



KAPPA TALK

Volume 13, Issue 4

www.americanuniversitypdk0151.org

June 2018

2017-2018

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Thomas L. Jones

Immediate Past President

Adrienne Herriott

Treasurer

Cynthia Greene

Secretary

Mariana Zimmerman

Foundation Representative

Vasser J. Baldwin

Technology Representatives

Wanda Means-Harris

Grants Writer Representative

Helena P. Jones

Dr. Keith E. Robinson

Membership Vice President

Theresa McClurkin

Program Vice President

Barbara McClurkin

Research Representative

Dr. Gwendolyn Means

Dr. Katherine James

Special Recognition Representative

Dr. Thomas Penn

Historian

Sheila Holt

Delegate

LaVerne P. Brown

First Alternate Delegate

Catherine Wilson

Newsletter Editor

Dr. Mildred L. Musgrove

Newsletter Asst. Editor

Joan A. T. Kelley

AU (#0151) Chapter Advisor

Gloria Smith



A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members of Phi Delta Kappa,

As we bring the second half of our programs and activities to a close, I offer my sincere thanks to the members of the Executive Board for a job well done! Every member of our team demonstrated that no matter how challenging our goals may have been, we still excelled in a manner that made me very proud of each and every officer, as well as our wonderful members, guests, families and friends who offered their support by being actively involved.

I truly commend everyone for bringing to fruition a very outstanding and successful 20th Annual Scholarship/Education Dinner Dance that was held on March 17 and centered upon the theme: "The Emerald Ball." I cannot tell you enough how enjoyable and fun-filled the event was throughout the evening. The St. Patrick's Day event was very successful! The well-coordinated and stylishly dressed patrons, along with the eye-catching St. Patrick's attire that included shamrocks, lucky, four-leaf clovers, hats and scarfs really stood out in a wonderful

way. There was also a "Pot of Gold" that was well supervised by a leprechaun, who not only highlighted the occasion by passing out old coins (chocolates), but who also moderated the scholarship dance event throughout the evening. I really had a great time wearing my leprechaun costume, and I look forward to many more future events. As you know, we give high praise and thanks to Mr. William E. Green, Jr., for his fantastic and energizing "Music on the Move." While serving as our DJ, Mr. Green, Jr. has been our "Key Musician" through the years, and we are very appreciative of his excellent service. And where would we be without our outstanding and creative photographer, Mr. Joseph Jackson, with his props, as he captured everyone's smiles and laughter through his inspirational photos. Therefore, we salute Mr. Jackson for his expertise and dedication as our Scholarship Dance photographer. Moreover, I would like to acknowledge Ms. Cheryl Forbes for her excellent presentation of "Traci Lynn Jewelry," along with her handbags and beautiful accessories for both men and women. Ms. Forbes continues to be an asset to

our Scholarship Dance, and we are also proud of her participation.

All of this planning and preparation could not have been accomplished without a well-organized and effective the Banquet Committee: Adrienne Herriott, Chairperson; Cynthia Greene, Barbara McClurkin, Theresa McClurkin and Mariana Zimmerman. We also extend many thanks to our participants who found the time to donate and provide the wonderful door-prizes and mementos that helped bring excitement to the 20th Annual Scholarship/Dinner Dance.

We are also very pleased with the outcome of this year's "Annual Chalk Walk for Education," which was sponsored by our Chairperson, Vasser J. Baldwin, who kept every participant involved throughout the day. She and her husband, Dr. LeGrande Baldwin also serve as hosts by bringing delicious and wholesome refreshments to the Chalk Walk. They have consistently done this through the years, and we are grateful to them for their support in this endeavor. It is quite energizing to see Vasser as she goes

(Continued on p. 6)

CONGRATULATIONS, DR. JAMES

Dr. Katherine James, American University Chapter (#0151) of Phi Delta Kappa International was inducted into the *Sociedad Honoraria de la Lengua Española* (Honorary Society of the Spanish Language), along with six other Spanish professors, on May 7, 2018, at Montgomery College.

