The One Hundred Seventh Annual Baccalaureate Commencement Convocation

The Fifth Day of May
Two Thousand Eighteen
Ten O’clock in the Morning

Sumter County Civic Center
Sumter, South Carolina
Commencement Speaker

The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch
83rd Attorney General of the United States

Loretta E. Lynch served as the 83rd Attorney General of the United States. Under her leadership the Department of Justice focused extensively on national security and terrorism, corruption both domestic and international, human trafficking, and improving the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve.

Her father, who was a pastor, spurred her fascination with the legal system by taking her as a young girl to watch court proceedings at the courthouse in Durham, North Carolina. He and her mother, who was an English teacher and librarian, instilled in her a love of learning and a passion for public service.

Ms. Lynch received her A.B., *cum laude*, from Harvard College in 1981, and her J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1984, where she was an advisor to the first year moot court competition and a member of the Legal Aid Bureau and Harvard Black Law Students Association. In 1990, after a period in private practice, Ms. Lynch joined the United States Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York, located in Brooklyn, New York—the city she considers her adopted home. There, she forged an impressive career prosecuting cases involving narcotics, money laundering, organized crime and public corruption. In one notable instance, she served on the prosecution team in the high-profile civil rights case of Abner Louima, the Haitian immigrant who was sexually assaulted by uniformed police officers in a Brooklyn police precinct in 1997.

In 1999, President Clinton appointed her to lead the office as United States Attorney—a post she held until 2001. In 2002, she joined Hogan & Hartson LLP (now Hogan Lovells) as a partner in the firm’s New York office. While in private practice, Ms. Lynch performed extensive *pro bono* work for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, established to prosecute those responsible for human rights violations in the 1994 genocide in that country. As Special Counsel to the Tribunal, she was responsible for investigating allegations of witness tampering and false testimony. While in private practice she also served on several boards, including the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and the Legal Aid Society of New York.

In 2010, President Obama asked Ms. Lynch to resume her leadership of the United States Attorney’s Office in Brooklyn. Under her direction, the office successfully prosecuted numerous corrupt public officials, terrorists, cybercriminals and human traffickers, among other important cases.
GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS

“Great is Thy faithfulness,” O God my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not,
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness,
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain:  “Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!”
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided,
“Great is Thy faithfulness,” Lord unto me!

Arr. Thomas O. Chisholm and
William M. Runyan

ALMA MATER

Morris our College dear
With hearts all filled with cheer
We come to thee.
Throughout life’s checkered ways
Thy name we’ll ever praise,
Teacher of youthful ways
All hail to thee.

When from our homes we came
To own thy lofty name
Breathe courage free,
Parents and teachers dear
Calmed by the lack of fear,
Pay homage through the years
All hail to thee.

Composed by
Ms. Ida Y. Pullens, 1924
THE ORGAN PRELUDE ............................................................................................. Mr. Shawn Hair
Instructor of Music and
Director of the Morris College Chorale

THE PROCESSION…………….. “War March of the Priests” ………….. Felix Mendelssohn
(The audience is requested to remain seated)

THE HYMN…………………………. “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”…………………arr. Thomas O. Chisholm
Morris College Chorale

THE SCRIPTURE AND THE INVOCATION……………………………Dr. Charles M. Pee
College Minister and
Assistant Professor of Religion

THE CHORAL RESPONSE……………… “Spirit of the Living God”………………….arr. Daniel Iverson
Morris College Chorale

THE MUSICAL SELECTION……. “When You Believe”…………………..arr. Audrey Snyder
Morris College Chorale

THE AWARDING OF PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS …………………………… Dr. Leroy Staggers

THE CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES …………………………… Dr. Leroy Staggers

THE GREETINGS. …………………………………………………………………………. Dr. Mack T. Hines
Chairman, Board of Trustees

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER……………………………………… Dr. Leroy Staggers

THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS……………………………………………… The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch
83rd Attorney General of the United States
THE ORDER OF THE EXERCISE (Cont’d)

THE PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES..............................Dr. Jacob E. Butler, Jr.
Interim Academic Dean

(The audience is requested to hold all applause until after all candidates have been presented)

THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES..............................................................Dr. Leroy Staggers

THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF CLASS HONORS, PRIZES, AND AWARDS…Dr. Jacob E. Butler, Jr.

