

ALUMNI REVIEW

The Newsletter of the Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association

Buy-A-Brick Location Announced

Alumni bricks to face front of administration building

During the 2005 annual Kielbasa Party, Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., president of Harris-Stowe State University, announced the location where the Buy-a-Brick bricks will be placed – in front of the main doors of the administration building.

“This is the most heavily traveled part of the campus,” said Chester Hines, Jr. president of the Alumni Association. “It is a tremendous gesture to those alumni who purchase the bricks. It says, ‘You will be front and center.’”

To date the Buy-a-Brick initiative has generated in excess of \$50,000, with the funds going to the university’s campus expansion fund.



Alumni Association board members with Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., standing where the Buy-a-Brick bricks will be laid. Front, left to right: Armetta Whitmore, Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., Chester Hines, Jr. and Sherry McIntee. Back, left to right: Mark Zeman, Charles L. Shelton, Jr., Sue Yost, Semon Powell and Rose M. Thompson.

University Donates Office Space to Association

As the Alumni Association has grown, so too has the need for office space for meetings, project work and storage. To assist the association in regards to space, Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., president of Harris-Stowe State University, has announced the university will make office space available in the newly-acquired Banneker Building, located at 2840 Dr. Samuel Sheperd Drive in St. Louis.

This building will house, among other programs, the university’s much anticipated Early Childhood Development and Parenting Education Center.

The office space allotted to the association will be available for board members and other alumni as a central meeting place. Donations of office furniture have already been made by Barry Palmer, outgoing board member and former association treasurer, who served the association faithfully for a period of over ten years.

“We are especially thankful to Dr. Givens for this generous contribution,” said Chester Hines, Jr., association president. “This gesture is a metaphor of the association’s growing relationship with the university, a handshake, a sign of true cooperation. The association is very pleased with our success over the past few years, and the association’s board of directors is optimistic that with the assistance of the university, our alumni will continue growing to serve the public interest in the City of St. Louis.”

Former Banneker School is ‘a metaphor of the association’s growing relationship with the university.’

This Issue:

Eye on Alumni	2
President’s Column	3
Gold Gala	4
Alumni Conversations	4
Kielbasa Party	5
Recognition Luncheon	5
New Board Members	6
Alumna on Board of Regents	7

Eye on Alumni

Thomas R. Hoerr, Ph.D.

With his bachelor's degree from Harris Teachers College in 1968, Thomas Hoerr had that core, critical education that equipped him to obtain his advanced degrees and undertake his long and illustrious career in education.

For 24 years he has held his current position as Headmaster of New City School, an independent elementary school of 350 students ages 3-12 years. Under his watchful administration the school's enrollment has grown from 245 to 350 students.

In addition to setting policy and establishing priorities with the board of trustees, Hoerr has been a vigorous fundraiser for the institution, with \$12.5 million raised since 1988 for building renovation, the purchase and development of land, financial aid endowment and major capital improvements.

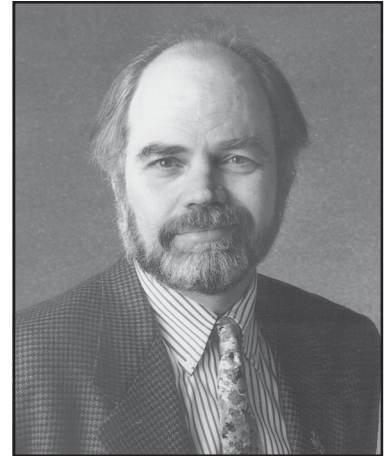
Prior to his work at the New City School, Hoerr was a principal with the school district of University City for four years, and prior to that was the director

of the Non-Profit Management Program at Washington University.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Harris Teachers College in 1968, Hoerr obtained his master's degree in Educational Administration from the University of Missouri-St. Louis in 1973, and

his Ph.D. in Educational Planning and Policy Development from Washington University in 1983.

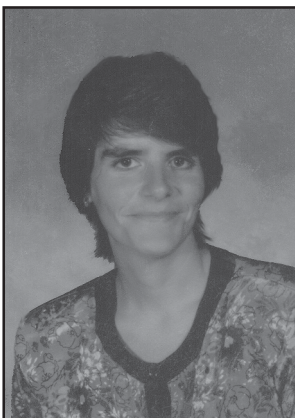
With dozens of publications, honors and awards to his name, and for his dedicated service in the field of education, Hoerr was awarded the *Distinguished Alumnus Award* by Harris-Stowe in 1987. Please applaud your fellow alumni, Thomas R. Hoerr.



