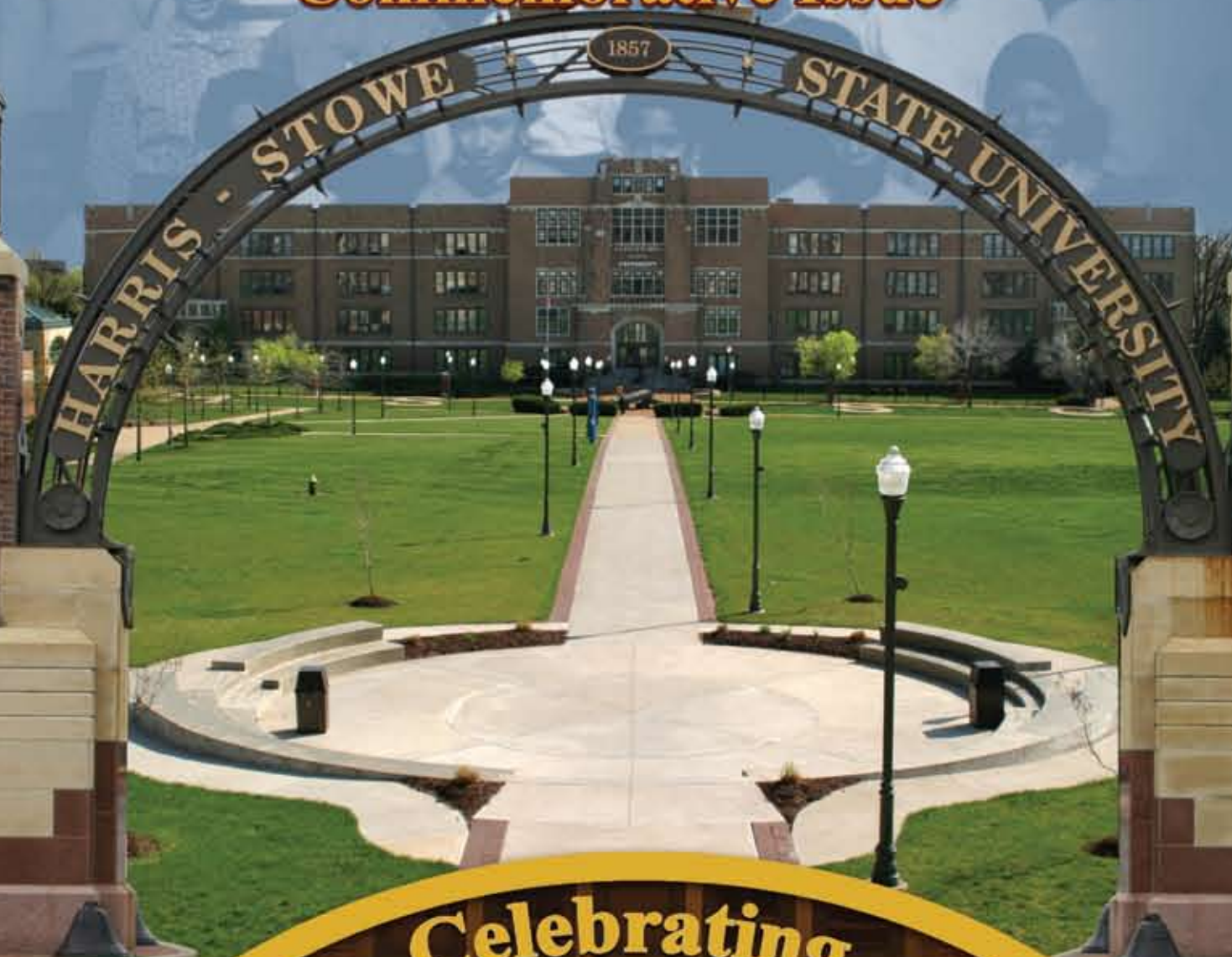


HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

President's Report to the Community
Fall 2008
Commemorative Issue



Celebrating
150 Years
of Educational Excellence



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STATE UNIVERSITY
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PIVOTAL YEARS IN THE EVOLUTION OF HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY

- 1857 **Harris Teachers College** The St. Louis Board of Education founds Harris Teachers College to prepare white teachers for white elementary schools.
- 1890 **Stowe Teachers College** The St. Louis Board of Education founds Stowe Teachers College to prepare black teachers for black elementary schools.
- 1938 Both colleges reorganize themselves and form two academic levels: a junior college division and a senior college division.
- 1954 **Harris Teachers College** The St. Louis Board of Education merges the two colleges, which became Harris Teachers College.
- 1977 **Harris-Stowe College** The St. Louis Board of Education changes the name to Harris-Stowe College.
- 1979 The state of Missouri passes legislation that makes Harris-Stowe College a part of the state's system of Public Higher Education.
- 1981 The state of Missouri approves baccalaureate degree programs in Early Childhood Education, Middle School Education and Urban Education.
- 1987 **Historically Black College** Harris-Stowe College is named one of the nation's Historically Black Colleges and Universities under the U.S. Department of Education.
- 1993 **Harris-Stowe State College** The state of Missouri authorizes the college to expand its mission by offering baccalaureate degree programs in Business Administration, Secondary Teacher Education and Criminal Justice, as well as to add the word "state" to its title.
- 1996 The city of St. Louis gives the college nearly 18 acres of land, formerly Laclede Town site, for just \$10.
- 1998 **AT&T Library and Technology Resource Center** Construction of this building, formerly the Southwestern Bell Library and Technology Resource Center, begins.
- 1999 **Vashon Community Center** Harris-Stowe receives the Vashon Community Center and its land for just \$10 from the city of St. Louis.
- 2003 **Emerson Performance Center** The college completes its fourth building, which houses the Board of Regents Gymnasium, the Bank of America Theatre and the Whitaker Foundation Art Room.
- 2004 **US Bank Entryway Arch** The college dedicates its new arch, emblematic of the great things that occur when you enter the arches.
- 2005 The **Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration** opens in a temporary facility in the fall of 2005. On August 26, the college celebrates its official change to **Harris-Stowe State University**, and the former Vashon Community Center facility is officially listed by the Federal Government in the **National Register of Historic Places**.
- 2006 **Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center** Harris-Stowe State University becomes a residential campus with the opening of its first residence hall.
- 2007 **Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center** The groundbreaking ceremony for this highly anticipated building is held.



From left, Charles H. Hoessle, Reverend Dr. William G. Gillespie, Dr. Queen D. Fowler, Cynthia J. Brinkley, Chairman Attorney Wayman F. Smith III and Attorney Luther J. Rollins Jr.

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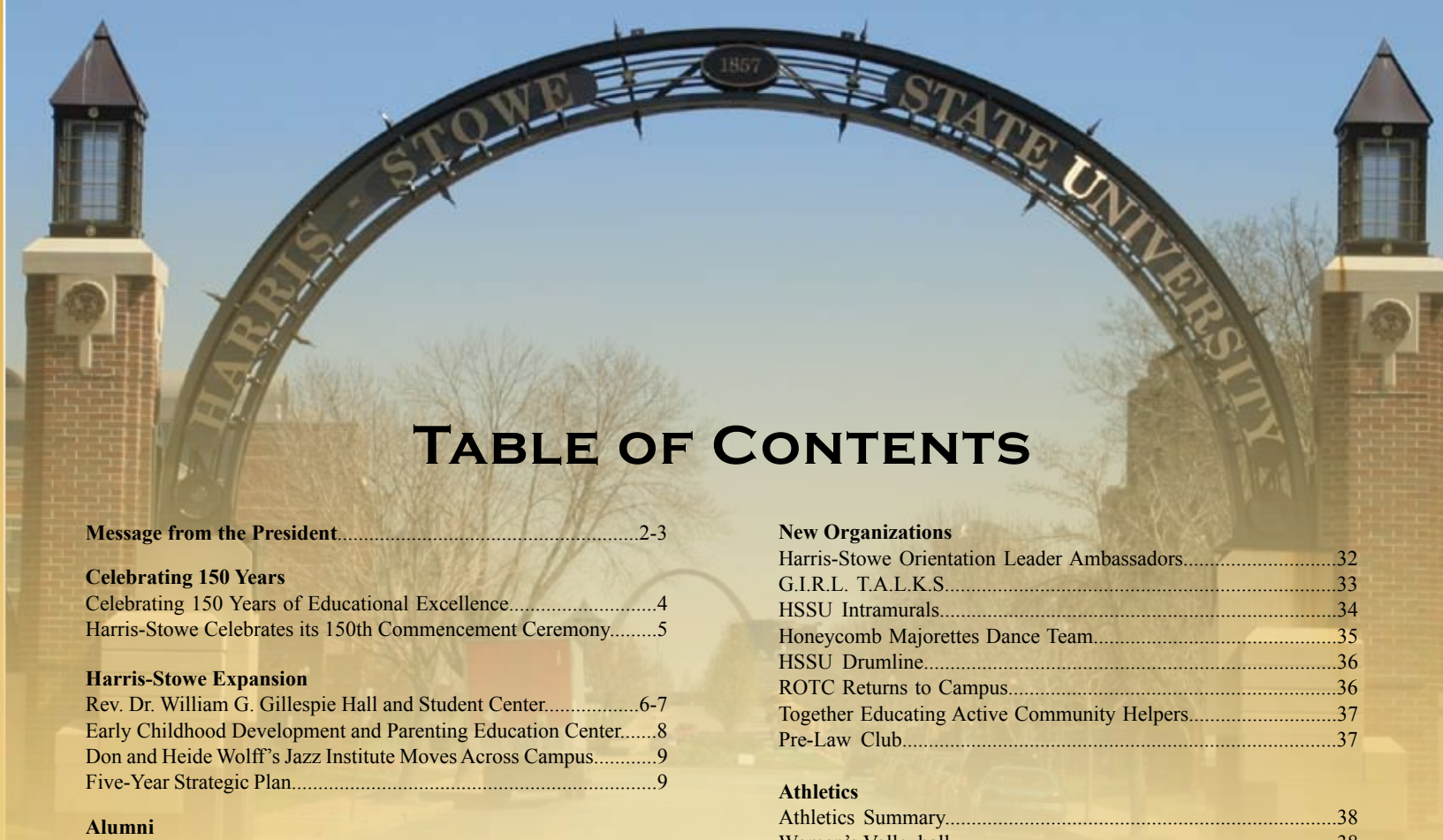


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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was nearly 30 years ago when I began my tenure at Harris-Stowe State University and embraced an educational legacy that was deeply rooted in the St. Louis community. I knew that there would be challenges ahead, but I also knew that it was an excellent opportunity for me to do what I have always loved — educate individuals. Today, Harris-Stowe has positioned itself as one of Missouri's most progressive universities, and it just keeps getting better. Not only are we celebrating 150 years of educational excellence, but during the midst of this noteworthy accomplishment, Harris-Stowe welcomed its largest freshman class in the history of the institution.

Since our last publication, so many wonderful things have taken place at Harris-Stowe. We opened up the Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center, broke ground on the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center, welcomed a new dean of the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration and completed a five-year strategic plan for the university that gives insight into Harris-Stowe's future and what is to come, to name a few.

“...WE ARE NOW MAKING A NAME FOR OURSELVES AS ONE OF THE AREA'S MOST FLOURISHING UNIVERSITIES, SPECIALIZING IN MORE THAN 12 DEGREE AREAS, WITH BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION BEING HARRIS-STOWE'S FASTEST-GROWING PROGRAM.”

— DR. HENRY GIVENS JR.

Long gone are the days of Harris-Stowe being known as just the area's best teacher education institution. While preparing the nation's best teachers is still a top priority and will forever remain the foundation for which our historic institution was formed, we are now making a name for ourselves as one of the area's most flourishing universities, specializing in more than 12 degree areas, with Business Administration being Harris-Stowe's fastest-growing program.

Additionally, we have expanded our graduate offerings to include articulations with not only the University of Missouri-St. Louis, but Maryville University and Webster University, as well. It is definitely a great time to be a student at Harris-Stowe. Providing an enhanced campus environment where students can learn and prepare themselves for all that the world has to offer is a great opportunity for first-generation college students, and Harris-Stowe will continue to cater to the educational needs of those individuals for years to come. Included in this report, you will find the many events, programs, initiatives and traditions that make up Harris-Stowe. It is my hope that you enjoy the stories, maybe learn a little something that you may not have known about Harris-Stowe and continue to support the mission of our extraordinary university!



Dr. Henry Givens Jr., President of Harris-Stowe



Dr. Henry Givens Jr., President of Harris-Stowe State University, and his wife, Belma Givens, arrive at the Renaissance St. Louis Hotel for the HSSU Alumni Association's 2007 Gold Gala.



Dr. Henry Givens Jr., HSSU President, right, escorts Missouri Governor Matt Blunt, left, into the main administration building where Governor Blunt spoke about state-assisted financial aid.



David Woods, right, one of the HSSU Drumline's captains, holds his drum for Dr. Henry Givens Jr., left, to play on after the groundbreaking ceremony for the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center.



Dr. Henry Givens Jr. socializes with students at the President Givens' Late-Night Breakfast that took place on December 4, 2007. The food helped students recharge for studying for the remainder of finals week.

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

For the past 150 years, Harris-Stowe has served the St. Louis community by catering to the needs of urban youth who may not otherwise have a chance at quality higher education. Therefore, in 2007, HSSU proudly, and with great excitement, embarked upon this special anniversary and recognized the amazing feats of the university and its predecessor institutions with many events and programs that began in October and were held during the entire academic year.

Harris-Stowe State University kicked off its 150-year celebration on October 12, 2007, on the Market Street parking lot, prior to the Homecoming Parade.

This exciting and historic event included resolutions and proclamations from numerous federal, state, county and city officials, including Governor Matt Blunt, Mayor Francis Slay and County Executive Charlie Dooley. A major presentation by the former Harris-Stowe Alumni Association President, Chester Hines, followed with the presentation of more than \$100,000 to the university in honor of the celebration. (Please see page 10 for more

information about the Alumni Association's donation.) In addition, Harris-Stowe proudly honored two special women during this occasion — Lozetta Dallas Farmer and Fern Wolfe, Harris-Stowe's oldest-living graduates.

Immediately following, the 2007 Homecoming Parade commenced. The President's Tailgate Party, the Alumni Gold Gala, the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center and the HSSU Players' *A Woman Called Truth* also commemorated the sesquicentennial celebration.

On October 15, 2007, Missouri's Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Robert Stein came to speak at Harris-Stowe State University in honor of its 150-year celebration. He delivered a keynote address on the state of higher education at the Emerson Performance Center's Bank of America Theatre.

2007 is definitely a year to celebrate and remember, as Harris-Stowe State University carries on its rich history into the next century and a half.



HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. speaks at the 150-year kick-off celebration. From left, State Representative Robin Wright-Jones, Chester Hines, jazz vocalist Denise Thimes, Congressman William Lacy Clay, Dr. Givens, Fern Wolfe, Senator Maida Coleman and Mayor Francis Slay.

HARRIS-STOWE CELEBRATES ITS 150TH COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Commencement Convocation is one of HSSU's most crowning events of the year! Faculty, staff and students alike look forward to the ceremony annually, as it represents the start of something new and rewarding for the graduates who have worked so hard to earn their degrees. On May 8, 2007, Harris-Stowe held its 150th Commencement Convocation at Powell Symphony Hall. Andrew Taylor, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Enterprise Rent-A-Car, served as the evening's keynote speaker and was the recipient of an Honorary Doctoral of Humanities degree.

In keeping with a university tradition, the 2007 commencement program placed great emphasis on high academic achievement. Baccalaureate degrees were conferred for more than 120 graduates in several different professional fields. Valedictorian Stephanie L. Yourdan and senior Debra Dean spoke on behalf of the graduating class.

Additional honorees included St. Louis Cardinals' baseball great Osborne "Ozzie" Smith and noted essayist, American culture critic and Washington University Professor Dr. Gerald Early. *St. Louis American* Publisher Dr. Donald Suggs was named a Golden Palm Laureate.

On May 9, 2008, Harris-Stowe celebrated another momentous Commencement ceremony. Retired President and Chief Executive Officer of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International Arnold W. Donald provided the keynote address.

Valedictorian Tasha Nicole Sutherlin gave an enthusiastic farewell speech, followed by Senior Class Representative Dianna Dix, who presented the class of 2008's gift to the university, a gazebo.

Seven Distinguished Alumni received awards. Honorary Doctoral degrees were conferred to Missouri State Senator Maida Coleman and Keynote Donald. Johnny Furr Jr., Vice President of Community Affairs & Supplier Diversity Anheuser-Busch Inc., was named a Golden Palm Laureate.




Keynote speaker and Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Enterprise Rent-A-Car Andrew Taylor, right, receives an Honorary Doctoral of Humanities degree from Dr. Henry Givens Jr., left.



Vice President of Community Affairs & Supplier Diversity of Anheuser-Busch Inc. Johnny Furr, center, receives a Golden Palm Laureate award from HSSU Board of Regents members from left, Dr. Queen D. Fowler, Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie, Chairman Wayman F. Smith III and HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. at the '08 Commencement ceremony.



Valedictorian Stephanie L. Yourdan speaks on behalf of the graduating class at the 150th Commencement Convocation in 2007.



HARRIS-STOWE
STATE UNIVERSITY

THE FIRST 150 YEARS

Years ago, the university's Commencement Convocation was held on campus in the Main Auditorium. Graduating classes were becoming too large, and in 1996, the ceremony was moved to the beautiful Powell Symphony Hall.