THE INDUCTION OF GRADUATES INTO THE MORRIS COLLEGE
NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION......................................................Mrs. Ruth M. Pendergrass
President, Morris College National Alumni Association

THE RECOGNITION OF TRUSTEES AND VISITORS

THE ALMA MATER

CLOSING REMARKS AND THE BENEDICTION.................................Dr. James Blassingame
President, Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina

THE RECESSION..................................................”Pomp and Circumstance”...........................Edward Elgar
(The audience is requested to remain seated)

The President’s Reception Honoring Graduates, Relatives, and Friends will immediately follow
the Baccalaureate Commencement Convocation at the Civic Center.
THE ORDER OF THE PROCESSION

THE CHIEF MARSHAL ............................................................................................................. Dr. Radman M. Ali
Professor of Biology

THE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

The Marshals .................................................................................................................... Mr. Rudolph Wheeler
Director of Upward Bound and Call Me Mister Programs

Ms. LaVon Simpson
Assistant Professor of Business Administration

THE FACULTY

The Marshals .................................................................................................................. Dr. James G. Ibe
Professor of Business Administration

Dr. Kay M. Rhoads
Associate Professor of Education

THE PRESIDENTIAL PARTY

The Marshal ...................................................................................................................... Dr. Patricia M. Ali
Professor of History

The Trustees of the College

The President of the Morris College
National Alumni Association ............................................................................................ Mrs. Ruth M. Pendergrass

The Director of Admissions and Records ..................................................................... Ms. Deborah C. Calhoun

The Chairman of the Board of Trustees ........................................................................ Dr. Mack T. Hines

The Vice Presidents-At-Large of the Baptist Educational and
Missionary Convention of South Carolina ................................................................... Dr. Donald E. Green, Jr.
Dr. Isaac Holt, Jr.

The College Minister ....................................................................................................... Dr. Charles M. Pee

The Interim Academic Dean ......................................................................................... Dr. Jacob E. Butler, Jr.

The President of the Baptist Educational and
Missionary Convention of South Carolina ................................................................. Dr. James Blassingame

The Commencement Speaker ......................................................................................... The Honorable Loretta E. Lynch

The President-Elect of the College .................................................................................. Dr. Leroy Staggers
The following is a list of candidates for degrees prepared by the Office of Admissions and Records, and inclusion herein does not constitute evidence of graduation. Receipt of diploma by the student does provide documented evidence of graduation.

**THE CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES**
Candidates for degrees will be presented by Dr. Jacob E. Butler, Jr., Interim Academic Dean

**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arlene Tiera Bennett</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Andrews</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Shalyssa Bryana Benson</strong></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Newberry</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Avery Bethea, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Sumter</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Latavia Janelle Chavis, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Pastoral Ministry</td>
<td>Rembert</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tierra LaChon Crosby</strong></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Jasmine Monique DeLoach, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Bluffton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jimmie D. Doss, III</td>
<td>Liberal Studies</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Courtney Yvette Dunn</strong></td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Augusta, GA</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Celita Yvonne Evans, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jason Bernard Finn</strong></td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
<td>Pineville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karel Sabrina Gass</td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Sumter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Olivia Nichole Gordon</td>
<td>Liberal Studies</td>
<td>Sumter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Siomara Nicole Grant-Reid</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Moncks Corner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Wilbur Harris, Jr., <em>Magna Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Pastoral Ministry</td>
<td>Columbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth David Harvey</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Winnsboro</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Taylor Moniquic Jenkins</strong></td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Aiken</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jazmine Kirkpatrick-Brooks, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Political Science</td>
<td>Baltimore, MD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence William Krueger, II, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Shaw AFB, SC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dana Shanell Lee</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>Florence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tatyana Gevon Lance, Sociology - Effingham

