New Wilmington and residential facilities, charter school will help University move its focus areas forward

GROWING AND CHANGING

Nationally renowned educator Kent Amos ’70 helps youths succeed

Football, soccer and volleyball season previews
With new properties and charter school, DSU’s progress continues

Dear DSU alumni and friends,

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s my third annual President’s Prayer Breakfast on Sept. 20 approaches, I am reminded daily that the University has so much to be thankful for. The DSU history article in this issue of The Echo reminds us of a time about 60 years ago when the continued existence of this institution was not assured. However, then-Delaware State College was able to navigate through that troublesome period of the early 1950s and lay the groundwork for subsequent administrations to build upon.

That progress has continued through the leadership eras of Dr. Jerome Holland, Dr. Luna L. Mishoe, Dr. William B. DeLauder, Dr. Allen L. Sessions, Dr. Claibourne D. Smith as well as the present administration under my charge. The recent growth at DSU is happening in some expected and unexpected ways, all generating an unbounded excitement in the University’s current direction.

In this issue, you will read about how DSU is moving ahead with its establishment of an Early College High School, the first such school in the state of Delaware. The public charter school will prepare its students for college through a curriculum of Integrated Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subject matter. That progress has continued through the leadership eras of Dr. Jerome Holland, Dr. Luna L. Mishoe, Dr. William B. DeLauder, Dr. Allen L. Sessions, Dr. Claibourne D. Smith as well as the present administration under my charge. The recent growth at DSU is happening in some expected and unexpected ways, all generating an unbounded excitement in the University’s current direction.

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You will also read about how the University will utilize a couple of new properties acquisitions.

One, first announced about two years ago, will facilitate the expansion of DSU’s academic offerings in New Castle County. The other will provide additional residential space while some of the older halls on campus are modernized.

All of these developments are consistent with the University’s current priorities as reflected in its new Strategic Plan that is close to completion.

As the University grows and changes, we want you to stay connected to your alma mater and be well-versed in its ongoing developments.

Being able to speak knowledgeably about DSU reflects well not only on the institution you graduated from, but on you as well. It makes you every bit as much a part of the success stories that you read about in The Echo.

With new properties and charter school, DSU’s progress continues.
Property acquisitions and planned charter school will help University move focus areas forward

A few years ago, Delaware State University began exploring the possibility of acquiring two new off-campus facilities that would expand its academic and residential capacity, while at the same time looking into establishing a charter school.

Today, DSU is bring to fruition all of those pursuits.

The currently 13th ranked HBCU in the country is busy with the following developments:

- The acquisition of a new building in west Wilmington that will result in an expansion of DSU’s academic offerings in New Castle County.
- The finalization of a lease agreement (with an option to buy) of the former Sheraton Hotel in Dover, which the University will use as additional residential space.
- The moving ahead with plans to establish an Early College High School that will focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) areas to prepare students for college-level education.

President Harry L. Williams notes that all three new developing areas are aligned with the University’s current priority focus areas: 1.) STEM, 2.) Improving retention and graduation rates, 3.) International programs and 4.) Health and wellness.

“These major focuses are consistent with the University’s Strategic Plan which is close to being finalized, and therefore so are these latest developments,” Williams said. “They are all aligned with the anticipation of growth at DSU.”

* Story and photos by Carlos Holmes
The University's residential possibilities have been expanded with the finalization of an agreement with the former owners of the Sheraton Hotel in Dover in which DSU has entered into a 15-year, $12-million property for educational purposes. The agreement also includes an option to have a comfortable place to live while we demolish some of the older halls and this will allow our students to modernize our residential environment that helps keep students with our health and wellness focus, it creates an educational alternative by making higher education more accessible, affordable and attractive by bridging the divide between high school and college. Housing a high school on the DSU campus is not unprecedented in the University's history. In the 1893-94 school year, the then-State College for Colored Students established a two-year preparatory school to help students get ready for a college education. In 1917, a Model Grade School was established by DSU that granted a high school diploma to graduates. Capital improvement donations by philanthropist Pierre du Pont in the 1920s included funding to construct a new school building named the DuPont Building. That building served as the only high school facility for African-Americans in Kent County until 1952.

"Adding an Early College High School on DSU's campus is consistent with the University's historic mission and would strengthen the University's ability to meet its historic mission and would strengthen the University's ability to meet the needs of 21st-century learners," said Thompson. "We are committed to making this school a good fit for our community and to offering Delawareans an educational alternative by making higher education more accessible, affordable and attractive by bridging the divide between high school and college."

K-12 Service for the Christina School District in New Castle County, Del., prior to that, she held leadership and supervisory posts at the Delaware State Board of Education and the Red Clay School District in Delaware. The State Board of Education approved the University's charter school application in 2012.

The planned charter high school will be the state's first Early College High School, which will be designed specifically to serve first generation college-bound students. The Early College High School is a nationally recognized school design brought to Delaware through a partnership between Innovative Schools, a Delaware-based nonprofit public school support organization, and EdWorks, a nationally known consultant that specializes in high school innovations. Dr. Alton Thompson, DSU provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, noted there are more than 240 early college high schools nationwide, but the first at DSU will be the first in Delaware. "There is a lot of excitement about DSU's Early College High School," he said. "We are convinced that it will make a difference in retention and graduation rates. Research has shown that most students who attend an early college high school go on to graduate from college."

The ECHS is consistent with the University's land grant mission (access and opportunity), with its strategic priority focus on STEM, and with its vision and core values. The ECHS students will be able to earn a maximum of 60 hours of college credit.

"The Early College High School at DSU will be an innovative learning environment designed to inspire students who have the potential and motivation to be the first in their families to graduate from college," said Thompson. "We are committed to making this school a good fit for our community and to offering Delawareans an educational alternative by making higher education more accessible, affordable and attractive by bridging the divide between high school and college."

"The Early College High School at DSU will be an innovative learning environment designed to inspire students who have the potential and motivation to be the first in their families to graduate from college." Dr. Alton Thompson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs

DSU is steadily moving toward the scheduled opening of its Early College High School in the fall of 2014. The University recently announced the appointment of Dr. Judi L. Coffined as the charter school director. Since 2011, she has been the director of K-12 Service for the Christina School District in New Castle County, Del., prior to that, she held leadership and supervisory posts at the Delaware State Board of Education and the Red Clay School District in Delaware.

The University is currently working on the state’s first Early College High School, which will be designed specifically to serve first generation college-bound students. The Early College High School is a nationally recognized school design brought to Delaware through a partnership between Innovative Schools, a Delaware-based nonprofit public school support organization, and EdWorks, a nationally known consultant that specializes in high school innovations. Dr. Alton Thompson, DSU provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, noted there are more than 240 early college high schools nationwide, but the first at DSU will be the first in Delaware. "There is a lot of excitement about DSU’s Early College High School," he said. "We are convinced that it will make a difference in retention and graduation rates. Research has shown that most students who attend an early college high school go on to graduate from college."
Neuroscience program receives $433,645 research grant

DSU’s Neuroscience Research Program has been awarded a three-year, $433,645 grant from the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. The grant is an Academic Research Enhancement Award that will fund DSU’s research into the development of spinal motor neurons — the nerve cells that drive contractions of skeletal muscle. Dr. Melissa Harrington, professor of biological sciences and director of the Delaware Center for Neuroscience Research, is the principal investigator of the research grant. She said that two graduate students and one undergraduate will work with her on the research. Harrington’s lab will use electrophysiology to measure the activity of motor neurons and confocal imaging to visualize motor neuron synapses. These experiments will help determine what neurotransmitter is released at synapses formed by motor neurons on other neurons, and investigate how contact with muscle cells and the formation of neuromuscular junctions influence which neurotransmitter is released.

