

GRAM

MAGAZINE

A HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY PUBLICATION

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LEARN MORE. ▀ SUMMER / FALL 2007



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On the cover:
The Melissa and Kevin Katz Collection of African artifacts.



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MISSION STATEMENT

Huston-Tillotson University is an historically black University affiliated with The United Methodist Church, the United Church of Christ, and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). The mission of the University is to provide its increasingly diverse student body with an exemplary education that is grounded in the liberal arts and sciences, balanced with professional development, and directed to public service and leadership. The University prepares students with the integrity and civility to thrive in a diverse society, fosters spiritual development, preserves and promotes interest in the accomplishments and experiences of the University's historic constituents and evolving population, and creates and sustains supportive relationships which advance the Huston-Tillotson University community.



The Impact of a Quality Education on First Generation Students at Huston-Tillotson University

For more than a century, hundreds of students have arrived at Huston-Tillotson University to begin their journey toward the goal and rewards of a college education. Many, but fewer than in earlier days, are first-generation college students. For more than 132 years, dedicated professors have challenged eager HT students to see in themselves the talent and potential for success. Since 1875, the sons and daughters of HT have made a dramatic difference in the quality of life for the communities and people they touch.

First generation students are often faced with academic challenges. Having met little success in their academic careers, these students are often easily intimidated and overwhelmed when faced with new academic demands.

Huston-Tillotson implemented the Pathways to Academic Success and Socialization (PASS) in August 2004. PASS is an intervention system that helps students assimilate into the academic and social life of the University. A cohort of 50 first generation students was included in the initial program. The PASS program is supported by the PASSAGES learning experience – designed as a continuation of the PASS program-offers

students structured access to academic and social support throughout the year. Under the guidance of faculty, peer mentors, and staff, PASSAGES students receive academic advising, personal and career counseling, intellectual opportunities, and skill-building.

Huston-Tillotson provides diverse students a proven environment for academic success. In the fall of 2007, the ethnicity of the student body was 73% African American, 13% Hispanic, 7% Asian/Pacific Islander, 4% White, and 3% Other. The University provides access to an affordable higher education. Ninety-four percent of HT's undergraduate students receive some form of financial aid.

True to its roots, Huston-Tillotson embraces the responsibility of intellectually challenging well-prepared students while offering the less prepared an opportunity to reach their full potential. This sweeping commitment leads us to recruit across the spectrum of ability. If that young person has the aptitude to succeed, we want to be a vehicle for their success.

The composition of the University's academic disciplines and the quality of our faculty are the cornerstones of the

educational experience we offer to our students. We continually seek opportunities to develop this supportive role through mentoring programs, academic enrichment, speakers, social scholarship, and performing arts events. The PASS program allows the University to live up to its promise.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James H. [unclear]".

'A Good Job' or College: Real Choices for Two HT Students

By Linda Y. Jackson



Miss Alpha Phi Alpha Sweetheart, Maxine Harris (center), shared many college stories with her daughter, La Juana.

When the choice is between taking a "good paying job" or enrolling in college at a rate of more than \$280 per credit hour, the decision is easy. Or is it?

La Juana Napier found herself in a place that many small town Seguin high school students find themselves. Located in South Central Texas, Seguin, with its 22,000 population, is close to Austin, San Antonio, and Houston, but it's still small town Seguin. When Napier looked to the future upon graduating from high school nearly 30 years ago, it looked fun and exciting. However, when she looked behind her, she saw generations of family members with numerous success stories and she heard one message. "Enroll in college."

Just a few years ago, in Houston, Texas, Korbi Orr was awaiting graduation from Ross S. Sterling High School and facing

what seemed like insurmountable odds. Born into a hard-working blue collar family in one of the nation's largest cities, a child of divorced parents, with a mother who got caught up in drugs, and educated in a state with the nation's worst high school graduation rate, Orr had to make some choices. Work or college? Between Orr's mother, father, and stepparents, there are ten children. Orr is the youngest and one of only two children enrolled in college. She hears a familiar refrain when she looks back to her family of firemen, medical assistants, database operators, and domestic workers, "Get a good job!" However, one family matriarch told a story repeatedly that stuck with her. Her grandmother was serving dinner at a gathering in the home in which she worked as a domestic and was called a derogatory name in front of the guests. The word hurt and stuck. "My grandmother told me to be better. Don't be like my mom or dad. Get an education, because no one can take it away from you." Orr listened. She also had the images of television's "Different World"—which depicted a fictitious historically black college campus and college life—etched in her mind.

Napier moved to Las Vegas into a new position before settling down for marriage, and family. Along the way, she also landed a job as a flight attendant with an upcoming airline. The fact that the uniform was hot pants added to the allure. She later moved to San Antonio to start a career with AT&T as an account

representative in the international call center. The excitement around the new international long-distance product, the team, concept, and job assignments made it the dream job. She also found herself in a fight with her conscience after enrolling at Texas A&M University in College Station upon graduating from high school in 1976 and dropping out. She later enrolled at St. Phillip's College in San Antonio to ease the gnawing of her conscience.

The number of Napier family members who graduated from Samuel Huston, Tillotson College, Huston-Tillotson is extensive and impressive. Napier's choices made her one of the first in her family not to finish college. "Cousins, first cousins...they all have degrees," said Napier. Her Aunt Helen, graduated ▶

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Pictured are La Juana R. Napier (left) and Korbi Orr who journeyed to Huston-Tillotson by different paths but share common interests.

Huston-Tillotson University Celebrates Anniversary with the Grand Opening of an Historic Building



Huston-Tillotson University celebrated its 131st anniversary in grand style, with the renaming and rededication of an historic building. The Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall was the structural focus of the three-day celebration, but prospective students who traveled from the far corners of the state and beyond for the annual Senior Weekend were the reason for the celebration.

Charter Day Convocation speaker Thomas W. Dortch, Jr., chairman emeritus of 100 Black Men of America, Inc. and chairman and chief executive officer of TWD, Inc., a consulting firm with an emphasis on business development, public relations, and fundraising, asked

the full-house gathered in King-Seabrook Chapel "to protect the legacy" of Huston-Tillotson University. "It's not about coming back today, reminiscing, living in the past, and talking about the good old days," Dortch said. "It's about saluting the past and securing the future of this great institution." Dortch asked the various groups in the audience – alumni, students, corporate, and faith leaders – to stand as he challenged them and reminded them of their responsibilities.

Dortch told the students present to "strive for academic excellence." The top ranking students honored as follows were: biology, Alexandra E. Aponte, senior, San Antonio, Texas, and Chenadra

Washington, junior, Houston, Texas; business administration, Dawn Andrea Cassanova, senior, Kingston, Jamaica, and Natasha Cooper, senior, Dallas, Texas; chemistry, Alexander F. Rancier, senior, Austin, Texas, and Richard Northcote, junior, League City, Texas; computer science, Edwin Baezotero, senior, Austin, Texas; criminal justice, Albert Perez, senior, Austin, Texas; English, Misty M. Davis, senior, Austin, Texas; history, Matthew Morris, junior, San Antonio, Texas; interdisciplinary studies, Alysia Chatman, senior, Houston, Texas; kinesiology, Sydney Haisler, senior, Caldwell, Texas; mathematics, W. Twelvis Matthews, senior, Austin, Texas; music, Jonathan D. Hamilton, senior, Austin, Texas; political science, India Renee Jones, senior, Austin, Texas; psychology, Soleil Hernandez, junior, Fort Worth, Texas; and sociology, Holland E. Moore-LaCour, junior, San Fernando, California. "I challenge you to do your best and be the best," Dortch, who was valedictorian of his class, said. "Invest your time, because the talents that you have will help make a difference."



Top ranking students in each major were honored during the Charter Day celebration.

Aponte, Cooper, Rancier, Northcote, Morris, Hernandez, Matthews, and Hamilton are also HT W.E.B. Dubois Honor Scholars. The DuBois Honors Program offers students a unique opportunity to enrich their education through specialized curricula, internships, workshops, and cultural events. Tillotson College and Samuel Huston College were founded in 1875 and 1876, respectively, to educate "freedmen," the descendants of slavery. Charter Day represents the official designated celebration of the signing of the Charter of Incorporation that established Huston-Tillotson College on October 24, 1952. The institution changed to University status in February 2005. Dortch, who established the National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. as a vehicle to continuously highlight the major contributions of historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) and their graduates, stated that although "we're losing them (HBCU), it's important for us to work just as hard to ensure their future."

Top donors were also honored and presented the President's Club Award by HT President Larry L. Earvin for donations ranging from \$350,000 to \$10,000 during the past year as follows: Anthony E. Viera; Dell Inc.; Venera R. or James D. Foy Trust; Zan Wesley Holmes, Jr.; Wachovia Bank; Hatton W. Sumners Foundation; AT&T Texas; Texas Methodist Foundation; James E. Strong; Ruth Ella Robinson; Johnson Controls, Inc.; JP Morgan Chase Bank; The Welch Foundation; Tarrytown United Methodist Church; State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company; Wells Fargo Bank; Hughes & Luce, LLP; George Brackenridge Foundation; Sembradores de Amistad de Austin; Murray A. Goldman; Margaret S. Goldman; Huston-

Tillotson University Houston Alumni Chapter; and ProArts Collective. "I commend you for your investment in this institution," Dortch said. "Give all you can, invest all you can...help improve this institution!"

The Pre-Charter Day Symposium, "And Still We Rise: The African-American Family: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow," addressed the challenges that many

“Invest your
time, because
the talents
that you have
will help make
a difference.”

families are facing when seeking to raise children to become college bound. Featured speakers Debra Murphy, HT's associate professor of psychology, addressing "Reclaiming Our Role as Activist Leaders: Themes of Resilience;" Marci Littlefield, assistant professor of sociology, Indiana University/Purdue University in Indianapolis, addressing "What's Love Got To Do With It: Black Women and the Changing Faces of Marriage and Family;" and Mary Thomas, coordinator, State and Federal Accountability for the Austin Independent School District, discussing "Raising the Standard While Eliminating the Gap," left the audience with a few points of interest. Just as Dortch reflected upon the African heritage of a connection to kings and queens, the symposium speakers spoke the praises of African American females and their role in keeping families together in spite of economic factors, drugs, poverty, and now HIV/AIDS.

Recalling an earlier generation's commitment to education, self-help, and empowerment of African American people, eyes focused on the grand opening of Anthony and Louise Viera-Alumni Hall. "I never thought when I left in 1958 that I would come back to see my name on a building," said Viera. "I thank God." ▶

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HT board members (left front) Bertha Sadler Means, Wilhelmina Delco, (back row) Rambie Briggs, Rick Burciaga, and Wanda Evaige cut the ribbon during the grand opening celebration. Also pictured (front center and above) alumnus Anthony E. Viera, Larry L. Earvin (right). Vern Wattinger, Robert Stanton, Patricia Shorter, Congressman Lloyd Doggett, and Kennie Wattinger (back, third from left).



Chairman Emeritus of 100 Black Men of America, Inc. and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of TWD, Inc., Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. matched donations to HT during an appeal made while rendering the Charter Day Convocation address.



Students, like India Renee Jones, were the most excited during the grand opening about the new Dell laptops housed in the Dell Computer Laboratory.

Read the full Thomas W. Dortch, Jr. speech by visiting the Public Relations' page of the www.htu.edu Web site.

First DuBois Scholars Receive Diplomas

The Honorable Wilhemina R. Delco Brings Words of Encouragement

The first William Edward Burghardt DuBois Honors Program scholars, the largest graduating class in five years, and the largest group of criminal justice majors highlighted Huston-Tillotson University's 2007 Commencement Convocation.

Nearly 2,000 guests witnessed the conferring of degrees for the 91 graduates, representing China, India, Jamaica, Nigeria, Mexico, Pakistan, Senegal, Turkey, and the United States during the early morning ceremony on the campus under the hot Texas sun. Education proponent, advocate, former school board member and Texas legislator – The Honorable Wilhemina R. Delco – rendered the keynote address. She painted a picture of known, acknowledged, and unknown pressures the graduates faced that were different from those faced by their peers not on the bachelor's degree path. "You are not alone," Delco said. "You are walking in the footsteps of those who preceded you." Delco's words of encouragement were rooted in the words of the Huston-Tillotson alma mater. "Founded on the rock eternal, looking ever toward the light, wise in mind and great in spirit, holding fast her vision bright." She touched on the pride of the moment and

the responsibility of encouraging and supporting others.

The DuBois scholars, named for the African American sociologist, historian, writer, civil rights advocate, and intellectual of the twentieth century, are academically gifted students who entered the newly created program during the 2003-04 academic year. The nine who graduated from the inaugural class, their majors, and hometowns are as follows: Alexandra E. Aponte, biology, San Antonio; Natasha L. Cooper, business administration, Dallas; Jonathan D. Hamilton, music, Austin; Christine R. Henderson, business administration, Austin; Michael K. Lewis, business administration, Houston; W. Twelvis Matthews, biology and mathematics, Killeen; Andre Price, biology, Austin; Alexander Rancier, biology and chemistry, Austin; and Shuntavia D. Wimby, interdisciplinary studies, Killeen.

