florida
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Wisconsin-Madison

and programming.

“Colleges and universities are in a unique position to help shape tomorrow’s leaders, whether they are teachers, coaches, policymakers, CEOs, moms or dads,” said PHA CEO Lawrence A. Soler. “We know that going to college is a time of change for many students; we also know that means it’s a time when new habits are formed. By creating healthier food and physical activity environments today, campuses and universities are encouraging healthier habits that will carry over into tomorrow.”

The Partnership for a Healthier America (PHA) is devoted to working with the private sector to ensure the health of our nation’s youth by solving the childhood obesity crisis. In 2010, PHA was created in conjunction with—but independent from—First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move! effort. PHA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization that is led by some of the nation’s most respected health and childhood obesity experts. PHA brings together public, private and nonprofit leaders to broker meaningful commitments and develop strategies to end childhood obesity. For more information about Healthy Campus 2020, visit www.oakwood.edu/healthy-campus-2020 



around food and nutrition, and physical activity and programming. This initiative will impact the students, faculty, and staff on campus.

“At Oakwood University, we will be facilitating learning opportunities to educate the campus body about eight laws of health, in order to foster a

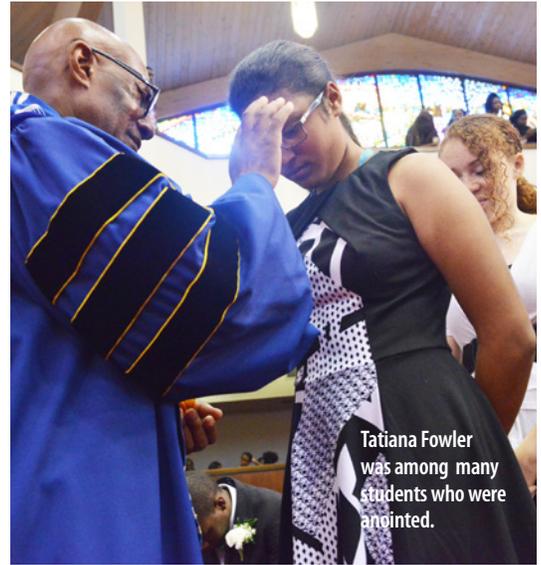
Oakwood is the first university in Alabama to join the PHA.

Over the next three years, Oakwood University will implement several changes to make healthier choices easier for students, faculty, and staff across its campus with its commitment to PHA through food and nutrition, physical activity and movement,

Oakwood Campus Challenged to **Stand Up** and **Stand Out**

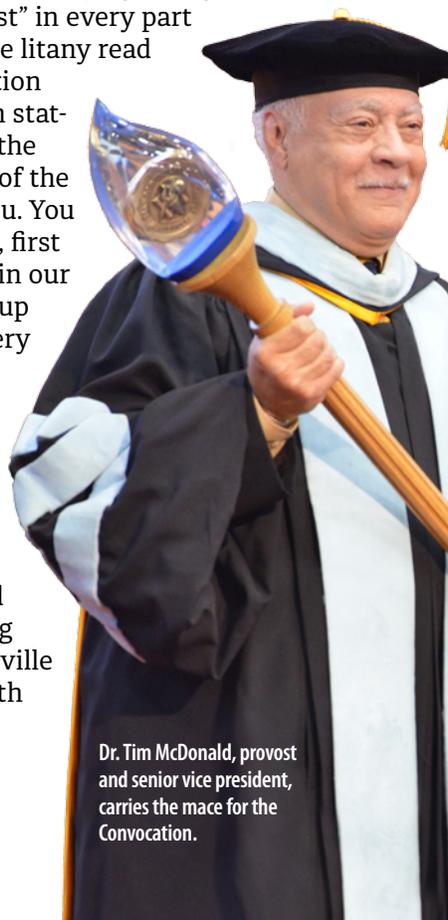


Dr. Leslie Pollard delivers the Convocation address.



Tatiana Fowler was among many students who were anointed.

On September 3, 2015, at the annual Academic Convocation, Oakwood administration, faculty, staff, students, as well as Oakwood Adventist Academy students, prayerfully committed to keeping “God First” in every part of their lives. Part of the litany read by the entire congregation during the Convocation stated: “From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, we will praise You. You are first in our worship, first in our prayer, and first in our praise. We will lift You up by putting You first every day of this new school year. Amen.” All were encouraged to “Stand Up and Stand Out,” in a powerful address from President Pollard. The 2015 University Convocation concluded with a special anointing service in which Huntsville area pastors prayed with participants. 🙏



Dr. Tim McDonald, provost and senior vice president, carries the mace for the Convocation.



The Aeolians



Oakwood Adventist Academy students join in the litany.

Oakwood Student Named a 2015 HBCU All-Star



● In August 2015, The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (WHIHBCUs) announced its 2015 HBCU All-Stars, recognizing 83 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students for their accomplishments in academics, leadership, and civic engagement. K. Dominic McKenzie, a senior Broadcast Journalism major, has been accepted into the 2015-2016 HBCU All-Star cohort to serve as the White House Initiative on

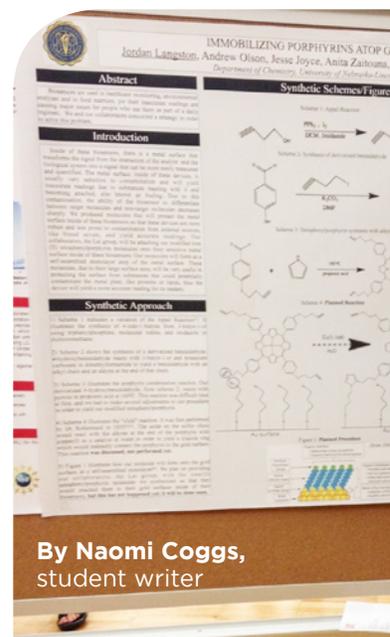
HBCUs student ambassador for Oakwood University.

The All-Stars were selected from more than 450 students who submitted applications that included a transcript, resume, essay, and recommendation. Over the course of the 2015-2016 academic school year, the HBCU All-Stars will serve as ambassadors of the WHIHBCUs by providing outreach and communication with their fellow students about the value of education and the role of the Initiative as a networking resource. Through social media

and their relationships with community-based organizations, the All-Stars will share promising and proven practices that support opportunities for all young people to achieve their educational and career potential.

Part of McKenzie's participation included his attendance at the HBCU All-Star induction at the HBCU Week Conference, on September 20-22, 2015, in Washington, DC.

"The Obama Administration is committed to promoting excellence, innovation and sustainability across our nation's HBCUs. This year's class of All-Stars has distinguished itself as exemplars of the talent that HBCUs cultivate and as noble ambassadors of their respective institutions," said Ivory A. Toldson, WHIHBCUs' executive director. "We are confident these impressive students will help the White House Initiative on HBCUs meaningfully engage with students, showcase their talent and advance our agenda to advance academic excellence at HBCUs."

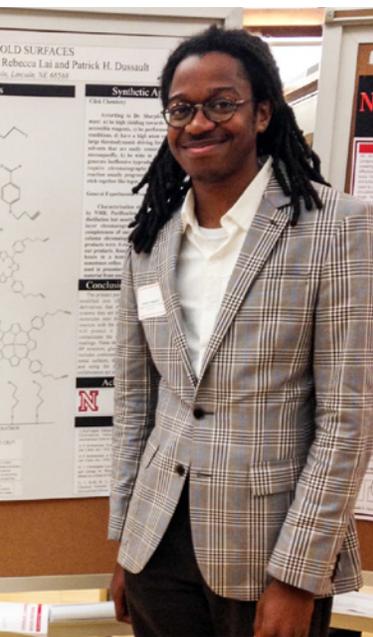


By Naomi Coggs,
student writer

Chemistry Student Receives Science Research Scholarship

● Chemistry Major Jordan Langston was shocked after he was notified that he had been selected for the UNCF Merck Undergraduate Science Research Scholarship. The competitive scholarship is highly sought after, awarding 15 HBCU undergraduates in the STEM program up to \$30,000.

"It was really God that provided. He showed me that I was just as good and smart as any student, and I can continue doing great things for him,"



Jordan shared.

The Oakwoodite longs to work in the medical field because of his own personal experience. Langston had a kidney transplant at age two. “As a result of my own medical history, I desire to obtain an MD degree, as I would love to care for pediatric patients with chronic illnesses. I hope to one day work at a major hospital that ideally has a medical school associated with it and split my time between research and seeing patients,” he said.

For the past two summers, Langston has had the opportunity to get closer to his desired career. “My research last summer was at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, in the area of organic chemistry. This past summer, I was at Boston University par-

ticipating in research in the area of polymer chemistry. I will soon be sitting for the GRE exam and will be applying to graduate school, praying that I get into a PhD program in medicinal chemistry.”