It is hoped, in turn, that the findings will lead to new insights into the pathophysiology of neuromuscular disorders, including developmental motor neuron diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy and muscular dystrophy.

Dr. Harrington is SMART Woman of the Year

The Strengthening the Mid-Atlantic Region for Tomorrow organization has awarded Dr. Melissa Harrington its 2013 SMART Woman of the Year Award. Harrington has been a principal investigator or co-PI on 19 successful research and infrastructure grants that have brought more than $23 million in federal funding to DSU. That includes her PI achievement in attracting a $10.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health for the establishment of the Delaware Neuroscience Center for Neuroscience Research, a joint DSU and University of Delaware research collaboration.

The center has led to the recent achievement of attracting $433,645 research grant for the development of spinal motor neurons. Harrington’s lab will use electrophysiology to measure the activity of motor neurons and confocal imaging to visualize motor neuron synapses. These experiments will help determine what neurotransmitter is released at synapses formed by motor neurons on other neurons, and investigate how contact with muscle cells and the formation of neuromuscular junctions influence which neurotransmitter is released.

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With partnership, helicopter flight training offered

Delaware State University has expanded the training options of its Aviation Program by signing a new agreement with Horizon Helicopters Inc. of Newark, Del. The agreement establishes a University flight training partnership with the company to provide helicopter training as a new option in DSU’s Professional Pilot concentration of its Bachelor of Science in Aviation Program. Beginning this fall, DSU aviation students can choose between flight training on fixed-wing aircraft and/or on helicopters. The helicopter flight training will take place at the Horizon facility in Newark. The new partnership also opens the door for military veterans to use their Department of Defense benefits to enroll in the program.
DSU welcomes new appointees to leadership posts

DR. SAUNDRA DELAULDER, DEAN OF GRADUATE STUDIES
Dr. Saundra F. DeLauder, the new dean of Graduate Studies, comes to Delaware State University after serving in a variety of faculty, research and administrator posts at North Carolina Central University from 1996 to 2013, including associate dean of the College of Science and Technology and interim dean of Graduate Studies. She has a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Howard University.

DR. STACY DOWNING, ASSOCIATE VP OF STUDENT AFFAIRS
Dr. Stacy L. Downing, the new associate vice president of Student Affairs, previously served from 2011 to 2012 as the vice president for Student Affairs at Philander Smith College in Arkansas. She also held several director posts at the University of Cincinnati from 1999-2011. Downing has a Ed.D. in Urban Education Leadership form the University of Cincinnati.

Other recent appointments include:

- Dr. Marshà Horton, interim dean of the College of Education, Health and Public Policy
- Amir Mohammadi, interim dean of the College of Business (while continuing to serve as DSU’s executive vice president and University treasurer)
- Pamela Adams, new director of Spiritual Life and University chaplain
- Dr. Michael A. Boone, interim assistant vice president for Distance Education
- Alankato D. Cobb Sr., new assistant vice president of Facilities Management
- Erin Hill, newly promoted assistant vice president of Enrollment
- Ebony M. Ramsey, new director of Student Leadership and Activities
- Jordin Williams, new director of the Wellness and Recreation Center

Campus’s collection of trees and shrubs now an arboretum

As Delaware State University continues to make sustainability a priority on campus, its collection of 172 different species of trees and shrubs is in the spotlight. This spring, the University’s collection was designated as the DSU Arboretum.

Take a walk around campus, and you’ll notice every species of tree and shrub is marked with its own 4-by-6-inch label, a brochure with a map of the arboretum also is available showing their locations. Used for education and research, the arboretum also helps people learn to appreciate trees and their value, said Dr. Susan Yost, educator at the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium.

"Each tree has a story," she said.

Local species are an important part of the food web, she said, and the arboretum also simply adds beauty during much of the year.

“The campus really has pretty trees,” said Yost. The number of trees and shrubs on campus has grown in recent years, with 57 — including 35 new species — planted during 2010-2012.

A U.S. Department of Agriculture grant obtained by Yost partly funded the establishment of the arboretum and the recent planting, labeling and map updates. Work and upkeep is done with the support of Herbarium, Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and Cooperative Extension faculty and staff, student workers and volunteers.

DSU’s efforts have gained recognition from the DSU Arboretum is the only school with that title in Delaware and one of just two Historically Black Colleges and Universities nationwide. Tree Campus USAs are recognized for having an implemented plan for tree care that is supported by school allocations, an established Campus Tree Advisory Committee, related education outreach, as well as an annual observance of Arbor Day.

“arbor day foundation program manager.

TAKE A WALKING TOUR
Dr. Susan Yost will lead a nature walk on the arboretum trees Thursday, Oct. 17, at 1 p.m. The walk will begin in front of the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium in the U.S. Washington Jr. Cooperative Extension Center.

Arbor Day Foundation for the second year in a row, with the University again named a Tree Campus USA.

About the DSU Arboretum

The 172 campus tree species comprise 114 trees and 58 shrubs. 68 species are native to Delaware, 96 are non-native, and six are adventive species (not native to Delaware, but native to North America and now growing in the wild in Delaware). The arboretum recently became an official accredited arboretum on the Morton Register of Arboreta.

Recently added species

Among the 35 species planted in the last three years on campus, two-thirds were native trees and shrubs, including several species of oak (Quercus spp.); beach plum (Prunus maritima), with white flowers and edible fruits; American chestnut (Castanea dentata), a formerly widespread species decimated by the chestnut blight; and chinquapin (Castanea pumila), a shrubby relative of American chestnut with edible nuts.

Arboretum Map Online

To get a copy of the brochure with the map, a list of common and scientific names and map coordinates, visit herbarium.desu.edu. Then select the Morton Register of Arboreta.

The historic red maple (Acer rubrum) in front of Loockerman Hall will soon be in full fall color. Left: The majestic black walnut (Juglans nigra), one of the oldest and largest trees on campus (4 feet in diameter), graces Delaware Hall.
480 DIPLOMAS AWARDED
• Among the 2013 Delaware State University May graduating class’s 480 degrees — 391 bachelor’s degrees, 78 master’s degrees and 11 doctoral degrees — were 153 honors students, which included 25 Summa Cum Laudes (3.75 GPA or above), 43 Magna Cum Laudes (3.5 to 3.74), 70 Cum Laudes (3.25 to 3.49) and 13 honorable mentions.

TOTAL 2012-13 GRADUATES
• With the December 2012 and May 2013 Commencements combined, DSU graduated a school-record 677 students during the 2012-2013 school year. This total includes 2013 Delaware State University administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr., keynote speaker, and do it very well, and don’t let the opportunity to don’t listen to anyone who tells you that you can’t be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved the culture and the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have helped Ghana to be someone else’s shoes,” he said. “Doing a simple task that involved learning about the history of the United States have help
President named alma mater’s 2013 Distinguished Alumni

President Harry L. Williams has been honored by his alma mater, Appalachian State University, with its 2013 Distinguished Alumni Award in recognition of his achievements during his 23-year higher education career.

The award is given annually to an Appalachian graduate who has attained extraordinary distinction and success in his or her career field and has demonstrated exceptional and sustained leadership in the community.

Williams was described in the ceremony program as “a first-generation college student and a fierce advocate for higher education and for those hoping to pursue a college degree.” He also noted the numerous accomplishments that have taken place at DSU in his first 3½ years as president, including the research portfolio expansion, the University’s rise in HBCU rankings to 13th, as well as his leadership in testifying to a U.S. Senate committee on the escalating costs of higher education, student debt and what the federal government can do to make college more affordable for all Americans.