The SHLE is a program of Sigma Delta Phi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, officially launched in Chicago, Illinois, on July 6, 2017 in conjunction with the 99th Annual Conference of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. Montgomery College now has the sixth chapter of this organization nation-wide.



Dr. Katherine James

Marian Wright Edelman wrote:

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

This quotation applies to Dr. Katherine James for Dr. James has and continues to leave her community and world better than she found it. Whether as a teacher, a principal in the District of Columbia Public Schools, a visiting scholar in China, a professor at universities and colleges, or a member of the American University Chapter, Dr. James gives her all to improve education. She truly deserves every honor she receives.

JESSICA GONZALEZ

Jessica Gonzalez, a student in the Education Administration Program at Trinity University (Washington, DC), gave an overview of the research project she completed. The title of her project is "Intrinsic Motivation and Language Acquisition: The Relationship between Intrinsic Motivation and the Effect on Language Acquisition for English Language Learners (ELL's)." Chapter members were quite impressed with her presentation and discussed the impact that such research could have on the education of ELL students.

In an email to Dr. Gladys Williams and copied to Dr. Katherine James, Jessica wrote:

It was a great honor to present to the organization (American University Chapter (#0151) Phi Delta Kappa International), and I look forward to joining in the near future. The experience

was a reminder of why we do what we do and the fuel that keeps us going is passion. It was a joyous moment to share my passion with like-minded and like-hearted people. Thank you again Dr. James for the opportunity to share my passion I was relishing in that moment.

Jessica also included a synopsis of her project:

"One of the growing concerns of educators in urban schools, with high immigrant populations today, is the decline in student's motivation to become proficient in the English language. English language learners (ELLs) are not making significant gains in the acquisition of language due to feeling ashamed or embarrassed about making a mistake with their pronunciation of words and in many cases relying on bilingual classmates to translate and speak to them in their native language.

Motivation, as the mostly studied affective factor, is considered prominent with its positive influence on learning. This study looks at how specific strategies can help guide ELLs to identify what can serve as intrinsic motivation for them, as they acquire a second language, and how it can lead to ELLs achieving academic gains in their English proficiency across other contents taught in the target language."



RECEIVING AWARDS

President Thomas Jones in his letter to members gave a comprehensive description of the Spring Dinner Dance and the Annual Awards Program.

The pictures on this page were taken during the Annual Awards Program.



Mr. Anthony H. Hyman, an mathematics teacher from Gunston Middle School in Arlington Public Schools and guest of Dr. Keith E. Robinson.



Dr. Thomas (left) and President Thomas L. Jones (right) present Dr. Keith E. Robinson with the EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR plaque.



Tiffany Ben (left), American University Chapter, 2017 scholarship recipient, with her mother Mrs. Bontivia Ben. Tiffany had a very successful first year at Alabama State University. She will receive the AU scholarship over the next three years as she continues her journey to become an educator. Tiffany and Mrs. Ben were gracious in expressing their appreciation to chapter members for their support of Tiffany's education.



Kappan Sheila Holt, received 2018 PDK SERVICE KEY AWARD for her outstanding service to education and to the American University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. Dr. Katherine James assisted President Jones by with the presentation.

CHALK WALK FOR EDUCATION



Members of the American University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International enjoyed an invigorating “Chalk Walk for Education” on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The participants met at the beautiful National Arboretum, in northeast Washington, DC at 10:00 am. Our event planners, Mrs. Vasser Baldwin and her husband Mr. LeGrande Baldwin greeted the walkers. They also prepared a wonderful variety of healthy snacks, juice and water for the participants.

Several members and friends walked the “Chalk Walk.” At least two members made multiple trips through the route that was planned for us. All money raised from the “Chalk Walk” will be used to support the educational activities of the American University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa.

We thank the Baldwin family for planning this wonderful event chocked full of fun and excitement! Hats off to all who participated!

