



*Continuing a Legacy  
to Improve Communities*

*2007*

A stylized yellow flame graphic that serves as a background for the year "2007". The flame is bright yellow with a white glow around its base.

*October 17-19, 2007  
Adam's Mark Hotel ~ Dallas, Texas*

Historically Black Colleges and Universities National Conference



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400 North Olive Street ~ Dallas, Texas*

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# Acknowledgements

 The Office of University Partnerships would like to extend a special thank you to the individuals who graciously volunteered their time and effort to assist in planning the 2007 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) National Conference (HBCU planning committee members and workshop moderators). We also thank each of our guest speakers and the presidential roundtable panel members for taking time from their busy schedules to share their knowledge and expertise in community and economic development, and the importance of leveraging partnerships, in order to “continue our legacy to improve communities.”



Ophelia H. Wilson  
Grant Specialist  
Office of University Partnerships

# Historically Black Colleges and Universities National Conference

*Continuing a Legacy to Improve Communities*

## Conference Agenda

Unless otherwise noted, sessions will take place in the San Antonio Ballroom.  
All meeting rooms are located on the third floor.



- 7:30–8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:30–9:00 a.m. Greetings
- Ms. Ophelia H. Wilson, Office of University Partnerships, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C.
- Musical Selection, Paul Quinn College Choir
- Mr. Larry Willis, Director
- Welcome and Introductions
- Dr. Darlene F. Williams, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C.
  - Michael Sorrell, J.D., President, Paul Quinn College
- 9:00–10:15 a.m. Musical Selection, Paul Quinn College Choir
- Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Darlene F. Williams, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Address: Dr. Dorothy Cowser Yancy, President, Johnson C. Smith University
- 10:15–10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30 a.m.–Noon Musical Selection, Paul Quinn College Choir
- Presidents' Roundtable, Stepping Out of the Box and Into the Community
- Introduction of Panel Members: Ms. Ophelia H. Wilson, Office of University Partnerships, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Moderator: Dr. Earl Richardson, President, Morgan State University
  - Panelists:
    - Dr. Ray L. Belton, Chancellor, Southern University at Shreveport
    - Dr. JoAnn W. Haysbert, President, Langston University
    - Dr. Robert R. Jennings, President, Alabama A&M University
    - Dr. David H. Swinton, President, Benedict College
    - Dr. Johnnie B. Watson, Interim President, LeMoyne-Owen College

# Agenda (continued)



- 12:15-1:45 p.m. Luncheon
- Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Dr. Darlene F. Williams, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Keynote Address: Reverend Dr. Floyd H. Flake, Senior Pastor, Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York, Jamaica, Queens, and President, Wilberforce University
- 1:45-2:00 p.m. Break
- 2:00-2:30 p.m. General Session, Working With Community Development Corporations
- Introduction of Speaker: Ms. Ophelia H. Wilson, Office of University Partnerships, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Speaker: Mr. Lorenzo S. Littles, Dallas Director, Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.
- 2:45-3:00 p.m. Board Buses for Site Visit
- Depart from first floor entrance near Silhouette's
- 3:00-4:45 p.m. Site Visit to Affordable Housing Development in Dallas Area
- 5:00 p.m. Buses Return to Adam's Mark Hotel
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- 8:00-9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 9:00-9:30 a.m. General Session, Leadership and Community Development
- Introduction of Speaker: Ms. Linda Tillman, Langston University
  - Speaker: Dr. Robert Pyle, Professor, North Carolina A&T State University
- 9:30-10:15 a.m. General Session, Entrepreneurship
- Introduction of Speaker: Ms. Ophelia H. Wilson, Office of University Partnerships, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Speaker: Mr. Ephren W. Taylor, II, CEO, City Capital Corporation
- 10:15-10:30 a.m. Break
- 10:30-11:00 a.m. General Session, Partnering With HBCUs, Part One
- Introduction of Speaker: Mr. Joseph Lee, Alabama A&M University
  - Speaker: Ms. Deirdre G. Gross, Vice President of Community Investment Services and Director of Housing and Economic Development Programs, Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta

# Agenda (continued)



- 11:00 a.m.–Noon      General Session, Partnering With HBCUs, Part Two
- Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Dr. Darlene F. Williams, Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  - Keynote Address: Mr. Tom Joyner, CEO, The Tom Joyner Foundation
- Noon–1:30 p.m.      Lunch (on your own)
- 1:30–3:00 p.m.      Concurrent Sessions
- New Market Tax Credits *State Room 1*  
- Speaker: Mr. C. Everett Wallace, President, North Carolina Community Development Initiative Capital
  - The Community Planning Process *State Room 2*  
- Speaker: Ms. Contente Terry, Principal, Contente Consulting, Inc.
  - Fundraising Planning for Sustainability *State Room 3*  
- Speakers: Mr. Ron Butler, Principal, The NYMIA Group  
Ms. Alyson Parham, President, Partec Consulting Group
  - Rental and For Sale Housing Development *State Room 4*  
- Speaker: Mr. Ike Heard, Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 3:00–3:15 p.m.      Break
- 3:15–4:15 p.m.      General Session, Determining the Role of the HBCUs for the 21st Century
- Introduction of Speaker: Mr. Jeffrey Higgs, LeMoyne-Owen College Community Development Corporation
  - Speaker: Dr. Leon D. Caldwell, Professor, University of Memphis
- 4:15–5:30 p.m.      General Session, HBCU Success Stories
- Benedict College, Mr. Larry Salley, Executive Director, Benedict-Allen Community Development Corporation
  - Southern University at Shreveport, Mrs. Janice Sneed, Vice Chancellor, Community and Workforce Development
  - LeMoyne-Owen College, Mr. Jeffrey Higgs, Executive Director, LeMoyne-Owen College Community Development Corporation
  - Winston-Salem State University, Ms. Carol Davis, Executive Director, S.G. Atkins Community Development Corporation
- 6:00–7:30 p.m.      Reception *Houston Ballroom*
- 6:30–7:30 p.m.      Understanding the HUD Logic Model *State Room 4*
- Speaker: Ms. Barbara Dorf, Office of Departmental Grants Management and Oversight, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C.