A native of Greenville, N.C., Williams says the Boone, N.C., university provided him with a strong foundation for success. “I can tie all the wonderful things that have happened in my life back to DSU,” he said.

Appalachian State University, Williams said. “He credits his mentors here — faculty, supervisors, staff and colleagues — with providing him with the skills and experiences he needed to test his wings, then to fly. We are all so proud that he is an Appalachian State University alumna,” said Susan McCracken, director of ASU External Affairs.

At Appalachian State, Williams earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication, a Master of Arts degree in Educational Media and An Education Specialist degree in Higher Education Administration. He went on to earn an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis from East Tennessee State University.

After graduating from Appalachian, Williams became its vice chancellor for Enrollment Services. He later served with the UNC General Administration as interim associate vice president for Academic Affairs and then interim senior associate vice president for Academic and Student Affairs. In 2008, he was hired as provost and vice president for Academic Affairs of DSU. Williams began his tenure as the 118th president of DSU in 2010.

Dr. Melekci speaks on Optics Research at Conference

Dr. Noureddine Melekci, dean of the College of Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology, was recently among a highly esteemed group of guest speakers who gave presentations at the eighth annual Night Vision Systems conference sponsored by the Institute for Defense and Government Advancement.

Melekci, who is also the vice president of Research, Innovation and Economic Development, gave a presentation on the optics research taking place at DSU, especially its links to the ongoing development of night vision technology that can be used in 21st century battlefield environments.
Alumni spotlight

When he was a young man, ‘Delaware State looked out for me,’ says Kent Amos ’70. A former Xerox executive, he is now a nationally renowned educator who has spent years doing the same for youths.

Kent B. Amos, Class of 1970, describes his undergraduate years at then-Delaware State College as a coming of age story.

“I went in as a colored boy, and I graduated as a black man,” said the former Xerox corporate executive and currently nationally renowned educator and Washington, D.C., charter school founder.

A significant part of his eternal love for his alma mater stems from the way it embraced him. Raised in Washington by his parents Benjamin F. and Gladys Mae Amos and a Calvin Coolidge High School track star, Amos won an athletic scholarship to attend American University. However, possessing a less-than-adequate focus on academics led him to leave the school after 1½ years. He would subsequently join the Air Force and then switch over to the Army, through which he went to Officers Candidate School.

Although he momentarily entertained the idea of a military career, he decided he wanted to give college another shot. His brother Ben recommended DSC.

“So with my brother and my father Benjamin F. Amos, we drove onto the campus. ... It was a farm ... it had cornfields, pigs and cows!” Amos said. “And as we were driving around, I kept saying, ‘I ain’t going to school on no farm!’

His concerns notwithstanding, the Amos trio met with then-DSU President Luna I. Mishoe in his office, where he reviewed young Kent’s American University transcripts. After looking through it, “he looked at the three of us, laid my transcript face down on his desk, slid it to the side and said, ‘Why don’t we just forget that. You are now going to be a freshman at Delaware State.’”

After the meeting, Amos said he continued to complain.

* Story and photos by Carlos Holmes
to his father about the farm atmosphere of the college. His father, an attorney, reminded him about his AU transcripts.

“Nobody but Del State will accept you but for what you are,” his father told him. “They accepted a failure, because they think they can make something out of you. So you don’t have a choice.”

**Military and time on campus**

Arriving as a 22-year-old freshman and as a commissioned officer in the Army National Guard, Amos immediately became the freshman class president and would go on to serve as the president of the Men’s Council, the Pan-Hellenic Council and ultimately as the Student Government Association president during his senior year. Because of his greater maturity, he would provide a needed counter balance in contrast to the rebelliousness of others in the student body in the mid- to late 1960s.

Noting that period’s nationwide thrust of “I’m Black and I’m Proud” sentiments, student rebellions and anti-establishment sensibilities, Amos said that his perspective was typically different from his college peers.

“Having worked in the military police in the Army and having worked in the U.S. Marshal’s Office in the court system, I understood violence at a level they didn’t understand,” he said. “So in the conversations we would have in the dormitory, my roommate and I would always be the odd men out.”

Amos vividly recalls driving back to his hometown following the April 4, 1968, assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and seeing billows of smoke rising from different sections of the city from the riotous response to the tragedy. Still serving in the National Guard as a second lieutenant, he was pressed into service and led a unit into the city to help restore the peace.

“Then a 23-year-old DSC sophomore, Amos — who had served in Vietnam — was the only one in his quickly formed Guard unit that had any combat experience. One of the first things the men under him wanted to know was if they would receive ammunitions to quell the riots.

“I said, ‘Never, because you all are not killing anybody. My goal is to keep you alive and the people alive,’” Amos said.

The following month, he had returned to campus in time to serve as a voice of reason during the May 1968 rebellion in which students took over the Grossley Administration Building, prompting the deployment of the Delaware National Guard and State Police to the campus.

During the one-day standoff, Amos said he stood with Dr. Misher outside of his president’s office window talking to the occupying students, which included then-recently suspended SGSA president Leroy Tate. The reasoning of Amos and the president along with others eventually defused the situation, and the students relinquished the building. Amos would later be a part of a Faculty-Administrators-Student Committee that developed recommendations to address the points of contention that brought about the demonstration.

One year later, Amos would be the first-ever SGSA president to address the DSC Board of Trustees during its regular meeting, at which time he detailed what he planned to accomplish as the top student leader during his 1969-70 senior year.

**Careers and family**

Amos graduated in 1970 but he would miss that year’s Commencement because he was serving the Guard in Cambodia. When he returned stateside, he would make his mark with Xerox, eventually becoming the first-ever African-American vice president of the corporation. He credits his DSC experience with making him comfortable with the ascending leadership positions he would assume as well as in competing intellectually at the highest levels of his domain.

“I became a confident black man in the true tradition of confident black men in American history who were exemplified by the DSC (faculty and administrators) I was exposed to — Dr. Misher, Earnest Talbert, Dr. Richard Wynder, John Price, U.S. Senator Edward W. Brooke, Washington, Harry Washington — all class acts who were able to model for me what my father showed me,” Amos said.

In 1982, Amos married his current wife Carmen and became a father to her son, Wesley and Deborah. In becoming a family man, he learned what the challenges entailed when his son came home one day with three new friends from his high school.

“We knew then that if we didn’t change that relationship, they were going to change him. Of course the easy answer was to (send them) to private school,” Amos said. “The more challenging and appropriate answer was to fix them. That is what we did.”

So Mr. and Mrs. Amos got to know those boys, opened their home to them and helped provide them with opportunities for positive life outcomes.

This led the couple to open their home to many other at-risk youths, offering them a home environment, financial support and a nurturing environment. Amos estimates that he and his wife have taken in about 85 children under their wing in their home. It ultimately led Amos to leave his Xerox executive job in the 1980s to focus full-time on family and youths.

When asked about the inspiration for such an undertaking, Amos pointed to his alma mater.

“Delaware State looked out for me, so how was I going to turn my back on these kids. DSC didn’t turn its back on me,” he said.

The Amoses went on to establish the Urban Family Institute, which provided structure for their initiatives; the Kids House, which was an after-school program modeled on what they did for youth in their home that has expanded to 23 states; and finally the Dorothy Height Community Academy Public Charter School, one of the leading charter schools in Washington. He has shared his story and perspectives on youths, family and education on many local and national radio and television shows, including the Oprah Winfrey Show, as well as in countless newspapers, magazines and books.

As Amos approaches age 70 next May, with all he has accomplished, he is still not satisfied.

