

WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

# ARCHWAY

MAGAZINE

FOR ALUMNI  
AND FRIENDS  
WINTER 2010  
VOLUME 12  
NO. 1



# Mission:

# HEALTH CARE

*WSSU's programs meet  
an urgent need for  
healthcare professionals  
and community care.*

# Roots of Nursing Training

*The first class of nursing students entered what was then Winston-Salem Teachers College in 1953. Here, they graduate during their 1955 capping and pinning ceremony (right).*

*A nursing student practices taking vital signs, 1968 (below).*

Photos courtesy Winston-Salem State University Archives





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by Chancellor Donald Julian Reaves



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For nearly a year, we have heard a great deal of conversation about healthcare in this nation. While the debate over the appropriate national approach to providing medical services continues on the nightly news, issues at the local level have implications for Winston-Salem State University.

First, healthcare is a major economic engine that will continue to impact our nation and this university. Not only is it one of the largest industries in the country, the Department of Labor predicts that it will generate more new jobs between now and 2019 than any other area. In fact, registered nursing is projected to have the largest growth of all job categories in the coming decade.

We certainly have seen the impact of the full range of healthcare organizations here in Winston-Salem. With two major hospitals, a medical school and a biomedical research park that includes nationally-recognized operations added to the clinics, physicians' offices, elder care facilities and other medical related businesses, our community continues to rely on the growth of healthcare to stabilize our economy as our traditional industries decline in employment. Additionally, more than 300 sites also provide clinical experiences for our students, which is a critical component of our educational programs and essential training for future employees.

Winston-Salem State University is truly fortunate to be located in a community with such a strong healthcare industry. We are even more fortunate that our School of Health Sciences plays a major role in meeting the needs of this growing field (story, page 8). Our physical therapy faculty, for example, collaborate with Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center orthopedic surgeons on research projects through the Human Movement Laboratory. Our accelerated nursing program was designed to meet the staffing needs of the medical center, which provides substantial funding for the program.

WSSU is the fourth largest producer of nurses in North Carolina. In addition to our traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program, we offer a variety of entry points including the largest registered nurse to BSN program in the state with over 500 associate degree nurses enrolled at one of our 15 satellite sites. We also have programs for licensed practical nurses and paramedics to earn their BSN.

Our Clinical Laboratory Science program was the first undergraduate, Internet-based degree program in the University of North Carolina system and one of the first in the nation. The program teaches students to perform diagnostic, research and forensic investigations. Our Healthcare Management Program prepares students for entry-level managerial positions in hospitals, clinics, community and government agencies, physicians' offices and long-term care facilities.

Our training efforts prepare students professionally, but we also honor our obligation to help meet the needs of members of our community who do not always have access to healthcare (story, page 10). Nursing students, for example, get valuable training experience at a clinic on the Southside of Winston-Salem while providing care to an underserved population. Plans are in the works for partnering with Forsyth Medical Center to establish a mobile clinic to serve East Winston.

That concept of training in specific fields and contributing to the community is also supported by the clinic that our graduate students in physical therapy launched and run at the Community Care Clinic on the east side of the city. Additionally, students in our graduate program in occupational therapy work with residents at a local program for homeless men and with a Veteran's Day program at the VA Clinic.

Our nationally recognized Center of Excellence for the Elimination of Health Disparities works to improve minority health and to eliminate health disparities through research, education and community outreach activities (story, page 6). In November, the "Faces of a Healthy Future: National Conference to End Health Disparities II" brought in well-known speakers and a wide range of participants. Many of our students participated in a colloquium series featuring some of the best minds in the area of health disparities.

We continue to build on our outstanding reputation in healthcare. We are training students to be technically proficient and skilled but also caring and compassionate about patient access. That work is important to our university goal of supporting the state's economic development efforts in our local communities and also supports our university motto: "Enter to Learn. Depart to Serve."

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DJR", written over a white background.

Donald J. Reaves, PhD

Maximizing social capital to serve on Winston-Salem City Council

# Derwin Montgomery '10

The idea hit Derwin Montgomery '10 last summer when he was interning in Winston-Salem Mayor Allen Joines' office: He should run for a seat on city council in the fall, as a college senior.

No one else was stepping up to oppose Jocelyn Johnson, the sixteen-year Democrat incumbent in the city's East Ward (which includes the university). So Montgomery, 21, who says he had been planning a run for council in 2013, switched into high gear. Within months he had organized a successful primary campaign; no time like the present.

"I knew this was a prime opportunity, because I graduate in May. After that I wouldn't have the same political capital that I do now, being on campus," he says.

That capital came up big for Montgomery, with students voting early and in big numbers. He campaigned online and in person, often educating his peers in the process. And he beat Johnson handily, taking 57 percent of the vote in the East Ward primary in September.

Without a Republican opponent, Montgomery won the council seat, the first Winston-Salem State University student to serve on city council.

Montgomery came to WSSU from Hopkins, South Carolina, where he was politically active in high school, including three years as class president. At Winston-Salem State, he has been active in the chapter of NAACP since his freshman year; he serves as chapter president this year.

But he knows about defeat, too. He ran for student government president in his sophomore and junior years and lost both times. This year Montgomery serves as president pro tem of the student senate.

In high school, Montgomery thought he would try biology in college. But attending a campus program on the sciences the summer before his freshman year convinced him otherwise. "That helped me define that political science is what I was really interested in."