# Agenda (continued)



- 8:00–9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 9:00–10:30 a.m. Concurrent Sessions
- Neighborhood Retail Development Process *State Room 1*  
- Speaker: Mr. C. Everett Wallace, President, North Carolina Community Development Initiative Capital
  - Using Technology to Change Communities *State Room 3*  
- Speaker: Mrs. Kenya Crumel, Director of Organizational Development and Technical Assistance, BCT Partners
  - Understanding the HUD Logic Model *State Room 4*  
- Speaker: Ms. Barbara Dorf, Office of Departmental Grants Management and Oversight, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- 10:30–10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45–11:30 a.m. General Session, The Role of HBCUs in Community Development
- Introduction of Speaker: Mr. Ron Butler, The NYMIA Group
  - Speaker: Mr. Ike Heard, Professor of Geography and Urban Planning, University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. General Session, HBCU Success Stories
- North Carolina A&T State University, Ms. Tamara Dix, Program Manager
  - University of the Virgin Islands, Mrs. Ilene Heyward, Director, Community Engagement and Lifelong Learning
  - Stillman College, Dr. Eddie B. Thomas, Associate Vice President of Community Outreach
- 12:15–12:30 p.m. Closing Remarks
- Ms. Ophelia H. Wilson, Office of University Partnerships, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

*Speaker*  *Biographies*



# Agency Biographies



## Dr. Darlene F. Williams

Dr. Darlene F. Williams serves as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research (PD&R). Dr. Williams supports the Department's efforts to create cohesive and economically healthy communities.

PD&R is responsible for maintaining current information on housing needs, market conditions, and existing programs, as well as conducting research on priority housing and community development issues. The Office provides reliable and objective data and analysis to help inform policy decisions. Dr. Williams is a principal advisor to the Secretary regarding policy development, applied social science, and economic research on housing policy as well as for evaluation and monitoring of the Department's programs.

Prior to becoming Assistant Secretary, Dr. Williams served at HUD as the General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, from 2003 to 2005, and most recently as the General Deputy Assistant Secretary for Administration.

Dr. Williams joined HUD after serving with TXU since 1996. At TXU, she became the corporate policy manager in 2001 after serving as a "loaned lobbyist" during the 77th Texas Legislative Session. In addition to working on energy policy issues, she assisted with Texas federal, state, and local tax policy management.

Before joining TXU, Dr. Williams worked on the management teams for two of the country's top Fortune 500 companies—Eastman Kodak and Ryder Systems, Inc. In these marketing manager positions, she designed and implemented strategic research and counseled senior management on a variety of issues. Earlier in her career she obtained operations experience at Pacific Bell.

In addition to Dr. Williams' 23 years of experience in the private sector, she is also aided by significant academic preparation. Dr. Williams holds a B.A. from Howard University, an M.B.A from the University of Chicago, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford University.

# Agency Biographies (continued)



## Barbara Dorf

Barbara Dorf is the director of the Office of Departmental Grants Management and Oversight. The Office serves as the single point of contact for grants management information within the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

The Office of Departmental Grants Management and Oversight is responsible for implementing HUD's SuperNOFA, in which the majority of HUD's competitive programs are announced in a single notice; developing performance eLogic Models™ for each program; and working with the 26 other federal grantmaking agencies in implementing the requirements of P.L. 106-107, the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999; President George W. Bush's Grants.gov and Grants Management Line of Business (GMLoB) eGov initiatives; and the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006.

Ms. Dorf has been with HUD for 33 years and has held a variety of policy and program positions within the agency, in the Office of Administration, the Office of the Secretary, and the Office of Community Planning and Development. Her experiences include development of grants policy and program management, personnel management, workload analysis, field office organizational structure, and performance measurement. She has received numerous awards and honors, including the Secretary's Award for Excellence in 1999, the National Grants Management Association Distinguished Service Award in 2004, the Harry Hatry Distinguished Performance Measurement Practice Award in 2007, and the National Public Service award in 2007.

