You’re here for a purpose!

Opening convocation energized students to take on the academic year. Dr. Thelma F. Sojourner, a 1971 graduate of Voorhees College, stood before the Morris College student body as a living example of the success that comes from a small HBCU. The proud product of an HBCU, she expressed to the students that they are in the right place at the right time. Currently, she serves as the Superintendent of Bamberg School district Two and has been recognized numerous times over for her tireless efforts in the community. Dr. Sojourner gave students promising statistics about their future. 3/4 of successful African American doctoral candidates got their start at HBCUs, 3/4 of African American law enforcement persons received their degrees from HBCUs, and 80% of African Americans going into dentistry get their start at HBCUs. The students of Morris College are indeed in the right place, at the right time, to get the right education.

Dr. Sojourner went on to reason with student body about following the rules. Wisely she spoke stating, “Usually, if there is a problem with the rules, the problem is not the rule”. She encouraged the students to reflect on where would they be had it not been for Morris College. Acknowledging the legacy of Morris College, she reassured the students that there is a history here that people are willing to support you, that the faculty and staff have invested in students and are more than willing to help them along the way. She encouraged students to understand that their institution is one of quality and standard. She told students that they are capable. Reminding them of their responsibilities, she charged students to go to class, don’t get sent home, and embrace the rigorous content.

Following her speech of academic excellence and personal responsibility, Interim President, Dr. Leroy Staggers spoke to students saying, “We want you to stay”. He explained to them that they have been given the tools and it is up to them to make the right choices. His sentiments aligned perfectly with the institutions statement of purpose that students should use to guide them over the course of the year.

I have entered Morris College to learn and I will be an active Life-Long Learner and serve when I depart. I accept full responsibility for my life and for my education. I will respect myself at all times and I will show respect to all others. I will study to learn and fully engage in personal and professional development.
**QEP WORD OF THE WEEK**

dispose dis-pose
to give a tendency or inclination to; incline

The Professional Lecture Series will begin Tuesday, September 19, 2017 through Tuesday, October 31, 2017. The purpose of the Professional Lecture Series is to expose and/or introduce our students to the many advantages of meeting high profile professionals in their field of study. Contact Career Services to learn more about this event!

**ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INC.**

The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Nu Gamma Chapter present Pearls and Ivy Week - September 11-15, 2017. Flyers will be posted for events held during the week.

A Call Me MISTER meeting will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the H.H. Butler Building. Professional attire is required.

Morris College Scholarship Day will be sponsored on campus by UNCF on Tuesday, September 19, 2017 in the Neal-Jones Auditorium. Please contact D. Calhoun (Admissions and Records) or S. Gibson (Financial Aid) with concerns or requests.

Morris College will commemorate the 230th anniversary of this great American document by a public reading of the Constitution on Friday, September 15, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on the lawn of the Academic Hall Building. Members of the Morris College community will read the entire Constitution from the Preamble to the 27th Amendment. Everyone is invited to attend. Red, white and blue attire will be in fashion for the event. Contact Dr. Patricia Ali for further details.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**Every Wednesday**

6:00 PM
Baptist Student Union Bible Study
Religious Center Room 224

**NAACP Meeting**

5:30 PM
September 13, 2017
Wilson-Booker Science Building Lecture Room

**Fall Harvest Rally Kick Off**

10:00 AM
Neal-Jones Auditorium
September 21, 2017

Show your school spirit! Wear Blue & Gold every Friday!