The youngest city council member says in order to tackle any of his priorities for the East Ward, the first step will be organizing people. He plans to bring together neighborhood groups in each precinct to talk about pressing issues such as public safety and economic development, "so people begin to talk to each other and neighborhoods know they're not alone."

Already, he says, running for elected office has made a difference. "My campaign definitely made students on campus more aware of local issues. The university is the largest employer in the ward, and we (the students) make up the largest number of residents."

Montgomery plans to enter Wake Forest University School of Divinity next fall for a master's degree. He thanks two fellow students who have served as his campaign managers: Shanda Neal and Candace Knight.

## Rams Get Free Check-Ups

Two former National Football League players—one a retired cardiologist, the other a motivational speaker and executive coach—delivered the Founder's Day Convocation address to help kick off Homecoming weekend festivities (see more on Homecoming, page 16). Dr. Archie Roberts, the retired physician, is founder of the nonprofit Living Heart Foundation and co-director of the NFL Player Care Foundation Cardiovascular Testing Program. Leonard Wheeler, who retired from the Carolina Panthers in 2001, serves on the National Steering Committee for the NFL Players Association. Both men urged students,

alumni, and community members to pay attention to their health—especially African American men, who are at greater risk for preventable illnesses.

Roberts' and Wheeler's appearance was part of a collaborative effort, Rams Have Heart, between the Living Healthy Partners medical group and WSSU's School of Health Sciences to reduce health disparities and improve heart health among WSSU students and the community at large. Over the course of three days, Living Healthy Partners conducted close to 200 free comprehensive health screenings of students and community members.

## Grants to encourage more minorities to study sciences

The University has received a number of large grants to increase the number of under-graduate and graduate minority students in the sciences, mathematics, engineering, and technology (STEM) programs. The grants include:

- \$3 million over six years, U.S. Department of Education, to enhance graduate education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics;
- \$1.75 million over five years, National Science Foundation, to increase the number of science and math undergraduate majors
- \$500,000 over three years (shared with Clemson and Ohio State University),

to examine what motivates minority students to choose STEM majors.

"National data indicate that the number of underrepresented women and men receiving STEM degrees has increased over the years," says Morris Clarke, associate professor of biochemistry and an investigator on the three-college research project looking at motivational factors. "However, there is a general agreement among stakeholders that we need to recruit, retain and graduate more racial and ethnic minority students to enhance America's competitiveness in the global economy."

## Campaign aims at improving student writing

The university chose Rams Write, a campaign to improve student writing, for its Quality Enhancement Plan as it prepares for its Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation review.

The goal of the five-year Rams Write project is to improve the writing proficiency of students in junior- and senior-level courses in the majors.

The SACS accreditation process involves the preparation and submission of a Compliance Certification report and the development and submission of a plan to improve student learning. A campus visit from the SACS team is scheduled for March 23-25.



## MBA team takes the bronze

Three MBA students from Winston-Salem State University took third place in the 2009 National Student Case Competition, held as part of the National Black MBA Association's annual convention this past fall.

The competition was sponsored by Chrysler Group LLC and The Chrysler Foundation and brought in teams from 22 of the nation's leading business schools to compete for \$35,000 in scholarships. The WSSU team won \$8,000 in scholarship money. UNC Chapel Hill earned first place and Emory University took second place.

The WSSU team included Nathan Thompson, an assistant controller at the university; Willie Hunt, a portfolio review manager at BB&T Corp.; and Miranda Dalton, the manager of enrollment and family services for Rockingham County Head Start.

*Miss WSSU, Courtney DuBose, and Mr. WSSU, Dauril Massey, discuss Founders Day 2009 activities with Chancellor Donald J. Reaves. More homecoming weekend photos on page 16.*



## He's in it for the long run

It's been a long journey to Winston-Salem State University for sophomore Andrew Chebii—and he's been running all the way. A native of Marakwet, Eldoret, the Kenyan has wasted little time establishing himself as the top distance runner for the Rams.

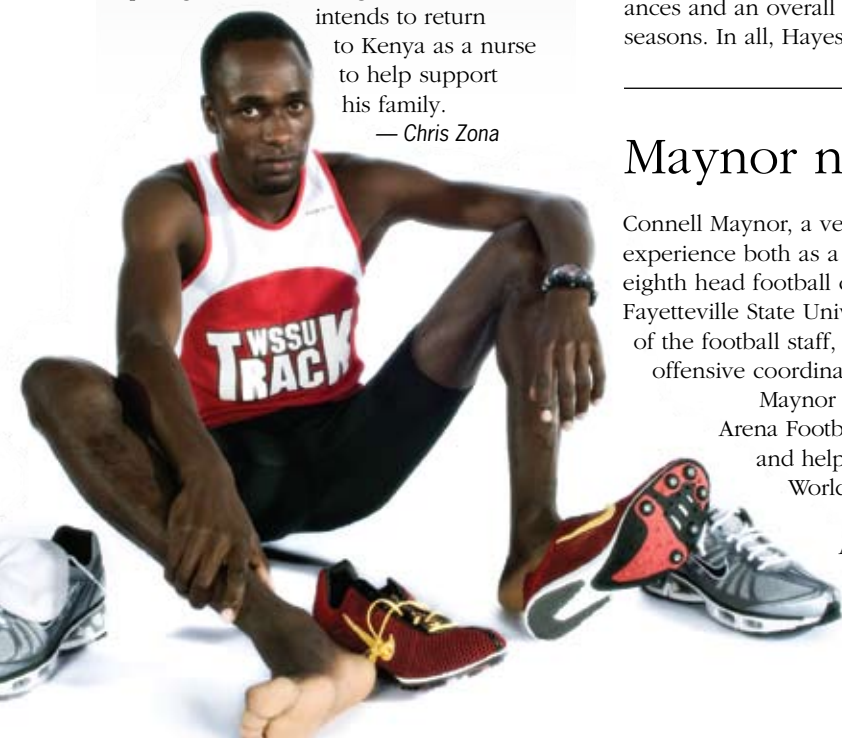
In his first cross country season, Chebii finished in the top five of every meet and won three of the six meets. He opened the season with a second-place finish at the UNC-Pembroke Invitational, where UNC-Pembroke's Pardon Ndhlovu edged him out by 16 seconds in the 8K event. Chebii got the last laugh however, when he beat Ndhlovu to finish second at the Great American Cross Country Festival.

