History in the Making

2009 Inauguration
History in the Making
A LETTER FROM OUR ACTING PRESIDENT

Our University &
Continuing Progress

We present this latest edition of The Echo, which will update you on all that has transpired over the fall and winter at Delaware State University. Even amid the national economic challenges that have faced the nation over the last year, I am proud to say the University has been able to weather the financial storm while continuing to advance in many areas.

The news articles within reveal how the University continues to expand its research portfolio and international relationships and how our students are continuing to seize the increasing opportunities created by this institution’s ongoing success. This edition also reports on outstanding accomplishments among our esteemed alumni. All of this reflects a robust University that continues to produce success stories as our students strive to make their mark on the world.

With the departure of former President Allen L. Sessoms in August to take a similar post elsewhere, the University has initiated a search process for its tenth president. A presidential search committee is implementing a national search to attract the right leader to effectively build on our successes. Much has been accomplished at DSU over the last year and during the current decade. The next president of the University will inherit an institution that is already making its mark in the world of higher education.

Our Department of Athletics is also in transition as a result of the departure of its former athletics director, and a national search process is being launched to fill that important post.

Due to a number of promotions and changes, we are looking to fill several dean posts within some of our colleges that are currently being overseen by interim leadership. We see this as a great opportunity to bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm that can serve as additional adrenaline for DSU’s progress forward.

As you read The Echo’s news of the latest DSU developments and accomplishments, please understand that to continue the University’s progress, we need your help. Given the recent downturn of the economy, it is vitally important for alumni to support their alma mater through financial donations and by promoting DSU in your communities. If we all do our best to advance Delaware State University, I am certain that our pride in the University will be solidly grounded by our efforts and it will be well deserved.

Dr. Claibourne D. Smith
Acting President
Delaware State University
The Tom Joyner Foundation, a major driving force in raising money for schools designated Historically Black Colleges/Universities since 1998, has kicked off an aggressive fundraising campaign for Delaware State University…

DSU recently received grant awards and special funding to support military and medical research projects and its year-old forensic biology undergrad degree program. These grants will fund research to improve…

The University’s College of Health and Public Policy has a vision to be a leader in Delaware’s changing health care landscape. The college will realize its vision by underscoring the importance of understanding contemporary health issues…

Although only a mile and a half long, the journey taken by the Delaware State University Approaching Storm Marching Band, Del-a-Gance dance group and Sweet 16 flag team in the Jan. 20 inaugural parade will be remembered by the students…

The Hornet Men began the 2008–09 season looking to combine athleticism with balanced scoring in their quest for a top spot in the MEAC standings. After three consecutive MEAC regular season titles (2005–07)…

“Violence against women often happens in the shadows, out of public view. Since that time, I’ve devoted my life to bringing it into the light. But I can only speak so much. I realize that sometimes to change lives, you have to change the law…”
Board of Trustees Begins Search for New President

DR. CLAIBOURNE SMITH APPOINTED AS ACTING PRESIDENT

As the University’s acting president, Smith will step down temporarily from his DSU Board of Trustees chairman post. Land has assumed the post of acting board chairman. Once a permanent or interim president is appointed, Smith and Land will return to their original posts of board chairman and vice chairman, respectively.

In addition to Perkins, the Presidential Search Committee is as follows:

- Dr. A. Richard Barros, DSU Board of Trustees member, counsel to the law firm of Barros, McNamara, Malkiewicz & Taylor, P.A.
- Dr. Lillian Lowery, DSU Board of Trustees member
- Charles McDowell, DSU Board of Trustees member
- Dr. Richard A. Barczewski, associate professor and chair of the DSU Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources
- Carolyn Curry, DSU vice president of Division of Institutional Advancement
- Dr. Joseph O. Falodun, dean of the DSU College of Education
- Danyel M. Jones, DSU Student Government Association president
- Joshua W. Martin III, partner in the law firm of Potter Anderson & Corroon LLP, former Delaware Superior Court judge
- Dr. Noureddine Melikechi, chair of the DSU Department of Physics & Pre-Engineering and director of the Center for Research and Education in Optics
- Deidre Ottley, DSU Alumni Association president
- Fred C. Sears II, president and CEO of the Delaware Community Foundation
- Dr. Charlie Wilson, DSU Faculty Senate president, associate professor of biology

Smith has served on the board since 1987 and as chairman since 1993. He was vice president of technology with the DuPont Company and retired after 34 years there. Smith has Bachelor and Master of Science degrees in chemistry from the University of Denver and a PhD in organic chemistry from the University of Oregon.
Tom Joyner Foundation Lends Support to DSU Scholarship Efforts

As a Tom Joyner Foundation “School of the Month Partner,” DSU will receive funds raised from listeners, alumni and other interested parties during 2009. The Tom Joyner Morning Show, which airs in 115 markets around the country and reaches nearly eight million listeners weekly, will promote the University and award scholarships to deserving students throughout the month of June.

“The foundation is really happy to work with Delaware State University,” said Tom Joyner, who is a Tuskegee Institute graduate. “The college has a wonderful history, and this foundation is all about making sure students are able to stay in school.”

Acting DSU President Claibourne D. Smith said the University is grateful for this timely fundraising opportunity. “Being selected this year to be one of the featured historically black institutions of higher education by the Tom Joyner Foundation provides DSU an outstanding catalyst to raise the much-needed funds to help our students,” Smith said. “Given the current economic climate of the country, families are facing increasing challenges in paying for their loved ones’ pursuit of a degree. The financial support of our alumni is greatly needed.”

The foundation has raised more than $25 million over the past seven years to help thousands of students at about 80 colleges. Over the past month, it has presented more than $1 million to several colleges, including Harris-Stowe State University (St. Louis), LeMoyne-Owen College (Memphis) and Lane College (Jackson, TN).

The 2009 HBCUs of the month are (chronologically, through November): Virginia Union University, Richmond, VA; Lincoln University, Jefferson City, MO; Winston Salem State University, Winston-Salem, NC; Allen University, Columbia, SC; Talladega College, Talladega, AL; Delaware State University, Dover, DE; Langston University, Langston, OK; University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD; Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL; Clark Atlanta University, Atlanta; Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA.

The Tom Joyner Foundation (www.blackamericaweb.com/?q=tjfoundation) has assisted every HBCU, which is defined as “any historically black college or university that was established prior to 1964, whose principal mission was, and is, the education of black Americans.”

Bank of America Honored by College of Business

DSU and Bank of America celebrated their partnership last summer by officially naming the College of Business edifice in honor of the company.

The University and Bank of America have developed a strong relationship, which has been underscored this year by a $100,000 grant from the Bank of America Charitable Foundation. The foundation has provided financial support for DSU initiatives such as Camp Wall Street 101 programs for teachers and middle school students and “From Dream to Reality—Paying for College,” a financial education and college funding program for families with students.

It was fitting for bank executive David Turner to join then DSU President Allen L. Sessoms in the naming ceremony that was held July 30. Turner is a 1986 DSU graduate employed in Bank of America’s Global Consumer and Small Business Banking division.

The Bank of America Building houses DSU’s College of Business, which offers undergraduate degrees in accounting, management and hospitality tourism with concentrations in business economics, human resources, information systems, marketing, finance and banking. The college also offers a Master of Business Administration degree program.

(L-R) DSU Board of Trustees member and BoA Global Consumer and Small Business exec. David G. Turner, DSU board member Dr. Lillian Lowery, Camp Wall Street student Giovanni Cason, DSU Assistant Vice President of Development Caroline Glackin, Camp Wall Street student Mike Ryan, BoA Vice President and Market Development Manager April Holt Birmingham, and DSU Vice President of Finance and Administration Amir Mohammad.
February 15, 2008 marked a new era. What seemed like a simple study abroad trip changed the course of my life, changed my perception of home, expanded my view of the world and introduced me to a brand-new culture. As I opened my eyes and peeked out the small window on the plane, I could see richly-colored brown mountains stretching for miles. Rivers flowed down the crevices of each peak, glistening in the sunlight. Looking even closer, I could see little houses on the mountains and thought, “What a sight to see every morning!” This place—China—I would call “home” for the next few months.

Ni Hao! My name is Anita Jarman, in Chinese, Mei Li (it means “beautiful”). I was one of seven DSU Hornets who studied at Beijing Sport University. Studying Chinese was one thing, but actually adapting to the culture and using the language made a wonderful combination. Every day we attended classes on speaking, listening and reading and writing.

