

INSIDE SPELMAN

FALL
2002

2002–2003 Cosby Chairs For Fine Arts & Humanities

Renowned for both academic and community excellence in their areas of study, Drs. Bernice Johnson Reagon and Sheila S. Walker were named the Cosby Endowed Professors for the 2002–2003 academic year.

As Cosby Endowed Professors, candidates must demonstrate mastery in their careers and use this mastery to design courses rooted in their research fields as well as to facilitate joint initiatives with similarly focused colleges, universities, educational organizations and cultural institutions.

Dr. Reagon, of the legendary à capella group, Sweet Honey in the Rock, is a Spelman alumna, C'70, who has spent her life performing, teaching, and cultivating black history. As an activist, producer, composer, recording artist and cultural historian, Dr. Reagon, who received her doctorate from Howard University, has served as Distinguished Professor of History at American University and Curator Emerita at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History.

Her works include the PBS productions "Eyes on the Prize," and "Roots of Resistance: A Story of the Underground Railroad." She also has written several books including, *If You Don't Go, Don't Hinder Me: The African American Sacred Song Tradition*, and *We'll Understand It Better By and By: Pioneering African-American Gospel Composers*.

Dr. Walker is the former Director of the Center for African and African American Studies, Professor of Anthropology, and the Annabel Irion Worsham Centennial Professor in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Texas at Austin. With a bachelor's



Professor Bernice Johnson Reagon

degree in political science from Bryn Mawr College in Pennsylvania and a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Chicago, Dr. Walker has spent many years in academia. She has served on the faculty of the University of California at Berkeley and the College of William and Mary in Virginia.

A well-published author of scholarly and mainstream books and articles on the African Diaspora, including the book *African Roots/American Culture: Africa in the Creation of the Americas*, she has also been instrumental in high-level international organizations such as UNESCO. She serves as the first Cosby Endowed Professor in the Humanities.

Drs. Reagon and Walker join Professor Ayoka Chenzira, who was appointed the first Cosby Endowed Professor of Fine Arts for 2001–2002. The new Cosby chairs will teach courses as well as be involved in other campus and community activities.

The ultimate goal of the Cosby Endowed



Professor Sheila S. Walker

Professorship is to elevate the fine arts, humanities and social sciences at Spelman College to a high level of recognition that is consistent with the College's historic legacy and with the vision and life work of Drs. William and Camille Cosby. ●



Save the Date!

The Board of Trustees of
Spelman College
takes pleasure in announcing
the inauguration of
Beverly Daniel Tatum
as ninth President of the College

Saturday, March 22, 2003
Sisters Chapel
Spelman College
12:00 p.m.

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350 Spelman Lane S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30314

EDITORIAL STAFF

Tomika DePriest
Renita Mathis
Jo Moore Stewart

COPY EDITOR

Jan Barstow

PHOTOGRAPHY

Bud Smith
Julie Yarbrough

Inside Spelman

is published three times per academic year for a readership that includes alumnae, trustees, parents, students, faculty, staff and friends of the College. The newsletter is dedicated to informing the Spelman College family about news, upcoming events and issues in the life of the College.

Nothing Less Than The Best

“To whom much is given, much is required.”

What is your vision for Spelman? My answer to that frequently asked question was influenced by a conversation with a young Black woman who told me how happy she was to attend a college that she knew was built for her. There are not many places in America a Black woman can say that. But Spelman College is one of them, and that is a tremendous gift. I want Spelman women to be able to say with joy and pride “this place was built for me” AND it is “nothing less than the best.”

My goal for Spelman College is not to be the best HBCU – many would say that we have achieved that already. It is not to be the best women’s college – that category is too limiting. My goal is to make Spelman one of the finest liberal arts undergraduate institutions, period – without qualifying modifiers.

With our collective effort, we can all ensure that Spelman is “nothing less than the best.” Though we have much to be proud of already, there is more work to do. We must ensure that the College has the technology it needs, an excellent library, sufficient financial aid for needy students, resources to support faculty research and teaching, an improved athletics program and upgraded state-of-the-art facilities throughout the College.