“To this day, I operate my business and run my life on the principle that it is not just a nice idea to give back to that which made you who you are. It is an obligation and a responsibility,” said Kent Amos ’70, center, shown with Dorothy Height Community Academy Public Charter School secretary Jackie Patterson, left, and executive assistant Sandy Wallace.

For Amos, giving back is as a fundamental part of his being as the blood that courses through his body. He said that goes back to his Delaware State connection where so many people made a difference in his life.

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“So I don’t have to be told by anyone in the alumni office or administration of DSU or Coolidge that it would be a nice idea to give back. I have no choice. They made it possible for me to be who I am, in addition obviously to my family. My life was changed forever.”

**CAREER**

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**SERVICE ON CAMPUS**

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I ended up being the first black vice president in Xerox history, made my money and all of those things,” Amos said. “But what I want to do now is far more important — to build structures to give children who have been shunted to the side an opportunity to be a success, in a much broader way than the narrow view that too many people have today about education.

“My goal is to change the systems nationally,” he said. “We are still not there yet.”

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“To this day, I operate my business and run my life on the principle that it is not just a nice idea to give back to that which made you who you are. It is an obligation and a responsibility,” he said.

“So I don’t have to be told by anyone in the alumni office or administration of DSU or Coolidge that it would be a nice idea to give back. I have no choice. They made it possible for me to be who I am, in addition obviously to my family. My life was changed forever.”

**What I want to do now is ... build structures to give children who have been shunted to the side an opportunity to be a success.**
CURRENT JOB: Barnett is a television producer specializing in development, production and casting in the field of docu-reality programming, splitting her time between projects in Los Angeles, New York and the Caribbean.

During her 7-season run with the show “America’s Next Top Model,” she rose through the ranks from her initial casting associate position to become one of the series’ creative producers. Since then, Barnett has expanded her network to include continuous work with other series including “Mary Mary,” “The Good Life,” “You’re Cut Off!,” “The Bad Girls Club,” “Gerson Nation,” “She’s Got the Look,” “WHV’S House of Consignment” and future pilot projects including a dance series for OWN, a musical-based pilot for CBS and the globally franchised ITV-produced series “The Audience.” In 2011, she stepped into the consulting producer role, spending time in Trinidad as the on-set brand and creative consultant for the new “Caribbean’s Next Top Model” series.

Trinidad-born and raised Barnett is the co-founder of a television production company along with her sister and fellow DSU alum, Jeanine Barnett ’00. Launched in 2011, 25Eight Productions’ initial projects focus on producing content that bridges the informational and creative divide between the U.S. and the Caribbean region.

HOW DID YOUR DSU EDUCATION HELP YOU MEET YOUR GOALS?

My DSU education equipped me with more than just the working knowledge and standard “how-to’s” of television production. More than that, my experience at DSU brought me together with great mentors and industry peers that function as collaborative creative sources and sounding boards. I still go to fellow TV majors from my 1999-2003 years for advice, feedback and general support as I navigate my career.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DSU MEMORY?

I have had some great times at DSU, so it’s really hard to pick a favorite. I can say I had some of my best and most hilarious moments with my ETV crew, when they handed the reins of the TV station to a group of us and it was the first time for many of us that we really got to experiment with how we wanted to express our voice and our ideas and follow through on those ideas and see them come to life. … Even today when I watch one of my shows or documentaries air for the first time, it’s the same feeling I experienced back then, knowing that an idea that one person had can develop into a project that affects countless others. It’s funny because I’m still close to most if not all of my ETV team and to this day, I see ideas countless others. It’s funny because I’m still close to most if not all of my ETV team and to this day, I see ideas that we spoke about or joked about as interns — now running full steam ahead on major networks today!

WHAT DO YOU MISS ABOUT DSU?

When I think about DSU, I miss the limitless possibilities of my DSU experience — the freedom of exploration, being able to try new things without the “real world” pressure of making it financially lucrative. Being such a small campus, there was a natural family community that nurtured you but also pushed you to test your limits and try different things and open a door that no one else has tried. Every day there was a new club, a new organization, or a new opportunity to get involved or to step into a leadership role or travel to a conference to represent the school. In that environment, innovation and inspiration flourished, and I just remember being one of a circle of friends who were always trying new things or campaigning for something or starting a new club.

HOW WERE YOU INVOLVED ON CAMPUS AS A STUDENT?

As a student, I served as Miss Caribbean Student Union as a freshman, president of the Student Ambassadors Association, Miss Junior 2001-2002 and a Reading Lab tutor for all four years at DSU. I also held the position of the ETV station manager for my senior year. During this time, I maintained a 3.9 GPA and traveled to Cuba twice as part of Professor Delilah-Wickman’s journalism experience program.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU HAVE FOR STUDENTS LOOKING TO FIND SUCCESS IN YOUR FIELD?

For any student seeking to succeed in the field of television and/or film, the advice I can offer is 1) always be prepared and 2) networking never stops. My particular genre of television is docu-reality and while there is a certain hierarchy and structure to the industry and you should always be your most professional, many of the interactions and deals also happen in casual, social settings. I say that to say “you’re never off” — if your goal is to make great contacts, your business card should always be on you. If your goal is to sell a show concept, you should have that :30 second pitch down and ready to go whenever someone has the time to spare, even if it’s in the craziest place. As casual and “easy” as the world of TV may seem, getting into the right networks and circles is very difficult, and it’s better to make a professional first impression and then show an easier side when appropriate. … Strike that balance between being professional and showing your hunger for your goal, and people will take notice.

YOU COULD BE 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.
Members of the Class of 1963 revisited memories of their days at then-Delaware State College during a 50th anniversary reception held on campus in their honor during May Commencement weekend. Several also participated in the Commencement ceremony the next day.

Class of 1963 members who took part in the reunion weekend

Sonja Brown  
Dorothy “Dot” Brady Cooper  
Dr. Charlestine R. Hickson Fairley  
JoAnne Blocksom Gibson  
Major Thornton Hairston Jr.  
William Henry Hill  
Leila Woolford-Holmes  
Drucilla Mosely Jackson  
William Johnson  
Leilah Christine Smith Murrell  
Suzanne Parrott  
Dr. Jeanette C. Palmer Taylor  
Cecil Wilson

Making their mark on a global scale

Halway across the world, a product of Delaware State University’s master’s and doctoral degree programs is managing a multimillion dollar company while his wife — also a graduate of the same programs — is teaching university-level mathematics.

Bing Han and his wife, Chao Yu, are using the advanced degrees they earned at DSU to propel their careers in business and higher education, respectively. Both earned Master of Science degrees in Applied Optics and Ph.D.s. in Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Physics. Yu completed her doctoral degree in 2009, while Han finished his in 2012.

Both have returned to their native China to make their country a beneficiary of the knowledge they attained at DSU. Han is the general manager of Jingxin Automotive Interior Decoration Inc., a designer and manufacturer of car interior elements for 15 different automobile manufacturers, including General Motors, BMW, Volkswagen, Fiat, as well Inteva, one of the world’s largest global automotive suppliers.

The company, which employs more than 1,300 people, brought in more than $19 billion in revenue in 2012.

Yu teaches mathematics at Liaoning University in the Chinese city of Shenyang.

Han said both he and his wife enjoyed their time at DSU.

“The mathematics courses helped me to deal better with problems and how to arrive at solutions,” Han said.

Not only an advanced student at DSU, Han was also a mathematics instructor and was the University’s first-ever Chinese language teacher. “Teaching classes at DSU helped me greatly with my English,” Han said. “Because a lot of Jingxin’s customers are international, my improved English has helped me to communicate with a lot of them.”