Chebii closed out the season on a high note, winning the Disney Cross Country Classic 8K in a time of 25:22.40 with the largest margin in the meet's fourteen-year history.

Chebii carried his cross country success onto the track by opening the 2009-10 outdoor season with a pair of wins at the 2009 Liberty Kick-Off in the men's 800m and mile.

A nursing major, the affable Chebii says that seeing new places and meeting new people were bonuses for competing at meets. After graduation, he intends to return to Kenya as a nurse to help support his family.

— Chris Zona



## WSSU welcomes back Hayes

William "Bill" Hayes, whose career in college athletics spans more than 36 years, became WSSU's fifth athletic director on January 1, 2010. Hayes comes to WSSU from Florida A&M University, where during his two years as athletic director the Rattlers earned three Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) titles and became the first HBCU, and the only Division I-FCS school, to host ESPN's critically acclaimed College Gameday.

Hayes is a veritable sports legend in North Carolina as an athlete, coach, educator, administrator and champion for young people. Following his graduation from North Carolina Central University, he accepted his first college coaching job in 1973 as the offensive backs coach at Wake Forest University, becoming the first African American coach in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Three years later, he joined the Rams' family when he took over as head football coach at WSSU, a position he held from 1976-87. During those 12 seasons the Rams captured three Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association championships (1977, 1978 and 1987) and seven division championships and posted an overall record of 89-40-2.

In 1988, Hayes was hired as head football coach at North Carolina A&T State University, where he guided the Aggies to an 11-2 record and the 1999 Sheridan Broadcasting Network Black College National Championship as well as leading the Aggies to a total of three MEAC titles, two NCAA Division I-AA playoff appearances and an overall record of 106-64-0 in 15 seasons. In all, Hayes spent 27 seasons as a



collegiate head football coach, compiling a 195-104-2 overall record. He finished his career with more victories (195) than any other college football head coach in the history of the State of North Carolina.

In July of 2003, Hayes assumed the reigns of the athletic program at his alma mater, NCCU. During his four-year tenure, NCCU had the most productive fund-raising campaign of any athletics department among all Historically Black Colleges and Universities. For his efforts, Hayes was twice recognized as the CIAA's top athletic administrator.

He is married to the former Carolyn Pratt of Durham, NC, and they have a son, William, Jr., and a daughter, Sherri Walker.

— Chris Zona

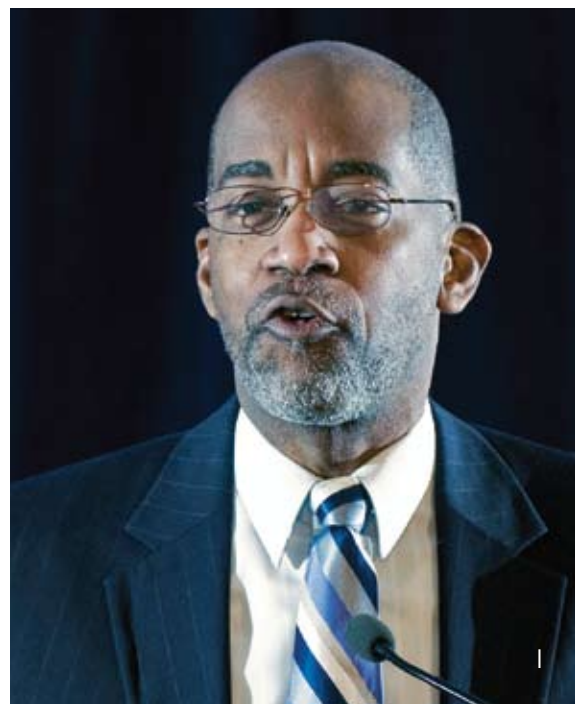
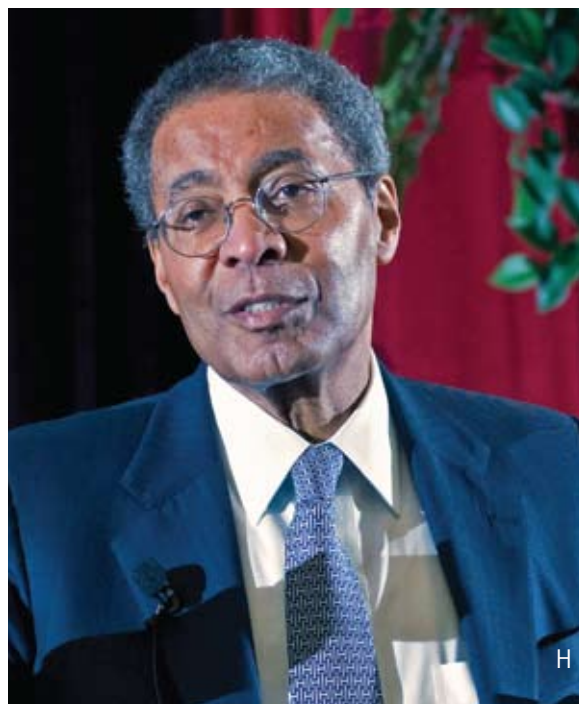
## Maynor named football coach

