MAKING A MARK
HELPING OTHERS

Two Class of 2001 alumni achieve Delaware State Police history

Alice Smith Coleman ’66 rebounds from accident, goes on to longtime social work career

Core Values at work during Inspired Day of Service
Reach of University’s Core Values extends far beyond campus

Dear DSU alumni and friends,

The University continues to actively fulfill its Core Values, and this edition of The Echo is richly representative of the “outreach” and “community” that help define this institution.

Our Core Values were not identified by only looking forward, but they are also an acknowledgement of the graduates who have gone on to fulfill them in the cities, towns and rural areas where they work and serve.

DSU is particularly proud of its legacy in the areas of outreach and community, and it continues to work to ensure that the current classes of DSU students learn the immense value of giving back to their communities.

In this issue of The Echo, you will read stories about alumni who have gone out and used their professions to serve others. You will also learn more about DSU’s current generation of students and their outreach work in communities in all three of Delaware’s counties through the University’s annual Inspired Day of Service event. In addition to Delaware State University growing its reputation in research, academics and talented faculty and students, the institution also aims to grow awareness that we are a University that cares about its surrounding communities in all three of Delaware’s counties.

In the area of academics, DSU is looking forward to serving Delaware’s northernmost county — New Castle — even better, as a new facility located there has been donated and turned over to the University. Located on Kirkwood Highway in between Wilmington and Newark, the building is larger than the Kirkwood facility sometime this year.

Like a finely tuned new car, DSU is running strongly on all of the cylinders of its Mission and Vision Statements and Core Values. This is truly a thrilling journey we are on as DSU moves toward the goal of becoming the number one HBCU in the country.

In the area of academics, DSU is looking forward to serving Delaware’s northernmost county — New Castle — even better, as a new facility located there has been donated and turned over to the University. Located on Kirkwood Highway in between Wilmington and Newark, the building is larger than the Wilmington site DSU has leased for years and will enable the University to expand the curriculum it offers in that area. We expect to be offering classes for the first time from the new Kirkwood facility sometime this year.

Dr. Harry Lee Williams
Col. Nathaniel McQueen Jr. of the Delaware State Police says the Master of Social Work degree he earned at Delaware State University has helped him deal with countless people issues he is confronted with in law enforcement on a daily basis. His social work knowledge along with the rest of his broad-based law enforcement experience has helped elevate McQueen to a pinnacle of law enforcement — in January he was named by Gov. Jack Markell as the superintendent of the Delaware State Police.

In ascending to that top post, McQueen is the first African-American to serve as DSP superintendent.

McQueen — who earned a MSW from DSU in 2001 after earning a Bachelor of Science in Behavioral Science from Wilmington College in 1996 — is in his 25th year as a state trooper. He said his opportunity to become the highest ranking state trooper was made possible by his predecessor, Col. Robert Coupe.

"I didn’t really see myself as possibly becoming superintendent until I came on executive staff and got to know the inner workings of the department from that level," McQueen said. "Col. Coupe saw the executive staff as the future of the DSP, so he had a succession plan in which he worked to develop us."

Coupe’s management style of grooming the DSP’s future leaders was something that resonated with McQueen.

"One of the highlights of my career was when I was at the rank of sergeant, because it was the first time I got to manage people and help them develop," the superintendent said. He added that the “succession plan” will continue under his leadership as head of the DSP.

Although born in South Carolina, as a baby he moved with his parents Nathaniel and Carolyn McQueen Sr. to Wilmington, Del., where he grew up. He graduated from Hodgson Vo-Tech High School in Newark, where he studied commercial art. After he joined the State Police in 1988, the commercial art background came in handy, as he served for a time as a sketch artist, one of his career highlights.

"I worked one-on-one with victims and helped them take part in solving their case," McQueen said. "I did crime scene reconstructions, facial and composite drawings.”

In working his way up to superintendent, McQueen previously served in an ascending progression of posts, including patrol and detective sergeant, a member of the DSP Critical Incident Stress Management Team, the officer-in-charge of the Honor Guard Unit, a patrol lieutenant at Troop 3 Camden and a deputy troop commander at Troop 2 Bear responsible for the Major Crimes Unit, Domestic Violence Unit, Polygraph Examiner and Youth Aid Unit.

In 1991, he received the DSP Police Valor Award. "I assisted the operator of a vehicle that had been struck by a train," McQueen said. "As a second train was approaching, I assisted the operator by removing her from the area of the track."

After serving as commander at several troop locations, he began his stint on the executive staff as the operations major managing all troops statewide.

McQueen said his time at DSU was beneficial to his career progression.

"I am part of so many boards and committees that run the gamut of kids, social services, sexual crimes and many other areas, and my social work master’s degree background helps me negotiate through those boards and work with other state agencies," said Delaware State Police Superintendent Col. Nathaniel McQueen Jr. about his degree from DSU.

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A graduate of the DSU Aviation Program has made history with the Delaware State Police. Cpl. Nicole Carol Parton, who under her maiden name Dimon graduated from DSU in 2001 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Airways Management (now called Aviation Management), has become the first female helicopter pilot in the history of the state law enforcement agency.

The accomplishment returns Parton to her original aspiration to fly, which began when she first enrolled in the then-DSU Airway Science Program in 1992. Parton — who grew up in a rural area outside of Tunkhannock, Pa. — attended DSU full-time only during her freshman year, but then became a part-time student so she could work full-time.

From 1993 to 1998, she worked for Summit Aviation in Middletown, Del., where at that time the DSU Airway Science Program maintained its planes. She then shifted her professional pursuit to law enforcement when she was hired in 1998 as a trooper by the State Police.

After successfully completing the DSP Academy, Parton worked the highways and byways of Central Delaware as a trooper. With the State Police, she found a professional niche that she really enjoys. “It is a noble profession, although it can sometimes be a thankless job,” she said. “I know it sounds like a cliché, but just about everyone comes into (police work) because they want to help people.”

Parton said she tries to make any contact she has with the public a positive experience — whether it is responding to a complaint, providing assistance, working with victims or even writing a traffic ticket. Yet she never stopped her part-time journey toward a degree. However, she was forced after 1998 to revise her degree emphasis. Although she had earned her private pilot license in 1993, family matters led her to change her degree pursuit from flying (Airway Systems) to Aviation Management.

“My dad died in 1998,” said Parton, the adopted daughter of Robert and Kelly Dimon. “I switched over to the management side, because it cost less and it was less pressure on my mom.”

She would complete that degree at DSU in 2001, and a couple of years later she was promoted to detective in the Domestic Violence and Major Crimes sections of the DSP Troop 3 in Camden. She also began teaching a section at the DSP Police Academy on “Crimes Against Persons.”

As she progressed in law enforcement, she also enhanced that career by continuing her progression in aviation. While working as a trooper, she earned her commercial, instrument and helicopter flying ratings. By 2011, a full-time position as a line pilot (helicopter) opened up, and Parton broke a DSP gender line by becoming the first female trooper to fill that post. She has been in career heaven ever since.

“We provide a unique service. We fly the injured to the hospital and we can give them the best chance for survival by getting them there during what we call that ‘golden hour’,” Parton said. “We get to chase bad guys in pursuits from the air.”

Through it all, Parton has found time to raise a family. She is married to Alfred Parton, a retired DSP SWAT commander who is currently in Afghanistan as a contractor. Their union has produced one 9-year-old daughter, and Parton is a stepmother to two boys.

History in the skies
Aviation Program graduate
Cpl. Nicole Parton ’01 is the first female Delaware State Police helicopter pilot

*Story and photos by Carlos Holmes*
With focus and determination, Alice Smith Coleman ’66 rebounded from a life-changing accident, going on to a four decade career in social work helping others. "No matter what you do, it is only a fraction of what you can do."

Without a doubt, social work was a career destiny for Alice Smith Coleman. Never mind that during her years at then-Delaware State College from 1962-1966, the institution had not yet established its social work degree program.

Never mind that one week before she was due to walk across the DSC Commencement stage to receive her diploma, her life was irrevocably altered in a car accident near the College that left her in a wheelchair for life. Coleman would go on from that traumatic accident to further her studies and become a wife, a mother of two sons, a lifelong career social work counselor and an esteemed community leader.