To sit in your room all day after class was not the way to adapt to China. There was so much to do and too many people to meet! I thought America was the “melting pot,” but, there, we befriended people from all parts of the globe: Australia, all parts of Africa and Asia, Holland, Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Germany, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Iran, Great Britain, Italy, France—everywhere but Antarctica. The connections made were very memorable.

We climbed the Great Wall with peers from Norway, learned how to salsa with people from Brazil and Venezuela, went to the beach with friends from Egypt and Jordan, played pool with a friend from Iran, learned Chinese with Koreans, and learned how to do African dances with people from Nigeria, Togo and Equatorial Guinea. Whether we collected business cards or gained friends on facebook.com, these people left an impact on my life because they were my age, living in China, learning Chinese and taking a step up in the world. And then there were the occasional Americans that we met. It was fun celebrating the Fourth of July in another country. There was a sense of patriotic pride as American college students gathered at a local Chinese restaurant and ate hot dogs and hamburgers in a dining room where Peking duck is a specialty.

Networking is probably the most vital aspect of majoring in mass communications. China helped me to network in so many ways. Meeting people from all over the world enhanced my understanding of global communications and helped me to develop as a person and a professional.

As I packed my suitcase, I realized that I was accustomed to saying “Wei Ni Hao!” when answering the phone and acquired a very unique taste for rice with every meal. Most importantly, my journey to understanding another country was not over but had just begun. I wanted to go back home and spread the word about my experience and motivate others to take the initiative and explore the world around them.

The recurring slogan “One World One Dream” from the Olympics reverberated in my ears. A friend I met from Nigeria told me something that changed my life. He said that it doesn’t matter how many degrees you hold; if you haven’t traveled outside the walls around you, you are robbing yourself of the best education. Living in Beijing for five months opened my eyes to a whole new aspect of life: traveling. I want to thank Delaware State University for this opportunity. DSU gave me the experience of a lifetime, and this was something I couldn’t learn in any classroom. The things we read about, I did. I climbed the Great Wall, spoke Chinese, shopped at the Silk Market, visited another city in China, worked for the Olympics, talked about Christianity and the conflicts with religion with Chinese people, and much more. Living in China deeply enriched my life.
Success is a journey, not a destination. This is my motto and outlook on life. My name is Kristen Hopkins. I am a 21-year-old DSU public relations student. I am from Windsor, CT, and I am African-American.

I spent five months studying in China in 2008. It was quite an experience adjusting to a new place and way of living, and I was flooded with emotions when I arrived, but I came home seeing the world in a different light.

I have really learned to appreciate what I have and what my purpose is as an individual. I have learned the blessing of respecting and cherishing my loved ones—I never knew I could miss my family so much!

Every morning after waking up, it would take a moment to remember that I was not at home, and I was at once reminded of some of the things I took for granted. For example, taking a shower in my Beijing home: the whole floor would get wet!

A typical weekday meant waking up at 7:20 a.m. to get ready for class at 8 a.m. My fellow DSU students and I had three teachers who taught Mandarin language—writing, speaking and listening. We had two hour-and-a-half sessions of class. After that, I would either return to my dorm to do online homework for DSU distance learning classes, or I would go out to Wudaokou, a commercial neighborhood in Beijing with many restaurants and shops, to get something from McDonald’s. This routine always ended in a nap until about 3 p.m.

I tried to keep busy during the day so it would not seem as long; it was a good distraction from missing home too much. Most days, I went out and explored. I tested my Chinese daily by getting into a taxi and talking to the driver, learning his name, how old he was and where he was originally from, which helped me learn the language. At night, I would come back to my room and watch a movie with friends, study Chinese or go out to eat.

The food was a new experience. It was too stressful to figure out Chinese cuisine while still learning the language, so at first I remained true to the American restaurants in Beijing—despite the high cost.

The friends I made and the relationships we established are among the best memories of my trip. I have friends of different nationalities who taught me about their own cultures. This memory will stay with me for life.

A young Brazilian woman named Gesille became one of my friends. She lived two doors down from me and was one of the first people I met. She helped familiarize me with the Beijing area. One night Gesille cooked dinner for us. When we were ready to eat, she prepared the table setting on the floor per her Brazilian custom. What an experience that was!

I also met an Armenian named Gaogo who spoke six languages. In many of our conversations, Gaogo encouraged me to look at life from a different perspective. Interacting with people who fluently speak more than four languages has encouraged me to become multilingual and to incorporate this into my personal goals.

Living in China has taught me that life is a journey. It has helped shape my future career as a publicist and the services I can offer prospective clients, especially in regard to Chinese language and culture, which I believe will be a great advantage for me.

Education is the key to success. With every single day, a person learns, endures and lives. One strong belief I have is that sacrifice brings happiness. I learned a lot on this trip, both good and bad. The experience has helped me to grow and has led me even closer to achieving success.
Chinese Students to Study Mass Communications at DSU

Just as seven DSU mass communications students returned from a study-abroad experience at Beijing Sport University (BJU) in China, five of its students arrived to study here at Delaware State University. The BJU mass communications students are spending the fall semester at DSU and getting some hands-on experience putting together press packets and improving their English speaking and comprehension. The student exchanges are the product of formal collaborative agreements that DSU has made with several institutions of higher education in China.

Attending DSU is an eye-opening experience for the five Chinese students, who say that their love for athletics has guided them toward careers in sports-related mass communications.

“I just attended the first football game of my life,” said Li “Kristy” Jiao, a 22-year-old senior from the Chinese province of Liaoning. “I think it is exciting.”

Aianyu “Helen” Guo, a 20-year-old junior from the province of Gansu, said they have been treated well by DSU students. “They are very friendly and patient, and they help you a lot,” Guo said. She added that after one month at DSU, she has seen significant improvement in her English skills.

Xu “Kelly” Wenyan, a 21-year-old from the province of Jiangsu, appears to have the best command of English among the group. She began learning the language at age six in nursery school and, in addition to the English classes that most Chinese youths take in school, spent a year (2000) studying in Australia. “I am impressed by the natural environment here. It is very clean and there are less people,” Wenyan said. “It is quiet, and it is a good place to relax and focus on my studies.”

Li Wong, 25, from the Shan Dong province, said she has also noticed a big difference in the environment in Delaware. “You can see a lot of blue skies here,” Wong said. “There are not a lot of blue skies in China because of the air pollution.”

For Sun Qian, 20, from the Taigan province, her experience at DSU and in the U.S. is “totally fresh and new,” especially with respect to culture. Qian said in China she rarely was exposed to people of African descent, but at DSU she has made a lot of African-American friends.

Qian said the DSU campus and Dover are very different from being in the large urban center where BJU is located. “Beijing is a big city, and there we don’t have trees,” she said. “But here we see a lot of squirrels climbing up trees.”

Wenyan noted, however, one advantage in China that they miss here is having a comprehensive public transportation system. “In China, there are a lot of taxis, subways and buses,” Wenyan said. “Here you have to wait longer for taxis and they are more expensive.”

Recently the Chinese students shared their culture with DSU food service officials by showing them how to prepare some of their native dishes. Chinese cuisine—such as cola wings, onion pork, fried broccoli, and tomato fried eggs—was served at the DSU Village Café on Nov. 18.
Continental Airlines Opens up Internships for Airway Science Students

Some DSU airway science students will have the chance to gain valuable experience as interns working for Continental Airlines, and they can thank a DSU alumnus for that opportunity.

Because of the initiative of Capt. Ray Silvera (’92), the University and Houston-based Continental Airlines signed an agreement in December that establishes a new work-study program that will allow some airway science students to learn and work with that company’s aviation professionals.

Silvera, who began flying for Continental in 1998, said he noticed about two and a half years ago that the airline had internship programs established with two schools and asked why the company hadn’t established such a program with an historically black college or university (HBCU).

“They said they were in total agreement that they should have a program at an HBCU, but they didn’t know of any that had an adequate aviation program,” Silvera said. “They didn’t know about DSU.”

Having put DSU on Continental’s radar screen, Silvera came to DSU, and, with Dr. Daniel Coons, former director and founder of the DSU airway science program, crafted an initial proposal that ultimately resulted in the recent agreement.

