



Sixth Annual Recognition Luncheon Will Feature a Whimsical Must-See Performance

“This year’s Recognition Luncheon will be like none other,” said newly elected HSSU Alumni Association Vice President and Recognition Luncheon Chairperson Jeanine Riley. “With fun, new treats such as the Wine and Cheese Meet-and-Greet, fantastic raffle prizes and theatrical skits all at a whimsical venue, this will be an alumni event you won’t want to miss!”

With the purchase of a ticket, attendees may enjoy the savory flavors of Inglenook Chardonnay, White Zinfandel and Merlot with a side of cubed Swiss and cheddar cheese with crackers as they mingle during the Meet-and-Greet prior to lunch. Following, an elegant lunch, including a tossed three-green salad with red cabbage, shredded carrots, red onions and ripe olives drizzled with red wine vinaigrette; seasoned bread sticks; mesquite grilled chicken breast with plum tomatoes and shallots in champagne sauce; a medley of julienne fresh vegetables; a steaming twice baked potato; and New York-style cheesecake with raspberry puree and chocolate, will be served amongst the exquisite fine art featured at Randall Gallery on 13th Street.

During the Meet-and-Greet and the delicious meal that will follow, attendees will have the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets for an array of lavish prizes, such as gift certificates to area restaurants and massage packages, bottles of wine, movie-lovers gift baskets and the grand prize of two tickets to the Alumni Association’s Gold Gala Scholarship Dinner Dance to be held at the conclusion of Harris-Stowe’s Homecoming on October 2, 2010.

After filling their stomachs with delicious cuisine and their pockets with coveted prizes, attendees will head to the stage for the highly anticipated performance from *The Wiz* and the presentation of awardees. The 2005-2006 Miss Harris-Stowe and newly elected Alumni Association Board Member Stacy Shaw will be both the emcee and Dorothy, dressed in ruby slippers. She and some exceptional actors from Webster Groves High School will captivate the audience with festive costumes, enchanting songs and dynamic dancing.

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The Wiz characters will present exceptional alumni with awards in their respective category: Heart (community involvement) Brain (academic achievement), Courage (leadership and entrepreneur efforts), Ruby Slippers (the ultimate alumna) and the Wizard (the ultimate alumnus). Nominations for the Heart, Brain and Courage will be accepted until June 1; just go to www.hssu.edu/alumni for the nomination form and instructions.

Tickets to partake in this animated, momentous occasion are just \$45 each or \$400 for a table of 10. Young alumni are eligible for special discounted tickets. Alumni who graduated 2005-2009 may each purchase two tickets at \$40/ticket, and 2010 graduates, the Alumni Association would like to congratulate you on your recent accomplishment by offering all 2010 graduates the opportunity to each purchase two tickets for just \$35/ticket!

“We know purses are tight, especially after just paying for a college education,” said Riley. “Therefore, we’re offering discounted tickets to young alumni because affordability should not prevent young alumni from attending the Recognition Luncheon, which is certainly the perfect opportunity for young alumni to enjoy their first HSSU Alumni Association event.”

Seats are limited, so go to www.hssu.edu/alumni today to purchase tickets online or call (314) 340-3390 to make reservations.

We hope you choose to follow the yellow brick road to the Recognition Luncheon!

HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

presents

THE SIXTH ANNUAL RECOGNITION LUNCHEON!

Follow the yellow brick road to recognition!

Themed after the hit movie *THE WIZ*, the 2010 recognition luncheon will honor alumni in pertinent categories: Heart, Brain, Courage, Ruby Slippers and the Wizard!

Saturday, June 26, 2010, at 12:30 p.m.

at the historic Randall Gallery

999 N. 13th Street

St. Louis, Missouri 63106

Tickets: \$45 \$400/table of 10

Discounted tickets available to young alumni!

