

President's Message to the DU Community

I am delighted to report to you that Dillard University is bustling with excitement about the opening of the transformed Will W. Alexander Library. The library officially opened for use on March 3, 2008 and was rededicated on March 18 with a traditional New Orleans brass band leading a procession of students carrying books from Henson Hall, the library's temporary quarters. The newly remodeled, high-tech, state-of-art facility has been designed to enhance student learning. This marks the completion of Phase I of the library's transformation. Phase II will include a 12,000 square foot expansion. You may want to make the library one of your first stops the next time you visit campus.

More excitement is occurring in the restoration process. The Professional Schools Building has been designed, and we will soon begin construction. The 127,000 square foot building will be a LEED-certified "green" building. This building will reach for the highest score on LEED certification. More information will follow in the future.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Reunion Weekend this May.

DU PEOPLE



Dr. Moore named to Longue Vue Board; to present at AABHE panel in April

Dr. Emily L. Moore, Dillard's Provost, has been elected to the Executive Committee of Longue Vue House and Gardens Corporation Board of Directors.

Dr. Moore will also be presenting on the Town Hall Meeting Panel on the "Status of Blacks in Higher Education," at the Annual Conference of American Association of Blacks in Higher Education (AABHE) and Texas Association of Black Personnel in Higher Education, April 3-6, 2008, in Houston, Texas.

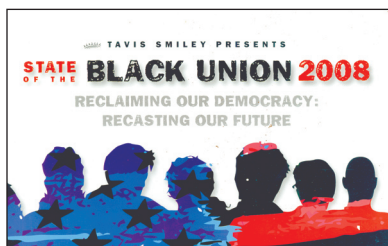
Dr. Moore and Dr. Muriel Hawkins, 2007-2008 ACE Fellow at Dillard University, are charter members of AABHE.

Stephanie Woodard Represents Dillard at the State of the Black Union

Stephanie Woodard, a senior political science major minoring in French, represented Dillard University at Tavis Smiley's annual "State of the Black Union" symposium held at the Ernest E. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, Louisiana on Saturday, February 23, 2008. Over 5,000 people attended the symposium and more than 1,000 volunteers participated in community service projects in some of the poorest areas devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

This year's event focused primarily on the upcoming Presidential elections and was themed, "Reclaiming Our Democracy: Recasting Our Future." Woodard was asked about the rising surge in young people's activism in light of the recent Jena 6 protest in Jena, Louisiana and Barack Obama's campaign. Woodard replied, "Jena was a snapshot. We should have an ongoing engagement." Her other remark that students need to stay "fired up" no matter who the Democratic nominee becomes, because today's young people are the future leaders of the country, drew applause and a standing ovation from many of the panelists.

Ms. Woodard, a native of Houston, TX, is both a Melton International Fellow and an Institute for International Public Policy Fellow. She was also Dillard University's 2007 Rhodes Scholar nominee and is a founding member and the secretary of CIPFEM, a non-profit organization founded in Dakar, Senegal, to empower young women through education and service.



Pre-Alumni Council Attends the 62nd Annual NAC-UNCF Conference

Dillard University's Pre-Alumni Council (PAC) attended the 62nd Annual Conference of the National Alumni Council (NAC) of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) held February 14-17, 2008 in Montgomery, AL. The Conference offered workshops, networking opportunities, and meetings geared towards educating and cultivating pre-alumni to foster philanthropy towards their universities after graduating.



The DU Pre-Alumni Council is an entity of the United Negro College Fund. Its purpose is to stimulate interest in and encourage active participation by DU students in the advancement of the University. The PAC:

- Encourages leadership and involvement through activities and programs
- Practices fundraising for the University
- Participates in UNCF drives

In short, its task is to engage the student body in fun and unique events in order to boost morale, as well as raise money for deserving minority college students through the UNCF.