Understanding the importance of scholarships, this senior

“I would love to care for pediatric patients with chronic illnesses.”

encourages fellow students to apply for as many scholarships as possible and ask for help when needed. “Pray that God will help you to find the right scholarships. You should not be afraid to ask for help because there are people who are willing to help you. It could be friends, family, or church teachers; you just need to ask,” he said.

Oakwood Student Receives Tuition-free Year of Study

● This past summer, Elementary Education Major Kristen Nedd received notification that she was selected as a winner of the Educational Testing Service (ETS) Presidential Scholarship. Nedd’s award was for tuition for the 2015-2016 academic school year at Oakwood University – paid by ETS.

The official letter sent to Nedd stated that she was chosen from a number of talented students who submitted applications for the scholarship competition. Also, an external review committee conducted an evaluation of her academic record, co-curricular activities, and other application materials. Nedd was one of eight recipients to receive the scholarship.

As a recipient of the scholarship, Nedd will present a topic in her field of study at the ETS forum to be held in early 2016 in

Princeton, New Jersey.

ETS was founded in 1947 when the American Council on Education, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the College Entrance



Examination Board contributed their testing programs, a portion of their assets and a number of key employees to form an independent nonprofit organization under the leadership of Henry Chauncey. 🌍

Oakwood Students Visit Washington, DC, for Leadership Tour

Each year, in September, President Pollard, and the student leaders of Oakwood take a trip to Washington, DC. This annual excursion, called the President's Leadership Tour, provides an excellent off-campus venue for the University president to speak with students about the impact of their leadership on the campus. During the tour, they were able to visit several monuments and historic sites including the Holocaust Museum, the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial, the Washington Monument, and the Lincoln Memorial and Reflecting Pool. 🌍



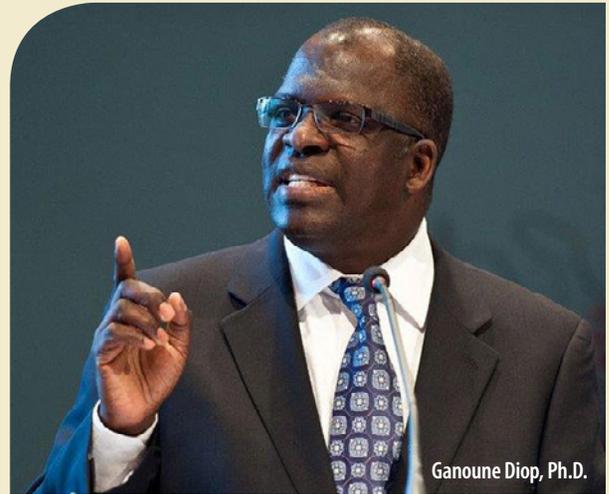
Oakwood Addresses the Issue of Social Justice



Naomi
Coggs and
Camille
Moore
contributed
to this
report

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

Oakwood's Senior Chaplain, Howard Weems, Ph.D., explained the inspiration behind the two-day program. "Because of the events that are happening, especially among African-American men and women, I wanted to give the students a perspective—a worldview—based and founded in Adventist theology. Many protests are going on in the world, we hear a lot of voices, and I'm trying to influence the worldview to make sure we put on programs of action that are founded in what we believe as a Church."



D.Min, Ph.D.; and Mervyn Warren, Ph.D.

Among the special guests in attendance was Elder Charles E. Bradford, retired president of the North American Division. He shared about Mrs. White's support and care for the African-American community in a time when it was less than popular to do so. He also commented on the importance of Mrs. White's efforts to diffuse racial apathy in the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Students also had the chance to contribute to the Symposium. Theology major Bensheh Morgan presented a paper, titled "*Blinded by the Benefits: Why Social Justice is not a Witch Hunt for Hatred.*" Morgan focused on humanizing social justice, explaining that he "thought it was important to assuage the fears that many have when the issue of social justice comes up," and emphasizing, "we are fighting against structural inequality and overall injustice." This interdepartmental support gave students an opportunity to express themselves through whatever media they chose," explained Jonathan A. Thompson, D. Min., director of the Ellen G. White Research Center. 🌍

On October 17 through 22, 2015, the Ellen G. White Research Center hosted a symposium celebrating the legacy of Mrs. White and her contribution to social justice. Presenters included Keith Burton, Ph.D.; Carlton P. Byrd, D.Min.; Preston Foster, JD; Trevor Fraser, D.Min.; Ramona Hyman, Ph.D.; Elder Dan Jackson; C. Wesley Knight, D.Min.; Norman Miles, Ph.D.; Craig Newborn, Ph.D.; Leslie Pollard, Ph.D.; Russell Seay, Ph.D.; Ciro Sepulveda, Ph.D.; Calvin B. Rock,

CONGRESSMAN
JOHN LEWIS
RECEIVES 2015
SOCIAL JUSTICE
AWARD



▶ You can see more photos of this event
at flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity



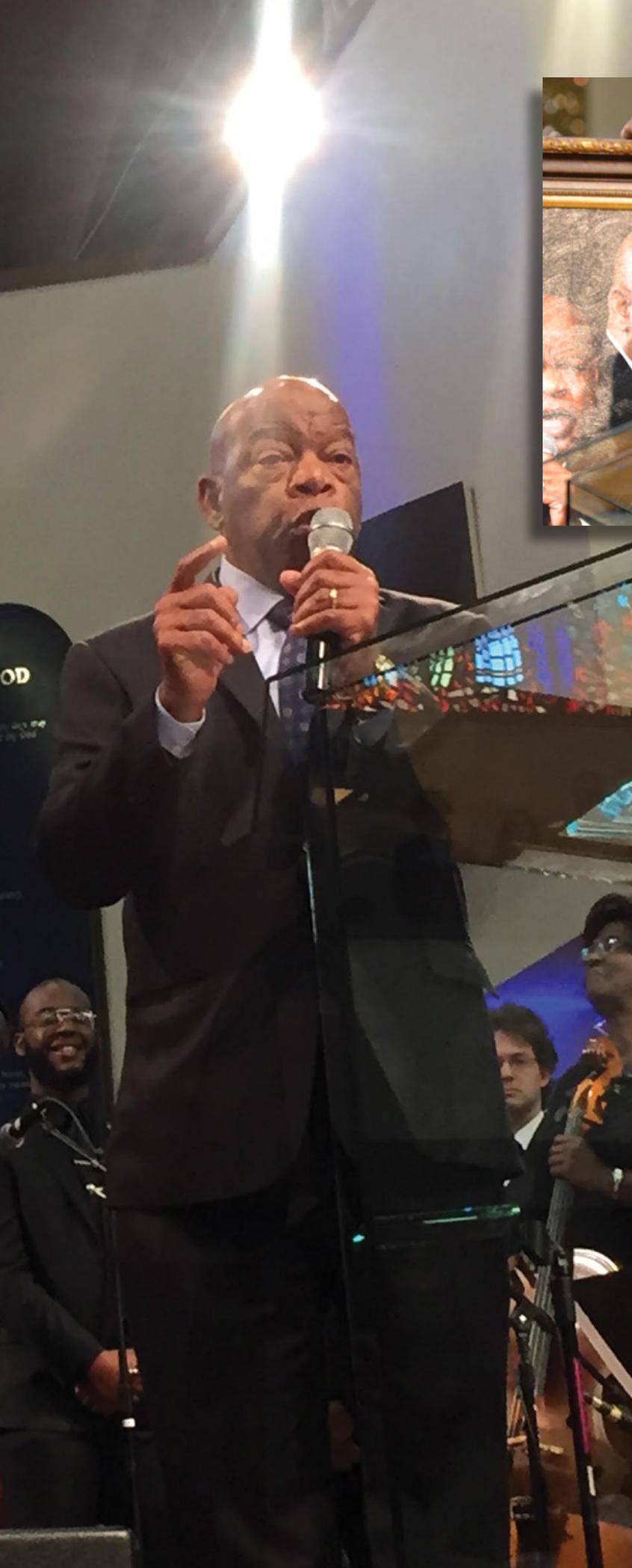


PHOTO BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II

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



PHOTO BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II



Oakwood Presents at NASA Partnership Meeting

On September 17, 2015, NASA hosted the 2nd Annual Historically Black Colleges & Universities & Minority Serving Institutions Partnerships Meeting at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama. According to NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, the purpose of this event is to foster and sustain working relationships with historically black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions. At this meeting, 30 universities, along with dozens of NASA prime contractors from across the country, met to network and discuss potential subcontracting opportunities.

