

Connections

A Newsletter for the Alumni of Jackson State University

Fall 2007



October 24 - 26, 2007

7TH BIENNIAL ALUMNI CONFERENCE

*“Supporting and Celebrating
130 Years of Academic Excellence”*

JACKSON STATE UNIVERSITY

Main Campus

Jackson, Mississippi

Connections

A newsletter for the
Alumni of Jackson State University
Fall 2007

President

Jackson State University
National Alumni Association
Hilliard L. Lackey, III, Ph.D., '65

President

Jackson State University
Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr.

Executive Director of Institutional Advancement

Evangeline W. Robinson, '91

Director of Alumni and Constituency Relations

Gwen Caples, '77

Director of Development

Linda J. Daniels

Jackson State University
National Alumni Association, Inc.

Elected Officers

President

Hilliard L. Lackey, III, Ph.D., '65

First Vice President

Audrey L. Fullilove-McCarty, '75

Second Vice President

Terry L. Woodard, '88

Secretary

Bobbie Wilson, '75

Assistant Secretary

Pearl Clark, '81

Treasurer

Katherine Cage, '85

Newsletter

Editor/Graphics/Photographer/Writer

Constance V. Lawson, '85
Development and Alumni Information
Specialist

Contributing Photographer

Freddy Norman, '74

Connections is published twice a year by the
Jackson State University National Alumni
Association, Inc., through the Office of
Alumni and Constituency Relations.

This publication is distributed
to alumni and friends of the University.

Jackson State University
National Alumni Association, Inc.

Post Office Box 17820
Jackson, Mississippi 39217
E-mail: jsualum@jsums.edu
Phone: (601) 979.2281
1.800.578.6622
Fax: (601) 979.3701
www.jsunaa.com

Features



SEVENTH BIENNIAL ALUMNI CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

“Get Ready” for the National Alumni
Conference.



JSU GRAD TO PARTICIPATE IN OXFORD ROUND TABLE

Alumnus Já Hon Vance tells about his
Oxford Round Table selection and his JSU
celebrity professors.



JSUNAA REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

Regional Vice Presidents share regional plans,
activities and events.



JSUNAA WELCOMES FOUR NEW CHAPTERS

Tupelo Northeast, Miss., Tallahatchie-
Yalobusha County, Miss., Tuscaloosa, Ala.,
and Gary/Northwest, Ind., alumni organize
local chapters.

Inside

Message from the Director	4
Alumni on the Move	12
Alumna of the Year/Chapter Tidbits	14
Join Your Local Chapter	15

Disclaimer: Jackson State University National Alumni Association (JSUNAA)
reserves the right to edit submissions for inclusion in *Connections*.

Send comments, suggestions, and/or story ideas to:
Connections Suggestions, P. O. Box 17144
Jackson, Mississippi 39217-0144 or
e-mail: constance.lawson@jsums.edu

A Message from the JSU National Alumni Association President

Dr. Hilliard L. Lackey, III



The Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Inc., hereby serves public notice that we, the graduates and former students of Jackson State University residing in the metro area are committed not only to the continued growth and expansion of our alma mater, but to the City of Jackson, as well.

There are over 20,000 graduates and former students of Jackson State University residing within the city limits of the City of Jackson. There are another 10,000 alumni within a 50-mile radius of Jackson. Plus, there are JSU alumni in almost all of the 82 counties in the State of Mississippi, and we have active alumni chapters in 24 other states.

Despite our geographical location, we are on one accord when considering the welfare and well being of our dear old college home. President Ronald Mason, Jr., said during his inaugural address, “As goes Jackson State University, so goes the City of Jackson. As goes the City of Jackson, so goes the State of Mississippi.” We believe that the well-being of Jackson residents, metro area residents, and the people in this state depend in large part on the success of Jackson State.

Therefore, we call upon Jackson State University graduates and former students in Jackson and the metro area to rise up and help make Jackson the show place of the Deep South, the epicenter of learning, the citadel of opportunities, a safe, hospitable place in which our children can be nurtured, our peers can work and live and our elderly can retire in peace and dignity.

Hilliard L. Lackey, III
President

A Message from the President

Dr. Ronald Mason, Jr.



As we begin another academic year here at Jackson State University, our future looks bright. We are in our fifth year of a five-year strategic plan and we have accomplished several objectives, including:

- Enhancing academics by going from an eight school system to a six college system in our “new academy.”
- Establishing a newly accredited school of engineering that will prepare future leaders to develop and research innovative technology.
- Offering new multi-dimensional degrees that will equip students who are leaving the University with knowledge and insight from a multitude of disciplines.
- Serving as a trailblazer with a model Executive Ph.D program.

Now, we’ve narrowed our problems down to one — and that is that we don’t have any problems money can’t solve. We are therefore holding meetings with alumni groups across the country to promote “The Campaign for Jackson State.” We have about two-and-a half years left in the campaign. About 30 percent of our faculty and staff are participating and we’ve already raised more than \$20 million. But we need \$30 million more to reach our goal.