# Keynote Biographies



## Reverend Dr. Floyd H. Flake

The Reverend Dr. Floyd H. Flake is the senior pastor of the more than 20,000-member Greater Allen African Methodist Episcopal (A.M.E.) Cathedral of New York in Jamaica, Queens, and president of Wilberforce University in Ohio. During the Reverend Dr. Flake's 30-year pastorate, Allen A.M.E Cathedral has become one of the nation's foremost Christian churches and development corporations. The church and its subsidiary corporations operate with an annual budget of more than \$34 million. The church also owns expansive commercial and residential developments; a 700-student private school founded by the Reverend Dr. Flake and his wife Elaine; and various commercial and social service enterprises, which have placed it among the nation's most productive religious and urban development institutions. The corporations, church administrative offices, school, and ministries comprise one of the Borough of Queens' largest private sector employers.

The Reverend Dr. Flake served 11 years in the U.S. Congress, and was a member of the banking and finance and small business committees. He established a reputation for bipartisan, innovative legislative initiatives to revitalize urban commercial and residential communities. Most notably, he authored the provisions, named the Bank Enterprise Act, contained in the Community Development Financial Institutions Act of 1993. This act provided incentives for financial institutions to make market-oriented investments in destabilized urban and rural economies. The Reverend Dr. Flake also concentrated on garnering federal resources and projects for his community, including funding for the nation's first One Stop Small Business Capital Center, which is the model for additional centers that are now operating in federal empowerment zones.

The Greater Allen Cathedral's operations are a national paradigm of church-centered, faith-based, public/private community educational and economic development. Further, Allen's administrative structure, efficiency, and development efforts have increasingly attracted international and national recognition in print and electronic media. The Reverend Dr. Flake and the church have been profiled on BET, CBS, CNN, C-Span, and PBS; and in *Black Enterprise*, *Ebony*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *the New York Times*, *Readers Digest*, and *Time*, and many other publications.

The Reverend Dr. Flake is a proponent of quality education and market-oriented community and economic development through speeches and lectures in corporate settings, policy forums, seminaries and divinity schools and countless other forums. He is an international lecturer and speaker and teaches at the Harvard Divinity School's annual Summer Leadership Institute.

The Reverend Dr. Flake earned a doctor of ministry degree from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio; and holds a B.A. from Wilberforce University with additional studies at Payne Theological Seminary and Northeastern University School of Business.

# Keynote Biographies (continued)



## Tom Joyner

Tom Joyner, known as “The Hardest Working Man in Radio,” has distinguished himself as one of the most recognized and revered media personalities in the country. He has won virtually every top radio award, including the prestigious Marconi Award. He is the nation’s leading network/syndicated personality in the country and is also a 1999 Radio Hall of Fame inductee. The International Radio and Television Society chose him for one of their highest honors, acknowledging his work with Black colleges, and *Broadcasting & Cable* magazine inducted him into its Hall of Fame.

Mr. Joyner has become a motivating and organizing force for the country. He has led voter registration, get-out-the-vote drives, and major fundraising initiatives to help families and students affected by Hurricane Katrina. He and members of his crew also have prompted major companies to stop discriminating against African Americans and Hispanics in advertising, and are in the trenches in raising health awareness among African Americans with the annual “Take a Loved One to the Doctor Day.”

His Tom Joyner Foundation, a charitable 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, was started in 1997 for the sake of African-American students in need at Historically Black Colleges and Universities across the nation. The foundation has raised more than \$55 million to date for this single cause.

In June 2001, Mr. Joyner created BlackAmericaWeb.com to encourage interaction among African Americans and as an easy-to-use, comprehensive well of information on the African-American experience. The site’s main purpose is to mobilize the African-American community by “super serving” Mr. Joyner’s audience with timely and relevant information and producing a wide variety of entertaining events.

A graduate of Tuskegee (Institute) University, Mr. Joyner began his broadcasting career in Montgomery, Alabama, at WRMA-AM immediately after graduation. With a bachelor’s degree in sociology in hand, he ventured into several other markets, finally making his claim to fame in the mid-1980s when he accepted simultaneous positions as “morning drive man” at Dallas’ KKDA and “afternoon drive man” at Chicago’s WGCI. Flying every day between the two cities eventually earned him national recognition, the name “Fly Jock,” 7 million frequent flyer miles, syndication, and undoubtedly the largest audience of any urban radio program.

Mr. Joyner’s success as a radio personality and philanthropist also has earned him several awards and honors. He has received four *Billboard* magazine Best Urban Contemporary Air Personality awards and *Impact* magazine’s Joe Loris Award for Excellence in Broadcasting. He has received the Hubert Humphrey Award from the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights and the prestigious Good Samaritan Award from the National Association of Broadcasters Education Foundation. He has won an *Essence* Award and was named *Impact*’s Best DJ of the Year so many times that this honor has been renamed the Tom Joyner Award.

# Presidents' Biographies



## Michael J. Sorrell, J.D.

Michael J. Sorrell, J.D., recently assumed the presidency at Paul Quinn College (PQC). At 40, he is one of the youngest presidents of a 4-year institution in the country. Under his leadership, the school has embarked upon an agenda that stresses academic excellence and a renewed commitment to student services. His vision for PQC is to create an institution that prepares its students for social activism and leadership in the global marketplace.