Dillard's PAC has sponsored many on- and off-campus events, such as: the UNCF Walk/Run marathon, comedy shows, fashion shows, community services, a PAC/UNCF workshop in conjunction with Xavier, and pageants.

The DU Pre-Alumni Council truly believes in giving back to the community. It hosted "The Exploration of Fashionpedia" an academic-themed fashion show and donated 25% of the proceeds to Esperanza Elementary, a New Orleans Charter school, along with children's books donated by the Dillard student body.

Dillard UNIVERSITY CAMPUS HAPPENINGS

Deep South Center for Environmental Justice

The Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ), which has been under Dillard University's auspices since 2005, conducted its first worker training program on the campus. The trainees completed six weeks of Basic Skills training on February 29, 2008. They then went on to receive technical training in Construction, Hazardous Waste Removal, Lead Abatement, Asbestos Abatement, and Mold Remediation. Once they have completed all segments of technical training, they will be placed in jobs related to cleaning up and rebuilding New Orleans. They may also use their certifications any place in the U.S. to do similar work.

Many of the trainees previously held minimum-wage jobs as laborers or within the food or restaurant industries. The environmental remediation jobs they will be placed into pay much higher

than minimum wage and have the potential to allow the workers to move up into supervision or ownership of their own environmental cleanup companies.

The DSCEJ has been conducting these training programs for thirteen years under a cooperative agreement between the university and the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS). This agreement supports the program on Dillard's campus, as well as programs on the campus of Southern University in Baton Rouge, and in Savannah, GA and in Detroit, MI. Over the years, the DSCEJ has trained hundreds of young men and women, mostly African Americans, who have been some of the first African Americans to go to work in these fields.

Dillard CDC Youth Summit



Dillard University's Community Development Corporation (CDC) hosted the first DU Youth Summit on Saturday February 23, 2008 on campus. The event was in response to concerns expressed by

eight Gentilly neighborhood representatives, partners of the CDC, who felt something was needed to address the problem of youth "wandering aimlessly" in the neighborhoods.

The Youth Summit gave the students the opportunity to network and introduced them to resources which could empower and motivate them. Focus was on organizations whose mission is to provide

educational, parenting, and mentorship services to our youth. Over 500 youth, parents, vendors, and community neighbors participated. Organizations represented were Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Boy Scouts of America, Boys Town, Crime Stoppers, Entergy, the FBI, Chase Bank, Southern University Extension, LA Partnership for Suicide Prevention, and AmeriCorps, to mention only a few. There were also motivational speakers and workshop facilitators including, among others: Chief Warren Riley of the NOPD; Criminal Sheriff Marlin Gusman; Q93 Radio Personality Wild Wayne; WDSU Television News Medical Editor Dr. Corey Hebert; Mr. Tyrone Keelan, a youth counselor with Boys Town; Officer Ed Perkins of the NOPD; and WBOK Radio Personality C.J Morgan, as well as DU Financial Aid and Enrollment Management office personnel and Dillard student leaders and volunteers.

This first DU Youth Summit was very successful and more are planned for the future.

Dillard University Institute of Jazz Culture Hosts Renowned Jazz Pianist Kenny Barron

Renowned jazz pianist Kenny Barron held a master class at Dillard University on Friday, March 7, 2008 in the Samuel DuBois Cook Center auditorium. Barron's appearance is presented by the Thelonious Monk Institute hosted by the DU Institute of Jazz Culture.

Barron has performed with such jazz luminaries as Dizzy Gillespie, Freddie Hubbard, Stanley Turrentine, Buddy Rich, Milt Jackson, Roy Haynes, Philly Joe Jones, and many others. He has also mentored many of today's jazz talents, including saxophonist David Sanchez, vocalist Regina Belle, and New Orleans's own jazz trumpeter Terence Blanchard. In 2005, Barron was inducted into the American Jazz Hall of Fame and won a Manhattan Association of Cabarets & Clubs Lifetime Achievement Award.