**Bianca Lynn Mathis, Criminal Justice - Savannah, GA

Oneshia Charnae McLeod, Sociology - Bishopville

**Antwan Jevon Moore, Cum Laude, Sociology - Sumter

Gloria Jean Newman, Cum Laude, Pastoral Ministry - Greeleyville

**Sh´Rae Monique O’Neal, Liberal Studies - Columbia

Monteria Shaniqua Pagan, Criminal Justice - Sumter

**Alicia Shamira Polite, Cum Laude, Sociology - Ridgeland

Moses Terrell Pyatt, Political Science - Charleston

Simone Doreen Richardson, Magna Cum Laude, Sociology - Fort Washington, MD

**Devin Skye McKenzie Riley, Criminal Justice - Columbia

Amani Kier Robinson, Cum Laude, Sociology - Sumter

Pamela Ann Rutledge, Magna Cum Laude, Sociology - Camden

Oneste´Tishai Sabb, Magna Cum Laude, Criminal Justice - Florence

Jake Sanders, III, Magna Cum Laude, Christian Education - Sumter

Tyra Iesha Simmons, Cum Laude, Sociology - Sumter

**Shantell Latisha Singleton, Cum Laude, Sociology - Pinewood

*Aszah Danielle Strong, Cum Laude, Criminal Justice - Sumter

Da´Vante O’toole Theirse, Criminal Justice - Pineville

Qu´Ran Mikhi Turner, Sociology - Jacksonville, FL

Vincent Leroy Washington, Magna Cum Laude, Criminal Justice - Sumter

Victoria Alqueen Wearing, Criminal Justice - Manning

Quavon Wanya Whitfield, Sociology - Manning
**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS DEGREE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Major</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Malik L. Brown-Gaines</td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brishanna Tilliah Tyshae` Davis, <strong>Summa Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Sumter</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Aaron Juwan Dozier, <strong>Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Georgetown</td>
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<td>Jocteal Larry Frierson, <strong>Magna Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Bishopville</td>
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<td>Joy Alicia Gary, <strong>Magna Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Sumter</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emory Xavier Holland</td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Seneca</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Delvonté Rakeém Jeffery, <strong>Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Florence</td>
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<td>*Demonte Antonio Martin</td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Charlotte, NC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jesā Kayla Elizabeth Parker, <strong>Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Orangeburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alazia Gabrielle Williams, <strong>Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Mass Communications</td>
<td>Mauldin</td>
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**CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*David E. Bellinger</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
<td>Lynchburg</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charnell Capri Boyles</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaiah Anthony Cieskiewicz</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
<td>Norfolk, VA</td>
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<td>**Sy’Quesse L. Clyburn</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Paterson, NJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Martin Guy Davis</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
<td>Richmond, VA</td>
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<td>Jalesha Lakaylor Davis, <strong>Cum Laude</strong></td>
<td>Organizational Management</td>
<td>Bishopville</td>
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<td>Tyesa Monēt Dewitt</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Marion</td>
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<td>Anyshia Kristine Doctor</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Eutawville</td>
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<td>Yolunda Conner Edwards</td>
<td>Organizational Management</td>
<td>Marion</td>
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<tr>
<td>**Jasmine Roquelle English</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Fork</td>
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</table>
*Tiara Lukendra Estinvil    Health Science            Longs
Kristian Zaire Evans, *Cum Laude*    Health Science            Chester
Justin Deontae’ Ford    Business Administration          Dillon
Bonnie Dolyn Gibbs    Biology                               Rock Hill
Travonna Vernell Guess, *Cum Laude*    Health Science            Vance
Jashae Erriel Harris    Health Science                     Columbia
**Aaliayah Monique Hill    Business Administration          Northport, AL
Shamika Shamae House-Weathers, *Cum Laude*    Health Science            Summerton
Rodasha Caprice Howard    Business Administration          Mullins
**Linda Lorraine Jackson    Organizational Management           Gable
Dominique Lashawn Jenkins, *Magna Cum Laude*    Mathematics                Washington, GA
Leondra Sherryce King, *Cum Laude*    Health Science                     Columbia
Tia Richelle Lawson    Organizational Management          Sumter
*Rockeem Rocquail Leonard    Mathematics                               Mullins
Lyric Mykia Lett    Business Administration                   Moss Point, MS
*Brandon J. Mason    Business Administration                  Columbia
Lakil Shikae Mason    Biology                                 Columbia
Shelby DeAushay McGuire    Recreation Administration            Sumter
**Arthur De’Andre McKenzie, III    Mathematics                Lake City
Jawanda Tranik McKnight    Organizational Management           Sumter
Matalie Leonteen Mickens    Organizational Management          Hopkins
Letuan Janine Montgomery    Organizational Management          Sumter
Victor LaMar Moore, Jr.    Business Administration          Winnsboro
Xavier Unique Morgan    Business Administration                  Union City, GA
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>*Dwan Elliot Norwood</td>
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<td>Lakeland, GA</td>
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<td>Fabian Cornelouis Patterson</td>
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<td>Patrick De’Andre Paul, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>Raven Ayanna Postell-Nelson, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>Tramayne Rashad Pugh</td>
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<td>Tyesha Latrice Ravenell, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>Augusta, GA</td>
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<td>**Dominique Na’Shae Reaves, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>Shannon Noel Richardson, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>Sara Narvarisha Alina Riley</td>
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<td>Johnell D. Rogers, *Cum Laude</td>
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<td>Darius Alves Russell</td>
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<td>Chaundrica Mercedes Segura, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>*Cheyenne Shaw-Knox</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Pomona, CA</td>
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<td>Jamond Diante Silverman</td>
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<td>Scranton</td>
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<td>Craige Kevin Sloan, Sr., <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
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<td>Jazmine Milan Stover, *Cum Laude</td>
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<td>Tiare Oneisha Tatum, *Cum Laude</td>
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<td>Tredarrius Jaquan Townsend</td>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td>Bennettsville</td>
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<td>Kyle William Washington</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
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<td>**Shaquille O’Neal Washington, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Johns Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tiffany Renee Washington, <em>Cum Laude</em></td>
<td>Health Science</td>
<td>North Charleston</td>
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<td>T’Cara Kymyatta Waters</td>
<td>Recreation Administration</td>
<td>Florence</td>
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<td>Breona Antice Wells</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
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<tr>
<td>TyShae S. Wiley, *Cum Laude</td>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>Martinez, GA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
*Gabrialle Somarya Williams    Biology               Atlanta, GA
***Orlando Akeem Wilson    Health Science               Sumter
George Willie Wright, II, *Cum Laude*    Recreation Administration       Sumter
Brittany Antoinette Wrighton    Business Administration    Charleston
Ashley Michelle Young            Biology                  Sumter

