

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT, Alonia C. Sharps



Isn't it great to work in higher education? Here we are at the end of a semester and looking forward to a winter break. Our students have absorbed as much knowledge as humanly possible in one semester and faculty are exhausted from imparting that knowledge. The whole semester has been a challenge for many students, but fruitful for all. Every day is a challenge and every person we encounter presents an adventure that keeps us on our toes and anxious to see what the next day will bring. As administrators and support staff, we have endured a great deal during the semester and still we keep a smile on our faces as we assist our current and prospective students. Although we do not impart educational knowledge, we do provide assistance that allows our students to be successful in our classrooms. The goal of our colleges is to produce a productive and educated society.

It is not just our students that we provide for, but also the professional development of our faculty, staff and administrators. The Vision for NCBA states,

"The National Council on Black American Affairs serves as a collaborative voice promoting the academic success of African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators." I've been thinking—how do we promote this vision. The National Council on Black American Affairs needs each and every one of us to continue to teach, mentor, advise and counsel young adults and professionals in community colleges. As we produce the productive and educated society, we must keep in mind that we are preparing our replacements. What have you done for yourself recently to promote either your own professional development or that of someone else? As educational professionals we must not lose sight of our own development.

The NCBA/NE Region needs you. Please join our colleagues and friends at the annual spring conference, scheduled for March 16 and 17, 2007, on the Atlantic City campus of Atlantic Cape Community College in Atlantic City, NJ. The theme

is—"Higher Education Public Policy: Intent, Applications and Results." Keynote Speakers include: Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, president of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Decatur, GA and Dr. Ron Wright, president of Cincinnati State Technical & Community College, Cincinnati, OH. Registration materials will be available in January. Hotel accommodations are currently being negotiated. The conference will begin at 1 pm on March 16 and end at 2 pm on

March 17. In addition to the great keynoters, we will sponsor workshops on Understanding and Teaching Students from Inner City Culturally Diverse Backgrounds; Black Male Achievement; Culture, Diversity and Other Generational Realities Facing Leaders in the 21st Century; and The Politics of Budgeting. Please encourage faculty, staff, students and administrators from your campus to attend.

Opticianry Student Honored for Excellence

Story by Alice Stelzer

MIDDLETOWN – Edward Thornton recently received the Joseph L. Bacotti Award for Excellence in Opticianry from Middlesex Community College (MxCC). Thornton successfully completed his state licensing exam, becoming a Connecticut Licensed Optician. He is employed by Hispana Vision in Hartford, Connecticut.



Professor Ray Dennis, coordinator of the Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing Program at MxCC congratulates Edward Thornton on receiving the prestigious Joseph L. Bacotti Award for Excellence in Opticianry.

Thornton participated, with a team of eyecare professionals and students from the MxCC Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing Program, in the Eyecare Outreach Program trip to LaPaz, and Baja California Sur in Mexico. During the eight days that they were in Mexico, the team conducted screenings and/or exams on 800 schoolchildren and some of their teachers.

Middlesex Community College president, Wilfredo Nieves said, "Edward Thornton demonstrates the excellence that can be achieved at Middlesex. His accomplishments, as well as those of the other students and faculty involved in this outreach program, reinforces for me that our college and our community are partners in a tradition of shaping the future through education—not only one person at a time, as our mission statement proclaims, but now I can proudly add one village at a time as well."



"The selection of a student to receive this award, dedicated to the memory of Dr. Joseph L. Bacotti, my mentor, neighbor, employer and friend is usually a difficult one, but this year Edward made it easy for me. For the past two years, Ed's work ethic, integrity and generosity exemplified the type of young optician that we hope our students will strive to be," said Professor Ray Dennis, coordinator of the Ophthalmic Design and Dispensing Program at MxCC.

Baltimore City Community College Honored Former Interim President

Baltimore City Community College Honors Former Interim President Richard M. Turner, III with Honorary Degree, Title of President Emeritus, at its 2006 Convocation

BALTIMORE—Baltimore City Community College, at its fall Convocation ceremony September 20, recognized former Interim President Richard M. Turner, III, Ph.D., with an honorary degree and the title of President Emeritus of the institution. Convocation is the formal, traditional ceremony that recognizes the return of the college community, reconnects students, faculty, and staff, and marks the official start of the academic year. BCCC's new President, Carolane Williams, Ph.D., will delivered the Convocation Address. BCCC Board of Trustees Chair Garland O. Williamson provided the distinctive honors to Dr. Turner.

Dr. Williams' leadership of the college began in July 2006. For the past 20 years, she has held leadership positions of increasing responsibility in community colleges. Prior to this position, she was Provost (same as Campus President) of Broward Community College North Campus, a comprehensive community college serving the urban, inner city needs of Ft. Lauderdale and surrounding communities in Broward County. Dr. Williams' work experiences have shaped her broad leadership view and given her a unique perspective. A community college graduate herself, Dr. Williams is a staunch supporter and advocate of the mission and importance of community colleges and the opportunities they can provide.