Oh yes, and a very nice person. "She was always a calm and compassionate person," said Kenneth Burton, a licensed practical nurse who worked with Coleman throughout most of her 38-year career at the Delaware Psychiatric Center (formerly the Delaware State Hospital). "She always went above and beyond as a social worker."

The former Alice Marie Smith's pictures from the 1966 DSC yearbook reflect a confident student destined for success — as secretary of the Student Government Association, president of the Delta Sigma Theta sorority, a member of the Sociology Club and the editor-in-chief of The Statesman.

Coleman’s aspirations were in social work. However, because DSC would not establish its degree program in social work until the 1980s, she majored in sociology, largely under the instruction of Dr. Maurice Thomasson and his wife LaVerne Thomasson, a longtime teaching team in the department.

She recalled Dr. Thomasson — who was the department chair — as a very deliberate, but not loud speaker. She recollected there was a lot of "meat" in what he said, so it paid for the students to pay attention.

"He didn’t put up with a lot of nonsense," Coleman said. "You either knew it or you didn’t."

Her future seemed exceedingly bright in the spring of 1966, as she was graduating in the top 10 percent of the class. She had dated her future husband Norwood Coleman ’63 since her freshman year and had been accepted to graduate school at Atlanta University. All life systems for her appeared to be go.

And then the car accident took place that would challenge all of her promise.

Coleman said she doesn’t remember the accident, which took place on U.S. 13 (now known as DuPont Highway) less than a mile north of the College. She said that her car turned over, which resulted in serious injuries made worse by the people who extricated her from the wreck.

"They didn’t immobilize my neck when they took me out of the car," she said.

Taken initially to Kent General Hospital in Dover, where the emergency medical staff seemed doubtful about her chances for survival, she was transferred to the then-Delaware Division of Wilmington Medical Center, where the medical staff was a bit more hopeful.

"They told me that I would live only about 10 years," Coleman said. So as her sister Elizabeth (now Massey) walked for her at Commencement, Coleman began her arduous journey to dispel those pessimistic prognostications.

Building a life

In the days and weeks following the accident, Coleman said she was uplifted by the concerns of the DSC community.

"Half the graduating class came to visit me, and so did (DSC President) Dr. Luna Mishoe and his wife," she said. "There were so many flowers in my room, it was almost like a funeral."

Coleman — a DSC graduate in music who had joined the Air Force Band and was returning to Delaware from an assignment in Alaska at the time of the accident — noted that even in the state of being in traction as the result of her injuries, her natural social work inclinations manifested themselves.

"There just happened to be another DSC student in the same hospital room who had been in a totally different accident (hit by a car) and was extremely emotionally distraught. Even in the state of being in traction, Alice talked to her and tried to calm her down," Norwood said. He added that soon thereafter, a Spanish-speaking patient who didn’t speak English was moved into her room, and from her bed Alice assisted the doctor by using her college Spanish to help interpret.

"People didn’t know if she was going to live or die, and she here was giving of herself," he said.

Eventually some nerve functions began returning in her arms. This helped fuel her desire to overcome her circumstances.

"There was talk of putting me in the Delaware Home and Hospital for the rest of my life," Alice said. "I thought then that there was no way I was not going to do anything, because I had worked so hard."

In considering her options while going through six months of rehabilitation, she realized that Delaware University was out. Its social work department was on a third floor at a time when accessibility for persons with disabilities was not yet a law requirement.

Coleman found out about the University of Illinois, where it had a program in which people in wheelchairs were accepted. She applied and was invited to come take a test. "I thought it would be an academic test, but the first thing they asked me to do was to get out of my chair," Coleman said. "They wanted to see how long it would take and if I could take care of my physical needs. They explained that they don’t cater to people in

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a wheelchair.

She was accepted and completed her Master of Social Work degree in the spring of 1967.

Coleman said she was not only academically fulfilled there: “I learned more about myself in a wheelchair.”

Meanwhile, Norwood remained a faithful love in her life.

In the weeks following the accident, she told Norwood that there was nothing she could do for him. “I told him that he might as well go find someone else,” Coleman said. “But he didn’t.”

The couple was married on March 1, 1969, and went on to produce two sons. “I had friends who told me that because of her injuries, I shouldn’t marry Alice,” Norwood said. “But everything that has happened since has confirmed for me that I made the right decision in marrying her. She was able to take care of her responsibilities as a mother, and between us we was the disciplinarian with our sons. She has always been very focused and determined.”

Their oldest, Norwood Jr., would become the third member of the immediate family to graduate from DSU (2006 and 2007), as he followed his mother’s career footsteps by earning bachelor’s and master’s degrees in social work. He is now a clinical supervisor for the Wilmington Child Development Community Policing Program.

Their youngest son, Michael, earned a bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering from Florida A&M University and is currently continuing his education and working as a mechanical engineering research associate at Florida State University.

Career and community service

One month after her wedding, Coleman began working for the Delaware State Hospital as a psychiatric social worker. Any doubts that she could do the work were effectively dispelled, as she would continue there until her retirement in 2007. As a social worker, she was responsible for three units in the hospital; her work involved doing intake assessments, helping patients with discharge planning, as well as doing individual/family counseling and other patients’ services.

She noted that her career advancement was helped by her determination not to use her wheelchair-bound circumstances as an excuse to do only so much, but instead to continually try to see what more she could do. “Being grateful for the opportunities she had also helped,” she added.

“There have been some challenges, but I just kept trying,” Coleman said. “If the Lord can bring you to it, He can bring you through it.”

That includes the chronic pain she has had to live with from her injuries. Nevertheless, with the exception of some time off to give birth to her two sons and a couple of operations, she missed very little time from work during her 38-year tenure with the Delaware State Hospital.

Burton, her work colleague, noted that in working in a mental health facility, Coleman had to often deal with patients who “acted out,” but she always kept her composure.

“She never took anything personal, and I never heard her raise her voice or make any derogatory comments in response to such challenges,” Burton said.

Coleman’s dedicated service was rewarded in 2004 when she was promoted to director of Social Services, a leadership post she maintained until her retirement. Even in retirement, she has not stopped helping patients who “acted out,” but she always kept her composure.

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The Delaware Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers recently honored Alice Smith Coleman with its Lifetime Achievement Award. Coleman was a social worker with Delaware Psychiatric Center — formerly the Delaware State Hospital — for 38 years, retiring in 2007 as director of Social Services. She now operates a private counseling service from her home.

The five DSU colleges are in a battle to see which college will be the “Best of the Best” while raising funds for academic excellence, and you can help your favorite win!

Here’s how it works:

- Select your favorite DSU College
- Make your tax-deductible donation:
  - Online: Go to www.desu.edu/CollegeBattle
  - By mail: Make checks payable to DSU Foundation c/o College of [Name of College]
  - By phone: Call the DSU Foundation at 302.857.6055
- Check back each Monday at www.desu.edu/collegebattle to see which college is winning!

Funds raised will be designated to each college and will be used at the discretion of the colleges in collaboration with the deans.

Final results will be announced May 28.

May the best college win!

www.desu.edu/CollegeBattle
Inspired Day of Service showcases Core Values

Delaware State University’s Inspire Scholarship recipients as well as other students put action behind the institution’s Core Values of “community” and “outreach” as they engaged in community service projects at five locations statewide in April as part of DSU’s Inspired Day of Service.

More than 200 students participated in the second annual community service event, which DSU hosted in partnership with the United Way of Delaware. Most painted, cleaned and performed routine maintenance and landscaping in teams at the East Side Charter School of Wilmington, the Newark Day Nursery and Children’s Center, and Boys & Girls Clubs in Dover and Oak Orchard. Another team of students spent the day working at the Food Bank of Milford, where they packaged food for the coming week.

At East Side Charter School in Wilmington and Newark Day Nursery and Children’s Center, student volunteers painted classrooms. At East Side, they also performed maintenance on the playground, and at NDNC, they weeded and mulched outside.

Above: Students package bags at the Food Bank of Milford.

Right: Students Carlene Mary and Raven Meldrimbrooks were among those who painted at the Simon Circle Boys & Girls Club in Dover, where students also refurbished the playground. Students also painted and landscaped at the Boys & Girls Club in Oak Orchard.

Above: U.S. Sen. Tom Carper talks with a student as she paints at the Simon Circle Boys & Girls Club in Dover. Carper joined the students and assisted in the painting project.