REV. DR. WILLIAM G. GILLESPIE RESIDENCE HALL AND STUDENT CENTER



Name: Shawn Baker
Who: Assistant Dean for Student Affairs/Director of Residential Life
Year joined HSSU: 2007
Favorite part of Gillespie Hall: Suite-style rooms
Gillespie Hall floor: First
HSSU activities: Advisor to the Gillespie Residence Hall Council
 Co-Director of Intramurals
 Assists with the Collegiate 100

“My greatest accomplishment for this university has been implementing the meal plan for the students,” said Baker. “When I started, the students did not have a meal plan, and you never want the students to stress about where their next meal is going to come from because a lot of them stress about grades.” As a solution, Baker introduced a meal plan consisting of 18 meals per week to use in the Dining Hall, and the cost is built into the Gillespie Hall residents’ housing expenses.

Baker loves the fact that Gillespie Hall and all of its amenities are offered to everyone on campus. “We’re not taking any shortcuts...we’re giving them the best,” said Baker. Each suite consists of four bedrooms, one room per suite-mate and a common area with refrigerator, stove and microwave.

Living on campus has other advantages too, said Baker. It’s convenient, class is only two minutes away, it provides a studious environment, instructors and tutors are always close by, and Student Health Services and Career Services are also available on campus.

OPENING

In August 2006, Harris-Stowe State University opened its first residential facility, the Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center. The hall is named for Harris-Stowe’s longest-serving regent, Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie, a member of the Board since 1978.

HSSU President Henry Givens Jr., Board of Regents Chairman Atty. Wayman F. Smith III, Regent Cynthia Brinkley, Regent Dr. Queen Fowler, Regent Gillespie and *St. Louis American* Publisher Dr. Donald Suggs officially cut the ribbon during the Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center Dedication Ceremony on August 14, in front of Harris-Stowe family and friends.

Gillespie Hall houses 228 students in brand-new, fully furnished, four-bedroom suites, equipped with a common living and dining area, a kitchenette and two bathrooms.

“Most universities have certain requirements for students to live in a suite-style residence hall,” said Shawn Baker, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs/Director of Residential Life at Harris-Stowe. “However, Harris-Stowe offers every student,

GILLESPIE HALL

including first-time freshmen, the opportunity to live in this state-of-the-art residence hall.”

Gillespie Hall residents have access to a workout facility, laundry room, computer lab, sand volleyball court, game room, meeting rooms and free parking. The university’s student center, which includes offices for Student Activities, the Dean of Student Affairs, Health Services and counselors and the university bookstore, moved to the first floor of the new facility to provide a more convenient location for the student residents.

Harris-Stowe continues to make student safety a top priority. A public safety officer is on duty 24 hours, daily, in Gillespie Hall. The building also has an I.D. card system that allows only residents to access the building’s residential side. A camera system monitors all entries and exits to Gillespie Hall and each floor.

Harris-Stowe’s Department of Residential Life remains committed to offering services that support the academic mission of the university, as well as opportunities for student growth and development in a living-learning community.



Name: Ashley Frost
Who: Gillespie Hall Resident, 2006-2008
Year joined HSSU: 2006
Favorite part of Gillespie Hall: 24-hour computer lab
Gillespie Hall floor: Fourth
HSSU activities: President of the Gillespie Residence Hall Council
 Member of Collegiate 100
 Member of G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S.
 HSSU Player
 HOLA leader
 Sophomore Class President of the Student Government Association (’07-’08)

As a resident of Gillespie Hall and President of the Residence Hall Council, Frost said all students should give residential life a try. “I just feel like the dorms are allowing this university to get so much bigger and reach a new level of potential,” said Frost. “I think that everybody should try and be a part of that to complete your college experience.”

Another advantage she said to living in Gillespie Hall is, “The mentors who are around you 24-7...and the relationships that you’re able to build that you hope will be lifelong.”

Before becoming President of the Gillespie Residence Hall Council, Frost was Vice President. The council puts on events in the hall, which have included an ice cream social and President Givens’ Late-Night Breakfasts. They hold meetings where residents can express concerns, and the council then takes those issues to Director of Residential Life Shawn Baker. In that respect, Frost said, “We’re basically the student voice for residents.”

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT AND PARENTING EDUCATION CENTER

Harris-Stowe State University commemorated the beginning of construction for the new Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center with a groundbreaking ceremony on October 19, 2007, held on the west end of the campus, the actual site of where the building will be located.

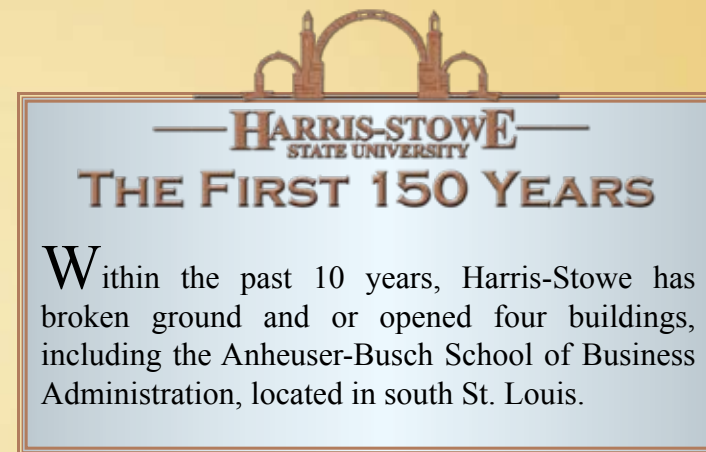
Constance Gully, Vice President for Business and Financial Affairs and the program's mistress of ceremonies, officially began the event by introducing the platform guests, who included Missouri State Senator Maida Coleman; Missouri State Representative Robin Wright-Jones; St. Louis City License Collector Mike McMillan; architect of the project, Michael Kennedy Sr.; staff of KAI Design & Build and Dr. Charlene Jones, former assistant superintendent of St. Louis Public Schools.

After the official signing of Senate Bill 389, HSSU was able to initiate one of its most anticipated building projects. Governor Matt Blunt passed Senate Bill 389, in support of Missouri public institutions of higher education receiving funding for campus improvements. Harris-Stowe allocated the money for this facility, where student teachers could get hands-on experience in early childhood education and parents will gain valuable knowledge from the available parental guidance services.

Kwame Building Group is the project construction manager, and KAI Design & Build is the architect for the more-than-\$17-million building. Dr. Patricia Johnson, 2007-2008 HSSU Educator of the Year and the facility director, also gave remarks. "A university childhood development center will provide opportunities for our students to gain valuable experiences applying developmental, learning and family systems theories as they work with children, families, university faculty and child care professionals," said Dr. Johnson.

"We want this not to be just a state-of-the-art world-class facility, we want a state-of-the-art world-class program," said Dr. Johnson. She has already discussed plans for partnering the early childhood center with ARCHS, University City Children's Center, YMCA of Greater St. Louis Child Care Services, United Way Success by 6, Local Head Start programs, Meramec Community College, Forest Park Community College and The MAGIC House Children's Museum.

A large sign with the building's architectural rendering was unveiled while brown and gold balloons were released into the sky. Those attending the event then put on a Harris-Stowe hard hat and took turns digging a shovelful of dirt symbolizing the beginning of construction. Ground was officially broken!



Within the past 10 years, Harris-Stowe has broken ground and or opened four buildings, including the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration, located in south St. Louis.



Harris-Stowe State University employees, friends and special guests of the event dig the first shovelfuls of dirt for the symbolic groundbreaking of the highly anticipated Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center.

DON AND HEIDE WOLFF'S JAZZ INSTITUTE MOVES ACROSS CAMPUS

The Wolff Jazz Institute, one of the finest privately owned jazz collections in America, moved from HSSU's Emerson Performance Center (EPC) to the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building in October 2007.

The Wolff Jazz Institute was established in April of 2002, thanks to a generous contribution made by former Harris-Stowe State University Board of Regent member Donald Wolff and his wife, Heide. Donald is an attorney and the host of *I Love Jazz* for HEC-TV, the Higher Education Channel. The Wolffs donated their jazz collection — valued at more than \$1 million — to help educate Harris-Stowe students and the St. Louis community about the music genre and its various artists.

The institute, however, is not limited to jazz. It also contains several other types of music including soul, classical, comedy, rock, big band, folk and orchestra. Visitors can listen to music at the three listening stations and can also browse record, artist and song listings on the computer. Eventually, Coordinator/Library Research Specialist Rhoda Hayes-Wilson would like to see a jazz department and classes added to the Wolff Jazz Institute.

"The institute is special because we are a part of a Historically Black College and University (HBCU)," said Hayes-Wilson. "This is where the root of music began with blues, jazz and old Negro spirituals in black culture."

Although music cannot be removed from the institute, it is available for free to the public during normal operating hours. The hours of the

Wolff Jazz Institute are Monday through Thursday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. It is closed on all university holidays.

"The institute is a very pleasant and relaxing place to go just to get away from all the hustle and bustle of the day," said Hayes-Wilson. "Individuals can come in to read, hang out, listen to music or just visit."



Donated by former Board of Regent member Donald Wolff and his wife, Heide, pictured here are some of the many recordings available at Harris-Stowe State University's Wolff Jazz Institute.

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

Completed in 2007, Harris-Stowe State University's Five-Year Strategic Plan was a collective effort by every department at the university. Highlights of the plan include the building plans and programming for the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center, expansion of degree programs and renewing and acquiring additional accreditations. Stay tuned as Harris-Stowe accomplishes all the goals of the plan within the next five years.



Like the brilliant fall colors displayed outside the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building, Harris-Stowe is changing with the times.

HARRIS-STOWE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION DONATES MORE THAN \$100,000

In honor of Harris-Stowe State University's sesquicentennial celebration, Chester Hines, former President of the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association, presented a donation of more than \$100,000 to the university during its 150-year kick-off program, which took place on October 12, 2007, and was included in the university's Homecoming festivities.

The largest portion, in the amount of \$71,000, was used toward the Alumni Association's Buy-A-Brick initiative, which is ongoing. In this fund-raising campaign, alumni can purchase a brick with their name (or anyone's name) to be displayed in front of the entrance of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building.

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund will receive \$15,000 of the donation. This designated money marks the first contribution to the scholarship fund.

For the Alumni Association's annual contribution, another \$15,000 of the beneficence will go toward student scholarships. Full-time Harris-Stowe juniors and seniors are eligible, and the Alumni Association Scholarship Committee will aid in selecting the winners.

Lastly, \$500, which is the interest acquired from the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association Memorial Endowment Scholarship Fund, will be awarded as a scholarship. This fund allows for contributions from anyone interested in donating, therefore the Alumni Association anticipates that the scholarship amount will increase annually.

This is the largest donation of its kind by the Alumni Association in Harris-Stowe's history! For many years to come, numerous students will benefit from the contribution.



At the podium, former Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association President Chester Hines announces that the association is donating \$100,000 to the university during the 150-year kickoff program.

SESQUICENTENNIAL ALUMNI ROUND-UP

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association's Round-up reception drew alumni from Harris-Stowe and its five predecessor institutions to the university's Emerson Performance Center on April 18, 2007.

Nearly 200 alumni came to socialize, eat and learn more about the future of the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association. Dr. Henry Givens Jr., President of the university; Chester Hines, former president of the Alumni Association and several association committee chairs shared words during the event.



Above: HSSU alumnae from left, Joan Moehl, Margaret Moehl Yohe, Clothilde Wilder Garrett and Judy Heaton socialize at the Round-Up.

Left: HSSU alumnus Dr. John Wright and alumna Brenda Martin treat themselves to the refreshments at the Emerson Performance Center.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI BREAKFAST

President Henry Givens Jr. invited Harris-Stowe State University's Distinguished Alumni Council back on campus, to the Emerson Performance Center for breakfast on November 3, 2007. The event began with an enthralling performance by the HSSU Drumline and the Honeycomb Majorettes.

Dr. Givens made opening remarks before breakfast was served. While enjoying their meal, Distinguished Alumni viewed the KSDK Channel 5 documentary on Harris-Stowe entitled "Come Grow with Us," which highlighted a number of HSSU's most recent accomplishments, as well as the history of the institution. There were many Distinguished Alumni in attendance who had not been on Harris-Stowe's campus in years and were surprised and excited about all of the changes taking place.

After introductions of all the Distinguished Alumni, everyone who attended received a crystal mug commemorating HSSU's celebration of 150 years of educational excellence. Attendance prizes were also distributed.



From left, Fern Wolfe, Lozetta Dallas Farmer and Jane Fisher represent Harris-Stowe State University's longest living alumni, and all three came together for the Distinguished Alumni Breakfast.

SOLD-OUT RECOGNITION LUNCHEON

Harris-Stowe State University shined the light on its brightest alumni on June 30, 2007, at the Alumni Association's Third Annual Recognition Luncheon. This first-ever sold-out event took place at the Plaza Frontenac Hilton.

The Recognition Luncheon paid homage to Harris-Stowe alumni who have blazed trails within the city, country and around the world. The distinguished trailblazers' list includes such greats as: Dr. George Hiram, current Vice President of Administration at Harris-Stowe State University, and the first male to be admitted to Stowe Teachers College in 1946; Dr. Bernard Epstein, former educator and Principal in the Pattonville School District; Ida Goodwin Woolfolk, retired Administrator for the St. Louis Public Schools, nationally recognized consultant and speaker; Dr. Anne Price, former educator for the St. Louis Public Schools, co-author and former Director of the Home-School Partnership Model; Juanita Toley Doggett, longtime educator in the St. Louis Public School system; Cleveland Thomas, former Saint Louis Public Schools educator, recognized for his achievements with international development for the U.S. Agency for International Development; Dr. Henry Shannon, Chancellor of St. Louis Community College; Dr. Rosalyn England-Henry, Professor of Music at Harris-Stowe State University and Director of the university's Concert Chorale; and Thomas Stenger, former St. Louis Public Schools educator, Administrative Director of the Parsons Blewett Memorial Fund.

Approximately 250 people turned out to show their support for these outstanding honorees.



Harris-Stowe alumnus and HSSU Executive Vice President Dr. George Hiram, left, shakes hands with Leroy Henry at the luncheon.

NEW ARTICULATIONS EXTEND UNIVERSITY'S LONG LEGACY OF EDUCATION

Harris-Stowe State University now has three collaborative master's programs and is continuing in its efforts to secure advanced degree opportunities for its students. Stay tuned, as the university prepares to eventually launch its own master's degree program.

...WITH MARYVILLE UNIVERSITY

By way of a collaborative effort between Harris-Stowe, Maryville University and St. Louis Public Schools, area teachers and leaders are being offered the opportunity to earn a fully-funded Master of Arts degree in Education, Educational Leadership and Administration with an

emphasis in Urban Leadership. At the end of the two-year Superintendent's Scholar's Program, successful graduates will attain a Maryville University principal's certification and degree.

The St. Louis Superintendent's Scholar's Program, through the help of a Parsons-Blewett Grant, includes a laptop computer, tuition, books and all fees paid. Professors from both Harris-Stowe and Maryville University will teach a curriculum that focuses on moral leadership, urban education issues, developing collaboration skills and community building. The program has earned recognition from the state and from the nation for its strong leadership preparation.

...WITH WEBSTER UNIVERSITY

In a partnership with Webster University, Harris-Stowe State University announced a new collaborative in Business Administration, leading to graduate degrees. The agreement went into effect during a signing ceremony on February 14, 2007, in Harris-Stowe's Emerson Performance Center's Bank of America Theatre.

its International Business focus and encouraging students to venture out and experience the best business practices across the globe.

Harris-Stowe State University's Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration consists of more than 800 students, who are working to earn their B.S. degrees in the areas of Accounting, Business Administration, Health Care Management, Information Sciences/Computer Technology, Hospitality and Tourism and Entrepreneurship.

In the fall of 2006, Harris-Stowe launched an Accelerated Business degree program, which offers evening and weekend courses. Two years ago, Harris-Stowe unveiled the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration, which is located in south St. Louis.

Harris-Stowe's Business Administration degree program is currently the university's fastest-growing area. This new partnership puts Harris-Stowe in a position to recruit students who would like to make a smooth transition from undergraduate to graduate-level studies. Those students will be ushered right onto the Webster University campus to participate in the graduate business program. Webster University is widely known for



President Givens, left center, and Webster University President Dr. Richard S. Meyers, right center, congratulate each other on the new articulation as HSSU's Interim Executive Director of Business Dr. Charles Sykes, left, and Webster Dean of Business Dr. Benjamin Akande, right, watch.

...WITH UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ST. LOUIS

Continuing its deep-rooted tradition in education, Harris-Stowe State University has a new master's degree collaborative with the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), in which students can choose from three certification areas, which include Elementary, Middle and Secondary Education.

The collaborative degree program, implemented in the fall of 2006, offers team-taught courses by Harris-Stowe and UMSL faculty. The flexible course schedule spans a 16-week period. Harris-Stowe President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. and UMSL Chancellor Thomas F. George enjoyed creating the opportunity to offer students the chance to work toward their certification at Harris-Stowe, while earning credit toward a graduate degree at UMSL.

"Harris-Stowe is convinced that through this cooperative project, many teachers, as well as prospective graduates in Teacher Education, will have opportunities to pursue a master's degree in their chosen professional field that was once unavailable to them," said Dr. Givens. "And now, as a university, Harris-Stowe welcomes the opportunity to gain experience in graduate education, now available to us, through UMSL."

Kathleen Haywood, Associate Dean of Education at UMSL, said, "This program is really beneficial for people who are changing careers and have an interest in teaching. A person could have a degree in Chemistry or Biology and experience in the work world, and this program would help them move into the classroom, to teach, quicker."

Dr. Joseph Sencibaugh, who taught one of the program's courses, said, "It gives Harris-Stowe an opportunity to get our foot in the door to eventually have a program of our own."

Dean of Teacher Education at Harris-Stowe, Dr. Leroy Kemp, said, "During the fall 2006 semester, many of the students were graduates of Harris-Stowe State University who welcomed the small-campus environment as well as the small class size. We only expect increased student enrollment in coming semesters."



From left, Harris-Stowe President Givens and UMSL Chancellor George sign into effect a collaborative in Education.