Next year, our goals include beginning another strategic planning process that focuses on academics. We must see the future and be there waiting for it when it arrives. We’re also starting our neighborhood construction initiative and are planning a new tennis court, soccer field, and, if funds are available, we will construct a new president’s house.

It’s all connected. Everything that everyone does is all connected. When we work as one, the possibilities are limitless.

Ronald Mason, Jr.
President

A Message from the Director of Alumni and Constituency Relations

Dear Jacksonians:



The Steering Committee for the **7th Biennial Alumni Conference** has been working for several months now to plan a meaningful conference for our alumni and friends on October 24-26, 2007, on JSU's main campus. The conference theme is "Supporting and Celebrating 130 Years of Academic Excellence." We are excited about the conference package that is chocked full of **stimulating workshops, energetic speakers, a chapter awards luncheon, welcome reception, opening plenary with the parade of chapters, dances, vendor showcase, museum tour, comedy jam, souvenir booklet, and more!** Look for more details about the conference, including registration, in this issue of **Connections**.

Another highlight of the **7th Biennial Alumni Conference** is that for the first time ever, the national conference will be held on the JSU campus during the week of Homecoming and Founders' Day. Needless to say, there will be lots of celebrations going on simultaneously in Jackson and on campus during the week of Homecoming. For one, Jackson State University will celebrate its 130th anniversary in October during the annual Founders' Day Convocation on October 25; the first-ever Honors College Reunion will be held October 24-25 at JSU; and the annual Founders' Day Banquet will be held on October 26 in the beautiful Walter Payton Recreation and Wellness Center. Everyone knows that Coach Comegy and the Tigers are more than ready for the Homecoming Game against the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff on October 27 at the Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium. Of course, the catch phrase is... "Look out UAPB -- We got this!" So get ready for the Homecoming Parade in downtown Jackson on October 27 and the "Official Alumni Victory Dance" at the Jackson Medical Mall after the game.

Among all the glorious homecoming festivities this year, plans are also underway for the 2007 Class Reunion Luncheon. This year we are honoring graduating classes ending in 2's or 7's. I am proud to be a part of the reunion this year [Centennial Class of 1977], and I look forward to reuniting with my former classmates and friends during the luncheon on October 26 in the Campus Union. The competition for giving among the various classes is in high gear this year, so class conveners are working hard to encourage a high percentage of alumni giving from their respective classes. After all, the \$50 million "Campaign for Jackson State" needs our support for **student scholarships, endowed faculty positions** and **program enhancement**.

There's so much going on during Homecoming this year, I can hardly wait — particularly for the **7th Biennial Alumni Conference**. If you haven't registered, there's still time. And after you register, be sure to pull out your classiest blue and white regalia and Get Ready! to "Paint the Town Blue" as we engage in an array of activities on campus and throughout the City of Jackson.

We are definitely in store for an exciting Homecoming this year, but throughout all the fanfare, we will surely miss David "Wavee Dave" Chambers, our beloved Tiger mascot for more than 20 years. It will be difficult not seeing him on the field dancing and prancing around with the adorable "baby tigers." He was a tireless, true Jacksonian who brought us many years of joy and laughter. God bless you, "Wavee Dave."

Gwen Caples, '77



THE SEVENTH BIENNIAL ALUMNI CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

“Supporting and Celebrating 130 Years of Academic Excellence”

October 24-26, 2007 • Jackson State University (Main Campus)
Hosted by the JSU National Alumni Association, Inc.

PROGRAM

Experience the 130-year legacy through the nostalgia and new splendor of Jackson State and Jackson, Mississippi — one of America's Most Livable Cities. JSU alumni will "Paint the Town Blue" as we engage in activities on the JSU campus, as well as throughout the City of Jackson.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 24

6:00 p.m. • True Blue Kick-off Reception

Walter Payton Recreation and Wellness Center
JSU Campus

Network with former classmates and meet new friends.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25

10:00 a.m. • JSU 130th Founders' Day Convocation

Rose E. McCoy Auditorium • JSU Campus

Celebrate the 130th anniversary of Jackson State University.
Guest speaker: Dr. John A. Peoples, Jr.

12:30 p.m. • JSUNAA Chapter Awards & Alumni Recognition Luncheon

General Purpose Room

Jacob L. Reddix Campus Union • JSU Campus

President Ronald Mason, Jr., provides university updates during this special chapter awards and alumni recognition ceremony.

2:00 p.m. • Conference Workshops/Sessions

College of Business Building • JSU Campus

An array of workshops will be provided to enlighten conferees on ways to strengthen our beloved HBCU and enhance personal development. A special session, "Honors College Workshop," will serve as a brainstorming session among Honors College graduates to discuss funding opportunities for the Honors College fund-raising initiative. Facilitator: Dr. Earlexia Norwood, Physician-in-Charge, Henry Ford Troy Medical Center, Troy, Michigan.

