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THE PRESIDENT WILSON SUSPENSE ENDS:

CONTRACT NOT RENEWED

A LOOK INSIDE THE ISSUE

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FEATURES



PHILIP McCOLLUM

Morehouse Chairman of the Board Bob Davidson and President John Wilson in happier times.

NOT RENEWING WILSON'S CONTRACT DEFIES BEST PRACTICES FOR BOARDS

By James Parker

Contrary to best practices touted by the organization that oversees college boards of trustees, on Jan. 14 Morehouse Chairman of the Board Bob Davidson and the board members he allowed to participate voted not to renew President John Wilson's contract.

Davidson prohibited as much oversight as possible by banning six board members (three faculty and three student trustees) from attending the meeting. That triggered the Student Government Association's lawsuit against Davidson aiming to force the board to vote again about Wilson's future. The president's contract ends in June.

However, he is serving only a one-year renewal of his original three-year contract, a strong indication that there was tension between Wilson and the board, and evidence that the board questioned whether he was the best person to be the longtime leader of the College.

Davidson, whose term as board chair also ends in June, released a brief statement "recognizing" Wilson and his team's contributions to the College, but did not offer any reasons for why his contract was not renewed. Davidson's office did not respond to requests for an interview in time for this story's deadline.

The only information available on the Board of Trustees' website was the biographies of some members, a link to every law currently enacted in the state of Georgia, and the website for the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB).

Oddly, much of the research found on the

AGB site cautioned against actions such as the Morehouse board's and warned of the potential consequences.

Wilson's pending departure will result in the hiring of Morehouse's third new president in the last decade. According to a 2014 AGB report, instability from presidential turnover is a major threat to advancing an institution.

"Excessive presidential turnover is corrosive to strategic and sustained change," said the report "Consequential Boards: Adding Value Where It Matters."

Another AGB report specifically for HBCU trustees said, "The relationship at the top – between the president and the board chair – sets the tone for governance." The report titled "Top Strategic Issues Facing HBCUs, Now and into the Future" also advised board members to "look both at themselves and the presidency to build and sustain effective institutional governance and leadership."

As discussed in the AGB documents, the Morehouse board is not the only institution creating a tradition of presidential turnover. National HBCU attrition is consistent with Morehouse's situation.

Florida A&M University President Elmira Magnum left office after two years in 2016 because of "power struggles with the trustees and other campus groups," according to the Orlando Sentinel. South Carolina State University trustees fired President Thomas Elzey in 2015 after only one year after he was investigated twice by the state's Inspector General, once for trying to fire three whistleblowers.

"There are presidents who can win over students, the alumni can love the president and all of that, but then for whatever reason if the board turns, that president is out," Voorhees College President W. Franklin Evans told the Philadelphia Tribune. "Institutions after institutions are having trouble with boards. You can be in today and out tomorrow."

Evans said his statements were not directed at any particular board.

A restraining order was filed against Davidson by the president of the Student Government Association, Johnathan Hill. Hill said he and the other two student trustees filed the suit immediately after not being allowed to attend the meeting where voting was held.

"The suit is not against the school or the board – just the chair," Hill said. "The judge is still deciding, but if he rules in our favor, then the board will have to hold another vote."

When contacted for comment, Sociology professor and President of the Faculty Council, Dr. Derrick Bryan, directed the newspaper to the following statement he released to all media outlets:

"We, the faculty of Morehouse College, strongly object to the decision by the Board of Trustees not to renew the contract of President John S. Wilson without explanation and without the inclusion of faculty and student trustees in the discussion and decision. The faculty also expresses concern regarding the timing of the Board's decision. We demand an explanation and will investigate these de-

cisions."

As with Hill, many vocal students were less outraged at Wilson leaving than at Davidson's handling of the process.

"I wasn't surprised that his contract wasn't renewed," sophomore Brandon McClung said. "I feel like there needs to be some sort of explanation given by the Board of Trustees."

In Wilson's four-year presidency, there were repeated calls by alumni and students for his resignation, but there is no information regarding the number of dissenters. Ironically, the most complaints arose two years ago when Wilson abruptly fired staff members and announced that many vacant positions would not be filled – 75 total – and lacked transparency in that process.

Since the board's decision about his contract, Wilson has held meetings with students, faculty, and alumni. He has also spoken with various news agencies. In an interview with CBS News, he said he raised more money than any other Morehouse president in a four-year period – totaling \$70 million – and regrets that he has to leave.

As the SGA president, Hill said Wilson is one of the most brilliant men he knows, but only described their relationship as interesting and complicated. He added that he stands with the decision the board reached, but sincerely hopes for the best for Wilson.

"The House really looks divided," Hill said, "but at the end of the day, Wilson and Davidson are still our brothers and this is bigger than any one man."

PRESIDENT'S VIEW OF PENDING DEPARTURE

NEARING 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLLEGE, IMPACT-FILLED
TURN OF EVENTS LEADS TO CONTROVERSY AND SENTIMENT

By Ayron Lewallen / Cover Photo By Austyn Wyche

This year, students, faculty and alumni are anticipating celebrating the College's 150th year of existence. However, some unexpected news has shifted focus to another matter. The Board of Trustees decided not to renew the contract of current president Dr. John Silvanus Wilson after his current one expires in June of this year. This decision seems as though it has come at the most inopportune time given the historical significance of this year.

In a press conference held on Jan. 17, Wilson was asked about his feelings toward the Board's decision.