Connell Maynor, a veteran with more than 20 years of football experience both as a player and coach, has been named WSSU's eighth head football coach. Maynor comes to the Rams from Fayetteville State University, where he spent 10 years as a member of the football staff, most recently as quarterbacks coach and offensive coordinator.

Maynor also served as offensive coordinator for the Arena Football League's Philadelphia Soul from 2006-2008 and helped lead the Soul to the 2008 Arena Bowl World Championship.

After playing as a Ram, Maynor transferred to play at North Carolina A&T State University and to graduate as an Aggie in 1995.





Ask Sylvia Flack '68 about health disparities and she'll tell you about too many babies dying.

Forsyth County, including the city of Winston-Salem, has the highest infant mortality rate of the five most populated counties in North Carolina. Even more disturbing is the color gap. For every 100 babies born here, six white babies die, but 25 minority babies die—or one of every four infants. That rate of disparity is twice as high as the rate for the state as a whole, where the death rate for minority babies is 13.5 percent and 6 percent for whites.

Flack, who directs the Center of Excellence for the Elimination of Health Disparities at Winston-Salem State University, finds the statistics alarming. But nearly as troubling to her is the fact that so few people know about those numbers.

“One of the issues I want to solve is the awareness issue,” Flack says. “We know that people get sick, but we may not know how many more African Americans are getting sick than Caucasians.”

The disparities reach far beyond infants. African American adults are much more likely to get sick and die of preventable or treatable conditions such as diabetes, heart disease and hypertension.

“I listen to some healthcare providers who don't think there's a problem,” Flack says. “I don't know if maybe some people just don't want to hear it.”

The CEEHD began in 2006 when Flack, the former dean of WSSU's School of Health Sciences, launched the research center with a grant from the National Institutes of Health. The Center has evolved to focus on four areas: access to health care, producing more minority health care providers, patient-centered care, and producing more minority healthcare researchers.

“Faces of a Healthy Future,” the Center's second major conference, brought participants to Winston-Salem in November 2009 to hear from prominent voices such as Dr. Sanjay Gupta, a neurosurgeon and CNN senior medical correspondent, and Cornel West, an outspoken civil rights advocate. More than six hundred participants from thirty states and two countries represented a broad spectrum of health care workers, from physicians and nurse practitioners to social workers and physical therapists, along with teachers, students, politicians and researchers. Their goal: Discover the best practices for eliminating health disparities.

“We've accumulated unbelievable information on strategies,” Flack says, as CEEHD staff works to post conference papers and abstracts electronically. “A lot was put on the table.”

For Flack, a 1968 alumna of Winston-Salem State's nursing program, the issues of attracting more minorities to the health care sector are more than academic. Flack grew up in rural Rutherford, North Carolina. She applied to just one college—Winston-Salem State. The summer before her freshman year, she worked as a maid at the local hospital where her father worked as an orderly.

# Giving Health Disparities a **Voice**

Hosting national conferences and pushing more minorities to health care, the Center of Excellence for the Elimination of Health Disparities works to close the gaps

By Lisa Watts

“Back then, black patients were housed separately, in the annex,” Flack remembers. “I was giving those patients their medicines—me, a high-school educated maid. I decided right then and there that I would work in health care to make things better.”

Her nursing degree was difficult, even as a bright student. The challenges remain today: books for health sciences classes are more expensive than for other majors; labs and clinicals take more time. In Flack's day, student nurses had to work their clinic shifts at Kate B. Reynolds, the black hospital.

After graduating in 1968, she returned to the hospital in Rutherford, she says with a smile, remembering how she eventually became her dad's boss.

Four decades later, WSSU and the CEEHD are still working hard to increase the number of African-American registered nurses. A national survey in 2004 found that of the 2.5 million registered nurses at work, only 106,000 were black, Jamaican, or Native American.

“We know we're not at the number we should be, it's not representative of the population. Twenty-two percent of North Carolinians are African American. And it's the same with researchers. But we just don't have students going into those fields.”

The Center works with fifty-four historically black college and university members on the representation issue and has held two conferences to share information and support.

Disparities in health care and health outcomes have been around for decades. In the late nineties, David Satcher made the issue one of his priorities as surgeon general. But while “a lot of money has been thrown at the problem,” not much has changed, Flack says. Yet she refuses to get discouraged.

“You have to celebrate your little wins, like our recent conference. We had community members and health providers and federal agencies there in great numbers, that's a win.”

