Kimberly Gladney ’98
cultivates a new generation of community string musicians

John Sell ’01 is Delaware’s State Teacher of the Year

Q&A with new Athletics Director Candy Young

• Ground broken for new optics research facility
• $10.5M grant funds Delaware Center for Neuroscience Research
Third year of enrollment growth another step in quest for excellence

Dear DSU alumni and friends,

As I am about to begin my fourth year as president of Delaware State University, it is my hope that you are as excited as I am about the growth that has continued to take place at your alma mater.

For the third consecutive year, DSU has experienced a record enrollment — 4,425. While that is a great indicator that DSU has become an increasingly premier education destination for more and more students, it also means that accommodations must be made to handle the present as well as future growth.

In the 1940s, the influx of World War II veterans into then-Delaware State College caused its enrollment to triple. Unfortunately, the College in those days did not have the resources to accommodate that growth, and many problems resulted that would have almost disastrous consequences for the institution.

From that sobering lesson in our history, it is therefore paramount that with our enrollment growth, there be corresponding growth in academics and infrastructure.

DSU is currently undertaking such planning, as a new Strategic Plan and Facilities Master Plan is being developed to govern the institution over the next decade. These plans will be intimately aligned with the DSU Vision Statement crafted in 2010.

I am adamantly serious in my stated goal for DSU to become the No. 1 HBCU in the country. Out of sound planning fueled by an unrelenting drive toward greater and greater excellence, it is my hope that alumni will not just simply be observers of DSU’s upward trajectory, but that you will focus your many forms of support to help us achieve unprecedented institutional greatness.

The Williams Family and the DSU family wish you a blessed holiday season and an outstanding 2013.

Dr. Harry Lee Williams
Based on DSU campus, joint venture with UD supported by school-record grant

Delaware State University has announced a five-year, $10.5 million research grant that will fund the establishment on campus of the Delaware Center for Neuroscience Research, a joint endeavor by DSU — the lead institution — and the University of Delaware.

The Center for Biomedical Research Excellence grant was awarded by the National Institutes of Health. DSU will receive $7.3 million and UD will get almost $3.2 million, barring any unexpected budget cuts over the five-year period.

At a media event, President Harry L. Williams, Dr. Noureddine Melikechi, dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology; and Dr. Melissa Harrington, principal investigator of the research grant and professor of neuroscience, were joined by the entire Delaware congressional delegation — U.S. Sens. Tom Carper and Chris Coons and U.S. Rep. John Carney — as well as by other state legislators, DSU supporters and University officials.

The Neuroscience Center will support cutting-edge scientific research on brain development and the neurobiology of learning, including the establishment of research projects of five investigators at DSU and UD. Four other faculty members will be supported with smaller pilot grants that will allow them to start up new research projects or take their current research in a new direction.

Williams said he is excited about the contributions this center will make toward producing the next generations of neuroscientists.

“This is an outstanding development for the state of Delaware, in that its two state universities have joined research forces to make toward producing the next generations of neuroscientists. Each member of the Congressional delegation viewed the grant as an outstanding accomplishment for DSU.

“This grant will help ensure that Delaware plays a leading role in scientific research and in mentoring bright young scientists. The future of our state — including our economy and the health of our citizens — will be powered forward by investments like this one. I congratulate DSU and UD on earning this exciting and competitive grant,” said Coons.

Harrington said the new center just makes formal something that has been developing for many years, as a core group of neuroscience faculty members have been meeting and collaborating across departmental and institutional boundaries for the last half decade.

“There is a big benefit to bringing researchers together to share scientific information, in that we learn from each other, share equipment and knowledge, and work together in ways that we would otherwise not be able,” she said. “One example of this collaboration is a course exchange program that allows neuroscience graduate students at each university to take classes at the other institution tuition-free.”

She also noted that the DSU neuroscience Ph.D. program has a biological focus, while the neuroscience Ph.D. program at the University of Delaware is in the Psychology Department and focuses on behavioral neuroscience.

“It benefits students of both universities to be able to draw on the specialized expertise available at each institution,” Harrington said. “We don’t compete; we complement.”

Dr. Jeff Rosen, UD professor of psychology, said the grant comes at a particularly opportune time as the neuroscience curriculum at UD is expanding and a health science complex on UD’s new Science, Technology, and Advanced Research Campus is becoming a reality.

“It will also help promote neuroscience research through CORRE-sponsored symposia and seminars where Delaware neuroscientists can learn first-hand about the latest breakthroughs,” Rosen said. “The CORRE award will help the UD and DSU neuroscience communities play a prominent, cooperative role in the expansion of basic and health-related neuroscience across the state of Delaware.”
The Buzz

Ground broken for new optics research facility

Delaware State University and Gov. Jack Markell launched DSU’s newest construction project during a groundbreaking ceremony for the future Optical Science Center for Applied Research (OSCAR) Building.

The four-story, 70,000 square foot building will be the new home of DSU’s prolific Optics Program, which since 2006 has been the recipient of $23 million in research grants, produced the University’s first two intellectual properties and is currently involved with NASA in its Mars Curiosity Rover mission.

President Harry L. Williams said the future OSCAR Building is reflective of the University’s current direction in striving to become the top historically black university in the country. “Our optics research has already distinguished itself as a stellar program, and it needs a facility that will not only adequately accommodate its current work, but also provide the infrastructure environment that will facilitate the future expansion of it,” Williams said.

The future building was made possible initially by the support of Gov. Markell, who earmarked $10 million in the fiscal 2012 budget for the project. “By investing in this project, we are investing in the future of our state,” said Markell. “Students are gaining the great potential to learn cutting-edge science and technology for the jobs of tomorrow. Strong universities will give us the educated workforce we need for the future, and further strengthen Delaware as an attractive place for innovative businesses.”

Markell added that the Delaware General Assembly also deserves credit for its support of the future building, as it approved the $10 million toward the project in the fiscal 2012 budget. Dr. Noureddine Melikechi, founder of the DSU Optics Program, said that science and innovation can and should work together for the benefit of all citizens, including Delawareans. He said the OSCAR Building will facilitate that.

“By investing the project, we are investing in the future of our state,” said Markell. “Students are gaining the great potential to learn cutting-edge science and technology for the jobs of tomorrow. Strong universities will give us the educated workforce we need for the future, and further strengthen Delaware as an attractive place for innovative businesses.”

Markell added that the Delaware General Assembly also deserves credit for its support of the future building, as it approved the $10 million toward the project in the fiscal 2012 budget.

Dr. Noureddine Melikechi said that the University has already taken the first steps in expanding the program.

“This building is an inspirational facility that allows world class scientists and innovators to create knowledge and technological products and train students in STEM fields that have a large impact on many aspects of life,” said Melikechi, who is also the dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology and vice president for research.

“The new building will provide the state-of-the-art facility that our premier scientists need to complement the research breakthrough capabilities they possess.”

President Harry L. Williams

The National Science Foundation’s Center for Research Excellence in Science and Technology has awarded Delaware State University a five-year, $5 million grant in support of DSU’s Optics Program.

The grant represents the NSF’s validation and financial renewal of DSU’s Center for Research Excellence in Optical Sciences and Applications (CREOSA) as a multidisciplinary program of research, education and outreach. It will fund CREOSA’s phase II work that will build on the accomplishments it has achieved over the previous half-decade.

With the NSF funding, CREOSA will move to the next level of excellence and national prominence in research and education in the optical sciences, said Dr. Noureddine Melikechi, dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology and vice president for research.

He added the funding is critical to the growth of DSU’s Optics Program and allows it to reach a point where it can be sustained.