TEACHER EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Teacher Education Department at Harris-Stowe State University welcomed the newly appointed Director of Teacher Preparation for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Dr. Gale "Hap" Hairston as the keynote speaker for Harris-Stowe's first Teacher Education Department Fall Conference, on November 13, 2007.

Dr. Hairston first received a tour of the campus as well as an overview of Harris-Stowe's recent accomplishments in the area of Teacher Education. The focus of the conference was on the relationship between PK-12 student learning and high-quality Teacher Education preparation.

More than 200 people, including district superintendents, local principals and professional school partners attended the conference.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dwyane Smith, Superintendent of Saint Louis Public Schools Dr. Diana Bourisaw, HSSU Coordinator of Student Teaching Gayle D. Evans, Dean of Teacher Education Dr. Leroy Kemp, Education student Janaé Alfred and Professor of Teacher Education Dr. Adam Shariff were program participants. Harris-Stowe's Teacher Education Department hopes to make the conference an annual event.



Dr. Gale "Hap" Hairston meets with the HSSU President's Cabinet in the Board Room. From left, Dr. Gale "Hap" Hairston, Dr. George Hynam, Charles Gooden, Dr. Michelle McClure and Courtney Jordan.

HARRIS-STOWE AWARDED \$2.5 MILLION, THE LARGEST GRANT IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNIVERSITY

For the 2006-2007 academic year, Harris-Stowe State University grants totaled \$2,501,669 — an increase of more than \$202,976 from the previous year. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dwyane Smith set a goal of acquiring more than \$2.5 million in grants for the 2007-2008 school year.

Harris-Stowe's Arts and Sciences Department was awarded a \$49,645 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) for a project titled "A Planning Grant Project to Enhance Undergraduate Student Retention in Science Technology and Mathematics at HSSU."

The NSF awarded the university an additional \$88,302 to support a project titled, "REVSYS Collaborative Research: Untangling the Passionflower Vines: Phylogeny, Species Diversification, and Character Evolution in Passiflora Subg. Decaloba (Passifloraceae)."

"For most of its history, the university has sought grants in the education arena, but this year under the leadership of two science faculty members, Dr. Terry Werner and Dr. John MacDougal, the institution expanded its horizons and won two research-based awards from the National Science Foundation," said Executive Director of Title III and Sponsored Programs Heather Bostic. "By expanding the institution's focus to include research grants, the Office of Sponsored Programs hopes to increase the number of faculty who pursue grants in other academic areas."

Harris-Stowe was also successful in securing another four-year grant award of \$314,530 per year for its Upward Bound program. Competition for TRIO

funds has become increasingly competitive; however, HSSU was successful in receiving grants for all three of its TRIO programs.

Additionally, the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration's relationships with the Army Corps of Engineers and the Veterans Administration (VA), through providing diversity training and other educational series, have resulted in a \$6,400 award from VA and a \$4,600 award from the Army Corps.

The NSF granted Harris-Stowe the \$44,435 REVSYS grant to go toward a botanical garden partnership between Harris-Stowe, Keene State College, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and the Missouri Botanical Garden. Determined in its endeavors, HSSU attained Dr. Smith's challenging goal of \$2,500,000 in grant money by the end of the academic year.

By obtaining a single grant, Harris-Stowe has already matched its total amount of grant money from the 2007-2008 academic year. On August 12, 2008, the NSF announced it will be awarding the university \$2.498 million, the largest grant in Harris-Stowe's history!

Titled "Implementation Grant: Addressing the Need of STEM Retention at HSSU," this grant will focus on increasing the number of students who will teach mathematics and science after graduation.

The grant also provides for a Residential Summer Academy for first-year students, undergraduate research opportunities and the funds to hire a Director of Retention for mathematics and science.



These Educational Talent Search scholars, one of the TRIO programs that benefited from a grant for the 2006-2007 academic year, are dressed for their *A Human Inconvenience* play about global warming. The play was written by HSSU Teacher Education majors Ervin Williams and Kenneth Moore.

"I always believed that Harris-Stowe was capable of achieving a grant like this," said President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. "I am extremely proud of the team that dedicated so much time to doing so. We threw our name in the hat amongst other major universities, and the outcome was magnificent. Acquiring this grant puts Harris-Stowe in the arena to bring in more such monies and to continue to raise the standards of our flourishing university."

ACADEMIC HONORS PROGRAM



Harris-Stowe scholars who achieved between a 3.5 and a 4.0 GPA for both the 2006 spring and fall academic Semesters and HSSU employees gather at the Emerson Performance Center for the Vice President's Academic Honors Program March 2007.

Continuing in its long tradition of academic excellence, Harris-Stowe State University hosted the Vice President's Academic Honors Program March 2007, in the university's Emerson Performance Center. Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dwyane Smith greeted a capacity-filled crowd of HSSU scholars and parents.

The ceremony honored Harris-Stowe scholars who achieved between a 3.5 and a 4.0 GPA for both the spring and fall academic semesters. "The Academic Honors program and reception were wonderful opportunities for Harris-Stowe to recognize our scholars," said Dr. Smith. "They served as reminders that indeed our students take academics seriously."

For their superb academic achievements during the spring 2006 semester, 139 full-time students and 105 part-time students were recognized at the program. During the fall semester, 170 full-time students and 101 part-time students excelled academically.

In addition, Dr. Smith, highlighted students who achieved between a 3.0 and 3.49 GPA with certificates. Approximately 305 students were acknowledged.

The honors program also included congratulatory remarks by Harris-Stowe President Dr. Henry Givens Jr.

SUMMER PROGRAMS



Joyce Wade, left, Upward Bound Counselor, addresses the high school students who have gathered for this Upward Bound career assembly.

For 2007, summer programs at Harris-Stowe State University welcomed a new twist. For the first time, high school students participating in the Upward Bound Summer Program and the Harris-Stowe State University Summer Academy for College Preparation were able to live on campus in the university's new Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall.

Upward Bound, a program that provides academic enrichment and tutorial services to high school students, kicked off on June 7, 2007. "Upward Bound is a unique opportunity for students to receive the foundation required to be successful in college," said Joyce Sutherland Wade, Counselor for the Upward Bound Program at Harris-Stowe.

For nearly two months, approximately 80 juniors and seniors from Cardinal Ritter College Prep, Eskridge, Jennings, Riverview Gardens and Sumner High Schools attended skill-building workshops, participated in character-development activities and took part in a career mentoring program.

The mentoring program allowed students to shadow astute professionals from various St. Louis businesses, including A.G. Edwards, Kwame Building Group, STL TV (formerly City TV 10) and the Office of Congressman William Lacy Clay.

Upward Bound also hosted special events including "Career Day Panel Discussion," with representatives from various companies; "The 1960s: A Decade of Change," an exciting expression of themes, politics and music from the era and a bus trip to visit various colleges and universities in Atlanta.

Upward Bound students shared the campus with students participating in the 21st Annual Harris-Stowe State University Summer Academy for College Preparation. Beginning June 11, 2007, 32 students attended the academy's high school component in partnership with the Parkway School District, and 61 students engaged in the college component designed for first-year students at Harris-Stowe.

Under the theme, "Success is Served with P (Perseverance, Patience and Persistence)," the curriculum placed more focus on math, communications, the arts and special subject areas such as public speaking and counseling than in the past. Additionally, students toured the campus and learned about use of the library and other university functions and offices.

"The opportunity for change and advancement in the program is always encouraging," said Robert Brandon, Harris-Stowe faculty member and the program's director. "Our goal with the academy is to find ways each year to improve what and how the students learn."

HARRIS-STOWE EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



Dr. Patricia Johnson, Harris-Stowe Professor of Education and Director of the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center.

Dr. Patricia Johnson, Professor of Education and Director of the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center, received Harris-Stowe State University's 2007 Educator of the Year award, an honor that is voted upon by HSSU department chairs.

Dr. Johnson has instructed at Harris-Stowe for seven years and has taught at the higher education level for 24 years.

During that time, her roles have included an Adjunct Professor at Howard University, Professor of Education and the Director of Federal Programs at the University of South Alabama and faculty member of the

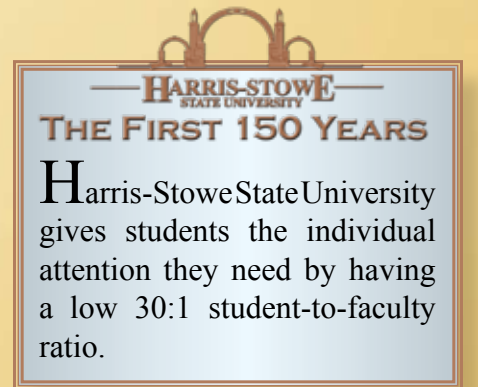
Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Colorado State University, while being the State Specialist for Early Childhood and Parenting Education.

Her reaction to receiving the award can only be described as complete surprise because she was not aware that she was being considered. Dr. Johnson is modest about her accomplishments and said, "It's not about me. It's about the people who I have had the privilege of teaching. So my accomplishments are minimal; the accomplishments of my students are great."

Nothing is more important to Dr. Johnson than her students. "I enjoy my students. I enjoy their enthusiasm for learning...My students are first and foremost in terms of why I'm a professor, and they're really the reason I get up in the morning every day. I love my students, and they know that too."

If she could offer advice to other educators, she would say, "Commitment, loyalty and respect for students are paramount. If you are not committed to teaching, if you are not loyal to your teaching institution and if you cannot demonstrate a high level of respect and expectation from students, then I would say that you are not in the right profession."

As part of the 2007 HSSU Educator of the Year honor, Dr. Johnson was Harris-Stowe's representative at the Emerson Excellence in Teaching Awards Program in Jefferson City, MO. She was recognized for the Emerson Award along with other outstanding educators in the St. Louis metropolitan area at the Teaching Awards Ceremony.



Dr. Patricia Johnson speaks about the opening of the Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center at its groundbreaking ceremony on October 19, 2007, on the west end of the campus.

NEW DEAN OF BUSINESS SCHOOL



Dr. Fatemeh Zakery, Dean of HSSU's Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration.

Dr. Fatemeh Zakery returned to Harris-Stowe as the new Dean of the university's Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration in October 2007. Dr. Zakery joins HSSU during a time of major progression; Business Administration is currently the university's fastest-growing degree program with nearly 900 students enrolled.

The Business curriculum includes an Accelerated Business

Administration degree program; B.S. in Business Administration with options in Business Administration, Management, Marketing and Entrepreneurship; B.S. in Accounting; B.S. in Information Science and Computer Technology; B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism and a B.S. in Health Care Management.

Dr. Zakery taught at Harris-Stowe five years ago as an Assistant Professor of Health Care Management and was instrumental in acquiring three key business program accreditations for the institution, which include Institutional Accreditation for the Higher Learning Commission, Member-North Central Association; the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs; and the International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education. She returns to Harris-Stowe from the University of California-San Diego's business administration school.

With exceptional academic credentials, including a Ph.D. in Educational Administration, with emphasis in Health Services Administration; Ed.S. in Educational Administration; M.H.A. in Health Services Administration; M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction and B.S. in Business Administration/Industrial Management, Dr. Zakery is sure to further the success of the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration.

Some of her plans for the Business School include tightening the gap between the Busch School of Business and the St. Louis community by raising awareness and communicating to local employers how Harris-Stowe Business graduates would be assets to their companies. She also intends on increasing student enrollment and retention, recruiting additional qualified faculty, establishing a center for annual symposiums and conferences and establishing a center for entrepreneurial leadership.

Her ambitious goals are all the more impressive after taking into consideration the many accomplishments she has already achieved. Harris-Stowe is excited to welcome back Dr. Zakery and to see her grow with the university.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP COUNCIL



Members of the African-American Business Leadership Council, the Harris-Stowe Board of Regents, President Givens and HSSU Business School students honor Dr. Robert Virgil.

The African-American Business Leadership Council presented Dr. Robert "Bob" Virgil with the Citizen Extraordinaire award on May 6, 2008, at their breakfast meeting, held at HSSU's Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration.

Dr. Virgil continues to advise Harris-Stowe President Givens and Business School Dean Fatemeh Zakery today.

The presenters recognized Dr. Virgil for his many contributions to Harris-Stowe as the Chairman of the first Business Education Advisory Council at the university, for his great impact on education through teaching at Washington University in St. Louis and in higher education in Israel, and for his corporate leadership at Edward Jones Inc.

Harris-Stowe's Board of Regents, HSSU Business School students and local business leaders came to the event to honor Dr. Virgil.

In 1997, Harris-Stowe President Henry Givens Jr. and Dr. Virgil, former Dean of the John M. Olin School of Business at Washington University, collaborated to create a strategic course for HSSU's Business program while it was still in its beginning stages. They agreed to establish an advisory council to chart the course, review progress and to be an unwavering resource for the students, faculty and staff of the program.

NEW PEOPLE IN ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Prior to the start of the 2006-2007 academic year, Harris-Stowe State University welcomed two new faces to the Office of Academic Affairs. Dr. Dwyane Smith and his assistant, Dr. Michelle McClure, collectively brought 34 years of experience in educational leadership and involvement to Harris-Stowe State University. The university is fortunate to have such a talented team of individuals committed to the academic growth of Harris-Stowe students.

**DR. DWYANE SMITH,
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**



Dr. Dwyane Smith,
Vice President for Academic Affairs

A native of St. Louis, MO, and a product of the St. Louis Public School system, Dr. Smith has a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and a Master of Arts degree in Education Administration from Truman State University (formerly Northeast Missouri State University). He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri-Columbia in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, with emphasis areas in Multicultural Education and Black Studies. He also completed the Management Development program at Harvard University.

Dr. Smith has conducted research across the U.S. and abroad on issues of access, diversity, multiculturalism and pluralism. He recently coauthored the article "A Portrait of Remedial Instruction: Faculty Workload and Assessment Techniques," that appeared in the spring 2008 edition of the *Higher Education Journal*. He has facilitated workshops on diversity and multiculturalism in schools and colleges in Great Britain.

"I have long admired the impact that HSSU has had on the state," said Dr. Smith. "While working at other institutions, I would often encourage students to attend HSSU. I also feel that my talents and skills would be useful at HSSU. I believe in the leadership of Dr. Givens and the vision he has for transforming lives; I do believe that we have some of the best faculty not only in the metropolitan area, but the state."

**DR. MICHELLE L. MCCLURE,
ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS**



Dr. Michelle L. McClure,
Assistant Vice President for
Academic Affairs

Before coming to Harris-Stowe State University, Dr. McClure was an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Policy and Leadership Studies at Marquette University. In addition to teaching and working with students who plan to enter the teaching profession, she also served as program Chair for the master's degree program in Educational Leadership with special emphasis in College Student Personnel.

Dr. McClure earned both her bachelor's degrees in Political Science and a Master of Arts in Education from Truman State University. She received her Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Leadership Studies with an emphasis in Higher Education Administration from Indiana University.

"My favorite part about working at Harris-Stowe has been really seeing a commitment to the mission of the university and seeing the mission carried out," said Dr. McClure. "At some universities, there is a disconnect between the mission and what they actually do ... Everything we do and every action we take should be in the best interest of the students. That should be our driving force, and we should always keep it in the back of our minds."

HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY THE FIRST 150 YEARS

With 12 challenging degree programs available, Harris-Stowe State University was ranked as one of America's Best Colleges in the Midwest by *U.S. News*.

HARRIS-STOWE CELEBRATES HOMECOMING

Last year's Homecoming proved to be even more significant because it was coupled with events that commemorated the university's 150-year celebration.

Harris-Stowe State University kicked off Homecoming festivities on October 5, 2007, with a pep rally at the Emerson Performance Center. The celebration continued into the weekend with a concert for students and the annual Alumni Kielbasa Party on October 6.

Miss Harris-Stowe State University 2007-2008 Sharnez Givens was crowned during the Homecoming Coronation. With great excitement, she accepted the responsibilities that come with being one of the most visible faces to students on campus.

"My favorite part about being queen has to be meeting new people and getting to know different HBCU queens," said Givens. "I've enjoyed

meeting people around campus that I probably wouldn't have spoken to or had a connection to before."

Following the 150-year anniversary kickoff on the Market Street parking lot, Harris-Stowe took the excitement to the streets on October 12, with a parade that began on Compton Avenue and continued to Ninth and Market Streets.

Grand Marshal Denise Thimes and Honorary Grand Marshals Fern Wolfe (1936) and Rosetta Dallas Farmer (1937), both alumnae from Stowe Teachers College, led the parade procession. Farmer said she is proud of Harris-Stowe for achieving university status and credits the accomplishment to possessing the "right quality of teaching."

Wolfe recalls her experience at the institution favorably; "When you left Stowe, you were ready and capable of handling a classroom, ready



Harris-Stowe State University Cheerleader Ariel Sims does a back handspring at the 2007 Homecoming pep rally.



Honeycomb Alexis Jones leads the way at the 2007 HSSU Homecoming parade, followed by Ramia Williams, center, and Anetra Harris, left.



HSSU mascot, the Hornet, pumps up the crowd at the Homecoming pep rally to get students excited about the upcoming festivities.



HSSU alumni mingle and dance at the Alumni Association's ninth annual Gold Gala, held on October 13, at the Renaissance St. Louis Hotel.



HSSU soccer players ride in a truck at the university's Homecoming Parade. In truck from left, former Coach Ricky Andrews and Becky Neff. In the truck's bed from left, Whisper Jackson, Courtney York, Trista Cook, Lacy Owens and Melissa Lombardo.



Lozetta Dallas Farmer, a 1937 graduate of Stowe Teachers College, enjoys the 150-year kick-off celebration.

to step into any situation and handle it," said Wolfe. Special guests for the kick-off celebration and the parade included Mayor Francis Slay; License Collector Mike McMillan; Representative Robin Wright-Jones and Darlene Green, Comptroller of the City of St. Louis. The St. Louis Rams Cheerleaders, Fred Bird of the St. Louis Cardinals, Tony Scott and the New Breakfast Crew of Majic 104.9 FM and 14 local high school bands participated in the festivities. Of course, the parade would not be complete without the HSSU Honeycombs and Drumline.