The current national debate over how to reform health care coverage has taken health disparities off the public's radar, she says. “If we could put the same energy into fighting health disparity as we put into health care reform, we might not have such a great need for reform.”

Research is pointing to where we live as the most telling indicator of our prospects for health. “When you look at zip codes, you find it's the minority populations of African Americans, Hispanics, Asians and Native Americans who have very little access to health care, like some of the neighborhoods around Winston-Salem State's campus. You'll also find maybe one grocery store, and it probably sells lots of carbs, fats, salty and cheap foods,” Flack says. “Key issues are getting to a medical center and getting the information you need.”

The Center is heavily involved in the community, working in strong partnerships with entities such as the Forsyth County public health department on grants and other projects.

“We pull people together,” Flack says. “We may be taking small, short steps, but we'll make progress.”

*Conference speakers included the following (from top left): A, Donald J. Reaves, PhD; B, Dr. Sylvia Flack; C, Dr. Nate Irvin; D, Dr. Sanjay Gupta; E, Cornel West, PhD; F, Mayor Allen Joiner; G, Dr. Mike Lancaster; H, Dr. Alvin Poussaint; I, David Williams, PhD*

# Status:



# CRITICAL

## The need for healthcare professionals *is urgent.* WSSU is helping.

By Rudy Anderson

The signs are everywhere, especially in the classified ads: Healthcare help needed. Hospitals, primary care clinics, rehabilitation facilities, nursing homes and other facilities don't have enough skilled and specialized practitioners to go around.

A September 2009 report from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration put it bluntly when it said, "The United States is in the midst of a health professional shortage that is expected to intensify as baby boomers age and the need for health care grows.... The United States will see an unparalleled demand for RNs and other healthcare professionals for years to come."

Lantoya Hobbs, RN, BSN '96, is all too familiar with the shortage. Hobbs works as a nurse recruiter for Duke Medicine, one of the nation's leading healthcare providers. She is impressed with the strides that her alma mater has taken to increase the number of qualified nurses.

"I graduated from the traditional Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program," Hobbs says, noting that the University now offers programs for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), paramedics, and an accelerated BSN option. But she thinks more needs to be done to increase clinical training opportunities.

"I would suggest continuing to increase partnerships with more hospitals and facilities across the state to develop diverse clinical sites," Hobb says. "These types of partnerships and exposure allow our students to begin networking with a variety of healthcare facilities and create avenues for potential job opportunities after they complete their BSN."

Nursing is not the only healthcare area dealing with shortages. Ask Teresa Conner-Kerr, chair of physical therapy at Winston-Salem State University. "Absolutely!" she says. "Physical therapy has the second highest vacancy index in North Carolina."

But Conner-Kerr points out that the shortages mean opportunity for those willing to endure the rigors of academic and clinical preparation.

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates that employment of physical therapists is expected to grow much faster than the aver-

age for all occupations through 2016," says Conner-Kerr. "Physical therapy employment opportunities are expected to grow by 27 per cent due to the aging of the American population and the expected rehabilitation needs."

With such documented need for health professionals, why hasn't the supply chain—colleges and universities—been able to close the gap? First, the shortage of licensed healthcare providers limits the number of clinical education opportunities for students. "Programs must work closely with the community to ensure the availability of quality clinical education sites," says Conner-Kerr.

Second, the supply of qualified faculty members in all disciplines is low.

"Increased monetary support is required to develop faculty," she says, "and in many cases 'grow your own' faculty for healthcare programs."

Hobbs agrees that more quality clinical education sites are needed. "Universities should continue to increase partnerships with hospitals and other facilities across the state to develop diverse clinical sites," she says. "These types of partnerships and exposure will allow students to begin networking with a variety of healthcare facilities and create avenues for job opportunities after they complete their degrees."

Conner-Kerr suggests that one way to increase training opportunities for aspiring healthcare professionals is through technology. She points to virtual environments and simulation training centers such as the virtual hospital that the School of Health Sciences is creating to extend WSSU's reach.

"WSSU is developing a virtual health care system game and patient simulator-training center that will allow students to interact with patient representations, or 'avatars,' in a 3-D type environment. This gives us additional clinical training experiences for our students, thus somewhat alleviating the shortage of clinical training sites," says Conner-Kerr.

"We're leading the way nationally in creating a new paradigm for health provider education. Virtual technologies will truly enable us to educate students anywhere, any time and in any place."

### Cause for alarm, and opportunity

The U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration's shortage designation branch develops shortage designation criteria and uses them to decide whether or not a geographic area, population group or facility is a Health Professional Shortage Area (HPSA), or a Medically Underserved Area or Population. HPSAs include primary medical care, dental or mental health providers. They may be urban or rural areas, population groups or medical or other public facilities.

The shortage statistics are staggering:

- 6,204 primary care HPSAs affecting 65 million residents. It would take 16,643 practitioners to meet their need for primary care providers (a population to practitioner ratio of 2,000:1).
- 4,230 dental HPSAs with 49 million residents. It would take 9,642 practitioners to meet their need for dental providers (a population to practitioner ratio of 3,000:1).
- 3,291 mental health HPSAs with 80 million residents. It would take 5,338 practitioners to meet their need for mental health providers (a population to practitioner ratio of 10,000:1).



