The excitement and exuberance shared during the Student Government Association Assembly on Thursday, September 19th was the clarion call for students to make satisfactory academic progress and persist on to graduation. Reaffirming the theme "Excellence is Achievable," keynote speaker Ms. Dinasia Nathan emphatically declared: "We have started, we will stay, we will finish!"

Nathan, the first female elected SGA President since 2010, shared her expectations for fellow Hornets to make the 2019-2020 academic year one of "tremendous progress and success."

Cognizant of the apparent changes made under the leadership of President Staggers and the advantages students have, Nathan challenged students to do their part to ensure their success. The comprehensive "Statement of Purpose" posted throughout the campus is an excellent means for reminding students of their purpose for being here.

Using basic keyboard shortcuts and functions to illustrate the simple message she wanted students to leave with, Nathan said, "If we want to be successful, we must know how to CTRL, ALT, DELETE and ENTER."

She spoke about the need to control one's thoughts and actions, as these reveal our behavior. Nathan urged students to strive to always present a positive image of the institution as Morris College students. Who students hang out with, how they use their time, who and what they listen to, and how they dress are important if they are to represent the college appropriately. "We must be careful to always look like a student who is in college, representing our beloved Morris College."

The college experience, once it becomes an integral part of a student, enhance our integrity and sense of direction. Because of this, "We have to alternate our perception and change the way we think about people, situations and life." As practicing scholars, she urged, students should begin thinking like scholars and professionals.

Also, students will have to delete some things in order to fully benefit from their collegiate experience. Nathan stated that deleting all forms of negative thinking, idleness, procrastination, and attitudes is necessary.

Students, because they have been created and empowered by greatness, should use their educational journey to recognize, explore, foster, and embrace the GREATNESS that has empowered them." She challenged them to be excellent in their academic, civic, and social pursuits.

Nathan is a senior majoring in Criminal Justice. Throughout her collegiate career, Nathan has demonstrated her leadership capabilities with active involvement in various campus organizations and activities.

College President Leroy Staggers commended Nathan for being a vibrant and great SGA president, and for delivering a very positive message. He encouraged students to focus on their academic studies.

2019-2010 Student Government Association Officers

1) Ms. Tierra Faison, Secretary; 2) Ms. Beyonce Jones, First Vice President; 3) Ms. Sarah Johnson, Second Attendant; 4) Ms. Raven Childs, First Attendant; 5) Ms. Aun'ye Y. Wilson, Vice Morris College; 6) Ms. Donya Vaughn, Treasurer; 7) Ms. Dinasia Nathan, President; 8) Dr. Juana Davis-Freeman, Dean of Student Affairs; 9) Mr. Alain Johnson, III, Parliamentarian; 10) Ms. Olivia Mason, 2nd Vice President; 11) Mr. Deangelo Adams, Mister Morris College; 12) Ms. Anukkah Chandler, Chaplain; 13) Ms. Staciah Collins, Assistant Secretary; and 14) Rev. William Webb, Student Representative to the Board of Trustees (Not Pictured – Mr. Larry Prioleau, Business Manager)
UNCF Scholarships Available

UNCF Scholarships are available for all students to apply. Students who have not already done so are encouraged to register at www.scholarships.uncf.org.

The two-step process includes completing both the student profile and the general application. Completing both are very important for students to become eligible for UNCF scholarships. Also, students have to apply every year.

Why is it essential to complete the profile and the application? When UNCF looks for students to award scholarships, it pulls from the general applications that are in its database. Don’t miss out on an opportunity to be selected, so please apply today.

For further information, contact Mrs. Sandra Gibson, the Director of Financial Aid at (803) 934-3238. The Office of Financial Aid is housed on the first floor of the Mabel K. Howard Building.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

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.

Rutledge Conducts Workshop

On Thursday, September 19th, Ms. Lutricia A. Rutledge presented a "Crossing the Finish Line" workshop in the L lobby of Bowman-Clark Residence Hall. Designed to encourage students to graduate from college once they enroll, she shared with participants things they can do to achieve graduation. By "tying up loose ends" and "pushing forward," students can cross the finishing line on "graduation day."

A checklist to help students pursue a college degree included the following: graduation completion, positive social media, image/branding, soft skills, resume, cover letters, interviewing skills, professional references; internship/work experience; networking; researching/applying to graduate school, military, career choice; and finding a mentor.

Ms. Rutledge (center), a counselor in Student Support Services, urged students to "finish what you started and don’t stop until you do."

"Enter to Learn; Depart to Serve."

Staggers Served As Grand Marshal

On Saturday, September 21st, President Leroy Staggers was the Grand Marshal of the 14th Annual Lane Stag Festival. Sponsored by the town of Lane, SC, the three-day event was held at the Lane Gazebo Park on Highway 377.

The Saturday morning parade started and ended at the town square.

UNCF Campus Tour

Ms. Mary Williams was on campus Wednesday, September 18th for the UNCF Campus Tour. The UNCF’s Director of Outreach and Recruitment held two sessions with students in the Neal-Jones Auditorium.