The President's Tailgate Party took place later that day outside of the Emerson Performance Center, where students, faculty and staff were

able to feast and mingle. Tailgaters could also test their skill on a rock-climbing wall provided by the United States Army. To top off the day, both the Women's and Men's Soccer Teams competed in separate games against Crichton College.

The celebration concluded on October 13, with the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association's ninth annual Gold Gala. The black-tie scholarship dinner and dance took place at the Renaissance St. Louis Hotel. Harris-Stowe's Homecoming, in collaboration with its 150-year celebration, was an overall success and is one that many will be talking about for years to come!



Fern Wolfe, a 1936 Stowe Teachers College graduate, enjoys a laugh at the 150-year kick-off celebration before the Homecoming Parade begins.



Harris-Stowe State University Concert Chorale members bring some flair to the 2007 Homecoming Parade by dressing up in costume.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. YEAR 2008 KICK-OFF CELEBRATION FOR THE STATE OF MISSOURI



In one of the most historic moments in MLK program history, Dr. Givens presents Elizabeth Eckford and Thelma Mothershed-Wair, two members of The Little Rock Nine with the Distinguished Heroic Award.

The 22nd annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration kicked off January 5, 2008. It was held in the Main Auditorium of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building and featured keynote speaker Dr. Julianne Malveaux, President of Bennett College for Women and CEO of Last Word Productions Inc.

Dr. Malveaux's speech kept everyone on the edge of their seat, as she commented on the fact that it makes her "nervous" when people speak about Dr. King because he is so often taken out of context and his dream is "hijacked."

Not only did Dr. King push for racial equality, but he also pushed for economic equality for the 40 million poor people of the nation. "Dr. King dreamed of a brand new economy," said Dr. Malveaux. "A brand



A reception followed the Dr. King state celebration where numerous people enjoyed refreshments and danced to the lively music of Steve Schankman and the Fabulous Motown Revue.

new economy; a restructured economy with a different kind of energy and a different kind of vision." Dr. Malveaux then elaborated on the extent and magnitude of Dr. King's campaign on poverty.

HSSU Theater Instructor Beverly Brennan served as the pre-show mistress of ceremonies, and following the pre-show, she passed the torch to the two co-mistresses of ceremonies for the program — Chairperson of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Committee and member of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission Merdean F. Gales and civic leader and consultant Ida Goodwin Woolfolk.

Founding Rabbi of the Central Reform Congregation Susan Talve provided a humorous invocation followed by the national anthem performed by vocal artist Beverly Stewart Anderson.

Chairman of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission and President of Harris-Stowe Dr. Henry Givens Jr. welcomed the audience and introduced the Honorable Claire McCaskill, U.S. Senator for Missouri, and the Honorable William Lacy Clay Jr., U.S. House of Representatives, First Congressional District, Missouri.

The program also featured the talents of the nationally known Harris-Stowe State University Concert Chorale, under the dynamic direction of Dr. Rosalyn England; the HSSU Honeycombs; the extraordinary Fuerza Salsera Dance Company and jazz songstress, Denise Thimes.

The program consisted of many appearances and remarks by various community leaders, including the Honorable Francis Slay, Mayor of the City of St. Louis; the Honorable Charlie Dooley, County Executive of St. Louis County and the Honorable Michael McMillan, License Collector for the City of St. Louis.

The highlight of the awardees, two members of "The Little Rock Nine" came to accept the Distinguished Heroic Award, at a time that marked the 50-year anniversary of the historic day when the nine students integrated Central High School.



Members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc. presented Keynote Speaker Dr. Malveaux with a special gift on behalf of the sorority.



Dr. Julianne Malveaux, keynote speaker, enthralls the audience with her stirring speech dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



Mixing it up a little, the Fuerza Salsera Dance Company brings the crowd to their feet for an entertainment break.



The waving of the MLK fans is one of the night's most anticipated events. From left, Commissioner Anita Banks, Vervis Jones, Charlene Jones and Commissioner Gwen Packnett-DeLoach.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. STATE CELEBRATION COMMISSION AWARDEES

Dr. Julianne Malveaux
President of Bennett College for Women in North Carolina
Distinguished Chairman's Award

"The Little Rock Nine"
Accepted by Thelma Mothershed-Wair and Elizabeth Eckford
Distinguished Heroic Award

Denise Thimes
Actress and national jazz recording artist
Distinguished Entertainer of the Year Award

The Honorable Claire McCaskill
U.S. Senator, Missouri
Distinguished Leadership Award

The Honorable Catherine Hanaway
U.S. Attorney, Eastern District-Missouri
Distinguished "Living the Dream" Award

AT&T Missouri
Accepted by Vice President for External Affairs Debra Hollingsworth
Distinguished Corporate Award

FUSE Advertising
President Clifford Franklin
Accepted by Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Sharilyn Franklin
Distinguished Entrepreneur Award

Dr. Thomas F. George
Chancellor of the University of Missouri-St. Louis
Distinguished Higher Education Award

The Honorable Alvin Parks Jr.
Mayor of East St. Louis, Illinois
Distinguished Public Service Award

Richard Mark
AmerenUE Energy Delivery Senior Vice President
Distinguished Community Service Award

Mark H. Anderson
Postmaster of St. Louis-Gateway District, Great Lakes Area
Distinguished Community Service Award

St. Louis University Student Government Association and the Harris-Stowe State University Student Government Association
Accepted by 2006-2007 SLU SGA President Evan Krauss and HSSU SGA President Leonard Johnson
Distinguished Youth Leadership Awards

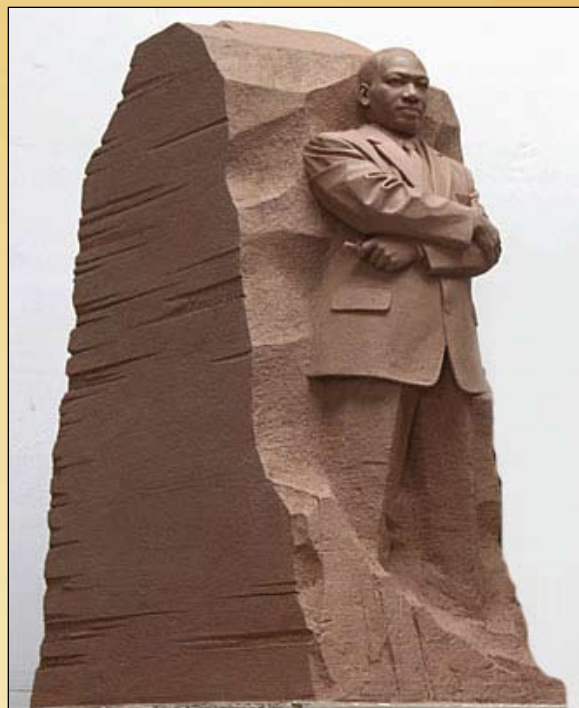
MLK COMMISSION DONATES \$10,000

The Washington, D.C. Martin Luther King Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation Inc. committed to raising \$100 million toward building a memorial to honor Dr. King's life and world-peace efforts through nonviolent social change. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission for the State of Missouri welcomed the opportunity to contribute to such a worthy cause.

The Missouri commission donated \$10,000 for the Dr. King Memorial. Commissioners include Chairman Dr. Henry Givens Jr., Anita Banks, Mayor Francis Slay, James Buford, Rev. Emanuel Cleaver, Merdean Gales, Ollie Gates, Rev. Sammie Jones, Mike Keathley, Jack McBride, Myrle Mensey, Michael Middleton, Rev. Earl Nance, Gwendolyn Packnett, Lincoln Scott, Ruth Smith, Bertha Thomas, Betty Thompson and Lessie Thompson.

The Dr. King memorial will consist of a 30-foot statue of Dr. King named the "Stone of Hope" as well as a crescent-shaped stone wall inscribed with passages from his sermons and speeches. Both features will be surrounded by elaborate landscaping intended to symbolize democracy, justice and hope. ROMA Design Group, an interdisciplinary firm of architects based in San Francisco, has designed the monument, which will be built on the National Mall in Washington, D.C.

Ceremonial groundbreaking for the project took place on November 13, 2006, and completion of the project depends on achieving the \$100 million goal. Currently, \$94.8 million has been raised, and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission for the State of Missouri is honored to bring the Dr. King foundation ever closer to its goal.



This work-in-progress is the "Stone of Hope" centerpiece for the Dr. King monument being erected in Washington, D.C., and Master Lei Yixin is the Sculptor of Record.



The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission for the State of Missouri gather at the 22nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Kick-Off Program at Harris-Stowe.

DREAM KEEPERS MLK PARTNERSHIP

On April 30, 2007, the Student Government Associations (SGAs) at Saint Louis University and Harris-Stowe State University announced a partnership and plans of raising \$10,000 for the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Project in Washington, D.C.

Memorial organizers have said the memorial not only honors a great man, but also the values that empowered his leadership, including courage and truth, unconditional love and forgiveness, justice and equality, reconciliation and peace.

Through this commitment, SLU and Harris-Stowe join 165 other colleges and universities recognized as "Dream Keepers." This is the first time the two universities have partnered for a project.

Congressman William "Lacy" Clay, St. Louis License Collector Michael McMillan, HSSU alumnus Dr. Julius Hunter and Harris-Stowe President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. shared inspiring words at the official partnership signing at SLU.

Former Harris-Stowe SGA President Leonard Johnson III and former Saint Louis University SGA President Evan Krauss signed the official document thereby committing both universities to the cause. Since the start of the partnership, money has been raised and donated.

"We are proud to have not only met, but exceeded our goal," said Johnson.

Krauss added, "We hope that our partnership strengthens the relationship between our institutions and fosters greater collaborations in the future."

"We're trying to bridge the racial divide gap here in St. Louis between our two universities and let it be a model for the city of St. Louis," said Johnson.



From left, former Harris-Stowe SGA President Leonard Johnson and former SLU SGA President Evan Krauss accept the award for Distinguished Youth Leadership for their commitment to the Dr. Martin Luther King Memorial Project at the MLK Missouri State Celebration.

HARRY'S RESTAURANT HELPS "BUILD THE DREAM"

Dr. Henry Givens Jr., President of Harris-Stowe and Chairman of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Celebration Commission for the State of Missouri, partnered with Harry's Restaurant and Bar, located at 2144 Market Street, to help "Build the Dream."

In celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, during the week of January 21-25, 2008, a percentage of the proceeds from Harry's Restaurant went toward the construction of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Monument in Washington, D.C.

"As Chairman of the State Celebration Commission, it makes perfect sense for us to be involved with this project and do what we can to help construct such a historic monument for such an extraordinary Civil Rights leader," said Dr. Givens. "Missouri hosts one of the largest celebrations in the nation, so of course, we want to continue to preserve Dr. King's legacy."

Every year for the past 22 years, Harris-Stowe State University hosts the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Statewide Kick-off Program, which is the second-largest celebration in the United States.

THE FACE OF EMMETT TILL COMES TO THE BANK OF AMERICA THEATRE

The Black History Month celebration of February 2007 brought one of history's most powerful plays to the campus of Harris-Stowe State University. The Harris-Stowe Players theater group, under the direction of Beverly Brennan, performed the original stage play, *The Face of Emmett Till*, to sold-out audiences on February 23 and 24, in the Bank of America Theatre of Harris-Stowe's Emerson Performance Center.

The Face of Emmett Till, a real-life dramatization, chronicles the tragic events leading up to the 1955 brutal murder of Till and the court trial of those implicated in his death. Till, an African-American teenager from Chicago, IL, was brutally beaten for allegedly whistling at a Caucasian woman, while visiting relatives in Mississippi.

The production boasted a 28-member cast and starred Harris-Stowe sophomore Marcus Williams as Emmett Till and junior Asia Washington as Till's mother, Mamie Till Mobley, who co-wrote the play with David Barr III.

"We learned a lot from this production, the cast, the community, everyone," said Brennan. "The students did an excellent job, and as its Director, I was proud to have a large, mixed cast."



On the ground, Emmett Till, played by Marcus Williams, fears for his life as actors Jerin VanWick, left, and Mathew Gamache, right, threaten him. Actor Mike Gardine, far right, struggles with the knowledge that this horrific event is occurring and what he will do about it.

PRESIDENT GIVENS' LATE-NIGHT BREAKFASTS



From left, Marcy Busekrus, Dr. Fatemeh Zakery and Charles Gooden are ready to serve students breakfast at this special late-night meal.

On December 4, 2007, residents of the Rev. Dr. William G. Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center received a treat as they studied for their exams during finals week. Harris-Stowe President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. hosted a Late-Night Breakfast.

The event, which was well attended by students, took place in the Gillespie Residence Hall and Student Center.

After the first breakfast was such a success, Dr. Givens decided to hold a second one. To help students prepare for their spring finals, a second Late-Night Breakfast was held on April 22, 2008. This time, the breakfast was opened to all HSSU students. Not only did it provide them with a great meal, but also proved to be an excellent opportunity for residents and commuter students to mingle and get to know one another.



Students Leonard Johnson, Sharnez Givens and Ashley Yarbrough break from studying at the second Late-Night Breakfast.

HARRIS-STOWE PLAYERS PRESENT A WOMAN CALLED TRUTH

From the performers who brought you *The Face of Emmett Till* last winter, the Harris-Stowe Players theater group presented *A Woman Called Truth*. Such an enthralling production could not have come at a better time as Harris-Stowe State University celebrates 150 years of educational excellence.

The production, which ran November 8, 9 and 10, of 2007, in the Bank of America Theatre of the Emerson Performance Center, was directed by Beverly Brennan, Theater Instructor at Harris-Stowe.

This riveting play traced the life of Sojourner Truth, played by senior Evelyn Johnson, and her mission to eradicate racism and sexism. The play began with Truth preparing for her famous "Ain't I a Woman" speech while onlookers watched in horror as an ex-slave and woman was brazen enough to take the stage.

Then before she speaks, the play flashes back to the night before Truth was sold away from her family as a child slave. Following the course of her difficult life, Truth is promised freedom only to have her master go back on his word.

She runs away to claim the freedom that was rightfully hers, and when she returns to her former master to visit her children, she finds that her son, Peter, was sold south. She screams with sadness, anger and frustration and defies all expectations and precedents by taking her son's former master to court and forcing him to return her son. Then the play returns to her famous speech, and the audience looks at her behind the podium again, this time with new understanding.

Other Harris-Stowe Players cast members, Steve Bostic, Ryan Cunningham, Relanda Ledbetter, Lacey Owens and Brandon Wolff, took theater to an impressive level by each playing multiple roles.

The HSSU Concert Chorale's recording of original folk and spiritual songs preceded the performance and were used during many of the scenes.



Sojourner Truth, played by Evelyn Johnson, cries out in agony after learning that her son Peter has been sold south. Providing insight into her thoughts, Peter, played by Ryan Cunningham, whispers "Too late, too bad" repeatedly to Sojourner.

HAVING OUR SAY IS THE UNIVERSITY'S FIRST DINNER THEATER



A capacity-filled audience waits in the theater for *Having Our Say*, Harris-Stowe's first-ever dinner theater performance, to begin.

After the HSSU Players' first showing of *Having Our Say* in April was so successful, those who missed the show requested an encore performance.

On June 6, 2008, *Having Our Say* returned to the stage for the HSSU Players' first-ever dinner theater, and it was a big hit! Hundreds of people attended the sold-out event, which began with food and fellowship in the gym and ended with an awesome stage production in the Bank of America Theatre.

Based on the book by Sarah L. Delany, A. Elizabeth "Bessie" Delany and Amy Hill Hearsh, *Having Our Say* is the true story of two African-American sisters, Sadie and Bessie Delany, who lived past their 100th birthdays. The sisters' story sparked a *New York Times* article, a best-selling book, a Broadway play and a movie.

HSSU Player Brittany Keno portrayed Sadie, and HSSU Player Relanda Ledbetter portrayed Bessie. In the play, Sadie and Bessie, who are both older than 100, reminisce about the times when they combatted racism and sexism; they interact with the audience and share photos as they rehash their powerful story.

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Many students enjoyed attending the Jena 6 Rally, the Harris-Stowe State University student Homecoming dance, the Halloween costume party, the Rag-O-Rama clothing drive, Red Ribbon Week events and karaoke night, and the Student Government Association (SGA) was behind them all.

In addition to programming, SGA is integral in policymaking on campus and overseeing the many student organizations. They meet the second and forth Wednesday of every month.

The meetings are open to all students and begin with the SGA updating students on what the association has accomplished recently and which goals are still in progress. Following that, the floor is opened up to students in what is called the Green-Light Session where students can present concerns and problems. Within the next two meetings, the SGA will inform students how they have addressed their concerns.

During his second term as SGA President, Leonard Johnson said, "I was involved in my high school, so it was quite natural that I get involved with the student government here. I just like to be involved; I like to be a part of the decision-making process. So if something's going on, instead of complaining about it, I'd rather be a part of the solution."

During his presidency, he secured room 006 of the Administration Building for the SGA's office so that students always have a place to go to express concerns they might have. He also acquired scholarships for SGA officers. SGA increased advertising and promotion of Harris-Stowe events to increase student attendance, which has risen significantly.

SGA is under the advisory of Harris-Stowe's Office of Student Activities, which includes Director of Student Activities Rashonda Alexander, Student Activities Program Specialist Annette Curdt and Student Activities Secretary Ericka Jackson.

From left, Leonard Johnson, Neidra Butler, Debra Shaw, Kenneth Moore and Juanita Williams ride on the SGA float in HSSU's 2007 Homecoming Parade. SGA has won the float contest two years in a row.