We have already achieved this standard of excellence with the Albro-Falconer-Manley Science Center. One of the names the Center bears is that of the late Dr. Etta Zuber Falconer, who passed away this fall, after serving the College from 1965 to 2002. The legacy of her service will be remembered dearly by the many whose lives she impacted. She too wanted “nothing less than the best” for Spelman students and she worked tirelessly to help make the College a world-class institution.

Innovative teaching is also an essential part of a world-class institution. The William and Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby Endowed Professorships are helping Spelman stay on the cutting edge. We look forward to the research, academic programs and community projects of the Cosby Professors who are currently in residence for the 2002-2003 academic year – filmmaker and digital artist Ayoka Chen-zira; recording artist and cultural historian Dr. Bernice Johnson Reagon (C’70), cultural anthropologist Dr. Sheila Walker and noted economist Dr. William Darity. Having four Cosby Professors on the campus at one time is historic. Indeed, this will be an exciting academic year.

Spelman has a solid foundation, and we want to build on it, not rest on it. I look forward to your support in making Spelman College “nothing less than the best.” ●



Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum



Presidential Press Reception

Spelman President Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum was well received by members of the media at a September press reception co-sponsored by the Atlanta Association of Black Journalists (AABJ) in the Cosby Academic Center. **Photo 1:** From left to right, Dr. Tatum is pictured with event hosts Booker Izell, vice president of Community Affairs & Work Force Diversity for the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*; Alexis Scott, publisher of *The Atlanta Daily World*; and Rick Sherrell, AABJ president and CEO of Sherrell Publishing Group Inc. **Photo 2:** Dr. Tatum poses with Kenya Jordana James, 13-year-old publisher of *blackgirl* magazine.

The Voyage of Delfina: A Story of Human Frailty

An interdisciplinary performance of *The Voyage of Delfina* was presented October 11 in the atrium of the Camille Olivia Hanks Cosby Academic Center. The production showcased spoken word, dance, drama and song in a powerful story about the Middle Passage. A collaboration between artist Arturo Lindsay and writer Opal Moore, the performance explored a people's inhumanity toward other people in their quest for power and wealth.

Interdisciplinary involvement included R. Paul Thomason, Assistant Professor of Drama and Set Designer; Joseph Jennings, Director of the Spelman College Jazz Ensemble; Dr. Veta Goler, dance historian and Chair of the Department of Drama and Dance; and Ayoka Chenzira, Cosby Endowed Professor of Fine Arts.



Dr. Arturo Lindsay, Associate Professor of Art, leads a panel discussion on the transatlantic slave trade.



Professor Ayoka Chenzira films the performance.



Dr. Opal Moore, Chair of the Department of English, tells the tale of inhumanity through poetry.



V-103 Live Remote

V-103's Magic Man celebrated freshman week with President Tatum and the ladies of Spelman at a live radio remote held on campus August 21. The event also featured R&B singing sensation Boyz II Men serving food, signing autographs and having fun.



Spelman Salutes

Appointments

Dr. Desiree Pedescleaux, Chair of the Political Science Department, appointed to the Administrative Council of the American Political Science Association.

Academic Achievements

Dr. Jeffrey Ehme, Chair of Mathematics, selected as a finalist for the Goody's Powder Excellence in Teaching Award.

Paul Grant, Assistant Professor of Political Science, received a doctoral degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Lev Mills, Professor of Art, has work featured in a two-year traveling exhibition titled "In the Spirit of Martin: The Living Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr."

Dr. Barbara Nesin, Chair of Arts, presented "Communication: Images and Realities of Haiti" at the Haitian Studies Association Conference in Haiti.

Dr. Tinaz Pavri, Associate Professor of Political Science, participated in a Coleraine, Northern Ireland, seminar titled Peace and Conflict.

Marie Basse-Wiles, Senegalese dancer, choreographer and teacher, held a dance workshop at Spelman College October 26.