**Eddie Rashaad Floyd    Elementary Education               Easley
Shevonne Monica Wesley, *Magna Cum Laude*    Biology, Secondary Education     Sumter

* Completed Degree Requirements Summer 2017
** Completed Degree Requirements December 2017
***Posthumous

CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN EDUCATION
THE MORRIS COLLEGE HONORS PROGRAM 2017-2018
(Seniors)

BriShanna T. Davis
Pamela A. Rutledge

CALL ME MISTER RECIPIENTS FOR 2017-2018
(Senior)

Eddie R. Floyd

THE MORRIS COLLEGE UNCF SCHOLARS 2017-2018
(Seniors)

Raven A. Postell-Nelson
Darius A. Russell
Jake Sanders, III
Shevonne M. Wesley
Alazia B. Williams

SOUTH CAROLINA LIFE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS FOR 2017-2018
(Seniors)

BriShanna T. Davis
Jocteal L. Frierson
Joy A. Gary
2018 PRESIDENTIAL CITATIONS

J. Elbert Williams

In recognition of his accomplishments and attentiveness to the success of Morris College, J. Elbert Williams continues to thrive as an outstanding alumnus. He is a graduate of Gupton Jones College of Mortuary Science (1989) in Atlanta, Georgia; Morris College (Bachelor of Arts, Pastoral Ministry 2004) and Hood Theological Seminary (Master of Divinity, 2012) in Salisbury, North Carolina. Currently a doctoral candidate with 36 hours toward the Doctor of Ministry degree completed at Erskine Theological Seminary, he has studied at Strayer Business College, Washington, DC, Duke University and Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary.

Reverend Williams’ pastoral and ministerial spirit as a preacher, teacher and leader is duly noted by the United Methodist Church where he was commissioned Elder in Full Connection at its 2016 Annual Conference. He currently serves the Marion Parish which includes Bethel, Pleasant Grove and Springville United Methodist Churches of Marion, South Carolina.

A veteran of the United States Marine Corp, he was honorably discharged after nine years of service to his country. He remains a public servant and community involved person and is affiliated with numerous civic and fraternal organizations. In 2007, he received the Honorary and Final 33rd Degree in Prince Hall Masonry and was recently appointed Associate Grand Chaplain for the State of South Carolina. He is a member of the South Carolina Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, a licensed funeral director and embalmer with state and national board certification, a life member of the Sumter Branch NAACP and owner and developer of Tiffany Gardens, a 20 acre sub-division located in North Sumter. His call to ministry has unfolded a great opportunity, and he looks forward to a “lifetime of service to GOD Almighty who has called him to preach, teach and minister the Gospel.”