2007-2008 SGA OFFICERS

- President Leonard Johnson
- Vice President Kenneth Moore
- Recording Secretary Shanise Lewis
- Corresponding Secretary Deborah Shaw
- Treasurer Neidra Butler
- Parliamentarian Nia Smith
- Senior Class President Maureen Simmons
- Senior Class Vice President Monica Crawford
- Junior Class President Fallon Dupard
- Junior Class Vice President Juanita Williams
- Sophomore Class President Ashley Frost
- Sophomore Class Vice President Britney Scott
- Freshman Class President Ambra Simmons
- Freshman Class Vice President Quinton Everett

"Politically, we're also pushing to get students on every committee here at the university," said Johnson. "I think it's very important that we have students' voices heard when decisions are made because those decisions don't necessarily affect the administration; they affect us." Students are already sitting on a few university committees such as the Disciplinary Action Committee and the Homecoming Committee.

Johnson will graduate soon with a baccalaureate degree in Professional Interdisciplinary Studies, but he still hopes to help the SGA revamp their constitution after he has graduated.

MAJESTIC ASSEMBLY

Being named to the Harris-Stowe State University Majestic Assembly is a big deal on campus. Students compete and campaign each year for the opportunity to be named one of the regal representatives at Harris-Stowe. It is a long-held tradition at the university, as it continues to be a student initiative that promotes and emphasizes character, student involvement, community service and camaraderie among peers. The 2007-2008 Majestic Assembly includes Miss Harris-Stowe State University Sharnez Givens, Miss Senior Tasha Sutherlin, Miss Junior Kelby Estes-Nelson, Miss Sophomore Keisha Ellison and Miss Freshman Brittany Keno.

The Majestic Assembly members participate in many Harris-Stowe events throughout their reigns. They attend the Homecoming Kick Off, ride in the Homecoming parade, celebrate at the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association's annual Gold Gala and attend the Student Activities Leadership Retreat. The queen, on the other hand, is often much busier, making appearances at the most prestigious campus events, the Gateway Classic and May Day Parades and even competing nationally at the annual Miss HBCU Competition in Atlanta.

But the Majestic Assembly's true chances to shine occur at the annual Coronation ceremony and the Homecoming dance. The official crowning of the Majestic Assembly took place on October 11, 2007, in the Main Auditorium of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building. An Egyptian theme was played out through the evening. In celebration of the university's 150-year anniversary, past Harris-Stowe queens spanning nearly 60 years were honored at the Coronation.

With such a well-known legacy in place, Givens understands that being queen isn't just about having a pretty face. She set a goal to complete during her reign. "I hope to actually make the students more involved," said Givens. "That is my complete overall goal — to make students more active and to get them to participate more. I will strive to create more programs that they actually want to go to, not programs that they feel obligated to go to."

In addition to representing Harris-Stowe, the Majestic Assembly receives other great honors. Givens receives three credit hours per semester during

her reign, and the rest of the Majestic Assembly receive one credit hour per semester.

The Imperial Court and the Royal Court constitute the Majestic Assembly. Miss Harris-Stowe State University, Mr. Harris-Stowe State University, Miss Brown and Gold, Mr. Brown and Gold, Miss 1857 and Mr. 1857 make up the Imperial Court. The Royal Court comprises Miss Senior, Mr. Senior, Miss Junior, Mr. Junior, Miss Sophomore, Mr. Sophomore, Miss Freshman and Mr. Freshman.

Members of each court must go through an application and interview process and participate in a pageant that is open to the public. The final step is the student voting. Each portion is weighed by a percentage, and individuals are chosen based on the highest number of points.



Miss HSSU Sharnez Givens, center, is crowned queen at the Egyptian-themed Coronation ceremony. Keisha Ellison, left, and Brittany Keno, right, look on as Givens takes her turn in the limelight.

PAST HSSU QUEENS

Ollie Tucker.....	1948/49
Patricia Saunders.....	1965/66
Jennifer Jackson.....	1968/69
Sarah Archibald.....	1977/78
Kimberly Byrd.....	1992/93
Brandi Richardson.....	2000/01
Nikia Jones-Daily.....	2001/02
ClauDean Kizart.....	2002/03
Dytania Hamilton.....	2003/04
Sonya Wells.....	2004/05
Stacy Shaw.....	2005/06
Jenae Alfred.....	2006/07



Majestic Assembly members wave from their 2007 Homecoming parade float. Front row: Freshman Brittany Keno, Sophomore Keisha Ellison. Back Row: Junior Kelby Estes-Nelson, Senior Tasha Sutherlin.

HONDA CAMPUS ALL-STAR CHALLENGE TEAM



Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team members from left, Otis Beck, Team Captain Kevin Evans, Lamon Jones and Brandon Wolff listen intently to the question at hand.

2007 SEASON

Harris-Stowe's Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team, an HBCU trivia team, made history by finishing fifth in the nation. The season unofficially began on February 6, 2007, when team members Ryan Lane, who served as the institutional representative, and Kevin Evans, the team's captain, won the annual Black History Bowl and the \$120 prize.

That same week, the Honda All-Star Team, along with members of the Student Government Association (SGA), competed against Washington University and Saint Louis University (SLU) in another Black History competition. Harris-Stowe dominated the contest with 1,010 points.

On February 10, the All-Stars traveled to Alabama State University (ASU) for the annual Hornet Invitational, one of the most competitive Pre-National Championship Tournaments (NCT) in the history of Honda. HSSU advanced to the playoffs where they defeated longtime rival and six-time national champions, Florida A&M.

Harris-Stowe went on to defeat Grambling and advance to the final round to face the reigning champions, Morehouse, who has won an impressive four NCT titles. A three-game war ensued between HSSU and Morehouse, with the Hornets clinching two of the three games and then the championship.

On March 17, Harris-Stowe hosted its own invitational with seven other institutions competing. Harris-Stowe won the tournament, and with two Pre-NCT titles under its belt, the Hornets were well-positioned to compete for the national title in Orlando, Florida, April 12-15.

After going undefeated in round robins and advancing to the quarter finals, the Hornets were knocked out of the national tournament and finished the season with an impressive 8-1-1 NCT record. For advancing to the quarter finals, the Hornets secured a \$8,500 grant for the university.

During the tournament, HSSU team member Brandon Wolff was honored as the second-highest Honda scorer in the nation. HSSU was featured in a two-page spread in *USA Today*, along with other qualifying HBCUs.

2008 SEASON

At their first contest on February 9, the Hornets competed at ASU's pre-NCT tournament. Upon completion of the round robin phase, the Hornets had defeated Clark Atlanta University, Fisk University, Bethune-Cookman University, Morehouse College, Grambling State University and ASU thereby earning a No. 3 seed.

Competing in a best-out-of-three-games format against Morehouse College, HSSU's Honda All-Stars won their first two matches to claim the tournament champion title for the second consecutive year. Wolff was again the highest scorer at Alabama State University's pre-NCT tournament.

Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Eileen O'Brien has served as the university's Honda All-Star Coach and Campus Coordinator since 1991. She said she chooses to bring the Hornets to

this particular tournament because "...the national champions have come out of that tournament for the past 15 years. If you do well in that tournament, you have a chance."

The Hornets hosted their own tournament on March 8. Teams representing the following colleges competed: Alabama A&M University, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Central State University, Chicago State University, Fisk University, Kentucky State University, Knoxville College, Mississippi Valley State University, Tennessee State University, Jackson State University and HSSU. Following round-robin play, HSSU was seeded first as they entered the single-elimination portion of the tournament.

HSSU lost to Mississippi Valley State University (MVSU) in the semifinals by a heart-wrenching few points. MVSU went on to win the tournament, and Harris-Stowe finished third. "It was a great tourney, and we had a great time," said Dr. O'Brien. "If we had been able to ring in on either of the last two tossups, we would have won the semifinals, which would have put us in the finals against Tennessee State. C'est la vie as they say."

The Hornets traveled to Orlando for the National Championship Tournament March 27-31, where Co-Captain Lamon Jones, Co-Captain Evans, Otis Beck, Kelnita Pierson and Wolff competed. The team finished 5-2 in round-robin play and didn't advance to the Sweet 16. But the team didn't walk away empty-handed; the Hornets won \$3,000 and Wolff won \$1,000 for being the second-highest scorer in the nation for the second consecutive year. For their national finishes, HSSU's Honda Campus All-Star Challenge Team has won a grant from the tournament every year since their 1994-95 season, thereby earning a grand total of \$85,500 in grant money.

With two players returning, Dr. O'Brien is confident that the team will be strong again next season. "I think we will have a solid core next year," she said. "I need to recruit an ancient history person or train one of the returning players to know ancient history... However, we have many things covered already: Black history, religion, pop culture, science, sports, music and some literature. It just takes practice and belief in oneself."

FALL ART SHOW



Some of the exquisite artwork on display at Harris-Stowe's Fall Art Show.

The 2007 Fall Art Show offered a pleasant blend of artistry and theater. Harris-Stowe State University Art Coordinator Erma Brooks and Theater Director Beverly Brennan collaborated to present, "A Celebration of African-American Identity," which featured pieces created by Harris-Stowe students and faculty, along with one-act plays performed by the HSSU Players theater group, with special guests Bobby Norfolk and HSSU faculty member, Greg Carr.

Norfolk, formerly of the TV show *Gator Tales*, performed "Just Be Semple," written by well-known poet Langston Hughes, with HSSU Player, Ervin Williams. "A Celebration of African-American Identity" was performed on Nov. 10-11, 2007, in the Emerson Performance Center.

CHOIR PERFORMANCES: VICTORY AND CONCERT CHORALE

Campus was filled with harmony all yearlong. Victory, Harris-Stowe State University's gospel choir, brought sweet melodies to the campus in spring 2007 with its gospel explosion on March 23, in the Emerson Performance Center's (EPC) Bank of America Theatre. Harris-Stowe's newest choir addition brought the house down with stirring renditions of gospel favorites.

Choirs and groups from the St. Louis and East St. Louis area were invited to participate in the celebration, which included Revelation from San Francisco Temple East, Mike "Wild Man" Reignier and the Soul Rebels, Without a Word Mime Ministry, Cahokia High School Gospel Choir, the Williams Brothers of St. Louis and local gospel recording artist Phase II.

On March 30, 2007, Harris-Stowe's nationally recognized Concert Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Rosalyn England, presented "Spring Musicals: A Broadway Extravaganza," in the EPC Bank of America

Theatre. The Concert Chorale captivated audiences with selections from award-winning musicals such as *Dreamgirls*, *The Lion King* and *Chicago*.

The Concert Chorale captured the ambiance of the holiday season with its "Sounds of the Season III" performance on December 2, 2007, in the Main Auditorium of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building.

The concert featured guest vocalist Bruce Roberts, who sang two selections, "Panis Angelicus" by C. Franck and "I'll Be Home for Christmas." The 20 members of the HSSU Concert Chorale celebrated the compositions of student Isaac Williams by performing his original music, a unique feature of the 2007 concert. Williams' songs included "Jazz Gloria" and selections from his musical, *Celebrate Jesus*.

"The Harris-Stowe holiday concert is a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season," said Dr. England.



HSSU's nationally recognized Concert Chorale performs at their holiday concert entitled "Sounds of the Season III" on December 2, 2007.



Victory, Harris-Stowe's gospel choir, livens up the stage at the Emerson Performance Center with some harmonious singing and dancing.

HARRIS-STOWE ORIENTATION LEADER AMBASSADORS

When nervous first-time students arrive at Harris-Stowe State University for their inaugural semester, the Harris-Stowe Orientation Leader Ambassadors (HOLAs) are there to make their transition a positive and memorable experience.

The Orientation Committee consists of staff members from both the Academic and Student Affairs Divisions. The HOLA program was created in the fall of 2007 for New-Student Orientation, which took place over a series of days in August, and ended with the first Rites of Passage ceremony in the Main Auditorium.



From left, HOLA leaders Shannon Henderson and Tiffany Knox pause for a hug and a photo.

Dr. Vicki Bernard, Director of Counseling, supervises the HOLA leaders. "Not enough can be said about the power of having positive messages come from someone in your own peer group who has been through the very experience you are about to encounter. The messages are more believable and palatable when they come from one of your own."

Last year's HOLA leaders include Danyelle Banks, Neidra Butler, Vantrace Caston, Fallon Dupard, Ashley Frost, Shannon Henderson, Leonard Johnson III, Tiffany Knox, Tasha Sutherlin, Jonathan Thomas, Brion Williams, Doyle Williams, Leslie Worshim and Ashley Yarbrough. HOLA participants serve as leaders, greeters and organizers to first-year students during both the August and January orientations.

During the organization's first year in existence, participants helped plan the orientations, assisted the newcomers in moving in, were active in all the events of orientation, led icebreaker activities and made the first-year students' transition from high school to college easy and successful. For their contributions, each HOLA leader receives a \$200 stipend and

\$150 in flex points to be used toward a HSSU meal plan or books at HSSU's Follett Bookstore.

"We really want our students to set examples, to be shining stars of what a Harris-Stowe education can do for you," said Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Michelle McClure. "And so that's really why we have the students participating in orientation as HOLA leaders because we know that they can have such a positive impact on the success of orientation."

HOLA leaders are selected through an application process in which they answer a series of questions, and the Orientation Committee evaluates their application and considers their class ranking. The committee also considers what organizations the students belong to because they wanted a variety of organizations represented in order to demonstrate to the first-year students that "Harris-Stowe is not a cookie-cutter institution where just this one type of person can be successful," said Dr. McClure.

"These positions offer an opportunity for students to demonstrate leadership ability while assisting others," said Dr. Bernard. "The skills they learn to become good HOLA leaders can be applied to their lives as students and productive members of the work force." Applications will be accepted each year in March.

HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY
THE FIRST 150 YEARS

The university currently has a total of 45 student organizations, and that number is growing each year with new initiatives geared toward enhancing campus life at Harris-Stowe.

G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S.

In the fall of 2006, the Office of Student Activities introduced a student organization entitled Giving Ideas, Receiving Love, Taking Advice and Lessons from Kindred Souls (G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S.) to Harris-Stowe State University. G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. offers a forum for young women to discuss, with faculty and staff, the difficult issues that they face daily, in hopes of improving their self-image, self-esteem and to generally impact these young women positively.

Sessions were held monthly in the Gillespie Student Center in 2006 and have since increased in frequency to better serve the needs of the members and to prepare students for a new initiative that began during the spring 2008 semester. G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. members are now starting to mentor middle school and high school girls to prepare them for college.

In addition to preparing G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. members for mentoring, meetings also consist of discussions in which the students pick the topics. Topics generally include single parenting, dating, cosmetics and misogynist images. Then, faculty and staff with experience and knowledge of those issues lead the group discussions.

Director of Student Activities Rashonda Alexander took the initiative to begin the organization at Harris-Stowe because "I just wanted to do my part to help produce successful young women." As an advisor and mentor to G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S., Alexander hopes the group will help combat negative images and stereotypes toward women that are portrayed in the media.

"Students should join G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. for fellowship; open, honest dialogue; free counseling sessions; and a warm, inviting environment for

women to discuss issues that directly affect them," said Alexander. "Also, some of our students don't have family, older sisters or people they feel comfortable with to ask personal, sometimes intimate, questions. This organization provides a venue for them to feel comfortable expressing themselves."

Faculty and staff members who have volunteered to help out with G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. discussions include Lashanda Boone, Money Guiden, Rhoda Hayes, Ericka Jackson, Dr. Patricia Johnson, Courtney Jordan, Tamara Kilgore, Ruth LaValle, Wanda McNeil, Barbara Noble, Shana Sharp, Atty. Robin Shaw, Lea Sutherlin and Kim Walker.

Student mentors include Brittany Keno, President; Fallon Dupard, Vice President; Chelesa Holden, Director of Advertising; Sherie Phillips, Director of Communications; Kierra Richerson, Director of Community Outreach; Jasmine Collier, Director of Finance; Melanie Bugett, Director of Logistics; Tameka Cannon, Director of Registrar; Ashley Frost and Trachelle Lewis.

Keno, also Miss Freshman at Harris-Stowe for 2007-2008, first approached Alexander about creating a mentoring program at Harris-Stowe before she had heard about G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. "It may be difficult to find out what a student can do to give back to their community while they are experiencing such a life-altering experience," said Keno. "I was determined to find a way that was effective and accessible. After listening to the editor of *Essence* magazine, Susan Taylor, at an appearance she made at HSSU, she motivated me to get involved with mentoring. She was promoting Big Brothers Big Sisters, but I wanted to start in my school first. Then I found my answer. I felt the best way a college student could give back to their community is to share some of those life-altering experiences with younger members of our community through mentoring."



G.I.R.L. T.A.L.K.S. members socializing. Front row from left: Melanie Bugett, Tameka Cannon and Keira Richardson. Back row from left: Chelesa Holden, Jasmine Collier, Brittany Keno and Fallon Dupard.

HSSU INTRAMURALS

HSSU intramural sports are back and better than ever. The program is under the direction of Emerson Performance Center Facilities Manager Benny Lewis and Assistant Dean for Student Affairs/Director of Residential Life Shawn Baker. And, to say the least, the students and staff are loving it!

Lewis explained why intramurals are such an asset to the university: "Students who wouldn't normally get to act out their sports fantasies would get to play competitive sports in a college setting, which is huge."

Flag football ran from late September 2007 to early November, with six teams competing. Five teams were men's teams, but team Xclusiv was predominantly women. There was also a HSSU staff team that made it to the playoffs. Team SRT-8 defeated Team AH to win the championship game. Everyone who qualified for the playoffs received a T-shirt, and those who competed in the championship game earned medals. The Most Valuable Player (MVP), who was Gary Johnson this past season, also received an MVP trophy.

Basketball began in January 2008, and it marks Harris-Stowe's first-ever intramural basketball season. With six teams participating in the first season, it was a great success.

Also new that year were two tournament-style intramural events, billiards and Madden football. The Madden football tournament took place on the jumbo screen in Emerson's Bank of America Theatre.

