Focus on the Presidency

This Presidential election year and the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte have connected Johnson C. Smith University to the political process in historic and meaningful ways. As a new urban, private university with a public purpose, we encourage our students to become politically aware, socially active and intellectually astute.

Because of our special relationship with the Democratic National Convention serving as a hub for major operations and as presenter of one of the convention’s most important events to target college students, the Democratic National Convention came alive on campus in a number of ways. The University co-presented a summit with the Congressional Black Caucus Institute on September 4 in Brayboy Gymnasium. The event titled UFuture: A Summit for Innovative Young Thinkers was co-hosted by actors Alfre Woodard, Hill Harper and Nicole Ari Parker. The summit had national impact with students from 20 regional colleges and universities presenting their thoughts to a panel of speakers from the White House level to the local level and through the real-time use of social media.

In preparation for the DNC, we invited a number of speakers to campus as part of our “Democracy 2012: The Road to Charlotte” Lyceum Series. Students heard from a prominent slate of speakers representing the media, politics, government and education.

Another way JCSU students brought the political process to life leading up to the DNC was through an interdisciplinary project: The REEL Urban Network. The effort drew attention to Charlotte’s Historic West End as students captured personal stories and unveiled them on a dynamic interactive website RUN-DNC.org. The project presented students, alumni and Charlotte residents an outlet for airing issues and experiences that mattered to them. Our goal is to help our local citizens improve their community by participating in the democratic process and through civic engagement. Such engagement spanned the globe this past summer as three students traveled to Kenya to capture the mission work of “With Open Eyes,” through blogs and videos.

Recognizing that entrepreneurship, small business development and job creation are also important issues in this election, we opened the Innovo Laboratory in uptown Charlotte in April to educate, develop and inspire a new generation of social entrepreneurs. We believe this laboratory will help eliminate barriers by connecting students and aspiring entrepreneurs to those who drive the free enterprise system.

We want to encourage the next generation to become energized about the political process through events such as UFuture, which give them an opportunity to share what is on their minds and talk about their challenges as we move forward in the 21st century.

So whether you register to vote, participate in a town hall meeting, volunteer with the political party of your choice or help someone start a business, I encourage you to share with us in connecting with the political process during this Presidential election year. We hope this educational experience of having the DNC in our backyard will make a life-long impact on all.

Very best wishes,

Dr. Ronald L. Carter, Ph.D.
President
Table of Contents

02  President’s Letter
04  Features
12  Campus News
20  Academics
28  Athletics
32  Philanthropy
40  Alumni
44  Class Notes

On the Cover:
James E. Rogers is accompanied by President Ronald L. Carter as he waves to the crowd at the 140th Commencement Exercises.
JCSU Makes History at 140\textsuperscript{th} Commencement Exercises

Johnson C. Smith University graduated the largest class in its history on May 6 during the 140\textsuperscript{th} Commencement Exercises. The Class of 2012 totaled 275 graduates, nearly half of whom completed their studies with honors. During their college years, the Class of 2012 logged 20,803 hours of community volunteer work.

Many graduates are going on to jobs with leading corporations such as the EPA, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Wells Fargo, Nationwide Insurance, U.S. Customs and the U.S. Army and Air Force training programs. Others have been accepted to graduate schools including Harvard University, Rice University, University of Pennsylvania, Emory University, Wake Forest University, University of California, Howard University, Indiana University, Depaul University, University of Colorado, University of North Carolina, University of Pittsburgh and New York University.

President Ronald L. Carter, Ph.D., commended the class for having “met the academic challenges of the classroom with concentrated thought and innovative ambition” and for moving “successfully along the journey of purposeful life toward generous goals they have set for themselves.” He continued, “Now the time has come for your outward journey.”

Commencement speaker James E. Rogers, president and CEO of Duke Energy, shared his personal story as a first-generation college student from rural North Carolina who had to juggle family and studies while in college and law school. His heartfelt words drew nods and applause as students listened to what Rogers referred to as their “last lecture” at Johnson C. Smith University. “During every milestone, I had to overcome the fear of failure,” Rogers said, referencing others who faced numerous failures on their own roads to success such as Thomas Edison, the Wright brothers, Michael Jordan and Oprah Winfrey. He gave the class one final assignment: for students to think about how their past experiences will make them better people.

Dr. Carter bestowed on Rogers the Honorary Doctor of Laws degree during the ceremony. Rogers ended his remarks by saying he’s proud to be a Golden Bull.
Valdictorian Antoinette Taylor, who graduated with a degree in social work, is attending graduate school at UNC-Chapel Hill pursuing a master’s degree in social work degree. While at JCSU she served as a presidential intern.

As of May 31, 28 percent of graduates secured employment and 24 percent pursued graduate degrees or continuing education. Our graduates have been accepted to 42 schools. Additionally, 60 percent of the graduating class participated in at least one internship and/or engaged in part-time employment over the course of their collegiate years.

Salutatorian Monique Kelly plans to attend graduate school at the University of California Irvine to earn a Master of Arts degree in demographics and social analysis. The psychology major from Kingston, Jamaica, competed during her years at JCSU on the women’s cross country and track and field teams and served on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Karibbean Vybz.

Among her best memories at JCSU is the time she won the CIAA Outdoor Championship for the women’s track competition. “I chose JCSU because I was recruited for track, and I felt comfortable and secure in the fact that the head coach was also Jamaican, and there were people from my home country that I knew here,” she said.

Additionally, amiable and cooperative staff in the social science department and all the friends she made along the way will be remembered after her JCSU days.
Another 2012 graduate, Marcia Higgins, was offered admission into the doctoral program in the Department of Computational and Applied Mathematics (CAAM) at Rice University as a full-time student beginning this fall. As an entering graduate student, she will receive a $25,000 12-month stipend for four years. In addition, the Office of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies will provide her with a full tuition waiver, a value of over $34,900. “Throughout my years at Johnson C. Smith University, Student Support Services provided the resources I needed to flourish and ultimately succeed academically,” she said.
Founders’ Week 2012

Johnson C. Smith University celebrated its 145th Anniversary in April during Founders’ Week. The annual Convocation service honored Sarah Mingo Stevenson with the Presidential Award of Distinction. Stevenson is a retired educator, community leader and activist and was the first African-American woman to serve on the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education. Her breakfast forum for discussing key issues with elected and appointed officials lasted for 30 years. Convocation also featured guest speaker Senator Daniel Blue, Democratic member of the North Carolina Senate, who shared his inspirational message with the graduating Class of 2012.

Senator Daniel Blue

Sarah Mingo Stevenson is honored by Dr. Carter during Founders’ Day Convocation for her leadership in the community.

Victoria Rowell and JCSU student Kyle Holeman enjoy the annual Honoree Brunch during Founders’ Week.

07
Top: Gala honorees from L-R: Carl and Mary Brown, Dr. Ronald L. Carter, Dr. Catherine McKee McCottry, Talmadge Willard Fair, Victoria Rowell

JCSU students Ciara Boderick, Rachel Zeigler, Langston Vincent, Sabrina Davis and Elisha Lemar enjoy Gala

Ronald L. Carter, Dr. Catherine McKee McCottry, Ron Matthews
Gala Supports JCSU Fund

Johnson C. Smith University’s fourth annual Arch of Triumph Gala welcomed more than 900 dignitaries, corporate and civic leaders, alumni and other supporters to the Charlotte Convention Center during Founders’ Week to support the JCSU Fund and come together as a network to celebrate the University’s accomplishments. The event supported scholarships, teaching and learning initiatives, as well as programs vital to providing a quality educational experience for students.

The signature black-tie event honored distinguished alumni and notable philanthropic achievers. This year, the University spotlight was on individuals who have made a significant impact in the arena of foster care, a personal cause of Dr. Ronald L. Carter, president of Johnson C. Smith University, who is a former foster parent of four youths. The other honorees have contributed significantly to the quality of life in their communities.

Special honorees were Mary and Carl Brown, executive directors of the South Carolina Foster Care Association; Talmadge Willard Fair, a JCSU alumnus, president and CEO of the Urban League of Greater Miami; Dr. Catherine McKee McCottry, a JCSU alumna and Charlotte’s first African-American female physician; and Victoria Rowell, actress, author and foster care advocate.

See page 34 for the 2013 Arch of Triumph Award for Alumni call for nominations.
Students at Johnson C. Smith University drew attention to Charlotte’s Historic West End leading up to the Democratic National Convention by capturing personal stories and unveiling them on a dynamic interactive website: RUN-DNC.org. The REEL Urban Network’s RUN-DNC 2012 project, inspired by the 2012 Presidential elections and Charlotte’s historic role, was an innovative interdisciplinary project that provided students, alumni and the residents of the West Charlotte area an online platform to discuss issues and experiences that matter to them. It engaged participants to share ideas on how to improve the community through the democratic process and civic engagement.

“We hope this online platform provided the media, policymakers and Charlotteans with insight into the hopes, aspirations and lives of the residents and students of the West Charlotte community,” said Tonya M. Williams, Ph.D., assistant professor of political science.

What made the site unique is that it invited people to submit their story ideas to the students, who then shot the videos in their own style. Some students also told their own stories on some of the videos they created. In one video, for example, JCSU student Jimmy Joyner revealed his passion for basketball and how the sport kept him out of trouble. JCSU student Jockuela Ballard, a cheerleader, posted a video about growing up in foster care. She was adopted at age 20 by her cheerleading coach and only now is she comfortable sharing her story.

In other videos, students interviewed alumnus Charles Jones about his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement and participation as a Freedom Rider. They also talked with JCSU alumnus Harry Webb about popular westside hangouts in the 1950s.

Media partner WBTV provided ongoing support for the project by linking to RUN-DNC from its community page and posting the videos on the WBTV community news page. The website, http://run-dnc-2012.org, is not only a compilation of videos, it incorporates photos, interactive contests and social media too. Another partner, Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated, recently donated funds to purchase airtime to run 100 commercials on WBTV leading up to the convention. The company also funded prize incentives and scholarships to students in support of the project.
JCSU Takes Political Spotlight at Youth Summit During DNC

U.S. Rep. Mel Watt, and actress Alfre Woodard announced the summit to a room of journalists from several newspapers, television stations, blogs and online news outlets. The speakers emphasized the importance of the youth vote in the 2012 election and challenged the crowd to urge the entire community to get involved and stay involved in the political process long after the election is over. JCSU students, dressed in Gold and Blue, greeted guests and asked thought-provoking, insightful questions to the panel of speakers.