“This grant provides mechanisms to inspire, encourage and train the next generation of optical scientists, and in particular students from underrepresented groups,” Melikechi said. “We will contribute to the growth of the ever-growing field of optics by performing cutting-edge research that has the potential for profound impact on human health through the development of novel nano-opto medical technologies that can be used to detect early signs of diseases.”

According to Melikechi, DSU optics scientists will focus on three interconnected areas during phase II:

- Spectroscopy and imaging of biomacromolecules in crowded and complex media
- Spin polarization in nanodiamond for nanoscale sensing and imaging
- Interactive data mining in experimental optics

“I am proud of DSU for receiving this funding, which will help to prepare a diverse student population to meet the global scientific and technological challenges of tomorrow,” said U.S. Sen. Tom Carper, who along with U.S. Sen. Chris Coons and U.S. Rep. John Carney worked with DSU on its application to the NSF. “DSU’s Optics program is vitally important because it is helping transform the University into a premier research institution.”

NEW OPTICS RESEARCH BUILDING: THE DETAILS

LOCATION: The Optical Science Center for Applied Research Building will be located next to the Village Café.

FIRST PHASE: The OSCAR Building will be constructed in three phases. The initial 27,000 square foot first phase will house state-of-the-art advanced optical research laboratories. A suite of shared laboratories will provide advanced technology testing and instrumentation to support a myriad of research needs. The OSCAR Building will provide for the full spectrum of research needs including wet chemistry, nanotechnology, conventional and confocal microscopy, scanning electronic and atomic force microscopy, as well as a complete image analysis suite.

COMPLETE BUILDING: Full 70,000 square foot building will add the capability of expanded optical laboratories, computational laboratories, class 100/1000 clean rooms, expanded office areas and a 150-seat auditorium-style classroom. In its design to promote scholarly interaction, interdisciplinary research and innovation, the building will also include open interaction spaces, meeting rooms and offices, a multipurpose meeting space and departmental offices.

GREEN QUALITIES: The building will be consistent with the University’s environmental stewardship efforts and its commitment to be a part of the Obama Administration’s Better Buildings Challenge. Toward those goals of sustainability, the OSCAR Building is designed to be cost-efficient in its long-term energy usage through the installation of radiant cooling and heating systems.

Above, from left, optics doctoral student Julie Sejouz, Provost Alton Thompson, President Harry L. Williams, Board of Trustees Chairman Claibourne Smith and Dean and Vice-President for Research Dr. Noureddine Melikechi take part in the symbolic groundbreaking for the future OSCAR Building.

Gov. Jack Markell said that the new OSCAR Building will be an investment in the future of the state.
On December 15, Delaware State University hosted its first-ever December Commencement, providing nearly 200 prospective graduates a chance to participate in a ceremony after the fall semester.

Keynote speaker the Rev. Ellis B. Louden, pastor of Mount Zion AME Church in Dover, addressed graduates in the ceremony at Memorial Hall Gymnasium. In the days prior to the event, President Dr. Harry L. Williams and Dr. Robin Williams hosted graduates in their home for a Senior Class Brunch, and the first lady also welcomed the women of the class for a Ladies Tea.

As the fall semester drew to a close, a few of the class members shared their thoughts with The Echo about what having a December Commencement ceremony meant to them:

**William Allen III**

Management

"Having a December Commencement is very exciting to me! This Commencement will give me the opportunity to become a part of history in a greater way and will allow me a head start, in the workforce, on the rest of the Class of 2013 that will graduate in May."

**Amy Cannon**

Natural Resources with a concentration in Environmental Science

"To me, being able to participate in the first-ever December Commencement means I'm making history. It means that all my hard work has finally paid off. But most importantly, it means I don't have to come back five months later just to walk across the stage!"

**Taysia C. Chatman**

Agriculture

"It is a wonderful, rewarding opportunity to celebrate my accomplishments and hard work without having to wait five more months. It took me so long to get here, and I am so grateful to all who have helped me along the way. Thank you to my family!"

**Trustee Emeritus Dr. A. Richard Barros’ 35 years of service recognized**

In 1977, Dr. A. Richard Barros chose one day he could fulfill his desire to help eliminate discrimination and prejudice would be to serve on the DSU Board of Trustees. He felt that then-Delaware State College was not being treated fairly and he could help reverse that trend.

Then-Sen. Pierre duPont took him at his word and appointed him to be on the DSU board. Barros recently ended his 3½-decade tenure on the board, which honored him by unanimously approving a resolution that elects him as trustee emeritus. The honor was bestowed on Barros during the board’s regular meeting in September, two weeks after he stepped down from his 35 years of service as a trustee as a result of term limits established this year by the board.

Dr. Claibourne D. Smith, board chairman, praised Barros for his outstanding service and noted that the trustee emeritus was particularly helpful to him over the years. “He was a personal mentor to me when I first came on the board,” Smith said. “His encouragement over the years helped keep my energy level very high in terms of work on the board."

Barros said it has been a pleasure to work with his fellow trustees, administrators, faculty, staff and students in the positive development of the institution.

“1 am so proud of where DSU is at this point,” he said. “We have accomplished a great deal, and I have never felt better about this University than I do now.”

During his tenure, Barros served as a board vice chairman, as a longtime chair of the Developments Policy Committee, and as a member of the Executive, Student Affairs and the former Trustees Faculty committees.

Among his many important contributions were his service on the Middle States Self-Study Committee and the writing of the self-study that led to the reaffirmation of the institution’s accreditation in 2002; his service as a member of three presidential search committees; and his 18 years on the University’s federally mandated Internal Review Board, which reviewed all of the institution’s research and studies to protect the welfare and treatment of research subjects.

Barros’ service extended to the classroom, where he served as an adjunct associate professor of aviation science. The University recognized his many contributions in 1991 by awarding him an honorary Doctor of Law.

Barros recently retired from a long and distinguished career as an attorney and lead partner in the law firm of Barns McNamara Malkiewicz & Taylor, PA.

Board of Trustees Vice Chairman David G. Turner presents a resolution to Dr. A. Richard Barros naming him a trustee emeritus.

**DSU now 13th in HBCU ranking**

Delaware State University has moved up to 13th among 80 Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the country in an annual ranking by U.S. News & World Report.

DSU was tied last year with South Carolina State University for 15th place and this year surpassed that school (the year 14th) as well as moved past Elizabeth City University, which dropped to a 20th tie with Morgan State University. Among Mid-Atlantic Region schools, DSU jumps Howard University (2nd), Hampton University (4th) and Morgan State (20th) that made the top 20 HBCUs in the 2013 ranking.

The HBCU rankings are based on the following categories to assess academic quality: assessment by administrators at peer institutions, retention of students, graduation rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources and alumni giving.

When U.S. News & World Report first published its HBCU ranking in 2008, DSU ranked No. 22, and then rose to No. 17 in 2009 and 2010, before rising to No. 15 last year.

Spelman College of Atlanta, Ga., is ranked as the No. 1 HBCU in the country by the magazine, a top distinction it has held since 2008. Spelman is followed by No. 2 Howard University and No. 3 Morehouse College.

President Harry L. Williams said the elevation of the University from 15th to 13th validates that DSU is moving in the right direction, but also challenges the institution to work hard to continue moving up in the rankings.

“The schools that are currently ahead of us are not doing anything that we aren’t capable of doing — and in many areas DSU is already accomplishing,” Williams said. “The University will continue to strive diligently to build on the great success of our recent reaffirmation of DSU’s accreditation and continue to make best practices the standard in carrying out our institutional mission.”

