



KEEPING REAL HISTORY ALIVE

New Phi Alpha Theta Members

“Do you accept the challenge of striving to live up to these ideals of Phi Alpha Theta?” This is the culminating question that the new inductees into Phi Alpha Theta were asked at the end of a solemn induction ceremony.

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2005-2006 Phi Alpha Theta Inductees

2005-2006 Phi Alpha Theta Conductees

Courtney Aiken

Lynis Brown

Shauna Deans

Alyssa Elmore

Nafeesa Muhammad

Brittany Nash

Danielle C. Jackson

Deanna Jenkins

Jenille Simon

Megan Woods

Jasmine Wynton

“Telling Our Story”: 2nd Annual AUC Student Conference

AUC history undergraduate students offered a sample of the burgeoning intellectual talent at the Atlanta University Center at the 2006 Atlanta University Center History Student Conference (AUCHS). The conference is hosted each year by an AUC institution. For the second year, the conference was coordinated by Dr. Kathleen Phillips Lewis and hosted by the History Department at Spelman College. The AUCHS offers students the opportunity to present research papers on their research in progress. A panel of judges, comprised of AUC History faculty members, selected the top three research papers to receive a certificate and cash prizes.



The Conference was divided into two panels, “Telling Our Story”: US/African American” and “Telling Our Story”: Other Regions of the World; Special Topics”. Research papers presented included “The Harlem Renaissance: A Movement for the Gay Black Minority?” by Jasmine Wynton (Spelman) and “The Man Behind

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E. Dale Dudley

Creator: Dr. Kathleen Phillips Lewis

Washington and Du Bois and Their Ulterior Motives” by Wendell Marsh (Morehouse). While all of the papers presented displayed in-depth research and interesting topics, only three could receive awards. Robinette Downtin won first place with her paper, “Usuman dan Fodio and the Sokoto Jihad”. Second place went to Lynis Brown for her paper, “Counting the Ducats: Vatican Politics, Italian Finance and the Iberian Colonization of the Atlantic World.” Tulani Elisa garnered third prize with her essay, “DuBois: The Crisis as Propaganda During World War I.”

This year’s panel judges were Dr. James Gillam and Dr. Jelani Cobb from Spelman and Dr. Samuel Livingston from Morehouse College. Dr. Bill Head, Air Force Historian at Robins Air Force Military Base was keynote speaker at the awards luncheon that followed the conference.



Dr. Bill Head addresses students while panel of judges confer on paper presentations.

Student News...



Congratulations to our graduates! Here are a few examples of the post-graduation plans for C’2006 History Majors:

Marti Adams, C’06 is working as the assistant to the Executive Director of the Peachtree Corridor Taskforce, an organization that is partnered with the Atlanta Mayor's Office.

Jessica Brown, C’06 will begin a Ph.D program in History at the University of Maryland (College Park) this fall.

Robinette Downtin, C’06 Magna Cum Laude and Departmental Honors, was voted “Most Outstanding History Senior” by the History department faculty for attaining the highest GPA and successfully completing a thesis. Ms. Downtin was accepted to NYU’s History Doctoral program and has received the McCracken Fellowship. This fellowship will provide full funding for her graduate school studies at NYU, which begin in 2007. Ms. Downtin has also received a Fulbright Fellowship and will spend the 2006-2007 academic year in Morocco studying “The Intersection of Islam and Moroccan Women’s Dress”.

Tulani Elisa, C’06 is looking forward to beginning her position as a Legislative Assistant for Congressman Ed Markey from Massachusetts. In August 2007 she will attend Suffolk Law School in Boston, MA.

While we will miss our C’06 seniors, we also look forward to supporting current students in their academic endeavors:

Sharity Bannerman won a \$5000 Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship for Study Abroad to help fund her Fall semester in Ghana in the NYU Program. In addition, Sharity was named a Joseph A. Towles Scholarship winner for Fall 2006 for study in Sub-Saharan Africa. She also won a J.P. Morgan Chase Study Abroad Scholarship.

Lynis Brown earned multiple honors this past year. She earned Phi Alpha Theta, Golden Key, Spelman Gateway Honors Program and Mortar Board academic honors. Lynis has also been accepted in the Atlanta History Center’s Fellowship program.

Shauna Deans will be participating in the Sutherland Scholars Program. This program is a mentoring program for students interested in going to law school.

Melanee Harvey is a History and Art double major and has been accepted as a Mellon-Mays fellow. She took classes at Emory University this summer and is back conducting research on 1980’s Black Art and how it reflects social trends and hip hop.

Nafeesa Muhammad was accepted to the Schaumburg-Mellon Humanities Summer Institute in New York for summer 2006. She was one of ten students in the U.S selected. While studying at the Schaumburg Center for Research in Black Culture she conducted research for her senior thesis.

Brittany Nash won a \$3000 Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship to help fund her Fall Semester Study Abroad at Royal Holloway College of the University of London on the new Spelman Exchange. She is the first person to go on the exchange where students who are Spelman History majors will have preference.

Jenille Simon was accepted in the Atlanta History Center’s Fellowship program.

Great job ladies!



***Robinette Downtin
Outstanding History Student 2005-06***

Dr. Anne Bailey

Dr. Anne Bailey accepted a position at State University of New York at Binghamton. As a valued member of the History and ADW departments, she was committed to our students' intellectual progress. She will be missed!

New Faces



The History Department welcomes Gnimbin Ouattara as a Visiting Instructor. Professor Ouattara is currently a Fulbright doctoral candidate from the Ivory Coast and is completing his dissertation at Georgia State University. While at Spelman he will teach courses on African History and on the African Diaspora and the World.