UFuture: A Summit for Innovative Young Thinkers, co-hosted by Alfre Woodard and actor Hill Harper, involved some 450 students from colleges and universities in North Carolina and South Carolina, including Johnson and Wales University, Winthrop University, Wingate University, Gardner-Webb University, South Carolina State University, Benedict College, Livingstone College, Davidson College and UNC Charlotte.

The event provided a meaningful and relevant way for JCSU to shine during the DNC as students interacted in person and via Twitter and texting with some of the nation’s most influential political leaders. The panel included special guests Rep. Bennie Thompson, Rep. James E. Clyburn, Rep. Melvin Watt, Dr. Ronald L. Carter and actress Nicole Ari Parker.

“The summit spoke to the desires of today’s young voters to engage in politics and seek answers to relevant issues that affect their future,” said Carter. “It fell directly in line with the Congressional Black Caucus Institute’s mission to educate today’s voters and train tomorrow’s political leaders.”

After its initial launch in March, RUN-DNC.org gained momentum on campus and in the community, according to project director Laurie Porter, assistant professor of communication arts. “The area is rich in character, but the stories of the people who live there don’t always make the news. Now they’re going public,” said Porter.

Porter and Williams were the two faculty members who initiated the idea, which garnered the support of several other faculty members from a variety of disciplines. Williams added a voter registration drive to the project in a “Rock the Polls” week in early April. The event helped students learn about the political process and ways to get involved. “The site is interactive and fully integrated with social media, which makes it easy for people to learn about the political process and get involved,” said Williams.

As stated on the project’s website, “It takes 1,000 voices to tell a single story. “The stories of the West End tell of the strength, struggles and spirit of the people who call Charlotte home. Visitors to the site are asked to go to WBTV.com under “Community” and click on the West Side Stories page.

All eyes in Charlotte were on Johnson C. Smith University as JCSU held a joint news conference with the Congressional Black Caucus Institute in May to announce UFuture: A Summit for Innovative Young Thinkers, which took place on September 4 during the Democratic National Convention.

A standing-room-only crowd filled Grimes Lounge as JCSU President Ronald L. Carter, N.C. Senator Malcolm Graham, Alfre Woodard
Charlotte’s Web Captures Attention of Project L.I.F.T.

A new mentoring program is taking shape on campus to create a web of success for African-American and Hispanic/Latino males through technology training. Spearheaded by directors Cory Carter and Michael McAllister, the Charlotte’s Web initiative is starting with a $172,000 grant from Project L.I.F.T., a philanthropic program to accelerate the improvement of academic outcomes for children in the Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools’ Northwest Corridor.

The funds will enable the program to serve 40 rising 9th to 12th grade students from West Charlotte High School starting fall 2012.

Once underway, the students will gain hands-on experience with computer-based technology as they work in learning labs. Access to the labs will eventually enable them to attain specific technology certifications.

“We believe that mentoring through technology training not only helps build positive relationships and creates personal enrichment, but also gives youth solid technology skills for a powerful web of success,” said Carter, co-director for Charlotte’s Web. He said the project is designed to address the urgent needs of young men of color in Charlotte’s Northwest Corridor.

For more information on how to support Charlotte’s Web, contact Jenene Seymour at 704-378-1089 or jseymour@jcsu.edu.
Foster Care Symposium Supports JCSU Initiative

Johnson C. Smith University presented a one-day symposium “Phasing Up to New Possibilities: Supporting Youth through Higher Education” on April 27, at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Charlotte. The annual symposium invited representatives from public and private agencies, foster youth programs, universities, churches and businesses interested in promoting independence, self-sufficiency and educational advancement for youth “aging out” of the foster care system.

Special workshops addressing local and national issues related to foster care featured John Emerson, Casey Family Programs; Heidi McIntosh, U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services; Eileen McCaffrey, Foster 2 Success; Sonyia Richardson, Another Level Consulting; Derrick Anderson, Foresight Leadership Training; JJ McEachern, Central Piedmont Community College; Brennon Graham, The Relatives; Family Finding; and the Children’s Home Society.

The University held a reception and dinner the evening before the symposium to welcome attendees and introduce McIntosh and several students from JCSU who are involved in the foster care initiative. “The purpose of this event was to educate, problem solve and forge partnerships in our community that will support youth who have aged out of the foster care system or experienced similar life circumstances and desire a college education,” said Pat Newell, program development associate of Johnson C. Smith University’s Foster Care Initiative.

Newell is helping the University create the Foster Village Network Center to provide opportunities for young men and women who have aged out of the foster care system. The center will house the Phasing Up to New Possibilities program, which will serve as a central point of delivery for financial support, mentoring, peer support, counseling and other resources needed for the young adults to thrive as productive members in their communities.

Sponsors for the event included Johnson C. Smith University, the JCSU Department of Social Work and the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services.

Johnson C. Smith University Honored Nationally for Community Service

Johnson C. Smith University is among 642 schools across the nation honored in 2012 by The Corporation for National and Community Service and the U.S. Department of Education. The University was admitted to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 1,109 of its students completing 15,270 hours of community service on programs such as the Soul of the Northwest Corridor Initiative and others promoting learning and mentoring for youth.

The Honor Roll recognizes higher education institutions that reflect the values of exemplary community service and achieve meaningful outcomes in their communities. Inspired by the thousands of college students who traveled across the country to support relief efforts along the Gulf Coast after Hurricane Katrina, the initiative celebrates the transformative power and volunteer spirit that exists within the higher education community.

“Community service is highly encouraged at our University,” said Sherrill Hampton, director for applied leadership and community development. She said a major part of community engagement focuses on revitalizing Charlotte’s Northwest Corridor, which covers more than 37 neighborhoods. “Our University has taken a leadership role in the revitalizing efforts by implementing the Soul of the Northwest Corridor Initiative, a new community planning model patterned after the Knight Foundation’s Soul of the Community Project,” said Hampton.

Another community service project at JCSU promotes learning for children of various age groups through tutoring, parent advocacy and mentoring. Special services offered include a Saturday Academy, a tutoring program for children in grades three to five, writing workshops for high school students and a West Charlotte High School mentoring program.
A Father Goes Back to School

At age 31, Howard Estell is leaving his business career behind and working on his second bachelor’s degree at Metropolitan College. This time, he’s going for a degree in social work to prepare for a career in medical social work and gerontology. “I feel that social work is something I was called to do,” he smiles, with daughters Raesianna, age 9, Arianna, age 7, and Amarianna, age 5, by his side.

Estell attends class during evenings and is a stay-at-home dad during the day. “I chose Johnson C. Smith University because they had a program geared to adults, and I needed flexibility for my wife to get home from work in time for me to get to class,” he said.

As a father of three active young girls he has much to be thankful for. When he was five years old, Estell was diagnosed with sickle-cell disease. At that time, average life expectancy was in the early 20s. Now, he said, it’s 42 years in the U.S.

Estell feels very fortunate. He has a beautiful wife who teaches at Mallard Creek Elementary School, a loving family and caring medical social workers who have helped him manage a lifetime illness. “I grew up in a huge family that was very supportive and where support for the community was very important,” he said.

Despite the severity of his disease, Estell doesn’t appear overwhelmed by life’s challenges. “They’re getting better at treating it,” he said of his illness. He sees a hematologist regularly to monitor his blood and is currently treated with a cancer drug. “If I over stress or burden myself, I have an unbearably painful crisis. It’s even difficult to lift up a glass of water. But I have three angels to look out for me,” he said glancing at his daughters. Between study times, Estell takes breaks doing the usual activities fathers and daughters enjoy – playing catch, computer games and riding bikes. He looks forward to them joining him at his graduation ceremony in May 2013.

Estell’s story was featured on WBTV and in The Charlotte Post over Father’s Day weekend and also appeared on the front page of The Charlotte Observer.

Indaba Unites and Inspires Northwest Corridor Citizens

More than 200 residents of the Northwest Corridor spent a Saturday in March immersed in dialogue around issues affecting their future. The second annual Indaba, a community forum hosted by Johnson C. Smith University, offered residents an opportunity to share ideas at workshops on topics affecting the Northwest Corridor. They heard local experts share their insights on economic development, land-use planning, education, small business development and community leadership. Panelists included Darrell Williams, principal at Neighboring Concepts, LLC; Rev. Mildred McCullough; Debra Campbell, planning director for the City of Charlotte; Rev. Dwayne Walker; Ron Leeper; Tiffany Flowers-Washington, co-founder of Kipp Charlotte; and Jeff Michael, executive director of UNC-Charlotte’s Urban Institute.

“This project gave voice to the community and continues to address and solve some of the key issues facing the Northwest Corridor,” said Sherrill Hampton, director of the Center for Applied Leadership and Community Development at Johnson C. Smith University. The Northwest Corridor covers 37 neighborhoods along Beatties Ford Road.
Minority college students and industry professionals have a new resource in Charlotte for launching a business. Innovo Laboratory opened at uptown Charlotte's Packard Place in April to serve as a business incubator and hub for entrepreneurship and innovation. A launch party drew business professionals, JCSU students and faculty members to a loft space on the building’s fifth floor.

“Innovo is designed to foster spontaneous collaboration,” said Dan Roselli, co-owner of Packard Place and Red F marketing company. Roselli used the space as a metaphor for Innovo. “The launch is about what’s possible, not what is rough around the edges. The University sees what’s possible.”

The laboratory focuses on eliminating barriers, connecting students and aspiring entrepreneurs to those who drive the free enterprise system. “Innovo brings together Charlotte’s best and brightest business and civic leaders, whether it’s former Bank of America CEO Hugh McColl or barber shop chain owners Damian and Jermaine Johnson, under one roof,” said Innovo Director Ron Stodghill.

Innovo Laboratory grew out of the University’s commitment to innovation and building intellectual capital, particularly in the Northwest Corridor. It is a strategic partnership between the global management consultancy Blue Ocean Strategy Institute; AE Global Media; and the Center of Excellence in Diversity, Workforce and Small Business Development at Johnson C. Smith University’s Smith Institute for Applied Research, also directed by Stodghill.