Mr. Sorrell comes to PQC from his post as the founder and chief problemsolver of Victor Credo, LLC, a firm that specializes in sports management problemsolving for athletes, coaches, and organizations; and strategic public affairs. He has spent the majority of his career advising athletes, coaches, Fortune 500 companies, and public officials. His unique experiences include having served as the director of communications and government relations for Dallas 2012, the city of Dallas' Olympic bid committee; executive director of the Global Games; and an assignment in the White House, under President Bill Clinton, as the special assistant to the executive director of the President's Initiative on Race.

Mr. Sorrell sits on numerous boards and committees that emphasize improving the areas in which he lives. He is a board member for Dallas-Fort Worth Airport and the British-American Project. He also served as a co-chair of the 2006 Bond Campaign for the city of Dallas and as a director for Highland Capital New Horizons, LP. Mr. Sorrell is a director for the Texas Lyceum and a member of the Dallas Assembly.

He was a senior advisor to Washington, D.C. Mayor Adrian Fenty and currently serves on the Texas/Oklahoma Finance Committee for Senator Barack Obama's presidential campaign. He was a member of both the steering committee for Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk's first mayoral campaign and the finance committee for his U.S. Senate bid. He was also one of the managing co-chairs for both of Texas State Representative Rafael Anchia's successful races for Dallas Independent School District Trustee.

Most recently, Mr. Sorrell was named a British-American Project Fellow. He is a past recipient of the Dallas Urban League's 2005 Torch for Community Leadership and the President's Award from J.L. Turner for outstanding contributions to the Dallas legal community. Additionally, the *Dallas Business Journal* named him one of Dallas' 40 Under 40.

Mr. Sorrell received his J.D. and M.A. in public policy from Duke University. While in law school, he was one of the founding members of the *Journal of Gender Law and Policy* and served as the vice president of the Duke Bar Association. He was a recipient of the prestigious Sloan Foundation Graduate Fellowship, which funded his studies at both Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government (as a graduate fellow) and Duke University. He graduated from Oberlin College with a B.A. in government, where he was voted secretary/treasurer of his senior class and was a two-time captain of the men's varsity basketball team.



# Presidents' Biographies (continued)



## Dr. Dorothy Cowser Yancy

Dr. Dorothy Cowser Yancy, an Alabama native, is the 12th president of Johnson C. Smith University (JCSU), and the first female to be elected to this prestigious post. A dynamic leader, she champions phenomenal growth and progress and is heralded as one of the best fundraisers nationally. As president, she has raised more than \$125 million and more than quadrupled the university's endowment to more than \$53 million.

Dr. Yancy implemented a strategic technology plan, which resulted in JCSU becoming the first historically Black university to be named an IBM "Laptop" university. JCSU consequently secured a top spot in *U.S. News & World Report America's Best Colleges*, ranking among the Best Comprehensive Colleges as well as being one of the Top 50 most wired small colleges in the nation, according to *Yahoo Internet Life* magazine. She has successfully led the university through two successful Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation processes.

Dr. Yancy has earned the respect of the higher education community throughout her career. She has served as a professor, director, and international delegate; has published more than 40 articles and labor arbitration cases in academic journals; and contributes widely to civic and professional communities.

She presently serves as: an advisor to the Mint Museum of Art and the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce board of advisors; a member of the United Negro College Fund's corporate board and executive committee; a board member of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; a board member of the Levine Museum of the New South; and president of the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Yancy has been widely recognized for her efforts, receiving awards such as: the Belle Ringer Image Award, Bennett College, National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame in Education; Black Issues in Higher Education, Twentieth Century Educator; the Lifetime Achievement Award, North Carolina 4-H Club; and the W.E.B. DuBois Award from the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists.

Dr. Yancy was the recipient of two awards in 2007: the Sisters Delaney Honor Society Achievement Award at Saint Augustine's College and the William J. Stanley, III Award from the Georgia Institute of Technology African American Student Union.

Dr. Yancy holds a B.A. in history and social science from Johnson C. Smith University; an M.A. in history from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst; and a Ph.D. in political science from Atlanta University, with further study at the University of Singapore, Hampton University, Northeastern Illinois University, Northwestern University, Georgia Institute of Technology, and the University of Illinois at Chicago.

# Presidents' Biographies (continued)



## Dr. Ray L. Belton

Dr. Ray L. Belton currently serves as chancellor of the Southern University at Shreveport campus, a member institution in the Southern University A&M College System.

As a result of Dr. Belton's committed and exemplary leadership as chancellor, the university was nationally recognized in 2003 as the sixth fastest-growing institution of its size, and in 2006 as one of the best performing institutions in the country. At present, the institution's student enrollment has increased by 115 percent, its graduation rate has literally doubled, and its retention rate exceeds the national average. Moreover, the university has realized unprecedented success in shaping opportunities for high school students and fostering economic and workforce development initiatives for the university community throughout Northwest Louisiana.

Dr. Belton has held academic and administrative positions at the national, state, and local levels. He currently serves as commissioner for the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and he formerly served as commissioner on diversity and inclusion as sponsored by the American Association of Community Colleges. His active participation in the community includes executive roles on the board of directors of the: Coordinating and Development Corporation of Northwest Louisiana; Alliance for Education; Workforce Investment Board; Committee of One Hundred, Inc.; and the Consortium for Education, Research, and Technology, to name a few.