Sammie D. Simmons

In recognition of his efforts to make a positive difference in the lives of others, Sammie D. Simmons has devoted his entire 24 years in pastoral ministry at two of the region’s most progressive congregations: St. Mark Four Bridges Missionary Baptist Church of Sumter and Bethesda Missionary Baptist Church of Lynchburg. Under his leadership, St. Mark, in 2000, constructed a $500,000 state-of-the-art edifice that was completely paid for in fewer than seven years. In 2006, a more than $1.7 million, 936,000 sq. ft. facility was purchased to house the Four Bridges Community Development Corporation. It provides tutorial and educational services to community youth, ministry and service to the elderly, and career and skills training to the disenfranchised. Growth at Bethesda led to a massive renovation of its edifice in 2002.

The immediate past moderator of the Wateree Baptist Association, Lower Division (2013-2017), Pastor Simmons strongly supported the college’s mission. He has served on two tours as a pastoral missionary to the Republic of Benin, in West Africa, which resulted in the adoption of the villages of Cotonou and Lakossa. His initiatives led to the construction of a clearwater well that provides fresh drinking water, as well as facilities to serve the medical and educational needs of its villagers. In addition to responsibilities as a minister, he works with the Sumter County Boys and Girls Club and serves as chaplain at Sumter High School. In 2009, he was a consultant to the Mayor’s office to establish the Sumter County prayer initiative. This was designed to unify the Sumter community in prayer and action to improve community living standards for all Sumter residents.
James V. “Ted” Wilson, Sr., after his father passed, watched his mother work all day and then come home to do the same thing. She not only shaped and molded his sense of responsibility; she intensified his determination to become successful and take care of the entire family. After graduating from high school, he matriculated at Morris College in Sumter, South Carolina, where he majored in Elementary Education and later worked as a teacher in the Orangeburg County School District. Eventually, he gave up his career as a classroom teacher and began working as an agent at Interstate Life Insurance Company where he excelled in leadership and was the recipient of many awards and honors.

In 1981 he opened his own agency, Wilson and Associates, during a time in which African Americans were few and far between in financial services. His one man operation began with a secretary and a dream to excel. He went on to graduate from the American College of Life Underwriters in Advanced Business. Today, he is the founder and CEO of Universal Benefits Marketing Firm, Incorporated (UBI). This multi-billion dollar corporation is the third largest, independently owned final expense marketing firm in the country and employs 25 in-office staff members, as well as 1500 active independent field agents along the east coast and throughout the country. The Imperial Fine Dining, another of his many business endeavors, has been the stage for many charitable offerings. This Sumter restaurant has been totally renovated and redesigned as the accredited UBI University to provide training and development for insurance and other business disciplines.

He is personally involved in the human side of the business and oversees his pet project, “Heating for the Elderly.” His company’s “Right to Work Program” seeks to employ displaced persons due to company downsizing or layoffs. Working in conjunction with the South Carolina Employment Commission and area churches, UBI sponsors interested candidates through a training program for the insurance sales field. Candidates must attend and successfully complete the training program and become full-fledged agents with earnings of $40K or more. He also provides untold assistance, in addition to regularly working to help single mothers provide for their children, through charitable gifts made possible through the LouVon Foundation, a charitable trust named in honor of his late mother and sister. The Ted Wilson Foundation was also founded to continue his charitable works.

Because of his leadership in the insurance industry, he has served on numerous insurance boards, including the Life Underwriters Council, and currently serves as a Tuomey Fellow on the Tuomey Foundation Board. Having served for many years as chairman of the Friendship Development Childcare Center, other community affiliations include the KingFEST Committee which he has been among the leading Benefactors since its founding. He is the recipient of numerous awards, honors and recognitions.

Because of his unselfish charitable giving, his strong work ethic and his commitment to help bring quality and dignity to the lives of others, Morris College proudly confers upon James V. “Ted” Wilson the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters.
Henry Brasker Peoples  
Doctor of Divinity

Henry Brasker Peoples, a 1976 graduate of the former Morris College School of Religion, is a graduate of Ashford University in Clinton, Iowa, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration and a 1996 graduate of Strom Thurmond Institute of South Carolina Municipal Government, Columbia, South Carolina. He has done further studies at the University of Maryland, Baltimore, Maryland, and the University of Biblical Studies, Bethany, Oklahoma.