In addition to the DuBois scholars, the following students graduated with highest honors – summa cum laude (3.75-4.0 GPA) – Albert J. Perez, criminal justice; Armaan Babai-Pirouz, English; Elizabeth J. Torok, kinesiology; India R. Jones, music; La Juana R. Napier and Divina M. Ormsby, psychology; Alexander F. Rancier, biology and chemistry; Akkaya Buket, Dawn A. Cassanova, Natasha L. Cooper, Christina R. Henderson, Shelia D. Overton, and Jiaoshu S. Zhang, business administration; and Edwin Baezotero and Christopher A. Norris, computer science. Alexandra E. Aponte, biology; Michael L. Lewis, business administration; Fernando Martinez, computer science; Mary G. Barrera, Alysia R. Chatman, and Terry J. Freeman, interdisciplinary studies; Sydney D. Haisler, kinesiology; Jonathan



D. Hamilton, music; Christopher L. Tolbert, political science; and Holland Moore-LaCour, sociology graduated magna cum laude (3.50-3.74 GPA). Finally, Cardale Johnson and Ahmad Shakil, criminal justice; Jackie R. Moore, English; Shuntavia D. Wimby, interdisciplinary studies; Ashley C. Watts, kinesiology; Bree D. Simmons, sociology; and W. Twelvis T. Matthews, biology and mathematics received cum laude (3.30 – 3.49 GPA) honors.

Honors Convocation also highlighted the weekend of activities. Huston-Tillotson alumna and board member Wanda Evaige provided the keynote address during Honors Convocation. The program spotlighted students on the Dean's List and Honor Roll. Top ranking scholars in each major were as follows: Alexandra E. Aponte and Chenadra Washington, biology; Dawn Cassanova and Natasha L. Cooper, business administration; Richard P. Northcote, chemistry; Alexander Rancier, chemistry and biology; Edwin Baezotero and Christopher Norris, computer science; Papa Diallo and Albert Perez, criminal justice; Armaan Babai-Pirouz, and Misty Davis, English; Matthew Morris, history; Kraven Rowry and Greg Selden, interdisciplinary studies; Trent Reynolds and Elizabeth Torok, kinesiology; Corey D. Jahn, mathematics; Jonathan Hamilton, music; India R. Jones, political science; Soleil Hernandez and La Juana R. Napier, psychology; and Yasmin Turk and Erica Ojeda, sociology.

"Don't stop here," Evaige said. "Make your dreams come true." *



DuBois scholars (left to right): Christine R. Henderson, Alexander Rancier, Shuntavia D. Wimby, Natasha L. Cooper, Andre Price, Alexandra E. Aponte, Jonathan D. Hamilton, Michael K. Lewis

Jackie Robinson's Lasting Impact on the World and HT

By Linda Y. Jackson

Those unfamiliar with Huston-Tillotson's history are skeptical when they discover that baseball great Jackie Robinson was so closely connected to the institution. The fact that he was employed as the basketball coach is even more perplexing.

The love for baseball in 1945 among boys and men, whether played in a neighborhood backyard with one shared bat and baseball among families, or in a hot, dusty stadium made the sport America's game and America's shame.

Thanks to players like Andrew "Rube" Foster (another Huston-Tillotson unknown) who started the Negro National League, African American baseball players had a place to live out their dreams even if there was no formal contract or guaranteed salary.

Robinson, born in Cairo, Georgia, but raised in Pasadena, California, excelled in football, basketball, baseball, and track at Muir Technical High School. No one

noticed his talents and no scholarships to college were offered. He enrolled at Pasadena Junior College where his quarterback abilities and his most valuable junior college baseball player

honor caught the eye of college scouts who lined up scholarships. The University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) was Robinson's choice, and, again his comfort with four sports gained him letters in each and attention. He played professional football for the Los Angeles Bulldogs, was an athletic director for a local youth program, and taught Sunday School where the Reverend Karl Downs had served as pastor.

Robinson served his time in the military, was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, and was honorable discharged in 1944 after refusing to move to the back of a military bus. Austin became Robinson's home away from home with Downs, who was president of Samuel Huston College, and

his wife ensuring that home cooked meals and spiritual guidance awaited the soldier. Downs needed a men's basketball coach, and Robinson was sitting across the dinner table. Little did Downs know that the invitation would be short lived and historic.

Samuel Huston's basketball team under Robinson was undefeated while playing long, tough road schedules as part of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC). Upon returning from one of



Karl Downs (left) president of Samuel Huston College, 1943-1948, was the officiant at the Jackie Robinson wedding to Rachel. The Robinson's had one son, David, who currently lives in Tanzania, Africa.



Jackie Robinson played his entire baseball career with the Brooklyn Dodgers. He hit 137 homeruns during his nine year career.

those road stretches, Robinson noticed a letter in his pile of mail from the Kansas City Monarchs. He couldn't turn down the opportunity to play for the most successful baseball team in the Negro league. His stay at Samuel Huston and in Austin was over. In 1945 he integrated major league baseball-broke the color line-when he signed with the Brooklyn Dodgers by way of their farm team, the Montreal Royals. He endured racial comments, bigotry, death threats, and physical harm while earning Rookie of the Year honors in 1947 for the national league, major league records, and capturing six World Series titles. Most importantly, he paved the way for other African American players in the minors and majors. ▶

CONTINUED...See Robinson, page 39

>>>BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History Month was Celebrated with a Visit from the Commission of Education, University Day, and a Host of Other Events

University Day, an African American Heritage Festival, a visit by former Texas Education

Commission Shirley Neeley, and a "13 Black Classicists" traveling exhibit and lecture were scheduled for the month of February on the historic Huston-Tillotson University campus in celebration of Black History Month.

Former Texas Education Agency Commissioner Shirley Neeley visited with members of the HT Education Club at their February meeting at the invitation of former students Alysia and Felysia Chatman. The Chatmans, co-chairs of the Education Club, attended North Shore High School when Neeley was superintendent of the Galena Park Independent School District. "I can't tell you how proud I am of you (Chatmans)," Neeley said. "I'm on a mission in Texas. "I want to return pride to the (teaching) profession." Alysia's major is interdisciplinary studies with a certification in early childhood through

four (EC-4) and Felysia is majoring in kinesiology. Neeley was responsible for more than 1,037 Texas school districts and 200 charter schools. Alysia was recently accepted into the University of Texas, Austin, graduate school.

“Good, better,

best – never.

Never let it rest

until good is

better and

better is best.”

—Reuben S. Lovinggood

CHOIR IN DEMAND

The Huston-Tillotson University Concert Choir, under the direction of Gloria Quinlan, partnered with the Austin Chamber Music Center for the fifth annual concert celebrating works by African-American composers. Quinlan and trombonist Nathaniel Brickens, leaders in Austin's musical scene, joined ACMC musicians to perform thought-provoking, edgy, and fun works by both popular and up-and-coming contemporary composers. The concert choir performed at churches and programs in Austin, Houston, San Antonio, and Dallas during February.

BLACK WOMEN ORGANIZED

Erik S. McDuffie, professor of African American studies and gender studies at



the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign spoke during the annual W.E.B. DuBois Lecture on the topic, "The Sojourners of Truth and Justice: Radical Black Feminism and Human Rights. During the Cold War." He praised the University for its creation of the DuBois scholars' program before beginning his lecture on how black women organized and protested for their rights. A little known lost history fact.

'13 BLACK CLASSICISTS' EXHIBIT

University officials opened the Bertha Sadler Means African American Heritage Resource Center for the "13 Black Classicists" traveling exhibit in the Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall. Author and creator of the exhibit, Michele Ronnick enthusiastically discussed the controversy involved in the movement to bring classical interpretation into



The "13 Black Classicists" traveling exhibit transformed the Bertha Sadler Means African American Heritage Resource Center into an historical journey.



Guest lecturer Erik S. McDuffie enlightened students about role of black women during the Feminist Movement.

classroom instruction 100 years ago, toured the exhibit, and signed books. Reuben S. Lovinggood who was president of Samuel Huston College from 1900 to 1916 was a leading advocate of the movement. Ronnick stated that the classics flourished at black universities and colleges. Latin, Greek, Homer's *Illiad* and *Odyssey*, the New Testament, and more were required for students. She found William S. Scarborough's unfinished autography during her research and also discovered a 13th pioneer. Scarborough "helped formalize the intellectual tradition of the black scholar." Ronnick finished the book and secured a forward from Henry Louis Gates, Jr. The exhibit was renamed the "13 Black Classicists" although the original "12 Black Classicists" had already become noted.

REUBEN SHANNON LOVINGGOOD

Lovinggood was born in Walhalla, SC, in 1864 amid great hardship. He graduated with honors from Clark University in 1890. In 1895 he was called to Wiley College in Marshall, Texas, to build up the classics program. He later served as president of Samuel Huston College in Austin, Texas, and opened a classics program in 1910.

To read the full profiles on the "12 Black Classicists," please visit the following Web site: <http://12blackclassicists.com/>

UNIVERSITY DAY A HIT

Prospective students from around the country were invited to University Day in February. Students spent a day on the campus talking to administrators and faculty about academic majors, the admission process, financial aid, and student life. A campus tour, step show, and other activities were planned during the event that was free to all. Students and their families also attended the annual African American Community Heritage Festival, sponsored by Texas State

Representative Dawnna Dukes. The event, held for the past few years in conjunction with University Day, featured performances by youth groups, merchant vendors, mobile health services, face painters, jugglers, balloon twisters,

and more. AT&T presented a \$160,000 donation to Dukes and District 46 community groups and organizations. A scholarship was awarded to one of the incoming HT freshmen for the second year in a row. *

Actress Sheryl Lee Ralph Performed Her One-Woman Show to Sold Out Audience



Tony Award nominee for her role in Broadway's "Dreamgirls," Sheryl Lee Ralph (*above*), actress, writer, producer, and creator of "Sometimes I Cry," performed her one-woman to a sold-out crowd in King-Seabrook Chapel.

Ralph's performance, sponsored by the Austin Community Sheryl Lee Ralph World AIDS Day Committee, empowers and educates women, especially women of color about the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immuno-deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). In addition, she gives a voice to the social and health issues connected to HIV and AIDS, defines and prioritizes a course of action to help create a cultural shift whereby women are able to better protect themselves, and seeks treatment for families, including the children impacted by the disease.

"Sometimes I Cry," written and conceived by Ralph, was inspired by real life stories of women who were infected and affected by HIV and AIDS. The show also offered an engaging window into the unique

difficulties women face. The chronicles of women from diverse backgrounds and cultures were experienced as Ralph breathed life into their stories while exploring through word, movement, and song just how each woman coped with her new HIV/AIDS reality.

"The play was for men, too, because women are inextricably connected to men as their wives, mothers, sisters, and daughters," said Debra Murphy, HT's professor of psychology. "It addressed the continued stigmatization and ostracism of people living with HIV/AIDS, which must stop, as this continues to be a major barrier in rallying our communities to combat this epidemic, as does the lack of funding that is getting to the communities in need."

Ralph starred in numerous movies and television shows, including "Sister Act II," "The Flintstones," the George Foreman series "George," "The Mighty Quinn" with Denzel Washington, Eddie Murphy's "Distinguished Gentleman," the hit comedies "Designing Women," "Moesha," and her own series, "New Attitude." She can be seen on episodes of "ER."

Ralph also appeared at a "meet and greet" reception for various health and HIV/AIDS organizations in Austin who rallied to secure her appearance. Her visit was also made possible by a grant from the Office of Minority Health and National Library of Medicine.

By Janice B. Smith and Linda Y. Jackson

Thunder™ Rolls On the Campus Landscape

Academic collaboration at Huston-Tillotson University is more exciting, engaging, and immersive due to implementation of a revolutionary new technological tool. Unlike many instructional technologies that focus on the ability to incorporate one or two types of media, this integrated tool capitalizes on displaying, sharing, and manipulating multiple types of media in real time.

Thunder™ Virtual Flipchart™ System is the brain child of Polyvision Corporation, a Steelcase Company, considered the world leader in visual communication products. Through a grant from Polyvision (\$48,850) and a \$500,000 appropriation facilitated by Texas Senator Royce West through the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) funds, the five Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC) acquired the Thunder™ Enterprise Collaboration System primarily to expand the schools' Centers for Teacher Education distance learning offerings. Thunder™ was originally designed for the global communication needs of corporate clients. However, the TADC institutions quickly realized the benefits for instruction. HT and the TADC institutions are the only higher education institutions in Texas, to date, that have adopted Thunder™ as an academic technology.