Dr. Belton has further served in administrative roles at the university level, including associate professor, director, department head, vice chancellor for student affairs and executive vice chancellor. He also served on Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco's transition team for economic development.

A Shreveport, Louisiana, native, Dr. Belton graduated from Southern University at Shreveport and continued his studies at Southern University A&M College, graduating first in his class. He later earned an M.A. in counseling psychology from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and a doctorate in educational administration from the University of Texas at Austin.



# Presidents' Biographies (continued)



## Dr. JoAnn W. Haysbert

Dr. JoAnn W. Haysbert was appointed the 15th president of Langston University in August 2005 by the board of regents for Oklahoma State University and the A&M Colleges. This appointment distinguishes her as the first African-American female president of an institution of higher education in the State of Oklahoma.

A seasoned administrator who leads by example, Dr. Haysbert has amassed a stellar list of credentials during her more than 30 years as an academican and higher education administrator. She came to Langston University after a long and successful 25-year tenure at Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia. During her time there, her superior administrative skills and scholastic acumen resulted in her serving in several key positions, including acting president, provost, assistant provost, professor and coordinator of graduate programs in education, dean of freshman studies, assistant vice president for academic affairs, director of summer sessions, and director of the assessment and learning support center. She has also held positions at Virginia State University, Auburn University, and Alexander City State Junior College.

Lauded as an “innovator” and a “fiscally intuitive administrator,” Dr. Haysbert has brought to Langston University a new way of thinking about the business of higher education. Under the guiding mantra, “From Excellence to Greatness,” she has already collaborated with Langston stakeholders to create a vision that will enhance the university’s mission to spawn innovation, generate new technologies and ideas, and produce talented graduates for tomorrow’s global marketplace.

Active in numerous national, state, and local organizations and professional boards, Dr. Haysbert’s memberships and affiliations include the board of directors, State Chamber; the Commission on Women in Higher Education, American Council on Education; board of directors, Greenwood Cultural Center; the college board of trustees, Leadership Oklahoma, Class XX; the Community Relations Council; Guthrie Job Corps; and the National Campus Compact.

A prolific author, researcher, and grant writer, Dr. Haysbert is also a much-sought-after orator, presenter, and consultant. Her awards and accolades are numerous.

Dr. Haysbert earned a B.A. in psychology from Johnson C. Smith University, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in administration and supervision in higher education from Auburn University. She also studied at California State University in San Jose, and earned a certificate for educational management from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education.

# Presidents' Biographies (continued)



## Dr. Robert R. Jennings

Dr. Robert R. Jennings was appointed the 10th president of Alabama A&M University in Normal, Alabama, in December 2005. Previously, he held a 5-year term as chairman of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's education-legal advisory board; a 5-year term on the board of directors of the University of Virginia's Council on Minority Research in Special Education, and completed a 3-year term as a charter member of the Commission on Philanthropy for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He is a former member of the board of trustees at Atlanta University, Southwestern Christian College, and the Leadership Foundation of Atlanta; and has completed a 4-year term on the Joint Commission on Faculty Accountability for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. He is also a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

The recipient of more than 25 major citations and awards, Dr. Jennings has served as a consultant to the Reagan and Clinton administrations and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and as lead trainer and agency spokesman for the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. He is a former executive assistant to the president at Atlanta University; former vice president for development and executive director of the Foundation at Norfolk State University; former vice president for institutional advancement at Albany State University; and former vice chancellor for development and university relations at North Carolina A&T State University.

Dr. Jennings serves as an adjunct professor of educational administration and public administration and management at the Union Institute Graduate School of Cincinnati, and as a visiting professor of philanthropy at St. Mary's College in Minnesota. From 1998 to 2005, he served as executive vice president and chief operating officer for Future Focus 2020, a futurist think-tank and research training institute in the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University.

Since 1985, Dr. Jennings has traveled and/or studied in 35 foreign countries. In 1999, he served as a consultant to the U.S. Department of State, conducting a 10-day training institute on university reorganization, development, and external relations at the University of Niamey, in Niger, Africa. In 2001, he was tapped by the Government of Rwanda and served as a consultant to the Kigali Institute of Science, Technology, and Management.

Dr. Jennings received his B.A. from Morehouse College, and his master's specialist's and Ph.D. from Atlanta University. He also received master's certification in adult basic education from the University of Georgia and master's certification in curriculum and instruction and gifted education from Georgia State University. He studied as a Charles Merrill Fellow at the University of Ghana in West Africa and as a Fulbright Fellow in Recife, Brazil.

# Presidents' Biographies (continued)



## Dr. Earl Stanford Richardson

Dr. Earl Stanford Richardson is the 11th president of Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. Since becoming president, Dr. Richardson has fashioned an all-encompassing strategy for strengthening academic programs, improving fiscal management, stabilizing student enrollment, accelerating fundraising efforts, and renovating the university's physical plant. As a result of Dr. Richardson's leadership, Morgan State has experienced growth and improvement over the last decade and is in the midst of a true Renaissance. The university now enjoys modern, state-of-the-art facilities resulting from more than \$500 million in capital improvements.

The lodestar of Dr. Richardson's leadership at Morgan State University and in higher education is his commitment to establishing a strong foundation of excellence and achievement in the African-American community. Morgan State now leads Maryland colleges and universities in the overall production of African-American baccalaureates and in the number of undergraduates in mathematics, science, and engineering.