As an institution of higher learning, JCSU is doing its part to educate and engage the greater Charlotte area in the democratic process. As a kick off to the Democratic National Convention, the University presented a Lyceum Series, “Democracy 2012: The Road to Charlotte,” during the spring semester. The series presented an outstanding slate of speakers from media, politics, government and education.

Speakers from a wide range of prominent local, regional and national arenas shared their views on topics related to politics and the democratic process. Headline speaker Eugene Robinson delivered the first lecture on “Who’s Going to Win and Why.” The Washington Post columnist, MSNBC contributor and Pulitzer Prize winner filled Biddle Auditorium with a crowd of 450.

Other noted speakers gave thought-provoking presentations on politics, the media and multiculturalism:

- Michael K. Fauntroy, associate professor at George Mason University School of Public Policy
- Amad Shakur, founder of the Center for the African Diaspora and director of development for the International Museum of Muslim Cultures
- Ann Caulkins, president and publisher of The Charlotte Observer and Gerald Johnson, CEO and publisher of The Charlotte Post
- Former Charlotte mayors Harvey Gantt and Richard Vinroot

Eugene Robinson is interviewed by a WCNC reporter in James B. Duke Library on campus.
Pinkard Selected for National Leadership Program

Dr. Elfred Anthony Pinkard, executive vice president and chief operating officer of JCSU, is one of 20 senior college administrators selected by the Council of Independent Colleges to participate in a yearlong Presidential Vocation and Institutional Mission program for prospective college and university presidents.

“I am excited about this opportunity to be reflective and introspective about vocation and institutional mission,” said Pinkard. “It is my hope that this experience will bring greater clarity and purpose to my work and strengthen my effectiveness here at JCSU.”

The seminar-based program is designed to help individuals with the potential to serve as college and university presidents to understand the fit between their personal and professional goals and the missions of institutions they might lead in the future. With a wave of retirements of university presidents on the horizon, it is especially important that individuals who become new presidents are well suited to the needs of the institution. Participation in the program helps potential presidents to enter into a presidency that is more long-lasting, highly effective and satisfying to both the individual and the institution.
Shawana Wilson Attends Santa Fe Institute

Shawana A. Wilson, a biology major at Johnson C. Smith University, was one of 57 leading international student researchers in computational modeling and applied research selected for the 2012 Complexity Science Summer at Santa Fe Institute, N.M.

She joined students from institutions such as MIT, Stanford, Cornell, Harvard and Columbia University.

Based upon her Smith Institute pilot project titled “Targeting Sickled Hemoglobin: Quantitative Stability-Flexibility Relationships (QFSR) in Sickled and Normal Hemoglobin,” Wilson was accepted into the internationally ranked and highly selective Santa Fe Institute Complexity Science Summer School.

She collaborated with fellow applied research students from around the globe, becoming proficient on topics ranging from agent-based modeling to genotype-phenotype mapping and phase transitions, incorporating mathematical modeling and empirical case studies.

Wilson’s Smith Institute investigation on biological modeling of sickle-cell disease is the centerpiece of a research collaborative between UNC Charlotte, the North Carolina Biotechnology Center and Johnson C. Smith University.

According to the Sickle Cell Disease Association, 100,000 people in the United States live with sickle-cell disease. The inherited blood disorder affects one in 500 African Americans, and the trait appears in 1 in 12 African Americans. There is currently no universal cure.

Wilson’s Smith Institute project used computational modeling and simulation to explore and construct important possibilities for sickle-cell analysis and treatment. Mentored by Dr. Timothy Champion, Johnson C. Smith University chair of the Department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Wilson contributed numerous presentations on computational modeling and simulation in biological molecules for VIP visitors at the University’s Multidisciplinary Applied Computational Modeling and Simulation Lab (MACMAS). These visitors included the Congressional Black Caucus and NASA’s exploratory applied research conference committee. Wilson’s emphasis is on putting a human face and touch on the most cutting-edge scientific practice and encouraging exploration of the “profound issues of human existence.”

Wilson is the founding vice president of the JCSU chapter of the American Medical Student Association, a member of Kappa Mu Epsilon, Mathematics Honor Society and the lab assistant for Smith Institute’s MACMAS Lab. The lab was designed with the assistance of Dr. Hang Chen, chair of the JCSU Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Santa Fe Institute Vice President Ginger Richardson and her colleagues at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Fresh Ideas Promote a Sustainable Campus

Near the edge of campus a garden is taking root. It’s a community garden designed to bring new life to the Northwest Corridor neighborhoods. Nearby, a greenhouse stands with another type of garden. This one is for fish and plants. This aquaponic system will provide a sustainable food source as fish and plants grow symbiotically in the same water tanks.

Both gardens are part of Sustainability Village, which is designed to provide food for thought as students learn while living in a sustainable environment. As part of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, the village’s centerpiece will be a model home built to accommodate four students. It will serve as an affordable prototype that could be replicated in communities impacted by natural disasters such as in the earthquake-devasted areas in Haiti.

These and other innovative projects on campus were the focal point of a Sustainability Summit in April, sponsored by The
Duke Endowment, which has provided financial and technical assistance and a learning network to make many of these projects possible.

Representatives from Duke University, Furman University and Davidson College joined JCSU and The Duke Endowment at the two-day summit to share ideas and explore ways to work collaboratively on all aspects of sustainability — from energy efficiency and water conservation to health and wellness.

In the months leading up to the summit, JCSU engaged graduate students from Duke University’s Nicholas School of the Environment to develop the framework for JCSU’s own sustainability plan. Several projects are already impacting energy usage reductions on campus and in the community. New lighting and sensor switches, for example, are designed to reduce energy consumption by 40 percent.

In the community, sustainability took the form of a housing rehabilitation project and a seminar on green business practices for women entrepreneurs. Both programs were led by the University’s Center for Applied Leadership and Community Development to help revitalize the Northwest Corridor.

For a full report on how dozens of sustainability initiatives are impacting campus life, visit: www.jcsu.edu/about/sustainable-smith.

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JCSU Drama Students Perform Works by Middle School Students

This past April, drama students from Johnson C. Smith University performed the work of authors from Coulwood Middle School in Charlotte. The performance is the product of months of collaboration between Dr. Cindy J. Kistenberg, associate professor of theatre and communication arts at JCSU, and Martina Schmidt, theatre arts teacher at Coulwood.

This is the first year that Coulwood, a Title I school, has offered theatre arts classes. Faced with starting a new program, Schmidt reached out to Kistenberg to see what partnership opportunities were possible.

The Coulwood students wrote narratives on events critical to their lives, including school and relationships with parents and friends. The combined pieces were taken to JCSU, where students scripted a 30-minute performance, memorized and rehearsed it.

“For the student writers, hearing their work and seeing it performed validated their feelings and perceptions,” said Kistenberg. “The hope is that the project will introduce these young people to college students, many of whom are similar to them in terms of their experiences, and potentially create some interest in higher education.”

Coulwood Principal Rachel Goldberg sees the activity as an opportunity to support students academically. “I can’t think of a better way to support literacy and relevancy than having students write scripts and see them performed by college-level theatre students,” she said. “This type of experience makes middle school students feel important and that their voices are heard.”

The event promises to have a lasting impact on the JCSU students, too.

“What we’re doing with Coulwood is one example of the theatre program’s work to use performance as a means of social change,” said Kistenberg. “Our students are excited. However, I don’t think they realized what impact it had on each of them as actors and as human beings.”

Kistenberg and Schmidt will represent the Coulwood theatre project at a conference in New Orleans in November.
'Passing Through Light,’ a new work of public art at the I-77 and West Trade Street underpass, now provides an enlightening and dynamic gateway for vehicles and pedestrians as they enter and exit Charlotte’s Historic West End. Part of the revitalization efforts along the Northwest Corridor, the artwork by Austrian artist Erwin Redl uses LED technology to create sequences of light and color in motion that shifts within the Gold and Blue colors of Johnson C. Smith University.

“The underpass was dark, somewhat unsafe and unwelcoming to vehicular traffic and pedestrians entering the city to the east or west,” said Ronald L. Carter, president of Johnson C. Smith University. “Passing Through Light” provides a safe and positive experience to residents and visitors entering the West End to visit the University, businesses and neighborhoods.”

JCSU partnered with the Arts and Science Council on the project and contributed funding through a portion of the West End project proceeds provided by the Wells Fargo Corporation. Redl is a Fulbright Scholar and creator of public art using LED technology at the NASCAR Hall of Fame in Charlotte.

To view an animation of the artwork, visit www.YouTube.com/ASCCharlotte.
Cynthia Cole’s Visual Art Makes Debut in New York City’s Times Square

Six digital prints by Cynthia Cole, instructor of visual, performing and communication arts at Johnson C. Smith University, received international acclaim at the “Art Takes Times Square” exhibit on June 18, 2012, in New York City. It was not your typical art exhibition. Cole and other visual artists from around the world displayed their pieces on the Jumbotron screens in Times Square and on smaller screens around the city.

Sponsored by the Times Square Alliance, Chashana and Artists Wanted, the event was held to raise awareness and globalize the visual arts in a way that breaks down barriers between countries and the arts. Based on the theme of place, Cole’s prints combine rural and urban life and how people are always looking for a home or a sense of place. The Wilmington, N.C., native had lived in cities most of her life until 10 years ago when she moved to western North Carolina. At that point, she decided to explore landscape photography, which she later combined with urban scenes to illustrate how the two can come together. The result is works such as “It’s a Jungle Out There” and “There’s No Place Like Home” — two of her pieces included in the New York exhibition.

Cole has taught at Johnson C. Smith University for 10 years and is a graduate of Agnes Scott College and New York University, where she earned her Master of Arts in environmental studies photography. Her work has been featured in the City Gallery of Chastain in Atlanta, Ga.; The Lieca Gallery in New York City, Gallery One Eleven in Birmingham, Ala.; and The Light Factory, Charlotte, N.C. She is a two-time 1st Choice Pick for the Creative Capital Fellowship for the visual art category and received a Grassroots Grant for North Carolina artists.
Kirsten Hemmy, assistant professor and chair of the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, Philosophy and Religion, was awarded a Fulbright Scholar grant to conduct research in Senegal during the 2012-2013 academic year.