Oakwood University was invited to present on best practices for HBCUs entering the world of government contracting because of its long-standing, award-winning status as a subcontractor on several large NASA contracts. Sabrina Cotton, vice president for Financial Administration, represented Oakwood University and

discussed Oakwood's journey as a subcontractor and the practices followed that allowed Oakwood to partner with SAIC on NASA's largest billion-dollar contract. She also discussed Oakwood's development of sustainable partnerships with SAIC and multiple other corporate partners, such as BOEING, LEIDOS, Raytheon, Tec-Masters, Northrop



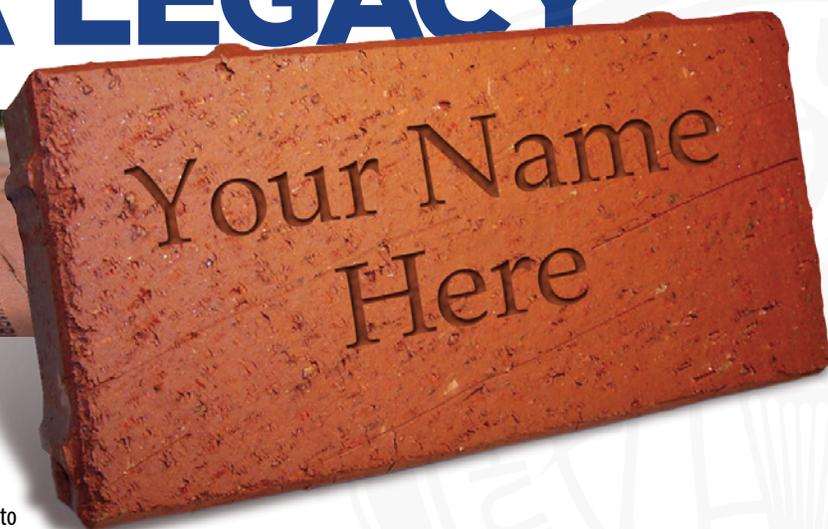
Grumman, DynCorp, and Honeywell. The Oakwood presentation included highlights describing the additional benefits of partnering with a corporate mentor. These benefits include Oakwood employees participating in SAIC University e-Learning and developing a summer internship program for Oakwood and other local college students. The corporate mentorship has aided Oakwood in achieving ISO 9001 Certification, increased campus wireless technology enhancement, and network engineering classroom training. The presentation also provided insights into Oakwood's capability to provide vendor services in information technology, cyber security, and the STEM disciplines.

The presentation resulted in Oakwood making additional corporate and government connections and being invited to join the steering committee for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore Leveraging Sustainable Partnerships, planned for October 20-22, 2016. 



U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama

LEAVE A LEGACY



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

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Student Leaders Learn About Workplace Etiquette

by Ryan Smith, Assistant Vice President

On September 21, 2015, Michelle Powell, president and chief executive officer of Professional Manner, made a presentation to the residential life student leadership that focused on professionalism in the workplace and the practice of workplace etiquette. In keeping with the theme, “What’s in your Hand?” the workshop more clearly defined those two areas for the student leadership, with intent to sharpen the tools God has already given them. Powell is no stranger to Oakwood University, as she has presented on similar topics in the past.

Professional Manner was established in 2002 to provide individuals with information to enhance their personal and professional image, and to develop skills on how to conduct business in a more professional manner through

etiquette consultation. As Powell spoke to the student leaders on the topic of “Business Etiquette: Your Secret Weapon for Creating Exceptional Relationships,”



students were able to get a broad range of valuable information, from testing their etiquette IQ, to the importance of work ethic. The presentation was very interactive, allowing students to have their questions answered while participating in several role-playing scenarios. What students enjoyed most about this was being able to see the practical applications for what they were learning during the presentation.

Throughout the remainder of the academic school year, student leaders will have opportunities to engage with speakers and presenters, which will not only give them tools for their current positions, but provide them with additional tools as they embark on their future careers. We are excited about preparing students for their futures in leadership as they “depart to serve.” 🙏

Edwards Hall Receives Renovation

By Woodrow Vaughn, Head Dean, Edwards Hall



PHOTOS BY ANTHONY CHORNES, II

An old *Spreading Oak* news story titled “New Men’s Dorm” stated this about one of our Oakwood residence halls: “The new dorm is the work of a fellow Adventist by the name of Don Kirkman, to the tune of an estimated \$500,000.” Since the printing of that story in October

1969, the new residence hall was renamed Edwards Hall (in 1971), after the untimely death of Dr. Otis Bernard Edwards (educator, administrator, teacher, department chair, academic dean, church pastor, and dean of men). Over the years, the leadership at Oakwood University has approved sev-



Oakwood Recognizes National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

On average, nearly **20 people per minute** are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During **one year**, this equates to more than **10 million** women and men

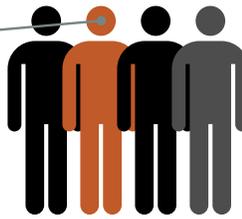
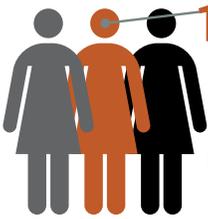


Every 9 seconds in the US, a woman is assaulted or beaten.



Leanne White, Chair of the CCR Taskforce

1 in 3 women and **1 in 4 men** have been victims of [some form of] physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime.



On a typical day, there are more than **20,000** phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide.

The presence of a **gun** in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of **homicide** by **500%**.

Women between the ages of **18** and **24** are most commonly abused by an intimate partner.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. On October 22, 2015, Oakwood University, along with the Madison County CCR Taskforce Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault and Crisis Services of North Alabama, hosted a vigil honoring those whose lives have been taken as a result of domestic violence.

<http://www.ncadv.org/learn/statistics>

eral renovation upgrades for Edwards Hall. The latest investment to upgrade the bathrooms comes on the heels of the residence hall's 45th anniversary.

This investment proves that the current administration believes in the nurture and care of the young men who

attend Oakwood University.

Edwards Hall has been fortunate to provide housing for more than 10,000 residents in its 45-year history. Dunlap Incorporated and B&G Contractors were given the green light on the most recent renovation that began July 2015.





Oakwood Develops STEM and Business Camp

Through a partnership with AMRDEC (Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center), Oakwood University's School of Business has developed a STEM and Business camp for high school students.

The camp's pilot program, known as Camp O.U.T. (Oakwood University Technoprenuer), took place last summer, July 20 through 24. The 20-hour entrepreneur program curriculum incorporated a variety of educational training techniques including classroom instruction, interactive activities, computer labs, and presentations by local entrepreneurs Melanie Fowler, Jermaine Boswell, and Janna Peterson.

Camp O.U.T. offered hands-on learning experiences designed to guide day-campers into possible ownership of a real small business and to explore avenues for growth within technology.

Participants learned real-world technical and business skills, such as team building, leadership development, financial management, verbal communication, and business etiquette, through interactive lessons and exercises. Participants also learned how to successfully negotiate for business materials, set goals, and recognize real business opportunities.

Participants also learned how to successfully negotiate for business materials, set goals, and recognize real business opportunities.

We are proud to say that our campers were able to "enter to learn" and "depart to serve" by leading. 🙌



Dietetics Students Attend Food, Nutrition Conference & Exhibit

On October 3-6, 2015, Oakwood University Nutrition and Dietetics seniors attended the annual Food, Nutrition Conference & Exhibit (FNCE) held in Nashville, Tennessee. This conference was for professional and registered dietitians and nutritionists (RDNs) and was sponsored by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics (AND)—the nation's professional organization representing dietitians and nutritionists and other food experts.

The FNCE was an exhilarating experience for the dietetics seniors who were able to see and experience history being made by the Academy,



Allied Health Club Hosts Sports Medicine Boot Camp

Celebrating National Physical Therapy Month, the Oakwood University Allied Health Club and Dynamic Performance Physical Therapy, a local physical therapy practice, hosted a Sports Medicine Boot Camp. The event took place on October 27, 2015, at the Millet Activity Center. The hour-long Boot Camp aimed to bring awareness to the importance of physical therapy as well as injury prevention. Allied Health Club President, Eryn Peeler



Evelyn Creighton, RDN

the nation, and for the African-American community. Evelyn Creighton, RDN, was voted to become the first African-American president in the history of the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics.

Joycelyn Peterson, RDN, chair of the Nutrition and Dietetics department, had the opportunity to have a special moment and interactive engagement with the new AND president. Creighton is a retired professor of nutrition and dietetics at Auburn University. She has been a strong advocate for training and encouraging more African Americans and other minorities to enter the field and practice of professional nutrition and dietetics. During her long career, Creighton was instrumental in starting the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, a very productive and effective food and education program used by the United States Department of Agriculture for more than 30 years.

Dietetics students participated in the Dietetics Internship fair and were able to network with many dietetics majors from around the country. Next year's FNCE is scheduled to be held in Boston, Massachusetts. 🌐

shared, "It is very important for you to know how to do things properly, like exercise and play different sports properly so that you don't get these injuries in the first place. So, a big part of it is learning how to prevent different types of sports injuries as well."