“The fact that I graduated from DSU and that it gave me an opportunity to become a pilot who can help other minority pilots from DSU is a big source of pride for me,” Silvera said.

Capt. Stephen Speed, the current airway science director, said the agreement represents an important new relationship for the University that will give its students an opportunity to be involved in the daily affairs of one of the world’s premier airline companies and thereby greatly enhance their education in the field of aviation.

“For DSU, it begins what we expect to be a long and mutually beneficial partnership with the company that leads the U.S. commercial aviation community in minority recruitment and advancement,” Speed said.

Silvera exemplifies how the DSU airway science program can help students achieve. In addition to earning a B.S. in airway science management, Silvera earned all of the flying licenses he could while in school. After graduation, he served as a DSU airway science instructor and eventually became its chief instructor before leaving to become a pilot for United Express in Fresno, CA.

Since joining Continental in 1998, he has piloted Boeing 757 and 767 airplanes, and he currently serves as the captain of a Boeing 737 as well as a pilot trainer for that aircraft. He also has kept his management aspirations on course by serving as an interviewer for pilot candidates. “I am now starting to work my way into aviation management,” he said.

No matter where his career takes him, Silvera said he relishes the opportunity to give back to the DSU airway science program. “I see the opportunity to succeed as an important thing, especially for men of color, because they have not had that opportunity in the past,” he said. “This internship is the opportunity, and now some will have the opportunity to perform. That’s what DSU gave me—the opportunity to perform.”
New Hires and Appointments

DSU BEGAN THE 2008 FALL SEMESTER WITH TWO NEW EMPLOYEES:

Dr. Paul A. Bryant (shown left) has been hired as the new vice president of student affairs. He will oversee all student activities, health services, and the offices of Residential Education, Judicial Affairs and Counseling. He had been the assistant vice president and acting vice president of student affairs for the last six years at Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, CT.

Bryant has a BS in psychology from Elizabeth City State University, a MS in education from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and a doctorate in higher education administration and leadership from NOVA Southeastern University.

Acting President Claibourne Smith has appointed former MBNA executive and Howard University graduate DeChanta P. Knox as special assistant to the president for athletics. Athletics Director Rick Costello has left to accept a post at Rutgers University. Knox will assess the department’s strategic plan, oversee its fiscal operations, department divisions and compliance requirements, and review all policies and job descriptions. Knox had been the principal consultant for DPK Services, LLC, in Hockessin, DE, for the last two years. Prior to that, she had worked in progressive leadership roles at MBNA America since 1988.

Knox graduated from Howard in 1985. She was the 1984 International Track and Field Champion there and represented the U.S. in the 100-meter dash in the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles. Currently she is a U.S. Bodybuilding Federation and National Bodybuilding champion, model and trainer.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2008 FALL SEMESTER DR. HARRY WILLIAMS, PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

- Dr. Noureddine Melikechi, chair of the Department of Physics and director of the Center for Research and Education in Optics Sciences, is now the interim dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology.

- Dr. Young S. Kwak is now the interim dean in the College of Business until that position is filled. Kwak has served as the associate dean of the college since July 2005 and has been a faculty member of the University for 15 years.

- Dr. Akwasi Osei is now the interim associate dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. He is currently the chair of the Department of History, Political Science and Philosophy and is a 15-year DSU faculty member.

- Dr. Bradley Skelcher, associate provost, will continue to serve as dean for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences until that position is filled. His office is in the Administration Building, room 420. Skelcher was initially made interim dean of the college in July 2004 and permanent dean in July 2007. He was appointed associate provost in June. He has been with the University for 18 years.

- Dr. Warren Rhodes is now the interim associate dean of the College of Health and Public Policy. Rhodes has been a professor of community health since the fall of 2007. He also was a professor of psychology at DSU from 1978 to 1995, and in between his DSU tenures he spent 12 years at Morgan State University.

These interim appointments will be held until the vacancies are filled with permanent appointments. The Office of the Provost is in the process of conducting a national search to fill the positions.
DSU music students now have a cutting-edge environment to develop their music theory and production skills with the completion of a new music technology lab.

Through the generosity of an anonymous private donor, the DSU Department of Music dismantled its previous music facility and constructed an improved $150,000 lab equipped with state-of-the-art technology in the first phase of the expansion project.

The new lab includes a 3M Digital Whiteboard, Korg keyboards, an AKAI EWI (electronic wind instrument), a MIDI guitar and a Group Education Controller. It also has six workstations that are based on the TRITON series (with a 16-track sequencer), a variety of music and instructional software, a Digidesign Pro Tools Mbox 2 Micro studio music production system and a portable isolation recording booth.

The department received an additional $75,000 from the donor that will go toward the Phase II expansion of the lab.

The music lab expansion funding was obtained through a grant written by Dr. Yvonne Johnson, associate professor of music, who also wrote the 1995 grant request that resulted in the construction of the original music lab.

This new music technology lab will serve as an invaluable learning tool for the Music Department, provide opportunities for new music curriculum and collaboration with other departments, and possibly lead to community outreach programs.
Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Detection

A research project aimed at developing a video camera system that would give real-time alerts of suspicious behavior that may indicate the transport of IEDs. The project is funded by a $700,000 Department of Defense research grant. The research will involve the development of software components that would be used with surveillance equipment.

The principal investigator of the project is Dr. Dragoljub Pokrajac, associate professor of computer and information sciences, and the senior personnel on the project are Dr. Fengshen Liu, Dr. Vesna Zeljkovic and Dr. Xiquan Shi.
USE OF ELECTROMAGNETIC DATA IN DETECTING EXPLOSIVES

This research will investigate novel electromagnetic interrogation techniques that could provide a means of detecting IEDs that could be buried near roads in complex urban or rural environments. The project is funded by a $200,000 U.S. Air Force Research Lab grant.

The research is a joint project between researchers from DSU and the University of Delaware. The co-principal investigators are Dr. Fengshen Liu, DSU professor of applied mathematics and theoretical physics, and Dr. Jiguang Sun, associate professor of applied mathematics and theoretical physics.

RESEARCH COMPUTER NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE

A $355,573 National Science Foundation grant will allow DSU to establish a high-performance computing and high-bandwidth research network in the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology.

The networking infrastructure will provide the capability to fully utilize the bandwidth and speed of the University’s Internet2 connectivity for its research, research training and educational activities in science, engineering and technology.

Principal investigators Dr. Al-Sameen Khan, professor of electrical engineering, and Mr. Saoud Khan, research associate in Computer and Information Sciences, will implement the project.

BREAST CANCER RISK ESTIMATION

This research seeks to improve breast cancer risk estimation in minority populations by including image-based risk biomarkers and genetic risk factors. DSU received a $1.3 million Department of Defense grant for the project.

The research aims to measure the racial dependence of image-based biomarkers, seek improvements to a breast cancer risk prediction mode and explore the differences in genetic determinants in breast density.

Principal investigators Dr. Fengshan Liu, Dr. Dragoljab Pokrajac, Dr. Xiquan Shi and Dr. Charles Wilson are collaborating on the project with investigators from the University of Pennsylvania.

A long-term goal of the research project is to develop a DSU Breast Cancer Disparities Research Program.

FORENSIC BIOLOGY PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

A two-year $150,000 National Science Foundation grant will support the Department of Biology’s forensic biology major in hopes of attracting minorities to science disciplines.

The grant will be used to purchase state-of-the-art forensic equipment, to develop collaborations with local and state forensic agencies, to design new courses and to strengthen the curriculum. The principal investigators are Dr. Leonard Davis, chair of the Department of Biology, and Dr. Clytrice Watson, assistant professor of biology.
Students get hands-on experience in Delaware State University’s nursing program.

College of Health & Public Policy

By Carlos Holmes

The University's College of Health and Public Policy has a vision to be a leader in Delaware’s changing health care landscape. The college will realize its vision by underscoring the importance of understanding contemporary health issues and through researching solutions for public health’s most vexing challenges.

Collaboration among the college’s core program areas—academic, student health services and community services—will give rise to innovative approaches to issues in health care, and its graduating students will be poised for successful health care careers. Academic departments include nursing, social work, sport sciences and the newest department, public and allied health.

The Department of Nursing has two national accreditations and offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, which address shortages in the workforce, in community health settings and in education. The Master of Science in nursing offers two specializations: community health nursing and certified nurse educator.