7:00 p.m. • Welcome Reception

"An Evening of Remembrance and Revival, Legacy and Leisure"

Smith Robertson Museum and Cultural Center
528 Bloom Street, Jackson, MS

Enjoy a tour of the museum and "Comedy Among Friends - Karaoke Style."

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26

8:00 a.m. • "Tiger Paw Continental Breakfast" and Opening Plenary

Rose E. McCoy Auditorium • JSU Main Campus

Dr. Hilliard L. Lackey, III, president of the JSU National Alumni Association will preside over the general assembly. The parade of chapters, and recognition of classes from the 1930's to 2007.

Guest speaker: Dr. Herman Taylor, Principal Investigator,
Jackson Heart Study

REGISTER ONLINE AT
WWW.JSUMS.EDU

Other "Events of Interest" that are not part of conference registration:

12:30 p.m. • Annual Class Reunion Luncheon

(Honoring graduates in classes ending in 2's or 7's).

General Purpose Room

Jacob L. Reddix Campus Union - or -

12:30 p.m. • "Reunite Beneath the Pines" Alumni Picnic

University Guest House • JSU Campus

2:00 p.m. • JSUNAA Biennial Alumni Meeting

College of Business Building • JSU Campus

7:30 p.m. • JSU 130th Founders' Day Banquet

Walter Payton Recreation and Wellness Center
JSU Campus

The JSU Development Foundation, Inc., acknowledges the generosity and support of donors and friends of the University. Speaker: The Honorable Regina B. Schofield, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

8:00 p.m. • Conference Finale

"Get on the Good Foot" - Dancing with the JSU Stars

Hilton Hotel - Madison Reception Hall
10001 E. County Line Road, Jackson, MS

7:00 p.m. • Young Alumni Event - A Party with a Purpose

Mississippi e-Center Ballroom
Raymond Road, Jackson, MS

Young Alumni! An evening of networking and partying.

9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Conference Vendor Showcase

"Tiger Bred Vendor Lane" College of Business Building

Thursday and Friday, October 25 and 26

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27

9:00 a.m. • Annual JSU Homecoming Parade

Downtown Jackson (Tailgating and more!)

3:00 p.m. • Jackson State University vs. Arkansas Pine Bluff

Mississippi Veterans Memorial Stadium, Jackson, MS

8:00 p.m. • JSUNAA Official Alumni "Victory" Dance

Jackson Medical Mall

350 Woodrow Wilson Drive, Jackson, MS

JSU GRAD TO PARTICIPATE IN OXFORD ROUND TABLE

A three-time Jackson State University graduate is one of 40 educators worldwide selected to participate in the distinguished Oxford Round Table in England.

Já Hon Vance, an English professor at Baltimore City Community College in Maryland, will make a presentation this summer and fall titled "The Historical, Religious and Spiritual Presence of Historically Black Colleges and Universities that Enhanced the Quality of Life for African Americans/Blacks in America."

"I want the world to know that in 2007, HBCUs are not dead, we are not handicapped, we are not in intensive care," said Vance, who received a bachelor's in English literature and education in 1993 from JSU.

"They are thriving, vibrant, intellectual institutions constantly paving the way for African Americans to enhance their lives," said Vance, who also earned two master's degrees from Jackson State, one in English literature and composition in 1997, the other in educational administration and supervision in 1998.

Since 1989, the Oxford Round Table has convened to consider major issues in contemporary educational policy in the United States, United Kingdom and other selected countries, according to its web site. Its purpose, the site says, is to promote human advancement and understanding through the improvement of education.

Being selected to present at the Round Table is the academic equivalent of earning an Oscar or an Emmy, said Vance, who also will be a trainer and a facilitator in Oxford.

"In academia, this type of recognition is major," said the CEO and founder of JV Educational Consultants. "It gives so much credit to the individual but also to the institution that planted the seed."

The native of Detroit, Mich., said three former faculty members at Jackson State helped him develop into a seasoned scholar: the late Dr. Annie J. Sistrunk, a

chair of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages; Dr. Inez Morris, who retired as chair of the same department; and Dr. E C Foster, a former history professor and associate dean of the Graduate School.

When Vance got a D on his first exam while he was pledging Alpha Phi Alpha, Sistrunk pulled him aside, peered over her glasses and said, "You're a scholar and a leader, and this is not acceptable for you."

"From that talk, it motivated me to prioritize what is important," Vance said. "She would tell me everything I did wrong and how to make it better. From that, it showed me she wasn't there just for the money; she really cared and saw the talent, and she wanted me to do better."

Morris took Vance, then a junior, to the library when he was writing a research paper to show him how to pull the Modern Language Association journal and humanities index, as well as how to locate key books.

"They were areas I needed to know like the back of my hand as an English major," he said. "She said, 'As a scholar, you may not know all the answers, but you know where to find them.'"