Before becoming president of Morgan State University, Dr. Richardson served in a number of administrative positions, including assistant to the president, executive assistant to the chancellor, and director of career planning for the University of Maryland System; and placement and acting director of admissions and registration at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. He has also taught at the undergraduate level.

Dr. Richardson is also very active in civic and community organizations. He serves as a member of the LifeBridge; the National Institutes of Health/U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Working Group; the Baltimore Vision 2030 Committee; the Baltimore/Washington 2012 Coalition; the American Council on Education's Commission on International Education; the Goldseker Foundation; Maryland Education Coalition advisory board; the board of Educational Testing Service; the board for Quality Education for Minorities Network; and the board of trustees for the Baltimore Museum of Art.

Dr. Richardson previously served on the board of directors of the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation, is a former chairman and current secretary of the board of directors for the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, and is former chair of the President's board of advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

A native of Maryland, Dr. Richardson earned a B.A. in social science from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (formerly Maryland State College), and an M.S. and Ed.D. from the University of Pennsylvania. He has been a fellow of the Ford Foundation and the Kellogg Foundation and has conducted extensive research on critical problems in higher education relevant to racial autonomy, desegregation, and integration. He has written several articles on the implications of proposals to merge historically Black institutions with White institutions and on inter-institutional cooperation in higher education.

# Presidents' Biographies (continued)



## Dr. David Holmes Swinton

Dr. David Holmes Swinton is the 13th president of Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. As president, Dr. Swinton oversees all areas and departments of the 137-year-old institution, whose student population exceeds 2,500. He is recognized for his academic achievements, his intellectual excellence, and his devotion to higher education.

Dr. Swinton's professional experience includes a 7-year tenure as dean of the school of business at Jackson State University where he led the successful effort to gain accreditation for the business school from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Prior to his appointment at Jackson State, he was director of the Southern Center of Studies in Public Policy and professor of economics at Clark College in Atlanta, Georgia.

Dr. Swinton is renowned for his scholarly writings, most notably his analysis of the economic status of African Americans, which has been published in the National Urban League's *The State of Black America*. His works have also been published in professional journals such as the *American Economics Review*, *The Review of Black Political Economy*, *Minority Youth Employment*, *Public Administration Review*, *Journal of Urban Analysis*, and *Business and Society*. In 2005, Dr. Swinton received the Samuel Z. Westerfield Award by the National Economic Association of African American Economists. In 2007, Dr. Swinton was inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame.

In 1998, Dr. Swinton became the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce's first African-American chairman of the board in the organization's 92-year history. In 1999, Dr. Swinton helped organize a group of 50 investors to create South Carolina Community Bank, to preserve the only minority-owned bank in South Carolina. Dr. Swinton has served as economic advisor to the National Urban League since 1980, and has been a member of *Black Enterprise* magazine's board of economists since 1990.

Dr. Swinton believes that students at Benedict are the school's most valued constituents and its most important product. To help ensure their success, he revised the student advising system and instituted a comprehensive retention program. The college has been named one of the top 10 producers of physics bachelor's degrees among African Americans in the United States, and was ranked number two in the nation in 2006.

Dr. Swinton has also been instrumental in administering the college's community development programs as well. With programs such as the U.S. Department of Labor's Welfare-to-Work, it enables Benedict College to create partnerships with local businesses and provide jobs and training to program participants.

Dr. Swinton received a B.A. in economics from New York University; and an M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University.

# *Presidents' Biographies (continued)*



## **Dr. Johnnie B. Watson**

Dr. Johnnie B. Watson, interim president of LeMoyne-Owen College, earned a B.A. from LeMoyne-Owen College in 1960 and a master's degree from Indiana University. In his early days at the college, he served as president of the Future Teachers of America and president of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity. In 2002, he was awarded the honorary doctor of laws degree from LeMoyne-Owen for his contributions to education throughout more than 43 years.

On retiring from Memphis City Schools in 1992, he accepted a teaching position at Rhodes College. He was later appointed chair of the U.S. Department of Education and distinguished associate professor. His lifetime commitment and dedication to education were deciding factors when the Memphis School Board unanimously appointed him to the role of superintendent of Memphis City Schools in 2000.



# General Session Biographies



## Dr. Leon D. Caldwell

Dr. Leon D. Caldwell is president of Caldwell & Associates, LLC, an organizational and community empowerment consulting firm. The client list for Caldwell & Associates includes school districts, higher education institutions, government agencies, community organizations, and corporations. Dr. Caldwell also designed and serves as the chair of the Think Tank for African American Progress (formerly the Brothers of the Academy Think Tank).

Dr. Caldwell has published and spoken, nationally and internationally, in the areas of education, counseling, scholar-activism, and ethics. He currently holds an academic position as a research associate professor.

Dr. Caldwell earned a Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Pennsylvania State University, and an M.Ed. in school counseling and a B.A. in economics from Lehigh University.



## Deirdre G. Gross

Deirdre G. Gross is vice president of the community investment services and director of housing and economic development programs for the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta (FHLBank Atlanta). Ms. Gross has primary responsibility for providing technical assistance and managing the application and approval process for the bank's affordable housing and economic development programs.