The Department of Social Work offers the only higher-education social work degree programs.
in Delaware. A Bachelor of Science in social work prepares students for entry-level and professional generalist practice with diverse individuals and groups in a variety of settings. The Master of Science in social work prepares graduate students for work in the fields of mental health and families, children and youth.

The Department of Sport Sciences offers an undergraduate degree in sport management, which provides the knowledge and skills to guide careers of top athletes or to train administrators in major sports organizations. The Master of Science in sport administration prepares students to be ethical leaders in advanced careers in established sports organizations and in implementing new sports enterprises.

The Department of Public and Allied Health Sciences was newly established in January to administer degree programs in community health and movement sciences to prepare students for work in health education and health promotion. This includes bachelor’s degrees in community health and in movement science, which guides students toward fitness and health certification for a career as a personal trainer or fitness instructor or toward graduate studies in allied health programs. A future Master of Science in public health program is being developed.

With the completion of the DSU Wellness Center this spring, the movement science program will be involved in exercise testing and exercise program prescriptions for users of the new facility.

The college has partnered with public health expert Dr. Thomas A. LaVeist of Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore) to advance the University in the arena of public health.

Community-based health programs can now be facilitated by the college’s Institute for Public Health and Policy, which encompasses the centers for Community Mental Health Advancement, Minority Health Improvement and Youth Health Promotion.

The community-based thrust has manifested itself in a strong partnership with the Capitol Park neighborhood, a low-to-moderate income residential area south of Dover. Using a university-donated prefabricated building, Capitol Park created a community center where the college has focused many of its community-based efforts, such as a health fair in late January. The growing partnership with the Capitol Park Civic Association provides residents with improved access to health education and services, gives DSU students community service and field studies opportunities, and allows faculty to develop relationships with residents and to research community development.

The community-based programs are designed to find solutions that will help shrink the health disparities gap affecting minorities in Delaware and across the nation.

Student health services play an important role in the health and well-being of the university student population. The Student Health Center is designed to provide quality, confidential health services to the student body and to promote a healthy campus community. Led by a director/nurse practitioner, the health center recently added a physician from Christiana Care and expanded hours to better serve students. The health center also spearheads continuing health education for HIV awareness, illness prevention and sound health practices.

The college also oversees the Sports Medicine Center that provides comprehensive, high-quality medical services for DSU student athletes. The sports medicine staff includes a head team physician, a registered nurse, an orthopedic consultant and board-certified primary sports medicine specialists. In addition, the center serves as a training site for sports medicine fellows from Christiana Care Health Systems.
Although only a mile and a half long, the journey taken by the Delaware State University Approaching Storm Marching Band, Dela-Gance dance group and Sweet 16 flag team in the Jan. 20 inaugural parade will be remembered by the students as a trip of a lifetime.

“I may have complained about the weather the whole time, but now after the performance, I don’t even care about that. It was incredible. I’m so happy,” said Kiyana Warren of Milford, DE, a member of the flag team.

The trip to President Obama’s inauguration ceremonies began at 2:30 a.m., when the groups gathered in the band room on the school’s campus for a meeting before loading the bus. Band Director Randolph Johnson gave out advice and special inaugural identification cards at the early morning—or late night, depending on how you look at it—meeting.

The hour was especially tough for Johnson and Assistant Band Director Ricky Edwards. They had to travel to Washington, DC, the day before for a pre-parade organizational meeting with the inaugural committee and did not return to Dover until 11 p.m.

“I can’t afford to get tired now,” said Johnson as he boarded the bus. “I'll just be exhausted afterward.”

“The DSU Approaching Storm Band marches down Pennsylvania Avenue in the nation’s capital.

“Final representing both my state and my school at the same time makes it all worthwhile.”

—Xavier Summers

“Approaching Storm Band Marching On Air” by Leah Burcat

To represent both my state and my school at the same time makes it all worthwhile.”

—Xavier Summers
The students loaded the buses around 3:30 a.m. and were off to Washington.

At first, the passengers on the bus were loud. It seemed the realization they would soon be part of the inauguration of the first black president and the first Delawarean vice president had just hit the group.

“It really just sunk in now,” said alto saxophone player Ashley Shelton of Dover. “Before now, I was too concerned about the (Philadelphia) Eagles,” she said.

“I’m excited about this. It was an exciting election, but it really would have been incredible to take part in any inauguration. It’s such a great opportunity,” said Donovan Hagbee of Dover, who plays the flute.

“This is going to be an unforgettable day,” said Johnson.

The excitement soon turned to fatigue, and by 5:30 a.m. the buses had become silent—the calm before the Approaching Storm. In a way, it was good that the excitement subsided for a little bit anyway, because large crowds, long waits and unforeseen events would force them to put that excitement on hold time and time again during the day.

When the group arrived at the Pentagon, they were shepherded off the buses, and everyone, their possessions and the vehicles were thoroughly searched. It was about two hours before they were allowed back on the buses.

Xavier Summers of Washington, a sophomore with the band, had been especially concerned about this part of the day.

“I am extremely anxious about security,” he said. But in the whole scheme of things, he said it was not a big deal. “To represent both my state and my school at the same time makes it all worthwhile,” said Summers.

Once back on the buses after the security checkpoint, they waited another hour before they were unloaded once again. This time they were escorted to a holding tent, where they were able to watch the new president take his oath of office on a television screen.

“It was great when Obama was on the screen. All I could think was, ‘I’m down the street,’” said Warren.

“It would be great to see Obama while we’re marching, but I figure there’s always YouTube, if I don’t get the chance,” said Hagbee.

The band was given some time to practice while they all mulled over the historic event they had just witnessed. But they didn’t have too much time to ponder and practice. They were quickly lined up on the parade route so they would be ready to begin marching whenever the presidential luncheon finished.

Although scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m.—already 12 hours after their day began—the parade did not begin until after 3:30 p.m. A seizure suffered by Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., at the presidential luncheon pushed the start time back.

The DSU group, which was in the second division of the parade, along with the rest of the Delaware contingent that included the University of Delaware marching band, the Alexis I. du Pont High School marching band and the Volunteer Fireman’s Association of Delaware, did not start the route until nearly 4:30 p.m.

Although there was a delay, the performance they gave for the crowd of almost 300,000 spectators went off without a hitch.

“I was cold, but I really enjoyed it,” said Quinche Fuller of Dover, who carried the banner for the band.

Following the parade, the group was tired, hungry and numb, but those concerns were diminished by the elation the students felt.

“It was good, cool and long but overall a really great experience,” said Jazmine Holt of Dover, who played the cymbals in the performance.
On Oct. 12 Brittany Pace and Deon Williams were crowned Miss and Mr. Delaware State University at the annual homecoming coronation, beginning a weeklong homecoming celebration worthy of its “Carnivale” theme that culminated in the Homecoming Day football game and post-game parties.

A series of crowd-pleasing student and alumni events dominated the schedule, including a faculty/student basketball game, fashion show, comedy show/pep rally, hip-hop performances, and a student concert planned by the SGA and Office of Student Leadership and Activities. A fall job fair held midweek on campus at the Memorial Hall gymnasium attracted hundreds of job-seeking students and alumni, and a special morning session for alumni gave them opportunities to connect with potential employers.

On the eve of Homecoming Day, there was a step show, alumni reunions, and the DSU Alumni Association’s annual Legacy Banquet and Hall of Fame inductions, held at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino. The DSUAA honored eight alumni and two special members of the university family that night, and several alumni groups held gatherings, including Dr. Damus Kenjyatta’s Ufumbuzi Players, a young alumni party in downtown Dover, an 80s/90s alumni mixer, and a reunion of former athletes and cheerleaders.

Homecoming Day itself was abuzz with activities, beginning with the traditional, annual homecoming parade that the entire Dover community looks forward to and enjoys. This year’s parade involved more than 80 participants and received rave reviews from spectators. The Hon. Dr. Donald Blakey (’58) was the grand marshal of the parade, accompanied by his wife Delores (’62).
The day’s festivities continued under sunny skies on the university campus. Close to 8,000 Hornet fans milled around among vendors and tailgaters. The day was highlighted by gridiron action, where the Stinging Hornets presented fans with a 42–7 victory over North Carolina A&T. Following the game, DSU Acting President Dr. Claibourne Smith hosted the president’s hospitality tent. Later, a beyond-capacity crowd at the homecoming comedy concert was roused into laughter by featured comedian Ricky Smiley at the Dover Downs Hotel & Casino. An after-party sponsored by the DSU Alumni Association was also held at Dover Downs.