Local  
**partnerships,**  
*responsive*  
**degree programs,**  
and **student outreach**  
position the  
School of Health Sciences  
as a  
**critical member**  
*of the region's*  
*healthcare community.*

By Mark Stanton



*One goal behind the controversial effort to enact federal healthcare legislation is to extend access to quality medical care to every American.*

*Alex Stovall, a 2009 graduate of the physical therapy program (left) and founder of the free physical therapy clinic, discusses a patient's back pain with his successor (right), Dorothy Wofford, a second-year physical therapy student.*

Photos by Lee Adams

The challenge is significant: Recent statistics compiled by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggest that more than 43 million people under age 65 lack health insurance.

Increasing access to health care is a complex problem. Experience demonstrates that broader access cannot be achieved through any single action or entity, whether it is the federal government, the private sector or social services organizations. The public and private sectors together with educational institutions and not-for-profits must collaborate closely to achieve ultimate success.

Winston-Salem State University has a long history of working to close the healthcare access gap in its surrounding communities. Programs and activities of the School of Health Sciences (SoHS) bring medical and therapeutic services to underserved populations across the city.

"Providing greater access flows from the university's mission to offer students high-quality experiential learning and to make a

difference in our community," says Peggy Valentine, dean, School of Health Sciences. "Our outreach programs create a 'win-win situation' by helping hundreds of people who otherwise could not afford services, while our students obtain the real-world educational opportunities needed to hone their professional skills."

The School's outreach spans its departments and degree programs—particularly nursing, physical therapy and occupational therapy. Hands-on experience is closely integrated with curriculum and classroom learning, with faculty members supervising, coaching and mentoring students as they provide patient care and run wellness events.

#### **Partnering with the community**

Over the past few years, SoHS has moved away from direct management of clinical facilities, closing its network of community wellness centers in favor of working collaboratively with independent, community-run

facilities. One resource blossoming from this new approach is the Southside Clinic, a collaborative venture between WSSU and Wake Forest University. When fully operational, the facility likely will see thirty community clients each day. WSSU donated furnishings for one of the three examination rooms and a conference room.

Southside Clinic is located less than three miles from the WSSU campus in an area with a growing Hispanic population. Nursing faculty members and students will provide primary care and wellness services at the facility.

Another initiative was started by students themselves. Physical therapy graduate student Alex Stovall '09 led an effort to establish a student-run teaching clinic within the Community Care Center, located just minutes from the WSSU campus. The facility now delivers free physical therapy services to about fifty patients per month, patients who don't have health insurance or qualify for Medicaid. Nine to twelve students participate in providing

*continued on pg. 12*



care, supervised by licensed physical therapy faculty members. The Community Care Center offers part-time access to four treatment rooms while WSSU donated necessary equipment.

“The experience is incredibly valuable because the patients we see—people who haven’t had access to care before—are often the most complicated and challenging cases, which really tests your skills,” says Stovall, who created the clinic as part of his prestigious Schweitzer Fellowship (the national Schweitzer Fellowships support students in health professions who carry out direct service projects in underserved communities). “Beyond the great experience, I’ve really learned about the value of giving back as a professional.”

The School of Health Sciences is working with local provider Novant Health Systems to establish a mobile clinic that will offer wellness, wound-healing and rehabilitation services to residents in Winston-Salem and surrounding communities starting later this year. The mobile clinic has significant support from local politicians, and the Forsyth Medical Center is donating the mobile clinic vehicle needed to begin operation.

### Alumni as key resource

While WSSU plays an important role in the region’s health services ecosystem, Dean Valentine sees significant room for expanding these efforts. Alumni are a critical resource, she notes. Many graduates serve as adjunct faculty, sit on key committees and advisory councils, mentor students and provide financial support.

“Alumni are the best people to tell our story to prospective students and the community at large,” Valentine says. “Every day, they advance our mission, serve as community role models, and help us expand our legacy by recruiting the next generation of high-achieving students.”

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(Top and middle photos) *Dorothy Wofford, second-year graduate student in physical therapy and student director of the free physical therapy clinic, consults with a patient on his back pain.*

(Bottom photo) *Nancy Smith (left), a WSSU physical therapy instructor, checks free-clinic cases with Dorothy Wofford, student director of the clinic, and Alex Stovall, a recent physical therapy graduate who founded the clinic in 2009.*

## Message from the President, WSSU National Alumni Association

Greetings, Alumni,

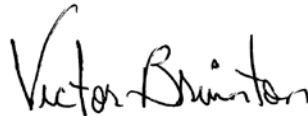
The year 2009 was truly an exciting one for the National Alumni Association. We crowned Miss Alumni, Barbara Brodie Williams '78, and Mr. Alumni, Bo Gilliam '79. We inducted seven new members into the Alumni Hall of Distinction. Congratulations to Mary Buford '61, Donald Cureton Sr. '75, Walter Marshall '65, Marie Matthews '57, Verdene Pettiford '65, Herbert Stover '60 and Sandra Wilder '67. We honor these people for their professional accomplishments, outstanding character, community service and most importantly their commitment to our alma mater.

We must continue to focus on growing our financial membership and moving our Association forward. We must remain faithful and unwavering in our call to serve. Winston-Salem State University will always need our support and involvement. The campus is a wonderful and collaborative place to live and learn. The University provides a wide range of opportunities for students to expand their education beyond the classroom, providing real-world experiences that will continue to inspire and shape them for the rest of their lives.