**Education is the most powerful
weapon which you can use to
change the world.**

Nelson Mandela

2018-2019 AMERICAN UNIVERSITY CHAPTER OFFICERS

2018-2019 Offices	2018-2019 Officers
President	Thomas Jones
Immediate Past President	Adrienne Herriott
Secretary	Mariana Zimmerman
Treasurer	Cynthia Greene
Foundation Representative	Vasser J. Baldwin
Grants Writer Representatives	Helena Jones Dr. Keith Robinson
Membership Vice President	Theresa McClurkin
Program Vice President	Cassandra Lucas
Research Representatives	Dr. Gwendolyn Means Dr. Katherine James
Special Concerns Representative	Dr. Thomas Penn Barbara McClurkin
Technology Representatives	Wanda Means Harris Helen Ballard
Historian	Sheila Holt
Delegate	LaVerne Brown
1st Alternate Delegate	Adrienne Herriott
Newsletter Editor	Dr. Keith Robinson
Newsletter Assistant	Vacant
Advisor	Gloria C. Smith

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2018-2019 OFFICERS!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from p. 1)

about encouraging everyone to participate in the walk along the scenic and beautiful trails on the grounds of the National Arboretum.

This gathering of our members is also the staging grounds for the Election of Officers for 2018-2019, which was conducted by our Election Chairperson, Gloria Smith. Many words of praise and thanks are extended to Gloria for preparing the Slate of Officers by contacting the membership regarding their interest in serving or continuing as A.U. Chapter officers. In spite of Gloria's many personal and family responsibilities on a day to day basis, she still followed through and presented us with outstanding candidates. On behalf of the membership, I commend Advisor Gloria Smith for her untiring efforts and diligence for an excellent outcome. Again, I extend my congratulations to the 2018-2019 Elected-Officers, and with my sincere thanks to the Election Chairperson Gloria Smith for an excellent outcome!

At this time, I would like to reach out to the Executive Board and members of the various committees who had direct input in making our Awards Program & Officer Installation a success. However, before moving forward with further comments, I must again thank AU Chapter Advisor Gloria Smith for her decisive action upon finding out that we no longer had access to the use of the AU meeting facilities, due to an unanticipated, severe mechanical problem within the facility's air conditioning system. And as a result of the lack of a working air conditioner, the facility would not be available for use. Therefore, Gloria immediately contacted personally the Greenbelt Marriott management to see whether they would be able to accommodate us on such a short notice. Through Gloria's inter-

vention, she was able to secure a room at the Greenbelt Marriott for our final affair to be held there on the 19th of May. We are truly grateful to Advocate Gloria Smith, and we thank her for the quick action she took to make sure our event would go on as scheduled. And what an event it was!

In continuing with our awards program, there were many recipients who received wide recognition and praise for their services and dedication to A.U. Chapter. First, I would like to extend my fervent congratulations to the recipient of the Service Key Award, which was presented by Dr. Thomas Penn, one of the original Charter Members of PDK. This year's honoree is Sheila Holt, who was recommended by American University Executive Board and approved by PDK International for "contributing meritorious service, outstanding leadership, and significant research to Phi Delta Kappa. Dr. Katherine James offered her assistance by pinning Sheila Holt with this most prestigious award.

Our next honoree and speaker of the day, was Dr. Keith E. Robinson, who was nominated as the "Educator of the Year." In his position as a Senior Education Specialist, with the District of Columbia Courts, it was noted that Dr. Robinson utilizes effective management skills in the courtroom environment. In a May 4, 2018, News Release from Williamsburg, Virginia, Dr. Robinson was recognized for "having successfully completed rigorous requirements of the Institute for Court Management (ICM) in the Fellows Program, which was established 45 years ago by Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, for improving the management of state court administration." Also, Dr. Robinson was a participant in the graduation ceremony at the U.S. Supreme Court, along with

United States and Canadian court officials. In Dr. Robinson's acceptance speech as "Educator of the Year," the title of his presentation, "Educating, Leading, and Teaching with Passion and Purpose for the Right Outcome," centered upon the need for educators to act, assess our methods of teaching, and how we relate to students in a leadership capacity to garner the desired effect. In recognition of Dr. Robinson's outstanding achievement, he was awarded a certificate and plaque by Dr. Thomas Penn. We extend our congratulations to Dr. Keith E. Robinson on his many endeavors and successes!