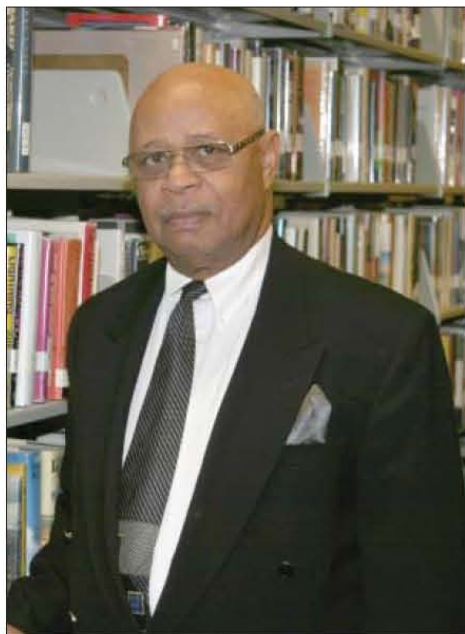
Please make checks payable to:
Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association

Send both payment and response card to:
Harris-Stowe State University Office of Alumni Affairs

Attn: Krystal Trice
3026 Laclede Avenue, Room 110
St. Louis, MO 63103

For more information, please contact Nisa Schmitz at (314) 340-5754 or at Alumni@hssu.edu

Message from the HSSU Alumni Association President



Dr. John E. Ingram Jr.
HSSU Alumni Association President

Greetings alumni and friends!

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association looks forward to bigger and better things. The Alumni Association is a stable organization that is gaining momentum with the infusion of several recent graduates. Go to pages four and five for a closer look at the newly elected Alumni Association Board Members.

Planning is in its final stages for the Recognition Luncheon to be held Saturday, June 26, 2010, at Randall Gallery, 999 N. 13th Street and the Gold Gala, which closes out the Harris-Stowe Homecoming Activities on October 2, 2010. I hope that you enjoyed the cover story about the Recognition Luncheon.

It is important for all alumni to pull together to provide resources for today's students. All of us need to double our commitment to make Harris-Stowe State University the very best that it can be.

It has been an honor for me to serve as president of the Alumni Association for the past two years. Congratulations to the president elect, Candace Dickson. I am sure she will do an outstanding job in moving the Alumni Association to higher heights.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John E. Ingram Jr.".

John E. Ingram Jr.

Congratulations to the Newly Elected 2010-2012 Alumni Board Members



Name: Candace Dickson
Alumni Association Role: President
Lifetime or Regular Member: Regular Member
Occupation/Title: Contract Manager
Employer: City of St. Louis Department of Health
Graduated From: Harris-Stowe State University
Graduation Year: 2005
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Accounting
Additional Degrees: Master of Public Administration (Saint Louis University)
Goals in New Alumni Role: Increase alumni participation in University activities and increase the presence of alumni on campus.



Name: Jeanine Riley
Alumni Association Role: Vice President/Recognition Luncheon Chairperson
Lifetime or Regular Member: Lifetime Member
Occupation/Title: General Manager
Employer: Riley Ready Mix & Materials Inc.
Graduated From: Harris-Stowe State College
Graduation Year: 1996
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
Other Organizations: South County Chamber of Commerce
South Broadway Merchants Association (Board Member)
Goals in New Alumni Role: Use efficient technological methods of communication to make the HSSU Alumni Association meetings as productive and informative as possible. Create an exciting approach for membership recruitment and renewal.



Name: Katina Stewart
Alumni Association Role: Recording Secretary
Lifetime or Regular Member: Regular Member
Occupation/Title: Health Services Manager
Employer: City of St. Louis Department of Health
Graduated From: Harris-Stowe State College
Graduation Year: 2003
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Health Care Management
Additional Degrees: Master of Science in Health Administration (Webster University)
Other Organization: American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE)
Goal in New Alumni Role: Serve the Alumni Association and institution in a capacity to enhance the growth and sustainability of the University.