Dr. Williams has conducted numerous workshops

and seminars on various leadership, management, education, and business topics. Prior to entering the higher education profession, Dr. Williams served as a public relations specialist in the United States Air Force. Some of her most recent affiliations include the American Association of Community College's Research, Emerging Trends and Technology Commission; the Maryland Association of Community Colleges; the Presidents' Round Table and, the National Council of Black American Affairs.

Among other awards, Dr. Williams has received the Woman of the Year Award from the American Business Women's Association, the Outstanding Chairman Award from the Niceville-Valparaiso Chamber of Commerce, an Exceptional Community Service Award from the Legacy Group, and a Teaching Excellence Award from the National Institute of Staff and Organizational Development.

Dr. Williams earned a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of Texas at Austin; a Master's in Management from Troy State University; a Bachelor's in Psychology from Chicago State University; and, an Associate's degree from Olive Harvey Junior College. She also holds a diploma in Journalism from the Department of Defense Information School.



Dr. Turner passes the torch of office to Dr. Williams. Left to right: Dr. Carolane Williams, BCCC President; Dr. Richard M. Turner, III, BCCC President Emeritus. In the background is Dr. Joann Horton, BCCC Interim Executive Vice President. In addition to the above, a music scholarship was established in my name.

The honors presented to Dr. Turner, initiated by President Carolane Williams and the BCCC Board of Trustees, seek to acknowledge Dr. Turner's legacy to BCCC, which was to rebuild the goodwill of the community and lead the college to reaccreditation and increased state resources, which returned the college to firm academic and financial footing. His new title officially secures his continued, guiding presence in the rich history of the institution.

Ironically, Dr. Turner began his community college career in the same place he ended it: From 1974 to 1979, he was dean of faculty and provost, and from 1971 to 1974, dean of student activities, at BCCC (then known as Community College of Baltimore). Dr. Turner received his Bachelor of Arts degree in music from Fisk University and master's and doctoral degrees in music education from Indiana University. He received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Fisk University, and held doctoral fellowships from the Ford Foundation and the United Negro College Fund. Founded in 1947, BCCC is Baltimore's only community college, enrolls approximately 20,000 credit and noncredit students in a variety of associate degree and certificate programs, and enrolls more Baltimore residents as undergraduates than any other college or university in Maryland.

BCCC
Baltimore City Community College



Richard M. Turner, III, is presented a Board of Trustee resolution, conferring upon him the title of President Emeritus, as well as an honorary Associate of Arts Degree. Left to right: Garland O. Williamson, Chair, BCCC Board of Trustees; Dr. Turner; Dr. Carolane Williams, BCCC President; Steve T. Wyatt, BCCC Student Trustee.

CITY TECH AFRICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES PROFESSOR DIRECTS PROJECT TO ENHANCE CURRICULUM WITH HUMANITIES CONTENT

Brooklyn, NY – How can a “technological” college enhance its curriculum to provide students with a broader, deeper education -- one that embraces the liberal arts while not sacrificing the intensive preparation its graduates need to enter industry?

New York City College of Technology/CUNY (City Tech) is about to explore how to accomplish this. The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) has just funded a faculty development project at the College with the goal of creating a curriculum that will integrate study of the humanities and the technologies more deeply and more logically, so that students will experience and understand the connections between these different areas of study, according to Dr. Marta Effinger-Crichlow, project director and an assistant professor in City Tech's Department of African-American Studies.

Five New York City neighborhoods -- Sunset Park and East Flatbush/Crown Heights in Brooklyn, Flushing and Jackson Heights in Queens and Harlem in Manhattan -- will serve as the "interdisciplinary text" and "living lab" for the 15 faculty members from various academic departments chosen to participate. The neighborhoods were selected for their "architectural interest, literary associations and vibrant cultural characteristics," says Dr. Effinger-Crichlow.

A benefit of the NEH project's hands-on approach -- which includes field studies and tours of each of the neighborhoods -- is that the participating professors will have a better sense of the context of their students' lives.

"Currently, all of our degree programs have a core general education requirement, from which students can select courses in art, music, literature, language, history, philosophy and other liberal arts subjects," explains Dr. Bonne August, provost and vice president for academic affairs. "Too often, though, these courses are entirely separate from the students' technology courses, and students regard them as just requirements instead of opportunities.

Titled "Retentions and Transfigurations: The Technological Evolution and Social History of Five New York City Neighborhoods," the NEH grant will enable faculty members to study the cultural consequences of such technological developments as subways, skyscrapers and bridges on community life. They will also look at the ethnic histories of the neighborhoods, including how different groups have replaced one

another over time.

Participants will trace immigration and ethnicity patterns and artistic contributions that have given each neighborhood its distinctive character.

The project has three components:

- a rigorous year-long seminar for the selected faculty members with core texts that include Ann Douglas' *Terrible Honesty: Mongrel Manhattan in the 1920s* and Janes Jacobs' *Life of Great American Cities.*, among others.
- visits to the five neighborhoods led by Dr. Jack Eichenbaum and Mr. Francis Morrone, consultants to the Municipal Art Society, one of New York's oldest and most respected institutions devoted to the study of the architectural environment;
- the infusion of humanities content into technological studies at the College, with Dr. Michael Dinwiddie, an associate professor and curriculum chair of NYU's Gallatin School of Individualized Study, serving as curriculum consultant.