Han and Yu have two children, a son named Jiaxu and a daughter, Catherine, who was actually born during their time in the United States, giving the child citizenship in both the U.S. and China.

Han and Yu were recently reunited in China with Dr. Fengshan Liu and President Harry L. Williams, who traveled to the country in June to meet with some university collaborators of DSU. He said he thinks highly of Dr. Williams.

“(Dr. Williams) is a nice person who cares about the Chinese people,” Han said. “I believe he will bring a bright future for DSU.”

“I tell them to talk with Americans and get to know American society,” he said. “I tell them to learn the culture because the current America is the future of China.”

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* Story by Carlos Holmes

Above: From left, Bing Han, President Harry L. Williams and Chao Yu. Han and Yu both received Master of Science degrees in Applied Optics and Ph.D.s. in Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Physics from DSU.
While many alumni have DSU legacies that go far back into the institution's history, the family of Elizabeth Shockley-Palmer goes back as far as anyone — all the way to the very beginning of the then-State College for Colored Students.

Samuel L. Conwell, her great uncle, was the first instructor hired at the fledging College in 1891. He was also hired to serve as the first assistant to Wesley Webb, the institution's inaugural president.

Born in Slaughter Neck, Del., in 1858, the son of David and Sarah Conwell, he would go on to earn a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

Prior to being hired by the College, Conwell taught in the colored schools in Delaware. In 1888, he married Rhoda Ellen Young of Milford, Del., three years before Delaware became a state.

Conwell died at age 85.

The legacy of teaching that began with Conwell would be a family tradition. Nearly 60 years later, his niece Elizabeth Shockley-Palmer would become the first female faculty member of the State College for Colored Students.

Elizabeth Shockley-Palmer '45, left, Alonzo Shockley Jr. '43 and William Leslie Shockley '47, right, great-nieces and nephews of Samuel L. Conwell, attended the campus laboratory high school and then earned degrees from the State College for Colored Students.

Family ties

Conwell's sister Emeline Conwell would later assume her married name of Shockley and give birth to Alonzo Shockley, Priscilla Shockley and Cora V. Shockley. Priscilla would earn a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education from the SCCS, while Cora would reside with her Uncle Samuel while attending the SCCS, from which she graduated in 1906. She would also later teach at Star Hill Elementary School with him.

Alonzo Shockley would later wed Mary Elizabeth Hilton, and their union would produce Elizabeth and her two brothers, Alonzo Jr. and William Leslie. All three siblings would attend Del State — first graduating from the laboratory high school on campus, and then earning degrees at the SCCS.

The legacy of teaching that began with Samuel Conwell would continue with Alonzo and Mary's children. Alonzo Jr. would graduate with a degree in Agriculture in 1943 and would land a job as a principal of a colored school in the Laurel, Del., area.

Elizabeth and William Leslie would also earn Bachelor of Arts in Education degrees from SCCS — in 1945 and 1947, respectively — and serve as teachers in the segregated school systems of Delaware and later in the state of New York.

During their Delaware years, all three Shockley siblings lived in Milford. Elizabeth said her brother Alonzo Jr. made waves by trying to get his daughter enrolled in then-all white Milford High School. "He didn’t feel that his daughter should have to go 20 miles to a high school (in Georgetown, Del.) when there was a high school in Milford," Elizabeth said. "It would cause him to lose his principal post in Laurel."

Alonzo Jr. would move to Long Island, N.Y., where he would be a sixth-grade teacher and later a vice principal in an integrated school system there. He would go on to work for the New York State Department of Education, for which he would evaluate school districts and determine their needs.

"Alonzo would go on to get his master’s degree from Michigan State University and also earn a superintendent’s certificate from New York University," Elizabeth said. He retired in 1985 and is currently 93 years old (because of his medical condition, he could not be interviewed for this article).

Elizabeth — who would marry and assume the name Shockley-Palmer — would earn a master’s degree from the University of Delaware in 1986. Elizabeth said her mother Mary also went back to school and completed her degree at DSU later in her life.

After graduating from the SCCS, Elizabeth said she joined the Sussex County Chapter of the College’s Alumni Association. She said that she was instrumental in initiating the chapter’s "Queen Contest," which was held as a fundraiser for many years.

Elizabeth and William Leslie would later move to New York to join their brother in the Long Island area and teach there. William Leslie passed away in 1978.

"I started the first Head Start Program in Long Island," said Elizabeth, who retired from teaching in 1987 and currently lives with her daughter in White Plains, N.Y.

Elizabeth said throughout their lives, she and her siblings were confronted with the responsibility to guide young people to get an education and do well in life.

"Not only have my brothers and I encouraged students to attend Delaware State University, but we have also assisted them in finding jobs after graduation," she said. "This was very important to us."

• Story by Carlos Holmes

A residence hall is named in honor of Samuel L. Conwell, the first faculty member of the State College for Colored Students in 1891. Alumni highlights

In Memoriam

We sorrowfully acknowledge the following deaths within the DSU family and extend heartfelt condolences to their survivors.

ALUMNI

Romnie L. Burton ’72 April 19
Peter Davis ’84 May 4
Thomas Lee Chapman ’74 May 9
Thomas Arrington Jr. May 16
George S. Burke ’51 May 27
Norma G. Nunn May 29
H.G. Clifford ’62 May 31
Frederick Coverdale ’60 June 10
Carolyn Threatme ’67 June 22
Mark Thomas ’77 July 1
Hamlett C. Gayle ’62/85 July 2
Purcell G. Swanum ’62 July 4
Hope F. Stoeckel ’96 July 8
Clara Hammond ’62 July 12

FACULTY & STAFF

Evelyn Barker technical secretary, Department of Physics, 1985–1986
Dr. Johnny Tolliver College of Arts and Sciences dean, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, 1993-2002

STUDENT

Jordyn Shervey Willis Social work major who began her studies at DSU in 2008

Note: Death notices sent to the Office of Alumni Relations must be accompanied by a suitable piece of documentation such as a news clipping, death certificate or farewell program. Notices received without backup documentation will not be included in the publication. No deaths will be accepted as official confirmation. A telephone number (or the person submitting the information) must also be included.

DO YOU HAVE A DSU LEGACY?

Have several generations and members of your family attended DSU? Tell us your story! Send a short write-up about your family (maximum of 250-300 words) and a group photo to alumni @desu.edu, and your story could be chosen to appear in The Echo.
THE WINNER

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences came out on top as the winner of this spring’s inaugural Battle of the Colleges at Delaware State University. A total of 243 donors participated in the Battle of the Colleges to raise a total of $28,438.87 between April 15 and May 20. The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences won the competition by raising $8,523.01.

The battle between DSU’s five academic colleges raised funds to be used as additional revenue in each of their budgets. Each college’s dean will determine the most effective use for the funds in support of the overall mission of the college and University.

The unique competition was the brainchild of the Division of Institutional Advancement’s Office of Development as part of the annual giving effort. The next Battle of the Colleges will be in March-April 2014.

BATTLE OF THE COLLEGES FUNDRAISING TOTALS

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UNIQUE FUNDRAISING EFFORTS

The CABS’ “Last Day of Class Bash” helped to support its vet. The CABS turned to comedy, hosting “Support the Sciences — The Proverbial Elephant in the Room” featuring student-farmed-Comedian Tim Lee. CABS supporters had the chance to bid on HD TVs, Phillies tickets and more as part of the college’s Live/Silent Auction.

$25K Thurgood Marshall College Fund grant enhances student research

On July 25, all three floors of DSU’s Bank of America Building were alive with a diverse group of students eager to present their research displays to attendees at the ninth annual Summer Research Symposium, a unique opportunity to showcase the talents of students, expertise of professors/mentors and DSU’s role as one of Delaware’s premier research institutions.