The Boot Camp also informed students on exercise while suffering from an injury. Students had plenty of activities to participate in as it featured exercise injury prevention and wheel chair races.



PHOTO BY GREG PETERS, DPT

Oakwood Partners with Michigan State University



director of the International Business Center (IBC) and Byington endowed chair, and Sarah Singer, Ph.D., assistant director of the IBC at Michigan State. They also met and dined with students, who participated in a globalization case challenge

As a partner in the Globalizing HBCU Business Schools and Programs (GBS), organized, underwritten and administered by a consortium of U.S. Department of Education Title VI-funded CIBER institutions and the UNCFSP Institute for Public Policy, the School of Business at Oakwood University is pleased to announce its partnership with Michigan State University.

As part of the consortium, Michigan State serves as a mentor to the Business School, with the goal of furthering international business education on our campus. Michigan will also assist Oakwood's Business School with program planning, implementation, and the pursuit of funding available to aid in the internationalization of Oakwood's business programs.

This relationship began on February 17, 2015, when three individuals from Michigan State visited the School of Business to plan how Oakwood could move forward with this endeavor. The participants were Ernie Betts, Ph.D., assistant dean for Multicultural Business Programs, Tomas Hult, Ph.D.,

at Georgia State University, another GBS partner. One Oakwood student, Brianna Cannon, was on the winning team, and another student, Brian Johnson, was runner-up.

The next step in the partnership took place on August 11, 2015, from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., in the McKee Business and Technology building, as Katie Arroyo, assistant director of Research Programs and Services at the University of North Florida, and Sarah Singer, assistant director of the International Business Center at Michigan State, conducted a National Association of Small Business International Trade Educators (NASBITE) Certified Global Business Professional (CGBP) workshop for the School of Business. The workshop included introducing NASBITE CGBP, preparing participants to take the CGBP test, distributing resources for the CGBP, and introducing case studies in curriculum integration and non-credit opportunities. Faculty members from other academic schools across the campus also attended the event, sponsored by the School of Business. 🌐





The Vision for Technology at Oakwood University

Technology (from Greek τέχνη, techne, “art, skill, cunning of hand,” and -λογία, -logia) is the collection of techniques, skills, methods and processes used in the production of goods or services or in the accomplishment of objectives, such as scientific investigation. The term “technology” has taken on so many meanings over the years but is generally understood as something progressive or innovative. When someone says let’s apply technology to a well-known task or function, they generally mean let’s improve it and become more efficient.

Technology in the education arena is applied in the same way. Students, parents, and educators will use information technology to enhance and expand the traditional role of education. I believe the basic goal of education has not changed; that is, to prepare our students for life-long learning and success in society. However, the tools and instructional methods to achieve these goals have advanced dramatically. The presence of always-connected mobile devices and computers offers tremendous opportunities to students and educators as a way to complete the traditional task of teaching and learning in new and more efficient ways. Oakwood University has the responsibility for developing curricula and applying instructional methods enriched with technology and ensuring that our students and teachers are operating at the highest standards possible.

“...the LORD shall make you the head, and not the tail; and you shall be above only, and you shall not be beneath; if that you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God...”

—Kirk Nugent, Chief Information Officer



▼ Check out the exciting projects from Information Technology ▼



CAMPUS VIRTUALIZATION PROJECT

What is virtualization? It is technology that separates an individual’s PC applications from his or her desktop. Virtualized desktops are generally hosted on a remote central server, rather than the hard drive of the personal computer. Desktop virtualization provides a way for users to maintain their individual desktops on a single, central server. The users may be connected to the central server through the Network or over the Internet. Desktop virtualization has many benefits, including a lower total cost of ownership, increased security, reduced energy costs, reduced downtime and centralized management. Information Technology is in the preparation/testing phase and will roll out to a few campus computer labs over the course of the school year.

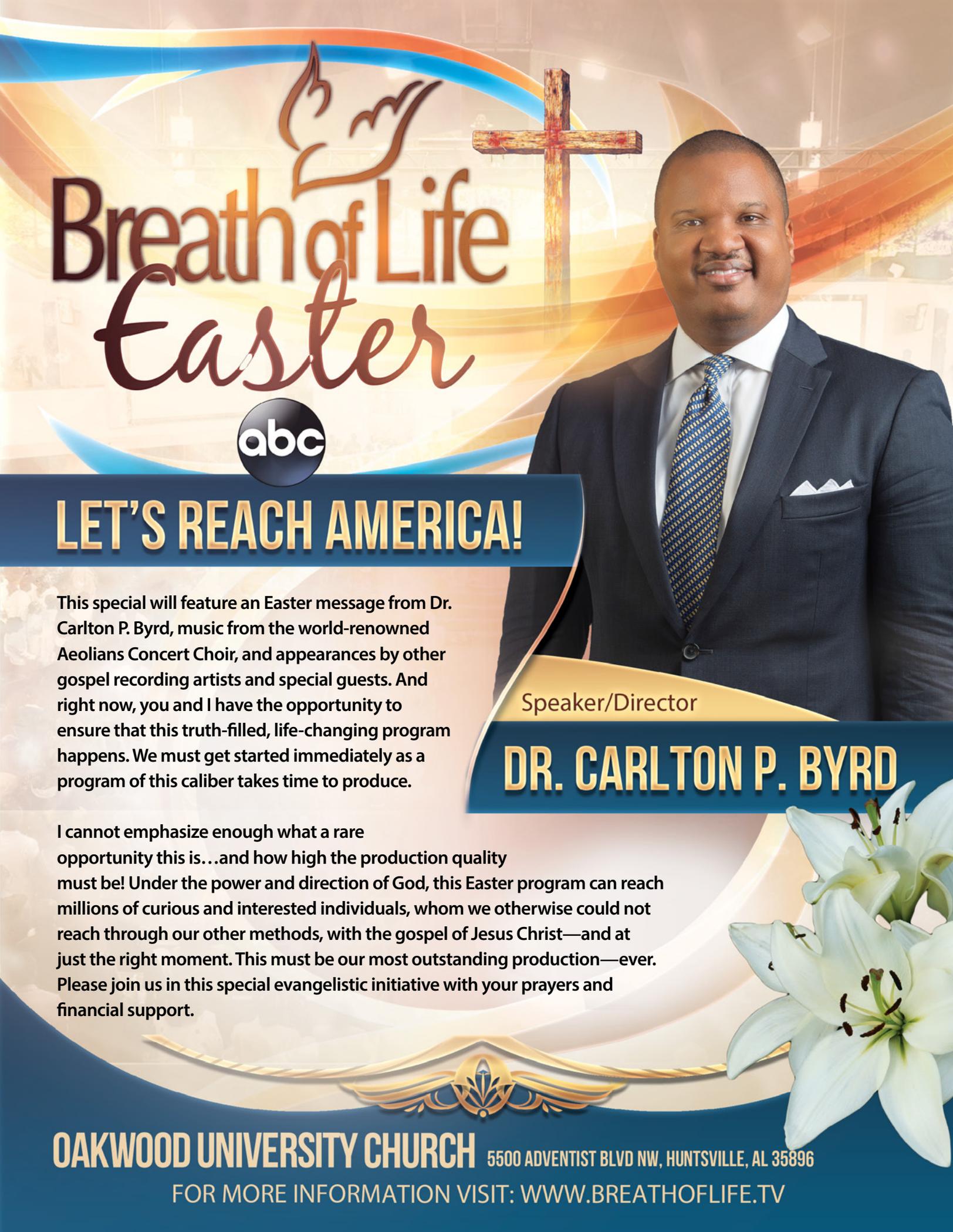
—Chris Dewitt, Network Administrator



CLOUD EMAIL MIGRATION PROJECT

Currently, @oakwood.edu email is managed and stored locally, but plans are in place to migrate this service to the Cloud. Cloud email is very familiar to everyone, but probably the most notable is Gmail. Information Technology has selected Microsoft Office 365 as its Cloud email solution, and plans are already under way for this migration to begin. This move will result in the following services for students, faculty, and staff: MS Office Online (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, & Outlook), Microsoft Sway, 50 GB Email Storage, Web Mail and Calendar, OneDrive Storage, Collaborative Document Editing, IM & Video through Skype, and much more. Completion for this project is expected in Spring 2016. ☁

—Robert Engram, Assistant Director, Technology



Breath of Life Easter

abc

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This special will feature an Easter message from Dr. Carlton P. Byrd, music from the world-renowned Aeolians Concert Choir, and appearances by other gospel recording artists and special guests. And right now, you and I have the opportunity to ensure that this truth-filled, life-changing program happens. We must get started immediately as a program of this caliber takes time to produce.