As president of A.U. Chapter, I am very grateful for the members of our organization, who go far and wide to help bring many of our programs and projects to fruition each year. The work they perform is done in a selfless manner and all for the benefit of our chapter. Therefore, each officer was presented with an Exemplary Service Award. In addition, Vasser J. Baldwin, Foundation Representative, was also very appreciative of the support she received from the membership as participants at the National Arboretum Chalk Walk. Therefore, she presented each participant with a Certificate of Appreciation for their Participation and Donation to the Annual Chalk Walk for education. We truly appreciate everyone's support in furthering our wonderful programs!

There were also a number of invited guests, who enjoyed the wonderful camaraderie, such as Ms. Bontivia Bens, a Social Worker for Special Needs Children; her daughter Tiffany Bens, our Scholarship recipient; Mr. Anthony H. Hyman, an mathematics teacher from Gunston Middle School in Arlington Public Schools and guest of Dr. Keith E. Robinson; and Ms. Jessica M. Gonzales, a research student from the

(Continued on p. 7)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(Continued from p. 6)

School of Education Trinity Washington University, and also a guest of Dr. Katherine James. Ms. Gonzalez shared with us her research display that was presented recently at Trinity University in a Social Justice Forum. It is entitled, "Intrinsic Motivation and Language Acquisition: The Relationship between Intrinsic Motivation and the Effect on Language Acquisition for English language Learners (ELL's)." In the "Introduction" of Ms. Gonzalez' presentation, she points out the concerns of urban-school educators and the problems they face in the education of immigrants, whose numbers are increasing. She also provides an "Abstract," "Materials and Methods/Procedure," "Anticipated Results," "Conclusions," and "References." She was also very gracious in providing us with copies. We extend our appreciation and thanks to Ms. Jessica Gonzalez for sharing her invaluable research with us, and to Dr. Katherine James for inviting Ms. Gonzalez to our end of the year meeting!

It is truly an honor for me to say that the Installation Ceremony for the 2018-2019, Chapter Officers was one of the highlights of the end of the year program. The elected officers who were duly installed, have all pledged to demonstrate "direction and leadership," as members of the American University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa. Also, we look forward to each member doing his and her utmost to help bring about outstanding programs, informative projects and noteworthy activities, while furthering the goals of our educational organization. Congratulations!

Before I brought closure to the Awards and Installation of Officers program, a very, very special touch was added by Barbara and Theresa

McClurkin. Through Barbara's ingenuity, she developed personalized complimentary, thank-you cards that uniquely recognized each officer's involvement in programs, projects and assignments throughout the year. Also, each card was highlighted with a picture of a well-known candy bar and slogan, which brought about smiles of approval and laughter. I truly appreciate the wonderful support from both Barbara and Theresa, for making sure our

end of the year program was realized and well received in an outstanding manner.

This was a wonderful year for our chapter, and I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall. Have a safe and a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,
Thomas L. Jones
President

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

TO: American University Chapter (#0151) Members
FROM: Mildred L. Musgrove, Newsletter Editor
Joan A. T. Kelley, Assistant Newsletter Editor

We have served the American University Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa International as newsletter editor and assistant newsletter editor for many years. It is now time to step aside and relinquish this wonderful labor of love and devotion and dedication to another Kappan, Dr. Keith Robinson, who has been elected to serve as the newsletter editor for 2018-2019. We have every confidence that Dr. Robinson will do a great job and will take KAPPA TALK to new heights of excellence.

We would like thank the members of the American University Chapter for their support of our efforts as evidenced by the articles they submitted and the input they gave as we worked to complete each edition of the newsletter. We were also quite appreciative of the many glowing reviews of the newsletter that we received from the members.

Thank you so much for all of your support. We remain dedicated to our Chapter and will lend our support to the many programs and services we provide.

Sincerely,
Mildred and Joan





Mildred L. Musgrove
1010 Taylor Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017

www.americanuniversitypdk0151.org