Top right: From left, Boys & Girls Club staff member and DSU graduate student Morgan Hovington worked with students Schmildt Seme, Baby Gomez and alumnus and club staff member Harold Burnett ’07.

Friday, September 20, 2013

For more information, visit www.desu.edu/prayerbreakfast
College of Business’ AACSB accreditation is reaffirmed

Delaware State University’s College of Business has maintained its business accreditation by AACSB International — The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. AACSB accreditation is the hallmark of excellence in business education and has been earned by less than 5 percent of the world’s business programs. Today, there are more than 650 business schools in 45 countries and territories that maintain AACSB Accreditation. Similarly, 178 institutions maintain an additional specialized AACSB Accreditation for their accounting programs.

The reaffirmation of the College of Business’ AACSB International accreditation includes its academic programs in accounting, management, and hospitality and tourism management. In addition to AACSB-accredited programs, the College of Business also offers degree programs in aviation and sport management. The college also has one of the best advisement centers among DSU colleges and engages in extensive outreach through its Delaware Center for Enterprise Development and its University Center for Economic Development and Trade.

The College of Business earned its initial AACSB accreditation in December 2006. “AACSB is world renowned as the ultimate stamp of excellence for business schools and colleges. The maintenance of this coveted recognition of quality reflects the commitment of our College of Business faculty and staff to continuous improvement,” said Dr. Shelton Rhodes, dean of the college. “Success in maintaining AACSB accreditation requires a team effort, and this victory was earned by our faculty and staff on behalf of our students.”

UNDERGRADUATE 2013 SUMMER COURSE COSTS REDUCED 35 PERCENT

The Delaware State University Board of Trustees recently approved a 35 percent reduction in the cost of 2013 undergraduate summer session courses.
• In-state summer rate — Will drop from $273 to $177 per credit hour.
• Out-of-state summer rate — Will decrease from $620 to $403.

The reduction — which only applies to undergraduate courses — will be for both Summer Session I (May 20 to June 27) and Summer Session II (July 1 to Aug. 8).

To register, visit www.desu.edu/summer.

Choir performs for House and Senate during DSU Day at the Legislature

MARK A. TURNER

Tuner has a bachelor’s degree in Accounting and Management from LaCalle University, an MBA from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a master’s degree in Executive Leadership from the University of Nebraska.

An active leader in business, civic and community circles, Turner has served as board chairman of the Delaware Bankers Association, board vice chairman of the Delaware Business Roundtable and an executive committee member of the Delaware State Chamber of Commerce. He also has been a senior fundraiser for the Wilmington Grand Opera House and is involved in fundraising for the University of Pennsylvania and the Boys and Girls Club.

TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

NASA commander will give keynote address at May Commencement

Delaware State University will feature Charles Frank Bolden Jr., the first African-American to serve as administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, as the keynote speaker of its May Commencement ceremony May 19. The 10 a.m. Commencement will be held outdoors at Alumni Stadium, weather permitting.

Nominated by President Barack Obama and confirmed by the U.S. Senate, the retired Marine Corps major general began his duties as the 12th administrator of NASA in 2009. In that top post, he leads the NASA team and manages its resources to advance the agency’s missions and goals.

MAY COMMENCEMENT 2013

Sunday, May 19 | 10 a.m. | Alumni Stadium

For the latest Commencement updates, visit www.desu.edu/commencement.

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DSU recognized for its military friendliness

For the third time, Delaware State University is among the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools nationwide named to G.I. Jobs’ Military Friendly Schools list, joining a select group of just over 1,700 institutions out of 12,000 VA-approved schools recognized in 2013 for the support, flexibility and value they offer to active duty military, veterans and their dependents.

What makes DSU most unique is that it has a dedicated Office of Veterans Affairs.

“It’s one of the benefits we have that most universities don’t,” said Wendelin Henry, who as Veterans Affairs coordinator assists the more than 100 veteran, active duty, National Guard and Reserve, and military dependent students enrolled each semester with all aspects of their DSU journeys.

This includes everything from helping to make the application and registration process easier to assisting with understanding how military benefits may translate into college benefits to providing advocacy, coordinating services and encouraging involvement in campus activities.

Education benefits

For eligible military students or dependents, DSU’s Office of Veterans Affairs offers personal attention in managing and administering education benefits programs, including Active Duty, the Post 9/11 Montgomery GI Bill, the Yellow Ribbon Program, Vocational Rehabilitation, Selected Reserves, and Survivors’ and Dependents’ Educational Assistance.

At DSU, eligible military students who enroll are awarded six elective credits based on their discharge papers. DSU also recognizes the American Council on Education-recommended college credits for professional military education, training courses and occupational experience of service members and veterans. Active duty military students receive in-state tuition, as do National Guard and Reserve members who are stationed in Delaware, Henry said.

DSU has entered an agreement with the Department of Veterans Affairs to participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program of the Post 9/11 GI Bill. The University matches the VA up to 50 percent of unmet out-of-state tuition and fee charges for undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students eligible for Yellow Ribbon. Also under the Post 9/11 program, eligible military students attending DSU’s VA-approved Flight School may currently receive up to $10,970 in tuition and fees.

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Advocacy, counseling and activities

In addition to financial assistance, the Office of Veterans Affairs works with military students to encourage academic success, positive social interaction on campus and overall enhancement of their experience, making sure their distinctive needs are met while at DSU.

The Delaware Division of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve has recognized Delaware State University with the ESGR Above and Beyond Award for its track record for working with its deployed employees who are National Guard and National Guard/Army/Air Force Reserve members.

“This award is in recognition of how DSU accommodates its employees who are in the Guard and Reserves when they have to be deployed and spend time away from their jobs,” said Richard Ruben, the Delaware ESGR employer outreach representative. “They are able to serve their country while DSU ensures that their employment is secured.”

The office coordinates vocational, educational and professional counseling, evaluation of abilities and aptitudes, tutoring and rehabilitative services, and VA Work-Study opportunities available from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It initiates contact with military units and commanding officers on a student’s behalf as needed. When a student is deployed, the Office of Veteran Affairs works up front to make sure the readmission process goes “as easy as possible” upon return, Henry said, helping with the transition back to civilian and University life.

Henry, herself a retired master sergeant with 21 years of service in the U.S. Air Force at Dover Air Force Base, said it can be a challenge bringing military students — many of whom are nontraditional students with outside lives and families — into campus activities.

Though academics are the main focus, the Office of Veteran Affairs tries to get students more involved socially through campus and community events. A military student organization, DSU FORCES, was started in Spring 2011. The FORCES participated in and hosted the first National Roll Call of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom casualties in November 2011, calling the names of more than 6,000 dedicated service men and women.

The Office of Veterans Affairs has an open door policy. In her work with military students, Henry uses a holistic approach, aiming to help students full-circle by easing their transition from the military to a University setting and then continuing to assist during their journeys to graduation.

“I try to connect them with all of the services they need from the beginning and then follow them to make sure they are succeeding in their academic careers,” she said.

For more information about veteran services at DSU, contact Veterans Affairs coordinator Wendelin Henry at 302.857.6376 or whenry@desu.edu.

President Williams shares good news at Pride Tours

For the second year, President Harry L. Williams in March and April hosted a series of Pride Tours in the Mid-Atlantic region, providing a chance for alumni, parents, prospective students and friends to hear an update on DSU’s exceptional progress since last year — close to their homes.

The tour kicked off in late March on campus and was followed by events in New Castle and Sussex counties in Delaware, Philadelphia and the metro-Washington, D.C. area.

“This traveling event allows us to update our alumni, families of students and anyone else who is interested in the latest developments at Delaware State University,” Williams said. “This is another way that we cause pride to abound concerning the great things that are happening at DSU.”

With the Delaware State University logo shown in the sky between the stars of the American flag, the 2013 DSU Pride Tour kicked off with President Williams making an appearance in Dover to provide an update on the University’s exceptional progress since last year. From there, the third annual Pride Tour visits included New Castle and Sussex counties in Delaware, Philadelphia and the metro-Washington, D.C. area. President Williams shared good news about the University’s progress since last year while meeting alumni, family members and friends.