During these tough economic times, your additional support provides critical dollars for a multitude of outstanding programs and services that impact our students. You want the best for our students. I do, too. We ask that you consider a gift to the WSSU National Alumni Scholarship Endowment. I encourage you to send your gift today to the Foundation.

Develop the habit of success—with it, you can create whatever you choose.

God Bless,



Victor Bruinton '82  
National Alumni Association President



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### 2010 WSSU Mother's Day Scholarship Fund

Make it a special day for your WSSU mom!  
Say *"Thanks for everything, Mom"*  
by donating to the WSSU Mother's Day Scholarship Fund  
in honor of your mother. It's a great way to give  
the gift of education to the next generation!

Contact University Advancement at 336-750-3145

*"The mother's heart is the child's school room."*  
— Henry Beecher

**Don't forget your mom May 9, 2010!**

*Mothers who went to WSSU really do know best.*



# Remembering Eliza Atkins Gleason, 100

*Last living child of WSSU founder, pioneer in library science*

Her history is ours. Eliza Atkins Gleason, the ninth child of the University's founder, Simon Green Atkins, and his wife Oleona Pegram Atkins, a teacher and assistant principal, grew up along with Winston-Salem State University. Dr. Gleason died on December 15, 2009, her 100th birthday.

Gleason made a name in the fields of education and library science as the first African American to hold a doctorate in library science and to serve as dean of a library school.

She earned an associate's degree from Fisk University in 1930 and a bachelor of science in Librarianship from the University of Illinois in 1931. She worked as assistant and head librarian and taught classes at Municipal College for Negroes in Louisville, Kentucky, following in the footsteps of her older sister, Olie Atkins Carpenter.



*Eliza Atkins Gleason as a doctoral graduate, 1940, from the University of Chicago*

In 1934, she returned to school and earned a master's degree in library science from the University of California, Berkeley in 1936. Then she served as head of the reference department at Fisk University library.

Atkins married Dr. Maurice Francis Gleason, a physician, in 1937, the same year she began the doctoral program in library science at the University of Chicago. She earned the PhD in 1940. In 1941, with her husband serving in World War II, she established the School of Library Science at Atlanta University (now Clark University) and served as its dean.

Atkins Gleason's book, *The Southern Negro and the Public Library* (University of Chicago Press, 1941), traced the history of library service to African Americans up to that time and laid the foundation for all other histories of that aspect of library service. The American Library Association Library



*Eliza Atkins Gleason with her daughter, Joy Gleason Carew, 2007*

History Round Table presents the Eliza Atkins Gleason Book Award every third year to recognize the best book written in English in the field of library history, including the history of libraries, librarianship, and book culture.

Eliza and Maurice reunited after the war. Their daughter, Joy, was born in 1947. The couple was married 61 years before Maurice passed away in 1998. Gleason leaves her daughter, Joy Gleason Carew, associate professor of Pan African studies at the University of Louisville, Kentucky; son-in-law, Jan Carew; and granddaughter, Shantoba Eliza Kathleen Carew.

Friends and associates of Dr. Gleason can honor her memory with a gift to the Atkins, Gleason, Carew Fund for International Education at Winston-Salem State University. In 1999, Gleason gave \$500,000 to endow the fund so that more WSSU students could study foreign languages and experience foreign cultures, helping them compete successfully in the global marketplace.

## Reunion Planning

If your class will be celebrating an anniversary during Homecoming 2010, please contact Catherine Snipes, class reunion coordinator, 336-750-3491, 1-888-565-3870 or [snipesc@yahoo.com](mailto:snipesc@yahoo.com) for help planning this event. Remember: The earlier information gets out, the better response you will receive.

**Class of 1950:** Mr. Garrett Phillips, Jr.

**Class of 1955:** Mrs. Alice Dalton-McNeil

**Class of 1960:** Ms. Barbara Manning

**Class of 1980:** Mr. Craig Umstead

**Class of 1990:** Daphne E. Huntley

Contacts still to be determined for the Classes of 1965, 1970, 1975, 1985, 1995, and 2000.

The Class of 1963 will hold its fiftieth reunion during Homecoming 2013. Contact James Jarrell, 1244 Arbor Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27104, [jrj70byrd@yahoo.com](mailto:jrj70byrd@yahoo.com), 336-723-7101.



## '30s

'38 Mrs. Lorraine Hairston Morton was recognized in November 2009 by the City of Evanston for her dedication and service to the community. The City Council voted unanimously to name the Evanston Civic Center after Morton, the former mayor. The Civic Center which serves as Evanston's city hall will be known as the Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center. Morton served for more than thirty-five years as an educator and principal for School District 65. She was alderman of Evanston's Fifth Ward from 1982 to 1991 and mayor of Evanston from 1993 to 2009.



## '40s

'48 Ms. Marie A. Matthews was inducted into the National Alumni Association's Hall of Distinction.

## '60s

'68 Ms. Sandra Hewett was recently inducted into the Newark, NJ, Athletic Hall of Fame. During her nineteen years of service as head coach of the University High School girls volleyball team, Hewett held a 340-137 record. She was inducted into the New Jersey Scholastic Coaches Association Hall of Fame in 2004 and has received the Governor's Teacher Recognition Award. She is enjoying retirement.

## '70s

'75 Mr. Donald Cureton was inducted into the National Alumni Association's Hall of Distinction.