The DSU president added, “As DSU consistently does that, our rise in this HBCU ranking will continue.”

**Board of Trustees› Faculty committees.**

2012 Fall/Winter www.desu.edu

**H ave Y ou H eard?**

DSU enrollment record for third year

For the third consecutive year, DSU has broken its enrollment record with a fall semester 2012 total enrollment of 4,425 students — the first time the institution has gone over the 4,400 threshold.

The fall 2012 total surpasses the previous record of 4,176 set in fall 2011. The 2012 enrollment figures include a record 3,965 undergraduates and a record 470 graduate (master’s and doctoral) students. The University enrolled 1,041 new freshmen this fall, short of last year’s record of 1,085.

“As the number of students is going up, the quality of the students entering DSU — as indicated by their high school grade point average and their SAT reading and mathematics scores — are also higher than ever before,” said President Harry L. Williams.
University, Environmental Protection Agency formalize partnership for internships

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced a new partnership with Delaware State University that will strengthen the environmental sciences curriculum and professional development at the University, and support sustainable environmental initiatives campus-wide and in the local community.

At a ceremony, President Harry L. Williams and Mid-Atlantic EPA Regional Administrator Shawn M. Garvin signed a memorandum of understanding that establishes an EPA-founded program called LEAP — Linking Environmental and Academic Programs — at the University.

The partnership will:

• Support and promote student recruitment, internships, career development and employment in agricultural and environmental sciences, as well as related fields;
• Enhance faculty professional development in agricultural and environmental sciences, as well as related fields;
• Support the enhancement of DSU’s environmental sciences curriculum;
• Enhance the involvement in sustainable environmental initiatives on the DSU campus and surrounding off-campus communities;
• Support capacity building efforts directed to increase DSU’s participation in federal programs at the EPA;
• Coordinate summer environmental programs for local high school students and DSU students.

Dr. Eric Kmiec, third from left, stands with his DSU researchers, from left: research associates Bryan Strouse, Rohina Niamat and Pawel Bialk; post-doctorate researcher Dr. Dula Marc; and doctoral student Shani Samuel.

Biotech company OrphageniX receives Proudford award

OrphageniX, a biotechnology company based at DSU, was presented the Proudford Foundation Award for Research for its work in developing treatments for sickle cell disease. Dr. Eric Kmiec, chair of the Department of Chemistry and OrphageniX co-founder, accepted the award on behalf of the company’s research staff. The Proudford Foundation was established in the memory of DSU alumnus William E. Proudford, who passed away in 2004 at age 76 after a long and brave fight against sickle cell disease. Proudford graduated from then-Delaware State College with a bachelor’s degree in accounting in 1974.

Smiley, West make Poverty Tour 2.0 stop at Delaware State

It was an historic evening at DSU as the institution hosted a stop by noted TV and radio talk show personality Tavis Smiley, left, and eminent intellectual and author Dr. Cornel West, right, shown with President Harry L. Williams, who brought their Poverty Tour 2.0 to the campus in September. The event drew a crowd of about 1,700 to Memorial Hall Gymnasium.

President hosts reception honoring grant awardees

President Dr. Harry L. Williams and his wife, Dr. Robin Williams, hosted an October gathering at their residence of principal and co-principal investigators from DSU who combined in the last year to bring in a school record of more than $30 million in grants.

Have you been listening?

WDDE-FM begins NPR broadcast from DSU campus

“From Delaware State University, this is 91.1 WDDE, Dover!!!!!” Those words rang out at noon Friday, Aug. 17, as the first-ever Delaware-focused National Public Radio station was launched into the airwaves from its office on the DSU campus.

WDDE-FM is owned by Delaware First Media, the nonprofit company that operates the online multimedia news service DFM News. DSU and the University of Delaware joined DFM in the historic collaboration to launch WDDE-FM, which broadcasts into all three counties, serving a Delaware audience of more than 800,000 on-air and online listeners with nonpartisan local, national and international news.

Linking Environmental and Academic Programs — at the University.

For 2011-2012, the Delaware State University Foundation received more than 780 student applications for scholarship support. Through the generosity of alumni, faculty and staff and friends, 542 of those students were able to receive scholarships. But each year, more and more students are in need of financial assistance.

In 2013, the DSU Foundation will be gearing up again to begin the process of awarding scholarships so that students can return to continue their studies next year and realize their dreams.

Your financial support of the 2013 DSU Annual Giving Drive through the Foundation by June 30 will greatly assist our students in meeting their financial commitments and achieving a college education.

Whether it is helping a senior graduate or a freshman enter his or her sophomore year, every donation counts. Remember, to be counted, you must give through the DSU Foundation. DSU students thank you in advance for your generosity.

Make a difference ... BE COUNTED!
New dean to establish weight management strategy for Delaware

Dr. Frederick K. Asinor, who arrived as the dean of the College of Education, Health and Public Policy in August, is busy working toward a new health niche for the University.

The relatively new dean is now in the midst of plans to host a weight management conference at DSU on April 5-6 under the theme “Obesity Doesn’t Have to be a Delaware Epidemic.”

According to Asinor, Delaware is 13th in the country for obesity. He said the University plans to be in the forefront to reduce such weight challenges in the First State.

The conference — which is expected to attract a diverse mix of health care providers, researchers, administrators, pharmaceutical industry leaders and others — will end with the unveiling of plans to establish a Center for Weight Management Strategies at DSU.

He said the goals of the center will be to develop a public awareness campaign on preventing obesity through smart health choices and physical activity, empowering schools, municipalities and counties to educate families on how to raise healthier children, as well as increasing workplace awareness of obesity issues.

“It will be a research center, in which the findings will be used to educate the communities of Delaware,” Asinor said.

“The center will be public health-based and will involve all of the college’s departments (Nursing, Social Work, Education, Public and Allied Health), as well as the Cooperative Extension of the College of Agriculture and Related Sciences.”

Dr. Vincent Fondong receives $1 million research grant

Dr. Vincent N. Fondong, professor of biology, grew up working in cassava fields of his native Cameroon. Now, he has been awarded a $1 million competitive research grant to fight viruses that threaten that major food stable crop in Cameroon as well as in other parts of Africa and the Indian subcontinent.

Fondong, the principal investigator, was awarded the three-year grant from a partnership between the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the National Science Foundation. His project relates to one of the primary aims of the Gates Foundation — to enhance health care and reduce extreme poverty.

Cassava produces edible tuberous roots and is the third-largest source of carbohydrates in the tropical regions of the world. It is part of the diet of about 500 million people. Cassava yields around the world are reduced by plant viruses such as African cassava mosaic virus and the cassava brown streak virus.

In this research project, Fondong will genetically engineer cassava for resistance to these viruses.

Fondong’s cassava research took him this summer to Cameroon and Uganda in west and east Africa. “In Cameroon during this trip, I was able to isolate some of these viruses for my research,” Fondong said.

“Cameroon is a country where we are intensifying our efforts because it is a new hot spot for these viruses.”

Collaborating with Fondong are three co-principal investigators: Dr. Stephen Winter, German Collection of Microorganisms and Cell Culture, Braunschweig, Germany; Dr. Kone Mongamou, University of Abobo-Adjamé, Ivory Coast; and Dr. Dumar Dougnou, Institute of Agriculture Research for Development, Cameroon.

“Our mandate is to come up with a solution for the whole of Africa that could also be applied to the Indian subcontinent and Latin America,” said Fondong, who has been a DSU faculty member since 2002.