In addition to President Williams sharing updates about DSU, each Pride Tour event included a chance for alumni, family members and friends to hear from current DSU students and friends, who shared experiences, memories and highlights from their time at DSU.

In recognition of the contributions of military men and women, students and university friends, the Delaware State University logo shown in the sky between the stars of the American flag kicked off the 2013 DSU Pride Tour in Dover, Del.

According to President Williams, the 2013 DSU Pride Tour included approximately 1,000 events with more than 7,000 attendees. The first event of the year was held in Dover on March 28, followed by events in New Castle and Sussex counties in Delaware, Philadelphia and the metro-Washington, D.C. area.

Also making appearances at Pride Tour events were Dr. Martin Drew ’65, left, and Jerome Pinkett ’61, Janice Hopkins Williams ’75, Clarence Brown, who accompanied his wife, Shirley Brown, a longtime volunteer in the Office of Alumni Relations.

The Delaware Division of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve has recognized Delaware State University with the ESGR Above and Beyond Award for its track record for working with its deployed employees who are National Guard and National Guard/Army/Air Force Reserve members.

“This award is in recognition of how DSU accommodates its employees who are in the Guard and Reserves when they have to be deployed and spend time away from their jobs,” said Richard Ruben, the Delaware ESGR employer outreach representative. “They are able to serve their country while DSU ensures that their employment is secured.”

The office coordinates vocational, educational and professional counseling, evaluation of abilities and aptitudes, tutoring and rehabilitative services, and VA Work-Study opportunities available from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It initiates contact with military units and commanding officers on a student’s behalf as needed. When a student is deployed, the Office of Veteran Affairs works up front to make sure the readmission process goes “as easy as possible” upon return, Henry said, helping with the transition back to civilian and University life.

Henry, herself a retired master sergeant with 21 years of service in the U.S. Air Force at Dover Air Force Base, said it can be a challenge bringing military students — many of whom are nontraditional students with outside lives and families — into campus activities.

Though academics are the main focus, the Office of Veteran Affairs tries to get students more involved socially through campus and community events. A military student organization, DSU FORCES, was started in Spring 2011. The FORCES participated in and hosted the first National Roll Call of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom casualties in November 2011, calling the names of more than 6,000 dedicated service men and women.

The Office of Veterans Affairs has an open door policy. In her work with military students, Henry uses a holistic approach, aiming to help students full-circle by easing their transition from the military to a University setting and then continuing to assist during their journeys to graduation.

“I try to connect them with all of the services they need from the beginning and then follow them to make sure they are succeeding in their academic careers,” she said.

For more information about veteran services at DSU, contact Veterans Affairs coordinator Wendelin Henry at 302.857.6376 or whenry@desu.edu.
New flight simulator offers more aviation training options

DSU’s Aviation Program has moved into a new training era with its acquisition of a comprehensive Advanced Aviation Training Device, commonly known as a flight simulator.

In addition to actually flying one of the four types of planes available among the Aviation Program’s fleet of 10 aircraft, students are now able to get instrument practice on the most advanced simulator the program has ever had.

“We previously had two training devices, but they were limited in their simulation capabilities, as they were only able to simulate a Piper Warrior plane and only simulate flights in the New York and New Jersey areas,” said Capt. Stephen Speed, Aviation Program director.

He said the new simulator can simulate the Piper Warrior and the other planes in the DSU fleet — the Piper Arrow, Piper Tomahawk and multi-engine Piper Seneca — as well as 30 other types of planes, including a jet aircraft.

“In addition, this device can simulate flights anywhere in the United States, as well as in Canada and Mexico,” Speed said.

The $28,000 flight simulator was acquired after about three years of financial planning and a Request-for-Proposal process in which several types of flight simulators were evaluated and bid on.

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Speed said that in addition to helping students refine their instrument skills, the new simulator will be another way that students can accumulate flight hours.

“The simulator will help when the weather is not good for flying,” Speed said. “The FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) allows for the use of 50 hours on the simulator to go toward flying time for a commercial pilots rating.”

The Hornets are projected to return 12 starters from the 2012 squad, which posted the team’s first winning record since 2007. DSU was 6-5 overall and tied for third in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference with a 5-3 mark in the league.

Visit www.dsuhornets.com for the latest news about the team and ticket information when it becomes available.
Spring 2013 events & scenes

"AN EVENING WITH JOHN LEGEND"

In February, R&B singer and songwriter John Legend put an exclamation mark to Delaware State University’s Black History Month events with an evening of his insightful thoughts on education and the duty of graduates to effect positive change, as well as a mini-concert of his soulful music.

"DSU graduates are empowered to be great leaders; you are equipped to succeed. Use your education to seek the truth. I urge you to embrace your autonomy and power to make a positive impact on the world." — John Legend

THE KING CENTER IMAGING PROJECT

In partnership with JPMorgan Chase & Co., Delaware State University hosted The King Center Imaging Project, a digital repository of 200,000 documents from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Civil Rights Movement that have been made accessible to the public through a highly acclaimed traveling exhibit created by JPMorgan Chase at the request of The King Center. From Jan. 28-Feb. 1, DSU was the first stop on its 2013 tour across the United States.

More than 700 people toured the interactive booth showcasing digital images of key documents from Dr. King’s correspondence, speeches and sermons. In addition, booth visitors were invited to write their dreams on a “My Dream Is” card and post them on an Illuminated Dream Wall. Aspire Scholars and other student volunteers served as hosts and hostesses at the event.

WEIGHT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES CONFERENCE

During National Public Health Week in April, Delaware State University’s College of Education, Health & Public Policy hosted a Weight Management Strategies Conference designed to facilitate the creation and the implementation of weight management strategies for communities, companies or organizations that reduce the incidence and prevalence of obesity.

Under the theme of “Obesity doesn’t have to be a Delaware Epidemic,” the conference included health care professionals, community advocates, service providers and members of the public for an educational event focusing on strategies for overcoming the First State’s obesity problem.

 Participiation in Go Red for Women

Brenda Farmer, left, director of University events and ceremonies, wears a gown designed and made by senior Jasmine Williams, center, as a gown or a cocktail dress. Also pictured is Williams’ advisor, Dr. Jungmi Oh, assistant professor in the Department of Human Ecology.

The start of the Spring 2013 semester brought with it two new food franchises in the Martin Luther King Jr. Student Center.

CHRICK-FIL-A AND SUBWAY GRAND OPENING

Aspire Scholars and other student volunteers served as hosts and hostesses at the event.

PARTICIPATION IN GO RED FOR WOMEN

THE annual Southern Delaware Go Red for Women Luncheon and Fashion Show. The creation — a Textiles and Apparel Studies major, for the DSU graduates are empowered to be great leaders; you are equipped to succeed. Use your education to seek the truth. I urge you to embrace your autonomy and power to make a positive impact on the world." — John Legend

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Have you checked out DSU on social media lately?

There’s a new Buzz on Delaware State University’s pages on social media sites — Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube — where DSU’s Division of Institutional Advancement aims to keep the campus community, alumni and friends engaged and informed about the latest happenings at the University.

If you haven’t visited recently, we invite you to check us out and join the conversation. Here’s one example of memory sharing you’ll find among our social media users:

Kaila Coney: That’s easy. Critical Thinking — with Mr. Taylor. That class changed the way I think, the way I argue and the way I reason — even to this day (some 20+ years later). While I earned an A on my senior thesis (Psych. Dept.), nothing makes me more proud than that I earned from Mr. Taylor because I hustled my butt... did my best and EARNED that C... worked hard for it... no fluff.

Dorinda Stagg: Multicultural education, Dr. (Everard) Cornwall. Out of the box teaching. Didn’t know what to expect every class. I always left his class motivated to learn.

Ronika Adams: African-American Music. I took the class thinking that I knew everything there was to know about black music, but the D that I had at mid-term said otherwise. Nevertheless, I learned to appreciate the rich contribution that black people have made to the fabric of this country from spirituals to ragtime to opera and rap. I finished with a well-earned A and humility.

