The Freshman Class held its assembly on Thursday morning, April 10, 2014 in the Neal-Jones Auditorium. Their theme was “The Political Process: Its Influences on Higher Education, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.” The speaker was South Carolina Sen. Vincent Sheheen, D-District 27. An attorney from Camden, SC, he shared with students how he learned the value of hard work while working in their family owned store. “If you work hard, learn and live the best you can live,” he said, “you can be incredibly successful, not in terms of material wealth, but successful in moving the lives of other people in the right direction.”

Informing students that they are the future leaders of South Carolina, he briefly centered his talk on leadership and accountability. Seeing himself on a mission to change South Carolina and its government he declared, “Leadership and accountability matters not just in our government but in our everyday lives.” Committed to helping our state and its residents success, he feels that much of the political process is “just politics and not leadership.” Emphasizing leadership throughout his message he said, “Leadership means accepting responsibility, taking charge.”

Described as a “forceful advocate for reforming and improving public education,” Sen. Sheheen, reminding the audience of that familiar proverbial adage, said, “Without a vision the people perish.” He went on to say, “Through the government, or through the state, or through the college, or the move you take forward, you have to have vision.” Recognizing the need for “servant-leadership” as a part one’s vision, he strongly declared, “Lifting up a brother or sister is a vision worth fighting, living, and leaning toward,” he added.

Sen. Sheheen has been a member of the South Carolina Senate since 2004. He was a member of the House of Representatives from 2001-2004. He is married to Amy Renee Uhl and is the father of three sons.

The senator left the campus before the assembly was over in order to attend another engagement. President Luns C. Richardson thanked the senator and complimented the freshman class for having an excellent program. Urging them to remember what the senator said and to think about his message, the president reiterated on the importance of having a vision.

Dr. Richardson took a few minutes also to remind students that the semester is almost over and to urge them to use their time wisely. Reminding students why they are here, he concluded his remarks saying, “Your serious purpose for being at Morris College is studying so you can earn your bachelor’s degree and prepare yourself for your next step. I hope you listened to the senator very carefully.”
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

April 11-12, 2014
Student Government Association Annual SGA Weekend

April 13, 2014
9 AM
Sunday Morning Worship Service
O. R. Reuben Chapel

April 15, 2014
10 AM
Toastmaster’s Club Meeting
Wilson-Booker Science Bldg.

Reminder:
Last Day for Voting in the Home Depot Retool Your School Competition

April 16, 2014
6 PM
Bible Study and Fellowship
Baptist Student Union
Religious Center, Room 224

April 17, 2014
10 AM
Pre-Easter Worship Service
Neal-Jones Auditorium

7 PM
Morris College Gospel Choir Spring Concert
Neal-Jones Auditorium

Annual “HBCU Campus Queens”
EBONY Magazine has announced its annual “HBCU Campus Queens” feature. Miss Morris College, if she has enough votes, will be among the Ten HBCU Campus Queens who will be featured inside EBONY’s September 2014 issue.

Shanaka L. Heyward will have her photo and video showcased on the magazine’s website at www.ebony.com/campusqueens. All students, faculty, staff and alumni, along with your family and friends, are urged to please go to the magazine’s website and vote for our campus queen! Online voting will start at 12:01 a.m. on Monday, April 14 and will continue until May 15, 2014 at midnight. Ebony will feature the ten queens with the most votes. Thanks.

Spring 2014 Capstone Presentations
On Saturday, April 12 and Monday, April 14, seniors enrolled in capstone courses will be presenting final research projects. Everyone is invited to support these students by attending the presentations. The schedule for presentations is listed below:

Saturday April 12, 9:00 am
* Education - Butler Building
* Health Science - Butler Building
* Organizational Management - Wilson Booker Science Building, Room 209
* Business - Wilson Booker Science Building Room 209
* Criminal Justice - Forensics Center
* Religion - Film Lecture Room
* Media - Film Lecture Room
* Humanities - Film Lecture Room

Monday April 14
9:00 a.m.
* Biology - Wilson Booker Science Building, Room 110
* Mathematics - Wilson Booker Science Building, Room 110

10:00 a.m.
* Recreation - Butler Building
* History - Forensics Center
* Political Science - Forensics Center
* Social Science - Forensics Center

Important News for Graduating Seniors
Graduating seniors need to complete the Loan Exit Counseling On-line for Federal Direct Student Loans prior to graduation. The exit counseling is required by the federal government for all students who have received student loans.

The Office of Financial Aid has sent out correspondence to prospective graduates regarding this process. Graduating seniors should check their campus mailboxes, dormitory or home mailboxes. Students will need to use their Personal Identification Number (PIN) to complete the exit counseling. This is the number used for FAFSA. For additional information, contact the Office of Financial Aid at ext. 3245.

Annual Pre-Easter Worship Service
The Annual Pre-Easter Worship Service will be held during next Thursday’s assembly on April 17, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. in the Neal-Jones Auditorium.

Dr. Marion H. Newton, the senior pastor of Jehovah Missionary Baptist Church here in Sumter, will deliver the message. He is a graduate of the college and also a member of its board of trustees. Everyone is urged to attend.