She is among 1,100 U.S. faculty and professionals who will travel abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program in 2012-2013. Her work will examine the relationship between African and African-American poetry as it crosses the Atlantic and other politicized bodies.

Hemmy has traveled and studied extensively in West Africa and is completing a book on Emma Brown, an Ibibio freedom fighter and political activist in Nigeria. She also leads an interdisciplinary social entrepreneurship program with JCSU students and the Angela Davis School in Yembul, Senegal.


A 2008 recipient of the Linda Flowers Literary Award, Hemmy has received the Academy of American Poets Award and has published interviews with poets such as Yusef Komunyakaa and Ralph Angel. She is currently working on an epistolary arts collaboration with Charlotte artist Antoine Williams.

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. Department of State and is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. Hemmy joins other Fulbright alumni who have achieved distinction in government, science, the arts, business, philanthropy, education and athletics. Forty-three Fulbright alumni from 11 countries have been awarded the Nobel Prize, and 75 alumni have received Pulitzer Prizes.

Johnson C. Smith University’s 2004 alumna, Kameron Franklin, is the most recent recipient of a student Fulbright grant. Franklin, who graduated with a degree in psychology, researched racial identity, racial socialization and discrimination in the Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago. She presented her research at the 2005 Caribbean/Latin American regional meeting of Fulbright Scholars. Franklin recently completed her doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Georgia.

The Fulbright Mission

- Promoting closer educational relations between the people of the United States and those of other countries.
- Strengthening and linking institutions of higher learning globally.
- Rescuing threatened scholars and advancing academic freedom.
- Building leadership skills and enhancing the capacity of individuals and organizations to address local and global challenges.
Johnson C. Smith University held a memorial service on June 9, 2012, in honor of Dr. Joseph Fail, associate professor of biology, who passed away on May 30 after a battle with cancer. A distinguished scholar and researcher, Fail was devoted to increasing minority participation in ecology.

His students remember him for his teaching excellence in ecology, evolution, biology and botany. Rolanda-Sue Johnson (’12) said Fail was “the hardest biology teacher” who was “always willing to help.” She added that “he also wanted his students to succeed, so he always made sure that he exposed us to the right people and provided us with many opportunities within our major.”

During his 23 years at JCSU, Fail mentored students and led field trips to Haiti, Mexico, Costa Rica, Canada, Alaska, Louisiana, New Mexico, California and Baltimore. Before beginning his career in higher education, he served as a pilot in the U.S. Navy, where he was stationed in Lwakuni, Japan; Cam Rahn Bay, Vietnam; and Barbers Point, Hawaii.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be made to:
ESAs SEEDS program (Strategies for Ecology Education, Development, and Sustainability, a program of the Ecological Society of America), supporting and encouraging greater diversity in the ecology profession.
http://www.esa.org/seeds/supportSEEDS.php
Alliance with Montreat College Brings Master’s Programs to Campus

Graduates of Johnson C. Smith University with a GPA of 2.7 or greater will have guaranteed admission to Montreat College’s graduate programs in business starting fall 2012. The Master of Science in Management and Leadership and the Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs will be available on the JCSU campus. Both programs were recently approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

In addition to admission into the program, JCSU graduates and staff also will receive a 10 percent tuition discount and will be eligible to apply for all state and federal financial aid, as well as Montreat College institutional scholarships. The GMAT requirement for the MBA program will be waived.

“In today’s job market, a graduate degree in their field of study can provide our students with a competitive advantage and higher earning potential over their careers,” said Dr. Ronald L. Carter, president of Johnson C. Smith University. “Through the Montreat and JCSU partnership, students will have access to relevant graduate programs that are competitively priced and offered at a convenient location.”

“Montreat College is delighted to partner with Johnson C. Smith University,” said Montreat College President Dan Struble. “Together we will equip students to make a real difference in their communities and to the economic development of the Charlotte area.”

For more information about the program, contact Stephen Mattingly at Montreat College, 704-357-3390 ext. 1015 or smattingly@montreat.edu.

JCSU and Charlotte School of Law Join Forces

Students at Johnson C. Smith University who want to enter the field of law now have a fast track option, thanks to a collaborative effort between JCSU and Charlotte School of Law (CharlotteLaw). After attending their first three years at JCSU, and three years at CharlotteLaw, students can earn a bachelor’s degree and a Juris Doctor degree. The 3+3 program, approved by the Southern Associations of Colleges and Schools (SACS), began fall 2012.

Candidates are required to have a minimum SAT score of 900 and a minimum GPA of 3.0. Once admitted, they follow a curriculum pace that enables them to complete JCSU degree requirements minus the major electives. Requirements include JCSU’s introduction to legal studies and LSAT preparation. At the end of their junior year, qualified students may enter the law program at CharlotteLaw. Participating first-year students at Charlotte School of Law must meet minimum GPA requirements to remain in good academic standing. Full credits required for graduation from JCSU must be completed by the end of August following the first year of law school. Graduates from the program will receive two degrees – one from JCSU and one from CharlotteLaw.

“Johnson C. Smith University endeavors to produce graduates who are able to communicate effectively, think critically and learn independently, as well as collaboratively,” said JCSU President Ronald L. Carter. “We appreciate the opportunity to collaborate with Charlotte School of Law in a program that combines a quality liberal arts education with a concentrated study in the field of law so our graduates will be well prepared for successful careers.”
Dr. Alexa Rosypal, assistant professor of biology, has conducted major research in the field of parasitology in collaboration with the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine at Virginia Tech. She spent the summer researching the intestinal roundworm parasite of dogs. Her past research has continued with JCSU students and a visiting scientist, resulting in presentations and the sharing of cutting-edge research with other faculty and students.

Rosypal is among the many faculty members and students participating in internships, research and mentoring at the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

During the summer of 2012, 79 of the nearly 350 STEM majors explored a variety of transformational scientific and technical fields of study as interns and researchers at Wake Forest University, Georgia Tech, East Carolina University and at businesses and industries throughout the United States. Through these opportunities, Johnson C. Smith University prepares students to master skills they will need to successfully enter their fields of study in the competitive global marketplace.

The College of STEM provides these experiences early in the students’ college years which increased retention and graduation rates. Each STEM major participates in National Science Foundation-funded STEM activities provided through the HBCU-UP (Historically Black Colleges and Universities-Undergraduate Program) and the OASIS (One-Stop Academic Student Integration System) program. Students are mentored by STEM academic success coaches, tutored in a variety of STEM courses and attend and make presentations at regional and national conferences. They are also offered medical school and graduate school preparation courses each semester and may apply for test-taking scholarships as they prepare for the MCAT and GRE.

The research conducted by STEM students and faculty members was recently published in Johnson C. Smith University's first HBCU-UP Community of Research Abstract Journal, highlighting more than 40 projects conducted over the past two years. “Our faculty and students are highly involved in a wide range of research projects in such areas as cyber security, homeland security, data mining, gaming and animation, robotics, parasitology and bioinformatics,” said Dr. Madgy Attia, dean of the College of STEM.

The journal includes the following 2012 Community of Research Award Winners:

- Randale Watson, a computer engineering major, received a first place award for his project on Emergency Detection and Relief Using Robotics at the February Emerging Researchers National Conference in STEM. His peers on the research team included JCSU students Christopher Cornwall, Gordon Clayton, Jamar Robinson, Kevon Scott, Raymond Thomas and research advisors Lijuan Cao and Hang Chen.

- Rolanda-Sue Johnson, a biology and chemistry major who graduated in May 2012, won third place for presenting a research project on Ground Truthing LIDAR Data Within a Successionally Diverse Piedmont Forest. Her team of fellow JCSU students included Camille Grimsley, Jamaal Jackson, Michelle Jackson, Megan Talley with faculty advisor the late Joseph Fail, Jr.
Kirachae Graham, a junior computer science and information systems major, won second place at the Carolinas Women in Computing Conference for her research project titled *Gap Analysis: Cell Phone Forensic Tools*. For her work, Graham received a full scholarship to attend the Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Conference in Maryland in October 2012.

Additionally, faculty members also received funding through HBCU-UP to attend conferences and conduct research in their areas of interest. Funding was offered for re-tooling projects and/or mini grants. “We have an ongoing collaboration between JCSU, Virginia Tech and the Carolina Raptor Center to investigate encysted muscle parasites in birds of prey,” added Rosypal, who worked with student biology majors Shanae Bowman and Sam Epps at JCSU to extract DNA from raptor muscles. She took the DNA samples to Virginia Tech to perform molecular analysis with polymerase chain reaction and DNA sequencing to identify the parasites infecting the birds.

In other faculty research, Dr. Hang Chen is leading research in homeland security and risk management and working with Dr. Lijuan Cao on sensor networks research. Dr. Ying Bai is conducting research in robotics, and Dr. Satish Bhalla has built a minor program in bioinformatics, funded by Carnegie Mellon and the National Institute of Health.

Considering the nation’s focus on enhancing science, technology, engineering and mathematics, there is no time like the present to be part of the College of STEM at JCSU. The number of students in STEM majors is growing and represents about 20 percent of the total student body. Nearly half of the STEM majors are female, an unusual but encouraging trend, according to Janice Kennedy-Sloan, HBCU-UP program administrator. To ensure success in the program, student retention rates and graduation progression rates are monitored and evaluated periodically in order to provide necessary support services for students. Kennedy-Sloan is quick to point out that when students face academic challenges, they are assigned to a tutor connected to a study group, or supported through the G 4.0 Study Skills program. Through the OASIS program, academic success coaches also provide full-time support services to STEM students while measuring academic and non-academic progress.

Such benefits of STEM continue past graduation. During the past four years, graduates have been accepted to 24 graduate and professional schools, including Rice University, Santa Fe Institute, Ohio State University, Carnegie Mellon University, Howard University and the Rochester Institute of Technology. “Our university remains committed to cultivating highly-skilled professionals and scholars who are prepared for STEM-related careers and graduate and professional schools,” said President Ronald L. Carter.

The College of STEM continues to gain recognition as faculty and students share their knowledge at conferences and internships off campus. Last fall, the College of STEM hosted a regional conference with the theme “Enhancing Our Global Impact Through STEM Innovation.”