Karmey Boggs: Analytical Chemistry 101/102. As this was my major, these classes challenged me to push the envelope in my learning and comprehension. I grew to love the analytics and science of how chemistry worked. Dr. Ronald Machen was the best chair, and he is one reason to contribute why I am still in the science field today! Civ 1998, B.S. Chemistry

Social Media Users Raise Nearly $5,000 for Student Scholarships

During Homecoming in October, the Delaware State University Foundation kicked off its first social media campaign by posing the question, “Who is the Most Divine Among the Niners?” As part of the event, members of the campus’ nine Greek-letter organizations competed with one another to see which group could raise the most funds for scholarships. In February, DSU held the “Show You Love for DSU” three-day Valentine’s Day event. This mini-campaign allowed donors to select virtual gifts, such as roses and candy, to send to their loved ones. Combined, these two initiatives raised close to $5,000 for scholarships for DSU students.

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Meet the alumni-to-be
As May Commencement approaches, here’s a look into the academic journeys of six prospective graduates who have made their mark on campus

Gianna Harris
Hometown: Wilmington, Del.
Major: Social Work

“My biggest accomplishment at DSU was becoming a Hornet! It was the start of my journey to becoming the woman I am today,” Harris said of her time at Delaware State University. The vice president of the senior class, Harris was also a Ronald E. McNair Scholar, a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars and a peer counselor through the Counseling Center. In 2013, the National Association of Social Workers Delaware Chapter named her its BSQ Student of the Year.

After graduation, Harris plans to go to graduate school in Pennsylvania with an ultimate career goal of becoming a marriage and family therapist.

Fondest memory of DSU: “The snowstorm of my freshman year! My friends and I had so much fun; we even walked to Walmart in the snow! We were able to bond and have so much fun getting to know other people in our hall.”

What will you miss the most about campus?
“When I leave DSU I will miss the people more than ever! I love walking around campus and everyone knowing me and saying hello — from the students, faculty and staff, even President Williams!”

Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU: “Independence! Being at DSU I was able to know what it is like to be on my own and take care of myself. I also used my independence when finding different resources for my education or help with classes.”

Amber Ann Caldwell
Hometown: Smyrna, Del.
Major: Agriculture with a concentration in Pre-Veterinary Science

A Dean’s List student who also achieved the President’s List, Caldwell was named the Top Sophomore for the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources in 2011. On campus, Caldwell was a member of the Collegiate Future Farmers of America, for which she served as historian, and the Pre-Vet Club. In the community, she is a retired member of the Heavenly Hooves 4-H Club and its lifetime president, vice president and secretary, and a retired member of the Smyrna FFA, for which she served as reporter. She is a current member of the Smyrna Grange (Lady Assistant Steward).

In June, Caldwell is getting married to fellow 2013 graduate Stephen Galloway. This fall, she will attend North Carolina State University Veterinary College with a focus on production animal medicine.

Fondest memory of DSU: “Meeting all of the wonderful ag students and being involved with the Collegiate FFA chapter. Going to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, Ind., and recruiting for the college.”

What will you miss the most about campus?
“I will miss the wellness center and all the fun fitness classes.”

Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU: “This time in college is not a race or a contest. Do the best for yourself and don’t let the achievements or discouragement of others direct the path you want to take in life.”

Adrian Sutton
Hometown: Washington, D.C.
Major: Mass Communications with a concentration in Public Relations and Advertising; minor in Law Studies

“Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU: “To take advantage of every available opportunity. I had no idea I was capable of doing the things that I am doing now. If it were not for the opportunities provided by the new voice faculty of the Music Department, I would not have been able to continue my studies in graduate school.”

Fondest memory of DSU: “Meeting my fiancée.”

James Haughom
Hometown: Vienna, Va.
Major: Music with a concentration in Vocal Performance

A member of the DSU Choir and National Society of Collegiate Scholars, Haughom was offered a scholarship from the University of Delaware to pursue a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance. He ultimately hopes to begin a career as an opera singer.

Fondest memory of DSU: “Meeting my fiancée.”

Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU: “To take advantage of every available opportunity. I had no idea I was capable of doing the things that I am doing now. If it were not for the opportunities provided by the new voice faculty of the Music Department, I would not have been able to continue my studies in graduate school.”

Fondest memory of DSU: “Meeting my fiancée.”

Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU: “Make every opportunity count, and somebody is always watching. You never know where an opportunity can take you later, and you have to be the best you can at all times because you never know what a stranger’s title can be.”
Alumni highlights

**Michael Wilson ’75**

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT: 1974-1975**

**DEGREE FROM DSU:** Bachelor of Science in Science Education

**CURRENT JOB:** Podiatrist and surgeon with the Veterans Administration, employed at the Winston-Salem, N.C., VA Outpatient Clinic and Salisbury, N.C., VA Medical Center, and an adjunct professor of biology at Winston-Salem State University.

**WHAT HE’S DONE SINCE LEAVING DSU:** After receiving a Master of Science in biology in 1979 from Tuskegee Institute (University), Wilson went on to teach science at Marietta (Ga.) High School and then proceeded to podiatric medical school, receiving a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine degree from New York College of Podiatric Medicine in 1986. He became a commissioned officer with the US Public Health Service and practiced in a health manpower shortage area of Orangeburg, S.C., for 10 years. The first African-American president of the South Carolina Podiatric Medical Association, he was also awarded as South Carolina’s Podiatrist of the Year. He currently lives in Winston-Salem with his wife, Sheila, and his son, Drew.

**ROLE OF DSU IN HELPING HIM TO MEET HIS GOALS:** "DSU provided me with the warmth, support and understanding to keep me personally and academically grounded. Also, I was grateful to receive a track scholarship to attend college,” Wilson said. “Not only did I mature as a young man, I received outstanding support from mentors: Dr. Marvin K. Hackett (that time, director of personnel) and professors Columbus B. Ricks and Dr. Ralph Hazleton, all of whom primed me for a bright future as a scholar-athlete. Dr. Ricks, in particular, put me in touch with my graduate school mentor, Dr. JHM Henderson of Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University), who assisted me in achieving my master’s degree in biology.”

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**Kianna D’Oliveira**

**Hometown:** Brooklyn, N.Y.

**Major:** Criminal Justice

In her four years as a Hornets women’s basketball player, D’Oliveira is the all-time blocks leader at DSU. A President’s List or Dean’s List student every semester, “I am also looking forward to graduating with Summa Cum Laude honors,” D’Oliveira said.

Outside of athletics and academics, D’Oliveira has been involved in First State Resource Conservation Development, Habitat for Humanity and the Delaware AIDS Walk, and has been a student mentor for underclassmen, a Senior Olympics volunteer and a 19th National Guard Deployment Ceremony volunteer.

She plans to attend graduate school to earn a master’s degree in sports management.

“I am very passionate about basketball and will continue to do everything I can to be around the sport, whether it is playing or coaching,” D’Oliveira said. “My ultimate career goal is to become a lawyer and build my own law firm.”

**Fondest memory of DSU:** “Every game I suited up and played in a Delaware State University uniform is considered one of my fondest memories. I can honestly say I learned something new about myself, teammates, coaches and opponents.”

**What will you miss the most about campus?** "The nonstop basketball schedule. The lifestyle begins the moment you step back on campus. I will miss going through grinded-out preseason workouts, nonconference games, regular season games, the MEAC tournament, and lastly, post-season with my teammates.”

**Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU:** “To become a humble individual. I also learned that every decision has a consequence whether good or bad.”

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**Joey Babuca**

**Hometown:** Dover

**Major:** Integrated Studies

A utility player who has played six of the nine positions in baseball for the Hornets, Babuca was named Player of the Week in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and helped the team to make history by being ranked the highest ever in RPI (a national rating system) and by breaking the NCAA single season hit by pitch record as a team in one year. A Dean’s List student, Babuca is the baseball representative for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and attends Calvary Assembly of God.

He hopes to attend graduate school at DSU for sport administration.

**Fondest memory of DSU:** “The bond of the Baseball Brotherhood.”

**What will you miss the most about campus?** "Attending the athletic events.”

**Most important thing you learned from your time at DSU:** “Life is like a curve ball; you have to be able to adjust to what’s ahead of you.”

