

# HUEDAA Newsletter

Volume 4, Issue 1, Spring 2005

## HUEDAA...

Providing advice and support to the faculty and students of the Economics Department at Howard University.

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## HU Economics Students Will Soon Have Two Additional Sources of Financial Support

by Hazel Robinson

### The Jean Louis DuCarmel Bocage Endowed Fund *Established August 2004*

On April 29, 2004 at the Omicron Delta Epsilon annual banquet, the Department of Economics family gave a loving tribute to Dr. DuCarmel Bocage, who passed away in December 2003 after a short illness. Dr. Bocage's widow, Mrs. Yvette Bocage, was visibly moved by the outpouring of love and respect for her husband. She listened as former students and colleagues reminisced about her husband and his commitment to his students. She even admitted that she still had old exams and term papers at home. Shortly after the banquet, Mrs. Bocage surprised us by making a generous \$10,000 gift to establish the Dr. Jean Louis DuCarmel Bocage Endowed Fund. She said she wished to continue her husband's legacy of "caring" for HU students, by providing a source of financial aid to graduate students. We are very grateful for the Bocage family and their support and love of the students in the Economics Department. Alumni and friends are encouraged to give to the Dr. Jean Louis DuCarmel Bocage Endowed Fund (JLDBEF). Please make checks payable to Howard University,



Mrs. Yvette Bocage, Dr. Ransford Palmer, and Dr. Charles Thorpe, HUEDAA Vice President at 2004 ODE banquet.

specify the JLDBEF, and mail to Howard University, University Advancement,-Annual Giving Office, Howard Center, Room 922, 2225 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20059. Thank you for your support!

### The Dr. Joseph R. Houchins Endowed Scholarship Fund Will Continue His Legacy

According to Dr. Rhonda (Gail) Grass Fulgham, AMA '84, Ph.D.'89, who currently teaches at Jackson State University, "Dr. Houchins personified excellence in every facet of life...he was a great mentor to all who came under his tutelage...he was a great encourager, always letting us know that we could do whatever we wanted to do in life...I can honestly say that I would not have received an M.A. or Ph.D. from Howard University without his help." Gail's testimony is similar to that of many students who knew Professor Houchins and this is why so many alumni and friends give to the scholarship fund named in his honor.

The fund was originally started in 1991, shortly after Dr. Houchins' death. Without new money coming into the fund and awards given out, the total amount dwindled down to \$2,500. However, in 2002, the Howard University Economics Department Alumni Association (HUEDAA), Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE) International Economics Honor Society, and the Department of Economics renewed their efforts in contributing to the fund. After just three ODE

banquet fundraisers from which proceeds were donated to the fund, in May 2004 it officially became endowed upon reaching \$10,000 in donations. The fund is now called the "Dr. Joseph R. Houchins Endowed Scholarship Fund" (JRHESF). On April 11, 2005, HUEDAA formally submitted an agreement to the University that provides guidelines for making awards and disbursing funds. At that time the JRHESF had a balance of over \$12,000. The Office of Annual Giving estimates that the first award can be made to a deserving undergraduate student as early as Spring of 2006.

Scholarships awarded from the JRHESF will continue Dr. Houchins' legacy of helping economics students. We encourage all to give to the JRHESF. Please send your contributions to Howard University, Dr. Joseph R. Houchins Endowed Scholarship Fund, University Advancement,-Annual Giving Office, Howard Center, Room 922, 2225 Georgia Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20059. Please make checks payable to Howard University. Thank you for your support!

# Alumni News...

Compiled by Doris Newton and Hazel Gumbs



Dr. Marva Corley ('97)

**Marva Corley** (Ph.D.-1997) is now an economist at the International Labour Office (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland where she has been working since January of 2003. Her responsibilities include coordinating research and drafting essays on labor market issues for ILO publications including the World Employment Report. Her area of research is mainly productivity and wage issues, with a particular focus on the service sector. ILO publications receive a lot of media attention and as a result she recently appeared on CNN's World Report, and has given interviews to countless domestic and international newspapers and radio stations.