The conference enabled STEM professionals from colleges and universities throughout the U.S. to share experiences with representatives from the National Science Foundation, research laboratories, businesses and industry leaders, including Microsoft, Time-Warner, Inc., the North Carolina Research Center, David H. Murdock Research Institute, Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center, NASA and others. By gathering together to share best practices and forge critical partnerships, it is inevitable that we will be able to positively influence future agendas in STEM fields,” said Carter.

Randale Watson holds his robotics prototype with his team of classmates. The group's award-winning project was titled “Emergency Detection and Relief Using Robotics.”
Academics

Numerous faculty members at JCSU published academic journal papers, articles and books during the 2011-2012 academic year. Below is a list of some of their work in print and online:

Dr. Ying Bai, assistant professor of computer science and engineering, co-authored an article published in The International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology: Volume 60, Issue 5 (2012), Page 553-560. The article is titled: “Apply fuzzy interpolation method to calibrate parallel machine tools.”

Abstract: A novel and efficient fuzzy interpolation method is proposed to simplify the calibration process for parallel machine tools (PMTs). Either inverse or forward kinematic methods must be used in the traditional PMT calibration methods to perform the identification and compensation of the pose errors for PMTs, which made the calibration process time consuming and inefficient in real applications. Instead of using a model, the proposed method presents a modelless technique combined with the fuzzy interpolation method to obtain high calibration accuracies when a small workspace is adopted. This new approach can significantly reduce the complex in traditional PMT calibration processes and greatly simplify the calibration procedures.


Books by Ying Bai:


Abstract: “W. B. Yeats’s A Vision: Explications and Contexts” is the first volume of essays devoted to A Vision and the associated system developed by W. B. Yeats and his wife, George. A Vision is all-encompassing in its stated aims and scope, and it invites a wide range of approaches—as demonstrated in the essays collected here, written by the foremost scholars in the field.

The first six essays present explications of broader themes in A Vision itself: the system’s general principles; incarnate life and the Faculties; incarnate life and the Principles; how Yeats relates his own work to other philosophical approaches; and his consideration of the historical process. A further three essays include an examination of the elusive Thirteenth Cone, a consideration of astrological features in the automatic script, and a view of the poetry within A Vision. The final five essays look at contextual themes, whether of collaboration and influence—between husband, wife, and spirits, or with another poet—or the gender perspective within these interrelations, the historical context of Golden-Dawn occultism or the broader political context of fascism in the 1920s and 1930s. Throughout, the different contributors take a variety of stances with regard to texts and the automatic script.

This is an important contribution to Yeats scholarship in general and a landmark in studies of A Vision.


Abstract: The object of the present experiment was to study the norms of genotypes in D. melanogaster iso-female lines and in hybrids. Four iso-female strains (genotypes) were used. The F1, F2 and F3s were made for each strain. The parental, F1 and F2s were tested under three different colored lights (Blue: 25W; White: 25W; and Red: 25W). The males and females were counted and the average weight per male and per female in microgram ± 1 was calculated for each of the parental, F1, F2, and F3. The experimental data provided the evidence for the effect of colored light due to the difference in light wavelength on the development of a phenotypic trait from a genotype.


Abstract: Engagement exercises are effective strategies to create experiential learning opportunities for students to develop necessary skills prior to the field experience because students report experiencing anxiety about effectively dealing with problems and challenges in field (Warren, 2005). Further, there are challenges with students not having the knowledge, skills, and abilities expected and needed in field, as these skills are not developed through other courses within the curriculum (Alex-Assensoh & Ryan, 2008). To facilitate the student transition from student to practitioner, the “Problem Solving Process Project” was developed as a major course assignment in an undergraduate Social Work Methods I class.


Abstract: The “CSI Effect” is a blur between reality and fiction resulting from fictionalized media portrayals of investigation and prosecution, which influences the expectations of the public, crime victims and potential jurors (Dowler, Fleming, & Muzzatti, 2006) as to the realities ofDNA and
The popularity of television crime dramas (i.e., CSI: Law and Order) has increased. Undergraduate, non-science students have the misconception that criminal justice, criminology, and other related disciplines lack academic rigor and are not considered as hard sciences. As such, there are many unrealistic expectations of what students can expect from such disciplines.

In this study, the views of participants and potential participants on the role of QoL in physical activity and health were investigated. The purpose was to emphasize the importance of providing optimal customer service to student majors to increase student learning and satisfaction. This article describes the results of a survey that was conducted by the Department of Health and Human Performance (HHP) at Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU). It measured student majors’ perceptions of customer services provided by faculty in the department. The purpose was to emphasize the importance of providing optimal customer service to student majors to increase student learning and retention.

Abstract:
This article investigates five readiness skills behaviors in which BSW students are under prepared for their field placements as identified by field instructors within a small BSW program. Through an on-line survey, the researcher learned readiness skills field instructors felt students were least prepared in prior to entering their internship. The areas identified that students need improvement on are: writing, applying knowledge from the classroom to practice, and emotional maturity. The article concludes with a discussion of the tools that the author has developed to better prepare students and future plans for future program improvement.


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Analysis of variance and chi square analysis were utilized to evaluate the differences between demographics categories and customer service questions.


Abstract: The purpose of this article is to describe how to create and play the “Game of Health” with the use of a white board. This idea will allow teachers to incorporate classroom technology in a new way by creating a customized game board. Once the game board is completed, the “Game of Health” can be adapted to any health topic. This teaching idea was developed with high school and college/university health teacher in mind but can be used in elementary and middle schools as well.


Abstract: Student experiments with an evolution simulation can increase acceptance of evolutionary concepts. In this article, an activity that simulates evolution using cards is described. The mechanism of the evolutionary pressure in the simulation is clearly indicated for, and controllable by, the students. This simulation is useful for allowing student experimentation by varying conditions to see the effects on the population after several generations.


Abstract: This paper examines the determinants of bank net interest margin (NIM) and non-traditional banking activities (NII). A system estimation approach is employed to control for the simultaneity between NIM and NII for the period between 1997 and 2004. We find a statistically significant negative relationship between NIM and NII for the period between 1997 and 2002. A generally positive but statistically insignificant association between NIM and NII is found for the subsequent period (2003–2004). Banks’ increasing involvement in non-traditional activities is negatively correlated with risk-adjusted profit margins, especially in the former subperiod, suggesting no obvious diversification benefits. However, the share of noninterest income is positively related to the return on assets (ROA) and the return on equity (ROE) for the latter subperiod.”


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Golden Bulls Compete in Olympics

Johnson C. Smith University was extremely excited and honored to have Class of 2011 alumni Leford Green and Shermaine Williams participate in the 2012 London Summer Olympics as members of the Jamaica National team.

After winning the 400 meter hurdles event at the 2012 Jamaica National Senior Championships in July, Green qualified for a spot on the Olympic team. He is the Jamaican national champion in the 400m hurdles for the third consecutive year by winning the race with a season best time of 48.88.

The 2012 London Summer Olympics competition for the men's 400m hurdles event was held on Friday, Aug. 3 with Green placing seventh in the finals with a time of 49.13 seconds.

Williams qualified for competition in this year's Olympics by placing third in the women's 100m hurdles final at the Jamaica National Senior Championships. Williams clocked a time of 12.79 to become the first female Olympian in JCSU history.

Williams placed third in her heat of the semifinals with a time of 12.83 seconds. Williams and Green are the first Olympians from Johnson C. Smith University since Vince Matthews, who won gold medals in the 1968 Mexico City and 1972 Munich Olympic games. He set world records in both Olympics running the 4x400m relay in 1968 and the 400m in 1972.
Johnson C. Smith University is pleased to announce the appointment of Stephen Joyner Jr. as the new head women’s basketball coach. He has transitioned from Winston-Salem State University to the Gold and Blue after two seasons as Rams head coach. During that time, his teams posted back-to-back winning seasons for an overall record of 35-21. Last season, Joyner Jr. coached his squad to the quarterfinals game of the CIAA Tournament and just missed a bid into the NCAA Division II Atlantic Regional Tournament.

“I am pleased to have Steve Joyner Jr. join our Athletics staff as head women’s basketball coach,” said JCSU President Ronald L. Carter. “Steve brings solid coaching experience in women’s athletics. I look forward to his leadership as our women’s basketball team continues to excel at their growing edge.”

Joyner Jr. returns to his alma mater, where his roots are deeply planted, to lead the women’s basketball program. A 2001 graduate of Johnson C. Smith University, Joyner Jr. was also one of the top point guards in the CIAA during his Golden Bulls playing career.

Playing under the tutelage of his father, Stephen Joyner Sr., director of athletics and a longtime head men’s basketball coach at JCSU, Joyner Jr. amassed 399 assists with an average of 4.53 assists per game during his final three seasons (1998-2001). During his senior campaign, JCSU captured the 2001 CIAA Tournament Championship, won the NCAA DII South Atlantic Regional title and advanced to the NCAA Division II Elite Eight – all firsts in school history.

“Now that I’m here, the sky’s the limit,” said the newly appointed head women’s basketball coach. “Johnson C. Smith is a great environment, and I’m confident that I will be provided with the support to continue to grow this program and maintain a high level of competitiveness.”

Following his playing career, Joyner Jr. spent the 2001-02 season as an assistant men’s basketball coach at Livingstone College under the guidance of his uncle and head coach, Ed Joyner Sr. While there, Joyner Jr. also served as an assistant men’s basketball coach for the Charlotte Stars AAU team.

After his stint at Livingstone, he spent four seasons on the women’s basketball coaching staff at North Carolina Central University (2002-06). Following his four seasons at NCCU and a brief coaching tenure at UNC-Asheville, Joyner Jr. returned home to spend two seasons at JCSU, where he served as assistant coach for the women's basketball and women's cross country teams.

Joyner Jr. then moved to the Division I ranks and spent two seasons (2008-10) as an assistant women’s basketball coach at Florida A&M University.

“Steve’s knowledge of JCSU culture and his tie to his alma mater will be key assets as our women’s basketball team rebuilds during the next few years,” said JCSU Athletics Director Steve Joyner Sr. “He brings a solid set of credentials and experience at both the Division I and Division II levels. We’re happy to have him join our coaching staff as we push our student-athletes to perform at the highest level in academics and in sports.”