Dr. Teresa Hardee is new vice president of finance

In her new post, Dr. Teresa Hardee oversees and manages the day-to-day fiscal operations of the University, including budget, payroll, accounting, accounts payable/receivable, purchasing, contracting, fiscal planning, banking, investment reporting, procurement, cash management, housekeeping, maintenance, deferred maintenance and facilities. Hardee served the last five years as the chief financial officer and vice president for Administrative and Financial Services at Florida A&M University.

ON THE BOOKSHELF: Dr. Victor N. Gomia, an assistant professor of English, has published a new book titled Mobilizing the Hardee: Radio Drama as Development Theater in Sub-Saharan Africa.
An Alumni Band joined forces with the Approaching Storm Marching Band to perform during Homecoming.

Ukee Washington, above, news anchor of CBS3/CW PHILLY (KYW-TV) and son of longtime Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources chair Dr. Ulysses S. Washington, helped to lead the combined show.

President Harry L. Williams and his son, Austin, walk along the Homecoming Parade route in downtown Dover.

It was a beautiful fall Saturday for Delaware State University’s downtown Dover Homecoming parade and football victory over North Carolina A&T at Alumni Stadium.

Left: Grand Marshal Mable Morrison participates in the coin toss before the game.

Homecoming Week kicked off with the coronation of Eric Brown Jr., right, and Jamiesa McDonald as the 2012-13 Mr. and Miss DSU. The theme for this year’s Coronation Ceremony was “Harlem Nights.”
Master’s degree graduate John Sell ’01 has made his mark among First State educators as he has been named Delaware’s 2012 State Teacher of the Year.

As the top teacher in the state, he will go on to represent Delaware in the National Teacher of the Year competition.

Sell has become known as a trailblazer for using the latest technology resources at Sussex Technical High School in Georgetown, where he serves as a 10th and 11th grade English teacher.

Instead of his students being hunched over paper and pen when it is time to do an assignment, quiz or test, they utilize iPads to enter their answers. Sell also makes good use of appropriate MacBooks and Windows-based laptops in his classroom.

The DSU alumnus connects his students with Internet databases such as QuizStar, Quizlet, Socrative and others so that they can practice for quizzes and tests, and also work on writing assignments both in school and at home. He has also given students access to powerful word processing tools online.

“I have taken the time to set up student email accounts for all my students and have linked their email accounts to their individual school data drives so that they can access all their school materials from any computer at any time,” Sell said. “The technology has made accessing files and communicating with me very seamless, and it has made life much better and more efficient for both students and me.”
I was fortunate to have some outstanding professors at DSU. Their instruction helped me understand better how to stand and deliver. DSU also gave me more depth in the area of multicultural education.

John Sell ’01

A 23-year teacher from Leamersville, Pa., Sell began his education career at Caesar Rodney High School in Camden, Del., where he taught for 11 years. He has been at Sussex Tech since 2001. In between, Sell earned a master’s degree in Curriculum and Instruction from DSU, which he said has helped him become a seasoned educator.

“I was fortunate to have some outstanding professors at DSU,” Sell said. “Their instruction helped me understand better how to stand and deliver. DSU also gave me more depth in the area of multicultural education.”

He noted that continuing his education sets a good example for his students.

“If you are going to preach the value of education, you have to practice what you preach,” Sell said. He added that he is now working on a doctorate degree through an accredited online program.

“I just enjoy being a teacher”

Sell has two core priorities as an educator — to be engaging and to be accessible 24/7.

He said to be engaging is to be himself in front of his students.

“You have to be authentic; it has to come for a real place,” Sell said. “Students are savvy, and if you not being authentic, they will see right through that.”

Sell combines a commanding voice, technology and relevant subject material that relates to current affairs such as Hurricane Sandy; the mass media and the presidential race to help keep his students engaged.

He also uses a smart phone to stay connected to his students.

“It is not unusual for me to be walking, through a Target store and a student will text or email about an assignment,” he said.

With two decades-plus as an educator, Sell said he often gets to see the fruits of his teaching when he finds out how his former students have progressed in life.

“Amber Augustus, who was a student of mine at Caesar Rodney, was the Teacher of the Year for the Smyrna School District last year,” Sell said. “When I was selected by Sussex Tech, I called her up to find out how the state Teacher of the Year process worked.”

Dr. John L. Demby, Sussex Tech principal (who also earned a master’s degree in Special Education from DSU), said administrators and peers at the school were not surprised by Sells state recognition.

“We felt he was doing 21st century teaching in the classroom and had a good chance to win at the state level,” said Dr. John L. Demby, principal of Sussex Technical High School in Georgetown, Del., left, of John Sell. Demby is also a DSU alumnus.

Left: Students in Sell’s 10th and 11th grade English classes use iPads and laptops in the classroom, as well as other technology.

4th in the state on SAT exams and that Sells students performed well on the test. The principal said that Sell was moved from teaching 11th and 12th graders to 10th and 11th grade to optimize student preparations.

“We put our best foot forward with John Sell,” Demby said. “The state’s Comprehensive Assessment System now tests the kids with computers, and in John’s class, his students are going through game-like conditions daily through his use of technology.”

Teaching excellence has become a standard in Sells family. His wife Michelle Sell — who also earned a master’s degree from DSU in Curriculum and Instruction — was the 2008-2009 Teacher of the Year from Pocomoke Middle School in the Caesar Rodney School District.

Sells connection to DSU is not only as an alumnus. He also teaches Composition I for DSU at Sussex County locations in Georgetown.

“I just enjoy being a teacher,” Sell said.

“For me, the best part of teaching is to have my students see right through that.”

The Delaware State News, Fall/Winter 2012
It was a musical act unlike any that had been previously heard in the 22-year history of the African-American Festival in Dover.

In a fresh departure from the standard live gospel/R&B/Jazz/Africana music typically performed during the annual summer event, an ensemble of eight string musicians lifted a refreshing classical fusion of violins, violas and cellos over the outdoor crowd.

The group was led by their director, teacher and DSU alumna Kimberly B. Gladney ’98.

In her own true-life version of the 1999 Meryl Streep movie Music of the Heart, Gladney is raising a Dover-grown generation of string musicians at the local Kirkwood Community Center.

After years of teaching music in the public school system, Gladney has now freed herself to focus on her priorities — to be a mother to her 12-year-old son Eldré and to develop young string musicians who are passionate about their instruments.

Her son has sickle cell disease. For that reason, she stays close to him, especially now that she is no longer teaching. And Eldré has also developed as large a passion for music as his mother.

Throughout her life, Gladney’s principal instruments have been piano, violin and clarinet. But she has also gained experience and performed on viola, cello, bass, alto sax, oboe, drums and trumpet.

Her son has also become a multi-instrumentalist. He plays violin, viola, cello, guitar, bass, piano, drums, trumpet and ukulele.

While DSU can take a healthy amount of the music credit for Gladney’s development, the beginning of her musical roots took place in “Motown” — Detroit, Mich.

Musical Beginnings

Young Kimberly immersed herself in music activities as a child. By the time she was a senior band captain and clarinet leader for her Henry Ford High School Band, she had drawn the attention of Randolph Johnson, current DSU director of bands, who was recruiting in Detroit while DSU played in the Detroit Classic in 1992.

“She was a little bitty young lady, and talent was just busting out of her,” Johnson said.

In coming to Delaware, Gladney not only gained a university home. “(Mr. Johnson) was like a father to me; he always had my back,” she said, noting that he filled an important emotional void.

Up to that time, her real father, Cecil Pruitt, had not been a constant presence in her life.