Speaker/Director

DR. CARLTON P. BYRD

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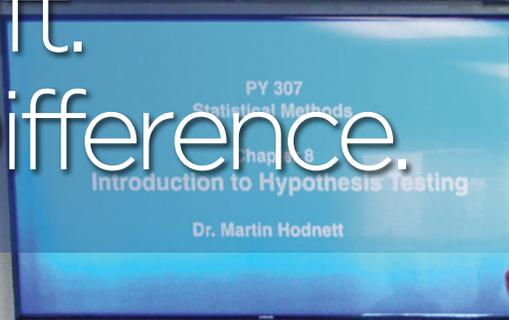


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Leaders



OFFICE OF SPIRITUAL LIFE

Howard Weems, Ph.D., Special Assistant to the President for Spiritual Life and Senior Chaplain

OSL Offers Scholarship Training Program

Information supplied by TaNaysha Harris, Office Manager

The Office of Spiritual Life has provided students an opportunity for scholarship and evangelism with the implementation of the Student Training Entrepreneurial Program (STEP). Through this program, students will be able to cover 20% of their cost of attendance at Oakwood University by participating in Literature Evangelism Training.

In order to apply for the program, students must have a GPA of 2.0 (or an approved ACE Plan with Center for Academic Success) and be enrolled for at least 12 credit hours; have an unmet financial need; the desire to work to contribute to educational expenses; have a commitment to the community; have a commitment to entrepreneurial development; and have a plan to contribute to the desired profession

and the community after graduation. Applicants who successfully complete the application form are then interviewed by the Office of Spiritual Life, in order to make final determination on the scholarship award.

Each student commits to campaigning at least three times a week for 12 weeks. Oakwood University will contribute up to \$2,600 to match the amount of commission students earn, for a total contribution of \$5,200. Currently, 19 students have started campaigning around the Huntsville and Madison areas, as of September 13, 2015. LETC



Leader Joshua Patterson and STEP scholarship Recipient Aaron Layne share their testimonies:

“God called me to be a leader to save my life. I have been canvassing since high school. I understand that it is encouraging for the students to hear

WHY CHOOSE OAKWOOD?:

A Plethora of Ministry Opportunities

Information supplied by Chaplain Ronald Pollard,
Campus Ministries Director

The Office of Spiritual Life supports the educational mission of Oakwood by championing the transformational ministry of Seventh-day Adventist education. The commission of Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:18-20 and Revelation 14:6-12 compels Oakwood to promote the holistic development of our students, faculty, staff, and administrators, to prepare our campus personnel to lead lives of service in this world, and to prepare ourselves for service in the world to come. Within and beyond the campus community, this witness is accomplished through collective preaching, teaching, serving,

and equipping ministries.

One reason to attend Oakwood University is because of its diverse array of campus ministry opportunities. Listed below are the ministries and their descriptions:

• **4HIM - His Hands in Missions** - A ministry that focuses on ministering to the four corners of the earth. This ministry brings relief and hope wherever the need presents itself. 4HIM consists of national, international, and local excursions for students and employees.

• **Alpha Male** - A ministry that teaches what it truly means to be not just a man, but also a man after God's own heart.

• **A&M/OU Connect** - A Friday night worship experience that seeks to minister to the seekers and other Christians on Alabama A&M's campus. Connect seeks to create spiritual harmony with A&M and Oakwood students through the sharing of the Gospel.

• **AYM Release** - A Friday evening, young adult worship experience.

• **Break Every Chain** - An interactive and casual worship event that allows students to recap and share their experiences from AYM and other worship services during the week. It targets the outliers who are looking to experience worship.

• **C.L.U.T.C.H** - Couples Loving Unconditionally through Christ's Heart is a ministry for students who are looking



a positive testimony of how incredible this work is, from someone closer to their age. If I had to compare myself with a leader in the Bible it would be Moses, because He pleaded for the people in prayer the same way I plead for my students to see God's love on the field and pray for blessings. He cared about their feelings every day and not only told them what to do but showed them how to get the job done."

—Joshua Patterson, LETC Leader

"Since last semester I've felt the call to join LETC, but I hesitated. This past summer, the Lord told me once more,

"Remember, I am with you,' His constant admonition, His presence constantly manifested, I never felt alone."

"I want you to canvas." When I came for the semester, LETC had a chapel program. Guess what? I felt the unction of the Holy Spirit then. If I'm honest, in the beginning, I didn't want to be a

part of LETC. I didn't believe in what they stood for, but I was still willing to go. When I went out for the first time, I just kept praying, asking the Lord to show me what He wanted to show me. In going out, I had nothing to worry about; 'Remember, I am with you,' His constant admonition, His presence constantly manifested, I never felt alone. God taught me in my 'door approach' to read people and learn to listen to them. I believe God wanted me to be a literature evangelist because I believe He wanted me to deliver messages to people, kind of like a postman, but I know He wanted me to talk to people and learn to interact with different kinds of people, of all groups. God brought me here to Oakwood University to minister to thousands, and I will accomplish my purpose."

—Aaron Layne, Sophomore

REASON NUMBER 23

to grow their relationships.

- **Dynamic Praise** - A choir focused and convinced of the saving power of Jesus Christ through gospel music.
- **Faithful 15** - A group that seeks to motivate women spiritually through the integration of fitness and Christian

living.

- **Forum** - A program that ministers to all students through preaching.
- **Identity** - A weekly, student-led study that focuses on helping students discover their purpose and passion in the body of Christ.
- **Ignite** - A freshman worship experience designed to develop and strengthen the belief system of new students. This worship uses arts, media, technology, and peer relationships to explore the 28 Fundamental Beliefs, as well as principles of Bible study and personal and spiritual growth, as part of a successful spiritual matriculation through Oakwood.
- **Legacy 31** - A women's book/devotional club that uses a Christian-based book/devotional to increase the spiritually

of the women in the residence halls. Legacy 31 is also a mentorship program that targets women's issues and spiritual relationship building.

- **LETG** - A scholarship program that encourages students to increase their faith through distributing Adventist materials and books through the Literature Evangelism Training Center.
- **Lighthouse** - A series of student-led Bible studies held throughout the campus and led by different student leaders.
- **Male by Birth: Man by Choice** - A conference that equips young men to become men of victory. They learn coping, communication, and professional strategies for success.
- **Men under Construction** - A men's ministry geared towards the residents

Continued on page 32 ▶



Leaders of R.E.A.C.H.

2015 Fall Mission Experience - Atlanta

by Kimberly Mann, Associate Chaplain

You can see more photos of the Atlanta Mission Experience at flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity

The 4Him Mission Team completed their Fall 2015 mission experience in Atlanta, Georgia, on October 23-25, 2015. This specific trip was in conjunction with the Oakwood on the Road “experience” (see page 36). The team members worked hard, participating in community service and outreach projects throughout the city, truly embodying the charge that calls Oakwood students to “depart to serve.”

The mission weekend began on Friday morning, as the students conducted worship at the Foundation of Hope Food Bank, the second largest food bank in Atlanta. The students led out in a Bible study on Matthew 5 (the Beatitudes) and explained what each verse meant to them and how to apply it.

Following worship, the 4Him Team got to work, doing everything from loading cars with free food, making bags of beans for Thanksgiving baskets, to also preparing more than 200 bags of food and snacks for children who didn’t have food after school. They also prepared more than 200 boxes of diapers to help

moms who needed items for their babies, as well as served free lunches for anyone who showed up and was hungry.

After the food bank, the students went to Boyd Elementary School, an urban Atlanta public school, where they worked with children from pre-k to fifth grade. While at Boyd, they served as teacher’s aids, by assisting with painting, organizing library books, grading papers, tutoring students, setting up the gym for a parent program, and reading books to students.

At five o’clock on Sabbath morning, the team partnered with the Decatur Church as they passed out sleeping bags to people sleeping under the bridges, fed more than 600 people at a



BY THE NUMBERS:

- 13 Students
- 40 Care packages made
- 13 Personal house visits/100 miles
- 700 Homeless fed
- 200 AFTER-SCHOOL BAGS MADE
- 150 Diaper packs made
- 10 Classrooms visited

downtown homeless shelter, and more than 150 residents at a converted jail, now serving as a housing shelter. After church service at Berean Church, the students, along with members of Berean’s community service team and the Parker family, put together care packages (with personalized notes) for church members who are in nursing homes. The team delivered the packages on Sunday morning.

The Atlanta mission trip was a wonderful and holistic experience in ministry and service. The students demonstrated that service can be practiced in many ways and can effectively reach

people, if you just give your little to God and have a willing heart. ☺

WHY CHOOSE OAKWOOD?

of Edwards Hall.