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**Homecoming 2013**

***OCTOBER 12***

**FOOTBALL:** 2 p.m. vs. NORFOLK STATE

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**q&a**

**SGA presidents: Where are they now?**
The Delaware State University community remembers the life and legacy of Don Wright, a Class of 1965 alumnus who passed away unexpectedly Jan. 7, 2013, in Massachusetts. Wright, a prolific businessman who owned four U.S. 90 dump truck plumes and numerous McDonald’s franchises and other eateries outside of Boston, Mass., was a dedicated alumnus, loyal DSU advocate, and committed financial supporter of DSU scholarships and athletics. Since January, well-wishers have continued Wright’s tradition of giving joyously to his alma mater through a scholarship fund set up in his name. If you would like to join fellow alumni and friends contributing to the Donald Wright Memorial Scholarship Fund, donations can be made by mail to the Delaware State University Foundation, 1200 N. DuPont Highway, Dover, Del. 19901 or online at www.desu.edu/giving.

In memoriam: Donald Wright ’65

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New Castle County Alumni Chapter

UPCOMING EVENTS
• Annual Summer Send-off
The New Castle County Alumni Chapter’s Annual Summer Send-off will take place Saturday, Aug. 10, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the PAL Center, 3070 N. Market St., Wilmington, Del. 19802. New Castle County students entering Delaware State University are invited along with their parents.

• 31st Annual Scholarship Luncheon
The New Castle County Chapter will host its 31st Annual Scholarship Luncheon on Sunday, August 18, at 12 p.m. at the Cavalier Country Club.

Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter

UPCOMING EVENTS
• Southern Regional Alumni Meeting
The Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter will host the DSUAA Southern Regional Alumni Meeting on Saturday, July 20, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Virginia Beach-Fordham Hotel & Conference Center, 5955 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach, Va. 23462. Questions? Contact Chapter President Al West Jr. at mastercook30@cox.net or call the Office of Alumni Relations at 302.857.6050. Southern region alumni: Look for an announcement of a possible 2013 Pride Tour in conjunction with the southern regional meeting.

CHAPTER MEETINGS
The Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter meets every other second Saturday at 8 p.m. (Free call-in number: 559.546.1000. Participant access code: 251316#. Questions? Contact Chapter President Al West Jr. at mastercook30@cox.net.

Kent County Alumni Chapter

CHAPTER MEETINGS
The Kent County Alumni Chapter meets the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the DSU campus in Room 104 in the Agriculture Annex Building. Questions? Contact Chapter President Philip Sadler at philsadler@comcast.net.

Philadelphia Alumni Chapter

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES
• Cookout
The Philadelphia Alumni Chapter will host its Annual Cookout, a gathering for area alumni and friends, on Saturday, Aug. 3, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at FDR Park in Philadelphia.

HIGHLIGHTS
• Old School’ HBCU Cabaret
In February, the Philadelphia Alumni Chapter hosted a successful HBCU Cabaret in collaboration with Jackson State, Shaw and Cheyney Universities with more than 600 people in attendance. Members extend thanks to all DSU alumni who came out to support the event.

CHAPTER MEETINGS
Philadelphia Alumni Chapter meetings are usually held the first Saturday of the month at 10 a.m. at Bromley House Apartments, 6901 Old York Road, “B” Building. Questions? Contact Chapter President Anthony Lawson at southphilie6345@aol.com.

Six inducted into DSUAA Legacy Hall of Fame

During the 2013 Legacy Luncheon and Hall of Fame inductions, six alumni were inducted into the Delaware State University Alumni Association’s Legacy Hall of Fame. From left are: Dr. Robert L. Nixon ’63, Jimmie Strong ’86, Tesa Maynard Strong ’95, Hilda Norwood ’47, DSUAA Vice President Sheila Davis ’10 and Michael Bowden ’86, representing his brother, Dr. Reginald Bowden ’88.

Sue Cox

Sussex County Alumni Chapter

HIGHLIGHTS
• Third Annual Holiday Dinner Dance
At the Sussex County Alumni Chapter’s third Annual Holiday Dinner Dance in December, Wayne Parkinson presented plaques to chapter members Phyl’licia Dixon, Leonia Robinson, Sylvia Pinkett, Wayne Parsons and Robert Drake for contributions to the chapter. Chapter President Harry L. Williams, in attendance with First Lady Robin S. Williams, extended greetings and shared an optimistic view of the University’s also in attendance were Director of Alumni Relations Lorraine K. Robinson and DSU Sussex Site Associate Director Lisa Perrin. Dr. Mable R. Morrison was recognized for more than 50 years of outstanding service as a “musician and teacher extraordinaire.” The event, sponsored in partnership with the DSU Foundation Inc., will allow the chapter to present four scholarships to deserving high school graduates in Sussex County. Additional funds will be available to students with special financial needs. The chapter applauds Sherron Clark for the organization and planning of the dinner dance.

• Member inducted into Legacy Hall of Fame
Holden ‘66, Woodrow ‘47 was among this year’s inductees into the DSUAA Legacy Hall of Fame in education. Norwood gave 44 years of educational service to the rabbit’s Ferry Elementary School 201-C, the DuPont Avenue School in Lewes, Del., and the Savannah Road and Shields Elementary School. She retired from the Cape Henlopen School District in June 1991.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES
• Beach activity
During a weekend this summer, the Sussex County and Kent County chapters will jointly sponsor an activity at the beach with a Lewes, Del.-to-Cape May, N.J., ferry ride. Details will be forthcoming.

CHAPTER MEETINGS
The Sussex County Alumni Chapter meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at The Old Landing School District in June 1991.

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COLLINS FAMILY

Although the Collins family lived in Houston — nearer to Milford High School — their secondary school years took place during a time in Delaware when some vestiges of segregation remained. As a result, the Collinses attended William Henry High School.

Louvencia Collins Griggs was the first child of Eliza to graduate from college, earning a degree in Mathematics (magna cum laude) from DSU in 1967.

"I enjoyed my time at DSU," Louvenia said. "I was quite studious, so my social life was limited, but I was very connected with the College’s math and science departments."

Afterward, Louvenia worked for a couple of years at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, but has been a housewife since her 1973 marriage.

"Our mother was the encourager, but Louvenia was the motivator," Maynor Jr. said. The Collins-Wilson family

WILSON FAMILY

As for Eliza’s other marital side, her Wilson trio of boys all attended Milford High School and Kent Vo-Tech, where they learned brick masonry. For awhile, it appeared at least Charlie was destined for that work.

Colly, however, enrolled at DSU on a wrestling scholarship in the fall of 1979. Charlie would soon follow on track and wrestling scholarships.

"I lost my passion for brick masonry because of the cold weather," Dr. Charlie Wilson said. "I also lost it because my brother (Colly) was at DSU and having a lot of parties."

Ron also attended DSU on a track scholarship and would be Charlie’s roommate in Evers Hall during 1983-84.

Colly — who passed away in 1997 — did not complete his degree work at DSU, but Charlie earned a 1984 Bachelor of Science in Biology and Ron earned a 1985 degree in Business. All three brothers enlisted in the U.S. Marines after their time on campus.

Three brothers all attended Milford High School and went on to careers in various fields.

"All throughout growing up, she got straight As." Maynor Jr. graduated from DSU in 1969 with a degree in Mathematics. After a career that included work with Mobil Oil Co. and AT&T, he most recently was a lending specialist for JP Morgan Chase before settling into retirement.

His son Maynor Aaron Collins followed in his family’s footsteps and graduated from DSU in 1995 with a degree in Marketing and Business Administration. He would work for JP Morgan Chase with his father (who says his son is responsible for getting him a job there), and now currently has a position with GMAC Mortgage.

Ron and Charlie — both the eldest siblings in their family — attended DSU first, with Ron returning in 1997, where he has been a faculty member ever since.

Ron held rank of captain in the Marines (the only commissioned officer among his three brothers) and afterward worked in business and law enforcement in Windsor, Conn. Over the last 10 years, he has taught marketing and entrepreneurship as well as coached track at Windsor High School.

Ron’s first daughter was Roselita Turner, who would go on to not only serve as the 2002-2003 Miss DSU, but would also earn two degrees from the DSU, a 2003 bachelor’s degree in Public Relations and a 2005 Master of Business Administration.

Meanwhile, Ron would go on to marry Jackie (Carmichael) Wilson, who graduated from DSU in 1988 with a bachelor’s degree in Business. Their union has produced three children who are all currently enrolled at DSU — Justin, a senior social work major; Jordan, a junior social work major; and Jarice, a freshman biology major. Jordan and Jarice are both members of the DSU track teams.