Interest in Thunder™ as an alternative distance learning platform for courses offered through the Centers for Teacher Education began in 2005. The learning

curve required by professors for adoption is extremely low, because Thunder™ incorporates several familiar technologies into one integrated system. The system allows users to work in their style instead of adapting their style to accommodate new technologies or applications. Imagine, a professor's or student's handwritten notes projected directly from the flipchart to multiple screens and a laptop, or diagrams and reports saved by each student at the click of a button. The collaboration and interaction with displayed content are the beauty of Thunder™. Unlike typical videoconferencing configurations, Thunder™ is not dependent on a single audio video transmission. Instead, the content displayed on the flip chart pages becomes the visual focus, and audio connections (phone) provide the avenue for oral collaboration – much like a conference call. Digital and text files as well as individual desktops are shared and manipulated easily by all participants through the Thunder™ easel and computer client application. All information presented during a session, whether face-to-face or at a distance, can be saved, re-opened, printed, and mailed electronically, if desired.

The technology is definitely new generation for virtual group interaction. Classes enhanced with Thunder™ at HT will be attractive to students intrigued by technology that addresses various learning styles and the opportunity to actively and collaboratively create content



that becomes a part of the class session. In addition to enhancing and expanding the distance learning offerings, opportunities to collaborate with current and future partners is easily accomplished. Collaborative partnerships between the pre-service students at the University of Nottingham, the University of Toronto, and HT are in progress.

According to Janice Smith (*pictured in photo*), HT's assistant professor of instructional technology, Thunder™ supports the University's strategic plan objectives by expanding distance-learning opportunities to meet the needs of students desiring alternative modes of delivery; developing and promoting the use of technology in teaching; expanding student-focused learning center/ computer facilities; and increasing student accessibility to support instruction, research, and development. Smith provides technology training and instructional design support for the HT faculty and the TADC consortium.

The Thunder™ product with its electronic room scheduling keypad is housed in HT's Dickey-Lawless Science Building. *

Applied Materials Presents \$20,000 to HT for Summer Math and Science Program

Applied Materials Manufacturing Project Manager Bill Kempf presented a \$20,000 check to Huston-Tillotson University to support the Austin Pre-Freshman Engineering Program (AusPrEP) summer program. The summer series, managed by Huston-Tillotson's Professor of Chemistry Muchere Russ, is targeted toward minority students interested in opportunities in the fields of math, science, engineering, and technology.

The nationally recognized program, designed to identify high achieving middle and high school students with the potential and interest in becoming scientists and engineers, began on the Huston-Tillotson campus in 1990. Applied Materials has provided funding for AusPrEP for the past four consecutive years.

IHCA Donates \$10,000 for Study Abroad Program

The International Hospitality Council of Austin (IHCA) donated \$10,000 to Huston-Tillotson to establish an endowed scholarship. The gift will allow students to supplement the cost of studying abroad.



Pictured left to right are: Steven Edmond, dean, School of Business and Technology, Larry L. Earvin, president; and Joseph Frisz, president of the board of directors of the International Hospitality Council of Austin.

HT Receives \$600,000 Capacity Building Grant from the United Negro College Fund

Designed to accelerate growth, build sustainability, and provide the foundation for a capital campaign, Huston-Tillotson University was awarded a \$600,000 grant from the United Negro College Fund's (UNCF) Institute for Capacity Building's (ICB) Institutional Advancement Program.

"We are positioning Huston-Tillotson for its first multi-million dollar capital campaign designed to complete the campus expansion project and double the endowment," said Larry L. Earvin, president.

Huston-Tillotson received its first \$200,000 from UNCF, which was targeted to assist advancement and development operations during the minimum three year and maximum five year periods according to Vicki Minor, vice president for institutional advancement. Minor, who joined the University in 2003, manages alumni affairs, development, public relations, and grants and proposals.

The grant supported a software upgrade for fund-raising and donor tracking in addition to specialized personnel, expert UNCF consultation, and new development strategies to support the University's ten-year strategic plan for growth.

The ICB exists to support the ongoing advancement efforts of UNCF's 39 member institutions in the areas of fund-raising, enrollment, academic programming and faculty development, financial management, historic preservation, executive leadership, and governance.

Huston-Tillotson, Bennett College, Talladega College, and Virginia Union University were among the first institutions selected to receive the grant.

CONTINUED... See Contributions, page 30

Huston-Tillotson University Receives Its Largest Collection of African Art

By Linda Y. Jackson

The 52 pieces of mixed art from a number of African countries, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic floated through the hall of the historic Anthony and Louise Viaer-Alumni Hall like a parade. The constant movement on the hardwood floors echoed throughout the three stories and alerted the occupants that something spectacular was moving about.

The spirits from African ancestors and descendants of slaves mingled for awhile when both found themselves at the place called Huston-Tillotson University in a building constructed by the labor and sweat of students like many of the art pieces that were arriving.

Actually, it was Omar Shabazz and company delivering an assortment of masks, sculptures, and ceremonial pieces from his good friend Kevin Katz. Shabazz, owner of The Goldstein Collection, located in Houston, Texas, and Katz met in Houston in 1979. Both are world travelers, passionate about Africa, and interested in educating others about African's art and resources.

The Melissa and Kevin Katz Collection donated to Huston-Tillotson is valued at \$400,000 and includes pieces from Nigeria, the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Mozambique, Tanzania as well as Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Kevin, an optometrist practicing in Galveston, was born and raised in South Africa. He journeyed to the United States in 1976 where he attended Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, to complete his master's in clinical optometry. He received his doctor of optometry from

the University of Houston and settled in the Gulf Coast. He and his wife, also an optometrist, own NASA Vision Center in Clear Lake.

The Katz's, who have donated art pieces to Texas Southern University and Prairie View A&M University, were looking for others who could benefit from the rich history of the collection. "He came to me and asked me about other UNCF schools that would also appreciate a collection," said Shabazz. Longtime friend Dorca Medina, HT's director of development, had shared the school's background on many occasions. "I mentioned Huston-Tillotson but he had never heard of it." Katz completed his online research about Huston-Tillotson University and decided it was the right choice.

The mixed collection of ceremonial pieces from different countries and tribes is hundreds of years old. The fact that many items were used for their intended purposes only a few years ago makes the collection even more remarkable. For example, the grain silo ladder that looks a lot like a huge sling shot is valued at \$10,000 and was used to reach corn and grain that were stored off the ground and out of reach of pests and varmints. Shabazz mentioned that while traveling to African to collect gems and cultural minerals, he witnessed many ceremonies such as public and funeral rites of passage. The photos of events and the instruments and icons that they used are etched in his memory instead of on paper out of respect for the tribes and ceremonies.

Shabazz explained the deeper meaning of many of the pieces. Before a master



carver or his apprentice cuts a tree for a sculpture, the spirits or juju of the tree are appeased, fed by watering, nurtured, and blessed. The belief is that all living things have a soul or spirit and the tree and the carver must become one. The same type of expression is found in the carvings that show the breast of a woman and with a child. ▶

CONTINUED...next page

Art (continued)

The many carvings of the Black Madonna portray fertility not only for human existence but fertility for the soil and the crops, which are vital to survival. The bare breasted pieces seen as sexual in America convey the sustention of life from a mother to a child.

One of the more valued pieces in the collection is a six foot carving of the sacred and endangered hornbilled bird (pictured on previous page) from the Senufo people off the Ivory Coast. The bird's valued ivory beak makes it a target for poachers interested in creating treasures such as ivory snuff bottles. The bird's ability to procreate represents the cycle of life and makes the carved representation the central icon for many villages.

The miscellany of works is filled with intrigue and history. University officials plan to complete the research on each piece and open a special exhibit during the upcoming academic year. *



HT Featured in Calendar

Huston-Tillotson University is featured in the 2007 Limited Collector's Edition Historically Black College and University Calendar created by the Danielle Ashley Foundation. African American achievements and historical facts are throughout the calendar. The HBCU 13-month calendar is the second edition of its kind and can be purchased on line at www.hbcucalendar.net or at select Walgreen stores for \$7.99. A portion of the proceeds benefit Huston-Tillotson University.

Library Award

The Downs-Jones Library won the William R. Powell Achievement Award for Library Services for Programs of Excellence that was awarded at the Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC) development conference banquet in May. The library was recognized for operating the best program marketing and promotion campaigns among the libraries at the five TADC institutions.

International Week

HT celebrated International Education Week by hosting a "Forum on African Affairs." Special guests, including a number of leading journalists from the African continent, discussed various topics including refugee and immigrant issues, connection between religion and politics, and the United States' policy toward Africa. The joint initiative with the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education is designed to increase knowledge and awareness of the world's cultures among students in the United States.

Panelist were: Eric Wesceslas Balayssac, assistant lecturer, Department of Pharmacology, Université de Cocody, Cote d'Ivoire; Alphonse Kassonge, HIV national manager, Family Health Association, Democratic Republic of Congo; Nurbibi Sher Mohamed, HIV/AIDS counselor, Muslim community, Kenya; Andrimbazotiana Rakotomanana, HIV/AIDS program officer, health and nutrition unit, Madagascar; Ibrahim Saad Yousof Idana, hospital director, Kamuzu Central Hospital, Malawi; Ronke Olawale, features correspondent, Guardian Newspapers, Ltd., and Clara Toyosar, head, International Center for Gender and Social Research, Nigeria; Dudi Simelane, deputy director, Family Association of Swaziland, Swaziland; and Emma Msuya, Tanzania.

Faculty News



LORRAINE SAMUELS, an emerging authority on areas related to juvenile justice, joined the faculty as an assistant professor. Samuels made history by becoming Prairie

View A&M University's third doctoral graduate as well as the first female with a doctoral degree in juvenile justice in the country. She received her doctor of philosophy in juvenile justice from Prairie View A&M University's College of Juvenile Justice and Psychology. Furthermore, she holds a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees from PVA&M. Her dissertation entitled, "The Legal and Criminological Impact of Deportation: Perspectives and Policy," is a groundbreaking analysis on immigration and deportation issues facing the United States.

XUEFENG (SAM) BAI

joined the faculty through the Scholar-in-Residence Program (SIR) from the Fulbright Scholar Program to provide instruction to students studying the Chinese language. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in English in 1997 from Northwest Normal University and a master of arts in English from Xiamen University, Xiamen, China. He will complete his doctoral degree in international relations from Xiamen University in 2008. The Fulbright Scholar program, named after former Senator J. William Fulbright and established by Congress in 1946, is the largest and one of the most prestigious international faculty exchange programs.



GLORIA QUINLAN, Huston-Tillotson's professor of music and conductor of the concert choir, was part of the planning committee responsible for Lady Bird Johnson's public

memorial service. Former First Lady Lady Bird Johnson, age 94, passed away Wednesday, July 11, 2007. The service, held at the Riverbend Church in Austin, Texas, attracted more than 1,800 mourners, included former Presidents Bill Clinton and Jimmy Carter, first lady Laura Bush, former first ladies Nancy Reagan, Barbara Bush, and Rosalynn Carter, United States Senator Hillary Clinton, and a host of other elected officials and dignitaries.

"I will forever remember this experience," said Quinlan. "It was unbelievable!"

Quinlan was responsible for assembling a brass ensemble and concert choir during the summer months when most students were not on campus and the largest brass festival in the country was in session in California. She called members of the Huston-Tillotson University Concert Choir, members from the Ebenezer Baptist Church, Wesley United Methodist Church, and St. James Episcopal Church choirs to practice "America the Beautiful"



and other selections during two rehearsals that totaled about two hours. In addition, Stephen Burnaman, University Organist, on his way out of town to a performance, accompanied the choir. "I had to have people who could read music." It also helped that her students were familiar with the rendition of "America the Beautiful" because it was one of the practice selections during the semester. "I shook the hand of the presidents and they got to hear the choir," Quinlan concluded.

The preeminence of the faculty is evident in the array of published works and prestigious projects. A few of their published accomplishments are as follows:

MICHELE

AYNESWORTH

is credited for "Borges, the Tango, and the Argentine Imagination."

Philological Papers, and

"Woodstock," in the 2007 issue of *Words Without Borders*. * **STEPHEN**

BURNAMAN recorded two compact diskettes (CDs) with tenor Adam Paul Williams, and solo piano with Bachman productions. ▶



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* **KATHERINE DURHAM OLDMIXON** received honorable mention for the Dos Gatos Press' 2008 Texas Poetry Calendar Awards for her work entitled, "El Árbol

Milagroso." Oldmixon will be featured in readings and the piece will be published in the calendar, scheduled for release this summer. For more information on the week-by-week calendar, upcoming readings, and places that sell it, please check the Dos Gatos Press Web site at www.dosgatospress.org.