Homecoming week ended Oct. 19 with a gospel concert in the Education and Humanities Center Theater, capping off a very successful week of events planned by a skillful and enthusiastic 33-member homecoming steering committee led by Lorene K. Robinson, director of alumni affairs.

Homecoming 2009 will take place October 18–24. A series of exciting and enriching events are being planned under the leadership of Ms. Brenda Farmer, director of ceremonies and events.
Senior Donald Johnson scored a career-high 31 points to defeat UMES 74-60 in the final game of the regular season. It was the most points a Hornet scored in a game since Roy Bright scored 30 points against St. Paul’s last season. Bright graduated last year. The win against UMES gives the Hornets a 6–10 MEAC record and earns them a No. 10 seed in the 2009 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference tournament.

The Hornet Men began the 2008–09 season looking to combine athleticism with balanced scoring in their quest for a top spot in the MEAC standings. After three consecutive MEAC regular season titles (2005–07), including the tournament championship in 2005, DSU fell to fourth in the league standings a year ago and to tenth this year.

Of the season-ending win against UMES, Head Coach Greg Jackson said, “I thought we came in with a really great game plan. I thought our kids executed our philosophy on both ends of the floor. We were able to change up our defense, and I thought that caught them (UMES) off balance for most of the game. And, we got into transition.”

Coach Jackson welcomed back eight returning players from the 2007–08 squad, including Johnson, a shooting guard who has become the top scorer on the team this season and one of the MEAC’s most prolific three-point shooters, and teammates Frisco Sandidge (jr. 6’-6”), Marcus Neal (jr. 6’-5”), Trevor Welcher (so. 5’-10”), Terrence Parkes (so. 6’-6”) and Chris Douse (jr. 6’-6”). Sandidge has been a solid force as second leading Hornet scorer with 10.5 ppg and is among the league top 10 in rebounding with 6.9 per game.

Coach Jackson also began the season by strengthening the Hornet backcourt by adding junior college transfer Fred Bouie (jr. 6’-0”) and freshman Jared Grady (6’-2”).

While the Hornets have struggled during the 2008–09 season, they have been competitive. The DSU men have proven that when the team is on target with their outside shot, they are a challenge to keep up with, as they proved in their 12-point win on Feb. 14 at home against Norfolk and their 14-point victory against North Carolina A&T in Greensboro, NC, on Jan. 19.

Even in losses against the best in the MEAC, the Hornets have made the game competitive to the very end. Morgan State found that out on Feb. 7 as the conference first-place team was only able to eke out a three-point win in Dover, 57–54.

JOYNER EARNED FIRST TEAM ALL-MEAC VOLLEYBALL HONORS

After a stellar junior season, Cassandra Joyner earned yet another accolade as she was named to the All-MEAC First Team. This is the first time a DSU volleyball player has been awarded this honor since Kelly Williamson in 1987.

In the 2008 campaign, Joyner led the Hornets with 297 kills (fifth in MEAC) and 75 total blocks (fourth in MEAC). She finished second on the team with 182 digs. Joyner was also named MVP of the Delaware State Tournament and was twice named MEAC Player of the Week.

DSU junior Cassandra Joyner was named to the All-MEAC First Team, becoming the first Hornet since 1987 to receive such honor.
Women's Basketball
Seeded Third in MEAC

With an 18–14 overall record (12–4 MEAC) and No. 3 seed for the 2008 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament, last year’s women’s basketball team with three stellar, graduating senior players was a tough act to follow. But this year’s team ended the season with a 15–14 record (11–5 MEAC), secured a No. 3 seed again for the 2009 MEAC Tournament and have earned bragging rights for MEAC Rookie of the Year, freshman Sonia Johnson.

Johnson (5'-10") is the Lady Hornets’ top scorer with 11.5 ppg, and she is 14th among all league players. She has been the leading scorer in eight out of 12 conference wins. Johnson was named to the All-MEAC Second Team and All-Rookie Team, and she was just named 2008–09 MEAC Women’s Basketball Rookie of the Year. Marin Hightower was the last DSU player to be named Rookie of the Year in 1996.

The departed seniors—DSU’s sixth all-time scorer Raquel Collier, Katreem Palmer and Ashlee Burbage—helped get the team to MEAC Tournaments in 2007 and 2008, with a championship win in 2007. Despite the absence of those three key former players, the 2008–09 team is a force to be reckoned with in the MEAC.

They are the only team to pin a loss on the first place MEAC team North Carolina A&T, which the Lady Hornets beat 68–66 in an emotional game in Dover on Feb. 16. Their 55–52 loss to UMES in the final game of the regular season landed DSU the No. 3 seed and pushed Coppin State into the No. 2 seed for the tournament.

Solid contributors have been returning players: guard Keyhana Wakefield (sr. 5’-7”), who is second on the team in scoring with 10 ppg, guard/forward Jameka Smith (sr. 5’-10”), who leads both the team and the league in steals with 2.8 ppg, guard Selena Galloway (jr. 5’-7”), forward Ashley Thompson (jr. 6’-0), center Thea Littlepage (jr. 6’-2”) and emerging guard Cortney Crockett (so. 5’-6”).

Others notable players are transfer center Alex Stewart (jr. 6’-1”), who joins her sister, guard Candice Stewart (so. 5’-11”), forward/center Brittany Washington (so. 6’-1”), guard Denyse Moore (fr. 5’-8”), forward Morgan Rowland (fr. 5’-9”) and transfer Alexis Abraham (so. 5’-9”).

Head Coach Ed Davis’ imperative to suffocate opponent offenses with an unrelenting defense has worked well again this year; they lead the conference in least points allowed (53.8 ppg), they are second in blocked shots and steals, and they are No. 1 in turnover margin. Completing his ninth season as head coach, Davis is the top winning coach in the DSU women’s basketball program’s history with a record 156–113. He also has the highest winning percentage (.580) of all DSU—men’s or women’s—basketball coaches.

MEAC TOURNAMENT RESULTS

In the quarterfinal game against No. 6 Hampton, the Lady Hornets fought back from a second half 14-point deficit to take the lead with 1:40 left. With less than one second left, Hampton scored a field goal to win 58–56. Hampton went on to defeat No. 7 Florida A&M in the semifinals but lost the championship to No. 1 North Carolina A & T, which will go on to the NCAA basketball tournament. The Lady Hornets finished their season 15–15.

The men’s basketball team was knocked out of the tournament by No. 7 Hampton in the opening round. Their 51–32 loss was the lowest-scoring contest in the tournament’s history. No. 1 Morgan State ultimately defeated No. 3 Norfolk State 83–69 for the championship and will go on to the NCAA basketball tournament. The Hornet men finished their season 8–24.
Sophomore defender Kelly Cheng has been named to ESPN’s Academic All-America Team. Cheng, a sport sciences major, has earned a perfect 4.0 cumulative grade-point average in three semesters at DSU.

In the District II University Division, Cheng was named to the second team as one of only four defenders. In two seasons at DSU, she has appeared in 31 matches, starting in 28 of them. In 2007, she was named to the United Soccer Conference’s second team. This season, she helped the Hornets record three wins, matching 2007 for the second most in team history.
Ross & Mayers Run Career-Best Times in MEAC Women’s XC Championship

DSU senior Mallory Ross was the fifth runner to cross the finish line, just 10.2 seconds behind the leader, Coppin State’s Naomi Tanui, in the 2008 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Women’s Cross Country Championship meet on Oct. 25 in Princess Anne, MD. Ross completed the 5K course in a career-best time of 18:07.07 and earned All-MEAC recognition as a Top 15 finisher. Sophomore Kendra Mayers finished 28th with a time of 19:58.27, also a career best for her. Other teammates were 33, 39, 48, 55 and 60 place finishers (out of 85 runners) for a total team score of 153 points, giving the Hornets team a seventh place finish in the championship. Host Maryland-Eastern Shore (UMES) captured its second straight MEAC women’s title with a team score of 55.