'78 Mrs. Barbara Brodie Williams, the 2009-2010 reigning Miss Alumni, was inducted into the National Alumni Association's Hall of Distinction.

'79 Mr. James "Bo" Gilliam was crowned Mr. Alumni for 2009-2010. He was also inducted into the National Alumni Association's Hall of Distinction.

## '80s

'87 Mr. Kelvin Walton received the South DeKalb Business Association's 2009 Unsung Hero Award.

## '90s

'91 Ms. Tonya R. Woods and Enroll Brower '94 became engaged.

'93 Ms. Cheryl Pollard-Burns received a Master of Science in Adult Education, with a concentration in Higher Education and Training and Development, from NC A&T.

## '00s

'04 Mr. Geoffrey Williams works for Wachovia/Wells Fargo as a systems quality assurance analyst. After graduating from WSSU in 2004, Williams worked with the Charlotte Bobcats basketball team, television station and game-day production team, giving him the opportunity to interview Emeka Okafor, Michael Jordan, Bob Johnson, and various Charlotte Bobcats players. Video footage shot by Williams was recognized and aired on various shows on Carolina Sports & Entertainment Television, CSET.

'07 Ms. Ashley D. Lewis received a Master of Public Health in International Health from New York Medical College.

'09 Mr. Jovan Warren graduated in December and is working for ESPN Radio 94.1 FM. His first major project is the Rock the Rim 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament in February, beginning in Burlington, N.C.



## In Memoriam

Mr. Walter Reginal Warren, '72	January 25, 2009
Miss Minnie Marjorie Baldwin, '68	July 31, 2009
Ms. Ruth Emma Williamson Thompson	August 20, 2009
Mrs. Lelia Burton Smith, '49	August 22, 2009
Mr. Donny Ray Murray, '77	September 1, 2009
Mrs. Helen Gibbs, '59	September 17, 2009
Mrs. Margaret Harris Evans, '39	October 21, 2009
Mr. Donald M. Kincaid, '69	October 22, 2009
Mrs. Willa Yores Truesdale	November 9, 2009
Ms. Eula M. Worthy, '65	November 13, 2009
Mrs. Doris W. Mack, '64	November 17, 2009
Ms. Aretta J. Adams	November 17, 2009
Ms. Edith A. Thompson	November 26, 2009
Mr. Robert T. Curry, '80	November 28, 2009
Mrs. Ruth Moses-Furches	November 29, 2009
Mr. Thomas E. Sligh, Sr., '97	November 30, 2009
Mrs. Hazel Bulluck Brown, '54	December 10, 2009
Mr. Harold L. Cohen, '82	December 13, 2009
Mr. Bobby H. Roberts	December 14, 2009
Mrs. Jeanella W. Geiger	December 14, 2009
Mrs. Eliza Atkins Gleason	December 15, 2009
Ms. Pamela Cohen	December 15, 2009
Mr. Brian O. Rhinehardt	December 23, 2009

## Tell Us About It

We want to know what's new in your life. Have you recently gotten married, had children, accepted a new job, published a book, won an award? Tell us—we love hearing from our alumni family and we want to share the news with your peers. Write to [alumnirelations@wssu.edu](mailto:alumnirelations@wssu.edu) or [snipesc@wssu.edu](mailto:snipesc@wssu.edu).



# 2009 H O M E C O M I N G

*The day was drizzly, and Hampton University's Pirates stole the football game, 16-13, in overtime, yet Ram Pride was on fine display all weekend as students and alumni enjoyed the packed calendar of Homecoming 2009 events.*

Photos by Garrett Garms





**B**ettie Harvey Little has been an inspiration and mentor to many healthcare professionals who pursued their educations at Winston-Salem State University. As the driving force behind the innovative RN-to-BSN nursing program, her vision, passion and guidance have helped more than 2,000 graduates advance their careers and realize dreams.

To honor Bettie Little's efforts, WSSU has established a scholarship fund in her honor. Pay tribute to an amazing woman and change lives with a donation. The endowed fund will support deserving students in WSSU's flexible and convenient RN to BSN program—working adults seeking to better themselves, often in the face of challenging personal circumstances.

“Scholarships are desperately needed to help more working men and women build their skills and advance their careers in the health sciences. Many of our RN-BSN students need financial support, as well as flexible educational programs, because they have to juggle many personal challenges, such as caring for aging parents or special needs children, along with their careers. Pursuing higher learning can be financially draining, and we must ease this burden.”

### **Bettie Harvey Little**

Director, RN-BSN Program, Nursing Department  
School of Health Sciences

**WINSTON  
SALEM  
STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

# **CELEBRATE A LIFE ENDOW A SCHOLARSHIP**

Your gift will help more healthcare professionals achieve their dreams and make a difference in the lives of their patients—all without interrupting their own lives.

For more information on how you can support the Bettie Harvey Little Endowed Scholarship, please contact Michelle Cook, [cookm@wssu.edu](mailto:cookm@wssu.edu), 336-750-2184



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# VOTE NOW!



Help us choose the young alumni who best represent the fresh new face of Winston-Salem State University.

Check out videos from the top five entrants in our "I Am Ram" contest. The alumni who win the most votes will attend University events as VIPs, network with other alumni, appear as spokespersons for WSSU, and consult with administrators on new initiatives.

Go to

[www.wssu.edu/IAmRam](http://www.wssu.edu/IAmRam)

**and vote on your favorites by February 28**