Gladney attended DSU at a musically bountiful time, as there were other gifted student-musicians who had come over from Detroit as well. It was also at the time that several DSU students — Carlton “Butch” Cannon, Nelson Render and Trendle Thomas — were playing with local musician Al Holmes as Three Guys So Far, a prominent jazz band that performed throughout Delaware in the mid-1990s.

“We had a very talented group at the time; we all just loved music,” Gladney said. “The band room was like our other
dormitory, where we practiced and learned from each other.”

She noted that Johnson was a “strong disciplinarian,” and she said that helped her and others learn the proper band etiquette that would benefit them later as music teachers and performers. She also credited Dr. Yvonne Johnson, currently an associate professor of music, for developing her as a teacher.

“She worked her way up to being a band captain, in which she had the responsibility of rehearsing the band and being their spokesperson,” Johnson said. “She also wrote and arranged music for the band.”

**Teaching career**

Gladney was way ahead of the DSU vision statement created in 2010: While student teaching in the fall of 1997, she became a “first choice” of Dover’s Capital School District. With the sudden departure of a music teacher at William Henry Middle School, the district hired Gladney in January 1998 — several months before she graduated.

“It was perfect timing, because my mother (Bernice Gladney) had just been placed in a Detroit shelter, and I almost quit school because of it,” Gladney said. “My mother told me that she was alright and that I needed to finish school.”

She recalled that during her senior recital, because her mother could not travel from Detroit, she put a photo of her on the stand that held her music.

“It was like she was there,” she said. The new job enabled her to move her mother from Detroit to Dover. Gladney would go on to work in the Capital School District for 14 years. Her teaching of general music that began at William Henry Middle School would also expand to Central Dover Middle School and Dover High School. During those Capital School District years, her son Eldré was born and her mother cared for him while Gladney worked.

In 2010, her mother passed away, and Gladney had to find someone to care for her son, who continued to have medical challenges from his sickle cell disease.

“It was time to do what I was created to do and to have the freedom to do it,” Gladney said. “And my son comes first, and he has been healthier since I left the district, with less episodes and hospitalizations.”

And so Gladney began teaching strings at the Kirkwood Community Center in Dover. Under her tutelage, her students benefit from what she calls her “producer anointing” and special attention.

“Concerns for her son and her growing unfulfillment as a public school music teacher led her to leave the district in 2012.”

In addition to teaching, Gladney is also a thespian who recently had a role in the movie “God’s Amazing Grace” which was shot in the Dover area by Calvary Pictures. She is also an author who has written the book *God’s Will vs. Our Will*, which is available at Amazon.com, and has her own ministry video blog — womanofvirtue75 — on YouTube.

“Many have potential, but many do not experience the realization of their potential,” Johnson said. “(Ms. Gladney) has exceeded all of my expectations of her.”
Participating in interviews about how DSU shaped their lives and careers, several alumni shared their stories with the students of tomorrow.

Here, meet the six alumni who prospective students are getting to know in this year’s Undergraduate Viewbook.

"Having graduates talk to students is the most believable way to promote DSU. The success of our graduates is the best information our prospective students can receive — they will know that DSU can help them become successful," according to Stacey Baron Colton, director of Integrated Marketing.

Online, read more of the interviews about the featured alums’ academic journeys and memories of Delaware State by visiting desu.edu/qr/testimonial.
Mary Elizabeth Richardson ’39: Alumna shared love of education, Delaware State with her family

Family members, friends and many former students gathered in August to celebrate the life of Mary Elizabeth Richardson and to recall her devotion to the teaching profession. A graduate of both the Delaware State College Laboratory High School, Class of 1935, and Delaware State College, Class of 1939, her love for her alma mater and the premium she placed on education helped lead 11 of her family members to attend and graduate from Delaware State. That included her brother Lycurgus (1949), six nieces, Juanita Gills Wright (1972), Barbara Gills Wright (1972 and 1984), Cheritta Gills Marvel (1973), Veronica Gills Haman (1973) and Patricia Gills Clifton (1963), three great-nieces, Lakeisha Gills (2004), Sherrena Marvel (2004) and Shakarta Logan (2005 and 2007), and a great-nephew, Aron Wright (1968).

Richardson — who passed away Aug. 1, 2012, at age 95 — didn’t have any children of her own, but nevertheless she impacted the lives of her family, as well as hundreds of children, as a teacher, Sunday school teacher and outstanding community member.

Teaching career

After earning a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education at DSC, Richardson would begin her teaching career at the segregated Ross Point Elementary School near Laurel, Del. She would later take a teaching job in Delaware’s Smyrna School District in 1946, where she would teach for 36 years until her retirement in 1982. Along the way, she also earned a Master of Arts in Education from New York University.

Juanita Gills Wright said her aunt not only encouraged many family members to get a college education, she also taught many of them during her years as a teacher at the segregated Thomas D. Clayton School and later at Smyrna Elementary School, both in the Smyrna School District.

“She always told her nieces and nephews that she taught not to call her ‘Aunt Lab’ in class, but to instead refer to her as ‘Mrs. Richardson,’” Wright said. “She also had a way disciplining without shouting. She would always get her point across, but in a tactful manner. I never saw her angry.”

In addition to her public school teaching, she also positively impacted many children and adults as a Sunday school leader for many years at Centennial United Methodist Church in Smyrna.

“She was a loving and caring person, not just with her family, but with others as well,” Wright said. “She left strongly about education, and stressed reading a lot.”

Richardson — who was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Dick Richardson — was a longtime active member of the DSU Alumni Association and its Kent County chapter.

“She was a great promoter of DSU and its purpose. She regularly went to Hornet football games until she was in her 80s.”

Career teacher’s brother, 10 nieces and nephews are also graduates

Career teacher’s brother, 10 nieces and nephews are also graduates

A s children, we all aspire to be someone of inspiration, admiration and talent. This was no different for songstress Jenee Gueh ’12, a Baltimore native whose performance name is Wisdom Bayou. Growing up, Gueh had dreams of being a basketball player, and she did just that until one day her youth pastor prayed for her, asking that God bring the gift out in her. She believed her youth pastor was talking about basketball, but little did she know she was in for a surprise. In the middle of that dark night 13 years ago, she awoke with a song in her heart, and in that moment knew singing was what she wanted to do. Since then, she has opened for major artists such as Denick Haddon, Donnie McClurkin, Stacey LaTissaw and Kirk Sheard.

What she’s doing now:

Gueh graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Music Industry; currently, she’s working in the studio to complete her album of original material and a mix of neo-soul, rock and inspirational tunes. A single, “My Heart is in Your Hand,” will release on New Year’s Eve. The complete album will be out in spring 2013.

Role of DSU in her career:

While attending DSU, Gueh majored in music to learn more about the business side of the industry as well as get the chance to enhance her craft. When she began learning about the industry, she wasn’t aware of all the people she needed in order to make up her team, like a PR person, a sound engineer, a marketing strategist, a personal manager and so many other participants who make up the branding of an artist. Overall, Gueh said her experience at DSU made her a better artist and also gave her the freedom to express herself. “They were so supportive and continue to be even now that I have graduated... I don’t have a negative thing to say about Delaware State;” she said about her alma mater.

“You can be even now that I have graduated... I don’t have a negative thing to say about Delaware State;” she said about her alma mater.

Where she gets her inspiration:

Song writing is very important for any artist, but luckily songs naturally came to Gueh, just like the night she discovered she wanted to pursue music full time. An inspirational gospel singer, Gueh is the writer and creative force behind her songs. She says all she needs to do is sit in her “jukebox,” her car, as she drives in silence and in a complete state of thought. “It’s best when she’s not listening to anything so that the music can flow through her hands and on to the paper.”