- **Mkono-Nia** - A campus drama ministry focusing on service and relationship building to win souls to Christ.
- **Oh Taste 'N See** - A program that blends spiritual concepts and worship with culinary skills, allowing students to develop talents in new areas while developing a deep connection with God in unexpected ways. This ministry uses the many spiritual parables seen through cooking to enhance spiritual concepts.
- **Power Hour** - A mid-day service

designed to give the students a boost of spiritual power throughout the week.

- **R.E.A.C.H.** - A community outreach program that allows students to actively apply spiritual concepts to the practical needs of those in their immediate community. R.E.A.C.H. is open to anyone who wants to serve and seeks to provide the student body with diverse outreach experiences, enabling others to share their testimonies.
- **Spiritual Voices** - Spiritual Voices utilizes media and allows students to minister to one another and the greater

community by employing their gifts, talents, and life stories in a manner that will be easily accessible to viewers.

- **Thankful Thursday** - An event that invites the student body and off-campus students to interact with the Oakwood chaplains and receive prayer. It is a ministry that targets students in a holistic way, and facilitates an atmosphere of prayer and fun spiritual fellowships on campus.
- **Voice of Triumph** - A gospel choir focused on spreading the Word of God through the gift of music and service. ☺



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RESEARCH AND EMPLOYEE SERVICES

Prudence Pollard, Ph.D., MPH, SPHR, Vice President

Meet Oakwood's Newest Employees



◀ **Yolonda Newby**
Public Safety Officer,
Public Safety

I enjoy singing gospel music with the Inspirational Choir at First Church (Huntsville), and I have been working with the church's audio team for several years. I love to draw and produce wood-burning art.

I don't have a particular favorite text, but I LOVE the entire book of Ephesians! To me, it's a study about relationships.

Gloria J. Bell, Ph.D. ▶
Academic Advisor, LEAP

For more than 20 years, I taught and/or served as a principal in several schools in the districts where my late husband, Pastor Richard Bell, served. As a pastor's wife, Bible work became my personal ministry passion. I've earned a bachelor's degree from Oakwood, a master's from Jackson State University, and a Ph.D. from Southwest University. I've authored three books: *Small Group Process and Dynamics*, *101 Devotionals for Witnessing Teams*, and *Help for the Harvest*, along with creating *Readings for the Harvest*, a set of 10 printable Bible study guides. I am the mother of three married children and am blessed with five grandsons. I love the great outdoors and reading good books in a peaceful atmosphere. My greatest joy is seeing individuals being transformed from where they are to God's greater purpose.

My favorite Bible text is Isaiah 43:10: You are my witnesses, declares the Lord, and my servant whom I have chosen, so that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor will there be one after me.



Selena Williams ▶
Project Coordinator, Academic
Administration

I was raised in Orlando, Florida, and made my way to Huntsville to attend Oakwood. I graduated from Oakwood University in 2013 with a major in Healthcare Administration and a minor in Management. I have a great passion for healthcare and helping others, so I volunteer with those in need (mainly the elderly) as often as I can. I love to read, travel, shop, and spend time with my family. I have a huge love for couponing and DIY projects for the home.

My favorite Bible text is 1 John 4:8: Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.



◀ **Ashley DeShay**
Secretary, Music Department

I'm originally from Long Beach, California, but moved to Huntsville from Arizona at the end of 2014. I enjoy reading, shopping, and baking, in my free time. I graduated from Arizona State University with a degree in Communication. At one point, my grandfather was the pastor of Oakwood University Church, and it's still pretty cool to see his photo on the wall.

One of my favorite Bibles texts is Hebrews 11:1: Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.



◀ **Camille Warren, JD**
Assistant Professor, Pre-Law and Political
Science

I am from Berrien Springs, Michigan, and am an alumna of Oakwood University (Class of 1999) with bachelor's degrees in Finance and Spanish. I also earned a JD degree from the University of Florida. While at Oakwood, I served as the USM treasurer and Miss Oakwood 1999. I also studied abroad at Escuela Superior de Espanol de Sagunto. When I completed my studies at Oakwood, I worked as a financial analyst in several Fortune 100 companies, until July of 2011, when I established The Warren Law Firm in Seattle, Washington. I love the practice of law and enjoy helping my students fight speeding tickets, deal with landlord/tenant issues, and other legal questions.

My favorite Bible text is Proverbs 31:26: She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.



◀ **Norma Jacobs**
Office Manager, Math Department

I was born on the beautiful island of St. Croix, in the U. S. Virgin Islands. I began my undergraduate degree here at Oakwood, but completed it at Alabama A&M University, in Office Systems Management. I earned two master of science degrees in Elementary Education and in Educational Leadership, also from A&M. I enjoy singing, baking, walking, and reading.

My favorite Bible text is Isaiah 40:29: He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.





NASA Officials Address STEM Faculty

The Division of Research and Employee Services was host to Joeletta Patrick, the Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP) Manager from NASA's Office of Education, headquartered in Washington, DC. Tracey Randall, training consultant at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, accompanied her.

Through the NASA Office of Education, the MUREP initiative seeks to enhance the capabilities of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), and Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs).

MUREP-supported projects ensure access to NASA careers in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines and are designed to address the national challenges of attracting and retaining underrepresented, underserved, and minority students and faculty in STEM courses of study.

Patrick made two, one-hour presentations to STEM and Behavioral Science faculty, highlighting the wide variety of initiatives involved in MUREP including STEM Engagement, Educator Professional Development, Institutional Engagement, and NASA Internships, Fellowships, and Scholarships. Randall introduced participants to NASA's One Stop Shopping Initiative (OSSI)—a user-friendly, intuitively designed initiative that allows the student to complete an application for paid internships, fellowships, and scholarships within 30 minutes. 



Joeletta Patrick



Tracey Randall



STEM and Behavioral Science faculty, OU administration and staff



STEM and Behavioral Science faculty, OU administration and staff

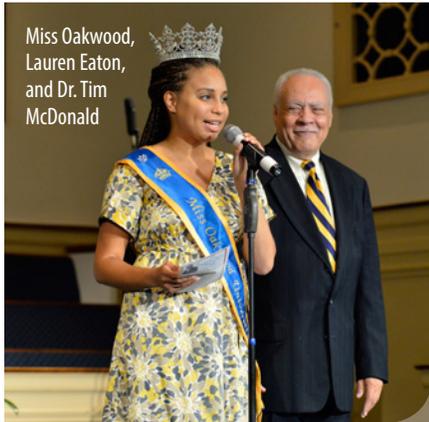


Highlights from Oakwood on the Road—Atlanta

Oakwood on the Road (OOTR) is a series of regional receptions where alumni, friends and prospective students and parents get to see and hear from OU administrators, faculty, and staff about what's happening at Oakwood University. This OOTR trip to Atlanta, held on October 24, 2015, at the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church, also featured an evening concert by the Aeolians. A special "thank you" goes to Board of Trustee member Dr. Laura Davis and her team for helping to organize the day's events.



Aeolians perform at the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church in Atlanta.



Miss Oakwood, Lauren Eaton, and Dr. Tim McDonald



Drs. Prudence and Leslie Pollard



Freddie Russell, pastor of the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Church and Dr. Pollard

You can see more OOTR photos at flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity





WJOU 90.1 FM Hosts 3rd Annual Community Health Fair

Oakwood University's Praise Station WJOU 90.1 FM, along with Good Samaritan Hospice, hosted its 3rd Annual Community Health Fair on October 28, 2015. More than 60 vendors were present to provide diabetes screening, BMI testing, dental consultation, flu shots, healthy product presentations, voter



Kenny Anderson Interviews Mayor Tommy Battle on WJOU during the Health Fair

registration, other health screenings, Affordable Care Act counseling, senior citizens information, home health care services, and healthy cooking demonstrations.

Each year, two individuals from the community are awarded the WJOU-FM/Good Samaritan Hospice Health Fair Community Award. The 2015 recipients were the Honorable Mayor Tommy Battle, Jr., and Donna Green-Goodman, health educator, author, and television host.

At the event, organizers provided three scholarships to Oakwood University students in the areas of communication, allied health and nursing. "Not only do we want to make sure we let the community know about health, we want to help students out, as well, who are looking into going into these health and communication-related fields," said Reggie Hicks, WJOU general manager.

Honorees Battle and Green-Goodman (center) along with the Health Fair planning committee.



PHOTOS BY TEVMI TOWNSEND



You can see more of the Health Fair by going to OakwoodMagazine.com

UNCF Campaign Kick-off

Oakwood's Division of Advancement & Development launched the 2015-2016 UNCF North Alabama "Building Bridges to Opportunity" Campaign at the kick-off reception and ribbon cutting service on September 15, 2015, in the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center, to appreciate generous sponsors and donors, and to begin the new campaign season. For information about the local UNCF campaign, contact us by email at unconf@oakwood.edu.





