

# Morris College

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## **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**  
**83<sup>rd</sup> 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 ORDER OF THE EXERCISE***

*Presiding: Dr. Leroy Staggers, President-Elect of the College*

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  
83<sup>rd</sup> 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

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

Tatyana Gevon Lance	Sociology	Effingham
**Bianca Lynn Mathis	Criminal Justice	Savannah, GA
Oneshia Charnae McLeod	Sociology	Bishopville
**Antwan Jevon Moore, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Sumter
Gloria Jean Newman, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Pastoral Ministry	Greeleyville
**Sh'Rae Monique O'Neal	Liberal Studies	Columbia
Monteria Shaniqua Pagan	Criminal Justice	Sumter
**Alicia Shamira Polite, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Ridgeland
Moses Terrell Pyatt	Political Science	Charleston
Simone Doreen Richardson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Fort Washington, MD
**Devin Skye McKenzie Riley	Criminal Justice	Columbia
Amani Kier Robinson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Sumter
Pamela Ann Rutledge, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Camden
Oneste`Tishai Sabb, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Criminal Justice	Florence
Jake Sanders, III, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Christian Education	Sumter
Tyra Iesha Simmons, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Sumter
**Shantell Latisha Singleton, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Sociology	Pinewood
*Aszah Danielle Strong, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Criminal Justice	Sumter
Da`Vante O`toole Theirse	Criminal Justice	Pineville
Qu`Ran Mikhi Turner	Sociology	Jacksonville, FL
Vincent Leroy Washington, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Criminal Justice	Sumter
Victoria Alqueen Wearing	Criminal Justice	Manning
Quavon Wanya Whitfield	Sociology	Manning



## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS DEGREE

*Malik L. Brown-Gaines	Mass Communications	Los Angeles, CA
Brishanna Tilliah Tyshae` Davis, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Sumter
**Aaron Juwan Dozier, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Georgetown
Jocteaal Larry Frierson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Bishopville
Joy Alicia Gary, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Sumter
Emory Xavier Holland	Mass Communications	Seneca
**Delvonté Rakeém Jeffery, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Florence
*Demonte Antonio Martin	Mass Communications	Charlotte, NC
Jesā Kayla Elizabeth Parker, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Orangeburg
Alazia Gabrielle Williams, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mass Communications	Mauldin

## CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

*David E. Bellinger	Recreation Administration	Lynchburg
Charnell Capri Boyles	Biology	Sumter
Isaiah Anthony Cieskiewicz	Recreation Administration	Norfolk, VA
**Sy`Quesse L. Clyburn	Business Administration	Paterson, NJ
Aaron Martin Guy Davis	Recreation Administration	Richmond, VA
Jalesha Lakaylor Davis, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Organizational Management	Bishopville
Tyesa Monēt Dewitt	Business Administration	Marion
Anyshia Kristine Doctor	Biology	Eutawville
Yolunda Conner Edwards	Organizational Management	Marion
**Jasmine Roquelle English	Biology	Fork

*Tiara Lukendra Estinvil	Health Science	Longs
Kristian Zaire Evans, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Health Science	Chester
Justin Deontae` Ford	Business Administration	Dillon
Bonnie Dolyn Gibbs	Biology	Rock Hill
Travonna Vernell Guess, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Health Science	Vance
Jashae Erriel Harris	Health Science	Columbia
**Aaliyah Monique Hill	Business Administration	Northport, AL
Shamika Shamae House-Weathers, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Health Science	Summerton
Rodasha Caprice Howard	Business Administration	Mullins
**Linda Lorraine Jackson	Organizational Management	Gable
Dominique Lashawn Jenkins, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Mathematics	Washington, GA
Leondra Sherryce King, <i>Cum Laude</i>	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