Kenneth Green, Drama and Dance faculty member, hosted, along with the National Black Arts Festival, a musical theater workshop. The event was sponsored by Spelman, Atlanta's Alliance Theatre, and Walt Disney Entertainment.

Awards

The **First Congregational Church** in Atlanta has given \$15,000 to the Norman M. and Laura Lynem Rates Annual Scholarship, an award established to assist a deserving student majoring in religion or social science.

Published Works

Dr. Marilyn Davis, Associate Professor of Political Science, has a featured chapter in the book *Beyond the Color Line: Race, Representation, and Community in the New Century*.

Dr. Roy Martinez, Chair of Philosophy and Religion, wrote an article featured in the September 2003 edition of *International Philosophical Quarterly*. He also published the book *Kierkegaard and the Art of Irony* (Humanity Books, 2001).

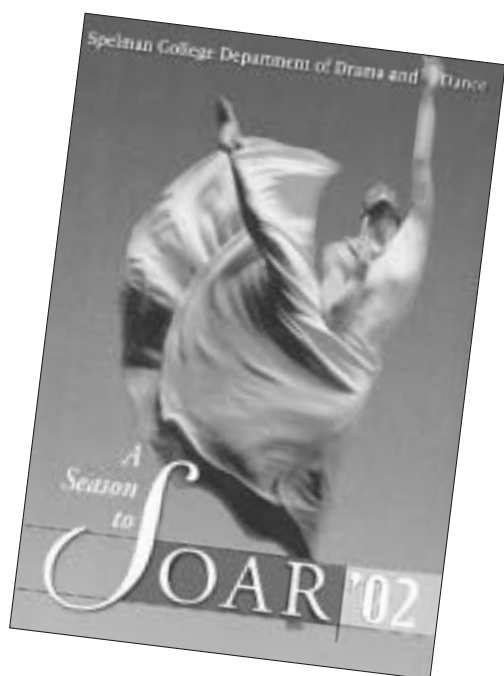
Dr. Andrea Barnwell, Director of the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art, has published the book *Charles White* (Pomegranate Communications, 2002).

Dean Spence Returns to Class

Since 1981, Dr. Cynthia Neal Spence has educated Spelman College students on the various areas of criminology and pre-law. In 1985, her main responsibilities moved from educating students to advising them as a dean.

From 1985 to present, she has held various titles including her most recent, Academic Dean, which she has held since 2000.

However, her love for scholarship never waned. Dr. Spence is returning full time to the classroom in the fall of 2003. She will begin a sabbatical January 2003 and then return to Spelman in the fall as Associate Professor of Sociology.



Spelman College Department of Drama and Dance opened the 2002-2003 year with *A Season to Soar '02* in October with *Brown Silk and Magenta Sunsets*. For upcoming dates, see the Events Calendar on page 8.

Arturo Lindsay, Associate Professor of Art, invited by Panama Centennial National Committee to be a guest speaker at the Centennial Celebration.

Frank "Toby" Martin, Associate Professor of Art, completed the installation of an outdoor sculpture on the campus of Florida A&M University.

In Memoriam

Professor Emerita Dr. Etta Zuber Falconer, the Spelman College educator who led the development of one of the most productive science programs at a liberal arts college in the United States, passed September 19, 2002, at the age of 68.

At Spelman, she served as Chair of the Mathematics Department, Chair of the Division of Natural Sciences, Associate Provost for Science Programs and Policy, Interim Provost, Fuller E. Callaway Professor of Mathematics, Senior Adviser to the President, and Principal Investigator for the Model Institutions for Excellence Program.

Dr. Falconer was instrumental in creating the new Albro-Falconer-Manley Science Center, which bears her name.

A Spelman community memorial service was held October 24 for Dr. Falconer and **Dr. James Gates, Professor Emeritus of Foreign Languages**, who died May 29, 2002, after serving on Spelman's faculty 35 years.