"I recognize fully that any president serves fully at the will of the trustees," the Philadelphia native said. "They've made a decision here. I respect that decision, and the best thing about it is that it gives me the opportunity to be president for the next six months, and that's exactly what I'm going to do."

Wilson's term length as president will be significantly shorter than some of the others who have served in the same capacity. Dr. Benjamin E. Mays served the institution for 27 years and is the longest serving president in Morehouse's history. John Hope, Morehouse's first African-American president, served for 25 years, while Dr. Hugh Gloster served as president for 20 years.

"College presidencies, in general, are shorter," Wilson said. "I think it is the nature of this business that the presidencies have shortened. I think, though, that in order to be effective in this role, you need some time to do a capital campaign and really get your legs under you."

Wilson, a 1979 graduate of the College, stated that there are many factors that determine a president's term length. This is due to the pressures of the job. For that reason, Wilson stated that he is proud of what he and his administration have accomplished in four and half short years.

"We were really in a stressful financial position when I arrived," Wilson said. "We are significantly stronger now. Whereas there's a variety of factors that result in a short term, we were certainly well on the way to stabilizing Morehouse, and we're still on the way."

During his tenure, the College has raised almost \$70 million in private gifts, grants and contracts.

"That is a record for a four-year period in the history of the College," Wilson said.

Wilson, 1998 Benjamin Elijah Mays' Lead-

ership Award recipient, confidently said that given the success that he has had, he imagines that he will be just as proud of the next six months as he has been of the past four years. Since he assumed his position, alumni giving has increased by 100 percent and overall giving is up 41 percent. The No. 1 year in alumni giving was 2016.

Wilson stated that he is proud of putting together an admissions team so that "The House" can get a good mix of students on the road ahead. He is also satisfied with expanding the Office of Institutional Advancement (meaning fundraising) to position the College to procure more resources. The four-year graduation rate has improved by four percentage points since Wilson's term and his administration has stopped a seven or eight-year enrollment slide to stabilize enrollment as well.

He has achieved many other milestones, one of his proudest being hosting both the former president and vice president of the United States, Barack Obama and Joe Biden. President Obama delivered the College's commencement address in 2013, and Vice President Biden held an "It's On Us" rally on campus to assist in putting an end to sexual violence on college campuses in Nov. 2015.

Finding success, however, has not always been easy. Wilson, the former executive director of the White House Initiative on HBCUs, considers not possessing a large endowment and catering to a niche marketplace the hardest challenges of being the president of a small liberal arts institution comprised solely of African-American male students. Despite these challenges, he has achieved success during his four-year term.

"I knew it was hard," Wilson said, "and we did a lot of hard work. But we had a lot of success here. The fact of the matter is we've broken records here."

Wilson admits that he accomplished more than he expected himself to. He is certain that his administration has accomplished more than its counterparts, including other liberal arts colleges and other black colleges in recent years.

The College's 11th President also stated that students are in a better position to pursue their future because of the work done in the past four years. Unfortunately, the infrastructure on campus makes it difficult for students and faculty to learn and teach. Wilson previously presented a "Strategic Plan" to students, faculty, staff and

alumni because his main concern is investing in faculty and student life.

"Of course part of that is the infrastructure," Wilson said, "but in reality, we need to get more student aid and increase faculty salaries so we can position you all to do your best work."

Although Wilson's term is coming to an end, Mother Morehouse still has a long way to go before she has achieved capital preeminence. He warned his successor that he must focus on fundraising to maintain the momentum he has built.

"Now that we've reached this next echelon," Wilson said, "they're going to have to take it higher in order for us to have the kind of campus and kind of endowment that we need."

Achieving these goals in the next six months will be challenging, but Wilson imagines that after his departure, a new leader will come in and try to pursue the same "north star" that he wrote out as worth pursuing. Wilson's vision at Morehouse was to realize the world of dreams featuring character and capital preeminence. With some modifications made to his strategic plan and support from the Board of Trustees, he is positive the 12th president will be able to achieve this vision.

Looking at the circumstances, Wilson said he realized that saying, "Don't worry about the future" is difficult. He did so with a chuckle. This is partly because of the challenges higher education presents, especially when educating young Black men. He recognized this category of American people as the most challenged subsector, but also realized that educating them is sacred work.

"We have been [educating young Black men] for 150 years as of this year," Wilson said. "It's time to look to the future and anticipate what I hope is a bright future ... I'm always going to want a bright future for Morehouse College."

Wilson realizes there is plenty that he will miss about serving as president of this beloved institution, most importantly Commencement Day.

"For four years, on a day in May, sometimes on a rainy day, I have had the privilege of standing on a stage and shaking hands with over 400 young African-American males who are just becoming Morehouse Men," Wilson said. "I have the privilege of handing them each their degrees and shaking their hands and the symbolic privilege of sending them off into the world."

Given that Wilson just received the news about his contract on Jan. 13, it is too soon to tell what he will do next after being "sent off into the world."

When asked if he would take a position as the president of another college, Wilson said he is not sure what he would do just yet. He pondered on his life and said that his lifelong dream was to have a profound impact on education, and particularly higher education. This position gave him the chance to do that, and he believes he has undeniably succeeded.

"I know there may be some other opportunities to do that, some other ways to do it, and I suppose I'll figure that out in the next six months," Wilson said.

They've made a decision here. I respect that decision, and the best thing about it is that it gives me the opportunity to be president for the next six months, and that's exactly what I'm going to do.

– Dr. John Silvanus Wilson

Wilson's contract will officially expire in June; however, he wishes the outcome was different. Ideally, he would have liked to serve as president for another 20 years.