Below right: Ron Wilson with his wife former Jackie Carmichael, is a 1988 DSU graduate, and their children also followed in their footsteps at DSU. From left are Jordan Wilson, Janase Wilson, Ron Wilson, Roselita Turner ‘93, ‘96, Justin Wilson and Jackie Wilson. 

Photos courtesy of the Collins family

Photos courtesy of the Wilson family

Collins, Wilson families build DSU legacy

Dr. Charlie Wilson, a DSU associate professor of biology, instructs students in the classroom.

Below left: Dr. Charlie Wilson, left, shown with teammate Ron Merritt, enrolled at then-Delaware State College on track and wrestling scholarships. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 1984.

Below right: Ron Wilson, who earned a 1985 degree in Business, also attended DSU on a track scholarship. His wife, the former Jackie Carmichael, is a 1988 DSU graduate, and their children also followed in their footsteps at DSU. From left are Jordan Wilson, Janase Wilson, Ron Wilson, Roselita Turner ’93, ’96, Justin Wilson and Jackie Wilson.

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Collins, Wilson families build DSU legacy
More than 300 step out for President’s Scholarship Ball

The 2012 President’s Scholarship Ball, held in December at Dover Downs Hotel and Casino, raised more than $83,200 for student scholarships. As guests arrived, they were greeted by the DSU String Ensemble and the DSU Jazz Band, led by Dr. Yvonne Johnson and Randolph Johnson, respectively. Staff members and volunteers, including 19 Aspire students, hosted more than 300 guests. All of those in attendance enjoyed an evening of fine dining, dancing to music performed by The Quake band of Philadelphia, Pa., and bidding on more than 55 items in the silent auction.

The Delaware State University Foundation would like to extend special appreciation to the ball’s sponsors:

Premier Sponsors
• Delmarva Power
• DuPont

Newspaper Sponsor
• Delaware State News

Gold Sponsor
• Blood Bank of Delmarva

Entertainment Sponsors
• Bayhealth Medical Center
• PNC Bank

Event Décor Sponsors
• Wegman’s Blue Cross Blue Shield of Delaware
• SB & Company Inc.

Table Sponsors
• Aramark
• AstraZeneca
• Christiana Care
• DSU Student Government Association
• Follett
• Johnson Controls
• WSFS

Giving to DSU

Saturday, December 14, 2013
Dover Downs Hotel and Casino
Tickets on sale NOW | Sponsorship opportunities available
www.desu.edu/presidents-scholarship-ball
Grant funds ‘Healthy Kent’ church-based program

The Delaware Center for Health Promotion at Delaware State University was awarded a health promotion grant in the amount of $83,453 from Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield for the “Healthy Kent County, the Heart of Delaware” pilot program.

Kent is the least healthy county in Delaware, as evidenced by its higher rates of chronic disease. Many of these illnesses are preventable and behavior-based, particularly cardiovascular disease, which is the leading cause of death in Delaware. The program will be in partnership with Kent County churches to ensure its efficacy, as faith-based initiatives have been shown to be effective in delivering health promotion, prevention and education activities. A myriad of health promotion activities are planned for the first church to participate in the study, Calvary Baptist Church in Dover.

SEMINARS FOCUS ON PLANNED GIVING TOPICS

As part of its community outreach on topics related to planning giving, DSU’s Office of Development in February hosted a seminar for business professionals on tax law changes featuring Keith Thompson, CPA, of Dingle & Kane, PA, in Newark, Del. A second seminar is planned June 12 from 12:15-1 p.m. in the DSU Administration Building’s fourth floor Multipurpose Room featuring W. Christopher Kreicker, CFA, senior managing director at Wilmington Trust, on the capital markets

OSHER REENTRY SCHOLARSHIP FOR ADULT LEARNERS FUNDED FOR SECOND YEAR

In an effort to better assist nontraditional students desiring to begin or resume their college education at Delaware State University, the Bernard Osher Foundation recently awarded $50,000 to DSU’s Osher Reentry Scholarship Program. This is the second year that DSU has received support for its efforts in educating adult learners. The Osher Reentry Scholarship Fund is targeted

HERITAGE FRIENDS OF DSU HOST 2ND ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP SUNDAY

The Heritage Friends of Delaware State University Scholarship Committee in February coordinated the 2nd Annual Scholarship Sunday, a special day in which participating churches throughout the state of Delaware request a special offering from their congregations to benefit the DSU Scholarship Fund. To date, the effort has raised more than $3,600 from more than 150 donors.

DID YOU KNOW?

• Your United Way contribution can help DSU students.

If you participate in your employer’s United Way campaign, you can select Delaware State University as a recipient of your contribution. In doing so, you will help provide much-needed scholarship support to deserving DSU students.

Osher Reentry Scholarship Fund promotes volunteering

The Delaware State University and the United Way of Delaware have teamed up to launch a campus-based, student-led organization that works in partnership with the United Way of Delaware. The Delaware State University’s Student United Way initiative consists of an Executive Board committed to lending its time and talent for the benefit of the surrounding community. Students focus on supporting the United Way of Delaware’s community impact goals in the areas of education, income and health. Additionally, the DSU Student United Way works closely with the United Way of Delaware to provide volunteer support for its partner agencies.

Through its efforts, the DSU Student United Way participants hope to inspire volunteerism and promote one of the University’s core values — outreach — within their own community and after graduation.

Student-led United Way group promotes volunteerism

New volleyball, women’s soccer coaches named

La Kiya Killingworth-Putney recently joined the Delaware State University Athletics Department as the Hornets’ head volleyball coach. Killingworth-Putney previously served as the assistant volleyball coach at Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, Fla. Additionally, she was assistant coach for the USA Volleyball Florida Region High Performance Program, the Volleyball Academy of Winter Springs, Fla., and Winter Springs High School. Prior to her coaching debut, Killingworth-Putney was a stellar student-athlete in the Southeastern Conference at the University of Florida. Some of her athletic accomplishments included All-SEC, NCAA Regional All-Tournament, American Volleyball Coaches Association All-South Region and All-American Honorable Mention. “We are pleased to announce the hire of Coach La Kiya Killingworth-Putney. She will change the face of the Delaware State University volleyball program,” said DSU Athletics Director Candy Young.
1. During the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament in March, Jimmie ’66 and Tina Strong ’65 were honored as Delaware State University’s nominees for the 2013 MEAC Distinguished Alumni Award. The Strongs are shown with President Harry L. Williams, right.

Fans celebrate basketball teams’ seasons

At the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament in March, fans had the opportunity to celebrate DSU’s accomplishments at the Hornets Fan Pride Center produced annually by the Division of Institutional Advancement.

MEN
Delaware State’s furious comeback from a 10-point deficit in the final 1:17 fell short in a 84-78 loss to North Carolina A&T during the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Basketball Tournament semifinals in Norfolk, Va., in March. The sixth-seeded Hornets advanced to the semifinals for the first time since 2010 with a 63-60 quarterfinal win over Hampton. The team ended its season at 15-18.

WOMEN
Ninth seed DSU opened its tournament play with a victory over No. 8 Bethune-Cookman, a win that snapped a five-game MEAC Tournament losing streak for the Lady Hornets. The team fell to No. 1 seed Hampton in the quarterfinals and ended its season with a 10-21 overall record.

2. The DSU cheerleaders give a performance at the Hornets Fan Pride Center at the 2013 MEAC Basketball Tournament in Norfolk, Va.

3. Rose Austin ’77 gets into the spirit by dancing with Too-Fly at the Hornets Fan Pride Center.

4. Marques Oliver goes for a basket during the Hornets’ MEAC semifinal game against North Carolina A&T.

Other DSU fans who came out for the Hornets Fan Pride Center included:

5. From left, Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter members David Redden, Esq., ’85, Armelis Howard ’78, Frankie Mankley ’79 and Chapter President Albert West ’74.

6. Carolyn Gaines Whitaker, left, and Esthelda Parker-Selby ’71.

7. Delaware State University Alumni Association President Dr. K. Bernard Chase ’72, left, and Al Outlaw ’71.

8. From left, Executive Director of Admissions Erin Hill, Associate Athletics Director and Senior Woman Administrator Mary Hill and Assistant Equipment Manager Arthur Wright.

