



**SREB-STATE
DOCTORAL
SCHOLARS
PROGRAM**

- Director's Chair
- Things to Remember
- Scholar News

The SREB-State Doctoral Scholars Program presents

The Doctoral Chat

April 2011

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR



Dr. Ansley Abraham
Director,
Doctoral Scholars Program

Can you believe it's already spring? I'm sure your life, like mine, is up and running at full speed. As we all deal with our workloads amid this tough economy, the Doctoral Scholars Program works hard to help you and other scholars continue your education — and further our mission of diversifying the professoriate. As state budgets

struggle, our program remains steadfast in its commitment to you. You tell us over and over again that this program has helped change your life. Now, we need **your** help.

In last winter's newsletter, you learned about our new "Giving Back Campaign," created to increase our support and help you give back to the next generation of scholars. I apologize that due to technical difficulties, the campaign had to be put on hold for awhile. **But today we have good news!** The campaign — a campaign many of you asked for — can now begin in earnest. The Web page/link is up and fully functional: Just click on the Contributions link (<http://www.sreb.org/page/1492/contributions.html>).

You can check out last year's newsletter for all of the details. But to summarize, it has three goals. To: 1) support a dissertation-year scholar; 2) replenish the Profes-

sional Development Fund, which has been suspended for more than a year; and 3) provide support for the annual Service Grant Award. The financial goal for this first year is \$50,000. While the Giving Back Campaign targets program graduates, we need every dollar. I'm sure that all of you who are current scholars have siblings, parents, grandparents, relatives, friends, etc., who may want to help by making a tax-deductible contribution. So please ask them! And join your fellow scholars in supporting this important cause. The fact is, your program needs your help NOW!

I invite you to check out other ways we're working to serve you better, too. Be sure to click on your new and improved Scholar Directory. (<http://home.sreb.org/dsp/scholardirectory2.0/>.) It has a fresh look, feel and functionality, so you can update your contact and background information AND use it as a social/academic networking tool. Perhaps, more importantly, the directory is used by institutions that purchase subscriptions to identify and recruit prospective employees — like you. So be sure to upload your curriculum vitae (even if you are early in your graduate career). For recruiters, this is the most important element in your profile. Remember, the directory is password-protected (name and scholar id). A word of caution, when uploading your CV, **do not** include personal contact information (such as address and phone numbers). Use your e-mail and/or departmental address only. Put the Scholar Directory to work for you!

(continued on next page)

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR *(continued)*

On a more somber note, we are sad to report that Dr. Veronica Hinton-Hudson, a 1995 SREB scholar from Louisville, Kentucky, passed away on February 27. Veronica was an industrial engineering graduate from the University of Louisville who loved the DSP and fully appreciated how the program assisted her and what it could do to assist others. She mentored several DSP scholars. During her long battle against cancer, she made a concerted effort to stay involved. She even took time out of her chemotherapy treatments to attend the 2007 Institute in Arlington. While I expressed reservations about her making the trip, she said to me, "Dr. A, I need this [attending the Institute] more than I feel bad." It

was her way of seeking and getting support from the DSP "**family**." Please join me in prayer and offering our sincere condolences to her daughters and other loved ones. She will be missed.

At DSP, you ARE part of a family. A powerful family. So let's make this a spring to remember and get ready for a productive summer. Start by getting involved in the Giving Back Campaign. Put your dollars where they count!



WHAT'S NEW IN DSP

As Dr. Abraham mentioned in his letter, the Doctoral Scholars Program has a newly updated online directory for our scholars who attend the Institute on Teaching and Mentoring and for recruiters who are looking to recruit for potential job positions. The directory allows scholars to update their profiles and gives recruiters easier access to fulfill their employment goals. We all are extremely excited about the new directory and the potential employment opportunities it provides for you and other scholars. Also, please don't forget to visit the SREB website for our new Statistical Profile section, located under the Doctoral Scholars Program. This provides up-to-the-minute statistical data about the Doctoral Scholars Program.

CAREER NEWS

Eric Ashley Hairston, J.D., Ph.D., was awarded tenure at Elon University in North Carolina and was promoted to associate professor of English and of law and humanities.

Dr. Vetria Byrd will become a visualization research scientist at Clemson University in South Carolina on May 2.

Dr. Fashaad Crawford, a South Carolina SREB scholar, has been promoted to assistant vice president in the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Kent State University in Ohio.

Dr. Ed Brown, a Tennessee SREB scholar, has been promoted and received tenure at Rochester Institute of Technology in New York, where he serves as associate professor, electrical engineering.

Dr. Miriam Rivera-Hokanson, a former Alabama scholar, has been awarded tenure and promoted to associate professor at Bemidji State University in Minnesota.

Dr. Luria Stubblefield was promoted to associate professor with tenure, Southern University and A&M College, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, in Louisiana.