The symposium was made possible by eight federal agencies as well as a $25,000 research grant from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, which funded the project titled Collaborative Experiential Training in Epigenomic Research (CET-ER) in the common bean.

TMCF is a philanthropic organization committed to serving students who attend its member HBCUs. By providing scholarships and other funding opportunities to qualified students, TMCF aims to enhance their educational experience.

From DSU’s Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources, the CET-ER grant principal investigators are faculty/mentors Dr. Vasudevan Ayyappan, postdoctoral research associate, and Dr. Venugopal Kalavacharla, associate professor. In addition to attending various workshops ranging from bioinformatics to resume building during the grant period, June to October 2013, students have learned various scientific and technical skills:

- Laboratory techniques: DNA and RNA isolation, gel electrophoresis, media preparation and inoculation for tissue culture in the common bean
- Research in the field: Various articles pertaining to the common bean, epigenetic modifications, gene expression pathways, DNA binding proteins, ChIP-sequencing and in vitro grown explants
- Presentation of a research project: Over the past several weeks, students have attended weekly update meetings to present their research findings and receive feedback from other mentors and peers.

The College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences took the competition very seriously, and the faculty and staff worked aggressively to ensure that we won this inaugural event.”

Dr. Marshall Stevenson
Dean, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

HORNET GOLF CLASSIC RAISES DOLLARS FOR ATHLETICS

More than $11,000 was raised for the Delaware State University Department of Athletics during the 18th Annual Hornet Golf Classic held in May at Maple Dale Country Club in Dover. More than 50 golfers enjoyed a beautiful spring day as they teed off to help raise funds for scholarships for DSU athletes to complete their education.

Latajia M. Maddox, left, explains her research to a participant at the ninth annual Summer Research Symposium. The event was made possible by eight federal agencies as well as a $25,000 research grant from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund.

DSU hosts inaugural HBCU Philanthropy Symposium

Delaware State University’s Division of Institutional Advancement has taken the lead in establishing a consortium of regional HBCU institutions as it held its inaugural Historically Black College and University Philanthropy Symposium on Aug. 1-2 on campus.

The objective of the symposium was to begin a process among the participating institutions in which philanthropic outreach solutions could be shared and empower schools to effectively address the challenges they face in raising philanthropy dollars.

Joining DSU in the inaugural consortium were Bowie State University, Cheyney University, Lincoln University, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University and the University of the District of Columbia. More than 40 representatives from the participating schools attended.

The participants discussed trends in philanthropy, preparedness for corporate funding, the need for collaborating with each other and how to begin becoming a community of best practices institutions. Several strategies were discussed on how to increase annual giving, engage alumni and strategically make asks for transformational gifts to the respective universities.

Representatives from the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, Toyota Corporation, Delmarva Power, AstraZeneca and Becton, Dickinson and Company also participated in the symposium, sharing their knowledge as guest speakers and panelists.

Next year’s annual Philanthropy Symposium will be held at DSU on July 24-25, 2014.
Eight students from Delaware State University participated in an internship program this summer at Sallie Mae’s headquarters in Newark, Del. The new program was established in partnership with DSU as part of Sallie Mae’s commitment to the communities in which we live and work. The interns were current students and new graduates with majors in Business Management, Accounting, Mass Communications and Social Work.

“This program makes a critical connection between the classroom and the office that will prepare the interns for future employment opportunities,” said Joni Reich, Sallie Mae executive vice president. “It will develop the next generation of leaders at Sallie Mae and in Delaware.”

Michelle Rolsal ’13, a summer intern in corporate communications, wrote the press release on the internship program for Sallie Mae.

Sallie Mae partners with DSU for summer internship program

The Delaware State University student and recent graduate interns working at Sallie Mae this summer were, from left, Jiafu Zhang, Anthony Colonnello, Marcia Tucker, Michelle Rolsal ’13, Christen Thomas, Neil Shah and Mariah Edwards ’13. Not pictured in Edward Doheny III.

1. From left, President Harry L. Williams and NASCAR driver No. 81 David Starr hold a display check to DSU presented by John Ridgeway ’79, corporate manager of Toyota, during the President’s Society Reception.
2. From left, Tyrone Jones, director of Delaware External Affairs for AstraZeneca; Emil Wallace-Simms, senior public affairs manager for Delaware Power; and Michelle Taylor, president and chief executive officer of United Way of Delaware join President Williams.
3. From left are John Ridgeway, Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Claibourne D. Smith and Vice Chairman David Turner.
4. Also attending, from left, were Claudette Evens ’57, Mary Evans Monroe ’60 and Evan W. Smith.
6. From left are Immediate Past New Castle County Alumni Chapter President Ned W. Brown Jr. ’71, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Alton Thompson and Donald Evans ’99.
7. Shirley Smith and Board of Trustees member Bennie Smith stop for a photo with the Toyota-sponsored FedEx race car.

Giving to DSU

President’s Society Reception

University’s top donors honored at event supported by Toyota
Hornets hope to build on winning 2012 season

This year, Delaware State University looks to build on the progress it made during the 2012 season. The Hornets posted their first winning season since 2007 a year ago, registering a three-game overall improvement and a four-win increase in Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference games from the previous season. DSU head coach Kermit Blount expects to return more than 40 letter winners and nine starters from his 2012 squad, which posted a 6-5 overall record and was tied for third with a 5-3 mark in the MEAC.

Conference games from the previous season. DSU head coach Kermit Blount expects to return more than 40 letter winners and nine winning season since 2007 a year ago, registering a three-game overall improvement and a four-win increase in Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference games from the previous season. DSU head coach Kermit Blount expects to return more than 40 letter winners and nine

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OFFENSE

Delaware State’s offense must replace four All-MEAC First Team players, including quarterback Nick Ebo, the 2012 MEAC Offensive Player of the Year. Cory Murphy, a 2012 junior college transfer, and redshirt freshman Esayah Obado are the top candidates for starting quarterback. Each was listed on the 2012 Hornet roster but did not see any playing time.

“Each of these guys (Murphy and Obado) is familiar with our system and have the ability to lead our team,” said Blount. “Each has worked hard during the off-season.”

The Hornets have also added former high school standout quarterbacks Emmett Hunt and Garrison Duncan.

Delaware State’s running game appears strong heading into the season. Junior halfback Malcolm Williams is the top returning rusher with 437 yards and a team-high seven touchdowns on the ground as true freshmen last season.

Sophomore Dae-Hon Cheung rushed for 410 yards (5.0 yards per carry) and three touchdowns and sophomore Nagee Jackson had 238 yards rushing and a team-high
despite missing two games due to an ankle injury in 2012 (4.9 yards per carry).

Hunt and Garrison Duncan.

Each was listed on the 2012 Hornet

quarterback Nick Elko, the 2012 MEAC Offensive Player of the Year.

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The Hornets have also added former high school standout quarters...
2 teams start fall seasons under new coaches

VOLLEYBALL
The 2013 season marks a new beginning for the Delaware State University volleyball team. Kayla Killingsworth-Putney, a former standout player at the University of Florida, takes charge of the Hornets this season. Killingsworth-Putney served as an assistant coach at Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference rival Bethune-Cookman the past two years. Delaware State is hoping her playing experience at one of the nation’s top collegiate programs will translate into success for the Hornets, who failed to qualify for the MEAC Tournament the past two seasons after reaching the tournament title game in 2010.