Together, the City Tech participants and Professor Dinwiddie will develop units of study



for a wide variety of technological and professional courses that incorporate the new humanities content focusing on New York City neighborhoods. The end result will be an enriched curriculum, using a "Humanities Across the Curriculum" model.

"The project will strive to transform technological and professional courses of study into richer and deeper reflections on the relationship between technology the professions, and the liberal arts," explains Barbara Burke, director of the Office of Grants and Contracts at the College, who was instrumental in obtaining the NEH grant.

2007 Regional Conference March 16-17, 2007 REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____
 Title _____
 Institution/Organization _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 Telephone: Daytime () _____ Evening () _____
 Fax: () _____ Email _____

Return Registration Form with check in the amount of:

- \$150.00** Member Registration Fee
- \$185.00** Non-Member Registration Fee
- \$50.00** Student (Includes registration, reception, Saturday continental breakfast, luncheon and conference materials)

Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make check, money order or purchase request payable to:
 NCBA/VNE Region
 c/o Dr. Roy H. McLeod
 43-10 Kissena Boulevard 15N
 Flushing, NY 11355

Register by March 8, 2007

EAST COAST EDUCATION LEADER NAMED APU DEAN

Azusa Pacific University named Wilmington, Del. resident Helen Easterling Williams, Ed.D., dean of the School of Education, announced Michael M. Whyte, Ph.D., APU provost. Williams assumes the position July 1, 2006, following a nine-month, nationwide search.

"Dr. Williams brings not only a phenomenal energy to this new position, but also extensive depth and breadth of experience," said Whyte. "She is an experienced college administrator and her research in the areas of leadership, international and religious studies, and teacher education will greatly contribute to our team."

As dean, Williams' responsibilities include overseeing the operations, budget, personnel, policy, programs, and growth of the school, its students, faculty, administrators, and staff. She provides leadership to the school's five departments, including Advanced Studies in Education, Educational Leadership, School Counseling and School Psychology, Teacher Education, and Doctoral Studies in Education, which enroll more than 3,000 students.

"I look forward to working with the distinguished faculty and staff of this highly acclaimed school to further build upon its solid foundation and excellent reputation, elevating it to national prominence," said Williams. "Putting God First and fostering a spirit of collegiality, we will redefine teacher and administrator preparation processes and pedagogy by enhancing and employing online education, problem-based learning, and other educational strategies to meet the emerging needs of various populations within the elementary, secondary, and higher education settings. We will seek to prepare students with the flexibility to perform with a spirit of excellence and integrity."

Previously, Williams served as senior assistant dean of the University of Delaware College of Arts & Sciences (2003-06), where she developed diversity initiatives, monitored enrollment management, established the Women-in-Science Program, represented the college during the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) accreditation process, and functioned as the liaison to the American Council on Education Delaware Network. Prior to that role, she served as senior assistant dean for the parallel program at the University of Delaware's Georgetown, Dover, and Wilmington campuses (2000-03); and assistant dean at the Wilmington campus (1997-2000).

"Dr. Williams' impeccable credentials provide a perfect match for the university's vision and the needs of the community at large," said Ilene Smith-Bezjian, DBA, dean of APU's School of Business and Management and chair of the search committee. "Her strategic abilities, leadership strengths, and spiritual depth will add a new dimension to the School of Education. I look forward to working with Dr. Williams on the Academic Cabinet and developing joint programs between our schools."

Williams' breadth of professional educational experience includes roles in administration, teaching, counseling, and speech and language therapy. From 2004-05, she received a presidential fellowship through the American Council on Education Fellows Program at the University of Maryland University College, Adelphi, where she established the Office of Instructional Design and Development, collaborated on a K-16 Early College Program concept paper, prepared an assessment report for the University of Delaware,

and provided consultation support to the University of Baltimore.

She also brings expertise as a licentiate preacher at Bethel A.M.E. Church in Wilmington, Del., where her leadership responsibilities included the Women's Prison Ministry, Intercessory Prayer Ministry, and Daughters of Radiance Women's Ministry. Williams is a member of the National Council on Black American Affairs, the Brandywine Professional Association, the Delaware Mentoring Program at the Delorez J. Baylor Women's Correctional Institution, Tower Hill School's Board of Trustees, and the Wilmington Metropolitan Urban League.

Williams received a Bachelor of Arts in Speech and Language Pathology from Jersey City State College, Jersey City, N.J.; a Master of Science in Speech and Language Pathology from Towson State University, Towson, Md.; and a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership from the University of Delaware, Newark.

APU's School of Education holds accreditation from NCATE and the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CCTC). In 2004-05, APU recommended to the state more than 2,300 individuals for California Teaching Credentials, ranking third among independent universities in California.

Featured in TIME magazine and ranked as one of the nation's best by U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review, Azusa Pacific is a comprehensive, Christian, evangelical university, committed to God First and known for excellence in higher education. Azusa Pacific's main campus lies just 26 miles northeast of Los Angeles in the San Gabriel Valley, while its seven Southern California regional centers bring convenience and extend quality programming. The university offers

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