Joyner Jr. follows Moses Sharpe, Stephen Joyner Sr., Hythia Evans, Barry Street and Vanessa Taylor to become the sixth head coach of the JCSU women's basketball program.
Track and Field Invitational Showcases High Performers

The Johnson C. Smith University men’s and women’s outdoor track and field teams performed with comfort on their home surface during the 2012 JCSU Invitational, held April 13-14 at the Irwin Belk Complex. The second day of events began with recognition for eight seniors: Rosemarie Carty, Sasha Gay Cunningham, Rolston Gabriel, Marcia Higgins, Monique Kelly, Kent King, Antoinette Taylor and Julius Wright. Each senior received a personalized portrait of appreciation by the JCSU Department of Athletics.

Student-athletes from 28 schools participated. The meet served as an opportunity for individual competitors to improve their season performances heading into the 2012 NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships. No team scores were issued on the men’s or women’s side.

Sophomore Rolando Berch won the 400m dash with a personal best of 46.92 in a close finish ahead of junior teammate Winston Brown. JCSU alumnus Leford Green (’11) took first place for the 800m in a personal best of 1:54.49. Julius Wright celebrated his farewell performance with a school record and first place throw of 54.71 in the javelin.

For the JCSU women, Monique Kelly placed second in the 100m final with a time of 11.98. The freshman duo of Samantha Elliott and Monique Lovelock, along with sophomore A’Tyan Kennedy, competed well in the 100m hurdles to place 2nd, 7th and 5th, respectively. Elliott had a season best time of 13.60 (SB), followed by Kennedy in 14.81 and then Lovelock (15.06).

The team of Lovelock, Naffene Briscoe, Kennedy and Elliott combined to cap off the meet in fine style with a school record performance of 3:44.92 in the 4x400m relay. They smashed the one-week-old record of 3:47.36 accomplished at the Auburn Tiger Classic.
Women’s Basketball Meets First Lady Michelle Obama During CIAA Tournament

Prior to the start of the 2012 CIAA Tournament semifinals matchup on March 2, the Johnson C. Smith University women’s basketball team had the opportunity to meet First Lady of the United States Michelle Obama courtside. She stopped by the arena to watch the tournament and promote her “Let’s Move!” campaign.

The comprehensive campaign is dedicated to solving the problem of obesity within a generation so children born today will grow up healthier and able to pursue their dreams. “It’s not every day that you get to meet the First Lady,” said former JCSU head women’s basketball coach Vanessa Taylor. “We were excited, and we enjoyed the moment.”

After meeting the First Lady, the Golden Bulls defeated Chowan University 68-55 in the semifinals to advance to the CIAA Tournament Finals where they lost to Shaw University for the second consecutive season.

Student-Athletes Receive All-America Distinctions

Nine members of the Johnson C. Smith University outdoor track and field team have received All-America distinctions for the 2012 NCAA Division II Outdoor Track and Field season.

To earn All-America honors, athletes must have scored any portion of a team point at the NCAA Outdoor Championships. U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association membership by a program is required to earn All-America awards. Congratulations to the following 2012 JCSU outdoor track and field All-Americans:

- Rolando Berch (4x400m relay)
- Winston Brown (400m / 4x400m relay)
- Jamille Callum (400m / 4x400m relay)
- Akino Ming (400m national champion / 4x400m relay)
- Rosemarie Carty (100m hurdles)
- Samantha Elliott (100m hurdles / 400m hurdles)
First Generation Students are Focus of Scholarship

First generation college students who are coming to Johnson C. Smith University will now have greater access to scholarships, thanks to a $50,000 grant from the Coca-Cola First Generation Scholarship Fund.

Those freshmen students selected will receive $3,125 for four years for a total of $12,500. First generation college students at JCSU represent nearly 40 percent of the total student body.

"Johnson C. Smith University has a history of breaking through barriers and giving students the support they need to become successful role models for the next generation," said President Ronald L. Carter.

"It is an honor for Coke Consolidated to be a part of this amazing moment in the students' lives," said Reginald Bean, director of multicultural marketing at Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated. "We have a strong commitment to the communities where we live, work and do business. We are excited to watch the students' journey of higher education and wish them the best of luck in their college careers and beyond."

Retired Chemistry Professor Says Thanks a Mint

Dr. Henry Russell presented Dr. Carter with a special gift during the faculty and staff appreciation luncheon on May 30 — commemorative silver half-dollars minted in Philadelphia, San Francisco and Denver from 1946 through the late 1950s. The coins feature Booker T. Washington and George Washington Carver.

Russell, who retired in May after 33 years with the University, collected coins most of his life, starting with a Franklin half-dollar he found when he was 12 years old. He plans to spend some of his retirement enjoying his sailboat and putting his carpentry skills to work building a model boat.

The coin collection will eventually be on display in the University archives at the J.B. Duke Library.
Stallworth Speaks to Success

Football Hall of Fame great John Stallworth, who played with the Pittsburgh Steelers, addressed the University’s first Breakfast Business Forum to an audience of about 100 on July 24 with his former teammate Donnie Shell, director of the JCSU Spiritual Life Center. The proceeds from the event supported the University’s Spiritual Life Center.

John Stallworth, Ronald L. Carter and Donnie Shell

John Stallworth and Donnie Shell pose with a young fan.

Kevin Henry, chair of the JCSU Board of Visitors and Board of Trustees member, talks with Donnie Shell and John Stallworth.
Counseling Services Receives Grant to Support Mentoring

The Office of Counseling Services has been awarded a $2,500 grant from North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (NCICU) to help develop or fund preliminary activities for a minority mentoring initiative on the JCSU campus.

Frederick D. Murphy, director of the Office of Counseling Services, has been appointed to serve on the NCICU Model Minority Mentoring Committee to help develop various models of programs aimed at mentoring minority students.

This committee will design model programs for mentoring minority students based on common characteristics among campuses such as demographics and enrollment data. NCICU anticipates the development of three to five model programs that will be developed and shared among NCICU member institutions.

Arch of Triumph Award for Alumni

In preparation for the Fifth Annual Arch of Triumph Gala on Saturday, April 20, 2013, the Honoree Selection Committee is seeking your participation in identifying some of the University’s celebrated alumni to honor. Please submit your nominations and supporting documentation to the Division of Institutional Advancement, no later than noon on Friday, November 9, 2012.

The following should be considered when nominating individuals:

The Award will be given annually to recognize outstanding Johnson C. Smith University alumni. The award nominee should:

- hold a degree from Johnson C. Smith University;
- uphold the mission and values of the institution;
- demonstrate a high level of social consciousness by actively responding to the community needs;
- have achieved professional success and recognition; and
- be willing to attend the Fifth Annual Arch of Triumph Gala on April 20, 2013.
The James B. Duke Library has received a $50,976 grant to preserve the Peeler Photograph Collection recently donated to the archives by Latrelle McAllister, assistant vice president of human resources for the University and daughter of the late James Gibson Peeler. Brandon Lunsford, archival services librarian, was instrumental in securing the grant in collaboration with library services director Monika Rhue.

McAllister said she chose Johnson C. Smith University to receive the collection due to its commitment to archival preservation. “I felt it was safe putting it in their hands, and I also wanted his work connected to his alma mater,” she said.

Peeler graduated from Johnson C. Smith University in 1950 with a degree in English. After serving in the Army during the Korean War, Peeler attended New York Institute of Photography before returning to Charlotte to open Peeler’s Portrait Studio on Beatties Ford Road, not far from the JCSU campus. Married to Ida Willis Peeler for 49 years, Peeler’s work as a photographer in Charlotte spanned almost half a century from the 1950s to the 1980s. His career as a photojournalist was highlighted in the documentary, “Portraits of a Movement,” and his work has been exhibited in the Mecklenburg County Public Library and Charlotte’s Levine Museum of the New South. Additionally, Peeler made photographic contributions to several books, including the “Black America Series: Charlotte, North Carolina.”

Early in his career, Peeler traveled across the state taking pictures of segregated schools. He captured highlights of the lives of many black Charlotteans, taking photographs at proms, weddings, family reunions, graduations and funerals and captured images of political, social and religious activities. He often managed to catch his subjects in a spontaneous documentation of daily life, creating frozen moments in time. His work also includes several street scenes of downtown Charlotte, as well as many of the city’s African-American neighborhoods and homes.

Among other subjects, Peeler photographed the inspiring and the ugly moments of the Civil Rights Movement in Charlotte during the 1960s. He covered the protests and sit-ins in Charlotte and Rock Hill, S.C., and he played a profound role in Charlotte’s efforts in the Civil Rights Movement himself. Some of his subjects included Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, politician Shirley Chisholm and local civil rights leader Kelly Alexander. Many of his photographs are some of the only visual documents of Charlotte’s African-American neighborhoods, most of which were largely eradicated by government-funded urban renewal projects of the 1960s and 1970s.

“It was a hard decision to make,” said McAllister of the donation. “I wanted to make sure his work was available for the world to see.”

The James B. Duke Memorial Library at Johnson C. Smith University is honored to have received this prominent collection and grant. The grant, an integral part of the HBCU Photographic Preservation Project, will enable the library to organize and preserve Peeler’s work. The HBCU Photographic Presentation Project is funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by LYRASIS.
New Science Center to Transform STEM

A crisis exists in preparing students for the competitive global marketplace when it comes to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)-related careers, according to national data published by the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Labor and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Johnson C. Smith University is responding to these national and global needs with a progressive plan that will prepare students to compete for jobs and opportunities for post graduate education.

To step up to the STEM challenge, the University is expanding the entire College of STEM program and modernizing campus facilities. Such improvements will be funded through the University’s Comprehensive Campaign: Tomorrow is What We Make It. The $150 million campaign will seek funds from public and private sources over the next few years to upgrade campus facilities and construct several new academic and student-centered buildings including a new Science Center.

“One of our key campaign objectives is to provide a vibrant campus experience to our more than 1,600 students and 7,000 alumni,” said Dr. Ronald L. Carter, president of Johnson C. Smith University. “The strategic application of these funds will move Johnson C. Smith to the forefront of the nation’s leading private urban institutions.”

The new Science Center is a concrete reflection of JCSU’s commitment to preparing students for STEM-related fields. JCSU has already earned national recognition from Diverse Issues in Higher Education magazine, which ranked STEM 18th in the nation in graduating African Americans in the field of computer and information sciences.