He provided 39 years of pastoral leadership, serving Baptist churches in Williamsburg, Georgetown, Florence, Marion and Darlington counties. In September 1995, he organized the Zion Canaan Missionary Baptist Church, Timmonsville, South Carolina, where he has served as pastor since its inception. Under his leadership the church operates a Food Bank that serves Timmonsville and its surrounding communities and the Zion Canaan Child Development Center, a full-time operation that touches many families in need of its services.

A community-minded individual, he was elected to the Timmonsville Town Council in 1972 and served two four-year terms. In 1993, he became the mayor of the Town of Timmonsville and served three four-year terms. He presently serves as moderator of the Pee Dee Baptist Association, a member of the Morris College Board of Trustees, and chairman of the Board of Friends United, Inc., a 501C (3) community development organization.

Some of his recognitions include the St. Thomas Christian College of Jacksonville, Florida, conferring upon him the honorary degree of Doctorate of Theology in May 2007 and being named “Man of the Year - South Carolina, a Southeast Leadership Award, on February 12, 2012, in Atlanta, Georgia. On August 21, 2016, a section of South Carolina Highway 76, in Florence County, from its intersection with Interstate 95 to the Timmonsville town limit, was named the Reverend Dr. Henry B. Peoples Highway in his honor.

As a distinguished innovative and spiritual and community leader who continues to enhance the quality of life for all people, Morris College is pleased to confer upon Henry B. Peoples the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.
MORRIS COLLEGE FACULTY

PROFESSORS
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Radman M. Ali, Ph.D.**
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Paul Ezeji, Ph.D.
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Lynnette L. Richardson, Ed.D.***
Toure’ G. Thompson, Ph.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS
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Elaine Bunche, M.F.A.
Walter Butler, D.Min.
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Charles M. Pee, D.Min.
Ivana Popovic, M.S.
Keya L. Simon, Ph.D.*
LaVon Simpson, M.B.A.

ASSISTANT PROFESSORS (Con.t)
Valerie Warner, M.A.
Jordan White, J.D.*
Rose Wilder, Ed.D.
Thoma Williams, M.Ed.

INSTRUCTORS
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MSG Robert Cottle, B.A.*
Anthony Dennis, M.S.*
Charisma R. Floyd, M.A.*
Larry Foote, M.B.A.*
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Dorothy Cheagle, M.E.
Gail China, M.Ed.
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Anika V. Cobb, B.A.
Patrice Cooper, B.A.
Juana Davis-Freeman, Ph.D.
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Robert Eaves, B.S.
Altoya Felder-Deas, M.Ed.
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Alston Freeman, B.S.
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Roy Graham, M.Ed.
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Dorothy Hazel, A.A.
Clarence M. Houck, B.A.
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Barbara Jones, M.A.
Joseph B. Jones, M.P.A.
Leisha J. Lloyd, B.S.
Cheryl W. Mack, M.S.
Melvin Mack, M.Div.
Terrance L. McCants, M.B.A.
Georthia M. Moses, M.I.S., MAED/CI
Margaret N. Mukooza, M.L.I.S.
Kay M. Rhoads, Ph.D.*
Lorenzo Rivers, B.S.
Lutricia A. Rutledge, M.S.
Gloria M. Scriven, M.S.
Kenneth Sessions, M.B.A.
Quanda D. Sims, M.A.
Carlotta Stackhouse, M.S.
Leroy Staggers, D.A.
Felicia Tention, Ed.D.
Tiffany T. Walters, B.A.
Rudolph Wheeler, M.Ed.
Subira N.K. Whipper, M.S.
Marguerite D. Wilder, M.S.
Gloria S. Wright, Ph.D.

**FACULTY/STAFF EMERITI**

Eliza E. Black, M.S.
Margaret Davis, M.Ed., L.H.D.
George Heelan, Ed.D.
Wilhelmenia Owens, B.A.
Queen W. Spann, M.Ed.

