SGA and Student Leaders Installed for 2013-2014

The newly elected Student Government Association and officers of classes and organizations were installed at the college’s Installation Assembly on Thursday morning.

Interim Dean of Student Affairs, Rev. Eliza Black, presided over the assembly and installed student leaders for the 2013-2014 academic year. President Luns C. Richardson installed the SGA officers for the coming year.

The theme of the assembly was, “Understanding: Our hope for tomorrow.” Dr. Richardson explained two important facets of understanding. One, the need for leaders to understand themselves; acknowledging both short-comings and strengths which will enable them to better serve and second, to understand the purpose and philosophy of Morris College in continuing the tradition of providing a quality well-rounded education for all of its students.

The newly installed SGA officers are: Refugio Banuelos, president; Lewis Fordjour, first-vice president; Tevin Hill, second vice-president; Catherine Evans, secretary; Shereka Simpson, assistant secretary; Rasha Frye, treasurer; Ashley Vinston, business manager; Carrie Bovill, parliamentarian; and Samuel McMahand, chaplain.

Shanaka Hayward, Miss Morris College, 2013-2014, her First-Attendant, Evelyn Alexander and her Second Attendant, Ashley Brown were recognized at the assembly.

President Richardson acknowledged the outgoing SGA officers and thanked them for their dedicated service.

The program also included recognition of Outstanding Capstone Presenters who were introduced by Dr. Lois Weston Green, chairperson of the Division of Education (see details on page 2).
In addition to the ceremony, President Luns C. Richardson held a brief information session to communicate two recent changes to the Federal Pell Grant Program and concurrent changes to Morris College academic policy. These important changes are designed help students enjoy academic success and achieve the ultimate goal of a timely graduation. The changes will take effect Fall Semester, 2013. Students, faculty and staff were given copies of the policy changes in detail.

**Jackson, Chairman of the Board to Address Class of 2013**

Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr., newly elected chairman of the Morris College Board of Trustees and senior pastor of Brookland Baptist Church in West Columbia, will be the speaker at the college’s Annual Commencement Convocation on **Saturday, May 4 at 10 a.m.** at the **Sumter County Civic Center**.

Jackson earned an undergraduate degree with honors from Benedict College in Columbia, SC and a master’s degree from the Morehouse School of Religion at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta. He has been awarded honorary doctorate degrees from both Morris College and Benedict College. He has established himself as a community leader and a pace setter.

In addition to the vast growth and economic development taking place under his leadership at the church, he has made his mark in numerous organizations. A few include former president of the South Carolina Baptist Congress of Christian Education, Board of Directors for Morehouse School of Religion, member of the NAACP, Board of Directors for Lexington Medical Center and Board of Visitors for the University of South Carolina.

His honors include the Affirmative Action Award from the Black Faculty and Staff Association of the University of South Carolina, Lifetime Achievement Award, the 100 Black Men of Greater Columbia, Inc., and the Order of the Palmetto, conferred by former Governor Jim Hodges.

**Outstanding Capstone Presenters Named**

Four seniors were named Outstanding Capstone Presenters. They are: Fall 2012, Rasaan Younkins, Elementary Education presentation; Spring 2013, Samone Hooper and Ryan Graham, Mass Communications presentations; and Tiffany Brunson, Organizational Management presentation.