Phi Alpha Theta *continued from page 1*

After accepting the charge, the 2005-2006 members of Phi Alpha Theta, an honors society for Historians, were presented their membership certificates and a rose.

Following this portion of the program, Tulani Elisa gave a speech on behalf of the graduating seniors that expressed their experience in the History department during their matriculation at Spelman. Ms. Elisa stated, "Every time I enter the department, I instantly smile. . . I'm usually pretty happy to be there, with professors and staff who I know truly care about me and my progress at Spelman. I'm sure this is the same for my fellow seniors as well." A reception followed.

Faculty Accomplishments

Dr. W. Jelani Cobb has received a contract from Thunder's Mouth Press for a collection of his essays. Dr. Cobb also provided historical commentary for the CNN coverage of the Coretta Scott King Funeral Service in February 2006. Dr. Cobb gave the keynote address for the Black History Month events at Savannah State University.

Dr. Margery Ganz's article for the John Najemy Festschrift, *Medici Inner Circle*, was accepted for the international Festschrift in honor of Professor John Najemy of Cornell. She also organized the Italian panels for the 15th Biennial Medieval/Renaissance Conference. Additionally, Dr. Ganz has become a member of the US Student Fulbright Fellowship National Selection Committee for Ph.Ds for Italy. Moreover, as a member of the National Review Panel for the Benjamin Gilman Scholarships, she is the only person who represents a liberal arts college on the committee.

Dr. James Gillam gave the Keynote Address at Rowan University's Phi Alpha Theta Conference in May. Also, his book, "War in the Central Highlands 1968-70: An Historian's Experience," was published by Edwin Mellen Press of New York. (See mellenpress.com; then, click Mellen Authors; then click G, go to #85; then click the title for reviews.)

Dr. Kathleen Phillips Lewis helped organize the Phi Alpha Theta induction ceremony for History students and organized the 2006 Atlanta University Center History Student Conference. Her panel, "Crossing Over with Beads Asunder: The Transatlantic Slave Trade, Social and Cultural Transformations" was accepted for the 2nd International Conference of the transatlantic research group. The theme of the conference, which took place in Owerri, Nigeria on July 28-30, 2006, was *Gender, Global and State Transformation in Africa and the African Diaspora*.

Dr. Dalila de Sousa Sheppard presented a paper titled, "*Race, Class, and Culture in the creation of HEALTH or DEATH in the African Diaspora: the cases of Brazil and the United States*" at the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies in Charlotte, NC, April 6-8, 2006.

History Department Faculty and Staff

Chair: Dalila de Sousa Sheppard Ph.D, Associate Professor. Areas: Latin America, African Diaspora. Cosby 408. 404-270-549.

Margery A. Ganz Ph.D, Professor. Areas: Medieval and Renaissance Europe, Director of Study Abroad & International Exchange. Cosby 406. 404-270-5495.

James T. Gillam Ph.D, Associate Professor. Areas: Asia, African Diaspora. Cosby 410. 404-270-5500.

Kathleen E. Phillips Lewis Ph.D., Associate Professor. Areas: Caribbean, Modern Europe, African Diaspora. Cosby 414. 404-270- 5507.

William J. Cobb Ph.D, Assistant Professor. Areas: African American/U.S. Cosby 415. 404-270-5502.

Gnimbin Ouattara ABD, Visiting Instructor. Areas: Early Africa, Early U.S., Diaspora, Religion. Cosby 412. 404-270-5498.

Admin. Assistant: R. Nicole Smith M.A. Georgia State Univ. (Fall 2006). Cosby 407. 404-270-5496.

Short-Term Admin. Assistant: E. Dale Dudley, Undergrad NC A&T State University (1964-67).

Fall 2006 Course Offerings

SHIS 203 Historical Methods (Gillam) TR 9:25-10:40am
(Must have instructor's approval to register for class)

SHIS 211 U.S. Survey (Cobb) MWF; 2:00-2:50pm

SHIS 231 African Survey (Staff) MWF; 10:00-10:50am

SHIS 261 History of the Caribbean to 1804 (Phillips-Lewis);
TR 3:50-5:05pm

SHIS 316 Constitutional History (Cobb) MWF; 12N-12:50pm

SHIS 322 African American Thought (Cobb); M 4:30-
6:45pm

SHIS 358A European Women Toward Equality (Ganz);
MW 3:00-4:15pm

SHIS 373 Africans in Latin America (de Sousa Sheppard); TR
1:00-2:15pm

SHIS 400 Independent Study (de Sousa Sheppard) TBD

SHIS 441 Seminar in Vietnam (Gillam) TR; 2:25-3:40pm

SHIS 453 Victorian England (Phillips Lewis) W; 4:00-7:00pm
(Seniors History Major/Minors only)

SHIS 491 Senior Thesis (de Sousa Sheppard) W; 1:00-1:50pm

Fall 2006 Event Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
SEPTEMBER			
F, 8	Meeting with Seniors	Faculty Cloister	4 -5 p.m.
M, 11	Fall Reception for History Majors/Minors	Women's Center Conf. Room	6:30-8 p.m.
Th, 14	Panel: "Afr. Amer. Males & Sex Tourism in Brazil" (Dr. Cobb)	Cosby Aud.	6:30 p.m.
W, 27	ASALH Conference Opening Reception	Cosby Atrium	7 p.m.

OCTOBER

Th, 5 Book Signing (Dr. Gillam)LLCI ConfRm 5:30 p.m.

NOVEMBER

F, 10 Dr. Cobb's Address at the US Mission to the UN

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