THE PLAYERS: The 2013 Delaware State roster will feature five returning players from last year’s squad, senior outside hitter Jessica Russell-Crucher, senior middle blocker Brooke Redmon, junior outside hitter Esterok Brands and sophomore outside hitters Jasmin Jackson and Amelia Jung. The 2013 Hornets also expect to feature seven new players. “I’ve told each of the veteran players that the slate is clean as far as I’m concerned,” said Killingsworth-Putney. “Regardless of their roles in the past, everyone here is committed to building a very competitive program.”

THE PLAYERS: Scroope will take over a team that returns 16 letter winners from its 2012 squad, including sophomore forward Taylor Addison, junior forward Chelise Bourguet and goalkeepers junior Katelyn Knode and sophomore Melkys Mcdonald. The Hornets also added five freshman standouts for the new season.

COACH’S OUTLOOK: “My goals for the season are simple: play hard, fundamental soccer; and commit to getting better each practice and each match.” Scroope said. “I’m excited about our prospects for this season and I believe the players are as well.”

The Hornets will play as a Division I independent after competing in the disbanded Great West Conference the last four seasons.

SOCCER
New Head Soccer Coach Keri Scroope is looking forward to the challenge of rebuilding the Hornet program. Scroope most recently served as head women’s soccer coach at Division III Salisbury University in New Port, R.I.

“I am grateful to Delaware State University for giving me the opportunity to coach at the Division I level,” Scroope said. “We have some challenges in the near future, but everyone here is committed to building a very competitive program.”

SprinTers winS 2 MEAC tItes
DSU’s Ryan Carter earned two individual MEAC Northern Division titles with a 21.3 league mark during the 2013 season.

BOWLING: The DSU bowling team tied for 12th in the second annual National Ten Pin Coaches Association team grade point average list. DSU had a team GPA of 3.38 on a 4.0 scale for the 2012-13 academic year.

EquestriAn ReceiVes naTiOnal aWard
DSU had a league-high 16 MEAC All-Academic Baseball selections for 2013. A total of 81 student athletes from the league’s nine baseball playing schools had a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

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grounds for segregation in schools was fast beginning to crumble. Delaware officials began to slow desegregation by providing long overdue financial resources to DSC as well as to other black public schools throughout the state. “White officials mobilized in such a manner, not in response to the efforts of black activists committed to vitalizing historically black institutions; they moved only after it became apparent that more and more blacks looked to white schools as the means to escape the depredations endemic to black schools and only after school desegregation proponents began winning in the courts,” Gadsden said in the book’s introduction. “The state then devoted greater resources to Delaware State College, enriching educational opportunities at this historically black institution.”

Holland’s work

Thus was the good timing when Holland assumed the DSC presidency in 1953. However, the financial resources of the state didn’t simply drop in his lap. Against the parallel backdrop of the UD desegregation ruling and the still-strong calls for the College to be closed, Holland still had to make a case for the continued existence of the College as a four-year institution.

Holland submitted a 1954 report to then-Gov. Boggs which charted the history of DSC, the state’s track record of inadequate funding of the College, as well as how the state could alone for its longtime neglect.

Simply put, Holland stated that if the state planned to lower its low levels of financial support of DSC, unchanged while at the same time continuing the debate as to whether the HBCU should remain open, then without a doubt DSC should be closed. However, Holland also forcefully stated that if the state decided it would change its attitude toward DSC, it is also clear that Holland’s leadership was indispensable. To receive the funding that DSC obtained involved countless meetings and negotiations between the DSC president, legislators and the state governor’s office. To gain their confidence, the College had to show appreciable improvement, which it did throughout Holland’s tenure.

The enrollment — which was only 167 students in 1953 — more than doubled within the next six years. Significant improvements were made to the College’s academic structure and student services. Holland was also able to broker legislation with the state politicians that changed the composition of the College’s Board of Trustees, expanding it from six to 11 members — with for the first time five members being appointed by the board while six continued to be appointed by the governor, reducing the impact of politics on board selections.

Most importantly for the University’s survival, it was under Holland’s strong leadership that Middle States reaccredited DSC in 1957.

“The legal victories of Louis Redding (in Parker v. University of Delaware and Brown vs. Board of Education) were instrumental in opening the door of segregated institutions and in an unintended consequence, also in spurring public investments in previously neglected black institutions such as Delaware State College,” Gadsden said. “To his credit, Dr. Holland took advantage of that opportunity and DSC was able to rise as a modern, better resourced college as a result.”

Holland’s transformational work as DSC president made him extremely valuable. In 1960, Hampton Institute (later University) was able to lure him away from DSC to assume that presidency. But, with the NCAA, his tenure at Hampton also reflected tremendous growth at that institution.

He would go on to write a number of economic and sociological studies of African-Americans, serve as ambassador of Sweden, chairman of the American Red Cross and sit as a board member of nine major U.S. companies, as well as becoming the first African-American to serve on the board of the U.S. Stock Exchange. Holland was also elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1965.

Known throughout his life from his Cornell years by his nickname “Brud,” Holland was also able to broker legislation that expanded opportunities at this historically black institution. Under sixth president Dr. Jerome H. Holland’s leadership, enrollment — which was 167 students in 1953 — more than doubled over six years, improvements were made to Delaware State College’s academic structure and student services, the composition of the Board of Trustees was changed and the College was reaccredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

Download PDF

Who is the most divine among the nine?

The second annual Divine 9 Challenge brings fraternities and sororities together as leaders to raise scholarship dollars for DSU students.

Who will be the most divine among the nine in 2013?

Last year, Delta Sigma Theta came out on top.

Show your spirit during Homecoming Week
October 4-12, 2013

For details: www.desu.edu/divine-nine-challenge

Top: Participants show off the project they designed as part of the Junior Entrepreneurs in Training Summer Camp that gave youths a chance to learn what it takes to operate a business.

Top: Donna Carr and alumni Jody Manerchia and Bernard Carr ‘77 were among the volunteers at DSU’s booth at the Delaware State Fair.

Thank you for your support of DSU Summer Camps.

Each year, DSU offers a wide range of summer camps for children and teenagers. From animation to business and culinary arts to athletics, there were 38 programs or camps serving 1,375 people during summer 2013.

Top: Jazmin Cathy Frederick ‘96, front, stopped by the DSU booth at the Peach Festival in Wyoming, Del.
Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter

HIGHLIGHTS

The Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter hosted its third Annual Regional Retreat in Virginia Beach, Va., on July 20. Alumni from the Tidewater, Northern Virginia, Eastern Shore and North Carolina areas were invited. Prior to the retreat, the last of the 2013 DSU Pride Tours took place, hosted by President Harry L. Williams. Alumni, parents and students were updated on DSU’s progress.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

The Greater Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter meets every other second Tuesday at 8 p.m. (Free call-in number: 559.546.1000. Participant access code: 251316#). Questions? Contact Chapter President Al Weal Jr. at mastercock30cox.net.

Sussex County Alumni Chapter

CHAPTER MEETINGS

The Kent County Alumni Chapter meets the fourth Monday of the month at 7 p.m. on the DSU campus in Room 104 in the Agriculture Annex Building. Questions? Contact Chapter President Philip Sadler at philsad1@comcast.net.

DSU Athletics Director Candy Young, left, served as the keynote speaker for the New Castle County Chapter’s 33rd Annual Scholarship Luncheon on Aug. 18 in Newark, Del. Standing with her are the Rev. Albert Gauther, pastor of BunnTINGS United Methodist Church in New Castle, Del., Marion Gibbs ’61, DSU alum and DSUAC chapter member; President Harry L. Williams; Dr. Alton Thompson, provost and vice president for Academic Affairs; and Kendall Moye, president of the Monday Club in Wilmington, Del. Each was individually honored or represented organizations honored by the chapter for service to the University or the Wilmington community.