"The fact of the matter is I am a Morehouse Man," Wilson said. "I have been president of Morehouse for four and a half years. It has been an honor to be so, and that's where I come out on this. On July 1, 2017, I'm still going to be a Morehouse Man, and wanting the best for Morehouse College."

Wilson's undying love and passion for the College will be greatly missed. The next president of the institution has enormous shoes to fill and an esteemed legacy to uphold. Mother Morehouse thanks you for your service, Dr. Wilson, and wishes you all the best in the future.

At long last

How the Migos found their groove

By Chad Rhym

There is no metaphor, analogy or symbol existing that could thoroughly articulate the gravitational and spiritual pull Migos have brought into 2017. After years of delay, the trio's charismatic talents are finally being recognized by the public majority. This is not to discredit the efforts of "YRN," "No Label II" or "Young Rich Nation," but it was evident – America's hottest boy band's style, bird onomatopoeias, cadence and lyricism were evolving for each respective member of the rap triumvirate.

However, despite the growth of Quavo, Takeoff and Offset, reaching Hip-Hop's elite bourgeoisie for years seemed out of reach – the group popularity stayed practically stagnant from "Bando" (2012) to literally starting an urban dance craze – "the dab."

It wasn't until August 2016 that Migos finally struck gold. The release of "Bad and Boujee" exemplified everything the trio stood for – it was the contemporary urban dream and a cultural phenomenon. The ad-libs were perfected and the lyrical cleverness was evident, both integral ingredients to make them household names.

The single skyrocketed Migos into newfound popularity. The trinity garnered a shout-out at the Golden Globes from actor Donald Glover, appearances on late night television as well as their first #1 hit on the Billboard Top 100.

Rightfully so, five months after the initial success of "Boujee," Migos capitalized on their newfound prominence with the release of their second studio album "Culture."

Despite the themes and trends of other musical groups, Migos exceed at sharing the spotlight. Realistically, Quavo is the executive branch of the conglomerate; his presence and allure draw in listeners added to the fact that he never under-performs on a hook. However, the President cannot implement laws without the legislative system creating them and the judicial system passing them. The trio feed off each other like a quarterback depends on his receivers. Beyoncé often left her fellow bandmates Kelly and Michelle behind while the power is shared fairly and efficiently within the Migos.

Aesthetically, the trio throughout the album seemingly, but respectively shine on different songs. Takeoff polishes his concise, choppy and raspy flow on "Slippery" and "T-Shirt" while Offset's captivating and heavy North Atlanta accent pervades stylishly within the closing verse of "Out Your Way" and "Boujee." Last but not least, Quavo gracefully floats within his verses on both "What The Price" and the album's standout – "Kelly Price."

Migos were so deep within their zone of music brilliance even with the albums list of popular features including Travis Scott, Gucci Mane and 2 Chainz. If the dynamic of collaborating on songs is a competition, however, Migos reigned undefeated, never once being out-rapped by their guests.

The integral component of talent and diligence was always there, Migos just needed an audience. The trio's pre-2017 base of support came from the Bible Belt and small patches of black millennials throughout America. Since last August, however, the world has taken notice to those dreads, bird noises, originality and, most importantly, the culture.

I Am Not Your Negro



By Miah Hardy

Raoul Peck demonstrates dynamic storytelling as he frames archival images around the words of famed author, essayist, and intellectual James Baldwin throughout the documentary, "I Am Not Your Negro." The documentary is written by the late Baldwin, in the form of his uncompleted manuscript for a book he planned to name "Remember This House."

The book was planned to be a personal work about the ideologies and lives of three Civil Rights Movement leaders who were also some of Baldwin's closest friends: Medgar Evers, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X. With the voice of the talented Samuel L. Jackson reading the uncompleted work, one would believe that Baldwin himself was reflecting on his own life and the continuous state of political unrest in the United States into a microphone.

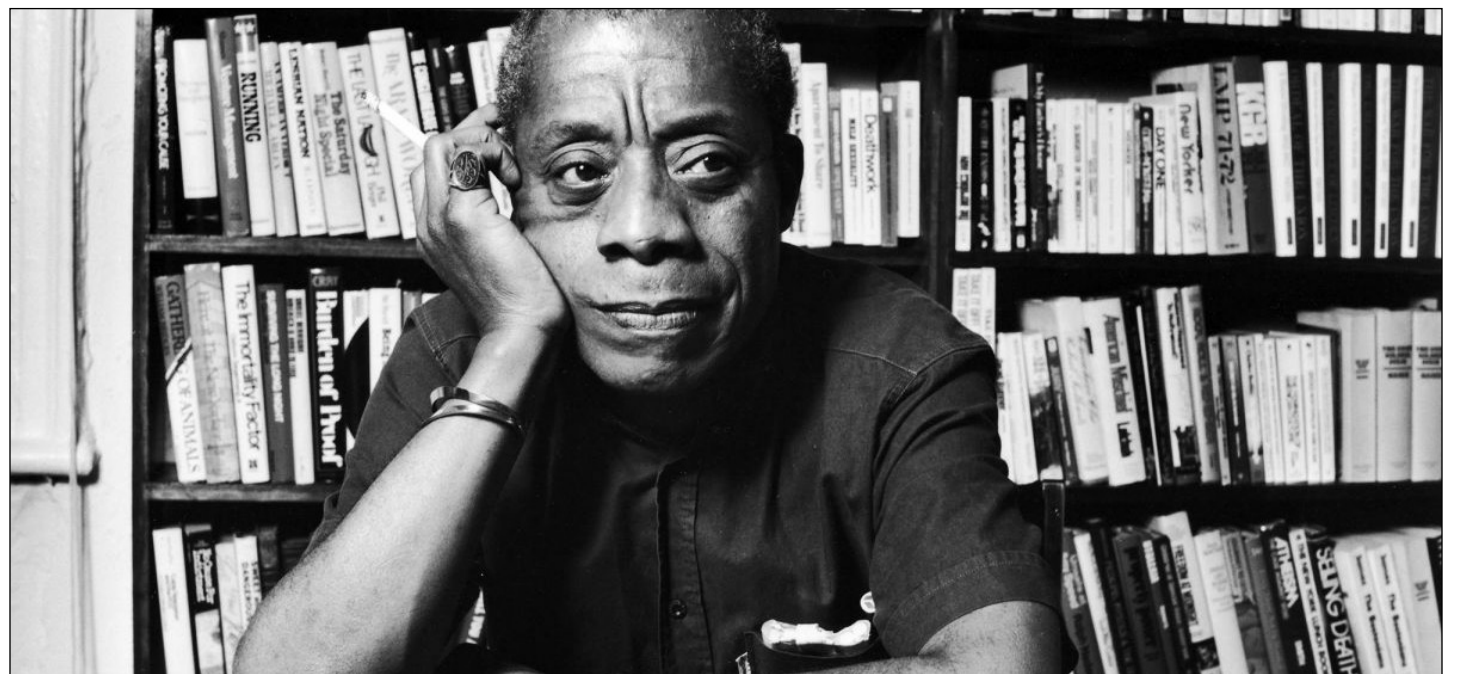
Peck travels throughout time using pictures,