* Part-Time
** Division Chairperson
***Interim Division Chair
The Luns C. Richardson Endowed Scholarship is awarded to exceptional high school graduates with a grade point average of 3.5 or higher out of 4.0. Scholarships of $4,500 annually are renewable for up to four years.
THE MORRIS COLLEGE
PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS FOR 2017-2018

LaKeisha Battles  Ty'Shaun Ghee  Dayjah June
Taylor Blackmon  Miles Graham  Wallace King
Jasmine Carney  Makeba Harvin  Tatyana Miles
Mayling Chatman  Irie Holloman  Jamie Pressley
BriShanna Davis  Dai'Naiza Horton  Tazmia Raines
Tynasha Durant  Angel Jackson  Sterling Rose
William Easton  Demarr James  Tatyonna Simmons
Joy Gary  Corey Jones  Cecelia Young

The Morris College Presidential Scholarship Program was established by the College to recognize and recruit high school seniors who have above-average academic records. Award recipients must rank in the upper one-fourth of their graduating class, must have been admitted to Morris College and must submit a completed application for the scholarship by the prescribed date. Award ranges from $750 per year to $2,500 per year.

ACADEMIC PRIZES AND AWARDS

(Seniors)

Jake Sanders, III

A.T. Eaddy Memorial Award. To the student minister who exerts positive religious influence though his/her religious convictions and sincere dedication to the gospel ministry. Given by daughter, Rev. Eliza Eaddy Black.

Shevonne M. Wesley

National Council of Negro Women, Mary McLeod Bethune Section Award. Awarded to two junior or senior Teacher Education majors (one male and one female) who have cumulative grade point averages of at least 2.5, demonstrate exemplary standards of living, and are actively involved in campus and/or community affairs.

Gloria J. Newman

H. H. Butler Commemorative Award. To the student who exhibits a strong personality, deep earnest convictions, and Christian character. Donated by the Woman’s Baptist State Convention.

Amani K. Robinson

Garrick-Pinson Commemorative Award. To the best all-around student in the Senior Class. Donated by the Woman’s Auxiliary of the Wateree Association.

Moses T. Pyatt

O. R. Reuben Prize. Given to the male student who best exemplifies interest and participation in current issues and in projects of human welfare and uplift. Contributed through the O. R. Reuben Memorial Fund.

Jake Sanders, III

T.B. Wright Memorial Award. To the senior who has taken the most active part in religious activities on the campus. Donated by Mrs. Margaret W. Davis.

Leondra S. King

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Award. Awarded to the student with a 2.5 grade point average and above who participated in both community and student activities that foster and reflect the philosophies of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Breona A. Wells

The Bertha Belle Williams Award. Awarded to a deserving student with financial need.
Gloria J. Newman

**W. H. Hightower Memorial Award.** Awarded to a sophomore, junior or senior female student who contributed outstanding leadership through her work with the Baptist Student Union.

Arlene T. Bennett

**Walter Brown Award.** Awarded to the junior or senior majoring in Political Science with the highest grade point average.

Shamika S. House-Weathers

**Lena M. Baldwin Memorial Award.** Presented to the junior or senior majoring in Health Science with the highest grade point average.

Shevonne M. Wesley

**Ronald McNair Award.** Presented to a junior or senior Biology major with the highest grade point average.

Shevonne M. Wesley

**Luns C. Richardson Praxis II Examination Award.** To the student making the highest Praxis II Examination scores during the senior year. Donated by Dr. Luns C. Richardson, President.

Oneste’ T. Sabb

**Boley-Diggs-Sanders Award.** Awarded to a female student who exemplifies scholarship and Christian principles. Donated by the Woman’s Auxiliary, Wateree Baptist Association Lower Division in honor of Margaret S. Boley, Mary H. Diggs and Beatrice G. Sanders.

Moses T. Pyatt

**The I. DeQuincy Newman Award.** Awarded to a student majoring in Political Science who demonstrated outstanding leadership skills. Must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher.

Jocteal L. Frierson

**Ethel German Scott Memorial Award.** Awarded to the student musician of the Morris College Gospel Choir for the current academic year. Donated by Mrs. Sandra Scott Gibson.

Lakil S. Mason

**The Shellie Dunbar Prize.** To the young lady who makes the most improvement in scholarship, is the most cooperative, and excels in usefulness. Donated by the Women’s Baptist State Convention.
Moses T. Pyatt

The Rev. Edward H. Thomas Endowed Memorial Award. Awarded to a student very much involved in voter registration and grass-roots politics, who is in good standing with the College. The student must have at least a 2.5 grade point average. Established by the family in recognition of his life of service to God and humanity.

Alazia G. Williams

Alexander and Shatirah Rhodes Memorial Award. Awarded to any descendant of Alexander and Shatirah Rhodes who is a full-time student at Morris College. Student must maintain a minimum “C’ average in any area of study. Established by the Alexander and Shatirah Rhodes Family Reunion Committee.