New Castle County Alumni Chapter

NEW OFFICERS

The New Castle County Alumni Chapter announces its new officers for 2013-2016:

President: Theresa W. “Tessie” Holmes ’78
Vice President: Keith Dorman
Secretary: Warda Hammon ’70
Treasurer: Irene S. Jones ’64

CHAPTER MEETINGS

The New Castle County Alumni Chapter meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. at the DSU Wilmington Campus, located at 621 Market St. Questions? Contact President Theressa W. “Tessie” Holmes at theressa.holmes@gmail.com.

GREAT HIGHLIGHTS

The “Golden Girls,” as they are affectionately known by Sussex County Alumni Chapter members, Bertha Allen Turner ’47, Hilda Norwood ’47 and Dr. Cora Norwood Salvy ’50, assembled to participate in the annual Sussex County Alumni Chapter Summer Cookout and Auction held at the Rabbit’s Ferry Community Center in Lewes, Del., on Aug. 6. They have each been active members for more than 50 years.

BOTTOM: Former Hornets Head Football Coach and Athletics Director Bill Collick was joined by standout former Hornet players at the Sussex event. The players shared their personal stories of playing for Coach Collick and the bonds that were formed due to his mentorship. Each praised their DSU experience as having helped shape them into successful men. From left, in the back, are Mark Still, Bill Collick, Jamel Trott, Dr. David Carter and George Smith. Kneeling are Fabian Thorne and Doug Reed.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

The Sussex County Alumni Chapter meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Old Landing 11 Community Center, 400 Wilson St. in Millsboro, Del. Contact Chapter President Robert Drake at 302.947.4580 or drake110@verizon.net. The chapter’s new mailing address is PO Box 108, Millsboro, DE 19966.

ELECTED NATIONAL OFFICERS

President: Dr. K. Bernard Chase ’72
Vice President: Ursula M. Causey ’81
Secretary: Wardell Harmon ’80
Treasurer: Janet Williams-Coger ’73

Immediate Past President: Dr. Reba Hollingsworth ’49
Assistant Treasurer: Joy C. Hopkins-Katta ’99

PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS:

At its annual cookout Aug. 3, the Philadelphia Alumni Chapter swore in new officers for 2013-2015. From left are Anthony Lawson ’80, treasurer; Rone Carson Audio ’77, standing in for E. Marguerite “Cookie” Rice, secretary; Dr. Jillian Inge ’99, president; and Daryl Lloyd ’90, vice president, with DSUAA President Dr. K. Bernard Chase ’72. New officer James Roundtree ’75, sergeant at arms, is not pictured. About 50 enjoyed the catered barbecue at Philadelphia’s FDR Park.
Charles Minor ’61 and his wife, Patricia Snead Minor ’62, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary June 29 in the presence of family and friends. The Minors met while attending Delaware State College and were married June 29, 1963, at New Zion Methodist Church in Laurel, Del.

Estherda “Stell” Parker Selby was recently appointed a councilwoman in the town of Milton, Del., by Mayor Marion Jones.

Dean J. Ivory has been named principal of Glasgow High School in Delaware’s Christina School District. Ivory was most recently principal of Laurel Senior High School since 2006; he also served as principal of Lake Forest High School from 1999 to 2006 and was previously a business teacher at Polytech High School and Woodbridge Junior/ Senior High School. He received a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration and Accounting from Delaware State University and a master’s degree in Educational Leadership and Instruction from Wilmington University.

James L. Moore III was recently appointed as the Distinguished Professor of Urban Education in the College of Education and Human Ecology at The Ohio State University. Moore, an internationally recognized scholar in academic achievement for minority students, focuses particularly on how to ensure success in education and life for African-American boys and men. Moore is also an associate provost in Ohio State’s Office of Diversity and Inclusion and inaugural director of the Todd Anthony Bell National Resource Center on the African-American Male. He was one of two Ohio State representatives named American Council on Education Fellows for the 2013-14 academic year. Moore received a bachelor’s degree in English Education from Delaware State University and a master’s degree (1997) and a Ph.D. (2000) in Counselor Education, both from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

Dean J. Ivory

2001

Chef Lynnette Jackson of Lynnette’s Cakes and Catering in Amandava, Va., competed in May on an episode of the Food Network’s “Cupcake Wars.” She and her aunt, Coletta Webster, appeared on the show after submitting an audition video on YouTube to its producers. Teams of bakers on “Cupcake Wars” are given themes and unusual ingredients to incorporate into several rounds of creating cupcakes that are judged by a three-person panel. Jackson opened Lynnette’s Cakes and Catering in 2006 after she decided to follow her passion for cooking. She graduated from Delaware State University with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Bowie State University with a master’s degree in Human Resource Development. Following graduate school, Jackson enrolled in culinary school at the Art Institute of Washington, where she received an associate’s degree in Culinary Arts.

John Sell, an English teacher at Sussex Technical High School in Georgetown, Del., who was Delaware’s 2013 State Teacher of the Year, has been named an assistant principal at the school.

2003

Jolene Cross and her partner Richard Evans welcomed baby Cheri Rose Evans on Jan. 21, 2013. The future DSU student measured in at 6 pounds, 15 ounces and 21 inches.

2004/2006

Rochelle Knapp was appointed by Gov. Jack Markel to serve as a magistrate judge for the Justice of the Peace Court. She was confirmed by the 142nd Delaware State Senate in May. Knapp is currently the only African-American serving in the capacity of Justice of the Peace Judge in Sussex County and the youngest in the state of Delaware. Knapp received a bachelor’s degree in Political Science and a master’s degree in Historic Preservation from Delaware State University.

2009

Shani Green has been appointed as the principal of Central Middle School in Dover. Green graduated with a master’s degree in Special Education from Delaware State University.

2010

Amystique Y. Harris Church was presented with the 2013 NCTA Service Recognition Award from the National College Testing Association at the organization’s conference in July for service on the state and regional level. She has also been elected to the 2013 NCTA Governing Board, on which she will serve from August 2015-August 2017.

2013

Eric Ames ’96 and Dia (Savage) Ames ’96 plan to open a Zoup! Fresh Soup Company franchise in Wilmington, Del., in September. Eric spent his entire professional career with the Vanguard Group in Malvern, Pa., and will work for the franchise full time. Dia spent the first five years of her career with Deloitte and Touche in Philadelphia and the last 11 years working for Bank of America, where she is a senior vice president in the Corporate Audit Department. Eric and Dia are high school sweethearts and have two children, Ethan, 12, and Drew, 6.

2016

Dr. Michelle Galloway-Hamani has reinvented her expertise as a research chemist into writing children’s science books coupled with hands-on workshops. Her first book, Morning Star, is a family-oriented, educational, interactive book filled with colorful pictures for all ages. Published in 2011, it seeks to address: Is the sun a star? How does the sun create heat and light? Currently, she is working on her second book, ‘Voyager’s Light’ Her books’ core mission is to promote the fun in learning the influence of science and math to our everyday lives. Galloway-Hamani received a bachelor’s degree in Chemistry from Johnson C. Smith University in 1996, a master’s degree in Applied Chemistry from Delaware State University and a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Louisiana State University in 2004. Morning Star is available from Amazon. Galloway-Hamani lives in Germantown, Md., with her husband and two children.

2017

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2020

Hamani lives in Germantown, Md., with her husband and two children.

The Echo
Dover Downs Hotel has special accommodation packages available through November 29, 2013.

Purchase tickets or learn more: www.desu.edu/presidents-scholarship-ball