According to Dr. Magdy Attia, dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, “At JCSU we are building a unique model for colleges by expanding beyond the traditional STEM education model and incorporating a multidisciplinary, market-driven approach in our curricula. Our plan for a new Science Center reflects this vision and is a critical tool in our success with this initiative. Johnson C. Smith University must ensure that our graduates have more contemporary curriculum that develops the expertise they need.”

The new Science Center will house four of six newly created education centers including:

- The Center for Renewable Energy
- The Center for Medical Informatics
- The Center for Analytics
- The Center for Bioinformatics

The remaining two centers, The Center for Electronics and Cyber Security and The Center for Robotics, are located in the JCSU Technology Center.

STEM is popular among female students at JCSU. In addition to a heightened vibrant campus experience for students, the broader Charlotte community will also gain a resource from the new Science Center by creating the JCSU STEM Innovation Center, which will serve the community around JCSU by providing training, mentoring, innovation, think tanks and brainstorming sessions, and STEM summer camps for students, teachers as well as Charlotte area professionals.
The 62,000-square-foot facility has been designed with students in mind. The JCSU leadership worked for months with architects to create an optimal learning environment infused with natural light, opportunities for interaction among students, faculty and visitors and interdisciplinary campus collaboration. Designed with three public floors and a semi-private basement, the building will feature a common atrium space, classroom/administrative wings with teaching labs and faculty offices. A 250-seat tiered lecture hall and atrium will accommodate guest lecturers, conferences and other multi purpose events for the campus and community.

Once complete, the center will enable the College of STEM to increase enrollment from 300 to 450 students by 2016.

Dr. Ying Bai teaches a STEM student in the lab.

Science Center Generates Support

In October 2011, The Duke Endowment strongly demonstrated its support for the Science Center by pledging $25 million toward its construction. An additional $10-15 million is needed for technology, equipment, operating and endowment support to strengthen the College of STEM programs and outreach to the community and region. A Science Center Campaign Cabinet, represented by distinguished alumni and friends from across the country, is leading the fundraising campaign for this initiative. The Science Center campaign includes several naming opportunities for the overall facility, classrooms and even auditorium seating.

“We are excited about the Science Center and what it means to our students, alumni and the community,” said Sharon Carr Harrington, assistant vice president for Institutional Advancement. “We are counting on our supporters — alumni, friends, foundations and corporations — to contribute to this effort and join us as we continue to transform the face of STEM education.”

If you are interested in learning how you can play a significant role in the future of Johnson C. Smith University, please contact Harrington at

Dr. Alexa Rosypal and a STEM student partner in research.
Edith Strickland De Laine is indebted to Johnson C. Smith University for giving her so much during her lifetime. It’s therefore natural for her to give back. As a member of the Every Year Club who has supported JCSU consistently for the past 10 years, De Laine is among the many alumni who have included JCSU as a beneficiary in their wills. Her leadership gifts to the University are recognized in The Duke Society of the 1867 Giving Societies.

De Laine is quick to point out that she is only passing along the generosity others have shown her during her lifetime. Born in Alabama and the second oldest of nine children, her father was a Republic Steele worker and her mother a domestic. After graduating from high school, De Laine’s Presbyterian grandfather proposed that she attend JCSU. He offered to pay for her first year of college, provided that she paid for the remainder of her education and helped her eight brothers and sisters to attend college. She was the first in her family to earn a bachelor’s degree, and she kept her promise by helping to pave the way for her siblings.

While at JCSU, De Laine plunged into her studies in psychology while working several jobs. When she was not studying or working, she spent her time behind the scenes heavily involved in the Civil Rights Movement. In 1958, Dr. A. O. Steele selected De Laine and fellow students Charles Jones and Anne Austin to join other black and white college student leaders from across the South at Berea College in Kentucky. Quaker sponsors, along with followers of Ghandi, had organized trainings on the non-violent approach to civil disobedience. Armed with this knowledge, De Laine returned to Charlotte and was able to help train others on how to peacefully engage in civil rights protests and demonstrations.

She fondly remembers all of her experiences, both on and off campus. “I met some lifelong friends. I developed a courage that will not let me fail,” she said. “I will always be grateful for all that JCSU has taught and given me.”

Her college education launched her into a successful career that began in New York City where she moved after graduation and married fellow JCSU alumnus, Brumit Belton “B.B” De Laine. She held several exciting jobs there in teaching, counseling and retail before moving back to Charlotte with her family in 1965. In Charlotte, she continued teaching and earned a master’s degree in counseling from UNC-Charlotte. She committed herself to raising her three children, supporting JCSU and helping to positively impact the Charlotte community.

When asked why she has chosen to continue to support JCSU, she replied, “We are born to give. What better place to give than JCSU! The faculty and staff were good to me, and I have had a good life. I want to give back and help the current and future generations have an opportunity for a good life also.”

De Laine attributes her philanthropic spirit to her family upbringing and Dr. Mary Reid, a fellow member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority, Inc., who gave generously to college students needing financial assistance. De Laine is hopeful that she too will serve as inspiration for fellow alumni to give what they can – whether in the form of a cash donation today or a planned gift that will benefit students tomorrow.

**A Legacy of Giving Continues**

Established in 1997, the Johnson C. Smith University Legacy Society is a special group of people who have made provisions for future gifts to the University from life insurance policies, retirement trust, real property, stock and wills.

To make a gift to JCSU contact:
Sharon Carr Harrington, JD, CFRE
Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement
704.330.1437; sharrington@jcsu.edu

Or visit
www.jcsu.edu/plannedgiving
Two Classmates Meet on Campus After 65 Years

How do you celebrate your 100th birthday? For Henry Heath (’48) it was the year to go back to visit his alma mater. In June, he and classmate Mattie Solice Grigsby, whom he hadn’t seen in 65 years, shared memories of their college days during a campus visit.

Heath is about 15 years older than Grigsby because he went to college as an adult student on the GI Bill after serving during World War II. Since Heath lived off campus as a married student, he focused on academics more than on campus activities and athletics. His favorite teacher was English professor Inez Parker Moore, who “brought religion to class.”

After graduation, Grigsby and Heath enjoyed fulfilling careers in education. Heath spent his career teaching in Virginia and North Carolina, and Grigsby became the first black teacher at Myers Park High School in Charlotte.

As the two friends walked across the Block, they chatted with President Ronald L. Carter and noted how the University is vastly different from the JCSU of 65 years ago when Biddle Hall housed classrooms and administrative offices.

Over lunch they talked about Heath’s secret to longevity, and he offered five tips: “Read the Bible. Give money to the church. Drink plenty of water. Get your rest. And, when you take a shower, rinse off with some cold water.”

Heath and Grigsby invite their fellow classmates, who number about 45, to stay tuned for more information about an upcoming 65th reunion event. As class agent, Grigsby has stayed active in JCSU activities most of her life and served as a trustee for the University.

If you have a story to share about your experiences at Johnson C. Smith University, please contact Ron Matthews, director of alumni affairs, at 704-378-1023 or rmatthews@jcsu.edu.
Internships Lead to Careers at ESPN for JCSU Grads

The ESPN office in Bristol, Conn., is full of Golden Bull pride with three alumni working in exciting careers in the sports television industry. During the company’s “Show Your Spirit Day,” Kimberly Jarvis, who attended in 1990 and 1991, Joe Smiley (’10) and Shannon Cross (’04) wore their JCSU Gold and Blue attire. The three classmates also honored their alma mater by making a donation to the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research (www.jimmyv.org). Ironically, all three came to ESPN independently, unaware that any other JCSU alumni were working there.

“We’re very proud of JCSU,” said Jarvis, editor and photo coordinator, who has worked for the company for 14 years. She most recently came back to Charlotte for the CIAA Tournament and wrote a story for ESPN’s corporate blog.

Cross came to ESPN in 2005 after her internship there and landed a position with ESPN.com, where she writes, edits and coordinates content across all platforms. She enjoys putting her two passions to work - sports and writing - and made her first on-air appearance as the social media reporter with ESPN at the MLK Town Hall at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta with host Robin Roberts of ABC’s “Good Morning America.” She also covered the 2011 Women’s Final Four and the 2011 Women’s College World Series.

Both Cross and Jarvis agree that the value of an internship cannot be underestimated. Cross’s internship with ESPN was a significant factor in landing a permanent job with the company. Cross also said the leadership experience she gained at a small HBCU prepared her well for her career.

Joe Smiley graduated from JCSU in 2010 with a degree in sport management and is grateful for his influential and impactful professors: Dr. Robert Lyons, Dr. Robert Lindsey, instructors Jemayne King and Michelle Horton.

Smiley is another example of how internships, networking and perseverance can lead to a rewarding career. After several stints as an intern and volunteer with ESPN, he landed a job as a production assistant in July 2011. Early on, he gained experience with the company conducting event operations for ESPN’s Beef “O” Brady’s Bowl each December from 2008 to 2011. Smiley furthered his experience after graduation from 2010-2011 by working other ESPN owned and operated events, including: MEAC/SWAC Challenge, Old Spice Classic and the BBVA Compass Bowl.

Recalling how he finally landed his permanent position with ESPN, Smiley said he invited Acie Wyatt from Charlotte’s ESPN office to come with him to talk to a class at JCSU about his internship experience. That led to Wyatt asking if he had ever considered working on the TV side as a production assistant. Smiley followed up with another ESPN manager and mentor and eventually was hired.

“Overall, I believe I landed the job through persistence, sacrifice and consistency to provide the best service with each opportunity I was provided,” said Smiley.

Today, Smiley joins Jarvis, Cross and about 4,000 employees at the Bristol office where every day is a news day in sports entertainment. “It is always interesting finding out about the different roles each of us complete to serve our sports fans,” Smiley said.
Class of 1962 Celebrates Its 50th Reunion


Class of 1977 Celebrates Its 35th Reunion

JCSU welcomed back more than 100 graduates from the Class of 1977 during Reunion Weekend.
Class of 1947 - Dr. Ora Mobley Sweeting earned the Doctor of Philosophy Christian Theology and Peace Studies from International Theological University, College of Religious Studies.