* **HORACIO PEÑA** was invited to read his poems at the International Poetry Festival in Granada, Nicaragua. He also participated in a literary round table and was interviewed by the media about the literary and political situation in



Nicaragua. * **JANICE SUMLER-EDMOND** signed a contract with University of Arkansas Press to publish her book-length manuscript "The Secret Trust of



Aspasia Mirault, a Free Woman of Color in Antebellum, Georgia." * **JAMES KRAFT** continues to work with students to produce the second edition of *Logos*, 2006-2007. A journal of student essays, *Logos* represents a model for the highest level of undergraduate work and achievement in critical thinking and

effective writing. The journal is registered with the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. He also published "Religious Disagreement, Externalism, and the Epistemology of Disagreement: Listening to our Grandmothers."

New Members Named to Board of Trustees

At the annual meeting on April 27, 2007, the Huston-Tillotson University Board of Trustees elected new members to fill vacant positions. **TERRANCE GRANT-MALONE, JAMES HILL, and DONNIE WILLIAMS** were added to the 28-member board and all will serve a three-year term. **CAROLE KEETON STRAYHORN** was also elected to the board. She subsequently launched a new nonprofit initiative, which meant she had to resign her board position. In addition, **DONALD J. FLEMING** and **LATRELL S. JOHNSON** were elected as alumni representatives.

Grant-Malone, the youngest board member at age 28, is a 2001 Huston-Tillotson graduate. After obtaining his bachelor of arts degree in English, he acquired a master of arts from Aspen Christian College and Theological Seminary in Denver, Colorado, and recently completed his doctorate in Christian education. He is pastor of St. John Missionary Baptist Church, Houston, Texas.



Hill was employed with the University of Texas for the past 13 years and recently retired as vice president for community and school relations. A native Austinite, Hill

received his bachelor's degree from Huston-Tillotson, and his master's and doctorate degrees from UT. He also taught, was a counselor, and band director with the Abilene Independent School District.

Williams, president of Austin's Sovereign Bank, served as general chair of Huston-Tillotson's most successful President's Mankind Assisting Students Kindle Educational Dreams (MASKED) Ball. He was previously president of Colonial Bank in Austin before opening the first Sovereign branch in the area in 2004.



RAMBIE BRIGGS, M.D., MELVIN R. DILLARD, R. JAMES GEORGE, ESQ., and THALIA MATHERSON completed their terms as members of the Board of Trustees and were recognized for their years of service during the 2007 commencement convocation.

Matherson and **Briggs** served for 17 years each. Matherson is a retired Dallas Independent School District middle school principal and retired laywoman

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Board of Trustees

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Mr. Terry S. Smith
Executive Assistant to the President

Board News *(continued)*

with the North Texas Conference of The United Methodist Church. Briggs is a retired medical doctor who served as an internal medicine specialist with North Austin Medical Center. He also served with Scott and White Hospital. **Dillard** was recognized for 18 years of service. He is a 1963 graduate of Huston-Tillotson and an independent insurance broker. **George** began his term in 1987 and served as chair of the board from 1998 to 2001. He graduated from the University of Texas with high honors in 1966, was a law clerk for The Honorable Thurgood Marshall, Associate Justice of the United Supreme Court from 1970-71, was admitted to the bar in 1969, and continues to practice today within his firm of George and Brothers, LLP.

Board member Thurmond Woodard died after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

The chair of the board position passed from Wilhelmina R. Delco to David A. Talbot, Jr., Esq. Delco will continue to serve as a member.



As the keynote speaker, **WANDA EVAIGE** offered words of inspiration and praise to the students recognized during Honors Convocation. Evaige completed her term as president of the International Alumni Association and as the alumni representative to the Board of Trustees. She was featured in "Oklahoma's Uncrowned Queens: Women of Color."

Board member **FRANCIS ALFORD** was featured in the April/May 2007 issue of *Quilting Arts* magazine. The publication, for the contemporary quilter, features how-to-articles and profiles artists from around the country.

The Alford feature highlighted her life's adventures and a quilt that captured the joys, sorrow, travels, and friendships. One square was created each week to chronicle and create "My 57th Year." Alford noted in the article that the project enhanced her creativity, taught her discipline, and allowed her to make herself a priority.



To read and see more, visit www.franceshollidayalford.com or www.quiltingarts.com.

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New Hires

VALERIE HILL, was named Vice President for Administration and Finance. Hill comes to HT with 13 years of experience in public service with the Texas State Auditor's Office. She completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Texas, Austin, before obtaining a master of business administration from Texas State ▶



CONTINUED...next page

New Hires *(continued)*

University. As a state auditor, she was assigned to evaluate policies and procedures of state colleges and universities, particularly in the areas of intellectual property, revenue, facilities management, and environmental safety. Hill manages HT's Business Office, Campus Safety, Human Resources, Information Technology departments, and auxiliary enterprises.



CARLA D. WYNN assumed the role as Human Resources Director. She has more than eight years experience in training and human resources management.

Previously, she was the senior training and education coordinator for the Travis County Juvenile Court, and was the human resources trainer/generalist for the Office of the Attorney General. Wynn acquired her master's in human services/human resource management from St. Edward's University.

BETH RUMANCIK was hired as HT's Business Manager, responsible for a variety of HT accounting and audit functions, contracts, business practices, and policies. She has a bachelor's in business administration from UT and is working on a master's degree in accounting.



JOHN LINTON was hired as head golf coach. Linton, a certified golf teacher with the United States Golf Teaching

Federation, served on the Board of Directors for the National First Tee Program-Austin Chapter and the East Austin Junior Golf Academy. He is also the owner/operator of Total Quality Golf, a golf instruction and fitting company as well as a director of an America's Favorite Golf Schools franchise in Austin.



LA JUANA R. NAPIER has been named Huston-Tillotson University's Director of Alumni Affairs. Napier, who completed her bachelor of arts

degree in psychology from Huston-Tillotson University this past December, will be responsible for coordinating a wide range of initiatives associated with the more than 5,000+ alumni and 18 alumni chapters around the country. Prior to enrolling at Huston-Tillotson, Napier attended Texas A&M University and was also employed for 12 years at AT&T. Napier, originally from Seguin, Texas, is a third-generation Huston-Tillotson University graduate, an honors scholar, and Hatton W. Sumners scholarship recipient.

TENEA J. LOWERY was hired as the Coordinator of First Year Experience. She works closely with incoming students throughout the year and coordinates programs such as the Pathway to Academic Success and Socialization (PASS) program. Lowery earned her master of arts in sociology from Clark Atlanta University. She



completed her undergraduate studies (bachelor of arts/sociology/ethnic studies) from the University of North Texas, Denton, Texas.

ELIZABETH GUILLORY MEDINA, named Director of Campus Life and First Year Experience, earned her doctor of philosophy in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She completed her undergraduate degree at Southwestern University, Georgetown, Texas, in psychology and sociology where she also taught several courses. Medina's position falls under Student Affairs, which also includes Athletics, Campus Life, Campus Ministry, Campus Support Programs, First Year Experience, Health Services, Residence Life, Graduate and Career Development, and the Office of Disability Services.

MELVIN REESE was hired as Director of Facilities Management, Sodexo. He is responsible for managing buildings, grounds, and janitorial services.

THEREISA COLEMAN was hired as a Research Associate in the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment. Coleman just completed her doctoral degree in Higher Education Administration from Texas Tech University. She previously worked at HT as the Assistant Director of the W.E.B. DuBois Honors Program.

LAMONT A. SLATER manages both the men's and women's resident halls as Director. He is a graduate of Morris Brown College and is currently pursuing a master's degree.

Governor for a Day Parade

Miss and Mr. Huston-Tillotson **KORBI E. ORR** and **MATTHEW L. MORRIS** represented the University at the Governor for a Day parade held in November 2006 on Congress Avenue. Orr, majoring in interdisciplinary studies with an interest in information technology, was crowned Miss HT for the 2006-2007 academic year. Morris, majoring in history, was crowned Mr. HT. Texas high school, college, and university marching bands, drill teams, and community groups traveled to Austin, Texas, for the festivities in honor of Sen. Royce West, president pro tempore of the Texas Senate.

Sen. West, second in line to the governor's seat, assumes the role of governor when both Rick Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst are out of the state.



HT Brand Shown on Network Morning Show

The Huston-Tillotson brand appeared on national television when The CBS Early Show brought the "Great American Vacation" and weatherman Dave Price (below) to Austin for a live broadcast last summer. Student LaVita Gill (right and below center) with KEYE television morning show anchors Fred Cantú and Elizabeth Dannheim displayed the HT brand during the local and national segments between 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. The Early Show averages 2.7 million viewers.



◀ According to the Texas Department of Transportation's latest traffic figures (2005), 204,220 cars travel past and see the Huston-Tillotson University sign daily.



► Students from Blakeshear Elementary School visited the campus to hear more about Mexican Day of the Dead (Día de los Muertos). Dr. Horacio Peña, Professor of Spanish, invited the students, who attend school across the street, to campus for a teaching moment, refreshments, and the opportunity to see the altar of photos and favorite mementos of loved ones who had passed.

◄ The anniversary of hurricane Katrina was a day to reflect on lives lost, to celebrate the resiliency of all Katrina evacuees who survived the tragedy, and to welcome now friends into the community. Huston-Tillotson hosted Celebration Restoring Our Citizens of Katrina (R.O.C.K) that featured live jazz and gospel music, New Orleans cooking, a job and health fair, candlelight vigil, prizes, food, and fun. The event was sponsored by the Austin Area Urban League.



◄ Austin, Texas, was one of the stops for the C-SPAN bus sponsored by Time Warner Cable as part of a nationwide tour. The C-SPAN Bus Program was launched in November 1993 to demonstrate cable's commitment to education. The 45-foot bus is a mobile multi-media demonstration center and TV production unit that brings the world of public affairs to local communities. The mobile unit is also used as a studio or a production vehicle during live programs from remote locations.

Pictured are Tom Greer, senior public affairs specialist, Time Warner Cable, with students Limmissia Collins, Klerianne Falls, Chacole Senegal, Genevieve Williams, Tanisha Coppage, and Korey Timmons. Also shown are HT President Larry L. Earvin (third from left) and alumna Jeffrey Archer (second from right).



Najee Makes his Saxophone Sing at Fourth Annual President's MASKED Ball

Najee, an award-winning instrumentalist, amazed the guests gathered for Huston-Tillotson University's Fourth Annual President's Mankind Assisting Students Kindle Educational Dreams (MASKED) Ball with his saxophone vigor and flute intensity. He garnered the guests to the dance floor with favorites such as the Grammy nominated "Najee's Theme" while introducing the latest releases from his new "My Point of View" compact diskette.

The black-tie dinner and dance showcased HT students and featured a silent auction and Parade of Masks competition won by Barbara Williams-Huggins. Williams-Huggins beat more than 60 contestants who were promenaded around the room by celebrity Emmanuel Lewis from the television show "Webster." "Divorce Court's" popular Mablean Ephriam completed the judging, and KXAN's Sonta Henderson as mistress of ceremonies added a blend of spice and humor that kept the competition lively. Austin's popular Rayvon Foster and his band closed the evening with their wide selection of R&B and jazz with a mixture of hip hop.

This year Honorary Chair Dawnna Dukes, Texas State House of Representatives, and General Chair Donnie Williams, president, Sovereign Bank, along with event underwriter Time

Warner Cable, attracted the largest crowd ever and raised a record amount that helped move the event to almost \$900,000 raised since its inception. President Larry L. Earvin presented Dukes and Williams and past chairs Rick Burciaga, Will Wynn, Kirk Watson, and Wilhelmina Delco with a framed authentic African mask from Cape Town, South Africa. Huston-Tillotson students, featured during a special spotlight, presented the more than 650 guests with a symbolic HT flashlight for their support and encouragement. Platinum sponsors were: Frances Holliday Alford, AT&T, Citibank, Dell Inc., George & Brothers, L.L.P., Sodexho Campus Services, Sovereign Bank, University Federal Credit Union, and Wells Fargo Bank. The Gold sponsor was A Glimmer of Hope Foundation. The Silver sponsors were: Accenture, Endeavor Real Estate Group, Greater Texas Federal Credit Union, H-E-B, Heritage Title Company of Austin, Inc., HPI, Samsung Austin Semiconductor, State Farm Insurance, and Temple Inland. Bronze sponsors were: American Bank of Commerce, Austin Cab Company, Bank of America, Bury + Partners, Inc., Centex Beverage, Colonial Savings, Compass Bank, Fish & Richardson, P.C., Frost Bank, Grande Communications, Guaranty Financial Services, Humana Health Plans of Texas, Inc., Huston-Tillotson University International Alumni Association, Inman Foundation, Lady Bird and Luci: The Johnson Family, Lower Colorado River Authority, Maxwell Locke & Ritter, L.L.P., Alexander T. Salone, St. Andrew's

Episcopal School, Texas Home & Living Magazine, Texas Methodist Foundation, VRW Construction Inc., White Construction Company, and Wormley Mitchell & Associates, Inc. Silent auction vendors included: Austin Ice Bats, Austin Toros, Austin Wranglers, Ball Peoples Employee Benefits Financial Strategies, Ballet Austin, Evergreen Studios Photography, Indoff Inc., Round Rock Express Baseball Club, Round Rock Travel & Tours, and Knockout Sports Promotions. *

Friend-raising and fund-raising have been the two components of the President's MASKED Ball for Vicki Minor, Vice President for Institutional Advancement. The honorary and general chairs have been successful since the inception of the event in bringing both to the institution. President Earvin presented each event chair with a framed African mask from Cape Town, South Africa.