Name: Tom Stenger
Alumni Association Role: Parliamentarian
Lifetime or Regular Member: Regular Member
Occupation/Title: Administrative Director
Employer: Parsons Blewett Memorial Fund
Graduated From: Harris Teachers College
Graduation Year: 1963
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
Additional Degrees: Master of Arts in Mathematics for Educators (Webster University)
Other Organization: American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA) Local 44
Goal in New Alumni Role: Help the development of the Alumni Association.



Name: Suzanne M. Goodwin
Alumni Association Role: Board Member
Lifetime or Regular Member: Regular Member
Occupation/Title: Substitute Teacher
Graduated From: Harris-Stowe State University
Graduation Year: 2009
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Hospitality and Tourism Management
Additional Degrees: Associate in Applied Science degree in Hospitality Studies with emphasis in Culinary Arts (St. Louis Community College at Forest Park)
 Associate in Applied Science degree in Hospitality Studies with emphasis in Hotel and Restaurant Management (St. Louis Community College at Forest Park)
Goals in New Alumni Role: Increase involvement, membership and participation.



Name: Stacy Shaw
Alumni Association Role: Board Member/Membership Committee Chairperson
Lifetime or Regular Member: Regular Member
Occupation/Title: Attorney at Law
Employer: Smith & Associates LLC
Graduated From: Harris-Stowe State University
Graduation Year: 2006
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
Additional Degrees: Juris Doctor (Texas Southern University)
Goals in New Alumni Role: Increase diversity of membership and expand resources provided to alumni.



Name: Catherine Stenger
Alumni Association Role: Board Member
Lifetime or Regular Member: Lifetime Member
Occupation/Title: Retired teacher and nurse
Graduated From: Harris Teachers College
Graduation Year: 1965
Degree Received: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
Additional Degrees: Associate in Applied Science degree in Nursing (St. Louis Community College at Meramec)
Other Organization: St. Louis Zoo Docent (volunteer)
Goals in New Alumni Role: To serve on the Gold Gala Committee, Membership Committee and the Recognition Luncheon Committee.

2011 HSSU Alumni Association Nominating Committee

In addition to the HSSU Alumni Association Officers and Board Members already listed, the 2011 Nominating Committee was also elected. Congratulations to the 2011 Nominating Committee:

- Yvonne Chatwell (Ex-Officio)
- Scharad Hutchins (Financial Secretary)
- Shirley McCullough (Parliamentarian)
- Edward Scruggs
- Dorothy Abram Sevier (Board Member)

Eye on Alumni



Alumna Maxine Newburn Davis

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Born just eight minutes after her sister Pauline on April 3, 1932, Maxine Newburn was the fifth of six children to parents Israel and Ethel Woodfin Newburn.

She attended George Washington Carver Elementary School, Vashon High School and Stowe Teachers College.

After marrying Sterling Davis, her boss in the Central Files Department at the Engineer Supply Control Office in St. Louis, they had two children, Crystal and Sterling Jr. Davis raised her children until they reached school-age and then became employed by Celebrity Jewelry Company, where she held the

position of area manager and later, regional manager. In 1982, she opened her own jewelry business.

When working in a security office for the government, Davis was nominated for “Woman of the Year” in her respective area.

As a longtime member of Washington Metropolitan Church, she served on its Missionary Board.

Davis cherished spending time with her family, especially her granddaughter, Brianna.

On March 8, 2010, Davis departed this life.



Alumna Juanita Doggett

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Juanita Doggett served St. Louis schools as an educator and administrator for 50 years, and the city displayed its gratitude by constructing Juanita Park in her honor.

Born in Sedalia, Missouri, Doggett later moved to St. Louis, where she graduated Sumner High School, earned her bachelor’s at Stowe Teachers College and received her master’s in Education from Columbia University.

Doggett began her career teaching elementary and secondary school. She met her husband, Rev. John N. Doggett Jr., at Union Memorial United Methodist Church, where he preached, and they had one daughter and three sons.