Donations to a scholarship set up in Dr. Falconer's name may be sent to: Dr. Etta Zuber Falconer Scholarship Fund
Spelman College
350 Spelman Lane SW, Box 1303
Atlanta, GA 30314-4399

Spread Your Wealth!

Spelman is the School of the Month on 'The Tom Joyner Morning Show' in November

During November, Spelman will be showcased as The Tom Joyner Foundation "College of the Month." This joint venture between the Tom Joyner Foundation and Spelman will provide a number of scholarships for students. This is a great opportunity for alumnae and friends to assist students and show their support for the College.

In addition to making a contribution to the Annual Fund, SPREAD YOUR WEALTH by making a contribution directly to the Tom Joyner Foundation to support Spelman students. Although your contributions will provide scholarship support for needy students, these gifts will not be counted toward your giving to the College. All money raised through the Tom Joyner Foundation will go directly to student scholarships and book awards.

Checks should be made payable to the Tom Joyner Foundation with Spelman College indicated in the memo section and mailed directly to the Tom Joyner Foundation, P.O. Box 630495, Irving, Texas 75063-0495.



Dr. Zenobia L. Hikes, Vice President of Student Affairs/Dean of Students with Tom Joyner.

NEW NAMES ON CAMPUS

■ **Entrenda Christine Dillon** is the new Grants and Contracts Development Officer for the Office of Sponsored Programs. Her responsibilities include interacting with foundations, government agencies and private entities to identify external funding opportunities.

The Department of Chemistry has named **Joanne Chen Chu** Assistant Professor. Dr. Chu received her bachelor's and doctoral degrees from the University of Texas at Austin in psychology and psychology-behavioral neuroscience, respectively.

■ **Jean Norgaisse** is a new Assistant Professor of French after a six-year stint at Columbia University in New York. Dr. Norgaisse received bachelor's degrees in both French literature and geography from City University of New York. He holds a master's degree in philosophy and a doctorate in French literature and French civilization from Columbia University.

Hard Work Pays Off for National Merit Scholar

Shayla Reese Griffin has been a leader since birth. As the oldest of four children, the 20-year-old Spelman sophomore was second in command only to her mother at home in Indianapolis.

Growing up in a single-parent home, Ms. Griffin knew her family was not financially able to pay for a college education. Therefore, academic excellence became her ticket to college.



Shayla Reese Griffin

After applying for more than 40 scholarships, Ms. Griffin was one of 51,000-plus Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test high-scoring students invited to name two colleges or universities she wanted to attend. Spelman was the only choice for this African American studies major.

"After attending predominately white elementary, middle and high schools, I really felt it was important that I attend an HBCU. I needed to see other African Americans achieving academically," says Ms. Griffin. "Once I decided I wanted to attend an HBCU, choosing Spelman was easy."

Ms. Griffin received a four-year scholarship of \$2,000 a year from the National Merit Scholarship Corp. (NMSC), a not-for-profit organization.

In addition to the NMSC scholarship, Ms. Griffin has a host of other financial awards to help her fulfill her higher-education goals of "becoming a writer, scholar, lecturer, and perhaps a professor."



International Journalists Visit Spelman

From left, Olabode Opesitan of Nigeria and Rozane Monteiro of Brazil were two of nine international journalists from the World Press Institute who visited Spelman College in October to meet with President Tatum and to discuss the idea of free press in America with journalism students.

PARTNER PROFILE

Toyota Becomes New Corporate Partner

Before 2001, most of Toyota's participation with Spelman College was via general scholarships to UNCF-member colleges. However, in 2002, Toyota became part of the College's Corporate Partners Program, taking the relationship to the next level.

"The Corporate Partners Program was a logical next step for us to further our involvement with Spelman, and it was a good fit for our three key objectives," says John Waring, College Relations Manager, Toyota Motor Sales USA.

Those objectives include an emphasis on community investment and support of education initiatives; a recently announced Corporate Diversity Strategy that will enhance minority representation and inclusion within the company; and, finally, presenting "one Toyota" on a select number of campuses nationally – Spelman being one of those campuses.