Golfers Support Oakwood Students at UNCF Event

For the 44 golfers who participated in the October 12, 2015, UNCF Golf Classic at The Ledges of Huntsville, it was a picture-perfect day for being on the green. Corporate UNCF sponsors, Oakwood University students, employees and friends were among those who assembled on the 18-hole championship golf course for that Monday morning tee-off.

The UNCF Golf Classic is one of four annual events hosted by Oakwood University to raise funds for the UNCF

North Alabama Campaign for student scholarships. Highlights of the event included gifts and awards for the longest drive and closest-to-the-pin, as well as a chance to win \$15,000 in cash at a hole-in-one contest.

Golfers finished the day at an awards dinner, sponsored by Woody Anderson Ford, which included a meal, distribution of awards and trophies, and a word of thanks from the Golf Classic Chair and Oakwood Alumna, Brenda Martin ('97). Good Samaritan Hospice took the third

place prize; Big Spring Environmental came in at second place; and the first place prize went to a community team that included Arthur Warrior, Cedric Francois, Gary Redus, and Murphy Brown.

We are grateful to our returning and new sponsors, donors, and volunteers that have invested in the UNCF North Alabama Campaign and the lives of our future leaders. For more information about giving opportunities, visit www.ougiving.com.



You can see more UNCF Golf Classic photos at flickr.com/OakwoodUniversity



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Dr. Cynthia Powell Hicks
National Alumni Chapter President



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OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

Are you working out with a buddy or team to get in shape and ready for the big race? The OUAA International 5k takes place Sunday, March 27, 2016, at 8:00 a.m.

The Alumni Association encourages all to be a part of this event. Do you know that when you participate in the 5k you will be getting: sunlight, exhibiting a little bit of temperance (by cutting some of those calories when you are out walking and burning those extra lbs.); getting that adequate rest so you will have the energy to go the distance drinking plenty of water? The 5k will be outdoors, so you can get that fresh air and, of course, you will be getting the physical activity that we all can use. So, we ultimately trust in God... to see us through the end of this race and the race of life.

What was just described here were the "STAND OUT" concepts and principles created by the University students, under the direction of Dr. Prudence Pollard and the Healthy Campus 2020 team. The complete guide and principles are all in the book titled *STAND OUT*. The Alumni Association fully supports the Administration's vision of Healthy Campus 2020 and looks forward to student and faculty participation in the 5k Alumni Weekend, where we can all raise the banner of Healthy Campus 2020 and "STAND OUT."

Dan Smith
OUAA PR Director



Radio Program Anniversary Launches Psychology Scholarship



WJOU's 2nd Chance Radio Show, hosted by Kenny Anderson (second left), '83, celebrated 25 years of being on air on Sunday, November 1, 2015. In honor of this celebration, Anderson established a \$25,000 scholarship for students who are studying psychology. Pictured here with Anderson are Leslie Pollard, P.h.D., Kisha Norris, and Martin Hodnett, Psy.D., chair of the Department of Psychological Sciences.



Pre-Alumni "All Fired Up and Ready to Go!"

By **Mariah Smith**, President, Pre-Alumni Council



For more than 70 years, the National Leadership Conference of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) has been educating students. In harmony with the National Pre-Alumni Council, the purpose of the Oakwood University Pre-Alumni Council is to stimulate the interest and participation of students in the progress of the UNCF, and to preserve and further loyalty and fellowship between Oakwood University and other UNCF member institutions, their students, and alumni.

The Oakwood University Pre-Alumni is excited about the goals of the organization and the national activities scheduled for this year. We are working hard on the campus to bring awareness about this club and the mission it has before us. Members are scheduled to go to local Boys and Girls Clubs to talk about scholarships. We are also excited that the National Conference will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana, February 18-21, 2016, which is within a reasonable distance. We have an active fundraising campaign so that as many of our members as possible can attend. Projects have included selling food at on-campus basketball games.

The goals of Oakwood University's Pre-Alumni Council are to:

1. Encourage individual support, monetary and moral, for the United Negro College Fund, which is a major contributor to Oakwood University;
2. Promote maximum participation in raising funds during the annual campaigns of the United Negro College Fund and the National Pre-Alumni Council;
3. Encourage college-aged young people to choose Oakwood University, a UNCF member institution, as their place to receive a Christ-centered education;
4. Stimulate awareness among Oakwood University students of the need to become active members in their Pre-Alumni Council;
5. Sponsor beneficial campus outreach community programs that will involve students in tutoring, feeding of the homeless, and other "good Samaritan" projects;
6. Sponsor campus in-reach programs that will benefit the Oakwood University student population, utilizing alumni in mentoring, motivating, and providing special service to students.

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Alumni Notes

1980s

Milton L. Brown, Ph.D., '87, was the keynote speaker at the Zack Thompson Memorial Conference, on October 16, 2015, at the First Baptist Church Life Center in Huntsville. The Conference was sponsored by the Center for Aging and the University of Alabama Huntsville College of Nursing.



His topic was "Effective Medication Management for Older Adults." Brown established the Drug Discovery Program at the Georgetown University Medical Center, which supports more than 20 investigators in drug discovery and development. Brown is also the endowed chair in Experimental Therapeutics at Georgetown University.

Garrett Caldwell, D.Min., '85, has joined the Department of Advancement at Loma Linda University Health as executive director for public affairs. Previously, he served as public relations director for the General Conference. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio,



Caldwell is a graduate of Oakwood, with undergraduate majors in communication and theology. He received a Master of Divinity from Andrews University, and his Doctor of Ministry degree from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. Besides writing, photography, teaching and preaching, he enjoys running, sailing, and filmmaking.

TAKE 6 (Alvin Chea, '89, Mark Kibble, '86, Claude McKnight, Dave Thomas, Kristian Dentley, and

Joel Kibble, '06) is the first American vocal group to perform in Cuba since the opening of diplomatic relations, after a half-century. They performed on September 26, 2015, as a part of the Les Voix Humanies Festival. This marks a new era in American musical performances, as Cuba is once again available to US travelers and trade. Both Cuban and American dignitaries were in attendance.

Congratulations to **Clifton Davis, '84**, on his recurring role on the CBS television program "Madam Secretary." Davis continues to portray Princess Jasmin's father in the Broadway play, "Aladdin."



Eastern Kentucky University recently announced the appointment of **Timothy Forde, Ph.D., '88**, as Director of the African/African-American

Studies Program. Forde is currently a faculty member in the School of Clinical Educator Preparation, School of Education. He received his bachelor's degree from Oakwood University, his Master of Public Health from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University.

1990s

Dwain N. Esmond, '94, is an associate director for the Ellen G. White Estate at the Seventh-day Adventist Church World Headquarters. Prior to that, he served as vice president of Editorial Services for the Review & Herald Publishing Association.



Stacey Wallen, Ph.D., '94, is an accomplished speech and language pathologist who has worked in her profession for 17 years. She graduated with a bachelor's degree in English from Oakwood University and received her master's and doctorate degrees from Ohio State University. Wallen works with children on speech and language disorders and serves as a clinical associate professor at Georgia State University. Wallen recently shared with *Rolling Out* magazine why planning for your future is imperative and how she manages to stay on top of her game.

Rachel Williams-Smith, Ph.D., '90, shares her story about being raised wearing long dresses, broad-brimmed bonnets and living without modern conveniences, all while being separated from society, in her book titled *Born Yesterday*. Her story ultimately testifies of God's faithfulness, His redemptive power, and restorative love. Williams is currently the chair of the Department of Communication at Andrews University. Prior to Andrews University, Rachel served as a communication professor and the director of the Adult & Continuing Education program at Oakwood University.



2000s

Thessicar E. Antoine, Ph.D., '09, a postdoctoral research fellow at George State University, was selected by the American Society for Microbiology as Minority Microbiologist





Mentor for the month of July, 2015. Antoine received her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago in 2014, in the field of Microbiology and Immunology.



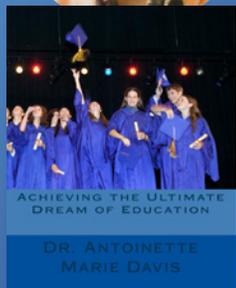
Ashley Andrea Jean Artis, M.D., '06, graduated on June 20, 2015, from the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria, in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

She is the daughter of Keith and Neva Artis, who are also Oakwood alumni, as well as their three adult children.

Bruce Bean, '08, and **Michael Lathon, '14**, were part of the transportation detail for President Barack Obama's visit to Birmingham in the spring of 2015.

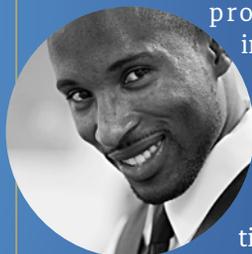


Antoinette Marie Davis, Ed.D., '04, released her fourth book, *Achieving the Ultimate Dream of Education*. The book describes the experiences that she encountered while matriculating from K-12 education and through doctoral study. She discusses prayer, time management, scholarships, fellowships, choosing the right friends, finding the right major, and other topics. Davis currently serves as a Mathematics and Statistics lecturer at Eastern Kentucky University.