Prior to joining ILO, Marva worked at Birkbeck, University of London in the United Kingdom, as the lead researcher and project coordinator of an European Commission funded project, entitled "Assessing the Effects of Technology and Globalization on Economic Growth and Employment." This was from January 2001-October 2002. Al-

though she loved her work, the rainy climate in London was too much, so she briefly returned to the U.S. before moving on to Switzerland.

Before going to London, Marva worked at the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington DC, from August 1997-January 2001 as an Economist in the Office of Productivity and Technology. While at BLS she worked on aggregate productivity issues. This was her first job after graduating from the Ph.D. program in Economics from Howard in December 1997. Her dissertation was also on productivity (Spillovers of R&D Technology on Productivity and Economic Growth). Marva routinely publishes articles in economic journals. Her next article will be published in the Journal of African Economies and she is working on a book on productivity and technology in the service sector.

Favorite quote/quip: "Getting what you go after is success; but liking it while you are getting it is happiness."--Bertha Damon

**Dionandrea Shorts** (B.A.-2004) is working on a Master's degree in Global Finance, Trade and Economic Integration at the University of Denver, in Denver, Colorado. She is a 2004 Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Fellow and DU scholarship recipient. Dionandrea will intern at the U.S. Embassy in Tegucigalpa, Honduras during the summer of 2005. Favorite quote/quip: "No man is an island."

**Michelle Robinson** (B.A.-1991) co-authored "Federal Budget Estimates for Fiscal Year 2006" which was published in the March 2005 *Survey of Current Business*, the primary publication of the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Michelle has been an economist there since September of 1994. Michelle also serves as a Department of Commerce recruiter and recently participated in a career fair at Bowie State University. She lives in Temple Hills, MD, with her fiancé and three sons - Davon, Drew, and Dylan - and her dog, Rocky. Favorite quote: "Nothing in the world is more dangerous than sincere ignorance and conscientious stupidity." --Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Michelle Renee Rucker, DPA** (B.A.-1972) recently published "Outsourcing: An Ethical Study in Value-Driven Management," in *The Journal of Applied Management And Entrepreneurship*, 2003, Vol.8, No 1. Dr. Rucker is anxiously looking forward to retiring from the U.S. Department of State with 30 years of Federal Government service. The magic date is: January 28, 2006! Favorite quote/quip: "The Lord is my shepherd I shall not want..."--Psalm 23

**Jo-Ann Rolle** (Ph.D.-1984) is the Dean of the School of Business and Technology at Excelsior College in Albany, NY. Dr. Rolle is excited about a recently launched MBA program that will allow maximum transfer credits from other graduate programs. She encourages all interested in completing their graduate studies without starting over, to contact her personally at: (518) 464-8801. Favorite quote/quip: "What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." --Oliver Wendell Holmes

**Derrick T. Simmons** (B.A.-2002) is now a third-year law student and captain of the Howard University School of Law Trial Advocacy Moot Court Team. On April 2, 2005 the team won the 2005 National Criminal Justice Trial Advocacy Competition, sponsored by the American Bar Association (ABA) and John Marshall Law School.

## In Memoriam

### Cecilia DeWitt Wheatley (1954-2005)



Ceci DeWitt Wheatley ('88)

On February 22, 2005, we lost fellow alumnus, Cecilia DeWitt Wheatley. Ceci graduated from the Master's program in monetary economics in 1988. We will remember her illuminating smile and how she brightened the mood whenever she was around. She was a constant source of encouragement for her classmates. Alumni and faculty of the HU Economics Department share this loss.

Ceci last worked as an Agricultural Economist at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service, where she analyzed foreign policy and market forces influencing global grain trade. Her previous positions included International Economist for the U.S. Bureau of Mines and Research Assistant at the Federal Reserve. She is survived by her mother, Ann DeWitt, husband, Lorenz Wheatley, twin daughters, Michelle Imani and Rachele Amani, and brother, Kim DeWitt.

A scholarship fund has been established for Ceci's daughters. If you would like to make a donation in memory of Ceci, please write "Wheatley Twins Scholarship" on your check and mail to: Wheatley Scholarship Fund c/o St. Martin's Parish, 1908 N. Capitol Street, NW, Washington, DC 20002.