Lewis and Baker have plans to add a new sport to the intramural program every semester, and for the 2008-2009 academic year, they are considering kickball and or Chicago ball, which is softball played with a rag ball thereby allowing players to actually throw the ball at runners to make an out.

With the football in hand, Eric Barnett scrambles away from approaching defenders Nick Bender, left, and Brandon Sowell, right. Barnett and Sowell are members of Team AH, who later competed in the championship game.



"I would eventually like to see 50 percent of Gillespie Hall residents participate in intramurals, and I would like to see 20 percent of the entire campus participate," said Baker. "But we've had great participation for this being the first year. We've not only had students participate, but faculty and staff as well...Quite a few female students cheered on the flag-football players this season, but we would like to see them actually participate too...we hope more female students will come out and enjoy themselves."



Championship team, SRT-8. Front row: Brandon Howlett and Ronald Johnson. Back row: Ed Douglas, Mike Gerdine, Gary Johnson, Thomas Garcia, Mitchell Gibson and Sam Hopkins. Not pictured: Shawn Perkins.

HONEYCOMB MAJORETTES DANCE TEAM

Twelve Harris-Stowe women dressed in glittering gold belts and marching boots stepped onto Market Street for the Homecoming 2007 parade. They moved to the music of the HSSU Drumline with fierce dance moves; the Honeycomb Majorettes Dance Team made their debut performance.

Last academic year, a few students and Director of Student Activities Rashonda Alexander approached Director of Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs Courtney Jordan to create a new dance organization that would appropriately be named the Honeycombs, in support of the university's mascot — the Hornet. Even with cheerleaders and a hip hop dance team already on campus, Jordan felt there was room for something "different, unique, something that catered to the many faces of the HSSU woman." The Honeycombs brought a new element to Harris-Stowe by specializing in multiple dance forms, including parade moves, modern dance, jazz, lyrical, contemporary and hip hop. Now Jordan is the Director of the organization and is known to the members as the HHIC, Head Honeycomb in Charge.

Jordan recruited the help of Franschell "Franky" Little to choreograph and Drumline/Parade Coordinator Angelica Redding, a student who sometimes dances with the Honeycombs. To complete the leadership circle, Jordan and Little selected Keisha Ellison and Kamarese Johnson to be Co-Captains. Ellison said she was "excited and grateful for the opportunity," especially because as she said, "Dancing is my passion, and we are kind of famous around HSSU."

Johnson has danced on many teams before, but this is her first time in a leadership role. "Dancing is my favorite thing about being a Honeycomb," said Johnson. "Some people are good at expressing themselves through singing, and other people are good at expressing themselves through poetry. I think that I express myself best through dance."

The Honeycombs often perform with the HSSU Drumline. "I believe each group enhances the other," said Jordan. "They get along with each other, and when they show up as a package deal, they demand the attention of everyone around." The Honeycombs have danced in some memorable shows including Grand Center's first "Dancing on the Street and Off the Walls," First Night 2007 and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Kick-Off Celebration.

Jordan is hopeful that the Honeycombs' success will continue. "I want girls to come from far and wide to be a Honeycomb because they've heard about the team," said Jordan. "I want the Honeycombs to maintain an image of classy, sophisticated, well-groomed young women who really dance well. I want us to be sought out for performances all over the state of Missouri."



HSSU Honeycombs line up ready to perform at the 2007 Homecoming pep rally October 5, at the Emerson Performance Center.



The HSSU Honeycombs practice at the dance studio right before performing at the 2008 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. State Kick-Off Celebration. From left, Tyresha Shields, Kamarese Johnson, Angela Sutherlin, Jessica Johnson, Director Courtney Jordan, Monique Williams, Keisha Ellison and Christian Peebles.

HSSU DRUMLINE

By the beat of their drums and the clang of their cymbals, they can be heard long before they can be seen in their brown and gold. They're the HSSU Drumline. Marching with knees extra high and entertaining crowds with smooth dance moves and unparalleled rhythm, they're the highlight of many events.

Under the direction of Ernest May, the group has performed in the 2007 National Urban League Convention, HSSU Homecoming events, university sporting events, a cheerleading competition at Herbert Hoover Boys & Girls Club and Grand Center Performances such as First Night and Dancing in the Streets and Off the Walls, to name a few.

Students from Harris-Stowe, Vashon High School and Normandy Senior High School comprise the 20 members of the HSSU Drumline. The coed HSSU Drumline first began during the 2004-2005 school year, and more recently has started performing in collaboration with the university's Honeycomb Majorettes Dance Team.

Executive Assistant to the President Charles Gooden oversees the Drumline and says he would like to see the HSSU Drumline eventually expand into a full marching band as well as begin contending in competitions.



The HSSU Drumline performs at the Homecoming pep rally on October 5, 2007, at the gym of the Emerson Performance Center.

ROTC RETURNS TO CAMPUS

Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) isn't technically a new student organization at the university, but it has a new mission here. Back in 1976-1977 when it was still called Harris-Stowe College, ROTC first came to campus with three participating Harris-Stowe students.

After many years of not having the program active at HSSU, President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. met with Lieutenant Colonel Warren Griggs in the spring of 2007 to increase minority enrollment in Army ROTC.

Now, with a new office on campus, Major Renysha Brown is determined to make ROTC visible at Harris-Stowe once again and to get students excited about the program. Major Brown is the Army ROTC Scholarship Enrollment Officer for all 11 universities that comprise the Gateway Battalion here in the St. Louis area, but Harris-Stowe is her main focus.

Through ROTC, students gain leadership training, learn about military tactics, obtain a way to pay for their education and are guaranteed a job after college. Two, two-and-a-half, three, three-and-a-half and four-year scholarships are available for ROTC cadets as well as stipends and assistance with book fees.

In ROTC, cadets attend a military science course twice a week, which is a college course. They also participate in physical training (PT) three times a

week, and it is usually held at Forest Park or Washington University's track. Lastly, ROTC cadets participate in a leadership lab on Thursday afternoons where they apply what they have learned in their military science course to real situations in a hands-on manner.

Army ROTC Scholarship cadets must commit to serving in the military for the next eight years following graduation, of which four years can be spent in Active Duty and four can be spent in Inactive Ready Reserve.

Some qualifications must be met before joining ROTC. Students must be a U.S. citizen, enrolled full time pursuing a baccalaureate degree, be military medically qualified, have no civil convictions (unless a waiver is approved) and have no more than three dependents (unless a waiver is approved).

Upon completion of their baccalaureates, ROTC cadets are commissioned as 2nd Lieutenants and are put in charge of a platoon. Platoon sizes range from 40 to more than 100 individuals depending on the type of unit.

"So to start, I just really and truly want to find those three students who can be open-minded enough, strong-minded enough to withstand the rigors of a college life, a social life and life as an Army ROTC cadet, and I know they're here," said Major Brown. "It's just a matter of being able to find them and separate them from their peers enough for them to say, 'OK, I want to stand out. I can stand out, and I can succeed at this.'"

TOGETHER EDUCATING ACTIVE COMMUNITY HELPERS

Together Educating Active Community Helpers (TEACH) aims to heighten interest in the Teacher Education Department among Harris-Stowe State University students through active involvement in the university and community.

Such events that TEACH students participated in recently include Jumpstart's Read for the Record, where children and adults nationwide read the same book on the same day to raise awareness about disparities in early education; Kids in Cars speaker event, geared toward educating people about safety for children in vehicles; hosting a Scholastic Book Fair to raise funds for books for needy schools in New Orleans; continually volunteering at Gateway Elementary School and Week of the Teacher.

TEACH began in spring 2007 after Dean of Teacher Education Dr. Leroy Kemp approached Assistant Professor of Education Dr. Linda Kleemann to begin an organization for elementary teacher candidates.

Now the faculty advisor of TEACH, Dr. Kleemann, said, "TEACH will be around for a long time to come. The impact on the community will be felt through service and fundraisers. The teacher education candidates will have a foundation to build on as they enter the education field and will be able to participate in service organizations in accord with their professional goals."

The group meets twice a month to discuss topics pertinent to teacher education candidates, future service projects and or fundraisers to sponsor. All HSSU students are invited to join, but TEACH members primarily consist of education candidates. Currently, there are more than 20 active members with more than 50 students interested.

Fall 2007 officers included President TaLisha Franklin, Vice President Tina Patrick, Secretary Darius Reeves, Treasurer Anthony Price and Event Organizer Maureen Simmons.

Early childhood candidate and 2007-2008 Senior Class President Maureen Simmons was the President of TEACH for the spring 2008 semester. TEACH has given Simmons the David Watts Scholarship and has improved her teaching skills.

Simmons enjoys bringing awareness and enlightenment to young children and their families through TEACH events. "An African proverb states that 'it takes a village to raise a child,'" said Simmons. "So it will take HSSU's staff and students to keep raising the bar on education and literacy."



TEACH faculty advisor Dr. Linda Kleemann waits at the cashier's table for customers at TEACH's Scholastic Book Fair held in the basement of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building.

PRE-LAW CLUB

Harris-Stowe State University's Pre-Law Club differs from most other student organizations in that it possesses a narrow scope, focusing solely on preparing students to enter law school.

Harris-Stowe Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice Robin Ferguson Shaw, J.D., M.S.W., began the Pre-Law Club in the fall of 2006 after becoming the university's Pre-Law Advisor that year.

The 10 to 20 Pre-Law Club members meet every other week to discuss how to get accepted into law school, the application process, Law School Admission Test (LSAT) preparation, financial aid, law school rankings, internship opportunities and post-law school career options.

"When I was going through the process of applying to law school, there were many things I didn't know, so my goal in starting the organization

was to make sure that our students have all of the information they need to be successful in the application process," said Shaw, Advisor of the Pre-Law Club. "For example, the LSAT is very challenging and plays a large role in where a student will be accepted. I try to expose students to the test early and encourage them to begin studying for it as soon as they decide to go to law school."

"I BELIEVE THAT THIS WILL INCREASE THE NATIONAL VISIBILITY OF HSSU."

— ROBIN FERGUSON SHAW, J.D., M.S.W.

Shaw has high expectations for the organization and hopes that the Pre-Law Club will eventually help students be accepted into top-tier and especially top-10 law schools.

Further, Shaw plans to introduce guest speakers and an LSAT prep course for the 2008 spring semester. "I also plan to expand the mission to help students who are interested in other graduate programs including medicine," said Shaw. "I believe that this will increase the national visibility of HSSU."

ATHLETICS SUMMARY

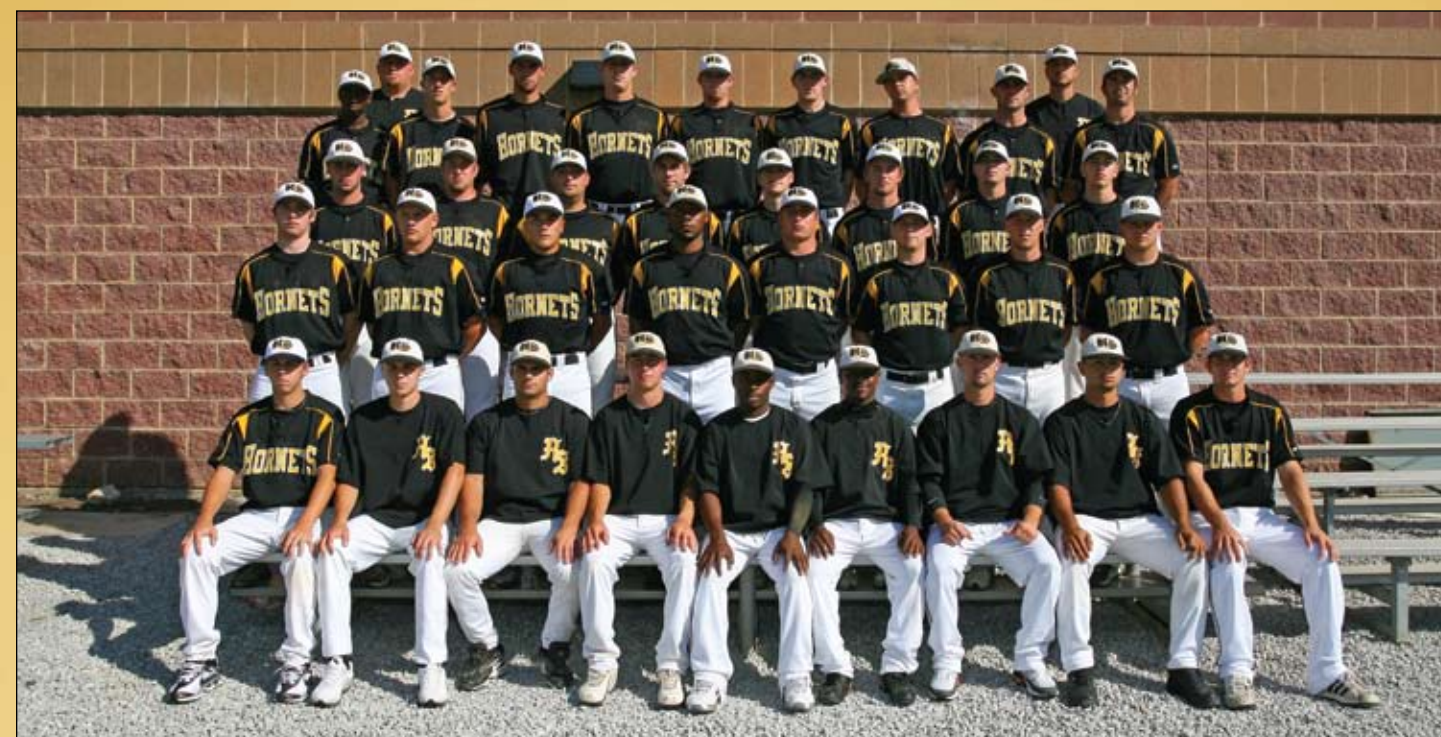
Team	2007-2008 Record	Head Coach	Assistant Coach(es)	Claim to Fame
Men's Soccer	3-13-1	Scott Hartwig	John Ryan	One All-American Scholar Athlete and four All-Conference Honorable Mentions
Women's Soccer	2-13	Ricky Andrews	Rich Curran	Ranked No. 13 in Division I for saves per game (10.200)
Men's Basketball	13-19	Rich Fanning	Joe Anderson and Phil Hunt	Beat the Missouri University of Science and Technology (formerly U of MO-Rolla), a Division II school
Women's Basketball	23-10	Christopher Lewis	Wanda Nettles	Won its first-ever American Midwest Conference Tournament title (2006-07 season)
Men's Baseball	19-33	Jonathan Estes	David Estes, Kyle Lang and Randy Niccoletti	Won second place in the American Midwest Conference in 2007
Women's Softball	6-24	Tony Moody	Rachel Van Fleet and Tara Mitchell	Had a winning record their inaugural season in 2005
Women's Volleyball	8-23	Johnny Chittakhone	Nicole Bokelman and Tiffany King	Ranked No. 48 in Division I in digs per game (21.020)

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL



The 2007 Women's Volleyball Team. Front row from left, Alyssa Briones, Lindsay Nagl, Jenna Barkley and Lindsey Dirkers. Back row from left, Coach Johnny Chittakhone, Jasmine Woods, Meagan Traw, Antoinette Williams, Rhonda Chatman, Assistant Coach Nicole Bokelman and Assistant Coach Tiffany King.

HSSU BASEBALL TEAM CLAIMS MANY AWARDS



The 2008 Men's Baseball Team. Front row from left, Josh Dodge, Jon Saxon, Brandon Pringle, Joe Huber, John Peterson, Bino Thompson, Jay Andrew, Marcos Marrero and Travis Parker. Second row from left, Zach Buxman, Brooks Fleetwood, Eric Tripp, Brian Wilson, Louis Vangel, Jason Emmons, Dan Healey and Danny Neibert. Third row from left, Matt Wassall, Mike Luczak, Frank Morceri, Tim Buxman, Tony Allen, Tad Jilek, Jake Motta and Brandon Bretscher. Fourth row from left, Larry Young, Cody Ostmann, Matt Mammen, Kevin Walsh, Kevin Cohn, Matt Kerperien, John Selb, Adam Williams and Matt Sauve. Back row from left, Assistant Coach Kyle Lang and Assistant Coach David Estes.

Harris-Stowe State University's Baseball Team ended the 2007 season with its strongest finish since 1994 — second place in the American Midwest Conference (AMC). The team finished with a 23-28 record in the regular season, and 11-9 in conference games.

Several Hornets received exemplary honors: pitcher John Selb, pitcher Matt Mammen and shortstop Daniel Hartman were each honored during the season as Player of the Week in the AMC; Selb and Mammen were also named All-Region Player of the Week; and Selb was named National Player of the Week after he threw a no-hitter. Six student athletes were recognized as All-Conference Academics, and eight individuals were named AMC All-Conference players.

Hartman, a junior, received the Conference Player of the Year Award, Co-Newcomer of the Year Award, First-Team All-Conference honors and First-Team All-Region honors.

Adam "Ace" Williams was awarded First-Team All-Conference honors as a designated hitter and pitcher. Third and second baseman Travis Parker won the Conference Freshman of the Year Award.

In his second year as Coach, Jonathan Estes received the Co-Coach of the Year Award. "Nobody expected this team to do very well this year because of the few players that were returning, as well as the track record

of the baseball team here," he said. "We ended up playing better than expected, and I was given credit for that. The award is really a testament to how well the players were able to overcome the odds." Jonathan's brother, David Estes, helped coach the Harris-Stowe Baseball Team as the Coach's assistant.

With regard to how they achieved their success, Jonathan said, "We worked extremely hard in the fall off-season improving our skills as well as identifying our mission and goals. The players did a good job of executing the things that the coaching staff asked them to do. We had a very hard-working group of players who felt they had something to prove and set out everyday to do that."