As the principal of Sherman Accelerated Community School for 24 years, Doggett arrived extra early each morning so that she could greet each of her 350 students.

Doggett missed school for workshops and conferences, but she never called in sick. She expected the same dedication from her students and would often visit the homes of students who didn’t come to class. Her active interest in her students resulted in an attendance rate of nearly 95 percent.

Doggett didn’t push only for consistent student attendance, she strived to instill a sense of responsibility in her students. She wore a jeweled star-shaped pin to symbolize the school’s STAR program, which stands for Success Through Accepting Responsibility. Doggett said, “No one comes here smart. They get smart through hard work.”

In her retirement years, Doggett volunteered for the NAACP, the Missouri History Museum and the Tower Grove Park Association. She was awarded the Shaw Neighborhood Lifetime Achievement Award.

Doggett lost her battle with cervical cancer on April 9, 2010, at the age of 81.



Alumnus Art John McCoy II

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Boys Hope Girls Hope (BHGH) honored Harris-Stowe alumnus Art John McCoy II with the Father Sheridan Reflection of Hope Award, created for the organization’s founder, at an Evening of Hope.

After graduating Lafayette High School, native St. Louisan McCoy attended Washington University at age 16 before transferring to Harris-Stowe. He married his high school sweetheart at age 17, and he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Secondary Education-Mathematics at age 19.

McCoy returned to his high school alma mater to teach, and some of his former high school classmates were his pupils.

Later, he obtained a master’s and Ph.D. and is one of the youngest and most successful administrators in the nation.

In 2005, McCoy served on a panel discussion for improving urban communities, out of which three new church tutoring sites were created. Two years later, he secured a \$595,000 U.S. Drug-Free School Grant for mentoring at-risk adolescents in St. Louis through the SAGES mentoring program.

Even with all of his dedicated service to the community, McCoy still finds time to publish poetry, educational books and scholarly publications.

Photo Not Available

Alumnus John R. Phillips

Alumnus John R. Phillips qualified as one of seven finalists for the role of superintendent of the Hernando School Board in Florida. Although he wasn't chosen for the position, Phillips' qualifications abound.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from Harris Teachers College in 1971, a M.A. from the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL) in 1981, Post-Master Advanced National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Certification from UMSL in 1984 and an Ed.D. from Saint Louis University in 2002.

From 1971 to 1986, Phillips taught middle school math and science for St. Louis Public Schools before serving as assistant principal at Wyman Elementary School in St. Louis from 1986-1990. During his tenure, Wyman topped all 105 of the district's schools

in achievement gains, student and staff attendance and decreases in suspensions.

Next, he took his career to Kansas City, Missouri, where he served as the district's assistant superintendent of school leadership, 1997-2000. His responsibilities included supervising the academic focus of 20 schools, 19 of which met their academic targets and all surpassed their suspension and dropout goals.

In 2000, the Charleston County School District in South Carolina employed Phillips as associate superintendent, and in 2003, he joined Area IV of the Atlanta Public Schools as the executive director of school reform.

Most recently, he served as director of university/school district partnerships at Claflin University in Orangesburg, South Carolina.



Alumnus Charles Shaw

Alumnus Charles Shaw

This April, the National Bar Association honored the Honorable Charles A. Shaw as a 2010 Gertrude E. Rush Awardee for positively impacting society and making a difference in his profession.

The St. Louis American reported Shaw as saying, "It's an honor, really humbling, and I feel blessed. I hope to be fortunate enough to just leave a couple of footprints."

Born in 1944 in Jackson, Tennessee, Shaw attended St. Louis Public Schools and graduated from Harris Teachers College in 1966. He pursued a career as an elementary school teacher in St. Louis and in the District of Columbia before entering the legal profession.

He received his M.B.A. from the University of Missouri in Columbia in 1971 and his J.D. from the

Columbus School of Law of the Catholic University of America in 1974.