Student Art Exhibit ●●●●

The Student Art Show was held March 17 through April 4 in the Cook Art Gallery. Students displayed their work in a variety of media, including printmaking, painting, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, digital work and photography. An opening reception on Wednesday, March 19, 6-8 p.m., featured the student poetry group, "Soul of a Poet" and was open to the public.

Dillard University UPCOMING EVENTS



Reunion 2008 May 8-13, 2008

We are eager to have you join us at Reunion 2008!

Make your reservations today and re-connect with your classmates and your alma mater!

Please call our 24-hour toll-free number to register for Reunion 2008:

1-888-284-7775

Or log on to our Website
www.dillard.edu/alumni



Please mark your calendar and invite family, friends and neighbors!

Pre-Commencement 2008
Scholarship Benefit Concert
Featuring Motown Legends

"The Four Tops"

2 Shows: 8:30 p.m. & 11:00 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now!

\$50 for General Admission and \$200 for VIP Admission.
(All proceeds benefit Student Incentive Scholarships.)

**For more information concerning tickets,
please contact (504) 816-4504 or (504) 816-4182.**

The Dillard University Alumni
Association presents its
**10th Annual
Scholarship Golf Tournament**

April 20, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

The Cowboys Golf Club
1600 Fairway Drive
Grapevine, TX 76051



Dillard CDC Hosts Health Fair

The Dillard University CDC will host a Health Fair May 31, 2008 (tentative date) from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on campus, sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield and EXCELTH, Inc. The Health fair will offer screenings for diabetes, prostate, blood pressure, cholesterol, etc. It will also have a nutritionist available along with a host of vendors to provide material for healthy living and preventive care. Dillard University Nursing department and students will be involved in making this event a success.

Call for symposium papers

DU's Deep South Center for Environmental Justice (DSCEJ) will host a national symposium on "Race, Place, and the Environment After Katrina, Part II," on May 15-17, 2008 at the Hilton Riverside Hotel.

Abstracts and papers are being sought in the areas of health and environmental justice, green jobs and other disciplines. The deadline for abstracts is Friday, April 25, 2008. Please forward abstracts to Mary I. Williams at mivorywill@aol.com. For more information, call (504) 816-4028.

DU TRANSITIONS

DU family mourns passing

The Dillard family offers its condolences to Cynthia Harris of Business & Finance and her family after the passing of her father, George Griffin, Jr. His funeral was held on Friday, February 29, 2008.

Memorial Gift to Dillard

Girard M. Mouton, III, visited the Dillard campus on March 19, 2008 and presented a \$3,300 gift for scholarship support to the Division of Educational & Psychological Studies in honor of his mother, Mrs. Jessie L. Mouton, a Dillard alumna, who passed away on December 27, 2007. The gift will be used to create the Jessie L. Mouton Educational Scholarship to support graduating seniors majoring in Education.

Mrs. Mouton grew up on St. Philip Street in New Orleans with neighbors from Italy, Germany, France, Egypt and the Caribbean. She graduated from New Orleans' McDonogh 35 High School in 1936 and started college, but had to drop out due to a lack of finances. Some twenty years later, she enrolled at Dil-

lard and graduated in June 1961 with a B.A. in Education. Mrs. Mouton taught in the Orleans Parish public school system for twenty years.

She often brought her children to the Dillard campus and her daughter, Louise, participated in one of Dillard's homecoming courts. An active and talented seamstress, Mrs. Mouton made the debutante gown worn by Ms. Troy Baldwin, Dillard's Director of the Annual Fund & Special Campaigns. Mrs. Mouton loved Dillard and was very active in the Dillard University Alumni Association and local voter registration drives.

Dillard University would like to extend its gratitude to Girard M. Mouton, III and Louise Mouton Johnson for their gift.

DU ALUMNI NEWS

We want to hear from you. If you have any news that you'd like to send out to DU alumni across the country, send it to us for inclusion in the next newsletter.