Ms. Gross also directs the development of program strategies that provide financial incentives for banks in the Southeast, to encourage housing and community development lending activities. In addition, she develops and manages the bank's relationships with national and regional affordable housing and economic organizations to promote community development, and to assist them in forming partnerships with the bank's members to access FHLBank Atlanta funding resources. Ms. Gross also directs the bank's Historically Black Colleges and Universities initiative.

Ms. Gross joined FHLBank Atlanta in 1992 after working at the state housing finance agency. She has also held positions as an origination manager and underwriter in the mortgage banking industry, and worked in the nonprofit arena as an executive director of a nonprofit housing corporation.

A native of Cleveland, Ohio, Ms. Gross is a graduate of Cleveland State University.

# General Session Biographies (continued)



## Ike Heard

Ike Heard serves as an adjunct lecturer and visiting assistant professor of geography and urban planning at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC-Charlotte). His primary subjects are environmental planning, transportation planning, community economic development, and urban planning (practice and theory). He also operates as a sole proprietor urban planning and community economic development consultant/analyst.

Mr. Heard's recent projects have included preparing strategic and business plans for community development corporations (CDCs) in Winston-Salem, assisting Livingstone College in preparing their successful application for funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) grant program, and presenting training sessions for HUD's HBCU technical assistance workshops.

Previously, Mr. Heard worked as a city planner in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg local government; as the executive director of the Northwest Corridor CDC (associated with Johnson C. Smith University); and as the Charlotte office director for the Enterprise Foundation.

Mr. Heard earned undergraduate degrees in sociology and urban studies from Dartmouth College, and graduate degrees in urban planning and in public administration from Harvard University and UNC-Charlotte, respectively.



## Lorenzo S. Littles

Lorenzo S. Littles joined the Dallas office of Enterprise Community Partners, Inc., (formerly known as The Enterprise Foundation) in the fall of 1997. He has more than 29 years' experience in project management, policymaking, administration, and legal analysis. At Enterprise, Mr. Littles oversees the administration of Dallas' Mortgage Assistance Programs that provide zero-interest downpayment and closing costs subsidies to first-time homebuyers. He is also the fund administrator for Dallas' Community Development Partnership, a collaborative of 11 banks, foundations, and the city that provides core operating support, technical assistance, and training to 8 community housing development organizations.

On June 22, 2005, the Honorable Alphonso Jackson, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), announced that Enterprise Dallas had been selected to operate HUD's Asset Control Area (ACA) program through which it will purchase, rehabilitate, and resell at a discount HUD-foreclosed properties to income-eligible families. Mr. Littles is the president of EHOP-Dallas, Inc., the nonprofit that runs the ACA program in Dallas.

Mr. Littles has a B.A. in economics from Cornell University, an M.P.A. from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, and a law degree from Harvard Law School.



# General Session Biographies (continued)



## Dr. Robert Pyle

Dr. Robert Pyle has been a project director of numerous federal and state projects in the School of Technology. He is a certified constructor with 25 years of experience in residential construction and 10 years of experience with manufactured and modular housing both in the classroom and field. He is currently a professor at North Carolina A&T State University, and has received awards for outstanding teaching and researcher of the year in 2005. Recently, he was rated by his peers as an outstanding professor in the School of Technology.

Dr. Pyle has performed exceptionally well both in programmatic coordination and management, receiving wide acclaims at local and national levels, and has been featured in the local news media on many occasions. With 30 years of experience working with the city residents and local agencies, Dr. Pyle is knowledgeable of university, city, county, state, and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requirements in the implementation and management of major community-based projects. Dr. Pyle heads the Leadership and Community Development Research Cluster at North Carolina A&T State University. His experience and expertise have been invaluable to the university in acquiring numerous grants throughout the past 20 years.

Dr. Pyle earned both a B.A. and M.A. from Trenton State College, and a Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh.



## Ephren W. Taylor, II

Ephren W. Taylor, II is the youngest African-American chief executive officer of any publicly traded company ever—City Capital Corporation. Described by popular radio show host Tom Joyner as “walking black history,” Mr. Taylor started his first business venture at age 12, when he began making videogames. By age 17, he had built a multi-million dollar technology company, GoFerretGo.com.

Mr. Taylor’s concepts on empowering local communities with both profitable and socially conscious investing and development have made him a frequently requested speaker and panelist for events such as the Wall Street Economic Summit and the Congressional Black Caucus. Mr. Taylor is also a well-known guest expert broadcasting to millions of households on local and national television and radio shows. He also currently hosts the “Soul of Success” radio show now airing on XM Satellite Radio Station on Family Talk 170XM.

Mr. Taylor is currently finishing an 18-city “Urban Wealth Tour,” promoting economic empowerment, energy independence, attainable housing, and entrepreneurship. He also recently launched Goshen Energy Resources, a national leader in producing alternative energy; specializing in biodiesel. His first book, *Creating Success from the Inside Out*, hits national book stores in December.

# Concurrent Session Biographies



## Ron Butler

Ron Butler has considerable experience in nonprofit and small business development, planning and implementing real estate development projects, leading large strategic planning processes, developing and managing national community development initiatives, developing comprehensive resource development campaigns, managing nonprofit and for profit organizations, and providing technical assistance and training for community based organizations.