Honorary Chair 2006-2007
The Honorable Dawnna Dukes

General Chair
Donnie Williams
Sovereign Bank

Honorary Chair 2005-2006
The Honorable Kirk Watson

Honorary Chair 2004-2005
Rick Burciaga

Honorary Chair 2003-2004
The Honorable Will Wynn
City of Austin Mayor

Co-Chair 2004-2007
The Honorable Wilhelmina Delco



MASKED BALL OVERVIEW

	Attendance	Amount
2004	437	\$146,000
2005	603	\$175,000
2006	539	\$257,000
2007	625	\$300,000



Brittany Thomas
and Trevor L.
McLean
will be Crowned
Miss and Mr.
Huston-Tillotson
University
for 2007-2008



BRITTANY THOMAS, a Huston-Tillotson University junior, was crowned Miss HT for the 2007-2008 academic year. **TREVOR L. MCLEAN**, senior, was crowned Mr. HT. Both are honor students, majoring in business administration.

Thomas, age 20, attended the Booker T. Washington High School of Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas, Texas, while McLean graduated from the Michael E. DeBakey High School for Health Professions in Houston, Texas.

The official crowning and coronation will be held in October 2007.

JAMILIAH PASCHAL, DAWN SHANNON, BRITTANY THOMAS, and **YASMIN TURK** are the new Huston-Tillotson University Hatton W. Sumners Scholarship recipients. The Hatton W. Sumners Foundation was established in 1949 in honor of Sumners who was a preeminent congressman and constitutional scholar on Capital Hill. He served as chairman of the powerful House Committee on the Judiciary from 1931 until he returned to Texas. The Foundation is dedicated to the study and

teaching of the science of self government, to the development of leaders with a sense of community responsibility, and to the maintenance of the American constitutional principles and the quality of life afforded under those principles. Students who meet the academic, campus, and civic requirements must complete an interview with the Foundation's trustees to be selected for the renewable, full-tuition scholarship, up to \$8,000, for one year.



Jamiliah Paschal



Dawn Shannon



Brittany Thomas



Yasmin Turk

Limmissia D. Collins
Named HT's Miss UNCF

LIMMISSIA DANIELÉ COLLINS from Waco, Texas, has been named Huston-Tillotson University's 2007 Miss United Negro College Fund (UNCF). Collins represented the University at the national pageant in Nashville, Tennessee.



She is a junior, majoring in criminal justice, a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., Upsilon Alpha Chapter, and God's Anointed People (GAP). She graduated from Waco's University High School. Collins is the daughter of Reverend Limmie and Chrisella Collins.

TADC Conference

Huston-Tillotson University students walked away with all honors at the inaugural Ethical Student Leadership Conference sponsored by the Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC). Brittany Thomas won the Presidential Award, Damien Spencer captured the Emerging Leader Award, and Huston-Tillotson University won the Haywood L. Strickland Award. The three awards were based upon the frequency of student engagement in the plenary sessions, the quality of their questions and/or comments, the respect demonstrated for the viewpoint of others, and, in terms of the institutional award, the same criteria were used but the award was based upon the active involvement of the whole group.



DAMIAN SPENCER

When I was first invited to the TADC Ethical Leadership Conference, I had no idea what to expect. The title of the conference, "Ethical

Leadership" caught my attention. I figured that I may learn something valuable, and being an opportunist, I take advantage of occasions where I can visit new places.

After an arduous road trip, the first day of lectures was somewhat difficult. We were all very exhausted but our energies were overwhelmingly replenished by the interesting and informative lectures from brilliant speakers, whose excellent, well organized presentations kept us engrossed in the lessons being preached. The second day was even more captivating than the first. The sessions were more animated and involved more interaction. Each person was given the opportunity to display his/her leadership qualities and participate in group activity. These exercises truly fostered team work and cooperation. I believe that the conference surpassed all our expectations.

I was very proud at the closing banquet where we, the students, and Huston-Tillotson University, were recognized for our contributions to the workshop. Not only were we awarded, we made a clean sweep of all the awards. We truly did represent, and we made HT proud!



New Students Receive a Welcome from the Mayor

City of Austin Mayor Will Wynn extended a warm welcome and greetings to the more than 200 students, parents, faculty and staff who attended HT's Matriculation Ceremony that signified the start of the fall semester.

The ceremony featured a symbolic campus walk in the likeness of the one taken by all graduating seniors and the congratulatory handshake by President Larry L. Earvin, Joseph Jones, Steven Edmond, and Judith Loreda, Deans of the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Business and Technology, and Academic Support Programs, respectively.

Doris Price, Dean of Enrollment Management, greeted the incoming class of students to HT while Will Wynn, Mayor, City of Austin, welcomed them to the city. Wynn reminded the students that they are among the more than 90,000 students in the city who add to the richness and growth of the area. He encouraged them all to make their careers and homes here after graduation. 2006.

Sigma Pi Phi Presents \$5,000 Scholarship to Huston-Tillotson Student

Members of Sigma Pi Phi presented a \$5,000 scholarship from the Gamma Gamma Boulé to **TERRENCE BROOKS**, a junior, from Covina, California, studying to obtain a degree in business administration.



Guest Lecturers

Visiting lecturers offer students the opportunity to dialogue with executives while learning subject content. They hear first hand about company expectations, challenges, and industry trends. Students heard from Comptroller General of the United States (Director of the General Accounting Office) **DAVID M. WALKER**. Walker, considered the nation's chief accountability officer as head of the United States Government Accountability Office (GAO), spoke to business students during his trip to Austin. Walker was recently featured on the CBS Show "60 Minutes."



Many authors visited HT during the past year. Pictured is author and guest lecturer Nina Foxx, who stopped by at the invitation of Dr. Janice Sumler-Edmond. Plan to hear, see, and pick up a book from poet, activist, and educator Nikki Giovanni who will visit HT on October 25 during the Charter Day celebration.

Blue Ribbon Scholars Named

Trenton T. Anthony, Manor; Jerel A. Allen, Pearland; Quincy S. Bland, Bastrop; Russell L. Bouyer, Mesquite; and Shara P. Stone, Richmond were named Citibank Blue Ribbon Scholars and awarded \$1,000 scholarships through the Tom Joyner Foundation School of the Month Program. Huston-Tillotson joined the program in 2004 and has been awarded more than \$200,000 in scholarships.



Pictured left to right are: Dawn Hewitt, Citibank; Bland; Stone; former Dallas Mayor, The Honorable Ron Kirk; Anthony; and Bouyer. The syndicated Tom Joyner Morning Show originates from Dallas, Texas.

Constitution Day

Huston-Tillotson University observed Constitution Day by creating an exhibit and distributing red, white, and blue ribbons. Colleges and universities that receive federal funds are required by the Education Department to hold "Constitution Day and Citizenship Day" on or near September 17, the day the document was adopted in 1787.



Pictured is student Simone White showing the Constitution Day exhibit.

New On Campus Bookstore Open for Business



Visit the bookstore for your HT paraphernalia, and, of course, textbooks. The new enterprise, located in the Davage-Durden Student Union, is managed and operated by Follett. Follett is a \$2 billion company, offering a wide range of educational tools and services on a number of university campuses. The company was founded in 1873 and employs nearly 10,000 associates in the United States and Canada. Also, shop online by clicking the bookstore link from the www.htu.edu home page.

J.L. Dickey Legacy Revived in 2007

By Wilhelmina E. Perry

Native and long-time black Central Texans who recall the past tell stories about close communities and families in not only East Austin neighborhoods, but surrounding cities. They reminisce about the local businesses, churches, markets, and tell stories about the institution that sat on what was once considered Austin's second highest hill. Whether a student was attending Tillotson College or Samuel Huston College, studying to become a teacher, minister, doctor, or musician, expectations were high, because education was key to a better life. Physician, humanitarian, and civil rights advocate, James Lee Dickey impacted the lives of many. Those who step on the Huston-Tillotson University campus hear Dickey's name daily, but they don't know his story.

For Dickey, the year 1953 was a remarkable year. In January of that year, the Taylor Texas Chamber of Commerce named him the most outstanding citizen in the small cotton and railroad town of 9,000 residents. There was national publicity when the February 9th issue of *Time* magazine included a note about the honor; the October 24th issue of the now defunct but then well-known *Saturday Evening Post* featured Dickey in a rather lengthy, five-page story. The landmark event was a first time a black had been so



honored in the conservative central Texas town.

Also, the Lone Star Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Association honored Dickey as general practitioner of 1953. In addition, the alumni of Huston-Tillotson College cited him in the same

year "for the application of his alma mater's highest ideals in the promotion of human welfare."

Of course, Dickey's 1953 acknowledgments were highly deserved. Before that time, he had received recognitions (albeit less sensational ones) because his

concerns about community health in Taylor extended to problems of community development and segregation of blacks in the area. There were honors for not only his medical expertise but also his distinguished community involvements.

Dickey was born in 1893 near Waco, where he attended the segregated public schools. In 1916, he graduated from Tillotson College in Austin. A brief teaching assignment followed in Marlin, Texas. In 1921, he graduated from Meharry Medical College in Nashville, Tennessee. Dickey was the eldest of nine children. When his father died in an accident, leaving a wife with eight other children, Dickey did not follow his previous intention to move to the ▶

CONTINUED... See *Dickey Legacy*, page 38



The James Lee Dickey historical marker was unveiled and dedicated on June 16, 2007, Juneteenth, at the future site of the Dickey Museum, 500 Burkett, Taylor, Texas. A celebration at the Fannie Robinson Park followed the ceremony.

HT Athletic Recognition

During the James W. Wilson 2006-07 Athletics Awards Banquet HT held in April, athletes were recognized for their academic accomplishments and athletic performances as follows:

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL AWARDS:



BASEBALL

Most Valuable Player: Donald Enos
Most Improved Player: Charles Morton
Coach's Award: Ramon Ocumarez
Highest Grade Point Average: Charles Morton, Chad Simpson



SOCCER

Most Valuable Player: Herbert Montesinos
Most Improved Player: Abraham Bernal
Coach's Award: Frank Toscano
Highest Grade Point Average: Diego Flores



MEN'S BASKETBALL

Most Valuable Player: K.C. Asomugha
Most Improved Player: Titus Butler
Coach's Award: Titus Butler
Highest Grade Point Average: Doug Krause



MEN'S TRACK

Most Valuable Player: Dontrell Nurse
Most Improved Player: Edward Kozel
Coach's Award: Edward Kozel
Highest Grade Point Average: Edward Kozel, Matthew Bet



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Most Valuable Player: Ashley Taylor
Most Improved Player: Ashley Wright
Coach's Award: Noel Warren
Highest Grade Point Average: Melinda Eden



WOMEN'S TRACK/CROSS COUNTRY

Most Valuable Player: Mary Russell
Most Improved Player: Brittany Crowder
Coach's Award: Mary Russell
Highest Grade Point Average: Nicole Cochrane



GOLF

Most Valuable Player: Doug Krause, Ben Bradley
Most Improved Player: Cory Myers, Trent Gibson
Heart and Hustle: Chris Norris, Ray Rodriguez
Coach's Award: Men's golf team
Highest Grade Point Average: Chris Norris



VOLLEYBALL

Most Valuable Player: Adrienne Ringer
Most Improved Player: Dominique Green
Coach's Award: Danielle Tisdale
Highest Grade Point Average: Adrienne Ringer

TEAM HIGH GPA AWARD

Golf: 3.224
Overall athletics highest grade point average: 2.83
Teams with cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 or higher:
Golf: 3.224
Baseball: 3.136
Men's Outdoor Track: 3.002

DIRECTOR'S AWARD

Women: Danielle Tisdale, Volleyball
Men: Frank Toscano, Soccer

CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER AWARD

Women: Danielle Tisdale
Men: Ramon Ocumarez

Sports News and Awards

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics named Huston-Tillotson University's Trent Reynolds the recipient of the 2007 Region VI NAIA Dr. LeRoy Walker Champions of Character Award. The prestigious program promotes character in response to the growing deteriorating standards of integrity in sports and society. This award is deserving of Ram pride," said President Larry L. Earvin.

The award was a first for Huston-Tillotson University and ironically culminates a year of sports firsts. The men's soccer team finished the season as Red River Athletic Conference (RRAC) tournament champions with first-year Coach Arick Lassiter named RRAC Coach of the Year. The basketball team upset NAIA conference champions Texas Wesleyan University during conference tournament play, and the baseball team defeated Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) champions and Division I Prairie View A&M University.