Foster, whom Vance described as "well-read and meticulous," groomed him to be an administrator when he worked as his assistant. Vance said Foster taught him how to represent his department, speak for him when he was out, build relationships with faculty in various departments, and to be an organized problem solver.

"During my first six months under Dr. Foster, everything I did was wrong, but he would never blast me before people," Vance recalled. "He would say, 'You are a scholar. You have the talent. It's just not your time yet; you still have to learn.' He taught me how to do things in a professional manner with dignity."

Vance said the classroom and life lessons from his "three celebrities" prepared him to participate in the Oxford Round Table.



Já Hon Vance

JSUNAA Regional Highlights



Mississippi Region



Johnnie Gray

Vice President

Phone: 601-981-5698

E-mail: jpg98@juno.com

Dear Jacksonians:

Congratulations to the newly installed Tupelo Northeast Alumni Chapter and the Tallahatchie-Yalobusha County Alumni Chapter in Mississippi. The officers are off to a good start as they recruit new members and plan fundraising activities.

Alumni chapters in Mississippi are supporting JSU through a variety of “True Blue” activities. Below are a few highlights:

- Awarded scholarships to incoming freshmen attending JSU.
- Provided book awards to students.
- Sponsors the Jackson State University live football game and the Coach Comegy Show with WJKX 102.5.
- Coordinating a bus trip to High School Day on October 6.
- Increased the number of JSUNAA life membership through local chapters.
- Hosting the Annual Mask Ball.

Northeast Region



Thelma J. Hill

Vice President

Phone: 301-925-7840

E-mail: Thelmajhill@msn.com

Hello Alumni:

The Northeast Region has been busy supporting the great Blue and White through various activities and fundraising efforts. Keeping this in mind, it is with great Tiger Pride that I spotlight the Greater Washington, D.C., Area Alumni Chapter of Jackson State University’s annual **Ada L. Mason Memorial Scholarship Dinner and Dance Fundraiser**.

This year’s event was held at the Martins’ Crosswinds in Greenbelt, Maryland. The evening included music by the Soul Patrol, dancing, dining and scholarship presentations. Three deserving students received the Ada L. Mason Memorial Scholarship award in order to attend Jackson State University for the 2007-2008 Academic Year. Recipients are: Antoinette Bynum, Bowie, Md.; Michael Lemon, Clinton, Md., and Ashleigh Battle, Alexandria, Va.

The scholarship is named in memory of Ada L. Mason, who was a native of Picayune, Miss., and a 1973 graduate of Jackson State University. Mason was tragically killed on September 11, 2001, at the Pentagon. She was an active member of the Washington, D.C., Area Alumni Chapter and worked diligently in support of her alma mater.

For more information about the Ada L. Mason Memorial Scholarship or joining the Greater Washington Area Alumni Chapter, please visit our website at www.gwdcsu.org, or contact me at 301-925-7840.

JSUNAA Regional Highlights



Midwest Region



Johnny Gross
Vice President

Phone: 314-389-3185

E-mail: J_gross@sbcglobal.net

Dear JSU Family:

It is with great pleasure that I share updates from the Midwest Region with you. We are proud to be great supporters of the Blue and White. Therefore, JSU Chapters are "Making It Happen, Right Here, Right Now," by working to provide scholarships for deserving students and striving to keep alumni informed about JSU happenings.

Midwest Region 2007 Activities:

- Annual Alumni Picnic/Scholarship Presentation
- "Mississippi Road" Trips
- Midwest Regional Business Meeting
- The Charles Phillips Adams Scholarship Dance
- New Year's Scholarship for St. Louis will feature our past president Ethel Quinn Veal
- Election of New Chapter Presidents
- Activating Two New Alumni Chapters in Indiana and Ohio

Regional Highlights:

- Targeting Peoria, Illinois, and Toledo, Ohio, as new Midwest chapters.

Southwest Region



Linda Mark
Vice President

Phone: 713-817-7333

E-mail: jsunaa-swregion@sbcglobal.net

REACH Points for JSU Southwest Region

Revitalize - Energize - Advertise - Capitalize - Harmonize

The Southwest Region consists three active chapters, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston Area and New Orleans. Below are a few 2006-2007 events and activities that provide alumni an opportunity to Act, Think and Speak the good of our great alma mater:

- Held Mid-Term and Annual Strategic Planning Retreats; represented JSU at student recruitment "College Night Fairs" at local high schools; held membership recruitment activities, alumni socials; partnered with other HBCU alumni in membership and fundraising activities; and volunteered with local community agencies to provide food, service and financial donations
- New Orleans - Persevered through the storm and members are ready to roll.