Fresh out of law school, Shaw became an enforcement litigation attorney with the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C. Later, he worked as an attorney for Lashly & Baer, a St. Louis firm; as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri and as a circuit judge in St. Louis.

Shaw did not consider becoming a judge until he worked as prosecutor. "I had no concept of what it took to be a judge until I became a federal prosecutor," said Shaw. "That experience with the frequent courtroom appearances gave me a high regard for the position."

In 1993, President Bill Clinton appointed Shaw judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.



Alumnus Calvin Thomas IV

Alumnus Calvin Thomas IV

Grady Health System, which includes the 953-bed Grady Memorial Hospital and eight neighborhood health centers, recently promoted Harris-Stowe alumnus Calvin Thomas IV to senior vice president of operations.

In his new role, Thomas will manage the emergency room, trauma, medical imaging, perioperative services, anesthesia, central sterile, guest services, food and nutrition and environmental services.

Thomas has extensive experience in the health care industry; he spent six years working for the Hospital Corporation of America where he oversaw

the completion a \$23 million orthopedic and spine institute. He also served as associate administrator at Los Robles Hospital & Medical Center in California and as chief operating officer of St. Lucie Medical Center in Florida.

He has also worked for Kaiser Permanente in Los Angeles, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and the VA Medical Center in St. Louis.

Thomas received his bachelor's in Health Care Management from HSSU and his master's in Health Care Leadership at Dartmouth College.

Why I am an HSSU Alumni Association Member for Life



Joan Metzger Moehl
Lifetime member of the HSSU Alumni
Association

It is my pleasure to inform you, my fellow alumni, of a great opportunity being offered by your HSSU Alumni Association. Its newly implemented Lifetime Membership Initiative equals giving back to your alma mater.

I chose to become a lifetime member of our HSSU Alumni Association in 2009, the first year it was offered, because I already knew that I had received a lifetime of rewards from our beloved University. I entered Harris Teachers College as a student of Elementary Education and emerged four years later with a career.

During my four years at Harris, the patient and dedicated professors, with their knowledge and guidance, transformed me into a “real” teacher ready to begin my career in the St. Louis Public Schools, which I served for 37 fulfilling years.

Harris became the foundation on which I would continue to build my professional career. I received a master’s in education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and continued to study at Webster University earning various elementary certifications. Harris Teachers College provided that very important first step needed to enter the education profession. I will be forever thankful and indebted to Harris for providing me with this great opportunity to succeed.

Additionally, I am so grateful to the College for being there for me upon graduating from high school. Harris Teachers College answered my needs as a young student by being an affordable, urban college and easily accessible from my home. The Elementary degree program remained in high regard by our urban school system as well as the surrounding suburban school districts. I have had a satisfying career that supported me and my family and began when I graduated from undergrad. HSSU is a jewel to me and my sisters, Catherine Metzger Stenger and Beth Metzger Murphy, who also graduated from Harris Teachers College. It most certainly provided the “gift” of the opportunity to earn a college degree and that “gift” of a college education kept on giving to our family.

I am so proud of HSSU and its growth as an educational institution from a single degree program in Elementary Education to multiple degree programs in Business Administration, Urban Specializations as well as Education. The B.A. in Elementary Education degree and the Elementary Teaching Certificate I received upon graduation in 1967 from Harris enabled me to “follow the yellow brick road” to success in my elementary education career and also in life.

The wonderful opportunity to become a Lifetime Member of the HSSU Alumni Association expires on May 31, and I hope you will join me as a proud HSSU lifetime Alumni Association member before your chance slips away!

Thank You, Harris-Stowe State University,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joan M. Moehl".

Joan Metzger Moehl

Last Chance to Become a Lifetime Member!