Advice for students looking to get into the music business:

“I tell anyone looking to get into the music industry, you must first know that this is something you are dedicated to and willing to sacrifice for. Count up the cost and be sure that this is truly your calling. Then, connect with people who are in industry through mentorship. People in this industry respect you more when you recognize their talent, hard work and experience. Honor others, and they will honor you,” she said.

Favorite DSU memory:

Gueh fondly remembers traveling with the DSU Concert Choir under the baton of Dr. Curtis Everett Powell. “We traveled all over the USA, and it was absolutely remarkable to see so many people, from so many walks of life, enjoy negro spirituals,” she said. Visiting New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina and assisting with reconstructing homes in the Ninth Ward is also a memory that Gueh keeps close to her heart. “It was such a life-changing experience that I would begin to work on reorganizing and assisting with organizing and helping promote education statewide and abroad. My website will always showcase the latest mission opportunity I am involved in,” she said.

Giving back to the community:

In addition to her music and family, giving back to the community is something Gueh is also very passionate about. “I want to teach math, start academic clubs. I grew up in the hood; I want to go back there and help nurture dreams of others. Yes, people say it is a lot of work, but everything we do is work, it just becomes ‘a lot’ as they would say because it is for other people and not ourselves,” she said.

To learn more about music by Wisdom Bayou, visit www.wisdombayou.com.

YOU COULD BE FEATURED NEXT

Do you have an interesting career, endeavor or undertaking? Share your story with us at alumni@desu.edu to be considered for a future Q&A profile.
Class of 1967 hosts 45th reunion at Homecoming

Memories of the day

“We won our 45th year Homecoming game. Sitting together and cheering for our team and the year 1967 when it was announced caused each of us to have reasons to shout. We are so proud to say we graduated from DSC (now DSU).”

Mary M. Jackson Dungee

“(I) had a wonderful time reminiscing with classmates, enjoyed the game and the band especially as a former band member — just an overall great Homecoming. Del State is an excellent University that anyone would be proud to attend.”

Pat Lawson

The Echo

DSU Alumni Association Recording

Giving to DSU

Delta Sigma Theta wins first-ever Divine 9 event for student scholarships

Delta Sigma Theta came out on top as the winner in DSU’s first-ever Divine 9 Challenge, which engaged fraternities and sororities in a friendly competition to raise scholarship dollars for students. The ladies of Delta Sigma Theta received the most votes in the online-based challenge and raised the highest dollar amount — $1,505.

The online voting and giving took place from Oct. 12-18. The overall challenge — produced by the Division of Institutional Advancement’s Office of Development — raised a total of $3,580 and attracted 42 first-time donors to the University. Alpha Kappa Alpha came in second place and Kappa Alpha Psi came in third in the Divine 9 Challenge.

In addition to being recognized by President Harry L. Williams at the Homecoming football game in October, Delta Sigma Theta also received special recognition during the President’s Scholarship Ball in December.

Fraternities, sororities raise $3,580 in online challenge

Delta Sigma Theta won first-ever Divine 9 event

The Robert K. Watts Trust of the state of New York has made a $10,000 donation to go toward the DSU Alumni Association’s Legacy Scholarship Golf Outing. Before the donation, the DSU Alumni Association’s Legacy Scholarship Golf Outing had attracted 42 first-time donors to the University.

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President’s Prayer Breakfast brings community together to kick off academic year

More than 10 churches were represented at the second annual President’s Prayer Breakfast, themed “Faith, Family, Friends: Bridging Our Communities,” a sold-out event in September that drew almost 400 attendees in an inspiring start of the 2012-13 academic year. The annual event is produced by the Division of Institutional Advancement’s Office of Development.

The Rev. Rita Misheo Paige, daughter of former DSU President the late Dr. Laura I. Misheo, pastor of Star Hill AME Church in Star Hill, Del., and chaplain of the DSU Department of Public Safety, was the event’s guest speaker. Paige shared personal achievements of numerous prominent DSU alumni and also enlightened guests with a heartwarming account of her early years growing up on the then-Delaware State College campus.

Recording artist Tammy Troux, music director of The Pentecostals of Dover, performed with the DSU Faculty/Staff and Student Gospel choirs and also offered a solo rendition.

At this ecumenical event, a series of prayers were rendered: a prayer for DSU by Dr. Allen Thompson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; a prayer for friendship by the Rev. Lunnie Rector, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church in Wilmington, Del.; a prayer for faith by Herb Konowitz, president of Congregation Beth Shalom in Dover; a prayer for families by the Rev. Dr. Natalie Afford, pastor of Trinity AME Church in Middletown, Del.; and a prayer for community by the Rev. Roland Koons, pastor of Calvary Assembly of God in Dover. Other pastors in the program included the Rev. Ennio Zaragoza, pastor of Maranatha Christian Church, and the Rev. Ellis Leonden, pastor of Mount Zion AME Church in Dover.


The presentation was made to President Harry L. Williams by John J. Allen, vice president of Delaware State University. Delaware Power through the Delmarva Scholarship Golf Classic presented the University with a gift of $15,000 toward the December 2013 President’s Scholarship Ball.

In a demonstration of its continued financial support to Delaware State University, Delmarva Power through the Delmarva Scholarship Golf Classic presented the University with a gift of $15,000 toward the December President’s Scholarship Ball.

The presentation was made to President Harry L. Williams by John J. Allen, vice president of Delaware State University. Delaware Power has been a strong supporter of DSU since 1986; during that period the electric provider has donated just over $45,000 that has gone toward financial support for the School of Management (now the College of Business), the Wellness & Recreation Center and scholarships.

Inclusive in that total donation figure is the electric provider’s 2002 establishment of the Delmarva Scholarship Classic Foundation which created the Delmarva Power Endowed Scholarship; the current market value of that endowment fund is just over $257,000.

Explorer’s Club helps youths improve math and science skills

Delaware State University has received a $75,000 grant from the American Honda Foundation to create the Explorer’s Club program for the 2012-2013 academic year.

The Explorer’s Club involves two organizations — DSU and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Delaware. The program provides resources to offer an after school and summer learning experience for kindergartners through seventh grade students attending elementary and middle schools in the Capita School District in Kent County. Del. Through a partnership, the Boys & Girls Club maintains a site based on the Delaware State University main campus.

The Explorer’s Club is a project-based, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math)-directed and evidence-based program specifically designed to increase math and science skills. The target population is youths ages 6-12 who are enrolled in the Boys & Girls Club satellite site at DSU and have scored below standard in mathematics and science on the DSTP test. The program aims to achieve academic improvement, school connectedness and assist students to become productive adults.

The project-based learning curriculum, created by DSU professors, promotes hands-on, relevant activities and experiences. In addition, it emphasizes higher order thinking skills, which deepens students’ understanding of the lessons.

The program takes place after school twice weekly for seven weeks. In addition, summer activities will be held twice weekly for six weeks.

The program is administered by Dr. Ana-Rita Mayol, director of Special Programs, College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology, and Dr. Nirmaljit Rathi, assistant professor, College of Education, Health and Public Policy.

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Grant from American Honda Foundation funds program at on-campus Boys & Girls Club site

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DSU’s first female AD aims to grow a ‘competitive, intellectual environment’

Candy Young was appointed as Delaware State University’s new athletics director in August. The University’s first female athletics director, Young assumed the post after serving the previous seven months as interim senior associate athletics director. In addition, she was senior woman administrator for athletics since September 2007.