The purpose of the tour was to share information and opportunities on scholarships, fellowships and internships offered through UNCF. Below are students completing their profiles and general applications.
Notice to New Freshmen and Transfer Students

New first-year students and transfer students who have not yet completed their Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note and Entrance Counseling online, please do so immediately. Students must complete both before loan funds can be requested. Please come to the Financial Aid Office to pick up an instructions sheet or if assistance is needed.

Urgent Notice to Seniors

All seniors who plan to complete graduation requirements in December 2019 or May 2020 MUST complete an Application for Graduation as soon as possible. Applications can be picked up in the Office of Enrollment Management and Records located on the first floor of the Dr. Solomon Jackson, Jr. Administration Building.

Save the Date

The Career Services Center will sponsor its 38th Annual Graduate and Professional College Fair on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. All students, especially juniors and seniors, are strongly urged to attend. This fair provides an excellent opportunity for students interested in advancing their studies through graduate or professional schools. Representatives from participating colleges and schools will be available to answer questions regarding their graduate programs. Interested students will be able to receive information on admissions, financial aid, and housing, as well as applications. The event will take place in the Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center from 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon.

For additional information, please contact Ms. Smith at esmith@morris.edu or ext. 3191.

The Face of Sigma Tau Delta

Since her induction into the Alpha Gamma Pi Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society during the 2017-18 school year, Ms. Tanisha C. Williams has often been referred to by her chapter advisors, Ms. Priscilla Patten and Mrs. Thoma Williams, as "The Face of Sigma Tau Delta" on campus. Tanisha, according to Ms. Patten, "exudes immense talent, dedication, and tenacity. She has a love for literature, and she is the epitome of a Sigma Tau Deltan!"

Ms. Williams is a graduating senior majoring in Mass Communications. After graduation, she plans to serve her country by entering the United States Air Force and becoming a Public Communications Officer. Her creed is, "Get uncomfortable. Great things do not come from staying in one's comfort zone."

Among Ms. Williams' academic achievements are various scholarships and awards. She has made the Dean's List four times and has been named an O.R Reuben Scholars three times. She was voted Miss Sigma Tau Delta during the 2018-2019 academic year.

According to the organization’s website, there are over 900 active chapters located in the United States and abroad, more than 1,000 faculty advisors, and approximately 9,000 members inducted annually.

For information about Sigma Tau Delta International English Honor Society, contact Ms. Patten in the Division of General Studies at ext. 3287.
UNCF Commends the Passage of the FUTURE Act

The bipartisan, bicameral bill continues mandatory funding for HBCUs before they expire on September 30, 2019

September 17, 2019 18:02 ET / Source: United Negro College Fund, Inc. (UNCF)

Washington, DC, Sept. 17, 2019 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 2486, the Fostering Undergraduate Talent by Unlocking Resources for Education (FUTURE) Act. This bill, introduced by Sen. Doug Jones (D-AL), Sen. Tim Scott (R-SC), Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC) and Rep. Mark Walker (R-NC), extends important mandatory funding in Title III, Part F of the Higher Education Act of 1965 until Fiscal Year 2021 for Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) and other Minority-Serving institutions (MSIs).

“I am proud that the House took urgent action to pass the FUTURE Act,” said Dr. Michael L. Lomax, president and CEO, UNCF. “There are 101 HBCUs in our country and this bill ensures that they, and their students, are not severely impacted by a loss of funding that they have been able to benefit from for the last 12 years. Not only does this bill impact HBCUs that serve close to 300,000 students around the country, this bill impacts other TCUs, HSIs, and MSIs that serve over 4 million students. This bipartisan, bicameral bill is the surest way for our institutions to continue funding, come September 30.”

“Now that the FUTURE Act has passed the House, it is time for the Senate to act,” said Rodriguez V. Murray, UNCF’s vice president for public policy and government affairs. “We can be done with this bill this week if the Senate moves swiftly to pass the FUTURE Act. A vote for this bill is a vote for low-income, first-generation college students of color and for institutions that serve a large number of these students. These institutions are located across the country, touching the districts of nearly every single Member of Congress. It is our hope that Congress acts as a pathway for passage of the FUTURE Act and not a roadblock leading to its failure.”

Title III, Part F, Strengthening Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other Minority-Serving Institutions Program is a critical federal effort that provides funds that supplement institutional aid to HBCUs, with a priority on instructional programs in high-demand fields, including STEM, other computer-related sciences, nursing and allied health. These mandatory funds were originally established by the College Cost and Reduction Act for the years of 2008-2009, retained in the Higher Education Opportunity Act, and then extended until 2019 in the Health Care Education and Reconciliation Act of 2010.

UNCF launched a campaign called, “Protecting Our FUTURE” to express support for the FUTURE Act. More information regarding this campaign can be found at https://www.uncf.org/protectingourfuture. Because of this robust campaign, over 12,000 supporters have been able to engage their Members of Congress resulting in over 38,000 phone calls and emails combined and counting.

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