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association offers graduates an ongoing opportunity to share memories, enjoy camaraderie and continue their life experiences together. As a community-serving institution, HSSU is fortunate that many of its graduates remain in the St. Louis area; as such, our alumni are able to maintain long-term connections. The Alumni Association also enables graduates to share the gift of education with deserving, yet financially challenged students. Fees paid to the Alumni Association, a registered nonprofit entity, are 100 percent tax deductible. Everyone, whether you graduated from

Harris-Stowe or are a friend of the institution, can join the HSSU Alumni Association. Want to get the most bang for your buck? Join now and your membership will be valid through May 31, 2011! Regular Membership costs just \$25. Also, the Lifetime Membership is available for a limited time! If you missed your chance last year to join the HSSU Alumni Association for life through a one-time flat fee, then don't miss your chance this year. For just \$300, you can become a lifetime member of the Alumni Association. This offer is only available through May 31, 2010, so join today!

HARRIS-STOWE

STATE UNIVERSITY

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WE NEED YOU. PLEASE JOIN TODAY!
Membership Application

Regular Membership (Valid through May 31, 2011): \$25
 Lifetime Membership (Valid for life! Limited time offer available through May 31, 2010.): \$300

Date _____ Referred by (if applicable) _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
 E-mail _____
 Telephone _____

I attended (check all that apply):
 Harris Stowe Harris-Stowe
 Harris-Stowe State College Harris-Stowe State University

Year of Graduation _____

Payment
 Everyone, whether you graduated from Harris-Stowe or are a friend of the institution, is welcome to join the HSSU Alumni Association. You may join the Alumni Association online at www.hssu.edu/alumni or you may mail in your application. Make all checks payable to the "HSSU Alumni Association."
 I have enclosed a check for \$25 for Regular Membership.
 I have enclosed a check for \$300 for Lifetime Membership.

MAIL TO: 3026 Laclede Avenue • St. Louis, MO 63103 • (314) 340-5754

☛ *Remain connected to the institution via the Alumni Hornet Messenger (www.hssu.edu/alumni)*

☛ *Rekindle college friendships at Homecoming, the Gold Gala and the Recognition Luncheon*

☛ *Free admission to HSSU athletic events*

☛ *10 percent off all University Bookstore merchandise*

☛ *Support scholarships to your beloved alma mater*

Membership Benefits

Your HSSU Alumni Association membership also grants you access to many exciting benefits and discounts, such as:

- Free admission to HSSU athletic events
- 10 percent off all University Bookstore merchandise
- Free alumni news updates
- Free use of the University weight room
- Discount to the Hornet Dining Hall
- Full access to the AT&T Library and Technology Resource Center
- 10 percent off University facility rentals
- 5-10 percent off Enterprise locations
- Membership to Working Advantage, an online discount provider

HSSU Career Services Is a Great Resource for Alumni



At Career Services' annual Teacher Interview Day, certified teachers and education program graduates may sign up for 20-minute interview sessions with the school districts in which they are interested.

Harris-Stowe's Office of Career Services assists students, but it is also a great resource for alumni. Career Services helps alumni in their career development as they make career decisions, search for jobs and secure employment.

"Alumni who have not yet found employment or those that are looking for a more rewarding or challenging position may continue to use our services free of charge as long as a need exists," said Director of Career Services Wanda McNeil.

Alumni should visit www.hssu.edu/careerservices to register with the HSSU Office of Career Services via eCareers. "Alumni should register with eCareers for job postings that are targeted to both undergrads and alumni," said McNeil. "Employers do logon to eCareers and perform resume searches for open positions. If you have not uploaded a resume, then they cannot find you on eCareers!"

Also by registering with eCareers, the HSSU Office of Career Services can contact you if a position in your field becomes available. HSSU Career Services is notified about available jobs via networking channels and directly from employers, so the department can inform students and alumni about job opportunities that may not be advertised elsewhere.

Career Services provides resources about various occupations,

career fields, resume writing, interviewing techniques, labor market trends, employers and more.

For alumni without a clear career path, Career Services offers interest and personality inventories to find an appropriate match.