movie clips and videos from protests both in the 1960s and the 2010s. Snippets of Baldwin presenting at debates around the country and on "The Dick Cavett Show" were also utilized to showcase the words of Baldwin without losing the powerful meaning. The documentary is then broken up into different sections to distinguish the different moments in Baldwin's personal life, which shaped him into the intellectual he was at the time his work was produced.

A frightening and frustrating realization that one has during the viewing of this documentary is that Baldwin's words sound as if he wrote them in 2017. Featuring the images of the murdered leaders of the Civil Rights Movement and the more recent unjust murders that have headlined the news for the last couple of years like those of Trayvon Martin and Aiyana Jones, it's apparent that the Unit-

ed States has not changed as much as people like to pretend that it has. Peck works as the glue to bond Baldwin's words to the present. The movie makes it clear that the Civil Rights Movement and Black Lives Matter Movement have two distinct structures during two distinct times in history. Both, however, are fueled by the frustration of black people in America who no longer want to be treated as second-rate citizens in a country in which they were born, a country in which they did not ask to come to.

"I Am Not Your Negro" makes the scholarship of James Baldwin easily accessible to those who do not have the privilege of having parents who have libraries of works by Baldwin like "Giovanni's Room." The well-made, creative documentary, which is nominated for an Academy Award and a NAACP Image Award, allows the audience to connect Baldwin's words from the past to the intolerable present.



Morehouse Marketing Conclave Celebrates 10th Anniversary

By Shayla Spann

Every year, the Morehouse College Marketing Conclave, hosted by the Morehouse Marketing Association, allows students, faculty, and staff to be exposed to career opportunities within the fields of advertising, sales and marketing. Since its launch in 2008, the student-run conference has flourished into one of the nation's largest networking scenes for college students.

Timothy Hillery is a junior Marketing major who is one of the co-chairs of this year's Marketing Conclave from Feb. 10-11. He believes that this year's theme, "Monopoly: Promoting Entrepreneurship and Diversity and Inclusion", will relate to student professionals inside and outside of the Atlanta University Center.

"As HBCU students we must understand that diversity and inclusion are necessities in regards to the workplace," Hillery said. "It's no longer just a black or white thing, but diversity and inclusion can also impact an individual's gender, sexual orientation, religion and so on. In today's society, you have to view things

from a more global aspect because your workforce has to reflect how the world looks."

This year, the Marketing Conclave will be kicked off with an entrepreneurship-focused "Lunch and Learn" catered and hosted by Chick-fil-A. The Conclave will also feature a career fair, networking events, panel sessions and workshops hosted by Quicken Loans, Under Armor, Salesforce.com and Moody's.

The two-day event will also include these keynote speakers: Damien Hooper-Campbell (Morehouse College, B.A. Economics, Class of '02), who is eBay's first Chief Diversity Officer, and Tamika Curry Smith, who currently serves as the U.S.A. Head of Diversity and Inclusion for Mercedes-Benz.

There will also be an entrepreneurship panel consisting of students from the Atlanta University Center who will share their experiences as entrepreneurs. The Conclave concludes with a Shark Tank competition featuring AUC students, students from outside of the AUC and a free raffle for all registered

students.

Moody's is sponsoring the Shark Tank Competition and providing the prizes. Raffle prizes from Mercedes-Benz and Tiffany's will be given to the lucky ticket holders. You must be present to win.

Individuals who are studying disciplines outside of marketing are strongly encouraged to register and attend all of the events. Hillery urges his fellow students to take full advantage of everything this year's Marketing Conclave has to offer.

"I believe that we [AUC students] tend to miss out on opportunities because we always make assumptions," he said. "People always worry about how an opportunity will pertain to their declared major, or how much they'll get paid. It's imperative for students to escape that mindset if they want to navigate themselves onto the path to their desired career."