• Dallas - Participated with Brain Trust and 13th Annual Corporate Tour; held 2nd HIV/AIDS workshops; celebrated 25th Founders' Day with 1st Annual Blue and White Awards Banquet

• Houston Area Alumni Chapter - Celebrated Chapter's 30th Founders' Day; JSU Tiger Pride Power Weekend which included: Campaign for JSU Fundraiser Reception; HAAC 30th Founders' Day Reception; JSUNAA Southwest Regional Biennial Meeting; JSU vs. Texas Southern Football Game; Tiger Pride Tailgate Party & Victory Party Dance; Annual Blue & White Scholarship Gala - Proceeds of \$10,000 for JSU Scholarships and Programs; Pledged \$50,000 to The Campaign for JSU; and donated \$6,000 to the JSU Football program for equipment.

JSUNAA Regional Highlights



Southeast Region



Keith Adams
Vice President
Phone: 404-286-2867
E-mail: ktadams06@yahoo.com

Hello Jacksonians:

We are proud of the recent installation of the Tuscaloosa Alumni Chapter and look forward to working with the new members on upcoming activities.

Alumni Chapters in the “Southeast Region” are enthusiastic, supportive and working hard for JSU. The Metro Atlanta Chapter has coordinated several events to reach out to JSU alumni and prospective students. Below are just a few of the activities:

- Participates in the annual High School Day Event
- Hosts the 2007 Junior King and Queen Contest
- Hosts the Annual Scholarship Jazz Brunch: Jazz Central Station
- “Sponsors Hands On Atlanta” Day
- Recruits students to JSU

Farwest Region



Luther Williams
Vice President
Phone: 562-424-3965
E-mail: lutherWms@aol.com

Dear JSU Family:

In this issue of *Connections*, I would like to thank President Ronald Mason, Jr., and his staff for visiting alumni chapters and cities around the globe to promote and increase awareness about “The Campaign for Jackson State.”

On Friday, May 18, 2007, President Mason traveled to Los Angeles, California, to attend a campaign reception at the home of Judge Roosevelt and Katie Robinson.

A presentation was made by Dr. Mason, which was followed by a question and answer session. Other presenters included Alumni and Constituency Relations Director Gwen Caples, Office of Institutional Advancement Executive Director Evangeline W. Robinson, and Development Director Linda J. Daniels.

More than \$100,000 was received in pledges including \$60,000 from Arthur Hillery and \$20,000 from my wife, Ruth and I.

Attendees were L.A. Chapter President Dorothy Funches, Eva Elissie Caldwell, Doris Barnes, Wilma F. Geeston, Sylvanus Lloyd, Barbara Samuels, George Stribling, Wiley R. White, Miriam W. White, Annie Hazel McCants and other alumni and friends.

For ways to support “The Campaign for Jackson State,” call the JSU Development Office at 601-979-2282.

FOUR NEW ALUMNI CHAPTERS

The Jackson State University National Alumni Association is pleased to welcome four new chapters to the Association: Tupelo Northeast, Miss., Tallahatchie-Yalobusha County, Miss., Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Gary/Northwest, Indiana.

Tupelo Northeast Alumni Chapter



(l-r) Earlie M. Cox, Phyllis A. Sims, and Cynthia Grayson. Second Row: O'Floyd Turner, James Ford, N.T. Jones, and Sherry McGraughy. Back Row: Dr. Thurmond Beasley, Greg Stephen, Hilliard L. Lackey, III, E.C. Foster, and Ricky Bogan. Not Pictured: Hal Veal, Otis Morris, Laura Jones, Alford Bell, John Calvin, Drustell Neely, Zellerie Cox, Louise Foster, Lyndia Beverly, Susan Calvin, and Valda Shumpert.



John Calvin, chapter vice president; Phyllis Sims, president; Gwen Caples, JSUNAA executive director; and Barron Banks, chapter relations specialist.

Tallahatchie-Yalobusha County Miss., Alumni Chapter



JSUNAA President Dr. Hilliard L. Lackey, III, induct officers of the Tallahatchie - Yalobusha County Alumni Chapter into the Association: (l-r) Allene Jordan, treasurer; Myrtle Jordan, vice president; and Eddie Goodman, president.



Front row (l-r): Allene Jordan, Myrtle Jordan, Johnnie Gray, and Gwen Caples. Second row (l-r): Dr. Hilliard L. Lackey, III, Eddie Goodman, and Barron Banks.

SUPPORTING OUR DEAR OLD JSU



Tuscaloosa Alumni Chapter



Dr. Hilliard L. Lackey, III, JSUNAA president; Nechelle Robinson, Tuscaloosa Alumni Chapter president; and Barron Banks, chapter relations specialist.



Tuscaloosa Chapter officers take the oath to uphold the mission of the National Alumni Association and the University.

Gary/Northwest Indiana Alumni Chapter



Gary/Northwest Indiana alumni and friends.



Dr. Hilliard L. Lackey, III, JSUNAA president; Tammi Davis, Gary/Northwest Indiana Alumni Chapter president; Barron Banks, chapter relations specialist; and Johnny Gross, Midwest Region vice president.