IMPORTANT THINGS FOR CURRENT SCHOLARS TO REMEMBER

Scholar Responsibilities

- Notify the Doctoral Scholars Program *immediately* regarding any change in contact information, enrollment, employment or academic status. E-mail tammy.wright@sreb.org.
- Send in a grade report or dissertation progress report each semester to Tammy Wright.
- Maintain full-time enrollment for ALL semesters while being actively funded.
- Attend the annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring each fall. If you have any questions, e-mail Audra Jackson, Institute coordinator, at audra.jackson@sreb.org
- Get your Ph.D. and join the professoriate!

REMEMBER, SCHOLARS:

Update and keep your online Scholar Directory listing current. To access the Scholar Directory, the Scholar Support Discussion Board and other great things to help you on your journey, go to www.sreb.org and click on the Doctoral Scholars link under “Programs.”

Other Guidelines

- You **MUST** advise SREB if you are not a full-time student. Also notify SREB if you are doing an audit, independent study or research hours.
- You **MUST NOT** be employed under any circumstances outside the department, part time or full time, without notifying SREB. Any employment in the department must be reported and approved.
- You **MUST** report any additional funds earned while receiving program support, including scholarships, fellowships, assistantships, grants or other monies, regardless of when you receive the funds.

****Grades and Dissertation Updates****

This is just a reminder that grades are due each term. In the last newsletter, we advised all scholars that only two e-mail requests for grades and dissertation updates will be sent before stipends are withheld.

- Grades should be e-mailed each term.
- Grades should include your term GPA and overall GPA.
- If you take research hours or dissertation hours that are pass/fail, you must send a short narrative.
- Dissertation scholars should submit a short narrative outlining your progress this term and plans for the next term. Any hardships or breakthroughs, presentations, etc., that are noteworthy also should be included. Please include your anticipated final defense date in your narrative.

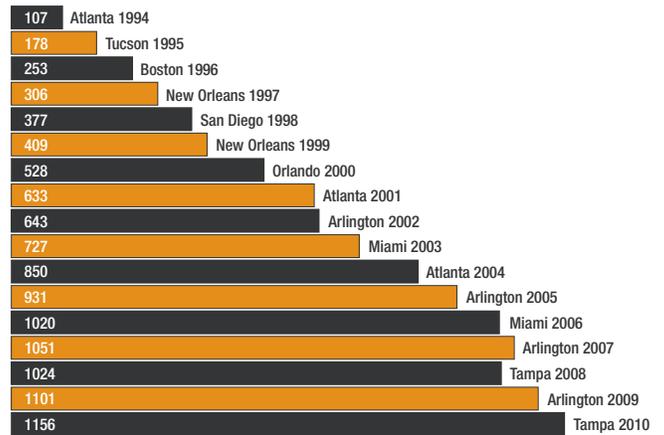
Remember that when you defend your dissertation and the committee signs off, we consider you a program graduate. We understand that sometimes the committee will sign off even with changes to be made ... but if you get the signatures, we consider you a completer. Please contact SREB as soon as you defend or have a scheduled date. This is very important as we keep a calendar, and your specific defense date and time are posted on this calendar. This allows us to track your progress, and it is very exciting for us to see the calendar covered with defense dates.

We are happy to report that approximately 300 potential applicants have logged in to our online application center. Early each spring semester in January, please refer new qualified candidates to apply for our doctoral scholars fellowship, awarded at the beginning of each fall semester. We expect to see all new scholars at this year's Institute!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 17TH ANNUAL INSTITUTE IN TAMPA

You can be proud that every year, attendance at the Institute continues to increase. Last October was no different! Even in such hard economic times, our conference exceeded our expectations, giving us a true testament to the amazing energy and drive of minority scholars — and the importance of diversifying the professoriate. The 2010 Institute for Teaching and Mentoring, with 1,156 attendees (and 1,212 registrations), was the most well-attended Institute in conference history. Registration included: 300 SREB-State doctoral scholars, faculty and mentors; 32 junior faculty members, 228 AGEP/SBE doctoral scholars, directors and faculty; 93 McNair scholars and directors; 166 Sloan scholars and directors; 66 Gates Millennium scholars and staff; 30 Bridges scholars and faculty mentors; 14 New England scholars and faculty; 84 presenters; 142 recruiters; and 58 guests, staff and volunteers.

Institute on Teaching and Mentoring 17-Year Attendance Chart



SAVE THE DATE!!!

Join us this fall for the next Institute in Atlanta, Georgia, at the Atlanta Hilton Hotel. Save the dates: **October 20-23, 2011**. If you have any questions, please e-mail Audra Jackson, Institute coordinator, at audra.jackson@sreb.org.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Thomas Washington, an associate professor of social work and research fellow at Cal State Long Beach (CSULB), was named the recipient of the Gerald Ludd Award at the 2011 national African American MSM Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS and Other Health Disparities. One of two Emerging Leader Awards given annually by the National AIDS Education and Services for Minorities (NAESM) at the conference, the Ludd Award honors an individual for his/her outstanding community service, dedication and contributions to removing HIV/AIDS and other health disparities from the African American MSM community.