"Now is the time to go out and talk to these companies. You have to learn how to take full advantage of every opportunity that you can

because you never know what you're missing out on. Of course having a successful career sounds great, but every successful individual came from a setting where they were able to learn their skills and gain experience."

Promoting entrepreneurship, diversity and inclusion in the workplace is important, and unfortunately, still rare. Major companies must commit to these efforts, and at the same time, be willing to be held accountable and lead the way for change.

It is imperative that AUC students take the time out to attend conferences such as the Morehouse Marketing Conclave because it is a luxury that African-American students at some institutions don't necessarily have.

The Morehouse Marketing Conclave will take place in the Shirley Massey Executive Conference Center. Students can register and see the daily agenda at www.morehousemarketing.com. Click the Conclave tab and then choose the drop down for student registration. There is a \$10 registration fee.



Turner Sports' Charles Barkley and Tara August (silver necklace) spend time Wednesday with the Morehouse community, including students and (L-R) basketball coach Grady Brewer, journalism director Ron Thomas, and development staffers Angela Glover and Ardis Blanchard.



Outspoken Charles Barkley Talks Sports, Role Models and Journalism

By Isaiah Smalls

Ask any black child in the West End who his or her role model is. The most common responses would be LeBron James, Julio Jones or, to a lesser degree, Barack Obama.

Why are black children idolizing professional athletes over the former president of the United States? There is a shortage of non-athlete, non-entertainer role models within the black community and it has been that way for years.

When NBA star Charles Barkley boldly claimed "I am not a role model" in his 1993 Nike commercial, the backlash he received was both unwarranted and misplaced—he was trying to shift the admiration from himself to something more practical such as a doctor or lawyer. Whether Barkley still feels that way is uncertain. However, his recent actions would prove otherwise.

On Feb. 8 Barkley, now a controversial Turner Sports basketball analyst, joined by Turner Sports Vice President/Talent Tara August, descended upon Morehouse College to talk sports, broadcast journalism and life. A paradoxical

mix of bravado and humility, Barkley exuded passion while discussing his recent criticism of LeBron, why he believes he is Auburn's best athletic product and everything in between.

The program concluded with lauding the 11-time All-Star for his donation of \$1 million to the Morehouse Journalism and Sports Program in 2015. This donation not only provided four journalism students the unique opportunity to participate in last month's study abroad trip to Cuba, but it also allowed program director Ron Thomas and four students to cover the Democratic National Convention last July.

Barkley, who has recently given \$1 million donations to Clark Atlanta University and Alabama A&M, believed that it was paramount to begin with Morehouse.

"I wanted to start with Morehouse because I think it's a really significant place; the heritage is tremendous," Barkley said in the Ray Charles Performance Arts Center. "Like I said, I'm in Atlanta so much that I feel like I'm part of Atlanta."

The idea to donate to Morehouse originated during his Capital One commercial shoots with famous alumni Samuel L. Jackson and Spike Lee. Couple that with the various impressive graduates he met while working in Atlanta, the decision was easy, Barkley said.

Armed with the same mindset he used when creating the aforementioned "role model" commercial, Barkley used his financial prosperity to donate \$1 million to the sole institution charged with producing successful black males.

"What I was finding out in my speaking," Barkley said, "is that black people, my people, were brainwashed to think we can only play sports, be entertainers [and] things like that. When I talk to young black kids, they don't think about being doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, things like that. It was very frustrating for me."

While Barkley attracted most of the initial attention, August's responses to questions concerning the challenges of managing egos and being a black woman in a male-dominant field

were the most intriguing. August's zeal for her job was apparent.

"I really tell women that don't let anybody tell you that it's just hard 'cause it's also an advantage, too, sometimes," August said. "You just have to be mindful and carry yourself professionally; being a woman in sports is part of the reason I got my master's degree because I wanted to prove I was serious about the business and wasn't just here to hang out and have fun or look cute."

Barkley's recent actions are in stark contrast to his assertion that he's not a role model. Unlike most superstars, Barkley's amiable personality was evident in his willingness to accommodate almost every audience member with pictures, autographs or even a hug at the program's conclusion.

Role models come and go. Barkley's and August's contributions to the Morehouse community and beyond go above the status of role model, yet aren't celebrated as such. It's time for that to happen.

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White Privilege in Protest

By Madison McCaskey

Intersectionality, a term coined by professor Kimberlé Crenshaw in 1989, is used to define the ways in which multiple social issues are interconnected and multidimensional. Often used in the context of feminism, it can be used to describe the issues in which women can face multiple adversities other than gender, including but not limited to race, class, and sexual orientation. Intersectionality and its presence or lack thereof were especially important in the recent historically relevant Women's March on Washington.

On the day after of the inauguration of Donald Trump into the office of the President of the United States, millions of Americans stepped out of bed and made their way to city centers to join the massive waves of colorful protesters uniting for a myriad of causes both relating to women's rights and the rights of all human beings. In Atlanta, marchers were mobilizing in brightly colored raincoats and muddy boots at the Center for Civil and Human Rights for the Atlanta March for Social Justice and Women.

The Women's March took place on January 21, 2017 the day after the presidential inauguration of Donald Trump. The march was organized by Teresa Shook, Bob Bland, and others and what began as a response to a newly elected president's detrimental views on women's rights, bloomed into a march garnering support from millions of people both in the United States and

around the world, on all seven continents.

The beauty of the march was in just that. The mass unification of people from all different, races, classes, genders, and ideologies unifying for one single cause of uplifting human rights. People cheering and chanting in unison, complimenting and taking pictures of each other's signs, helping other climb their way on top of hills to get a better view of the vast number of attendees marching in solidarity with one another. The feelings of love and community were undeniable.