Young first came to DSU in 2006 as the head women’s track and cross country coach, a post she served until 2010. She was the acting athletics director for the University from March to May 2009. Prior to her arrival at Delaware State, Young was an assistant men’s and women’s track coach at California State University, the University of Pittsburgh, The Ohio State University and Seton Hall University from 1992 to 2006. During her 1989-92 stint with Seton Hall, the women’s track team was the Big East Champions in 1992-93. She also served as the head coach of the USA World University team in 1997.

As a high school track star in 1979, Young set a world record in the indoor 55-meter hurdles. That year, she also broke the Junior World record for the 100-meter hurdles. She still holds the American record of 12.94 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles and is the only high schooler to run under 13 seconds in the event. In 1980, she earned a spot on the U.S. Olympic 100-meter hurdle team, only to be robbed of the chance to compete by the U.S. Olympic boycott of the Olympics that year in protest of the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan. She would go on to compete for Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, N.J., where she was an eight-time All-Big East Champion in 1992-93. She also served as the head coach of the USA World University team in 1997.

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How did you feel being named the first female athletics director at Delaware State University?

This was among my lifetime highlights. This opportunity matched the race of my life, breaking a world record in Madison Square Garden with 20,000 people watching! I felt like I was walking on air. This position means that event. This administrative role has carved a path in history that has life-changing implications for many young women.

What have your top priorities been as AD?

Creating a positive work environment was my top priority. My second priority was showing support to all of the administrative, coaching and student-athlete areas by creating a team of unity. My mother is a gardener, and I learned that pruning, clearing weeds and nurturing helps the garden grow. My priority is to grow the athletic garden of this institution under the guidance of our president, Dr. Harry L. Williams.

What role will athletics play as DSU grows in stature in the state and region?

The athletics department serves many roles in the advancement of this institution and state. The current graduation rate in athletics continues to grow, which increases the opportunities for DSU graduates to be productive beyond the state and region. The athletics department is involved in many community service programs. Our students, coaches and administrators serve as ambassadors for Delaware State University throughout our travels. We also remind people to slow down, watch as compete and enjoy the entertainment side of life! We create an appropriate release for our student population.

Funding for collegiate athletics can be difficult during this economic climate; how will you continue those efforts?

The University team is working with athletics to help target revenue-generating resources to help maintain and sustain athletics. Athletics will remain a strong force in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) and beyond. We will continue ongoing financial efforts to promote student success. The University as a whole recognizes the economic climate; our board, president, administrative council and faculty are strategically planning to financially grow institutional support.

What role can DSU alumni and supporters play to help support the athletics program?

We look forward to engaging the alumni, boosters, family and friends in helping DSU reach MEAC and other conference championships and beyond. We need their resources to continue to advance the tradition of this institution.

What’s your advice to middle and high school students (and their parents) when considering a future in collegiate athletics?

A future in athletics can be a life change. I have traveled all over the world and made a career out of my passion. Athletics was the center of these opportunities. Athletics provided academics, diversity, enrichment, discipline and character. What gives you the most hope, and most concern, about the future of DSU athletics?

My hope is that our students will be productive in this economic climate. DSU athletics will continue to create a competitive, intellectual environment.

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**HORNET BASKETBALL**

Experience the pride

**January, February and March schedule of games:**

**MEN’S GAMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Jan. 2</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>Huntington, W.Va.</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 5</td>
<td>Arkansas</td>
<td>Fayetteville, Ark.</td>
<td>8 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 19</td>
<td>UMES*</td>
<td>Princess Anne, Md.</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed., Jan. 23</td>
<td>HOWARD*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
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<td>Sat., Jan. 26</td>
<td>Bethune-Cookman*</td>
<td>Daytona Beach, Fla.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Jan. 28</td>
<td>Florida A&amp;M*</td>
<td>Tallahassee, Fla.</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 2</td>
<td>NO. CAROLINA CENTRAL*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 4</td>
<td>NO. CAROLINA A&amp;T*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 9</td>
<td>Norfolk State*</td>
<td>Norfolk, Va.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 11</td>
<td>Hampton*</td>
<td>Hampton, Va.</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 16</td>
<td>COPPIN STATE*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 18</td>
<td>MORGAN STATE*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 23</td>
<td>NORFOLK STATE*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>4 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 25</td>
<td>HAMPTON*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., March 2</td>
<td>Howard*</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., March 4</td>
<td>Morgan State*</td>
<td>Baltimore, Md.</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu., March 7</td>
<td>South Carolina State*</td>
<td>Orangeburg, S.C.</td>
<td>7:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WOMEN’S GAMES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 5</td>
<td>Houston Baptist</td>
<td>Houston, Texas</td>
<td>8 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jan. 6</td>
<td>Houston</td>
<td>Houston, Texas</td>
<td>3 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jan. 14</td>
<td>WESLEY</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 19</td>
<td>UMES*</td>
<td>Princess Anne, Md.</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Jan. 26</td>
<td>Bethune-Cookman*</td>
<td>Daytona Beach, Fla.</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jan. 28</td>
<td>Florida A&amp;M*</td>
<td>Tallahassee, Fla.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., Feb. 2</td>
<td>NO. CAROLINA CENTRAL*</td>
<td>HOME</td>
<td>2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 4</td>
<td>NO. CAROLINA A&amp;T*</td>
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**2013 MEAC TOURNAMENT**

March 11-16
in Norfolk, Va.
Norfolk Scope Arena

**ANNUAL ALUMNI DAY BASKETBALL GAME**

Saturday, Feb. 23

Discounted tickets are $8 for DSU Alumni Association members who show their 2012-2013 membership cards at the ticket window.

**2013 membership cards at the ticket window.**

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**Poll predicts 2nd place MEAC finish for men**

Delaware State University has been picked to finish second in the 2012-13 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) men’s basketball regular season race, according to a preseason poll of league head coaches and sports information representatives.

The Hornets received one of 26 first place votes and 255 total points. Savannah State is the favorite of voters to repeat as MEAC regular season champs. The Tigers collected 24 first place votes and 616 points.

Delaware State was third in the MEAC with a 12-4 league record (15-14 overall) last season. Savannah State claimed the 2011-12 regular season title with a 14-2 mark in the conference. Incidentally Delaware State and Savannah State are not scheduled to meet during the 2012-13 regular season.

The Hornets receive 2nd place MEAC finish for men.

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**11 inducted into Hall of Fame**

Delaware State University’s Athletics Hall of Fame inducted 11 former athletes into its 2012-13 preseason All-MEAC Second Team.

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**Women’s Alumni Recognition**

The university’s Athletics Hall of Fame inducted 11 former athletes into its 2012-13 preseason All-MEAC Second Team.

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**Soccer’s Addison named to All-Great West Conference First Team**

For the first time in school history, a DSU women’s soccer player has earned All-Great West Conference First Team honors.

Freshman forward Taylor Addison was recognized by the league at the annual post-season banquet. In her first season with the Hornets, Addison was tops on the team with four goals, tying for second on the team’s single-season list and tied for eighth all-time at DSU. Additionally, she led the team with eight points, tying for fifth in a season with the Hornets and fifth in the Great West Conference this year.

The soccer team was 2-3 in the Great West Conference this season (3-11-1 overall), the most losses wins in the team’s four-year history in the league.

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**Women’s Alumni Recognition**

The university’s Athletics Hall of Fame inducted 11 former athletes into its 2012-13 preseason All-MEAC First Team.

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**DSU Hornets Pride Center**

Food, giveaways and more!