Athletes elevated their individual and team performances during the 2006-07 academic year as follows:

- The women's basketball team defeated powerhouse Houston Baptist University
- Ashley Taylor, basketball, received All-American honors
- Adrienne Ringer was named volleyball's All-Region player
- The HT volleyball team was ranked tenth in Region VI under Coach Ronnie Kaase's leadership
- The baseball team was ranked fourth nationally in the National Black College Pre-Season Poll
- Chris Tuttle pitched the University's first no-hitter in five years
- The golf team resumed play for the first time in 25 years when they entered the Mary Hardin Baylor University Invitational
- The men's track team was honored as an NAIA Scholar Team

Congratulations to members of the women's basketball team for achieving Red River Athletic Conference All-Conference honors

Ashley Taylor – *1st Team*

Faviela Parrila – *2nd Team*

Noel Warren – *Honorable Mention*

Ashley Wright – *Honorable Mention*

Monique Perry – *Honorable Mention*

Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to Adrienne Ringer, sophomore English major and volleyball player. Ringer was selected as the 2007 recipient of the Greater Texas Federal Credit Union Student-Athlete Scholarship.

The award recognizes student-athletes' academic and athletic performance as well as their future goals in those areas, and career ambitions.

>>>CONTRIBUTIONS

AT&T Donates \$35,000 to Enhance HT's Technology Infrastructure

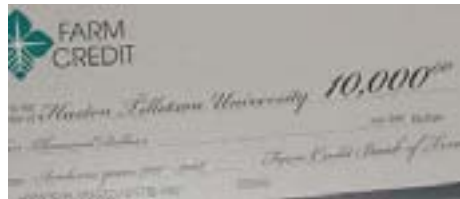
AT&T President Jim Epperson presented a check for \$35,000 to President Larry L. Earvin during the past Martin Luther King, Jr. Cultural Festival held on the campus. The funds will be used to strengthen the University's wireless access network, expand the number of personal computers available to publicly accessed areas, and implement keyless entry for designated computer labs. This is the second year in a row that AT&T has given \$35,000 to HT, and Epperson pledged "more to come in the future." Huston-Tillotson, which earned the reputation as the "most wired HBCU in Texas," provides more than 300 computers for students, students, and faculty, supports distance learning and videoconferencing capabilities, manages an integrated computer telephony system, and supports the wireless Internet system.

Thank You Henna Chevrolet



Henna Chevrolet (Austin) donated two new passenger vans to Huston-Tillotson valued at more than \$60,000. They also paid for the custom paint and logos on the 12- and 15-passenger vehicles.

More Donations



Representatives from the Farm Credit Bank of Texas established a scholarship of the same name for business students who maintain a 3.0 or better grade point average and demonstrate leadership as well as community involvement. The \$10,000 check donated this year represented an increase in their commitment to HT.



Huston-Tillotson received a \$125,000 contribution from the Venera Richards Foy and James D. Foy Trust in memory of the Rev. Allen Richards, Foy's father. Pictured with President Larry L. Earvin are Crystal Yolanda Reeves Harris (left) and niece Siblois Reeves. The gift expresses a life-long commitment to the church and education.

Board Member Memorial

Huston-Tillotson board member and friend Thurmond Woodard, who fought pancreatic cancer during the past few years, died of a massive stroke on April 4. Family and friends gathered in the Lilly and Frank Polk Grand Hall of the Davage-Durden Student Union for dinner and fellowship after the service, which was held at David Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Austin. Woodard was vice president of global diversity and chief ethics officer for Dell Inc. and instrumental in securing technology funds for HT as well as two campus computer laboratories.



Thurmond Woodard (left) during the opening the Dell computer laboratory.

Greetings from the Alumni Affairs Director



Cultivating and Reconnecting

I am extremely honored and excited to have the opportunity to serve our alma mater. As a third generation graduate of HT, I can personally speak of the proud tradition that resonates in my family and in the atmosphere on this University's campus. The seeds of commitment, fortitude, integrity, and goodwill have been planted and cultivated, creating an environment where people can come and be lifted to higher academic levels. As a result, our community of students, faculty, staff, and loyal supporters has, individually and collectively, contributed an incessant flow of gifts that have given birth to local, national, and world change in all areas of our society. For that, we are proud.

The Office of Alumni Affairs is striving to foster communication with past graduates. With the help of the Huston-Tillotson International Alumni Association and alumni chapters across the nation, our intent is to develop a network of the University's constituents that will create a broader financial and volunteer support base for today's students. We also seek to engage undergraduate students in establishing a life-long relationship with the University through active

participation in the United Negro College Fund's National Pre-Alumni Council.

We are constantly striving to increase capital, so that we can continue to provide a quality education that equips our graduates with the tools of excellence. Events such as the President's MASKED Ball, United Negro College Fund's Evening of Stars®, and all of the annual alumni chapter activities, to name a few, assist in supporting the operation of this vital task. However, the events alone do not sustain us. The traditional hard work of the faculty, staff, friends, and most importantly, the alumni of this University, keeps us buoyant.

Our goal is to reconnect with graduates and former students of Huston-Tillotson University who have been absent from the fold, so that we may strengthen our numbers. Therefore, as we move into the future together, our hope is to enhance the HT support network in a way that will uphold our legacy. In our effort to increase our numbers, we will be soliciting you for information about your families and friends. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation in advance. Together we can.

LA JUANA R. NAPIER

Class of 2007
512.505.3074 p
512.505.3196 f
lrapier@htu.edu



Effective July 1, 2007, Latrell Smith Johnson began her term as President of the International Alumni Association.

Johnson pledges that the Association will continue the alumni spirit of excitement about supporting quality education at an interdenominational institution with a rich history. In addition, she resolves especially to advance during her two-year presidency both the living and learning environment at HT.

When Johnson graduated from HT in 1953, she was employed immediately by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to teach on reservations in Iowa and then South Dakota. Her commitment to the alumni association began in 1963 when she and her husband moved to San Antonio, where HT loyalist Dorothy McClinton '47, invited the couple to join the local chapter.

Johnson's husband, Edgar '51, soon served a three-year term as chapter president. During the subsequent decades Latrell served most notably in the chapter office of treasurer and on the program committee as a successful organizer of the Green Tea annual fund-raising event.

For 20 years, she has been attending the HT annual alumni reunions and serving on various national committees. In the 1980s, she was recipient of the HT Alumni Academic Achievement Award. In June 2007, she completed two years as the Association's president elect. Chapter members offered special thanks for her role as the Association's executive liaison to the Legacy Book Project Team. She expresses that alumni are living messengers of the HT mission, and her review of the Legacy Book is that "the publication is a comprehensive, informative document, which makes effective use of pictures."

Congratulations to Latrell Smith Johnson!

Alumnus Among Capital Hill's High Profile Players



The quick, deep inhale heard over the tele-phone during an early evening call was an indication that Joe Leonard was settled for the moment and

pleased. The telephone calls, face-to-face meetings, and overall advocacy had paid off. The State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) reauthorization bill, which would provide health coverage for 11 million children passed in the U.S. House of Representatives by a vote of 225 to 204 and the Senate 68 to 31.

He added in his Leonard-like demeanor that most people will never realize the prodding of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) on colleagues and the president in order to ensure the success of that legislation and others. Billions for Hurricane Katrina victims, millions for African American farmers through outstanding claims as a result of the Pigford vs. Veneman case, and more support for low income families are a few of the programs backed by the CBC.

Leonard was named to head the CBC earlier this year. His responsibilities in his newly created position include managing the day-to-day activities of the caucus of 42 African Americans who serve in the House and Senate under the leadership of Chairwoman Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick (D-Mich.). The power of the collective African American voice and vote was realized in 1969 when Shirley Chisholm,

William Clay, George Collins, John Conyers, Ronald Dellums, Charles Diggs, Augustus Hawkins, Ralph Metcalfe, Parren Mitchell, Robert Nix, Charles Rangel, Louis Stokes, and Washington, D.C. delegate Walter Fauntroy formed what is now known as the CBC.

Speaking and advocating for human and civil rights for all citizens, and, in particular, African Americans have been Leonard's passion since his days in Austin, Texas, as a LBJ High School and Huston-Tillotson graduate. "I expressed an opinion, because I wasn't sure it was being said," remembers Leonard. Former Huston-Tillotson government instructor Stan Murphy helped "fan the flames" of a love for history and advocacy. "I've never forgotten his lessons." Leonard graduated with a bachelor of arts in history but was not sure how to apply his education beyond teaching. He moved to Baton Rouge and taught in Louisiana public schools for seven years. He also enrolled at Southern University and earned his master of arts degree in history while teaching.

"I always wanted to know everything about history, and when someone said with the doctorate you would know, I knew I wanted a doctorate." Leonard moved to Washington, D.C. to enroll at Howard University. He completed his doctor of philosophy in history in 2004 before age 40.

Leonard worked for three years for the Center for Policy Alternatives, a progressive public policy "think tank" where he served as a coordinator in the Southeast Policy Leaders Forum and as Director of the Arthur Fleming Fellows Institute. The Fleming Institute is one of

the most prestigious leadership forums for state legislators in the country. In addition, he has taught as an adjunct professor at Bowie State University and Howard University.

In December of 2000, Leonard began working as the Washington, D.C. Bureau Chief and Public Policy Director of the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition. In September 2001, he was a Black Leadership Forum (BLF) delegate to the International Conference on Racism in Durban, South Africa and in 2002 he was a member of the Pilgrimage for Peace delegation to the Middle East led by Rev. Jesse Jackson, Sr. In July 2003, Leonard was recognized as an emerging civil rights leader by the editors of Black Enterprise magazine. Recently, he was featured on Fox News as a "Washington Power Player of the Week."

In September of 2003, he received the Congressional Black Caucus Chairman's award, the second most prestigious award granted by the Congressional Black Caucus. Leonard has served on two commissions: the Washington, D.C. Commission on Human Rights and ▶



Joe Leonard participated on a panel during HT's Charter Day 2004 celebration that examined the landmark Brown v. Board of Education case. He returned the following year as the Charter Day speaker.

CONTINUED... See Leonard page 39

Class Notes



[1952] GLORIA ALEXANDER WILLIS,

a retired teacher, also retired from the Kansas City Kansas Public District's Board of Education. She taught in

the district for 41 years and joined the board in 1995.

[1953] JAMES

WILSON, former athletic director, coach, and retired faculty, was honored by the Prairie View Interscholastic League

Coaches Association (PVILCA) during their 28th annual banquet in Fort Worth. He graduated cum laude with a bachelor's in physical education before enrolling in Prairie View to earn his master's degree.



[1954] BRANNEN "TEMP" TEMPLE was

also honored by the Prairie View Interscholastic League Coaches Association

(PVILCA). He was recognized for his basketball, baseball, and track performances during his years at Huston-Tillotson. Temple is also a member of the Huston-Tillotson Sports Hall of Fame.

[1955] MAYME K. ARDIS-GREER

was honored by the Association of Black Social Workers of Texas, Inc. during a luncheon in Houston, Texas, earlier this year. The theme of the program, "In the Spirit of Harambee: Facing the Challenges," supported her commitment to the association and the African American community. Ardis-Greer received a bachelor's degree in sociology from HT and a master's in

social work from Our Lady of the Lake College in San Antonio, Texas.



[1963] ROBERT STANTON received an honorary doctorate from Texas A&M University during their summer graduation ceremony.

Stanton, former director of the National Park Service, and his wife were honored by the university's Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences during a reception. Stanton, retired, is also a member of the Texas A&M faculty.

[1989] CANDACE WICKS was named the 2007-2008 Dallas Independent School District Teacher of the Year. Wicks is a kindergarten teacher at Erasmo Seguin Community Learning Center in Oak Cliff. The superintendent presented her with an engraved award. In addition, she received a \$5,000 cash award and represented the district in the regional Teacher of the Year competition. She is currently working on a doctorate in education from Texas Woman's University. She received her master's from TWU in 1999.

[2003] SHAVON THORNTON was promoted to branch manager of the Greater Texas Federal Credit Union Austin Airport location. She previously worked in marketing, lending, and accounting.



[2005] EDAN BENAVIDES has been accepted to the University of Southern California and Boston University graduate schools. "I am leaning toward USC,"

Benavides said. "Thank you (Dr. Russ) for

your time and help now and when I was in your organic chemistry class."

KEVIN JAMES BRAY, II, a computer science major, employed as an information technology systems consultant for Evergreen Systems (Washington, D.C.), married the former Stephanie Alexandra Eason during a July ceremony at the British Colonial Hilton in Nassau Bahamas.

ALTA Y. MOTÉN was hired by Freescale Semiconductor, Inc., Austin, Texas, as a Creative Service Projects Manager. Motén will work in the corporate communications division. Motén was previously the Special Projects and Communications Manager for the Austin Area Urban League (AAUL).