He currently operates a multifaceted consulting firm that provides training, strategic planning, organizational development, and technical assistance services to public and private organizations. Services also include planning and implementing real estate development projects, conducting community assessments, and providing strategic assistance to colleges and universities that are forming partnerships with their communities.

Previously, Mr. Butler directed a national initiative in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that supports partnerships between institutions of higher education and public and private organizations to revitalize economically distressed communities. He has also planned conferences, seminars, and workshops on various community and economic development topics for university/community partnerships.

Under the D.C. Local Initiatives Support Corporation office, Mr. Butler managed the start-up of a multi-million dollar, 30-member consortium of private sector funders comprised of local and national banks, foundations, and corporations, which provided multiyear operating grants, technical assistance, and training to nonprofit community development organizations. He also initiated and managed a multifaceted economic development organization for a city/county government in Illinois.



## Kenya Crumel

Kenya Crumel has more than 12 years of experience working in the community development field, including developing workforce and economic development programs, as well as providing technical assistance in the areas of capacity building and strategic planning.

Currently, Mrs. Crumel serves as a director of organizational development and technical assistance at BCT Partners, where she oversees contracts with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Neighborhood Networks initiative and the Annie E. Casey Making Connections program. Prior to joining BCT Partners, Mrs. Crumel worked as an independent consultant and held a variety of positions at nonprofit community development organizations, think tanks, and the New York City Administration for Children's Services.

Mrs. Crumel holds an M.P.A. with a focus on public policy from New York University, and a B.A. in business economics and organizational behavior and management from Brown University.

# Concurrent Session Biographies (continued)



## Alyson Parham

Alyson Parham is founder and president of Partec Consulting Group, Inc., a management consulting and training firm established in 1994. Ms. Parham provides strategy and resource development consulting services to clients, including faith- and community-based organizations, foundations, universities, and government agencies. Some of the services provided include strategic planning, organizational assessments, project management, proposal writing, and group facilitation.

Ms. Parham has helped secure millions in funding for her nonprofit clients. Annually, nonprofit executives from across the country participate in training conducted by Ms. Parham on various management topics. In 2005, she authored a publication for the U.S. Department of Justice's Community Capacity Development Office on sustainability planning.

Ms. Parham holds a B.A. and M.A. in economics. She is a member of the Institute of Management Consultants and the Alliance for Nonprofit Management where she serves as a co-founder of the Faith-Based Capacity Builders Affinity Group.



## Contente Terry

Contente Terry is the principal of Contente Consulting, Inc., an urban planning and strategic consulting firm specializing in developing neighborhood revitalization plans and implementation strategies for reviving historic center-city communities. Ms. Terry's professional planning experience includes 8 years of project management, client relations, a broad range of planning disciplines for public and private development projects, strategic planning, and master planning.

With a strong emphasis in community engagement, consensus building, and capacity building, Ms. Terry has completed numerous neighborhood master plans for public and private clients throughout the southeast. Completed community redevelopment plans for the city of Atlanta include English Avenue, Vine City, Mechanicsville, and Pittsburgh neighborhoods. Redevelopment plans outside the Atlanta metropolitan area include the North Lawndale master plan in Chicago, Illinois; and East Gainesville community redevelopment plan and blight findings in Gainesville, Florida.

Ms. Terry has also served two years as adjunct professor at Beulah Heights University, located in historic Grant Park, for an urban planning and design class designed to provide a basic understanding and comprehensive approach to the practice of urban planning.

Ms. Terry has an M.A. in city planning from Georgia Institute of Technology, and a B.S. in computer science from Spelman College.

# Concurrent Session Biographies (continued)



## C. Everett Wallace

C. Everett Wallace, president of North Carolina Community Development Initiative Capital, is a nationally recognized expert in the areas of franchise development, housing and small business finance, and community economic development. Throughout the past decade, Mr. Wallace has been instrumental in establishing several of the nation's largest minority businesses in the areas of franchising and product distribution. He is the co-founder of the National Minority Franchise Initiative and has served as chairman of the minorities in franchising committee of the International Franchise Association (IFA). He currently serves on the board of trustees for the IFA Educational Foundation and its newly formed Diversity Institute.

Mr. Wallace is a frequently requested public speaker and has been cited in many publications for his expertise in franchising, business formation, finance, housing and economic development. He writes a feature column on franchising for *Turning Point* magazine and he has written numerous articles for national publications like *Black Enterprise*, *Franchising World*, *USA Today*, and the *Wall Street Journal*.

Mr. Wallace has served in a number of senior positions in the federal government, including General Deputy Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In 1998, at the request of the Governor of the State of Tennessee, he relocated to Nashville to design and implement a new statewide collaborative program—Tennessee's Strategically Targeted Area Redevelopment (TN-STAR). TN-STAR was designed to improve systems integration and service delivery among various departments of state government and the four largest population centers in Tennessee. The program resulted in measurable improvement in the interaction among these entities and brought in more than \$70 million in additional federal money during a 3-year period.

Mr. Wallace received his J.D. with honors in taxation and corporate law from Northwestern University and completed his formal legal education in the LLM program at the University of Chicago's School of Law.



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