Thibou Runs Career-Best Time, Earns All-MEAC in Men’s XC Championship

Despite a close concentration of runners finishing the 8K within 30 minutes or less, the DSU men’s cross country team finished in third place in the 2008 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Championship in Princess Anne, MD, Oct. 25.

Redshirt freshman Kelli Thibou finished 12th with a career-best time of 27:09.10 and earned All-MEAC recognition as a Top 15 finisher. Finishing just 34.5 seconds behind him was junior Sean Guy, who just missed the All-MEAC mark as he finished in 16th place. Just under 10 seconds later came sophomore Donte Holmes in 19th place with a time of 27:53.03.

Norfolk State claimed its eighth MEAC Championship title in nine years with 27 total team points. Host team Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) was second with 82 total points. The Hornets team scored 98 total points to finish third in a roster of 11 teams.
On Wednesday, Aug. 27, DSU alumna Quincy A. Lucas stood tall and proud at the Democratic National Convention as she presented the official nomination of Sen. Joseph R. Biden as the vice presidential running mate of the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, Barack Obama.

Before a nationally televised audience and a packed and enthusiastic crowd at INVESCO Field in Denver, CO, Mrs. Lucas gave the following address:

“My name is Quincy Lucas. My sister Witney was my best friend. In 2003, she was murdered at the hands of her ex-boyfriend. I later learned that she was one of 58 women who lost their lives to domestic violence in Maryland alone that year.

“Violence against women often happens in the shadows, out of public view. Since that time, I’ve devoted my life to bringing it into the light. But I can only speak so much. I realize that sometimes to change lives, you have to change the law.

“Joe Biden heard my story. In 1994, he wrote the Violence Against Women Act so every woman would have a place to turn for support. He’s constantly making sure it has the funding it needs. And today, countless women get a second chance at life because of Joe Biden.

“So it is in memory of my sister, and in the name of women all across this country, that I’m proud to place into nomination the name of Joe Biden to be our next Vice President!”

Mrs. Lucas didn’t receive the phone call from the Obama/Biden Campaign until 9:30 p.m. the night before the convention. Over the next couple of hours she worked with a campaign speech writer to craft the words that would become a prime time, shining moment of her life. She took a plane the next morning to Denver for the momentous event, accompanied by her 14-year-old daughter, Victoria.

After the nomination of Sen. Biden, Mrs. Lucas said she thought it was over and prepared to return to her hotel with her daughter; but, before they knew it, they were whisked away to a Democratic after party where she received accolades and chatted with Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi and other legislators. The DSU alumna said that her daughter was especially thrilled when she got the chance to meet Michelle Obama.

For Mrs. Lucas, however, it didn’t end there. A couple weeks later, she got another call from the campaign asking her to travel with Sen. Biden to Sterling, VA, to speak at a rally about domestic violence issues and Biden’s commitment on behalf of women.

“I had even more of an opportunity to speak there, and I was able to talk about the issue of violence against women and what it is doing to the economy,” Mrs. Lucas said. “I also got to talk more about my sister.”

Mrs. Lucas was chosen by the Obama/Biden Campaign because of her work as an advocate against domestic violence and for victims’ rights. Earlier in the year, on April 17, Mrs. Lucas spoke at the Crime Delaware Victim Tribute sponsored by Delaware Victims’ Rights Task Force. Speaking out against domestic violence became a passionate cause for her after the 2003 murder of her sister, Dr. Witney H. Rose, a University of Maryland psychiatrist, by her ex-boyfriend.

NOTE: Her speech is published online at: http://www.demconvention.com/vice-presidential-nomination-remarks/
The DSU Alumni Association awarded Robert “Jeep” Hunter ’52, retired educator and active alumni member, the coveted Rebecca C. Brockington Lifetime Achievement Award for his many years of service to the association. It presented the award during its annual Alumni Legacy Banquet and Hall of Fame Inductions on Oct. 17 at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino. The award, given to alumni who have rendered exemplary service to the association, honors the memory of the late Rebecca Cooper Brockington ’21, a founder and longtime member of the Philadelphia chapter. He said the award was especially meaningful for him because it honors the memory of a dear friend and mentor. Hunter served as president of the national Alumni Association and the Philadelphia chapter, where he worked alongside Brockington. The Philadelphia chapter is the oldest DSUAA alumni chapter, established in 1932.

The DSUAA awarded the following alumni, nominated for their accomplishments: New Castle County Alumni Chapter President and retired school administrator Ned W. Brown, Jr. ’71 for career achievements in education administration; youth development pastor and social justice activist Thomas E. Douglas ’79 for achievements in law/government; DSU administrative secretary and financial analyst Cecelia Dunning ’94 for her achievements in the area of community service; retired elementary school teacher Phyllis Hayes-Dixon ’60 for career achievements in education; senior sales account executive and former Hornets football standout Victor Heflin ’82 for achievements in athletics; insurance brokerage owner and longtime DSUAA chaplain Reginald Minus ’73 for achievements in business/industry; and Raymond L. Moore, Sr. ’60, supervisor of athletics for Worcester (MD) School System, for achievements in athletics.

Special recognition was given Hattie Dabney Mishoe, widow of 1981 graduate and former DSU president Dr. Luna I. Mishoe. Dr. Mishoe presided over the University for 27 years (1960–1987), making Mrs. Mishoe the longest serving first lady. Dr. Mishoe was inducted posthumously in 1995. He died in 1989. Mrs. Mishoe, a fixture at DSU events over the years, was honored by the DSUAA for extending hospitality to thousands of students during her tenure as first lady and beyond. The association also made her an honorary member. Mrs. Mishoe died March 17 at 94.

Two University staff members were recognized for their service. Football equipment manager Arthur Wright was a special inductee. He served the Hornets football teams from the 1960s through his retirement a few years ago but recently came out of retirement because he enjoys the work he does. He continues in this very important, yet often underplayed, role.

Cheryl Browning, former alumni affairs technician, also received special recognition from the Legacy Hall of Fame Committee. She was acknowledged for contributions to the development of the souvenir program booklet and for her technical assistance in previous years. Browning has transferred to the Office of Development where she continues to serve the University as development technician.

DSU student Jay Howard-Brock reprised her involvement as the guest vocalist, singing the song “Wind Beneath My Wings” in tribute to the honorees.

Albert S. Weal, Jr., served as the chairman of the 2008 Legacy Hall of Fame Committee that included Sheila Davis, Martha Hopkins, Reginald C. Minus, Waynne Paskins, Aleatha H. Short (honorary) and Josephine Stevenson-Seals (co-chair).

The next Legacy Banquet and Hall of Fame Inductions will take place on Friday, Oct. 23, 2009. Nominations are currently being accepted. Nomination forms will be available online or by contacting the Office of Alumni Affairs. Completed nomination packages will be due April 30. For information, contact the Alumni Office at 302.857.6050.
Alum’s Book of Poetry Lands in Major Library Collections

Edward J. Scott (‘97) thought it was a pretty big deal last summer when his first published book of poetry was accepted into his alma mater’s William Jason Library. Little did he know that he was just getting started.

More than 10 university libraries—including Pennsylvania, Seton Hall, Georgia and the University of Delaware—have embraced Mr. Scott’s 51-poem book, The Midnight Window, and have added it to their collections. Another 25 universities and colleges are in the process of cataloging it into their collections.

Mr. Scott, a native of Sparta, GA, graduated from DSU with a BA in journalism. He said The Midnight Window offers an exploration of life experiences and emotions as it works to show how people are a fragment of their society.

“Just when you think everything is okay, life throws you a curve,” Mr. Scott said. “That’s what this book is about…being happy, being down, having hope, rising to the occasion. That’s what my life has been about.”

The Midnight Window can be ordered from online bookstores, such as Amazon.com, Borders, Barnes and Noble or through Authorhouse, the publisher of the book. It can also be ordered through any local bookstore.

Alum’s Social Documentary Debuts

William Haywood (‘08) gave a public screening of his first documentary film Oct. 30 before a packed audience at the Schwartz Center for the Arts in downtown Dover.

His film, From the Ground Up—One Woman’s Fight for Change, documents the story of the House of Pride, a residential drug and alcohol recovery community outreach program. Moreover, the documentary details the tenacity and perseverance of House of Pride founder Marion L. Harris. Her social service establishment has survived as a grassroots, community-based effort that has saved men’s lives and played a significant role in restoring a neighborhood from urban decay and decimation.