Alumni On The Move

Christopher Wayne Robinson, '06



Christopher Wayne Robinson has been named the new program facilitator and trainer at the YWCA Greater Pittsburgh Office of Diversity and Inclusion in Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Kalamazoo, Michigan, native earned a bachelor's degree in social work from Jackson State University in 2006. He also received a master's degree in community organization and social administration in 2007 from the University of Pittsburgh.

Ralph V. Clark II, '03

Ralph V. Clark, II, is a financial advisor at MetLife Financial Services in Jackson. He was recently named MetLife's "Super Starter" based on his outstanding level of production during the first quarter of his employment with the company. In 2003, Clark earned a bachelor of science degree from Jackson State University.

Major Gwendolyn Tavira, '78



Major Gwendolyn Tavira is a quality assurance officer in the Army Reserve. Her duties include monitoring and evaluating training materials for reserve soldiers to ensure that they are current and effective curriculum materials for soldiers on active duty.

Major Tavira formerly served as an associate professor of military science in charge of recruiting at Jackson State University.

Will C. Pugh, Jr., '02

Will C. Pugh, Jr., an audit manager at KPMG LLP, has been selected to attend the inaugural Experienced Manager Conference in New Delhi, India, on September 26-28, 2007. The conference is hosted by KPMG International. Pugh is a 2002 graduate of Jackson State University and a resident of Dallas, Texas.

Gregory Oliver Vaughn, '03

Gregory Oliver Vaughn recently earned a doctor of medicine degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center at its 51st Commencement at the Mississippi Coliseum. He is a 2003 graduate of Jackson State University and a member of the Gold Humanism.

Barbara Moore, '92



Alumna Barbara Moore has been hired as the City of College Station's Neighborhood and Community Relations Coordinator as of August 31, 2007. Moore holds a bachelor's degree in mass communications from Jackson State University (1992) and a masters of public policy and administration with an emphasis on Community and Economic Development from the University of Washington.

She is the wife of alumnus Anthony Moore. He received his bachelor's degree in business administration from JSU (1992) and a master of healthcare administration from the University of Washington.

Judge Tyree Irving, '68

Judge Tyree Irving is a native of Greenwood, Miss. In 1968, he graduated from Jackson State College, now Jackson State University and taught for four years in the public schools of the Mississippi Delta before going to law school. He graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Law in 1974, and, in 1975, became the first African American to clerk for the Mississippi Supreme Court. In 1976, he served as an Earl Warren Fellow Intern with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund in New York. In 1978, Judge Irving served as an assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Miss.



Judge Irving was in private practice for 20 years before being elected to the Mississippi Court of Appeals.

Theophilus C. King, '98

Theophilus C. King spent the summer as a faculty member of The Principle's Summer Institute at Harvard University's Graduate School of Education in Cambridge, Mass. King facilitated small group discussions and reflections classes. He participated in the institute twice as a student in 2004 and 2006.

The Provine High School administrator and the Jackson, Miss., resident holds a bachelor's degree from Mississippi Valley State University, a master of divinity from Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary, a master of science (1998) and doctorate degree (2002) from Jackson State University in educational administration and supervision.

Alumni On The Move



Dr. Reynaldo S. Anderson, '92

Dr. Reynaldo S. Anderson has been named to the Missouri State Council on the Arts. Dr. Anderson, 42 of St. Louis, is an assistant professor of education at Harris-Stowe University.

He holds a bachelor's degree in mass communications from Jackson State University (1992), master's in speech communication from Oklahoma State University and a doctorate in communication studies from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

General Leon Collins, '93

Governor Haley Barbour has appointed Gen. Leon Collins of Jackson to the state Workers' Compensation Commission. The Booneville native, will serve the remainder of an unexpired term ending in Dec. 31, 2008. The commission administers and enforces the Mississippi Worker's Compensation Law.

General Collins holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Mississippi and master's degree from Jackson State University (1993) and the United States Army War College.



Shakir Jones, '02

Monica Minter Jones, '04

Shakir Jones and Monica Minter were united in holy matrimony at Northside Baptist Church in Clinton, Miss. The bride is a 2004 graduate of

Jackson State University and reigned as Miss JSU 2003-2004. She received her masters degree from Pennsylvania State in 2006. She serves as a grants coordinator at Messiah College.

The groom is a graduate of Jackson State University (2002) and Penn State. He is a client relationship manager with Augustine Incorporated in Pennsylvania. They reside in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and are members of the Jackson State University National Alumni Association.

Alfred Lee Wilson, Jr., '95

Alfred Lee Wilson, Jr., and Monique Neal Reagins were married at the Atrium in Norcross, Ga. The bride is a graduate of Indiana University. She is a commercial account manager with Cisco Systems, Inc. The groom is a graduate of Jackson State University and DeVry University. He is a net programming/developer with the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta. They live in Atlanta and honeymooned in the Cayman Islands.

Dr. Vernon Ross, Jr., '82



Dr. Vernon Ross, Jr., has been appointed director of Learning Management and Technical Development at Lockheed Martin Information Systems and Global Services (IS&GS) headquartered in Gaithersburg, Maryland. He will oversee the management of all training-related systems, processes, staff and policy with the technical and professional development of more than 50,000 employees.

