Dear Colleagues,

Did someone say spring is in the air? My favorite part of spring is hearing the birds sing and seeing flowers blossom in their full beauty. We are halfway through the semester and spring fever is setting in for many as we have been restricted to indoor life and teleworking.

March also brings another connotation of beauty as we salute women of all ages, races, and ethnicity in honor of Women’s History Month. There are certain women who come to mind who are well-known celebrities, life-changers, revolutionary movers, and history changers.

Why not take a moment this Women’s History Month to reflect on the women who were not evolutionary to society but who were in our eyes! They are women such as our mothers, grandmothers, godmothers, aunts, cousins, sisters, spouses, best friends, and those who also portrayed these individuals in surrogate roles. Their names may never be written in the history books and they may not get public recognition, but let us honor these phenomenal women who have molded and shaped us into the wonderful human beings we are today.

Sincerely,

Marquita Thomas Brown
Founder & Editor in Chief
Jeffrey Benson

As Director of the College of Business’ Black Male Initiative (BMI), Jeffrey Benson will be instrumental in evaluating and addressing the developmental, academic, cultural and social needs of black male students. The program’s goal is to improve GPAs and graduation rates as well as improve faculty, staff, and student relationships to prepare the campus to address these young men’s needs while redirecting them toward long-term C-Suite opportunities. Mr. Benson holds a bachelor’s degree in Marketing, a Master of Business Administration in Organizational Leadership and is a current Doctor of Business Administration student with Wilmington University.

Troy Farmer

Troy Farmer, MSW, CCM, CPC, CLAC, CGC, is Director of the College of Business’ maker space, The Garage. She is a Delaware State University alumna in Business and Marketing with over 28 years of combined professional experience in mental health, learning and development, organizational development, enterprise building, and executive and business development coaching. The Garage will facilitate learning, innovation and product development, while supporting opportunities for commercialization. Ms. Farmer has experience creating, launching and sustaining accelerator and incubator programs, in addition to program development and project management. She earned a Master’s in Clinical Social Work from Widener University.

Tiffany Harris

Tiffany Harris is now the Coordinator for the Delaware Center for Neuroscience Research. In this role, she is responsible for providing administrative support for the research, education and outreach programs of the Center. “We were very excited to get Tiffany in this role because of her previous experience at DSU working with faculty and students. She worked for years as the administrative assistant for the Department of Biological Sciences, so she knows the neuroscience faculty members and many of the students in the program as well,” said Dr. Melissa Harrington.

Dr. Chris Mason

Dr. Chris Mason has been appointed Assistant Dean of the College of Health and Behavioral Sciences. In announcing the appointment, Dr. Mansha Horton, Dean, stated: “Dr. Mason has demonstrated leadership in a number of ways, including broadening the depth and breadth of research in the Department of Public and Allied Health Sciences and most recently being one of the leads for the University’s COVID testing plan. I am very excited to have his work recognized in this way.” In his new role, his top priority will continue to be serving our students by ensuring quality academic curricula and course delivery, development of effective retention and remediation strategies, and fundraising to create financial sustainability for CHBS. He will continue to lead the Department of Public & Allied Health Sciences as Chair.

Kinya Robinson

Ms. Kinya Robinson has joined the College of Business team as an Administrative Assistant/Budget Analyst in the College of Business. She has over 15 years of experience working in multiple fields, Human Services, Human Resources Technology, and Education. An alumna of Delaware State University, Ms. Robinson has a Master of Business Administration from Florida Metropolitan University and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Business Administration from Goldey Beacom College. Her expertise includes talent development, recruitment, compensation and performance management, budgets, and employee relations.

Leslie Sysko

Ms. Leslie Sysko joined the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (OIE) in September as Project Manager for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Self-Study. Ms. Sysko comes to Delaware State University from Tower Hill School in Wilmington, DE where she was the chair of the English Department. She has prior experience with the Middle States Association at the secondary school level. Since becoming a member of the OIE, she has been able to update its website, support various surveys and, most importantly, work on different aspects of the Self-Study, keeping us on track as we navigate the Wesley Acquisition.

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Marquita Thomas Brown,
Founder & Editor in Chief

Delaware State University