ASHLEY WILLIAMS is currently employed as recruiting/ advising specialist with Austin Community College.



[2007] ALYSIA CHATMAN, a magna cum laude graduate who majored in interdisciplinary studies, has been accepted into the University of Texas at Austin graduate school.

AUSTIN DIGGS was hired as a safety officer with the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT). He is the first African American safety officer in Central Texas and will oversee the agency's safety program.



Class Notes *(continued)*

JONATHAN HAMILTON, W.E.B. DuBois Honors Scholars and music major, graduated magna cum laude and was accepted into graduate school at Texas State University to study music theory.

DAWN CASSANOVA '07; LI-WAN CHIEN '06; CHRISTINE HENDERSON '07; KIA LEFFALL '06; and JIAOSHU ZHANG '07 received scholarships to pursue the master of accountancy degree at Alabama State University in Montgomery, Alabama. Each student will receive the full cost of tuition and fees as well as a stipend of \$12,000 for a 12-month tenure at the University.

Memorials

MAMIE BARNES '43, died on July 3, 2007.

Funeral services for **MAUD CALDWELL '53**, were held on July 21, 2007.

CLARA WARE EARVIN, mother of Huston-Tillotson University President Larry L. Earvin, passed away on Friday, June 8, 2007. She was a member of Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, an active member of the Women's Guild, and a Chattanooga/Hamilton County Human Services commodities distribution volunteer. Mrs. Earvin was 85 years old.

Services for **EUNICE NELL HENDERSON HOUSTON** were held February 15, 2007.

ROY LEE HUNT, 54, died February 9, 2007.

Pam Hunter's father, **WILLIAM P. HYTCHE**, died after a long illness on July 15, 2007. Pam worked at Huston-Tillotson as an instructor and counselor in the 1980s. She is the wife of 1981 graduate Jimmy Hunter. Hytche retired in January 1997 as president of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Frederick Johnson's '96, wife, **OLIVIA C. JOHNSON**, who was undergoing treatment at the MDAnderson Cancer Center in Houston, departed on May 24, 2007.

Services for **CURTIS MCDONALD '55**, were held April 12, 2007.



The funeral for **MRS. EVA MARIE MOSBY '36** (April 2007), was held at Austin's Holy Cross Catholic Church. Mosby retired as a research scientist from the University of Texas and lived a

few blocks from the HT campus in retirement. She gave a public donation of \$25,000 to the University during the 2001 commencement.

MARY ELIZABETH "SCOTTY" SCOTT '53, died at age 80 in August 2006. Scott had a love for photography and regularly attended events in order to capture pictures to send to program participants and guests. She willed more than \$15,000 to the University, which was used to purchase new camera equipment and building furnishings.

JAMES H. SHACKLES, Jr. '58, passed in August 2006. He returned to Austin

after his retirement from the Los Angeles Unified Public School District. He also served in the United States Army during the Korean War.

ARTHUR L. SIMMS, Anderson High School Class of 1961, passed on February, 27, 2007.

AUGUST "GUS" SWAIN, Jr. '51, passed suddenly in May 2006. An avid supporter of Huston-Tillotson University where he was awarded an honorary degree, Swain supported the W.E.B. DuBois Honors Program and donated golf carts for campus and alumni use. He was the first African American to earn a master's degree in social work from the University of Texas at Austin. He worked for the Family Service Center in Houston as a family practitioner and the National Institute of Mental Health in Washington, D.C. before returning to Austin to the Family Agency and the University of Texas School of Social Work as a teacher.

Students **ANDREA TAYLOR**, age 20, and **CHRISTOPHER HILL**, age 26, passed in November 2006 and April 2007, respectively. Taylor played bass with the jazz ensemble and Hill sang in the concert choir. Funeral services for both, originally from Austin, were held in King-Seabrook Chapel.

The family of **HASKELL H. ROYAL, JR. '55**, acknowledges with grateful appreciation your kind expression of sympathy.

2007 Legacy Book Now Available

Purchase your 2007 hardback edition of the Huston-Tillotson legacy book prepared by W.E. Perry (Class of 1944) and A.N. Swain (Class of 1951) for the International Alumni Association. This keepsake is 350 pages of narratives, focused reports, commentaries and pictures to enlighten readers about the persons, events, and values that have defined the distinctive identity of an institution whose history goes back to the founding of Samuel Huston and Tillotson

Colleges in the mid-1870s. Limited copies available now for sale.

The cost is \$35 each plus \$6 for postage and handling. Make all checks or money orders payable to the Huston-Tillotson University Alumni Association-Austin and mail to:

HT Legacy Book Sales
c/o Lyndia Harris
11700 Arbor Downs Road
Austin, TX 78748

For more information, contact Anita Swain (512.282.4458), Billie Nell Chambers (512.674.3427), or the HT Alumni Affairs Office (512.505.3074).

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WHAT'S NEW??

Moved lately? Changed jobs? Been promoted? Received an award?
Just got married?

Help keep us and other alumni up to date on your accomplishments. Please fill out the form below, clip the page, and mail to: Office of Alumni Affairs • 900 Chicon Street • Austin, Texas 78702.
Or send an e-mail to lrnapier@htu.edu or fax to: 512.505.3196

Name

Class Year

Degree

Graduate Degree

Graduate of: ☐ Samuel Huston College ☐ Tillotson College ☐ Huston-Tillotson University

Home Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone ()

E-mail

Employer

Job Title

Business Address

City

Business Phone ()

Spouse's Name *(Please include maiden name)*

Is your spouse an HT graduate?

Class Year

Degree

Spouse's Job Title

Employer

How would you like to be listed in our database?

News/Comments

Making a Gift to the University

As a non-profit organization, Huston-Tillotson University depends on contributions and other gifts to supplement tuition revenue. Income received by the University is applied to the academic program, co-curricular activities that enrich our students' education, scholarships and other forms of financial aid, general operating expenses, and the maintenance of campus facilities.

You can support Huston-Tillotson University through outright contributions, planned giving, or pledges. Please use the form below to indicate your giving preferences or to request additional information. Gifts and correspondence about giving options should be addressed to the Office of Institutional Advancement, Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon Street, Austin, TX 78702-2795. You may also telephone 512.505.3073, send a fax to 512.505.3196, or e-mail vbminor@htu.edu for more information.

We appreciate the confidence you show in Huston-Tillotson University with every gift you make!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Country (if other than the United States): _____

Email: _____ Telephone: (____) _____

Alumni, please identify your class year: _____

OUTRIGHT GIFTS

Enclosed is a gift of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$300 ☐ \$400 ☐ \$500 ☐ other \$

Please apply my gift to:

- ☐ The general scholarship fund
- ☐ An endowed scholarship fund. Name of endowed scholarship: _____
- ☐ A naming opportunity. Contact Vicki Minor at 512.505.3074.
- ☐ The Ram Athletic Club
- ☐ The United Negro College Fund campaign
- ☐ In memory of _____
- ☐ In honor of _____
- ☐ General college operating budget

NOTICE OF PLANNED GIVING ARRANGEMENTS

I have included Huston-Tillotson University in my estate plans through:

☐ my will ☐ an insurance policy ☐ other _____

PLEDGES

- ☐ Please contact me about making a pledge for ongoing support of the college.
 - ☐ I wish to be invoiced in two (2) equal installments of \$_____ to fulfill my pledge.
 - ☐ I wish to be invoiced in four (4) equal installments of \$_____ to fulfill my pledge.
- All pledges obligations must be fulfilled within 12 months of pledge date.*
- ☐ My employer will match my gift.

Huston-Tillotson University is recognized under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code as a nonprofit organization. Appropriate information for your tax purposes is available from HT.

Huston-Tillotson University thanks you for your contribution.

from the first merged Huston-Tillotson College class with a bachelor of science degree in 1953 and married James Andrew Harris. Harris entered Samuel Huston as a music major before changing to chemistry. He was the first black scientist to participate in major programs to identify new periodic table elements. His laboratory team identified elements 104 rutherfordium and 105 dubnium. She currently serves as president of Huston-Tillotson University's Bay Area alumni chapter. Napier's mother Maxine Harris graduated from Huston-Tillotson in 1955 and retired from the Seguin Independent School district after teaching for 20 years. She also served on the Seguin City Council, was mayor pro tempore, and was a businessowner. Napier's father, Virgil Williams, who met Maxine at HT, completed his education through the military route. Napier's college support system was multi-layered.

"They don't understand what's involved with college," Orr expressed. The application and financial aid processes require parental information accompanied by tax information and forms. "My family members make \$14 or \$13 an hour and they think I'm wasting my time." Orr has been selected several times to reverify the information on her federal financial aid forms, as required by law, which makes the process even more cumbersome. She's in Austin, Texas, without her family members, but has found new families and friends. Orr is an education major with aspirations of a career in instructional technology. She received some experience in the area when she worked as Huston-Tillotson's help desk operator in the information technology department. In that position she was a troubleshooter for various campus-wide computer problems and issues. She was a member of the golf team, Miss Freshman, Miss Sophomore, Student

Government Association Sophomore Class President, started the Rowdy Rams spirit group, served as a University Ambassador, and was selected Miss Huston-Tillotson University, all while maintaining a 3.0 grade point average. She was the first student accepted into graduate school internship program as a result of a partnership between HT and the University of Arkansas.

"My whole experience is enhanced by my families' previous experiences at HT and their relationship to people." Napier recalled. "The stories they share have given me a great appreciation of HT." Napier recalls that her mother told her to enroll in college right after high school, but that's not what she wanted to do. Situations have a way of moving individuals from a selfish to a selfless state. Napier had to face life's challenges. Her number was called during an AT&T corporate downsizing. That "good job" was gone and the marriage was over. Napier was at a crossroads and reconnected with her faith from her upbringing. She enrolled at Huston-Tillotson where she excelled in her academic goals. She was awarded the competitive Hatton W. Sumners Scholarship with its \$8,000 a year prize, was a member of the Alpha Kappa Mu, education, Beta Kappa Chi, scientific, and Pi Gamma Mu, social sciences, honor societies, which helped her gain summa cum laude status. She is now looking at law school as a career choice.

Napier completed her degree in December 2006 with a bachelor of arts in psychology, and has completed the examination to enroll in law school. Right now she's concentrating on her duties as Huston-Tillotson University's Director of Alumni Affairs. "I ended up in the place where my mother wanted me to begin," she concluded. *

North to practice. He brought his new bride from Nashville to Taylor. Early in his career, he distinguished himself by curbing a raging typhoid fever outbreak through a vigorous vaccination program and by cleaning up an open sewer that was typhoid breeding. Also, he gained local notice by conducting health campaigns and establishing a prenatal clinic and a venereal disease clinic. Later, through Dickey's effort, there was erection of a bridge over a stagnant stream, to expedite, during high waters, black children reaching the school.

Moreover, his attainments in the civic arena were noteworthy. Because he discovered that violence, as well as disease, was a major cause of deaths in the black population, he developed, along with others, a community center and recreational facilities for youth. He pushed model housing, and he and his cohorts got streets graveled, streetlights erected and hydrants added in the black area, as well as science courses introduced in the curriculum in the black high school. Thus, those who honored Dickey sensed that he was a good man, in addition to an excellent physician.

In 1951, he joined the Tillotson College Board of Trustees. When Samuel Huston and Tillotson Colleges merged in 1952, he continued to serve on the "joined" board until his death on May 18, 1959. Dickey's son, James, Jr., is an ex-Huston-Tillotson student (because Dickey wanted to establish going there as a tradition). The younger Dickey, who is currently residing in Austin, remembers that his father was very proud but also very surprised that the first building constructed on the campus after the merger was a science building named for Dickey and Theodore Lawless, a Chicago dermatologist, who also served on the Huston-Tillotson board. James, Jr. portrays his father as someone who was "a very busy professional but also a very humble person." *

ROBINSON *continued*

Robinson was inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. He died on October 24, 1972.

Major League Baseball declared April 15, 2007, Jackie Robinson Day in commemoration of the 60th anniversary of Robinson's Brooklyn Dodgers debut. His wife Rachel Robinson, was presented the Commissioner's Historical Achievement Award for the Jackie Robinson Foundation. *

References and Photo Credits:

- "Jackie Robinson Breaks Baseball's Color Barrier, 1945," *EyeWitness to History*, www.eyewitnesshistory.com (2005)
- "A Legacy Remembered" by Eric Enders, *Austin American-Statesman*, April 15, 1997.
- *Huston-Tillotson University Downs-Jones Library Archives*.



Baseball teams throughout the league celebrated the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier on April 15, 1947, by wearing No. 42 on their uniforms.

CHARTER DAY *continued*

The Old Administration Building, once described as "statuesque but dilapidated," "abandoned but not forgotten," and one of three buildings remaining from Tillotson College, reopened with a new name and purpose. Constructed between 1913-1914, Tillotson College students in the Industrial Arts program made the cinder blocks from which the structure was built. These students also assisted with the construction of the building.