9. Mary Borden ’68, left, and Deborah Street ’86.
From the 1950s to now, 6 decades of significant campus growth

The State College for Colored Students began the institution's history in 1892 with only three buildings — one somewhat substantial mansion structure (by the 1700s standard) and a hastily built president's cottage and carpentry building.

By 1952 — about 60 years later — Delaware State College's growth in physical infrastructure can barely be called modest, as there were just over 20 buildings on campus, but only seven could be called substantial structures.

Fast-forward another 61 years, and to the amazement of residents who have watched the institution's expansion over the last six decades and the alumni who return to their alma mater after many years, DSU has developed into an impressive physical plant.

The development of DSU throughout its 122-year history reflects the degree to which the state of Delaware financially supported the institution it created — inconsistently low levels of state financial support during its first six decades, followed by much more consistent and unprecedented levels of major capital improvement funding.

Of the seven substantial buildings on campus in 1952, state funding paid for only four of them. Lockerman Hall, the former Mam College Building, was part of the state's original 1891 purchase of the property and was paid for out of the $8,000 allocated to establish the institution; 10 years later, the state earmarked $6,000 for the construction of Lore Hall, a women's dorm.

It would be more than 20 years before the state would yield any capital improvement funding for the College. In the 1920s, the state allocated a then-unprecendented $275,000 for the construction of Delaware Hall, an administration/classroom building, and Conrad Hall, a cafeteria. Any hopes, however, that the capital improvement funding might signal a new supportive attitude among legislators was dispelled by the next 20 years in which no new construction money would come from the state.

The Library was originally built with funding College President William C. Jason raised. The DuPont Building (the high school on campus) and the President's Residence were both built with money from philanthropist Pierre du Pont.

The 1950s would be the beginning of improved state financial support for the infrastructure growth of the institution. Over the next 60 years (1953 to present), the number of buildings on campus would double.

The dramatic physical plant increase during the second half of the institution's history began with the completion of Tubman Hall in 1953. However, the improved relationship between the state legislature and DSC under the leadership of President Jerome Holland (1953-60) is what established a more favorable relationship with the state and the expansion of the University.

That relationship with the state would continue in subsequent DSC administrations, which would also be a factor in the institution's increase in enrollment from a few hundred students in the 1950s to the current 4,000-plus students.

The increase in physical infrastructure would keep pace with the growing enrollment, with a prolific construction agenda over the last six decades that included the Mishoe Science Center, two athletic booster clubs, and a growing number of residence halls that meet the needs of DSU's students.

In memoriam

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

Alumni
Donald A. Wright '65 Jan. 7, 2013
Bernice (Holland) Cephas '44 Jan. 12, 2013
Elsham R. (Griggs) Biddle '75 Jan. 26, 2013
Deborah A. (Dennis) Jackson '87 Feb. 8, 2013
Brenda (Borden) Evans '74 Feb. 9, 2013
Roland L. Henry '68 Feb. 26, 2013
Morevil (Hopkins) Hyland '65 March 4, 2013
James C. Moxe '56 March 12, 2013
James P. Connor Jr. '70 March 21, 2013
Reba N. Heinz '73 April 3, 2013
Willard D. Johnson '65 April 22, 2013
Doris R. Neeley '63 April 8, 2012
Donald Thomas Sr. '89 March 17, 2002

Faculty and staff
Sylvia A. Pendleton '96 March 18, 2013
Financial Aid and Admissions departments, 1968-2010
Reginald Gordon Kennedy Dec. 29, 2012
Assistant resident manager, 1988-1995
Olivia Paula Wynn Washington April 11, 2013
Assistant professor, Department of Sociology
and Urban Affairs, 1967-1988

Note: Death notices sent to the Alumni Office must be accompanied by a creditable piece of documentation such as a death certificate, funeral program or a letter from a family member.
Roslyn Wyche-Hamilton was named the winner of a Jefferson Award. A prestigious national recognition system honoring community and public service in America. As part of the award’s local recognition, she was featured on WBOC-TV Channel 16 in February.

Alisha Broughton was named the winner of the Harriet Tubman Program. During an event in which Gov. Jack Markell signed a proclamation making March 10 Harriet Tubman Day in Delaware, DSU alumni represented themselves well through music and dramatic presentations. As a kickoff to 10 days of events celebrating Tubman’s historic contributions as the conductor of the Underground Railroad — which crossed through the First State — the proclamation signing was part of a program at the Old Statehouse in Dover.

From left are Brice Watson, a United Airlines pilot and 1994 DSU Aviation Program graduate; Matthew Jones, a senior Aviation Management major and current DSU Aviation Program graduate; and Samuel White, a senior Aviation Management major and 1994 DSU Aviation Program graduate.

Sharon N. Williams was named the winner of the DSU Alumni Association’s 2013 Assistant Principal of the Year. Williams graduated from Delaware State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Teleproduction and in 2000 with a Master of Business Administration. Williams is the founder of the Mahogany Project, a theater and film organization in Seattle.

Clifton Hayes, left, with U.S. Sen. Tom Carper during Assistant Principal of the Year Capitol Hill Day.

Ernest Ackiah is the owner of Boss Barber shop in Dover, Del. He previously worked as an investment accountant, including nine years at BNY Mellon — previously PPFIC-PNC (GS) — in Wilmington, Del., where he held supervisory positions. He has also worked at T. Rowe Price in the Baltimore, Md., area where he held a team coordinator position. Already being an accomplished barber, Ackiah pursued his passion, opening his barbershop in 2011. Ackiah received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting from Delaware State University. He received a Master of Business Administration from Gilday-Bacoon College in 2006.

Clifton Hayes, assistant principal at Howard High School of Technology in Wilmington since 2006, was selected as the 2013 Delaware Secondary Assistant Principal of the Year by the Delaware Association of Secondary School Principals. In addition, he was recently selected as the new principal for Delaware Technical High School for the upcoming school year. Hayes earned his bachelor’s degrees in Elementary and Special Education from Delaware State University and his master’s degree in Special Education from West Virginia University. He is currently a doctoral candidate at GSU. He was previously a special education teacher in math and social studies at Howard from 2001 to 2004 and a discipline specialist at Delaware Technical High School from 2004 to 2006.

Kelley Wilson-Everett co-founded youth Angel Scholars Inc., a 501C3 nonprofit organization whose mission is to help youth ages 13-18 transform in the areas of health, civic service, academics, entrepreneurship and leadership. The Youth Angel Scholars Teen Transformation Program provides a variety of yearlong activities designed to cultivate youth members personally and professionally.

In March, the organization held the second annual GEAR Up Career Day Exhibition, providing Philadelphia youth with an interactive approach to entrepreneurship and to GEAR Up (Gain Early Awareness and Readiness) for career success. Jamahal Boyd ’97, the program’s keynote “Scholar Guest,” provided youth participants, educators and parents with a wealth of knowledge about understanding personal brand and using it to develop the “elevator speech” to get the job interview. He also touched on how some help makes a great first impression.

Aaron Wright has been named the director of operations of the Washington (D.C.) Marriott. With nearly 15 years at Marriott International, Wright previously was director of hotel operations since April 2011 at the Bethesda (Md.) Suites Marriott. He began his career as an intern at the Washington (D.C.) Marriott Downtown Courtyard, upon graduation. Wright joined the Philadelphia Airport Marriott as the assistant restaurant manager. Over the years, he has held multiple management positions including dual assistant general manager of both the Renaissance SouthPark and Marriott SouthPark hotels in Charlotte, N.C. Wright received a Bachelor of Science degree in Hospitality and Tourism Management from Delaware State University. He resides in Maryland with his wife and two sons.

Do you have something exciting to report to your fellow alumni? Have you changed careers, been promoted, retired or expanded your family?

Email your news (up to 100 words) for Class Notes, along with a high-resolution photo (300 dpi) to alumni@desu.edu or visit desu.edu/echo-form.
Lazy days of summer? Not at DSU

Undergraduate courses
For Summer 2013, save 35 percent* on tuition for undergraduate courses

Delaware teachers
Take two summer school courses for the price of one
Session I: May 20 to June 27
Session II: July 1 to Aug. 8

Children and teenagers
Airway science to finance, Robotics to culinary arts and computer graphics to sports, DSU has youth camps for every age group and interest.

To learn more or to register, visit www.desu.edu/summer

*Current prices are reduced 35% from last year