*Dwan Elliot Norwood	Health Science	Lakeland, GA
Fabian Cornelouis Patterson	Organizational Management	Summerton
Patrick De`Andre Paul, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Recreation Administration	Florence
Raven Ayanna Postell-Nelson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Health Science	Manning
Tramayne Rashad Pugh	Recreation Administration	Sumter
Tyesha Latrice Ravenell, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Business Administration	Augusta, GA
**Dominique Na`Shae Reaves, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mathematics	Marion
Shannon Noel Richardson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Business Administration	Fort Washington, MD
Sara Narvarisha Alina Riley	Business Administration	Bowman
Johnell D. Rogers, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Organizational Management	Sumter
Darius Alves Russell	Health Science	Jacksonville, FL
Chaundrica Mercedes Segura, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Organizational Management	Rembert
*Cheyenne Shaw-Knox	Biology	Pomona, CA
Jamond Diante Silverman	Recreation Administration	Scranton
Craige Kevin Sloan, Sr., <i>Cum Laude</i>	Organizational Management	Sumter
Jazmine Milan Stover, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Business Administration	Sumter
Tiare Oneisha Tatum, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Biology	Tianall, GA
Tredarrius Jaquan Townsend	Health Science	Bennettsville
Kyle William Washington	Mathematics	Charleston
**Shaquille O`Neal Washington, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Business Administration	Johns Island
Tiffany Renee Washington, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Health Science	North Charleston
T`Cara Kymyatta Waters	Recreation Administration	Florence
Breona Antice Wells	Biology	Columbus, OH
TyShae S. Wiley, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Business Administration	Martinez, GA

*Gabrielle Somarya Williams	Biology	Atlanta, GA
***Orlando Akeem Wilson	Health Science	Sumter
George Willie Wright, II, <i>Cum Laude</i>	Recreation Administration	Sumter
Brittany Antoinette Wrighton	Business Administration	Charleston
Ashley Michelle Young	Biology	Sumter

## **CANDIDATES FOR THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN EDUCATION**

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

**\* Completed Degree Requirements Summer 2017**

**\*\* Completed Degree Requirements December 2017**

**\*\*\*Posthumous**

**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

Joctea 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 33<sup>rd</sup> 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.

# HONORARY DEGREES

**James V. “Ted” Wilson, Sr.**  
*Doctor of Humane Letters*

**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, Timmons ville, South Carolina, where he has served as pastor since its inception. Under his leadership the church operates a Food Bank that serves Timmons ville 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 Timmons ville Town Council in 1972 and served two four-year terms. In 1993, he became the mayor of the Town of Timmons ville 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 Timmons ville 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

Patricia M. Ali, Ph.D.  
Radman M. Ali, Ph.D.\*\*  
Jacob E. Butler, Jr., Ph.D.\*\*  
Lady June Cole, Ph.D.  
Paul Ezeji, Ph.D.  
James G. Ibe, Ph.D.  
David Magnin, Ph.D.  
Joshua O. Oyekan, Ph.D.  
John Rooks, Ph.D.  
Cathine G. Scott, Ph.D.\*\*

## ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

Ayo Awosanya, Ph.D.  
Dorothy B. Bishoff, Ph.D.  
Carol F. Black, Ph.D.  
Cherry Harmond-Early, Ph.D.  
Catherine Kapi, Ph.D.  
Joon C. Lee, Ph.D.  
Deloris McBride, M.A.  
Michael R. McCormick, Ph.D.\*  
Joseph K. Popoola, Ph.D.  
Lynnette L. Richardson, Ed.D.\*\*\*  
Toure` G. Thompson, Ph.D.

## ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

Amanda Barron, M.Ed.  
Elaine Bunche, M.F.A.  
Walter Butler, D.Min.  
John H. Day, Ph.D.  
Karen Hébert, M.A.  
Oliver T. Hill, D.Min.\*  
Daniel Lackey, Ph.D.  
Jerome McCray, M.Ed.\*  
Priscilla Patten, M.A.  
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

Mary J. Brooks, D.B.A.\*  
MSG Robert Cottle, B.A.\*  
Anthony Dennis, M.S.\*  
Charisma R. Floyd, M.A.\*  
Larry Foote, M.B.A.\*  
Shawn L. Hair, M.A.  
Chun Hsieh, Ph.D.\*  
Maritza Hogan, Ph.D.\*  
Darnell Holland, M.A.  
Angelia S. Jackson, M.B.A.\*  
James A. Jamison, M.Div.\*  
Terri Kenely, M.Ed.  
Carla L. King, M.Ed.\*  
Lorne Lee, M.M.Ed.  
Clarissa S. McClellan, M.P.H.\*  
William S. Owens, M.A.\*  
Wygelia Palmer, M.A.\*  
Barrington Pierson, M.Ed.\*  
MAJ Patrick Schachle, B.A.\*  
Deloris Wallace-Brown, Ed.D.\*  
Max Weber, M.A.T.\*

## ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Paula Alston, B.S.  
Deborah C. Calhoun, M.Ed.  
Dorothy Cheagle, M.E.  
Gail China, M.Ed.  
Janet S. Clayton, M.A.  
Anika V. Cobb, B.A.  
Patrice Cooper, B.A.  
Juana Davis-Freeman, Ph.D.  
Mary E. Dow, M.L.I.S.  
Robert Eaves, B.S.  
Altoya Felder-Deas, M.Ed.  
Carol L. Fleury, M.S.L.S.  
Alston Freeman, B.S.  
Philip L. Gibbons, B.A.  
Sandra S. Gibson, M. Ed.  
Lewis P. Graham, Jr., Ph.D.  
Roy Graham, M.Ed.  
Denise V. Haynes, B.S.  
Dorothy Hazel, A.A.  
Clarence M. Houck, B.A.  
Bernice L. Irby, B.S.  
Venessa Jefferson, M.A.  
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.

\* **Part-Time**

\*\* **Division Chairperson**

\*\*\***Interim Division Chair**

## 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.

**THE LUNS C. RICHARDSON ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS  
2017-2018**

LaKeisha Battles  
Myia Bellamy  
Taylor Blackmon  
Matthew Brown  
JoLeyah Cohen  
BriShanna T. Davis  
Tynasha Durant  
William Easton

Joy A. Gary  
Ty'Shaun Ghee  
Miles Graham  
Zakeya Hairston  
Irie Holloman  
Dai'Naiza Horton  
Corey Jones  
Dayjah June

Wallace King  
KiYahn Leach  
Shayneka Leverett  
Tatyana Miles  
Jamie Pressley  
Tazmia Raines  
Sterling Rose  
Cecelia Young

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  
Taylor Blackmon  
Jasmine Carney  
Mayling Chatman  
BriShanna Davis  
Tynasha Durant  
William Easton  
Joy Gary

Ty'Shaun Ghee  
Miles Graham  
Makeba Harvin  
Irie Holloman  
Dai'Naiza Horton  
Angel Jackson  
Demarr James  
Corey Jones

Dayjah June  
Wallace King  
Tatyana Miles  
Jamie Pressley  
Tazmia Raines  
Sterling Rose  
Tatyonna Simmons  
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.

The Presidential Scholars Donors: The Ruth Mack Memorial Fund, the Heritage Classic Foundation Scholarship, SAFE Federal Credit Union, The Rotary Club of Sumter, S.C., Foundation of Independent Colleges, SCANA Corporation (SCE & G), D. L. Scurry Foundation, Danka Industries, GSX Chemical Services, Inc., Riley & Company, The Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce, Wachovia Foundation, C. H. Hallman, and the College.

## ACADEMIC PRIZES AND AWARDS

(Seniors)

**Jake Sanders, III**

**A.T. Eaddy Memorial Award.** To the student minister who exerts positive religious influence through 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.

**Joctea 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.

**Jazmine M. Kirkpatrick-Brooks**

**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

**\*\* *NOTES* \*\***