However, I'm sure we can all agree that this space was not created for black people, more specifically black women. According to CNN exit polls 94% of black women voters cast their votes for Hillary Clinton, while the majority of white women (52%) elected Donald Trump. Despite these statistics, it was evident at both the march in Washington D.C. and the march here in Atlanta, did a deplorable job of giving black women the credit they deserved. However this was largely unsurprising to the black community. Maada Thomas, a Morehouse student who did not attend the march posits that "black women never get the recognition they deserve for anything." While he wishes this was not the truth he recognizes that this is often the case with several victories that black women are responsible for.

This phenomena can be seen directly through

the presence of police at the Women's March in comparison to police presence at the numerous Black Lives Matter protests that have taken place. Sarah Rudewalker, a professor in the Department of English at Spelman College who attended the March last weekend, recounted that "being raised white in America, [she] was not taught to fear the police". This was evident to be true for many other white protestors as they marched by cheering for police officers as they sat calmly on their bicycles waving. Rudewalker continues in explaining that the police presence is not only how he citizens view the police, but also how police view the citizens. Thus, a crowd of white women is not seen as intrinsically dangerous by police, whereas a crowd of black women are.

As an attendee of the Atlanta March for Social Justice and Women I witness thousands of individuals advocating for a number of causes close to their heart. Not only marching for their sisters, mothers, and wives, but for the husbands, brothers, family members, loved ones, friends, and those forgotten by time. So in truth, the Women's March did not stand for black women, and it did not focus on intersectionality. But although our strides for progress may not always be in the direction we would like, in the words of Clayborne Carson, "we must be 'long distance' runners and take pleasure in small victories."



Introducing Beverly Gooden, Morehouse's new Title IX Coordinator

By Laura Eley

A new semester always brings new faces to campus and the AUC community. One newcomer who is ready to make her grand entrance is Morehouse's new Title IX and Compliance Specialist, Beverly Gooden. The Maroon Tiger sat down with Ms. Gooden to learn more about her and her choice to come to the House.

Why did you decide to come to Morehouse?

"I think that there was a definite immediate HBCU connection. When I came here to interview for the role, I hadn't worked in higher education before and I felt that, it would be a happier more pleasant adjustment into the Higher Ed world to go to an HBCU. But even deeper, I wanted to come to Morehouse because of the demographic. In my past, I worked mainly in victims' rights in regards to women, so I thought it would be a unique opportunity to do Title IX on a black male campus and try my best to reform that program that we already have here and do it where they are black men who are learning a growing and going out into the world. I thought it was a unique opportunity.

"What do you bring to the table?"

"I think the reason they chose me over the other candidates is because my work experience is in human resources. So I've been in human resources for about seven years and with human resources comes a lot of federal regulations and compliance and a lot of judgement when it comes to the human's behavior. Some people don't even have a passion for things like sexual assault, sexual misconduct, sexual harassment, gender violence. So I think that's why they chose me for the role because of the interest and seriousness I have regarding Title IX and not

only Title IX, gender violence, and then also the seven years of compliance work because that's a huge part of Title IX that I'm learning myself

How are you different?

"I think before there were several interim Title IX coordinators and I'm the first time they have actually hired a permanent Title IX coordinator. So when you have a lot of interim roles that turn over, things fall through the cracks and I think that happens in any position. Just thinking with my HR brain, when there is a lot of turnover that happens. But I think two things we had interim Title IX coordinators and a campus, and I'm talking about the administrators, that weren't really making Title IX issues an important part of what we are doing. I think a lot of times administrations can get caught up on endowments and money and bringing things, which is important too. But it's also important to be very careful about how we process cases involving sexual assault. So I think, one way I'm different is I'm not temporary and I think that's a very important part of it.

What can students expect to see change?

What I want students to see change most immediately is the time frame. I think we've had in the past, a lot of cases that have been delayed for various reasons. Maybe there weren't enough people to hear the case, or maybe people weren't responding, just things of that nature. Federal guidelines suggest a 60-day [response] from report to panel hearing. That's my goal. That's what I want to do. That's the most immediate thing, first of all. Second of all, anybody that's waiting for a hearing is gonna get a hearing as soon as possible and that means for me by the end of March. That's what you can expect. You

can expect me to make sure the process if running smoothly and I think with the addition of myself, and then also Joy White, who is the new associate general counsel, we're both here to do that. So it won't just be falling through the cracks.

What do you want students to know as you start your position?

"I want students to know that things are going to be done differently now and that's not a slight on anyone that came before me. I think they were all overwhelmed, overworked, not really knowledgeable, and not really capable, not really having the authority to do the things they needed to do with Title IX. I'm not really here to continue that. I want students to know that I want to work alongside them and with them. I want to hear their hearts and their thoughts on gender violence and healthy masculinity and anything we need to know, so that we can work to change things. I want them to know that they can talk to me anytime. I want them to know that they don't have to be afraid, even if you don't have case, even if you don't have a report. You can come talk about your ideas regarding Title IX or your concerns. I want this to be a Title IX office where its collaborative, not just with each other or administration. But also with the students because I think that's what will force the change."

One thing that was consistent through our interview with Ms. Gooden was her passion for Title IX and her openness to criticism. To voice your concerns or suggestions to Ms. Gooden, you can email her at beverly.gooden@morehouse.edu.