Thomas R. Hoerr, Ph.D., graduate of Harris Teachers College, 1968

Alumna Receives National Honor for Conservation Work

Alumna Linda Morgan Painter, class of 1974 (left in photo), now the lead science teacher at Pearson's Corner Elementary School in Hanover County, Virginia, was named 2003 Conservation Teacher of the Year. Each year the National Association of Conservation Districts selects one elementary and one secondary school teacher for this award. Painter went to Hawaii to receive the award and a check for \$1,000.



Alumna 'Teacher of Year' in Her District

Maria Mueller Kerr graduated from Harris-Stowe State College *summa cum laude* in 1996 as an Elementary Special Education graduate. She has been named Educator of the Year in St. Clair, Missouri, by the Chamber of Commerce that was sponsored by the newspaper *The Missourian*. In 2001, she graduated from Maryville University with a degree in Rehabilitation Counseling. She taught two years at Bourbon, Missouri, for the Crawford County School System and then moved to the Franklin County Co-op, located in St. Clair, Missouri, where she has taught for the past seven years. She was singled out for her work in Special Education at the Franklin County Co-op and is very active and dedicated to the Special Olympics of Missouri. She is a native of Lugano, Switzerland, having arrived in the United States in 1988.

The President's Column

Dear Alumni, Friends and Colleagues,

Please enjoy this second edition of the *Alumni Review* and share it with as many people as possible.

Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association is focused on achieving specific and desired outcomes. The resources given to the Alumni Association are being used to realize our purpose and show a very good return on their investments. Our programs and services improve the quality of life and standard of living of its members, friends, colleagues and the larger St. Louis community. It is refreshing to know that when our work is completed, our community is a better place in which to live.

Last year's membership drive produced the highest number of financially active alumni in our history and participation at Alumni Association hosted events exceeded expectations. Participation in our very first recognition luncheon, recognizing outstanding alumni who have excelled in their professional fields of endeavor, was tremendous and the award recipients were extremely impressive in their accomplishments. Our seventh annual Gold Gala Weekend Celebration was a success. The annual meeting far surpassed anticipated attendance, planning input and personal involvement. During the annual Gold Gala affair the Alumni Association presented a major scholarship check to the university.

In addition to the already established Distinguished

Alumni and other scholarship giving programs, the Alumni Association began *The Ten Dollar Campaign* and we are receiving positive responses. *The Ten Dollar Campaign* will run throughout 2006. Please respond positively when you receive our request for this very small but powerful donation to our scholarship fund.



Chester Hines, Jr., Alumni Association President

Please join the Alumni Association and pay your annual dues, participate and support the annual events and programs offered by the Alumni Association, support the annual scholarship giving campaign, give to the ongoing *Ten Dollar Campaign*, make a donation of office equipment or furniture for use in the Alumni Association offices or determine in your own way how you can support the Alumni Association and contact us so we may implement your idea. Thank you for reading my message.

Chester Hines, Jr., President

Board Member Focus:

Wilma Wells, Ph.D.

Past president of the Alumni Association, Wilma Wells, Ph.D., has been a tireless proponent of education in St. Louis her entire professional career.

During her twenty five years working for the St. Louis Public Schools she taught developmentally disabled adolescents, helped to develop and implement the school district's special education resource program and served as a coordinator of the Parent / Infant Center.

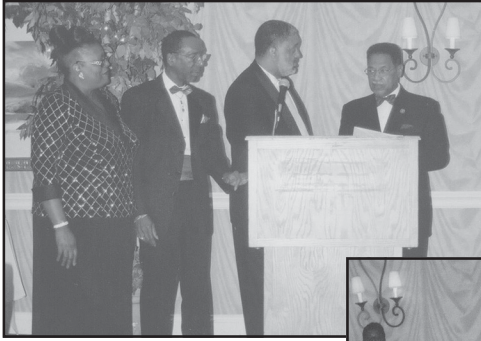
Wells served as a vice president of the Danforth Foundation beginning in 1995. Prior to joining the Foundation she served as the Assistant to the Superintendent for the University City School District where one of her primary responsibilities included program review and evaluation. While there she also orchestrated a bond campaign which upgraded or built a science lab in every school. She also served as the director of Early Childhood Education for the St. Louis Public Schools.

The list of organizations for which she has served as consultant on early childhood and family support issues is extensive, including the Council of Chief State School Officers, the Parents As Teachers National Center and the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. She also is an active member of numerous civic boards including the chairperson of the Board of Area Resources for Community and Human Services (ARCHES), and secretary to the board of the Metropolitan Association for Philanthropy.



Wilma Wells, Ph.D., class of 1968

Gold Gala Dinner Dance and Alumni Conversations



Above: association board members present a check for \$2,000 for the 2005-06 scholarship. Left to right: Rose M. Thompson, Charles L. Shelton, Jr., Chester Hines, Jr., association president, and Dr. Henry Givens, Jr., president of Harris-Stowe.