The world's No. 3 auto maker, Toyota manufactures automobiles in 25 countries and regions throughout the world. In addition, its vehicles are sold in more than 160 countries and regions under the Toyota, Lexus, Diahatsu and Hino brands.

Toyota became a Corporate Partner after a convincing pitch made by Institutional Advancement Vice President Trisa Long Paschal, explains Mr. Waring.

A monetary gift of \$20,000 toward the Spelman College Science Initiative is just the beginning of a stronger relationship the car company plans to have with the College.

"In addition, we anticipate some opportunities to work with Spelman faculty on their research projects as well as classroom activities," says Mr. Waring. "Currently, we have a small number of Spelman women working at the various Toyota companies and hope to see that number increase through this partnership."

TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT

Bianca Lacey

Student Trustee Bianca Lacey, 19, will use her new position as an opportunity to make decisions that determine the future of Spelman College. The sophomore political science/economics major was one of three final candidates with the highest number of votes.

To hold the three-year student trustee position, a candidate has to be a second-semester, first-year student who is a role model for other students, maintain high academic achievement, and remain in good financial standing with the College.

Each of the candidates prepared a resume and a 100-word statement supporting her student-trustee application. The Committee on Board Affairs reviewed the applications and made a recommendation to the full Board of Trustees.

Ms. Lacey has spent time working as a volunteer in the University of Chicago Hospitals mentoring teen moms disheartened by the responsibilities of motherhood, and creating arts and crafts projects. She is a member of the NAACP (Chicago), Spelman College Glee Club and Economics Club. The Chicago native is in the Alpha Lambda Honor Society and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and on the National Dean's List and Spelman's Honor Roll/Dean's List.



Bianca Lacey

Spelman Supports New Charter School

The old St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Atlanta's historic West End has reopened its doors under a new name, the University Community Academy (UCA) charter school.

Spelman, along with all the Atlanta University Center schools, is working with the Atlanta Board of Education and the West End community to establish the school as a teaching center, allowing educational majors the opportunity to engage in field experiences that allow tutoring, instructional support and mentoring activities. UCA, a K-5 school, is privately managed by EdFutures, a for-profit private school management company. Spelman faculty and staff have been asked to contact the school and volunteer their services.

"The Education Department at Spelman is truly excited about the University Community Academy Charter School and will play an integral role specific to the curriculum design and implementation at the charter school," says Dr. Marshalita Sims Peterson, C '78, Education Department Chair. "We are extremely excited about the curriculum at University Community Academy, which will focus on innovative instruction and culturally responsive pedagogy."

Through its Education Department, Spelman will facilitate on-site courses at the charter school.

For information, call (404) 753-4050.

Student Philanthropy Program to Increase Giving

Amazingly, a Spelman College student's tuition and fees cover only 49 percent of the cost of her education. The College picks up the tab for the remaining 51 percent. Another sobering statistic is that barely more than 16 percent of alumnae give money to Spelman.

At similar liberal arts colleges, alumnae give at a much higher level. For example, Agnes Scott reports that a little less than 40 percent of alumnae give; Virginia's Hollins University claims 46 percent; Wellesley (Massachusetts) sites that 46 percent give back to their alma mater; and Smith College (Massachusetts) boasts a whopping 50 percent.

In an effort to grow Spelman's alumnae giving, a new Student In Philanthropy Program has been created. Spelman plans to increase its alumnae giving by forming a council of incoming students who will take the message to alumnae. The goals of the council, which comprises 10 to 15 Spelman students, include:

- Making a personal commitment to consistently support the College's Annual Giving Campaign
- Updating student surveys
- Conducting focus groups to assess attitudes toward the college, service and giving
- Developing and implementing a student annual fund campaign for freshmen,

sophomores and juniors, which will include leadership and fund-raising workshops for student government and class officers.