Class of 1948 - Eva Green Donaldson's biography has been in the forthcoming "Marquis Who's Who in America 2013" (67th edition). This is a testament to her dedication and hard work which have earned her a place among the country’s most accomplished professionals.

Class of 1948 - Clarence W.R. Wade was featured in the Annual Report of ReSet, a Washington D.C.-based volunteer organization of retired and working scientists, engineers and technicians. Its mission is to motivate children to discover and explore the worlds of science, math and technology and to consider careers in these fields. In addition to his work with ReSet, Wade is active in his church, an avid gardener and enjoys photography and family reunions.

Class of 1958 - Walter Hill returned to Meharry Medical College to celebrate his 1962 class reunion in May.

Class of 1959 - Rev. Lloyd Morris received the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award from the Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary in Atlanta.

Class of 1960 - Rev. McKinley Washington, Jr. retired from Edisto Presbyterian Church, Edisto Island, S.C. He served the Edisto church for 50 years.

Class of 1966 - Rev. Curtis Kearns recently retired as director of National Missions for the United Presbyterian Church USA in Louisville, Ky.

Class of 1969 - Shirley Greene was honored on Volunteer Recognition Day by Fairfield County, S.C., for her work as a volunteer.

Class of 1970 - Carrie Murray is the new director of the English Department at the new Westwood High School in Columbia, S.C. She is a veteran teacher of 32 years and is very excited to be a part of opening the new high school.

Class of 1971 - Thomas Baldwin was inducted into the Atkins High School Hall of Fame.

Class of 1975 - Luther Carter is serving on the North Carolina Department of Insurance Agent Advisory Committee to provide a voice in the regulatory process as it relates to the business of insurance.

Class of 1975 - Christy Bryant was inducted into the UNCF National Alumni Council 2012 Hall of Fame at the 66th National Alumni Council (NAC)/54th National Pre-Alumni Council (NPAC) Leadership Conference.

Class of 1978 - Catherine Harrington hosted an eight-week academic summer camp for students in Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Title One schools. This Smart Start 21st Century Learning Center will allow the students to explore African culture and begin to understand the likenesses and differences among all cultures.

Class of 1978 - Michael Roseburgh has opened Tanners restaurant at 2729 N. Tryon Street, Charlotte, N.C.

Class of 1980 - Vickie Moseley-Jones is director of human resources at Craven Community College and received the President’s Award from the Craven County NAACP for her volunteer work for civic charitable organizations, including Habitat for Humanity, Neuse Pamlico Sounds Women’s Coalition and Relay for Life.

Class of 1981 - Steve Jarrett recently launched his company, Cadence Talent Management, LLC (CTM) human resources consulting firm. CTM serves the resource needs of clients and recommends programs ranging from recruitment and diversity strategies, to succession planning, employee engagement, and one-on-one executive coaching.
Class of 1984 - Herb White is editor in chief at *The Charlotte Post* and published an article in the July issue of *Our State* magazine. The article is a profile of beach music performer Maurice Williams of Charlotte, N.C., who is best known for the songs “Stay” and “Little Darlin.” [ourstate.com/maurice-williams](http://www.ourstate.com/maurice-williams).

Class of 1991 - Monika Rhue, received a scholarship from the Council on Library and Information Resources/Council of Independent Colleges to attend the University of North Carolina's DigCCurr Professional Institute at Chapel Hill, N.C.

Class of 1992 - Latonya Dilligard Edwards, Esq, has started her own law practice in Columbia, S.C. Dilligard Edwards, LLC is located at 3790 Fernandina Road, Suite 103, Columbia, S.C. The firm's practice areas include workers' compensation, social security disability, government and municipal law and bankruptcy.

Class of 1995 - Dr. Brian Johnson has been selected to participate in the American Council of Education Fellows (ACE) Program and American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) Millennium Leadership Initiative (MLI). Over a third of the MLI graduates advanced significantly in their careers and assumed the presidency after participating.

Class of 1996 - Rev. Toure' C. Marshall was installed as senior pastor at Grace Presbyterian Church, Winston-Salem, N.C. on March 11, 2012. Rev. Marshall is the 13th pastor in the church's 105-year history.

Class of 2000 - Melissa Gadson recently graduated with a doctorate in educational leadership from Clark Atlanta University on May 21, 2012.

Class of 2000 - Triva Monique Haley and James Nathaniel Tate III ('02) were married Jan. 15, 2012, at the Excellence Resort, Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Class of 2002 - Jessica Davis received her Juris Doctor degree from Charlotte School of Law.

Class of 2003 - Tanique Odom was promoted to director of sales and marketing, Marriott International, Courtyard Charlotte Center. She also won the Sales and Leadership Excellence Award at the 2012 Concord Hospitality General Manager's Conference.

Class of 2004 - Talece Y. Hunter serves as the vice chair of Precinct #138, the 2nd vice chair of the Young Democrats of Mecklenburg County and as the Mecklenburg County Representative for U.S. Congressional District #12, Mel Watt.

Class of 2005 - Alana (LaLa) Miller-Tinsley and husband, Rashaad, welcomed a new member to the family, Da’wud Zubair Tinsley, born Jan. 20, 2012.

Class of 2007 - Monta’Harrell was awarded the Black Engineer of the Year – Modern Day Technology Award. He is an associate at Booz, Allen, and Hamilton on the systems development team. As the E-Space Systems Engineering Integration and Test (SEIT) team lead, Harrell leads a team that is the sole testing authority for the E-Space program. Under his leadership, they are responsible for testing all E-Space deployments, conducting development tests and evaluation testing and ensuring overall quality of deployments prior to customer review.

Class of 2007 - Casarae Gibson, a doctoral student in English and African-American Studies at Purdue University, won third place in the National Council of Black Studies student essay competition. Her essay titled, “We Still Conscious: hip hop Activism in the 21st Century” has received positive reviews from scholar Denise T. Baszile of Miami University of Ohio and Hip Hop journalist/advocate Bakari Kitwana. The essay will be featured in a forthcoming anthology titled “Hip Hop Generations” that will examine Hip Hop as not only a regarded popular cultural phenomenon but also as a distinct African-American musical genre that succeeds other black aesthetic musical genres such as blues, jazz, soul, funk, gospel and contemporary rhythm & blues.

Class of 2008 - Britteny N. Carter received her Master of Professional Studies - Paralegal Studies - Intellectual Property at George Washington University.

Class of 2009 – Durrell Brown received the UNCF 2012 Young Alumni Award at the 66th UNCF National Alumni Council (NAC)/54th National Pre-Alumni Council (NPAC) Leadership Conference.

Class of 2010 - Devo'n Williams is founder and president of Homeless but Not Powerless, a voter advocacy organization that seeks to improve the political representation experience for homeless and low-income individuals.
Class Notes

Necrology

Ms. Rosa Foust
Class of 1942, passed on July 5, 2012
Ms. Sallye Borden Stitt
Class of 1944, passed on July 7, 2012
Mrs. Lillie B. Ruff-Roberts
Class of 1947, passed on March 13, 2012
Ms. Gladys B. Alexander
Class of 1949, passed on May 10, 2012
Mr. Lesley G. Bellinger
Class of 1958, passed on July 14, 2012
Mr. Lenwood Edwards
Class of 1962, passed on April 27, 2012

Dr. William A. Bowers
Class of 1946, passed on June 20, 2012
Mr. Brumit “BB” De Laine
Class of 1960, passed on June 14, 2012
Mr. William Helthridge
Class of 1964, passed on Jan. 25, 2012
Ms. Julia Prince
Class of 1969, passed on June 1, 2012
Mr. Will Dubose
Class of 1969, passed on June 23, 2012
Ms. Tarsha Fields
Class of 1994, passed on July 22, 2012

Reunion

Mark Your Calendars for Reunion 2013

Classes ending in 3 and 8  |  May 17 – 19, 2013

Hotel Accommodations
Hilton Center City
222 East Third Street
Charlotte, NC  28202
704-377-1500
877-667-7213

Code:
JCSU 2013 Reunion Weekend
Rate:
$129.00 King/Double

Class of 2011 – Erica Hilton received her master’s degree in public communications at American University.

Class of 2011 – CiQuinta “Quin” Shaw received her master’s degree in public communications at American University.
Meet Jennifer Jordan, FOX Anchor/Reporter and JCSU Grad

As a noon anchor/reporter with WJW-TV FOX 8 News in Cleveland, Ohio, Jennifer Jordan is often seen in the role of interviewer. But in May she sat on the other side of the camera to share her views and experiences on the topic of race in America. Her station’s news series titled “Race: Our Stories” can be viewed online at http://fox8.com/2012/05/09/race-jennifer-jordans-story/.

Jordan is a 1992 JCSU graduate and broadcast journalism major who got her career start in Charlotte as a field producer for WSOC-TV. Over the years, she has covered Emmy-award-winning stories as a reporter for media outlets in New York and around the country. She reported on the mid-air plane/tourist chopper collision over the Hudson River, which made national headlines. She also gained attention as the lead reporter on the deadly shooting of a Jersey City police officer and the attempted car bombing in Times Square.

Read more about Jordan on her website: http://fox8.com/author/jenniferjordan8/

Hall of Fame Inducts Matthews

Johnson C. Smith University’s Olympic ties started with Vince Matthews (’70), a two-time Olympic gold medalist and former world record holder. A member of the 1968 gold medal 4x400m relay, Matthews established a world record of 2:56.16 that year in Mexico City. That record stood for 24 years. He then won the gold medal in the 400m at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich.

Matthews was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame in Washington Heights, N.Y., in 2011. He and his wife, Shirley, live in Queens, N.Y., where they operate an antiques and collectibles store.

One of the more prominent sprinters of his generation, Matthews developed a fierce competition with Lee Evans in the mid-1960s. The two met in their teens and then duelled several times in 1967.

Most people remember him for his performance during his gold medal run in the 400m at the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich.

Matthews was born in Queens, N.Y.
Please complete our Bulletin survey using this QR code or go to: http://ar.gy/1ghL.

Welcome Back to the Gold & Blue

Johnson C. Smith University
Homecoming

October 27, 2012
- 10 a.m.-Parade
- 11:30 a.m.-Festiville
- 1 p.m.-Game

JCSU vs. Saint Augustine’s College

Visit smithite.jcsu.edu