Every spring, Career Services hosts its Annual Career Fair, which always brings out exceptional potential employers. This year, the FDIC, St. Louis Police Department, Missouri State Highway Patrol, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), MasterCard, Enterprise, Regions Bank, Sherwin-Williams, the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency and Social Security all sent representatives.

Because Harris-Stowe was founded as a Teacher Education institution, Career Services also hosts an annual Teacher Interview Day specifically for the students and alumni of its longest-established degree program. In 2010, 25 different school districts attended.

To schedule an appointment with Career Services, call the office at (314) 340-3512 or e-mail CareerServices@hssu.edu. The office is conveniently located in Room 119 of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building. Alumni who are seeking a new job or are thinking about beginning a new career should definitely take advantage of this free, personalized service.

Alumni Association Awards \$10,000 in Student Scholarships

At Harris-Stowe's Scholarships, Prizes, Awards & Recognition Ceremony held this April, the Alumni Association presented six scholarships, totaling \$10,000, to deserving HSSU students.

Mary Davis and Merinda Watson each received a \$4,000 scholarship, and Shuntay Daniels, Tyresha Shields, Tiara Stokes and Larry Young each received a \$500 book scholarship presented by the association vice president at the time, Wilzetta Bell.

Awardees must be degree-seeking and have a minimum 3.0 CGPA after completing 24 credit hours at HSSU, and the association's Scholarship Committee aids in the selection process.

The Alumni Association is delighted to assist worthy students in achieving their academic goals, and the association congratulates these exceptional students.



HSSU Alumni Association Vice President Wilzetta Bell, center, presents HSSU students Mary Davis, left, and Merinda Watson, right, with \$4,000 scholarships.



From left, Tiara Stokes, HSSU Alumni Association Vice President Wilzetta Bell, Tyresha Shields and Larry Young. These three students, in addition to Shuntay Daniels who is not pictured, each receive a \$500 book scholarship from the HSSU Alumni Association.

Eight Named Distinguished Alumni at HSSU's 153rd Commencement Convocation

At Harris-Stowe State University's 153rd Commencement Convocation on May 11, at Powell Symphony Hall, eight alumni received Distinguished Alumni honors. Recipients included Mary J. Armstrong, Shirley Brown, Darius Chapman, Byron Clemens, Gloria Openlander, Cheryl Ray, Gail Scales and Stacey Woolfolk.

Other awardees included Chief Juvenile Court Judge Jimmie Edwards, who received the Distinguished Community Service to Education Award, and Vice President of Community Affairs and Consumer Outreach of Anheuser-Busch Inc. Johnny Furr Jr. and Head of New City School Thomas Hoerr both received Doctor of Humane Letters (honoris causa).

Valedictorian Ashley Mason and Senior Class Representative to the Student Government Association Leonard Johnson both spoke at the ceremony on behalf of the 142 graduates.

Teacher Education student Deborah Bell also had a special place at Harris-Stowe's 2010 Commencement. She had less than a semester left to complete before she too would have walked across the stage to receive her diploma, but sadly, Bell was bestowed, posthumously, a Teacher Education degree.

Bell, a nontraditional student who began her journey toward becoming an educator 10 years ago at Harris-Stowe, was entering the term for Student Teaching, but unfortunately suffered a heart attack while in the car with another student as they were leaving Student Teaching orientation in January. Dean of Teacher Education Dr. LaTisha Smith said, "Many children will surely miss the great experience of having her as a teacher."

Dr. John Silvanus Wilson, executive director of the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), provided the commencement address. Dr. Wilson leads



Dr. John S. Wilson emphatically gestures as he delivers the Commencement address.

a team that works to strengthen the capacity of more than 100 HBCUs by working with the White House, 32 federal agencies and the private corporate and philanthropic sectors. Their overall charge is to ensure that HBCUs are a significant force in helping the nation to reach the goal set by President Barack Obama of having the highest proportion of college graduates in the world by the year 2020.