Right: Ms. Harris-Stowe State University Stacy L. Shaw making her entrance during the Gold Gala.



Gold Gala another Smash Hit

Now in its seventh year, the Gold Gala Scholarship Dinner Dance proved again to be an exciting and rewarding experience.

On October 15, in a sold-out room at the Marriott Downtown, alumni of Harris-Stowe gathered to enjoy food, drink and camaraderie – and to show their support of the association to fund student scholarships. Emcee Charles L. Shelton, Jr., board member and brother in the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, led the crowd through the events of the day.

The evening was particularly notable in that several of the university's most promising students participated. Ms. Harris-Stowe State University 2005-06, Stacy L. Shaw, made a brief presentation thanking the alumni for supporting students.

Shaw was first runner-up in the recent Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame competition, which featured queens from 32 HBCUs. Achieving this rank garnered her a \$1,500 scholarship and national recognition for Harris-Stowe.

Also from the Queen's court was Ms. Sophomore, Mary Davis, who assisted with registering guests and pulling names for attendance prizes.

This was also a special year in that the 2004-05 association scholarship recipient, Dianna Dix, was present (refer to page 2).

"The association's events just keep getting bigger and better," exclaimed President Chester Hines, Jr. "Certainly, it is a fantastic and enjoyable evening. But more importantly, when I look across the room what I see is a great number of people supporting the young people of St. Louis. It's very moving to me to see this degree of support for such a good cause. I applaud and thank everyone."

Alumni Share with Students during 'Alumni Conversations'



On October 20, association board member Armetta Whitmore, director of the Pathways to Teaching program at Harris-Stowe, hosted the Alumni Conversations. Alumni who are working professionals returned to share their experiences and chat with a full house of current students.

Kielbasa Party and Recognition Luncheon

Kielbasa Party Rocks!

On October 8, the association, in conjunction with the men of the Upsilon Omega Foundation of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, hosted this year's Kielbasa Party. The free hotdogs, kielbasa, soda and chips were reason enough to brave the crisp October air. Students, alumni, friends and family all enjoyed this great family event. Thanks again to the Omegas for their faithful support of this feast!



Above: the Omegas posing proudly with several of the Omega Squires. Left: association board members with guest Harriett F. Woods (center, in white turtleneck), former Lieutenant Governor of the State of Missouri.

Recognition Luncheon Toasts Unsung Heroes

On June 25, 2005, the Alumni Association held a sold out event honoring three alumni who have made significant contributions in their respective fields: *James Hudson, M.D.*, F.A.C.S. of the Alton Center of Eye Care in the field of health/medicine; *Sal Martinez*, chairman on the Board of Commissioners of the St. Louis Housing Authority in the field of community service; and *Armetta Whitmore, M.Ed.*, director of the Pathways to Teaching program at Harris-Stowe in the field of education.

There is perhaps no greater honor than to receive gestures of respect from one's peers. Among the many graduates who have achieved major accomplishments in our community, these three of your fellow alumni have demonstrated outstanding accomplishment and leadership in their chosen field of endeavor.

Left to right:
James Hudson, M.D.;
Sal Martinez; and
Armetta Whitmore,
M.Ed.



New Board Members

On Friday, October 14, 2005, the association held its annual business meeting and formally inducted three new members to its board of directors: Niketia L. Coleman of St. Louis Public Schools; Kathi R. Streiler of St. Louis Public Schools; and Armetta G. Whitmore, director of the Pathway to Teaching Program at Harris-Stowe. The association has become much more engaged in the community in the past several years, and strong leadership has been essential in developing growing, successful initiatives. In the past year the association hosted two additional events, the Recognition Luncheon under the direction of Dr. Eleanor Gower and the revived Alumni Conversations under the guidance of Armetta Whitmore. Look forward to great things from your new board members!



Niketia L. Coleman

Niketia Coleman received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Harris-Stowe State College in May of 1995. While attending HSSC she served as the student representative to the Board of Regents; a member of student government; the president of the Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society; and student ambassador.

Coleman taught in the St. Louis Public Schools and currently teaches eighth grade social studies in the Riverview Gardens School District. She obtained her master's degree in Educational Administration from UMSL and plans to pursue a doctorate degree.

As the mother of seven, she is an avid supporter of women's and children's rights and serves as a volunteer for battered families. Coleman's dedication to HSSU continues as she joins the Alumni Association's board of directors.



Kathi R. Streiler

Kathi Streiler is one of those outstanding individuals who hold numerous degrees: a B.S. in speech and drama from Texas Woman's University, a B.A. in elementary education from Harris Teachers College, an M.A. in physical science from Webster University, an M.A. in aesthetic education (fine arts) from Webster University, and an M.A. in communication disorders from Saint Louis University.