The Utica, Miss., native earned a bachelor's degree in computer science/mathematics from Jackson State University, a master's degree in computer education from Philadelphia University, a master's of Divinity degree from Lutheran Theological Seminary and a doctorate in educational leadership and innovation from Wilmington College. He recently obtained a certification in human resources management from Villanova University and is a life member of JSU National Alumni Association.

Dr. Patricia Gordon, '01



In May 2007, Patricia Gordon received her Doctor of Dental Science Medicine degree from the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

The Lambert, Miss., native earned her bachelor's degree in chemistry from Jackson State University in 2001.

Dr. Gordon plans to complete a year of general practice residency at the University Medical Center before starting her own practice.

What Are You Doing?

Please share your
accomplishments with us
by e-mailing
constance.lawson@jsums.edu
or call 601.979.2357.

We prefer featuring JSUNAA dues-paying members. Annual dues are \$50.00. If you would like to join the alumni association, please mail your check to: Jackson State University, Office of Alumni & Constituency Relations, P.O. Box 17820, Jackson, MS 39217

Memoriam

Ivy Bernice Lloyd Bell, 78, passed away at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Bell held degrees from Jackson State University (B.S.) and Atlanta University (MSLS). She served as a long-time librarian at JSU.

JSU's beloved mascot **David "Wavee Dave" Chambers** passed away on Thursday, December 21, at Central Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, Miss. He was eulogized on Thursday, December 28, at Jackson State University's Rose Embly McCoy Auditorium. More than 500 people gathered at the memorial service to celebrate his life.

The Jackson State University family mourns the passing of **Dr. Gloria Fouche'**, assistant professor in the Department of School, Community and Rehabilitation Counseling at the University.

Funeral Services for **Dr. Earnestine Holloway**, a retired professor of education at Jackson State University, were held at the Woodworth Chapel at Tougaloo College in Tougaloo, Mississippi.

Glorist Eiland Jackson, a 1953 JSU graduate, passed away on March 2. Jackson was an educator in the Coahoma County School District for more than 37 years.

Gloria Bell Kincaid, a 1962 JSU graduate, recently passed away at the Tri-Lakes Medical Center in Batesville, Miss. She was a graduate of Marks Madison Palmer High School, Coahoma Community College and Jackson State University.

Velma Smith Lee, a 1949 JSU graduate, was eulogized on Tuesday, June 12 at Mount Wade Church in Brookhaven, Miss. Prior to her death, she served as an advisor at the Martha Sykes Widow Orphan Center in Brookhaven.

Tamara D. Manuel, a manager at Walmart in Houston, Texas and a 2001 JSU graduate, recently passed away.

Frankie Varnado, a 1933 JSU graduate and retired educator, has passed away. Funeral services were held at the Spring Hill Missionary Baptist Church in Florence, Miss.

Ethel Marie Quinn Veal of St. Louis, Missouri, passed away on Wednesday, March 21. Veal was a member of the Jackson State University National Alumni Association and a 1969 Jackson State University graduate.

David Brian Williams, a 1979 Jackson State University graduate and manager of the city of Jackson Public Education and Governmental Television Network, recently passed away.

Eva Woodard, professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, recently passed away. Funeral services were held at Central United Church in Jackson.

JSU Chapter Tidbits

The **Scott County Chapter of Jackson State University** recently held its annual banquet at the Forest Services Center. This year's program theme was "Building Bridges for JSU." The speaker for the evening was JSU Athletic Director Robert Braddy. He encouraged the audience to continue reaching back and helping others by supporting the University.



Pearl Clark

The culmination of the evening was recognizing **Scott County Chapter President Pearl Clark as the "JSU Alumna of the Year."** Special recognition will be awarded during the Biennial Alumni Conference.

Ronnie Cavett, a member of the **Jackson State University Dallas Fortworth Alumni Chapter** received the 2007 Alumnus of the Year Meritorious Service Award of the Dallas Metroplex Council of Black Alumni Associations.

The **Memphis Alumni Chapter** is pleased to announce that Derek Charles Henson is the newly elected president. Henson's predecessor is Rubbie Patrick-Herring.

The **Jackson State University Jackson-Hinds Alumni Chapter** is pleased to announce it has awarded seven \$500.00 scholarships for the 2007-2008 academic year to the following freshman students :

- Tirra Braddy - Murrah High School
- Matthew James Brown - CM & I High School
- Gip Butler - Clinton High School
- Leonte' Jones - Lanier High School
- Stephanie Smith - Bailey Magnet High School
- Chante' Walker - Murrah High School
- Berneda Washington - Lanier High School

The **Dallas/Fort Worth Chapter** recently hosted its first annual **A Night of Blue and White Scholarship Dinner and Dance**. The event was held to acknowledge 2007 scholarship recipients and to celebrate the Chapter's 25 years of service to Jackson State University and the Dallas/Fort Worth community.