In his address, Dr. Wilson asked the Harris-Stowe graduates, "What is your perspective as you leave this place?" He beseeched the graduates to attain a perspective that will lead to greatness. He asked, "Will you be rich?" To which he later expounded that one-third of the world's population lives on \$1 per day or less. "If you think you are poor, you will never be rich," said Dr. Wilson.

Next, he asked, "Will you be great?" In response, he offered, "It's better to improve the world rather than your place in it." Lastly, he asked the graduates, "Will you be beautiful?" Dr. Wilson informed graduates that beauty is not based on appearance, but rather on what you achieve in the world. With the right perspective, you can achieve great things and great beauty. As the graduates embark on the next phase of their lives, Dr. Wilson said, "What happens next depends on how seriously you take your future." Dr. Wilson received a roaring applause and standing ovation.



After receiving their diplomas, the 2009-2010 Harris-Stowe graduates enthusiastically "turn" their tassels from the right to the left to symbolize that they have officially graduated.

The HSSU Alumni Association welcomes the 2010 graduates with free one-year memberships and looks forward to seeing what they will bring to the association, to their careers, to the community and beyond.



Mary J. Armstrong, B.A.
President, American Federation of Teachers St. Louis, Local 420



Shirley Brown, M.S.; Counsel in Philanthropy and Event Management and *St. Louis Argus* Society Writer



Darius Chapman, B.S.; Manager, Manufacturing Tax Dept. & Field Service Operations Dept. Office of the License Collector, St. Louis



Byron Clemens, M.A.
Educator, Union Leader, Journalist



Gloria Openlander, M.A., Ed.S.
Principal, St. Roch School, St. Louis, MO



Cheryl Ray, MSW, LCSW
Social Worker, St. Louis Public Schools



Gail L. Scales, B.S.; Jail Admissions Lieutenant and Training Coordinator, City of St. Louis Justice Center



Stacey D. Givens Woolfolk, B.S.
Manager, Pupil Accounting, St. Louis Public Schools

Recent Harris-Stowe Events

The Piano Lesson The HSSU Players presented *The Piano Lesson* this February during Black History Month. Set in 1936 Pittsburgh, *The Piano Lesson* is centered on an 137-year-old piano and what to do with the historic piece. As the Charles family argues about the future of the instrument, their family's ties to slavery come to the forefront, along with the former owner of the piano who enslaved their ancestors. Playwright August Wilson won his second Pulitzer Prize for this play.



Vice President's Academic Honors Program Harris-Stowe recognized more than 300 students who achieved at least a 3.5 GPA for the 2009 Spring and or Fall Semesters at the Vice President's Academic Honors Program in March. "The Academic Honors Ceremony is Harris-Stowe's way of publicly acknowledging our student scholars who work so diligently in the classroom while juggling a myriad of responsibilities," said Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dwyane Smith. "These scholars certainly serve as an example to students everywhere and truly deserve this recognition." The honorees, as well as a few staff members, are seen above.



Week of the Young Child
 HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens Jr., right, reads to some of the William L. Clay Sr. Early Childhood Development/Parenting Education Center students on Literacy Day with Pajamas. Week of the Young Child is an annual event sponsored by the National Association for the Education of Young Children to promote public awareness of issues and concerns regarding young children and how to care for young children in positive settings. HSSU's celebration featured a new theme and activity each day of April 12-16.



"The Classics in Spring Concert" Director Dr. Rosalyn H. England-Henry, left, directs the nationally recognized HSSU Concert Chorale at its spring concert, which featured numbers by Ludwig Van Beethoven and Michael Jackson.

Credits

The *Hornet Alumni Messenger* is proudly brought to you by the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association and the HSSU Office of Alumni Affairs, Director of Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs Courtney McCall and Public Relations/Alumni Specialist Nisa Schmitz.

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