The Drs. Robinson for completing their doctorates. University of Louisiana students **Michael** and **Michelle Robinson** are living proof that love can bloom in the halls of academia. In fall 2003 the couple met at the Writing Center in the University of Louisiana Ekstrom Library. In 2007 they were married at Speed Art Museum, and this past fall, both were hired at the University of Alabama as professors. She is an assistant professor of composition rhetoric and English studies, and he is an assistant professor of social work.



SCHOLAR NEWS

SREB scholar **Adrienne Randolph** was accepted into the 2010 class of Leadership Georgia.

Dr. Rochelle Parks-Yancy, assistant professor of management at the Jesse H. Jones School of Business at Texas Southern University, was awarded a Fulbright fellowship to Armenia for the spring of 2010. Dr. Parks-Yancy studied job search practices of Armenian workers and taught an organizational behavior course at the American University of Armenia.



A BIG WELCOME

Arkansas scholar **Brooke Montgomery** gave birth to a beautiful baby boy, named Corey Montgomery Jr. Congratulations, Brooke!

Kent School of Social work doctoral student **Laneshia McCord** is the first University of Louisville student to receive a pre-dissertation award from the John A. Hartford Foundation. The Hartford Doctoral Fellows is a component of the nationwide Geriatric Social Work Initiative. Its goal is to expand the training of social workers who can improve the health and well-being of older people and their families.

Alabama scholar **Michelle Walton** has been selected as one of four 2011 Frederick Douglass Summer Teaching Fellows at West Chester University, outside of Philadelphia. While waiting for the detail, she's been asked to teach business/professional public speaking for the second summer session (June 27-July 28.) Last year, she also presented her research paper, "Reality TV is the Devil: Linking Black Stereotypes in The Real Housewives of Atlanta to Teen Perceptions of Family and Matrimony in the African American Community," at the first annual Diversity Conference, sponsored by the College of Communication & Information Science on the University of Alabama campus.

Alabama scholar **David Arrington** was recently selected by the Student Government Organization at Troy University, Dothan campus, as the Teacher of the Year.

The abstract of Alabama scholar **Gina McCaskill** has been accepted for presentation at The Gerontological Society of America's 63rd Annual Scientific Meeting, taking place in New Orleans. It's entitled: "Diabetes and Self-Rated Mental Health: The Role of Age and Race." She also will be honored as the recipient of the Recognition of Contribution to Scholarship by a Ph.D. Student award at the 2011 School of Social Work Honors Day Program on Friday, April 8, 2011.

Institute attendee **Dr. Kimberly A. Truong** is a recipient of the Recognition of Merit award in the 2010-2011 PDK International Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award program. Dr. Truong used her direct experience of attending the Institute for her dissertation: "Racism and Racial Trauma in Doctoral Study: How Students of Color Experience and Negotiate the Political Complexities of Racist Encounters."

PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Rochelle Parks-Yancy's book, (*Equal Work, Unequal Careers: African-Americans in the Workforce*) was published by First Forum Press in April 2010. She is assistant professor of management at the Jesse H. Jones School of Business at Texas Southern University.

Please don't forget to submit your accomplishments, publications, personal milestones, etc., to audra.jackson@sreb.org.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Doctoral Scholars Program's Regional Advisory Committee met on January 27-28, 2011, at the Renaissance Concourse Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. The committee is comprised of representatives from each of the participating states in the Doctoral Scholars Program (DSP). The committee provided updates on their state's policies and issues that impact the program. Dr. Ansley Abraham provided information on the status of the program, including financial data, the new electronic profile reports, the new online directory, AGEP and Sloan grant reports, the Junior Faculty Conference, and the 2010 Institute. Representatives attending the meeting were: William Arnold, director for Access, Diversity, and Equity, Tennessee Board of Regents; Betty Dandridge Johnson, assistant executive director for Academic Affairs, Tennessee Higher Education Commission; Donald Cole, assistant provost and assistant chancellor of Multicultural Affairs, University of Mississippi; Daniel Crockett, director of Student and Educational Services, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission; Ken Durgans, assistant chancellor for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis; Marie Hamilton, assistant dean, Louisiana State University, The Graduate School; Sherron Jackson, associate vice president for Finance & Equal Opportunities, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; Rana Johnson, chief diversity officer, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education; Paul Mohr, director of Special Programs, Alabama Commission on Higher Education; Linda Noble, assistant vice chancellor for Faculty Affairs, The University System of Georgia; Lisa Smith, assistant coordinator of Financial Aid, Arkansas Department of Higher Education; and Aaron Thompson, senior vice president of Academic Affairs, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education.

On Thursday evening, special recognition was given to Sherron Jackson for his 17 years of service on the advisory committee. Jackson will have different responsibilities and will no longer serve on the advisory committee. His replacement on the committee will be Dr. Rana Johnson. Johnson is a former SREB-State Doctoral Scholar. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Kentucky and has been employed at the Kentucky Council since 1999.



Sherron Jackson and Ansley Abraham



First row: Linda Noble, Lisa Smith, Paul Mohr, Marie Hamilton;
second row: Sherron Jackson, William Arnold, Donald Cole,
Betty Dandridge Johnson, Rana Johnson, Daniel Crockett,
Aaron Thompson