Friday, March 15
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Norfolk Plaza Hotel Downtown
700 Monmouth Ave.
Norfolk, VA 23510

For more information about the tournament, lodging and events, visit www.meachoops.com.
In short tenure, a push for progress

For Dr. Oscar J. Chapman to assume the presidency of then-Delaware State College in April 1949, one can conclude that he was supremely confident in his leadership abilities. He had been appointed to the presidency by the College’s Board of Trustees in the midst of the darkest period in its then-59-year history.

The previous president, Dr. Howard Gregg, had been ousted amid allegations of mismanagement and student unrest. After reaching an all-time enrollment high in the 1940s, by the fall of 1950 the college student population had decreased to 213. Forces were in motion calling for the college to close. The driving force behind this reversal in the institution’s previous modest fortunes was the loss of its accreditation in 1949.

Immediately after the departure of Gregg, the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools — which had awarded Delaware State its first accreditation in 1944 — re-inspected the College in the fall of 1949. Its evaluation revealed that DSC fell far short of college standards in many areas — a disregard for its probationary policy, the graduation of students with GPAs below passing, student misbehavior, inadequate facilities, low teachers’ salaries and an admissions and graduation requirements process.

As the College’s future was in question, many wondered about the ability of those with the responsibility by those charged with maintaining the College. However, the reports also noted the challenges that Gregg faced by acknowledging the inadequate levels of state funding to support operations over the years.

“The College has never had enough money to run it on a satisfactory basis,” the report stated.

With those findings, Middle States revoked DSC’s accreditation, throwing its existence as an institution of higher education in serious question.

Chapman’s beginnings
Enter Chapman, the possessor of an Ed.D from The Ohio State University, who had been a professor of education, director of student personnel and director of athletics publicity at Morgan State College. During his time at that college, Chapman, a native of Stockton, Md., had authored A Student's Outline of Negro Education in the United States, which appears to have been written for an upper-level education course he taught.

The DSC Board of Trustees hired him as president, and he assumed the post on April 1, 1950. By this time, there was widespread speculation throughout the state as to the fate of an unaccredited DSC, with many believing the college would ultimately be closed.

Also adding fuel to that speculation was a ruling in August 1950 in the case of Parker vs. the University of Delaware, in which the Delaware Court of Chancery ruled that the College’s black students previously barred from admission must be enrolled in that university.

The ruling prompted many to question the wisdom of state tax dollars going toward a black school.

In his inaugural address given Nov. 4, 1950, Chapman noted that it had been almost 20 years since the state allocated funds to DSC for new building construction. He also stated that state teachers’ salaries had to increase and other areas had to be addressed to win back accreditation.

Nevertheless, Chapman confidently noted in his speech that “there is nothing wrong with Delaware State College that money will not correct.” He also argued that, the court ruling notwithstanding, the state would continue to need both DSC and the University of Delaware.

With DSC’s existence tenuously hanging in the balance, Chapman worked to make changes that would earn back the institution’s accreditation. By March 1951, he was able to report to the state governor that a number of the serious shortcomings noted by the accreditation committee had been addressed. A probation policy was being adhered to for the first time in many years, improvements were made in student services, and a full-time nurse and part-time physician had been employed.

Chapman also reported that admissions and graduation requirements were being enforced, and worsely low faculty salaries had been increased. It appeared that the DSC president was making progress.

Chapman’s adamant position that DSC remain a four-year institution appears to be the major factor in what would be the shortest tenure among all the institution’s permanent presidents.

In the wake of the Court of Chancery decision, Gov. Ebert Carvel formed a task force committee in early 1951 to study what role Delaware State College should play in education in the state. The committee was chaired by Houston Wilson, a Delaware attorney who had represented the state during the 1949 hearing into Gregg’s management of the institution. Chapman served on the committee as secretary, and (without a chair of the DSC Board of Trustees, was also on the 13-member committee.

According to a letter sent by Wilson, almost a year later on behalf of Chapman, a majority of the committee — which included Nickel — voted to recommend that DSC be converted to a junior college and be merged with the University of Delaware (which UD opposed).

A minority of the members voted to recommend the closure of DSC altogether. In what may have been his biggest contribution during his short tenure, Chapman was the lone vote in favor of maintaining DSC as a four-year institution of higher education. It appears that may have been his biggest year as the Delaware General Assembly chose not to follow the committee’s recommendation. DSC would remain a four-year institution.

His adamant position appeared to put him at odds with Nickel, in which turned to July 19, 1951, split board vote that resulted in Chapman’s contract not being renewed. Wilson said in an interview that Chapman’s ouster had nothing to do with his performance as president.

(At no time during the committee process did) the governor, the committee or anyone else call into question the administrative or professional ability of Dr. Oscar J. Chapman, nor his personal integrity, moral character or capacious discernment. Wilson said.

Nevertheless, Chapman confidently acknowledged the inadequate levels of state tax dollars going toward a black school.

Dr. Oscar J. Chapman
Tenure: 1950-1951

The Hornet published an article in June 1950 welcoming new President Dr. Oscar J. Chapman shortly after his tenure began.

With DSC’s existence tenuously hanging in the balance, Chapman worked to make changes that would earn back the institution’s accreditation. By March 1951, he was able to report to the state governor that a number of the serious shortcomings noted by the accreditation committee had been addressed. A probation policy was being adhered to for the first time in many years, improvements were made in student services, and a full-time nurse and part-time physician had been employed. Chapman also reported that admissions and graduation requirements were being enforced, and worsely low faculty salaries had been increased. It appeared that the DSC president was making progress.

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In memoriam
We sorrowfully acknowledge the deaths of the following alumni, faculty, staff and student and offer our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends:

Alumni
Cherminna L. Baker ’69
June 13
Nautaniel L. Hurt Jr. ’71
June 23
Barbara Mangum Harmon ’62
August 20
Anne T. Irons ’51
August 26
Ivan E. Edmunds ’96
September 9
Ward T. Waddell ’75
September 22
Christopher Donald ’12
September 27
Melva H. Fowler ’65
October 7
Edward B. Walker Jr. ’50
October 10
Walter L. Hall Sr. ’73
October 15
Louie H. Jara ’65
October 22
Edward Slaughter ’67
October 23
Marc C. Henson ’72
November 5
Fred W. Dreyer Jr. ’68
November 13
Edward S. James ’51
November 15
Virginia H. Hearne ’48
November 21

Faculty and staff
Charles B. Jackson
Assistant to the director/supervisor of the DSU Motor Pool for 50 years
August 12
Darnell Neal
Maintenance craftsman mechanic (IMAC technician for seven years)
December 6
Dr. Orilaku Nwosu
Retired professor of 18 years and former chair of the Department of Foreign Languages
November 19
Fred W. Dreyer Jr.
Retired staff member of English
November 15
Darnell Neal
Retired professor of English
November 4
Darnell Neal
Retired staff member of English
September 11
Darnell Neal
Retired chemistry professor of 31 years

Student
Lyonel Barnes
The DSU community mourns the loss of Lionel Barnes of Pueblo Beach, Del., who died suddenly Tuesday, August 28, 2012. Barnes was completing his Bachelor of Social Work degree at DSU’s Sussex County site at Del Tech in Georgetown, where he was also an instructional tutor for Del Tech. He was stated to graduate in December 2012. "Lionel was every professor’s joy. He was bright, articulate, and confident. He left a wonderful sense of humor he had," said Dr. Dolores Finger Wright, associate professor in the Department of Social Work.

Note: Death notices sent to the Alumni Office must be accompanied by a copy of documentation such as a news clipping, death certificate, funeral program or a letter from a family member (telephone number of Omega Psi Phi and Sigma Pi Phi fraternities — died Jan. 1, 1994, at age 86.

The Echo www.desu.edu  Fall/Winter 2012

36

37

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