The Men's Baseball Team is looking to the future by teaching the fundamentals of the sport to today's youth in hopes that one day those players might be future Hornets. The team hosted a clinic for youth teams last January. It will now become an annual event and one that they hope to continue for many years.

For the 2008 season, Jonathan had high hopes. "We return almost all of our team from last year," he said. "Plus, we have added 17 new players who will help us to be successful." The Hornets qualified for the postseason with a 23-31 record, but after losing the first and second round of playoffs, their season came to an end.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL



The 2008 Women's Softball Team. Front row, Lacy Owens. Second row from left, Carissa Mudge, Ciara Gonsalves, Allison Hartsock, Mo Hall, Rachael Spurgeon and Toni Marcantano. Third row from left, Melissa Lombardo, Shontele Allen, Rebecca Rhode and Maya Morris. Last row, Coach Tony Moody.

MEN'S BASKETBALL



The 2007-08 Men's Basketball Team. From left, Assistant Coach Joe Anderson, Assistant Coach Phillip Hunt, Kenny Lee, Quinton Jackson, Theo Boykin, Brandon Davis, John Hotaling, Terrance Lee, Uros Vukovich, Andre Aaron, Phillip Stewart, Mack Caldwell, Markus Burns, Dustin Fox, Robert Bankhead and Head Coach Rich Fanning.

LADY HORNETS BASKETBALL TEAM'S SUCCESSFUL SEASONS

2006-2007 SEASON

After an impressive 2006-2007 season that ended with the Lady Hornets Basketball Team defeating the Columbia College Cougars, 78-58, on the Cougars' home court on March 3, 2007, the Harris-Stowe State University Lady Hornets Basketball Team (13-18) clinched its first-ever American Midwest Conference (AMC) Tournament title. This sixth-consecutive victory afforded the Hornets an automatic bid to the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) finals. Although they were knocked out in the first round of the NAIA tournament by the nationally ranked No. 1 Vanguard University Lions (28-0) in Jackson, TN, this made for a great transition into an awesome 2007-2008 season.

On March 19, 2007, the Lady Hornets were formally welcomed home with a special reception held in the Emerson Performance Center (EPC) where Harris-Stowe supporters greeted and congratulated them on a successful season. In addition, during a luncheon held in the team's honor, President Henry Givens Jr. presented each Lady Hornet with a framed resolution for their exceptional accomplishments during the 2006-07 academic year.

2007-2008 SEASON

The Hornets came out strong for their 2007-08 season. In November 2007, they conquered Oklahoma City, which is ranked 17th in NAIA Division I, on their home court. Also that month, the Hornets fell four points shy of beating No. 3 Freed-Hardman University.

On December 8, 2007, the Hornets beat No. 7 Emporia State 58-71, which marked Emporia State's first nonconference home loss in 12 years. Third-year Coach Christopher Lewis said this was the most pivotal win of this season because it was the Hornet's first win against a ranked NCAA Division II team. December 17, the Harris-Stowe Lady Hornets defeated the University of Missouri-St. Louis, a Division II team, 84-70.

Beginning with a 118-18 victory over Indiana University Northwest on January 5, the Lady Hornets embarked on an incredible 12-game winning streak.

After advancing to only the semifinals of the AMC tournament, the Hornets thought their season was over until they received an at-large

LADY HORNETS BASKETBALL TEAM'S HISTORIC FIRSTS OF 2006-2007

THE FIRST TIME THE LADY HORNETS...

- didn't finish last in the AMC standings.
- won a game against a ranked opponent.
- defeated Columbia College and McKendree University.
- won double-digit games while playing in the AMC.
- hosted an AMC conference tournament game.
- made the first win in the AMC Tournament.
- won the AMC championship.
- had a winning record in the conference.
- had two players earn First-Team All-Conference Honors.
- had three players earn All-Conference Honors.
- were the lowest seed to win AMC Tournament Championship.

bid to the NAIA tournament in Jackson, TN. The Hornets, who received a No. 8 seed, defeated the No. 1 seed Oklahoma City Stars on March 19, 73-64. On March 21, the Hornets lost in the second round of the tournament to Carroll College of Montana, which marked the end of Harris-Stowe's season.

Senior point guard Chanel Ross, a 5-foot-7-inch Philadelphia native, led NAIA Division I in steals (6.50 per game) and assists (7.77 per game) and ranked third in points (20.67 per game). Her accomplishments have not gone unnoticed. The AMC named her the 2007-08 AMC Women's Basketball Player of the Year, Player of the Week four times and First-Team All-Conference honoree. The NAIA named Ross NAIA Division I National Player of the Week twice.

Ross isn't the only one to receive recognition. Forward Sheri Jones, a junior from St. Louis, made AMC Honorable Mention All-Conference. Jones and Carmen Weaver earned Academic All-Conference honors for maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.



The Lady Hornets achieved their highest national NAIA Division I ranking the week of February 13, with a tie for 20th, which marks the Hornets' debut in the NAIA Division I top 25 poll. The Lady Hornets finished the season with an impressive 23-10 record and 10-1 in the AMC. Coach Lewis hopes to someday win Coach of the Year honors and attain a professional contract for Ross.

The 2007-08 Women's Basketball Team. From left, Marvis Jackson, Sheri Jones, Keyanna Bradshaw, Carmen Weaver, Dionn Jackson, Chanel Ross, Erica Anderson, Erica Lee, Deanna Tidwell, Rhonda Chatmen, Ca'Andrea Davis and Coach Christopher Lewis.

WOMEN'S SOCCER



The 2007 Women's Soccer Team. Front row, Trista Cook. Second row from left, Jessica Magee, Megan Syron, Courtney York, Liz Coonrad and Becky Neff. Last row from left, Kathryn Jezik, Leticia Garcia, Whisper Jackson, Kayla Gibbar, Lacy Owens and Mo Hall.

HARRIS-STOWE ALUMNUS IS NEW WOMEN'S SOCCER COACH

John Ryan graduated from Harris-Stowe State College with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing. Ryan played soccer from 1996-1999 on a scholarship and started for the team all four years.

He led the Hornets in scoring with 76 goals and helped the team to compete in two consecutive national tournaments, one in 1998 and one in 1999. Both years, the team was nationally ranked and won the Region V championships. Ryan helped lead Harris-Stowe to three American Midwest Conference (AMC) Championships in 1996, 1997 and 1999. Ryan earned First-Team All-Conference honors four times, First-Team All-Region honors twice and All-American honors twice.

From 2000-2003, Ryan played soccer professionally for the St. Louis Steamers. In 2004, he returned to Harris-Stowe as the Men's Soccer Assistant Coach, where he joined Head Coach Scott Hartwig, a former teammate from HSSC.

"Coaching with John is fun," said Hartwig. "We both played on very successful HSSC teams from 1996 to 1999. We understand what is needed

to take a program to the national tournament, to win the conference and the Midwest region. John knows me very well, and he knows what I am thinking and what I expect in practice and in games...he complements me, as I am more defensive-minded, while he is offensive-minded. He was our leading scorer in attack in all the four years he played at Harris-Stowe."

In September 2006, Ryan added the title of Equipment Manager to his professional responsibilities at Harris-Stowe State University. In addition to that role, he now serves as Head Coach of the Women's Soccer Team.

Appointed to Head Coach in February 2008, he is excited about what lies ahead for the upcoming season. Ryan hopes to "establish a good young core to build around for the future" as well as to have a winning season.

Among other goals, he aims to build team unity, get through the season without any serious injuries and have at least half the team earn Academic All-Conference honors. Megan Syron, who played for Harris-Stowe for four years, will be the Assistant Coach.

MEN'S SOCCER COACH WAS HSSC SOCCER TEAM CAPTAIN

Scott Hartwig started as the Assistant Coach for the Harris-Stowe Men's Soccer Team in 2000 before becoming the Head Coach in December 2003. In 2000, the team competed in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national tournament semifinals and finished with a third place national ranking.

Coach Hartwig has big plans for the upcoming season. His goal for 2008 is to at least make the playoffs. To achieve this he said, "You need a good mixture of players — freshmen through seniors, playing styles, speed and skill. Most of all, you need the team to believe in what the coach is trying to achieve and 100 percent commitment from every player, every minute of every game, every practice and every lesson they attend." Since he became coach, the GPA of the team has consistently been one of the highest in the athletic department. In 2007, 10 out of the 15 players were recognized as HSSU scholar athletes. Hartwig is particularly proud of David "Kujo" Beduh, the first player he ever signed who went on to earn two Academic All-American honors and HSSU Male Athlete of the Year.

Hartwig attended Harris-Stowe himself and started for the Men's Soccer Team all four years. He captained the team from 1997 to 1999 and helped

lead HSSC to three American Midwest Conference (AMC) Championships, two Region V championships and two national tournaments.

During his tenure at Harris-Stowe, Hartwig earned Honorable Mention All-Conference honors, Academic All-Conference honors twice, NAIA Second-Team All-American honors, National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Second-Team All-American honors, First-Team All-Region honors, First-Team All-Conference honors, HSSC Male Athlete of the Year and the Dennis Cody Memorial Award. He had a partial athletic scholarship and an Incentive for Excellence scholarship.

"He (Hartwig) has brought structure, consistency and experience to the HSSU program; by recruiting good students who are also good athletes, he has slowly, but steadily raised the level of play back to where it was during his playing career at HSSC," said Valerie Beeson, retired HSSU Admissions Director and HSSU's AMC Eligibility Chair.

Hartwig graduated from Harris-Stowe State College with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. In 2002, he joined Harris-Stowe as a Computer Specialist and was recently named the Interim CIO Coordinator.

MEN'S SOCCER



The 2007 Men's Soccer Team. Front row from left, Byron Gardner, Lucas Rodrigues Alves, Jake Neff, Matt Gamache, Tony Anselmo, Jerin Van Wyk, Miguel de Araujo and Steve Richmond. Back row from left, Coach Scott Hartwig, David Beduh, Adam Featherstone, Mihail Yefremenko, Cris Garces, Paul Hibbeler, Scot Vorwold, Ricardo Medrano, Jensei Olascoaga and Assistant Coach John Ryan.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH FOCUSES ON CELEBRATING ST. LOUIS

To commemorate Black History Month in February 2007, Harris-Stowe State University held a series of events under the theme, “Celebrate St. Louis: The Art, The History, The People.”

The month-long celebration included several programs such as: the Black Inventors Traveling Exhibit; a Black History Musical Tribute by the HSSU Concert Chorale; *The Face of Emmett Till* stage production; a meet-and-greet with former Negro League and St. Louis Cardinals Baseball legend, George Altman; and the Black Heritage Stamp Unveiling of Ella Fitzgerald.



Harris-Stowe State University is the only historically black university serving the unique needs of the metropolitan St. Louis community. It is also one of only two Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) in the entire state.

BLACK HERITAGE STAMP UNVEILINGS, AN HSSU TRADITION

Harris-Stowe welcomed the community out to witness the 2007 Black Heritage Stamp Unveiling of Ella Fitzgerald, on February 22, 2007, in the Emerson Performance Center.

Often called “The First Lady of Song,” Ella Fitzgerald was one of the most popular female jazz singers in the United States for more than half a century. In her lifetime, she won 13 Grammy awards and sold more than 40 million albums.

Home of the Don and Heide Wolff Jazz Institute, Harris-Stowe was excited to host such a historic event and to showcase a true jazz legend. The event included live jazz performances, and commentary from Mark Anderson, former Postmaster for the City of St. Louis.

The following year, Harris-Stowe again hosted the annual U.S. Postal Service Black Heritage Series Stamp Unveiling. The 2008 stamp commemorated the life of Charles W. Chesnutt, who is considered the first African-American writer to receive major acclaim.

Chesnutt wrote such famous pieces as the short story “The Goophered Grapevine,” and he was one of few African-Americans to be published by a prominent magazine during the 1800s.

On February 19, 2008, Chesnutt became the 31st person inducted to the Black Heritage series. Postmaster of St. Louis Robert Cavinder served as Master of Ceremony, and Gateway District Manager Danita Aquiningoc provided the dedication.

From left, Mark Anderson, former Postmaster for the city of St. Louis and HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. proudly stand next to the unveiled Black Heritage Stamp of Ella Fitzgerald.



HARRIS-STOWE PAYS HOMAGE TO NEGRO LEAGUE GREAT

On February 21, Harris-Stowe hosted a meet-and-greet with former Negro League, and St. Louis Cardinals Baseball legend, “Big” George Altman. The event was held at the university’s Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration, located at 5707 Wilson Ave., in South St. Louis.

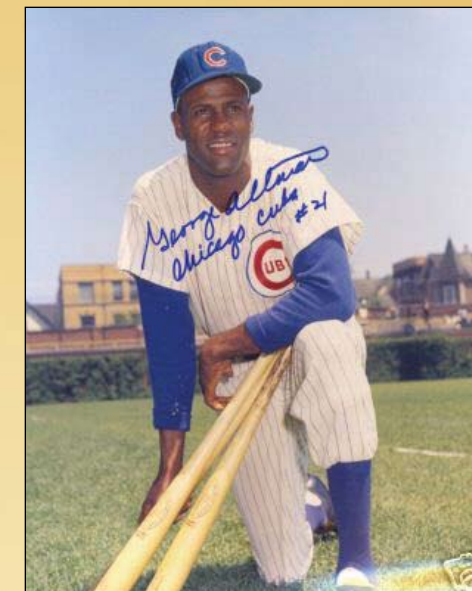
Altman amazed students with his recollection of time spent in the Negro leagues, which included a unique opportunity to play with some of baseball’s greatest, in addition to the sad realities of racism — segregated bathrooms, unequal pay and being denied food and rooming services.

During Altman’s athletic career, he excelled at both baseball and basketball. At Tennessee State University, he led his basketball team to three straight National Black College Championships.

In 1955, he signed with the Kansas City Monarchs Baseball Club and played alongside pitching legend, Satchel Paige.

After signing with the Chicago Cubs in 1959, Altman received the Chicago Rookie of the Year Award. He went on to become a National League All-Star, and in 1961, he led the National League in triples.

Altman played with the St. Louis Cardinals in 1963.



Baseball legend “Big” George Altman visited Harris-Stowe for a meet-and-greet.

CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH WITH SLU



From left, Harris-Stowe State University student Marneice Wise and Saint Louis University student Samantha Affram served as hostesses for the annual Black History Month Talent Show, which is a collaborative effort between HSSU and SLU.

February’s Black History Month celebration brought Harris-Stowe State University and Saint Louis University (SLU) together to showcase the extraordinary talents of their student body. Each year, the two universities share a common interest as they partner to present the HSSU/SLU Black History Month Talent Show, which is organized by their Student Government Associations.

In a capacity-filled auditorium, the participants sang, danced, recited poetry, played instruments and performed comedic routines to an audience made up of students from both sides of Compton Avenue. And, with one side of the auditorium yelling HSSU chants, and the other showing their love for SLU, it proved to be a true form of friendly college camaraderie.

This year’s winner was HSSU Player, Ervin Williams, a senior, majoring in Education. Williams wowed the crowd and earned a standing ovation with an original spoken word piece.

rites of Passage Ceremony

At the Rites of Passage Ceremony, Concert Chorale Director and Harris-Stowe Professor of Music Dr. Rosalyn England, left, leads the first-year students in singing the school song.



Last year, the Office of Academic Affairs introduced a new tradition on the campus of Harris-Stowe State University — the Rites of Passage Ceremony. The ceremony symbolizes HSSU students making the transition from high school to college and accepting the challenges that come with being a successful first-time freshman and college student.

In addition to Dr. Dwyane Smith and Dr. Michelle McClure, Academic Affairs, which also includes Retention Specialist Jodi Jordan, Administrative Secretary Patrice Merrill and Secretary Gloria Hendricks, collaborated with Assistant Dean for Student Affairs/Director of Residential Life Shawn Baker to make the event possible.

On August 17, 2007, in the Main Auditorium of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building, the first Rites of Passage Ceremony began. New Harris-Stowe students and faculty gathered for the occasion, which celebrates the entrance of new students to the institution.

The event began with Dr. Smith making welcome remarks, followed by the Concert Chorale's performance of the university's alma mater, "We Sing of Harris-Stowe." President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. spoke briefly after which Dean of Students Dr. Eileen O'Brien educated the new students on the history of the institution.

Then three candles were lit in honor of Harris-Stowe's past, present and future. Representing the past, alumnus Dr. George Hiram lit a candle. Representing the present, current student Leonard Johnson lit a candle, and representing the future, first-year student Brandon Bretscher lit a candle for all the future class of 2011.

As each first-year student's name was called by Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs Director Courtney Jordan, one by one, they walked to the stage and pledged their commitment to the university, while

faculty and staff pledged their commitment to the first-year students. The class of 2011 then received fighting hornet pins. "The pin they receive will be replaced by the degree when they walk across the stage of Powell Symphony Hall at graduation," said Dr. McClure, alluding to the similarity between the Rites of Passage Ceremony that commemorates the beginning of their journey to the graduation ceremony that ends it. Dr. McClure closed the ceremony after the pins were distributed.

"It was a tremendous success," said Dr. Smith. "The turnout was excellent. Almost all of the first-year students were present. There was a significant number of faculty present as well. The lighting ceremony in honor of the past, present and future of HSSU was solemn, yet, thrilling in terms of the promise the class of 2011 holds for themselves and for HSSU."



In honor of the class of 2011, freshman Brandon Bretscher lights a candle symbolizing the future of HSSU at the Rites of Passage Ceremony.

Dr. Henry Givens Jr.'s Accolades

HONORARY DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES

Harris-Stowe State University President, Dr. Henry Givens Jr., received an Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Washington University during the institution's 146th commencement ceremony, on May 18, 2007.

Dr. Givens was among six prominent individuals awarded this high honor. Honorary Doctorates were also bestowed to: David C. Farrell, former Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the May Department Stores Company; ABC News Broadcaster Paul Harvey; Professor William S. Sly, Chairman of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Saint Louis University; Shirley M. Tilghman, President of Princeton University and Tim Russert, Managing Editor and moderator of NBC's *Meet the Press*, and political analyst for *NBC Nightly News* and the *Today* show. Russert also served as the ceremony's keynote speaker.