She has worked for St. Louis Public Schools since 1968 as a speech/language pathologist (since 1986); a teacher of art, science and writing; and as a teacher for grades 5, 7 and 8. She has also taught as an adjunct faculty member at Saint Louis University.

She retired from St. Louis Public Schools in 2000, and in September 2002 she was rehired on a part-time contractual basis.



Armetta G. Whitmore

Armetta Whitmore serves as director of Harris-Stowe State University's *Pathways to Teaching Careers Program*. She brings to Harris-Stowe a contagious enthusiasm and love for teaching second to none.

The *Pathways* program provides financial assistance, classroom instruction, workshops, counseling and professional enrichment activities to qualified teacher aides and other paraprofessionals serving in urban and rural schools where the teacher shortage is most acute.

The program helps these participants obtain their baccalaureate degrees and prepare for full teacher certification. Through this monumental effort, 105 former paraprofessionals have become certified teachers. Of its graduates, 98 percent are still in the classroom – an impressive retention rate.

Alumna Serves on HSSU Board of Regents

The following is your Alumni Association Board of Directors:

OFFICERS

Mr. Chester Hines, Jr., President

Ms. Susan Yost,
Vice President

Ms. Eleanor C. Gower, Ph.D.,
Secretary

Ms. Semon Powell, Treasurer

DIRECTORS

Ms. Bernestine Buck

Ms. Niketia Coleman

Ms. ClauDean Kizart

Ms. Sherry McIntee

Ms. Kathi Streiler

Ms. Rose M. Thompson,
Executive Committee

Mr. Charles L. Shelton, Jr.

Ms. Armetta Whitmore

Mr. Mark Zeman,
Executive Committee

EX-OFFICIO

Lynn Beckwith, Jr., Ed.D.,
Chairperson
Buy-A-Brick Campaign

Ms. Wanda Borden

Ms. Yvonne Taylor Chatwell

Wilma Wells, Ph.D.

Alumna Civic Leader, Now on Board of Regents

In November 2003, then Governor Bob Holden appointed alumna Dr. Queen Fowler to the Board of Regents of Harris-Stowe State College, now University, Board of Regents, making her the first alumni ever to be appointed to the board. She was sworn in by the Honorable Michael B. Calvin at a ceremony at the university.

A native of St. Louis, Fowler is the president of Fowler and Associates Service Systems and an educational and psychological consultancy. Fowler is the former administrative supervisor of social work services with St. Louis Public Schools. She earned a bachelor's degree from Harris-Stowe Teachers College and a master's and doctorate from Saint Louis University.

In addition to serving on the Harris-Stowe State University Board of Regents, Fowler serves on the board of the United Way of Greater St. Louis and the advisory board of Hawthorne Psychiatric Hospital, in addition to being active on various boards and committees. Fowler is a member of the YWCA Metropolitan St. Louis Past President's Cabinet and a former member of the Mayor's Minority Health Committee Task Force.



Dr. Queen Fowler, first alumni ever to be appointed to Harris-Stowe's Board of Regents.

2004-05 Scholarship Recipient



The 2004-05 scholarship recipient was Dianna Dix, a junior in the teacher education program at Harris-Stowe. In addition to carrying a full academic schedule (with a 3.7 GPA), Dix is a member of the university's softball team and is an Academic All-American. In addition to the rigors of school and her athletic commitments, Dix also holds two jobs and lives independent of her parents. Her coach, teachers and classmates speak highly of her dedication, loyalty and ceaseless energy.

Alumni Association 2004-05 scholarship recipient Dianna Dix with Alumni Association president Chester Hines, Jr.

HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

3026 Laclede Avenue, Room 110 • St. Louis, MO 63103



Do You Belong to the Association?

The Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association offers graduates an ongoing opportunity to share memories, enjoy camaraderie and continue their life experiences together. As a community-serving institution,

Harris-Stowe is fortunate in that many of its graduates remain in the St. Louis area; as such, our alumni are able to maintain long-term connections.

The Alumni Association also enables graduates of Harris-Stowe to

share the gift of education with worthy yet financially challenged students. An education helps far more than one individual; it touches the lives of that person's family, spouse, children, and indeed the entire community. The gift of knowledge is a gift that truly touches us all.

HARRIS-STOWE STATE UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
3026 Laclede Avenue, Room 110
St. Louis, MO 63103

Membership Application

Type of membership:

- Regular \$30
 Retired \$20
 Friend \$20

I attended (check all applicable):

- Harris Stowe
 Harris-Stowe State
 HSSC HSSU

Year of graduation: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____

Make check payable to "Harris-Stowe State University Alumni Association"