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MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

29th ANNUAL *A Candle IN THE Gala Dark*

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2017 BENNIE AND CANDLE AWARD HONOREES

BENNIE SERVICE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RELIGION

Jonathan L. Walton '96

*Plummer Professor of Christian Morals and Pusey Minister in The Memorial Church
Faculty of Arts & Sciences
Professor of Religion and Society, Harvard Divinity School
HARVARD UNIVERSITY*



BENNIE LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS

Theodore Colbert III '96

*Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Senior Vice President
BOEING*



CANDLE AWARD IN MUSIC, BUSINESS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Jon Platt

*Chairman & CEO,
WARNER/CHAPPELL MUSIC*



CANDLE AWARD IN ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Tyler Perry

*Actor, Comedian, Producer, Director,
Screenwriter, Playwright, Author, Songwriter*



CANDLE AWARD IN PHILANTHROPY, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Usher Raymond

Humanitarian, Singer, Songwriter, Actor

Laura Eley
Staff Writer
eleyl@semail.spelman.edu

SPELMAN COLLEGE

15

Celebrating Our Sesquicentennial Anniversary 1867 - 2017

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

11 A.M.
Sesquicentennial Pilgrimage to Augusta, Georgia
Location: Springfield Baptist Church
Speaker: Dr. John Silvanus Wilson Jr. '79, 11th President of the College
Music by Morehouse College Glee Club



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

7 P.M.
Morehouse vs. Clark Atlanta University Basketball Game
Location: Frank L. Forbes Arena

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

ALL DAY
"Show Your Love" for Morehouse International Giving Day
(Official Birthday of Morehouse College)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

7 P.M.
Rising Stars in the Media featuring Morehouse Alumni in Media
Location: Bank of America Auditorium
Moderator: Ron Thomas, Director, Journalism and Sports Program

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

10:45 A.M.
Sesquicentennial Convocation
Location: Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, Morehouse College Campus
Speaker: Rep. Cedric Richmond '95, Chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus, 2nd Congressional District (D-Louisiana)
Honoring: Frankie Beverly



Rep. Cedric Richmond '95



Frankie Beverly

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

7 P.M.
150th Anniversary Game Day Celebration (Morehouse vs. Miles College Basketball Game)
Location: Franklin L. Forbes Arena

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

6 P.M.
Key Supporters Reception honoring our top donors for 2015-2016 Fiscal Year
(INVITATION ONLY)

For more information, visit morehouse150th.com.

To make a donation, visit giving.morehouse.edu/gala2017.

To purchase tickets for the Founder's Day concert, visit <https://frankiebeverly150.eventbrite.com>.

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17

8 P.M.
Sesquicentennial Founder's Day Concert presenting "MAZE featuring Frankie Beverly"
Location: Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, Morehouse College Campus
Tickets: <https://frankiebeverly150.eventbrite.com>
Prices: \$250 VIP; \$150 VIP; \$100 General Floor; \$75 and \$50 (balcony)



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

11 A.M.
Reflections of Excellence
Featuring 2017 Bennie and Candle Award Honorees
Location: Ray Charles Performing Arts Center

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18

6 P.M.
29th Annual "A Candle in the Dark" Gala and VIP Reception
VIP Reception for Gala Patrons and Sponsors
7:30 P.M.
Awards Ceremony and Dinner
Location: Hyatt Regency Atlanta
265 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19

11 A.M.
Sesquicentennial Founder's Day Worship Service
Location: Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel, Morehouse College Campus
Preacher: Dr. Claybon Lea, Jr. '89, Senior Pastor, Mount Calvary Baptist Church, Fairfield, California



4 P.M.
150th Anniversary Founder's Day Glee Club Concert featuring the World-Renowned Morehouse College Glee Club
Dr. David E. Morrow '80, Director
Ray Charles Performing Arts Center

MELLON SCHOLARS PROGRAM AT THE LIBRARY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

Will you be a rising senior or recent college graduate in June 2017? Are you interested in 18th- and 19th-century African American primary sources? Are you considering a graduate degree in African American history or studies?

If you answered "yes," then apply to the Mellon Scholars Summer Programs! You'll be immersed in the scholarly community and primary sources of the Library Company of Philadelphia, which has one of the nation's most significant collections documenting African American history and culture prior to 1900.

The Mellon Scholars Internship Program is a four-week summer program (June 5 through June 30, 2017). Interns will receive a \$2,000 stipend and an allowance for room, board, and travel to and from Philadelphia. During the internship, you will:

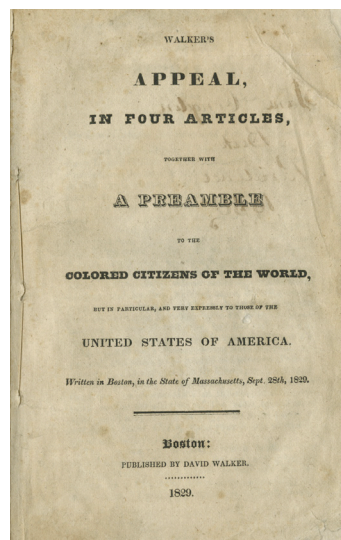
- Learn how to conduct original archival research and develop research agendas,
- Gain experience in the work of special collections research libraries, and
- Participate in the Mellon Scholars Summer Workshop.

The Mellon Scholars Summer Workshop is a one-week professional development program (June 12 through June 16, 2017) designed to prepare students for the transition to graduate study. Workshop participants will receive a \$500 stipend and an allowance for room, board, and travel to and from Philadelphia. Activities include:

- Lectures and seminars on emerging topics in early African American history,
- Research in the Library Company's African Americana Collection,
- Guidance on applying to graduate school,
- Mentoring and networking with established African American history scholars, and
- Visits to local libraries and historic sites with significant African American history collections.