Sydney Freeman, Jr., Ph.D., CFD, '07, is a new associate professor of Adult, Organizational Learning, and Leadership at the University of Idaho. He most recently served as the director of a teaching and learning center at the historic Tuskegee University. His wife, **Lynda Murphy Freeman, Ph.D., '05**, is serving as an instructor in the medical education program at the University of Idaho.

Murice Damion Miller, '05, recently released his first book, *HouseBander: How to Succeed at Providing for Your Family*, which covers entrepreneurship, cooking lessons, apprenticeship programs, and the importance of being a spiritual guide in the home. He is described as having a real talent for creativity, innovation, and accomplishment. Currently living in Moab, Utah, Miller is an intern with the Moab Small Business Development Center and with the Moab Sun News. He also works with KCYN 97.1 FM as an advertising account executive, where he helps small businesses gain exposure through advertising and a new program that is being developed titled, "MoabStartups."



Nehemiah James Mabry, '09, graduated with a Ph.D. in Civil Engineering, with specialization in Structural Engineering and Mechanics, from North Carolina State University. He merged his love of God, community, and engineering into the creation of STEMedia, which produces creative content and video to motivate students in the areas of

science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). In 2014, STEMedia sponsored the first TECHNIMETRIC STEM Poetry Jam at NCSU. He was awarded the 2012 National winner of "Stay with It" an engineering competition hosted by Intel and MTV.



2010s

Jessica Cartwright, '12, recently graduated from Andrews University with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy degree. Jessica is the daughter of Roengsak and Denise Cartwright, employees at Oakwood University.



Antonio Paschal, '10, and Shariece Mason, '12, were married on September 6, 2015, in Seal Beach, California. During the wedding, they shared that they were both happy they attended Oakwood University, as their relationship grew during their matriculation.



GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

William C. Pergerson, II, '91

Margaret Norman Williams, '62



Alfred Hampton, Sr., '69 was mistakenly listed in "Gone But Not Forgotten" section of the fall 2015 issue. This should have been printed as Alfred A. Hampton.



▲ E.G. White at Oakwood in 1904

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

“**M**ake more of the Huntsville school or terminate it...,”¹ concluded General Conference President, Elder A.G. Daniels, following his first visit to Oakwood Industrial School in 1904. He was not the only one who felt that way. At a February board meeting, held two days before Elder Daniel’s report became public, the challenges facing this struggling institution were highlighted. The classroom needed a furnace; the campus lacked a bathroom, a girls’ dorm, a reliable water supply, a dairy, a laundry, an infirmary, a suitable cannery, and working farm equipment. There was never enough money to cover needs; facilities were in dilapidated condition, and the staff turnover was very high. Despite the inferior equipment available for farming, about 50 dedicated students and staff worked tirelessly to make the farm a success.

Many solutions were proposed at the board meeting: Sell all or some of the land; sell all the land and buy a smaller property somewhere else, preferably close to the train station; move the school

to Mississippi; give more time and hard work to the building of the school; plan for one year and recommend future changes; and wait until Ellen White visits and can assess the situation. Prior to her visit to Oakwood that same year, Ellen White wrote Elder Daniels (June 13, 1904) and emphasized that it would take too long to move and begin somewhere else. She also indicated that the Huntsville location was ideal because the community was already familiar with an existing school for coloreds, Alabama A&M in Normal, Alabama, nearby.

Ellen White visited Oakwood for the first time to attend a special called board meeting. She wrote, “My visit to our school for the colored people at Huntsville, Alabama, brought me great sorrow of heart.... That which I saw, staggered me.” She traveled to Oakwood after visiting the school in Graysville (now Southern Adventist University), where much progress and prosperity had been witnessed. In contrast, the Huntsville School was lacking the facilities and personnel necessary for success. She could not understand how two schools in such

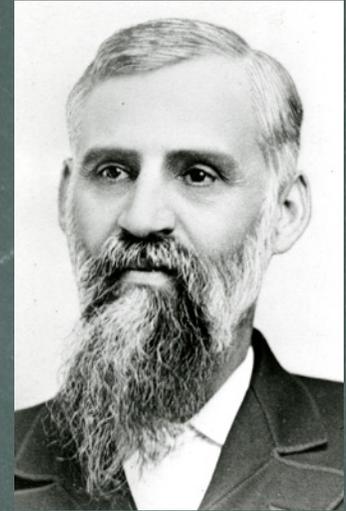
From this Year Forward



▲ Benn Eugene Nicola – 3rd Oakwood Principal.



▲ Fred R. Rogers (with family) – 4th Oakwood Principal.



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

proximity could be so different or how the Graysville members continued to build up their school without regard for the destitute school for colored students. She asked the question, “How can the brethren in the South, who have seen the needs of this school, remain silent? In what light does God regard their failure...?”²

Following the board meeting, Fred R. Rogers was named principal, replacing Benjamin E. Nicola, who had been principal since 1899. None of the 360 acres of farmland was to be sold. Instead, the administration should engage in wise planning, hire effective, God-fearing teachers for the classroom and the farm, maintain the grounds and facilities, and encourage faculty, staff and students to do their best for the Lord's work.

Ellen White delivered two speeches to the faculty and students at Chapel during her stay in Huntsville. She wished that there would be a hundred students in attendance and encouraged each student to recruit at least one student. She shared with them that Oakwood and its fruit trees would grow; its buildings and general maintenance would improve. In September, a new school year began with a new principal, a new

staff, a new name, Oakwood Manual Training School, and optimism.

Ellen White continued to be a strong advocate for Oakwood. She introduced the Self-Denial Boxes as a method of fundraising for the work in the South. The boxes were to remain in homes, and money was to be collected and donated for the work in the South. Additionally, she regularly wrote to individuals across the country asking for financial support of Oakwood.

It was by the providence of God that Oakwood was established, and it is by the providence of God that Oakwood advanced beyond this decisive year. 🙏

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The room was filled with anticipation. Everything began as it usually did that Friday night. It was the end of all of our busy weeks—students, faculty, and staff, and community members alike. But this night was special because...well, let me not get ahead of myself.

Meet Tavonne Dillon. Tavonne is from the inner city of Detroit, Michigan. His forearms paint a picture of someone who has probably lived a tough life. Prior to August, Tavonne would have told you that he was involved in “nonsense with gang members.” His mother would tell you that her son was becoming a stereotype, another lost boy in Detroit with a dad in prison for dealing drugs.

Meet Toson Antwan Knight, '12. Toson, also from Detroit, works for its mayor, Mike Duggan. Toson's first acquaintance with Tavonne wasn't a pleasant one, as he had called the police on him and a few other young guys in the neighborhood. Feeling bad and realizing this wasn't going to change the young men, Knight decided to speak with the guys. He eventually connected with Tavonne, becoming his mentor.

Becoming a mentor to Tavonne came just at the right time. Last July, Tavonne experienced an altercation with suspected gang members. Someone pulled out a gun and shot at him twice. Toson began to talk to him, sharing stories of his friends who had similar experiences and didn't live through them. Toson told him the best thing to do was to leave Detroit.

While encouraging Tavonne to leave Detroit, he told him about Oakwood University and his experience there. With just days left before the new student registration week, Toson, along with an Oakwood recruiter, James Kelly, '13, helped Tavonne fill out paperwork and enroll at Oakwood. Upon receiving acceptance, Toson drove his mentee to Huntsville—a totally different world from the one Tavonne had known.

When asked about his first semester experience at

Oakwood, Tavonne exclaims, “Amazing!” He has declared social work as his major. It is a field that he feels can provide a way for him to help others, just as Toson helped him. “I want to help more kids get off the streets, get through high school, and go to college,” he said.

Now, fast-forward to November 12, 2015. Tavonne's mother, his sister and nine of his friends from Detroit have traveled to Huntsville to visit and see what Tavonne has been experiencing. They have also come to witness him and 13 other students being baptized at the Friday evening service. At the end of the baptism, one of the student leaders exclaimed to the congregation that the Holy Spirit was speaking to him about more desiring baptism. At that moment, Tavonne's sister and his nine friends marched forward and were baptized with more than 20 other students.

As I sat in the audience with tears in my eyes (and I wasn't the only one), our mission here at Oakwood University became more and more real to me. Yes, my job here is to make sure that we tell the Oakwood story. However, collectively, our mission is to help transform lives. I am thankful that people like Toson take this mission seriously. As an alum, he took the time to introduce Tavonne to Oakwood University, paying it forward and reaching back to his alma mater.

Dear Lord, continue to introduce us to more students like Tavonne so that we can keep fulfilling our true mission. 🙏





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