COMMITMENT TO ST. LOUIS AWARD

Then on November 16, 2007, Dr. Givens was honored by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) with the Commitment to St. Louis Award at the organization's 46th Annual Freedom Fund Dinner.

The NAACP commended Dr. Givens for his numerous accomplishments as President of Harris-Stowe, such as opening its first Business School and adding its first residence hall. They also applauded him for being "the first African-American to serve Missouri as the Assistant Commissioner of Education."

President Givens currently serves on 15 local, state and national boards and commissions; local boards include Peabody Energy, U.S. Bank, St. Louis Regional Growth Association and the Automobile Club of Missouri.

The NAACP also honored Chairman, President and CEO of The Laclede Group and Laclede Gas Company, Douglas H. Yaeger, with the Commitment to St. Louis Award. Hilary O. Shelton, the Director of the NAACP's Washington Bureau; the Honorable Matt Blunt, Governor of



Vice Chairman of U.S. Bank Edward Higgins, left, and St. Louis City NAACP President Harold Crumpton, right, present HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens Jr. with the NAACP Commitment to St. Louis Award.

Missouri; the Honorable Lewis Reed, President of the St. Louis City Board of Aldermen and the Honorable Charles Dooley, St. Louis County Executive, spoke at the ceremony. Robin Boyce, Account Executive of Radio One-St. Louis, presided as Mistress of Ceremony.

HESCHEL-KING HONOR

Jews United for Justice (JUU) took their turn to honor Dr. Givens at their Fourth Annual Rabbi Heschel-Rev. Dr. King Jr. Celebration on January 27, 2008. In cooperation with the Missouri Historical Society, JUU presented Dr. Givens with the Heschel-King Honor for his dedication and service to the St. Louis community.

JUU also honored Bill Kahn, former Executive Vice President of the Jewish Foundation, as a Heschel-King Honoree.

Dr. Givens has received more than 125 national, state and local awards and recognitions for his leadership and service.

Washington University Chancellor Dr. Mark S. Wrighton, right, presents HSSU President Dr. Henry Givens Jr., center, with an Honorary Doctorate as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International Arnold W. Donald, left, watches.



FEED THE CITY



In HSSU's Dining Hall Annex, Majic 104.9 personalities Tony Scott and Tammy Holland get the crowd excited about Feed the City.



Volunteers from Myrtle Hilliard Davis Comprehensive Health Center administer free health screenings at Feed the City.

Harris-Stowe and KMJM Majic 104.9 FM teamed up for Feed the City 2007, an event geared toward low-to-moderate income families who might not be fortunate enough to have a warm Thanksgiving dinner and other amenities for the holiday.

The event was held in Harris-Stowe's Dining Hall and Annex of the Dr. Henry Givens Jr. Administration Building on November 17, 2007, from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Volunteers were plentiful, and of course, Feed the City was free.

HSSU Director of Communications, Marketing and Alumni Affairs Courtney Jordan, HSSU Executive Secretary to the President Lea Sutherlin and Clear Channel Community Affairs Director Arika Parr coordinated the event.

"There's something about preparing for and hosting Feed the City that just warms your heart," said Jordan. "The entire HSSU family looks forward to it every year. Maybe it's just knowing that you're making a difference in the lives of so many people. It isn't just about a warm meal, but also about fellowship and an entire community



Children go through the buffet line in HSSU's Dining Hall Annex during Feed the City to get their hot Thanksgiving meal.

coming together. We've been fortunate to be able to partner with Majic 104.9 FM for the past 10 years and reach out to the St. Louis community during the Thanksgiving holiday season."

The HSSU Drumline, the Honeycomb Majorettes, Concert Chorale and Matiff Dancers provided entertainment. Free health screenings were available courtesy of Myrtle Hilliard Davis Comprehensive Health Center. Garments were collected through the Harris-Stowe clothing drive and were distributed at Feed the City.

To accommodate everyone, buses continually shuttled people over and arrived at least every 30 minutes. The shuttles picked up passengers from the downtown Metrolink station, the Grand Metrolink station, the 5th and Missouri Metrolink station in East St. Louis, the New Life Evangelistic Center and the Salvation Army.

HSSU TAX CLINIC

This tax season, the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration introduced something new with the free tax clinic services offered on both the Main and South Campuses from February 1-April 15, 2008, to the entire St. Louis community.

The service was extended to any and everyone interested in having their 2007 taxes prepared by certified volunteers, under the supervision of Quintin Davis, CPA, Accounting Instructor at Harris-Stowe. Three additional CPAs were on hand to advise.

The HSSU Tax Clinic was open Monday through Saturday with times available in the morning, afternoon and evening.

What made the Harris-Stowe tax clinic different from others? While the HSSU Tax Clinic was open to everyone, it was especially geared toward international individuals and families, the elderly and low-to-moderate income households.



From left, HSSU Accounting Instructor Quintin Davis and student volunteer Mary Davis service an individual at HSSU's free Tax Clinic.

BLACK EXECUTIVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM CONFERENCE



Kendall James, Manager of the National Urban League-BEEP, addresses those attending the BEEP conference held at Harris-Stowe.

In collaboration with the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, Harris-Stowe State University hosted a Black Executive Exchange Program (BEEP) conference on February 12 and 13 at the Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration.

BEEP is a voluntary partnership that places African-American executives in participating colleges as visiting professors. They aim to familiarize

students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), such as Harris-Stowe, with working professionals and their pertinent fields.

Executives who attended the conference include Director of Strategic Markets for Citi Ralonda Jasper, Federal Reserve Bank Vice President Eugene Johnson, Enterprise Community Relations Manager Lee Lewis, American Airlines Diversity Strategist Lashanda Reed-Larry, Nestle Purina Pet Care Recruiter Ada Sams and McDonald's Corporation Consumer Insights Manager Paula Tripp.

The conference began on February 12, 2008, with a welcome reception. February 13 was an all-day affair that lasted from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. A continental breakfast, intriguing panel discussions, a luncheon, various classes and a resume-building and interviewing skills workshop took place on the scholastic day. The highlight of the day was the keynote address delivered by Dr. Earl Wilson, President of the St. Louis Gateway Classic Sports Foundation.

Harris-Stowe State University students learned more about the business world from the many panel topic discussions, which included Navigating the Corporate Maze (From Backpack to Briefcase), Women in Executive Roles, Minority Men in the Executive Workplace and Creating Your Personal Brand.

Managerial Accounting, Business Ethics, Accounting Information Systems, Health Care Administration, Professional Development of Managers and Corporate Communications comprise the informative classes offered during the conference.

HSSU'S CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD AFFAIRS

Formed in 2000, Harris-Stowe's Center for Neighborhood Affairs benefits the community by improving local neighborhoods. The center is under the direction of Professor of History Dr. Mark Abbott and Business Administration Instructor Richarlene Beech, thereby making it an inter-departmental effort between Urban Specializations and Business Administration.

Participating in the center is built into the students' curriculum as assigned course work. Dr. Abbott said he tries to include a community service component in all of Harris-Stowe's Urban Specializations courses.

One of the Center for Neighborhood Affairs' first projects was helping the senior citizens at Metropolitan Village Apartments maintain their garden, and the center continues to aid them.

In 2001, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) granted the center \$250,000 for improving Lucas Heights, a neighborhood near Olive Street and Jefferson Avenue. The Center for Neighborhood Affairs was responsible for first creating a neighborhood plan. Their second goal was developing an entrepreneurship program for pre-teens for the Carver House, the neighborhood's settlement house, which provides social services to local residents in distressed neighborhoods. Thirdly, the center developed a home improvement program for the Carver House in which loans are granted to homeowners. The center successfully completed these goals in 2004.

"Our students were primarily involved with the neighborhood plan, so we wanted them to have the experience of collecting data in the community and gathering public input from the residents of the neighborhood," said Dr. Abbott. The data Harris-Stowe students collected included demographics, building conditions, permit data, crime and rent.

Now the Center for Neighborhood Affairs has targeted Penrose, a neighborhood near Natural Bridge and N. Newstead Avenues. The center has partnered with St. Elizabeth Catholic Church and St. Peter's AME Church for this effort. They aim to improve the housing stock and to provide new housing opportunities.

"The students are going to be at the thick of this, and actually, they are probably going to be more involved than I've ever had them involved before," said Dr. Abbott. "...In the past, I've had them assist me, but this time they'll actually be leading the charge."

Last semester, two of his classes worked with the residents of Penrose to develop a strategic plan. The students collected data for creating a neighborhood profile, then went door-to-door to conduct a building conditions survey. Finally, the students devised a long-term strategy for Penrose and implementation tactics to carry out the plan.



Harris-Stowe State University Professor of History Dr. Mark Abbott, standing far left, speaks at a board meeting in February 2008, regarding the plans for improving the Penrose neighborhood. Some of Dr. Abbott's students are in attendance.

The center plans to use their findings from the Penrose project for the St. Louis Neighborhood Consortium's collaborative study, which will identify factors that lead to stable neighborhoods. The consortium consists of Lindenwood University, University of Missouri-St. Louis, Saint Louis University, Washington University, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and Harris-Stowe State University. The consortium plans to conduct a long-term study lasting 10 to 15 years of many neighborhoods in the metropolitan area. Each institution will study three to four neighborhoods, and their undergraduates will compile the data.

When carried out, this endeavor will mark the first large-scale undergraduate research campaign in which Harris-Stowe has partnered with several other institutions.

Another project, the HSSU Reading Center, is already in its infant stages. Directed by Assistant Professor of Education Dr. Linda Kleemann, the HSSU Reading Center will one day offer assessment, diagnosis and remediation for students in grades one through 12 in the St. Louis area. Currently, the center is in the process of obtaining equipment, technology, furniture and supplies as well as formulating policies, procedures and eligibility requirements.

Harris-Stowe hopes to expand the scope of its community outreach further by opening two additional centers one day. The Anheuser-Busch School of Business Administration has plans of implementing a facility that would focus on entrepreneurship, and the Criminal Justice program's future center would focus on juvenile justice.

PARTNERSHIP WITH VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CENTER



HSSU Assistant Professor of Health Care Management Dr. Larry Acker.

Over the past five years, Harris-Stowe State University's relationship with the St. Louis Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) has evolved. When the two first paired up, HSSU seniors could intern at either of the medical center's locations; one of which is on North Grand and the other is on Jefferson Barracks Drive.

Of the Health Care Management (HCM) students who have interned there, many of them have gone on to become full-time employees.

More recently, Harris-Stowe Assistant Professor of Health Care Management Dr. Larry Acker has set up various four-hour seminars for VAMC supervisors and staff. In addition to arranging them, Dr.

Acker both taught and co-taught some of them. Seminar subjects ranged from dealing with difficult employees, writing effective memoranda and writing business plans, and the seminars were held at the two VAMC locations.

"The VAMC has been a wonderful resource for me and for our Health Care Management students (and, sometimes students from other programs)," said Dr. Acker. "They are very responsive to our needs and have been great to work with."

During the spring 2008 semester, Harris-Stowe offered general education courses at VAMC for their employees to optimize their educational opportunities. Dr. Acker, Professor of Mathematics Dr. John Behle, Executive Director of Enrollment Management Lashanda Boone, Director of Academic Advising Carla Lee, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Michelle McClure and Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dwyane Smith were all instrumental in making these general education courses a reality.

When speaking about both Harris-Stowe's partnership with the VAMC and the partnership with East St. Louis District #189, Dr. Smith said, "To provide opportunities for the community to connect to Harris-Stowe is really the wonderful thing about both programs."

PARTNERSHIP WITH DISTRICT #189 IN EAST ST. LOUIS

Harris-Stowe State University joined forces with East St. Louis District #189 to offer East St. Louis high school seniors the chance to jump-start their college career.

Harris-Stowe's Office of Academic Affairs and Superintendent of East St. Louis District #189, Dr. Theresa Saunders, created the partnership.

Without College Level Examination Programs (CLEP) available in District #189, high school students could not earn college credit before they graduated, which many other districts already offer. To accommodate them, Harris-Stowe opened its doors in the 2008 spring semester to East St. Louis students by offering a college-level course that they can eventually transfer to their college of choice.

Harris-Stowe is offering District #189 seniors who have a minimum composite ACT score of 18, an 18 on the English/writing portion of the ACT and a cumulative GPA of at least 2.75, the opportunity to earn three credits in English Composition I. HSSU Arts & Sciences Instructor Karen Sexton is teaching the class at the university's South Campus, located in south St. Louis on the corner of Wilson and January Avenues.

There are two sections of the course, one offered during the day and one in the evening, so that all qualifying high school students can take advantage of the opportunity.



HSSU Instructor Karen Sexton, center, teaches East St. Louis District #189 high school seniors English Composition I.

"...it's a win-win for both institutions that we expose them to the college environment rather early in their maturation," said HSSU Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Dwyane Smith. "They're actually on campus as high school students, so it's not just a matter of taking classes, it's really an acculturation that takes place." He added that HSSU prepares high school students to take on the added responsibilities that are needed to be a college student, which is an excellent opportunity.

After seeing some much anticipated success of this collaboration, Harris-Stowe plans to offer another college-level class to the East St. Louis students. The class has not yet been determined, but a three-hour course

in mathematics, English or a foreign language is being considered.

"I would say that the part that makes it (the partnership) unique is you have an HBCU (Historically Black College and University) and a school district that is predominantly African-American joining forces to help educate students," said Dr. Smith.

GOVERNOR BLUNT VISITS HARRIS-STOWE

Missouri Governor, Matt Blunt, visited the campus of Harris-Stowe State University in March of 2007; positioned in front of the Office of Financial Assistance, the Governor discussed student financial aid programs and initiatives the state is taking to support students financially while in college.

Freshman Brittany Keno, representing the HSSU student body, took the podium to express student concerns for affordable education in the future.

The state of Missouri currently provides the following scholarships at the higher education level: Missouri Higher Education Academic “Bright Flight” Scholarship; Charles Gallagher Student Financial Assistance Program, which is a grant for full-time undergraduate students working toward a baccalaureate degree; the Missouri College Guarantee Program, which is extended to Missouri residents who demonstrate financial need; and the Marguerite Ross Barnett Memorial Scholarship Program for working students pursuing a degree.



Missouri Governor Matt Blunt, right, shakes hands with Harris-Stowe State University students outside HSSU’s Office of Financial Assistance.

SENATE BILL 389

During the summer of 2007, Governor Matt Blunt made higher education history with the official signing of Senate Bill 389 at the University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), in front of students and educators.

The bill consists of plans to increase funding for student scholarships, introduce accountability measures and provide tuition stabilization. Senate Bill 389 also includes the Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative, which would provide \$335 million for new state-of-the-art learning centers for Missouri students.

Governor Blunt called the day “a landmark for St. Louis area students and their families” and stated that this legislation would put higher

education in reach for more students than ever before. The bill went into effect on August 28, 2007.

The initiative will provide funding for top-of-the-line learning and research centers, including Harris-Stowe State University’s highly anticipated Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center. The plan will offer a 4.2 percent increase in the university’s budget to facilitate the building’s construction.

The Lewis and Clark Discovery Initiative is a partnership between the Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA) and the state that sells loans held by students in other states generating money to strengthen Missouri’s colleges and universities.

NEGRO LEAGUES PARK DEDICATION

The Bob Broeg Chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research formally dedicated a plaque at the former site of the Negro National League Stars’ Park, which is now a part of Harris-Stowe State University’s baseball field. The ceremony took place on May 2, 2007, in the Emerson Performance Center’s Bank of America Theatre.

The Negro National League Stars’ Park was named after the St. Louis Stars Baseball Team that played on the recognized site from 1922 to 1931. The park eventually closed as Market Street expanded.

The St. Louis Stars won the Negro National League pennant in 1928 and 1930. Among their talented players were James “Cool Papa” Bell, George “Mule” Suttles and Willie Wells. All three players have been voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY.

During the ceremony, Joan Thomas, director of the Bob Broeg Chapter of the Society for American Baseball Research, read a special letter from Connie Bell Brooks, the daughter of James “Cool” Papa Bell, who resides in New York and was unable to attend. Brooks composed the letter on behalf of her late father, including his famous baseball quote, “So many people say I was born too early, but that’s not true — they opened the doors too late.”

Harris-Stowe State University is proud to have such a historic marker placed on its campus to recognize the great men of the Negro National League.



Baseball Hall of Famer and former Negro League player and catcher for the Kansas City Monarchs, Sam Taylor, speaks at the dedication ceremony while HSSU President Henry Givens Jr. watches.

SUSAN TAYLOR BRINGS ESSENCE TO CAMPUS

Susan Taylor, former Editorial Director of *Essence* magazine, addressed students and community leaders at Harris-Stowe State University, to kick off a national campaign to recruit new mentors for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri.

The event took place in the Emerson Performance Center’s Bank of America Theatre, on April 19, 2007.

Taylor expressed how critical it is for children to have role models and shared her experiences as a mentor. Anheuser-Busch’s Vice President of Sales Development & Community Affairs Johnny Furr Jr. and President of Urban Strategies Sandra Moore, joined Taylor in speaking about the importance of mentoring.

The Big Brothers Big Sisters’ campaign, known as St. Louis Cares — Mentor 700, was an effort to recruit 700 new mentors in 2007 for the program’s Urban Expansion Project, which was geared toward serving children in urban neighborhoods. In addition, the campaign focused on the Big Brothers Big Sisters Amachi Missouri initiative, which sought to provide mentors for children whose parents have been incarcerated.



Dr. Henry Givens Jr., President of Harris-Stowe State University, and former Editorial Director of *Essence* magazine Susan Taylor converse at the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Missouri recruitment event held at Harris-Stowe’s campus.