Join Your Local Chapter!

Call the chapter president in your area for alumni membership information, or call 1-800-578-6622.

Birmingham, Ala.

John Sardin
205-283-4561

Brookhaven, Miss.

Flora Kelly
601-833-2337

Canton, Miss.

Reginald Barnes
601-859-8858

Chicago, Ill.

Michele Jackson
773-536-3858

Cincinnati, Ohio

Larry Cameron
513-542-8455

Clarke County, Miss.

Mary Brumfield
601-776-2250

Cleveland, Ohio

Arthur Lawson
216-561-6823

Columbus, Miss.

Ezra Baker
662-328-3810

Copiah, Miss.

James Mitchell
601-894-2176

Columbus, Ohio

Regina Haynes
614-327-6796

Dallas/Fort Worth, Tex.

Angela Calvin
972-264-1209

Detroit, Mich.

April Cathey
734-669-7526

Flint, Mich.

Dr. Earnestine Jackson
810-743-4546

Gary/Northwest Ind.

*Tammi Davis
219-644-6433

Greater Orlando, Fla.

Audrey Fullilove-McCarty
407-814-8273

Greater Washington, D.C.

Toyce Small
804-343-5156

Greenville, Miss

Amelia D. Wicks
662-378-8633

Greenwood, Miss.

Dorothy Dennis
662-455-5435

Gulf Coast/Biloxi-Gulfport, Miss.

Hal Merritt
228-832-6375

Hattiesburg, Miss.

C. Jerome Brown
601-270-0858

Holmes County, Miss.

Robert Clark
662-834-1473

Houston Area, Tex.

*Sedric Myers
281-300-3161

Humphreys/Belzoni, Miss.

Marvin Jones
662-836-8997

Huntsville, Ala.

Raven Griffin
256-858-6533

Indianapolis, Ind.

Anna L. Hampton
317-255-5122

Jackson-Hinds, Miss.

Vera Watson
601-926-2024

Jefferson Davis, Miss.

Herd Graves
601-353-0661

Laurel, Miss.

Eugene Owens
601-649-3659

Leake, Miss.

Lyvonne Leflore
601-267-7577

Los Angeles, Calif.

Dorothy Funches
323-418-0512

Louisville, Ky.

Harrel Cargin
317-255-4961

Madison, Miss.

Dr. Sherard S. Hollins
601-856-9699

Memphis, Tenn.

*Derek C. Henson
901-210-4895

Meridian, Miss.

Josephine Virgil Hughes
601-483-4453

Metro Atlanta, Ga.

Yolanda Owens
770-808-8125

Metro New York, N.Y.

Chevor Pompey
646-337-1450

Milwaukee, Wis.

Kathy Berry
414-342-8937

Minneapolis, Minn.

Janice M. Porter
651-405-0140

Mobile, Ala.

Dr. Carl Cunningham, Jr.
251-432-2275

Moss Point, Miss.

Karen Howard
228-475-2914

Nashville, Tenn.

Rodney O. Harris
615-300-7286

Natchez, Miss.

William Blowe
601-442-5648

New Orleans, La.

Lydia Monie
504-606-0742

Panola/Tate County, Miss.

Julius Harris
662-487-1348

Pike County, Miss.

Johnnie Thompson
601-276-2139

Rankin County, Miss.

Sarah Foote
601-845-2577

Scott County, Miss.

Pearl Clark
601-469-3239

Sharkey-Issaquena, Miss.

Kate Sisney
662-873-0237

South Carolina

Leonard Anderson
803-534-8363

St. Louis, Mo.

Arthur Robinson
314-725-2503

Starkville/Louisville, Miss.

Barbara King
662-615-5009

Tallahatchie-Yalobusha, Miss.

*Rev. Eddie Goodwin
662-647-3596

Tupelo Northeast, Miss.

*Phyllis Sims
662-842-7021

Tuscaloosa, Ala.

*Dennis Conner
205-799-4336

Warren Co./Vicksburg, Miss.

Ben Brown, Jr.
601-638-9047

Walthall County, Miss.

Frankie Booth
601-876-2634

If you would like to form an alumni chapter in your area,
please contact Barron Banks at 601-979-2356.

Register Today!

Jackson State University National Alumni Association, Inc.

7th Biennial Alumni Conference

Jackson State University Alumni:
"Supporting and Celebrating 130 Years of Academic Excellence"

October 24-26, 2007
Homecoming Weekend

Jackson State University (Main Campus)
Jackson, Mississippi

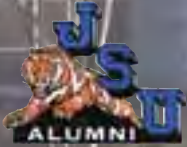


Photo: Walter Payton Recreation and Wellness Center

Jackson State University
National Alumni Association, Inc.
P. O. Box 17820
Jackson, Mississippi 39217

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
JACKSON, MS
PERMIT NO. 290