Robert G. Stanton, Class of 1963, and immediate past director of the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, who facilitated a \$525,000 restoration matching grant that jump started the \$3.1 million campaign, shared with the crowd on a picture perfect day that the eyes of Washington, D.C. were upon Huston-Tillotson University. "These funds don't come easy, and you performed!" Stanton said.

Once the center of campus activities with its administrative offices, library, and classrooms, the building sat vacant from 1969 to August 2004 when the Institutional Advancement offices occupied the edifice. During the grand opening the Wachovia Business Resource and Training Center, Bertha Sadler Means African American Heritage Resource Center, Dell Computer Laboratory, Austin Community Foundation Conference Room, Coe-Robinson Alumni Conference Center, and a Heritage Wall of Investors were showcased.

The 93-year old, three-story structure is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and designated with a Texas Historical Marker as a Texas Historical Site. The exterior contains its initial subtle, but majestic splendor depicting the distinctive "Modified Prairie" school of architecture developed by Frank Lloyd

Wright and typical of the urban Southwest during the early 20th century. The interior of the building displays the pressed tin ceilings, hardwood floors, prominent wooden staircases, and door trims reflecting the past.

"We thank God for all of you and for this day," Earvin concluded before cutting the ribbon, allowing everyone to enter the building. *

LEONARD *continued*

the Brown vs. Board of Education Equity Commission. He participated on a panel during Charter Day 2004 at Huston-Tillotson that examined the landmark Brown v. Board of Education case. He returned the following year as the Charter Day speaker.

Although the jobs in the nation's capital have been different the "pace has been very similar and very quick." His days are long but Leonard gives his full attention and devotion to the person or issue before him when he stops. His start at Huston-Tillotson and "my knowledge of history prepared me for the work of the CBC," he concluded. *

Make your mark on the HT campus with a personalized brick on Union Plaza and Walkway.

THREE EASY WAYS TO ORDER:

- 1) Complete this order form and mail it with your payment to:
**Union Plaza and Walkway
Brick Program
900 Chicon Street
Austin, TX 78702**
- 2) Fax your order with credit card information to 512.505.3196.
(Please call 512.505.3074 to confirm fax orders.)
- 3) Telephone your order to 512.505.3074.

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- ☐ Check or money order
payable to Huston-Tillotson University
☐ American Express ☐ Discover
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Expiration Date_____

Signature_____

Purchaser's Name_____

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City_____

State _____ Zip _____

Country (if other than United States) _____

Home Phone () _____

Business Phone ()

[illegible]

A STANDARD SIZE brick (4"x8", \$150) provides a maximum of three lines, with up to 16 characters per line. Use this section to print your inscription (one character per block) as you would like it to appear.

A blank sheet of graph paper with a grid of squares. The grid consists of 20 columns and 15 rows of small squares. There are larger margins at the top and bottom of the page.

A MULTIPLE SIZE brick (12"x12", \$500) provides a maximum of ten lines, with up to 20 characters per line. Use this section to print your inscription (one character per block) as you would like it to appear.

A JUMBO SIZE brick (12"x24", \$1,000) provides a maximum of ten lines, with up to 30 characters per line. Use this section to print your inscription (one character per block) as you would like it to appear.

[illegible]

Viaer-Alumni Hall Naming Opportunities

THE NAMING OF THE BUILDING

"Must the work rest again? How long? Kind friends will bring again, we trust, their generous assistance." The naming of the building was the most significant feature and has been named for Anthony and Louise Viaer and HT Alumni who leave a significant legacy. Noteworthy is the fact that the Old Administration Building was the only building on campus that had not been named.

THE FIRST FLOOR

"The undertaking, great as it was and calling for the utmost effort of the College, they believed practical...At last it is finished." The first floor houses the Wachovia Business Resource and Training Center, a technology training center for new and emerging businesses, and the Bertha Sadler Means African American Heritage Center that highlights the accomplishments of African Americans in Texas, the Southwest, and the nation as well as providing access for the mobility impaired.

THE SECOND FLOOR

"The fund has been renewed, the walls have risen and the work is pressing forward." The second floor is home to the Institutional Advancement Office. Civic and corporate leaders of the community are regular callers on business here, making this area a particularly appropriate one for a corporate sponsor. The Austin Community Foundation Conference Room and the Coe-Robinson Alumni Conference Center are also located here.

THE THIRD FLOOR

"believing with faith in God and the friends of the work that funds will be forthcoming to complete the building within a reasonable length of time..." The third floor houses the President's suites, Institutional Research and Assessment, and the Executive Board Room and breakout area where we gather together to support the President's vision, "Redeeming the Promise."

LARGE ROOM ON EACH FLOOR

These striking rooms have been preserved and restored to the elegance they once knew.

MEDIUM ROOM ON EACH FLOOR

These rooms will house directors and staff in support of our tag line LEARN MORE.

SMALL ROOM ON EACH FLOOR

The noteworthy features remain intact, including freestanding cast-iron columns and much pressed decorative ceilings. The naming opportunities will link the honoree with an attractive and efficient setting.

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Several naming opportunities of other features and programs are available below \$25,000. Consider a gift of \$5,000 and \$10,000 to name a fixture in this eloquent historical facility.

HERITAGE WALL OF INVESTORS

All contributions of \$1,000 or more received for the support of the Building Endowment Fund will be acknowledged on the Heritage Wall of Investors. See the list in the right column.

It's a rare opportunity to see your name go down in history. As the second oldest building on campus, several naming opportunities exist for individuals, corporations, and foundations. Choose from the list below. For gifts of \$5,000 or \$10,000 contact the Office of Institutional Advancement.

BUILDING	INVESTMENT
Naming of the Building	\$ 500,000 <i>Sold</i>
Naming of the Building	\$ 500,000 <i>Sold</i>
Total Naming of the Building	\$ 1,000,000
FIRST FLOOR	
1st Floor	\$ 250,000
Business Resource and Training Center	\$ 100,000 <i>Sold</i>
Director's Office	\$ 100,000
Heritage Center	\$ 100,000 <i>Sold</i>
Director's Office	\$ 50,000
Administrative Assistant's Office	\$ 50,000
Left Break Out Area	\$ 25,000
Middle Break Out Area	\$ 25,000
Right Break Out Area	\$ 25,000
Floor Ramp	\$ 25,000
Total First Floor	\$ 750,000
SECOND FLOOR	
2nd Floor	\$ 250,000
Alumni Suite	\$ 100,000
Grants and Development Suite	\$ 100,000
Alumni Affairs' Office	\$ 50,000
Alumni Association Office	\$ 50,000 <i>Sold</i>
Development Office	\$ 50,000
Data Analyst and Writer's Office	\$ 50,000
IA Vice President's Office	\$ 50,000
Conference Room	\$ 25,000 <i>Sold</i>
Database Manager	\$ 25,000
Office Manager's Office	\$ 25,000
Public Relations' Office	\$ 25,000
Office Space	\$ 25,000
Work Room	\$ 25,000
Reception Area	\$ 25,000
Total Second Floor	\$ 875,000
THIRD FLOOR	
3rd Floor	\$ 250,000
Board Room	\$ 150,000
Executive Suite 1	\$ 100,000
Executive Suite 2	\$ 100,000
Executive Suite 3	\$ 100,000
Conference Room	\$ 25,000
Administrative Assistant	\$ 25,000
Total Third Floor	\$ 750,000
GRAND TOTAL:	\$ 3,375,000

* Quotes are taken from the 1913 Tillotson College Bulletin.

The Case for Supporting the Viaer-Alumni Hall

There is ample justification for supporting this prominent old structure because of its historic importance and its symbolism for African Americans.

Furthermore, the maintenance of the Viaer-Alumni Hall will serve as the Archimedean lever to create cooperative academic ventures, launch a major development campaign, and strengthen the University's ability to educate the seventh generation of the descendants of American slavery.

You are invited to consider the case for supporting the maintenance of the Viaer-Alumni Hall at Huston-Tillotson University. Funds raised will be used to provide operating revenue and establish an endowed maintenance fund.

VIAER-ALUMNI HALL NAMING OPPORTUNITY

Pledge Form

Please print clearly.

☐ Dr. ☐ Mr. ☐ Miss ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. Name: _____

If HT graduate, please provide maiden name, if applicable, and year of graduation: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email address: _____ Telephone: (_____) _____

Name as it should appear on the Wall of Investors (*All contributions of \$1,000 or more will be recognized*):

☐ I do hereby: ☐ pledge ☐ donate to the Viaer-Alumni Hall Naming Opportunity Campaign the amount of \$ _____

☐ I wish to be invoiced in 2 equal installments of \$ _____ to fulfill my pledge.

☐ I wish to be invoiced in 4 equal installments of \$ _____ to fulfill my pledge.

Please note that all pledge obligations must be fulfilled within 12 months of pledge date.

☐ Please charge \$ _____ to my ☐ American Express ☐ Discover ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

Name as it appears on the card: _____

Card number: _____ Expiration date: _____

☐ Enclosed is my check or money order for \$ _____ payable to Huston-Tillotson University.

Please return this form to Ms. Vicki Minor, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon Street, Austin, TX 78702-2795. Forms may be faxed to 512.505.3196.

Calendar of Events

See the www.htu.edu Web site under the Public Relations section for details on the events listed below.

August 25-29, 2007	New Student Orientation <i>Open to all newly enrolled students</i>
August 26	New Student Matriculation Ceremony <i>Open to all students and families</i>
September 7	Opening Convocation
September 17	Constitution Day
September 26	Fall Career Expo and Spring Internship Fair
November 5-22	E-Fair in partnership with Monster.com <i>Open to all HT alumni job seekers</i>
October 10	Graduate School and Professional School Fair
October 10	Poetry on the Patio
October 20	Alumni Volleyball Reunion
October 24.....	College Day at Wesley United Methodist Church, Austin
October 25	Fall Symposium with Nikki Giovanni
October 26	Charter Day Observance <i>A celebration of the University's history. Open to all.</i>
October 27-28.....	HT Senior Weekend <i>Open to all high school seniors</i>
November 30 – December 2	Family Parent Weekend <i>Open to all HT parents</i>
February 2008	Homecoming
February 6.....	Summer/Fall 2008 Internship and Fellowship Fair
February 17	Austin Alumni Chapter Blues and Jazz Concert <i>Open to the public</i>
February 23.....	University Day, and African American Heritage Festival <i>Open to the community and all prospective students</i>
March 8.....	President's MASKED Ball <i>A black-tie affair and celebration of HT</i>
March 17-20.....	Spring Break
March 24	Community Easter Egg Hunt <i>Open to the community</i>
April 9.....	Spring Career Fair
April 9	Poetry on the Patio
May 8-9	Reunion Weekend 2008 <i>Open to all who attended or graduated from Samuel Huston, Tillotson College, and Huston-Tillotson</i>
May 9	20th Annual HT Select Shot Golf Tournament <i>Open to the public</i>
May 9	Honors Convocation <i>Open to the public</i>
May 10.....	Commencement Convocation

Students Head to Florida for the Honda All-Star Challenge

Huston-Tillotson University was among the contenders when the 18th Annual Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC), "Evolution of a Champion," kicked off earlier this year in Orlando, Florida. Sixty-four historically black colleges and universities were represented at the country's only African American academic challenge. The all female team of Natasha Cooper (captain), Arriel M. Goodman, Danica McKinney, Jamilah Paschal, and Trina Walker pushed HT closer to one day becoming the national champion. Teams and players compete for not only intellectual bragging rights but a giant trophy and prizes ranging from T-shirts to a share of a \$300,000 prize.

Locally, students are encouraged to join a team in order to participate in mock "Jeopardy" type competitions. A final HT team is selected that begins weeks of study under the guidance of a faculty advisor and participates in regional practices. Dr. Elizabeth Guillory Medina, Director of Campus Life and First Year Experience, served as the advisor.

Tennessee State University captured their first-ever championship during the 2007 competition.



Members of the Honda All-Star team pictured left to right are: Trina Walker, Danica McKinney, Natasha Cooper (front row), Jamilah Paschal, Arriel M. Goodman, and President Larry L. Earvin.



Many of the presidents from the United Negro College Fund's (UNCF) 39 member institutions attended the national Evening of Stars® taping at the Kodak Theater in Hollywood, California. The 2007 show was a tribute to the Queen of Soul Aretha Franklin. Pictured with Franklin are left to right: UNCF President and CEO Michael L. Lomax, Franklin's escort William Wilkerson, HT President Larry L. Earvin, and former Paul Quinn College President John Waddell. Locally, HT alumni and friends scheduled a viewing party in support of UNCF. The upcoming national show, scheduled in January, will feature Smokey Robinson. Check local listings for the show dates and times.



**HUSTON-TILLOTSON
UNIVERSITY**

Huston-Tillotson University
900 Chicon Street
Austin, TX 78702
512.505.3073

Address service requested.