Mr. Haywood graduated in May 2008 with a BA in mass communications/television production. His documentary started as a senior project and he continued to develop it into a ready-for-primetime documentary. Mr. Haywood is now setting his sights on another documentary project: the 1968 demonstrations at Delaware State College.
Dr. Ulysses S. Washington Inducted into Public Service Hall of Fame

Dr. Ulysses S. Washington, retired former chair of the DSU Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, was recently inducted into the George Washington Carver Public Service Hall of Fame. The induction took place during the annual national Professional Agriculture Workers Conference at Tuskegee University in Alabama.

The award recognizes individuals whose public service mirrors the philosophy of the world-recognized scholar George Washington Carver.

Washington first came to DSU in 1949 as an assistant professor of agriculture education and farm machinery. In 1971 he was named department chair, a post he held for 20 years. He was the first federally-appointed extension administrator and research director at DSU. He championed federal legislation that preserved formula funding for research and extension programs at 1890 land-grant institutions.

Athletics Director Search in Full Swing

This fall the University began its search for a new athletics director to head the Department of Athletics. As part of the search effort, an athletics director search committee has been established to aid in the selection process and the position is being advertised nationally.

The eight-member search committee comprises representatives from the Department of Athletics, faculty, administrators and a DSU Board of Trustees member.

The University expects that a new athletics director will be hired sometime during the spring of 2009. For more information on the athletics director search process and the committee, visit the DSU Web site at: www.desu.edu/advancement/pr/press_release.php?article_id=489

Dr. Beaumont is NAEA Art Educator of the Year

The National Art Education Association has selected Dr. Hazel Bradshaw Beaumont, associate professor of art, as the eastern regional higher education Art Educator of the Year. She will receive the award during the NAEA annual convention April 17 to 21 in Minneapolis.

Beaumont has been a DSU art faculty member since 2004. She has a doctoral degree in art education from Ohio State University and is a native of Jamaica. In addition to teaching, she has authored and presented numerous papers on Caribbean art education and other art-related topics.

Dr. Michael Casson Named Interim Dean of Graduate Studies

College of Business faculty member Dr. Michael H. Casson has recently been appointed interim dean of the DSU Office of Graduate Studies, effective Feb. 1. He succeeds Dr. Beverly Hartline, who has resigned to pursue a new job elsewhere.

Casson, a seven-year faculty member at DSU, has been the interim associate dean of the College of Business since September. He has chaired the Department of Accounting, Economics and Finance and was an associate professor of economics.

Casson earned a Bachelor of Arts in economics from Florida A&M University, a master’s degree in economics from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a doctoral degree in agriculture and resource economics from the University of Connecticut.

The University will conduct a national search for a permanent dean of graduate studies.
Dear Fellow Alumni

On behalf of the officers of the national executive board, I extend warmest greetings to you.

“Getting back to basics” is the platform this administration is embracing. Our objective is to uphold and to advance the mission of the alumni association. There are three goals: 1) Reconnect with Delaware State University; 2) Reconnect with the students; and 3) Retool the image of the alumni association.

The adoption of a “getting back to basics” platform will enable the alumni association to focus its energies on fulfilling its primary function. Per its bylaws, the DSU Alumni Association exists “...to aid Delaware State University in making and maintaining an excellent accredited university; to assist in forming, fostering and carrying out the programs of growth, development, expansion and improvement for the University; to help students, ex-students of the University; and to unite all graduates and ex-students in a strong organization for their mutual educational, social and cultural well-being.”

With your help, we can and will fulfill our primary function and rise to the challenges that face our alma mater. Please continue to support the University with your gifts and become an active member of the DSU Alumni Association.

Best regards,

Deidre Ottley '90
President
DSU Alumni Association

**CONNECTICUT ALUMNI CHAPTER**

About 15 or so alumni and friends in the Connecticut area attended the DSU vs. UCONN men’s basketball game held in Storrs, CT, on Dec. 1, 2008. Among the Hornets’ supporters were Michael Bailey, Carla Y. Chappell-Hamm, Deborah Jordan-Harris, Carolyn G. Bentley-Hudson, Virgiree Moore, Ewing H. “Jesse” Watley and Roscoe Samuel. The Huskies ultimately defeated the Hornets; nevertheless, the group was able to demonstrate their support up close from their seats directly behind the DSU team bench.

**UPCOMING REUNIONS**

Class of 1959
Golden Anniversary Reunion on Alumni Weekend—May 16, 2009
Classmates may contact the Alumni Office, 302.857.6050

Class of 1969
40th Reunion during Homecoming 2009
Contact the Office of Alumni Affairs

Class of 1974
35th Reunion during Homecoming 2009
Class contacts: Grace Reaves Garrett, missann716@msn.com
Bernice Stewart, stewartlibby@yahoo.com and
Albert S. Weal, Jr., mastercook3@cox.net

**IN MEMORIAM**

This issue of The Echo is dedicated to Hattie Dabney Mishoe, a Delaware State College first lady and longtime supporter of the University. She was the widow of Dr. Luna I. Mishoe, who presided over the college 1960–1987. Mrs. Mishoe died on Mar. 17. The University family extends its heartfelt condolences to the Mishoe family.

In loving memory of Hattie Dabney Mishoe 1914 –2009

*Publisher’s note: Alumni and friends are invited to share personal stories of Mrs. Mishoe for inclusion in an upcoming issue of The Echo. Please contact Lorene Robinson, director of alumni affairs at lrobinson@desu.edu or 302.857.6050.

Harvey P. Shockley, former DSU purchasing director, passed away on Nov. 18, 2008, in Lincoln, DE.

David L. Magness, former DSU music instructor, passed away Nov. 21, 2008, in Dover, DE.

We sorrowfully acknowledge the deaths of the following alumni and offer our condolences to their families and friends:

Wallace B. Homier ‘61 …… May 23
Carl R. Boyd ‘90 ………… July 28
Denise L. Tadlock ‘93 …….. Aug. 5
Gail T. Sheeley-Harris ‘95 ….. Sept. 1
Thomas J. Smith ‘74 ……… Oct. 14

Robert J. Lewis, Sr. ‘80 ……… Dec. 7
Olive Wendell Casson ‘60 …… Jan. 8
Pritchett L. Layton ‘79 ……… Jan. 22
Alan K. Monroe ‘72 ……… Jan. 28

In the 2008 issue of the Report to Donors, the DSU Alumni Association was incorrectly recorded on page 20 (Honor Roll of Donors) as DSUAA National Chapter.

Please Note
A New Student Center Complex

DSU is in the midst of a three-phase building project that will dramatically connect student activities, providing the campus community with new fitness and weight-training facilities and a top-notch student union.

Phase I—A state-of-the-art Strength & Conditioning Facility
- Completed in October 2007
- Provides more than 300 DSU student athletes with a weight-training facility that rivals most Division I-A schools
- Includes new locker rooms for Hornet student athletes

Phase II—Wellness Center
- Commenced construction in August 2007; to be completed by spring of 2009
- To include basketball courts, fitness and weight-training areas, an elevated running track, swimming pool and office spaces

Phase III—Student Union
- Commenced construction in early 2008 with the demolition of the 40-year-old MLK Student Center; projected to be completed by the fall of 2009
- To include a club area with fast food eateries and seating for 200 that will accommodate evening entertainment events
- A large multipurpose room (larger than the previous MLK auditorium)
- A book store and convenience store, a lounge for commuter students and offices for student organizations and staff
2006
Takisha Robinson and Michael Ubia are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Saniya Rose on Oct. 6 at Holy Cross Hospital in Silver Spring, MD. Baby Saniya weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 inches long. Takisha is a special education teacher with Prince George’s County Public Schools (MD), while Michael is training to be a police officer with the Metro Transit Police Department in Washington, DC.

2004
Lateeia Wright, MSW, became program coordinator of the Children’s Choice office in Newark, DE, on Oct. 20. She will supervise clinical social workers and work with county child protection agencies to provide intensive counseling, training and monitoring for children who temporarily cannot live in their own homes and for their families. Children’s Choice is a private, not-for-profit child welfare agency that operates under contract with county and state child welfare divisions in Philadelphia, Delaware, Maryland and Washington, DC, to provide foster and kinship services to children who are neglected, abandoned or abused and to recruit and train foster families to care for 1,150 children. Wright earned both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work from DSU. Wright has served Children’s Choice clients since April 2005, when she began as a caseworker in Dover, DE. In March 2008, she was promoted to second in command of the Dover office.