"When I came to Spelman, our goal was to increase alumnae giving to 48 percent by 2005. Although we have a long way to go, this program will have a profound impact on increasing alumnae participation immediately after students graduate," says Shereitte Stokes, Associate Vice President of Institutional Advancement. "Spelman was built on philanthropy, and through this program, students will come to understand that philanthropic giving is the best way to address Spelman's needs."

Spelman and Atlanta Life Form Charitable Partnership

In an effort to increase alumnae contributions to the Spelman College Planned Giving Program, Spelman and the Atlanta Life Financial Group (ALFG), parent company of Atlanta Life General Agency Inc. (ALGA), have partnered to create a Legacy Endowment Program for the College.

Issued through ALGA, the program creates long-term financial support for one of the country's most celebrated historically black colleges. Titled The Legacy Endowment Program, it will be promoted to participating policyholders and alumnae via

reunion activities, workshops, and alumnae chapter meetings. ALGA will also sponsor and host the College's annual President's Reception.

"Spelman and Atlanta Life are two historical icons that each have more than 100 years of service to the African American community," says Marian Parker, Esq., Planned Giving Officer and collaborator on the project with Atlanta Life. "Together these icons have developed a program that is dedicated to wealth creation, wealth management, and wealth sharing for the College."

Community Service Award

Gail P. Davenport, C '70, recently received the Spelman College 2002 Local Community Service Award. Ms. Davenport has been honored with numerous awards for community service involvement. She was awarded Community Leader of the Year by the National Council of Negro Women, Clayton County branch; a proclamation from former Secretary of State Lewis Massey honoring her as an Outstanding Georgia Citizen; and "Gail P. Davenport Day" in Clayton County. Ms. Davenport has worked with voter education and registration, political forums, the annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration in Clayton County, and children and youth organizations. Ms. Davenport is a member of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College. She is a committee chair in the Atlanta Chapter.

Let's Talk About Giving

Now, Giving Is Just A Click Away

Make your class gift

Contribute to the Annual Fund

Support the Sisters Chapel Campaign

Make a scholarship gift

You can make your gift to Spelman College on the Web by visiting www.spelman.edu/alumnae/giving, and clicking online donations.

Spelman College

2002-2003

CALENDAR *of* EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 1 – 3 Spunk (Stage Play)
- 5 African Diaspora Workshop Film Series
- 7 Spelman College Museum of Fine Art Coffee House
- 7 – 8 2nd Annual Praise Fest
- 10 Sunday Soul Series
- 14 African Diaspora Workshop Film Series
- 14 Women's Ethical Leadership in Corporate America (Convocation)
- 15 MLK Tribute Host Committee Reception
- 16 Spelman College Museum of Fine Art Family Day
- 21 – 24 Spelman College Dance Theater in Concert
- 24 Sunday Soul Series

DECEMBER

- 6 – 8 Spelman-Morehouse Christmas Carol Concert
- 13 – 14 Spelman Children's Dance Theater

JANUARY

- 16-17 Martin Luther King Tribute Concert Series
(In conjunction with National Public Radio,
Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, and Morehouse College)
- 27 Chronic Diseases Fair

FEBRUARY

- 15 Sweet Honey in the Rock Concert
(Benefiting the Fund for Southern Communities)
- 20 – 24 Tartuffe (Stage Play)
- 21 – 23 Family Weekend

MARCH

- 10 – 14 Spring Break
- 20 – 21 Corporate Partners Meeting
- 21 Inauguration Symposia
- 22 The Inauguration of Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum,
9th President of Spelman College
(Reception following Ceremony)
- 23 Worship Service and Alumnae Tea

APRIL

- 5 Breakfast at Tiffany: The Alumnae Achievement Awards
(At Phipps Plaza)
- 10 – 13 Hotel Swing (Musical Stage Play)
- 11 Founders Day
- 25 – 26 Culminating Event for the Cosby Endowed Professors

MAY

- 15 – 18 Reunion Week
- 17 Baccalaureate Service
- 18 Commencement Exercises



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