Pamela A. Rutledge

Morris College Trustee Scholarship. Awarded to a graduating senior who demonstrates financial need, who is an outstanding student, and who has excelled in his or her major area of study. Financial need is strongly emphasized. A senior whose overall financial aid package leaves him or her with a balance and who needs financial assistance to help cover the shortfall will be considered. The student must have a minimum 3.0 grade point average and demonstrate academic excellence and outstanding leadership and citizenship. If no one meets the criteria, the scholarship will be awarded to a junior. Sponsored by the Morris College Board of Trustees.

Simone D. Richardson

The Frank K. Sims Scholarship. Awarded to a student majoring in Sociology who exemplifies scholarship, leadership, and strong moral character.

BriShanna T. Davis

The Anderson Honors Program Scholarship. Presented to a member of RARE with financial need for educational expenses. Donated by Dr. Jeanne M. McNett and Family.

Jake Sanders, III

The W. M. Blount Endowed Scholarship. Awarded to a worthy and deserving student majoring in Christian Education, Pastoral Ministry, or Teacher Education. Established by the family of Dr. W. M. Blount.

BriShanna T. Davis

The Emmett and Crenelle Conyers Scholarship. Awarded each year to a graduating senior with a 3.4 average or above, with a notable record of service to the college and a commitment to improving human relations and the quality of life for fellow human beings. Established by Dr. James E. Conyers and other children of Emmett and Crenelle.
The William B. James Memorial Endowed Scholarship. Awarded to an outstanding student majoring in Political Science with an interest in pursuing a law degree. The student must be a junior or rising senior and must have a GPA of 3.0 and be active in community service on behalf of disadvantaged groups. Established by the Sumter County Public Awareness Association, Incorporated.

Antwan J. Moore
Jake Sanders, III

South Carolina National Guard Scholarships

Dominique L. Jenkins
Tiare O. Tatum

National Nuclear Security Scholarships

Wilbur Harris, Jr.
Leondra S. King

South Carolina Independent College Scholarships

Jazmine M. Kirkpatrick-Brooks

Charleston Community
ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic regalia worn by faculty, staff, and platform guests are generally recognized as representing bachelor’s, masters’s, and doctoral degrees. The bachelor’s degree, called the baccalaureate, takes its name from the medieval practice of bachelors wearing a garland of bayberries. The master’s degree was equivalent of a license to teach and sometimes was followed by the phrase “licentia docendi. The doctoral degree was originally a title of respect and recognition of great learning. When earned through study as are the Doctor of Philosophy, the Doctor of Education, and others, the doctoral degree indicates advanced study and independent research in a specialized field of learning. Honorary degrees are granted for meritorious service and for distinction in public or private endeavor.

The gown for the bachelor’s degree is distinguished by long pointed sleeves hanging nearly to the knees. The master’s gown has long closed sleeves, with an arc of a circle appearing near the bottom and slits for the arms near the middle of the sleeves. The doctoral gown is faced with a broad strip of velvet and has three bars of velvet on each sleeve.

The color of the velvet strip on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned or granted; for example, Arts, white; Business, drab or sapphire blue; Economics, copper; Education, light blue; Fine Arts, brown; Library Science, lemon; Music, pink; Philosophy, dark blue; Physical Education, sage green; Science, gold-yellow; Social Work, citron; and Psychology, gold. Each hood is lined with silk in the colors of the institution which granted the degree.

The appropriate cap for all degrees is the familiar black mortar board. A black tassel or one of color signifying the field of specialization, hanging to the left of the face, is appropriate for all degrees. Those holding doctoral degrees may wear a soft velvet cap and a tassel in whole or in part of gold thread.

ORDER OF THE PROCESSION

The order of procession has been fixed by custom, the position of greatest honor being at the end of the line. Therefore, after the graduates, the faculty marches with the appropriate marshal, followed by institutional officers, Trustees of the College, platform guests, speaker, and the president coming last. The recession reverses the order of march.
** IMPORTANT DATES **

Summer School 2018
June 4, 2018 – July 17, 2018

Upward Bound Summer Enrichment Program
June 11, 2018 – July 19, 2018

Upward Bound Summer Bridge Program
June 4, 2018 – July 17, 2018

Fall Semester 2018-2019
Freshman Orientation Begins
August 18, 2018

Classes Begin
August 23, 2018