2001
David Bernard Jr. advanced from assistant principal to interim principal of John L. McCollum Magnet High School in Little Rock, AR. Bernard received his Bachelor of Science in health and physical education from DSU, and he earned his Master of Education in school leadership from Wilmington University in 2004.

2000
Chase dental practice expands into two generations. Dr. Jamila K. Chase last year joined Chase Dental Practice in Leonardtown, MD, as a specialist in pediatric dentistry. The practice is owned by her father, Dr. Kenneth Bernard Chase ‘72. Her mother is alumna Audrey Skrine Chase ‘72.

1998
Doreen Scott-Baker and Andre Deshan Baker, of Dover, DE, celebrated their tenth wedding anniversary by renewing their vows in a service of re dedication to their marriage on July 26 at New Hope Pentecostal Church in Dover. Their pastor, Bishop Ralph Benson Sr., and first lady, Elder Marian Benson, officiated. Dorian and Dion Baker, sons of the couple, served as the best men. A beautiful reception took place at St. Andrew’s Great Hall in Dover, where Andre sang to his bride, and the couple shared an awesome pictorial DVD highlighting moments throughout their lives, complete with special words to one another. Mrs. Baker is the kindergarten teacher at DSU’s Early Childhood Lab School, and Mr. Baker is a security officer with DSU’s Public Safety Department. Doreen is the daughter of Ernest and Gloria Scott of Milford, DE, and Andre is the son of Robert Baker and the late Dolores Baker of Dover.

1997
Jo’Andrew Cousins, a DSU Airway Science graduate and currently a Coast Guard Lt. Commander, has been elevated to Aide de Camp for four-star Admiral Thad Allen. In the above photo, Cousins is shown at the inauguration of President Barack Obama, where the DSU alumnus accompanied the admiral.

1996
Kenya S. Avant has advanced to Assessment Specialist II after 18 months working at Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, NJ.

1995
Leland Nelson was a recipient of the Central Penn Business Journal’s 2008 “Forty Under 40” award on Oct. 23. The selection process was tough due to the estimated 225 nominations submitted from throughout central Pennsylvania. Leland posed for the magazine photo shoot “Hornet-style,” wearing a red-and-white Delaware State T-shirt. “My classmates’ patronage of my photography business (CMB) helped me to pay my way through school,” Leland writes. He also notes that alumni should always pay homage to the university that they call home. “This is just one way to say, ‘Thanks!’” he writes. Nelson, who holds a Bachelor of Science in accounting, is the president of Dirty Dog Hauling in Harrisburg, PA.

1994
James L. Moore III, PhD, received the National Association for Gifted Children’s 2008 Early Scholar Award. Honors took place on Oct. 31 at the 55th Annual NAGC Convention in Tampa, FL. Dr. Moore also did a concurrent session presentation titled, “Early Scholar Award” on Nov. 1. Updates on Dr. Moore’s work are available on his Web site: http://people.eoe.ohio-state.edu/mjmoore/

1991
Dawn Angelique Jones and Wayne E. Roberts married on Oct. 25 in Nassau, Bahamas. The couple were joined by 70 family members and friends at the British Colonial Hilton and exchanged vows on a private beach. The couple were high school friends in Philadel-phia. A native Philadelphian, Mrs. Roberts is co-founder and principal partner of KD Communications Group, a full-service communications firm with offices in Delaware, Maryland and Philadelphia. Mr. Roberts, a graduate of the Fox School of Business, Temple University, is the firm’s director of marketing. The couple resides in Middletown, DE.

1985
Jacqueline (Sutton) Hampton, EdD, successfully defended her study, “Looping vs. Non-Looping” in math and reading to increase state test scores. She will officially receive her doctorate in educational leadership from DSU in May. She earned her bachelor’s degree in home economics and special education from DSU and a master’s degree in special education from Wilmington University. She teaches special education at Postlewaite Middle School in Camden, DE, and resides in Dover with her husband Christopher (’90) and son Craig. Dr. Hampton is the daughter of Dr. Saunders Gibson Sutton (’86).

1980
Rev. Robert K. Freeman was named Pastor of the Year by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Illinois in October.

1963
Cecil C. Wilson, a civil-rights advocate and community leader, was elected president of the Delaware State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People during the NAACP’s convention on Nov. 15. He is a past president and current vice president of the Central Delaware Branch of the NAACP in Dover, DE. Wilson, whose career in education spanned nearly 50 years, retired as principal from Dover’s Capital School District. He also has been an adjunct professor at Delaware State University and at Wilmington University. In addition to a bachelor’s degree from DSU, Wilson holds a master’s degree from Salisbury State University and certification as an elementary school principal from the University of Delaware. In his newest post, Wilson will oversee the development and management of the Delaware branches of the NAACP. He invites inquiries via email at: w63sw130@qmail.com

1962
William Granville Jr. is the subject of an article in the October 2008 issue of Black Enterprise Magazine titled, “Black Wealth Initiatives: A Business Veteran Gives Back.” In the article, Dr. Granville offers sound financial planning and wealth-creation advice for youngsters, which includes a philosophy that as young people are educated about the acquisition and management of wealth, they become empowered to enjoy the benefits financial freedom brings. He also advocates that with wealth comes responsibility to give back to the community. Dr. Granville, a former Mobil executive, is the founder and CEO of The Granville Academy, an after-school program that focuses on financial and business education. The program has grown from one location to 10 campuses nationally since its inception in 1983 and serves more than 125 students at each location. Future expansion plans include the establishment of academies in England, Scotland and Africa.
The Approaching Storm Marching Band began as the State College Concert Band, a 10-piece musical group in 1902. It played music for the annual commencement exercises held on the porch of the Main College Building, which is now the historic Loockerman Hall. The band established music as a mainstay extracurricular pursuit for DSU students and has been a musical ambassador for the University, performing in concerts, in parades and at special events, including its first-ever presidential inauguration parade that followed the swearing-in of President Barack Obama in Washington, DC.

1955
Anita Watson Hammond was ordained in the Christian ministry on June 8 at the White Rock Baptist Church in Durham, NC, under the pastorate of Dr. Reginald Van Stephens. She preached her initial sermon on December 12, 2007. A native of Seaford, DE, Rev. Hammond has been a life member of the DSU National Alumni Association since 1985. She also has several charter memberships, including the Greater Washington, DC Alumni Chapter; the newly chartered Raleigh-Durham Chapter and the Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., with whom she recently celebrated the 50th year of the chapter’s existence on the DSU campus. She is currently assisting with pastoral care duties at her church and has a strong desire to pursue further study in the area of Christian liturgy and worship. Hammond earned a Bachelor of Science in elementary education from DSU, a master’s degree in education from Temple University, Philadelphia, and a Master of Divinity in theology from Shaw University Divinity School, Raleigh, NC. Hammond’s motto, from Psalm 16:11, is:

Thou will show me the path of life
In thy presence is the fullness of joy
At thy right hand are pleasures forevermore

1941
Lola Metcalf Tue was the guest of honor at a Jan. 17 farewell party at the Harvest Years Senior Center in Camden, DE. Tue, a long-time resident of Camden and a retired educator, is moving to Upper Marlboro, MD, to live with her godson. Her neighbors, friends and former students gathered to let her know how much they would miss her. Among those in attendance were DSU alums Delores and Donald Blakey.

Save These Dates

**APRIL 26, 2009**
New Castle County Alumni Chapter
Annual Scholarship Luncheon
Waterfall Banquet & Conference Center
Claymont, Delaware ■ 2 p.m.

*Contact: Ned W. Brown, Jr.*:
nedbrown01@comcast.net

**MAY 16-17, 2009**
Alumni Weekend
Annual Alumni Meeting
Class of 1959 50th Anniversary

**MAY 18, 2009**
Commencement

**JUNE 12, 2009**
14th Annual Hornet Golf Classic
Wild Quail Golf & Country Club
Wyoming, Delaware

**OCTOBER 23, 2009**
DSUAA 2009 Alumni Legacy Hall of Fame
Dover Downs Hotel and Casino
Dover, Delaware

**OCTOBER 24, 2009**
Homecoming