Application deadline: March 1, 2017, with a decision to be made by April 15. For more information and complete application guidelines, visit www.librarycompany.org/paah/fellowships. The Mellon Scholars Program is made possible with the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

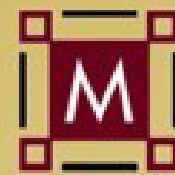


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MOREHOUSE COLLEGE
JOURNALISM &
SPORTS PROGRAM

RISING STARS IN MEDIA CROWN FORUM AFTER DARK

Wednesday, FEB. 15.
7 p.m.

Bank of America Auditorium
Shirley A. Massey Executive
Conference Center

Moderator:



Ron Thomas
Director, Journalism and
Sports Program

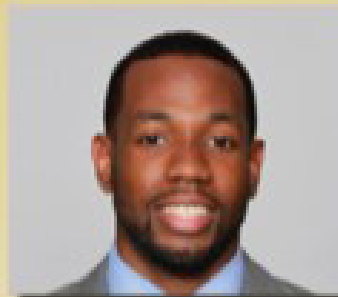
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BLACK MALE

Claiming Space, Reconstructing Images, and Moving Forward

POWERED BY THE MAROON TIGER



Study Portuguese, Gain Experiences!

By Michael Scott

Have you ever tried something different? When college students arrive from high school, they tend to explore different interests in their lives. Whether it be listening to new music or trying new foods, these students willingly accept new experiences. Seattle-based engineering consulting firm, Harris Group, conducted a study which finds that 72 percent of millennials prefer to purchase experiences over mere things. The average college student today represents the millennial mentality, it seems in all facets but one: selecting a modern foreign language to study.

Spanish and French are the two most popular modern foreign languages that students select when they enter the Atlanta University Consortium. What is not common knowledge, is the wide-breadth of modern foreign languages that are offered besides these ordinary two. According to the Modern Foreign Languages department at Morehouse College, Mandarin Chinese, German, and Wolof are three unique languages in which you may find interest. As for Spelman College, the Department of World Languages and Literature additionally offers Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, and Portuguese.

From an academic perspective, maybe students tend to stick with what they know, in order to avoid any scholastic slip ups. However, for the true few, these students venture to do the unexpected, or perhaps the expected because they are millennials, which is to take an unconventional approach to the foreign lan-

guage experience. The Maroon Tiger met with students and professors from Spelman College's Portuguese program, capturing response as to why a student should sign up for a course.

Maroon Tiger: What made you choose to study Portuguese?

Shira Givens (Boston, MA — History Major with a concentration in Asian Studies): I went to Brazil this summer. I had an internship and fell in love with the country. There is a huge Afro-Brazilian population and I wanted to learn more about "my people." Coming back, I realized there is such an opportunity in terms of positioning myself in the job market. I [am] more diverse with who I am and stick out. Before my trip, I had never been in South America. I went to the Olympics, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo and San Salvador.

Madison Swain (Collierville, TN — Biology, Pre-med): I am taking Portuguese next semester because my family has members from different countries; so, there are lot of different languages spoken with Portuguese as one of them. I have cousins who speak Portuguese fluently and I would like to connect with them.

Kierra McHenry (Oklahoma City, OK — Psychology): I like the course and wish I had been able to take it prior to visiting Portugal. After [visiting] the country, I want to level into the language more.

The two Spelman College professors that lead the Portuguese program are Dr. Lucia Ribeiro and Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence (S-I-R) Bruna Placido. Although Dr. Ribeiro began teaching Portuguese at Spelman this fall, she was formerly a professor at various other institutions. With a modern foreign language teaching background of 28 years, Dr. Ribeiro has taught middle school, high school, and university-levels, with a focus on Language Acquisition and Culture.

Bruna Placido, a Fulbright (S-I-R), is an English teacher in Brazil that has taught for eight years now. Although this is her first time teaching Portuguese, she enjoys it because it is an opportunity "to teach [her] own language and culture." She recognizes how students face the same problems of learning a language, noticing that "students in Brazil and the United States have the same questions and doubts."

Maroon Tiger: Why is it important to study Portuguese?

Dr. Lucia Ribeiro: Portuguese is the sixth most widely spoken language in the world and is majorly spoken by one of the economic powers: Brazil. With the opening of international trade, Portuguese has not only become an important language in the business world but serves other purposes in spaces such as Government, Education, and bringing together the global village.

Maroon Tiger: What would you tell a student who is looking for their first language to study?

Dr. Lucia Ribeiro: Portuguese is a unique language that will open up professional opportunities in the U.S., Europe, South America, Africa, and Asia. Also, our program has support from Washington D.C. and Portuguese flagship programs that provide internships and scholarships for students to experience the language and the culture in Lusophone (Portuguese-speaking) regions.

Maroon Tiger: What special activities does the Portuguese program host?

Bruna Placido: We have Bate-papo (a weekly meeting for cultural exchange), in-class cultural presentations, Brazilian movie nights, and field trips. Next semester, we are relaunching the Portuguese club and are looking forward to broadening our classes (bringing more students to the program) and sharing more Brazilian culture.

Maroon Tiger: What is your favorite word or phrase in Portuguese?

Dr. Lucia Ribeiro: Inteligencia emocional! (emotional intelligence)

Bruna Placido: Cafuné! (the act of running your fingers through your lover's hair)

RECYCLE

THE MAROON TIGER



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