# HUEDAA's 2004-05 Student Awards

by Gwenell Waters-Bass

## Graduate Travel Award

**M**s. **Betty Alleyne**, a doctoral candidate studying urban economics, was the winner of HUEDAA's 2004-05 Graduate Travel Award. Betty attended the American Economic Association (AEA) meetings that were held January 7-9, 2005 in Philadelphia, PA. At HUEDAA's January meeting, Betty thanked HUEDAA for the award and described her experience of attending sessions sponsored by the AEA, National Economic Association (NEA) and American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association. Betty also attended the NEA awards luncheon, which she said provided excellent networking opportunities. Finally, she reported that she had two formal job interviews and talked with two other potential employers.

Betty teaches Principles of Economics I and serves as a volunteer at the Howard University Center for Urban Progress Even Start Program. She was the first place winner of the 2002 Graduate Research Symposium and she is also a member of the Howard chapter of Omicron Delta Epsilon. Betty expects to defend her dissertation in May 2005.

The application deadline for the Graduate Travel Award to attend the 2006 AEA/NEA meetings in Boston, MA is **October 28, 2005**.

## Senior Recognition Award

**T**he Howard University Economics Department Alumni Association received a benefactor earlier this year for its Senior Recognition Award. **Dr. Vincent R. McDonald** volunteered to permanently fund this award. The Senior Recognition Award is given to the graduating senior who has excelled in the field of economics, shown leadership skills, and participated in community activities.

The recipient of the second annual Senior Recognition Award is **Mr. Michael Stewart Jr.**, a graduating senior majoring in economics and political science. Michael is a UN Debate finalist as well as a McNair and Dacor Bacon House scholar and a member of several honor societies including Omicron Delta Epsilon International Honor Society. He is currently a dormitory resident assistant and works with a tutoring program. After graduation, Michael plans to attend graduate school to study Public Policy and Law.

### *Need Financial Assistance? Interested in Funding an Award?*

*Students interested in applying for HUEDAA student awards and Alumni interested in funding student awards should contact the HUEDAA Awards Committee at [huedaa@hotmail.com](mailto:huedaa@hotmail.com).*

## Center for Urban Progress

### *Empowering Communities Through University-Community Partnerships*

by Linda Jones

**T**he Howard University Center for Urban Progress (CUP) began operations on July 1, 1995 under the leadership of **Dr. Rodney D. Green**, Professor in the Economics Department. CUP, with its inherently interdisciplinary vision and goals, has taken the lead in creating and implementing world-class academic programs in community development, consistent with the educational, academic and community development aims of the University. Since its inception, the Center has raised over \$12 million in external funding for over 40 projects, developed partnerships with 80 community- and faith-based organizations, and placed 46 students as interns in community-based organizations. It has developed a working paper series in community development, has employed over 75 graduate students in research and service activities and has engaged over 1,900 undergraduate students in service-learning and research activities. CUP staff also manage the Community Development

minor in the College of Arts and Sciences and the Community Development Work Study Program in the Graduate School.

The CUP serves not only Howard University students but also the surrounding community. Its programs promote literacy, train the unemployed, upgrade the skills of the underemployed, revitalize communities through brick and mortar projects and provide guidance to sustain small and minority community businesses.

In recent months, the Center has received \$3.4 million in additional grants and contracts from HUD, DC Office of Health HIV/AIDS Administration and the Corporation for National and Community Services, which represent both new directions for CUP and extensions and modifications of existing directions. To learn more about the outstanding work of the CPU, visit their website at [www.howard.edu/centerurbanprogress/](http://www.howard.edu/centerurbanprogress/).

### HUEDAA Membership Adds Value!

An annual contribution of \$100 will give you...

- **Opportunities to network** with professional associates and fellow economics alumni
- **Opportunities to influence** economics students in their career decisions
- The **satisfaction** of knowing that your contributions, whether money, time, or talent, will have an impact on students and faculty in the Economics department.

Please demonstrate your support today by sending contributions to HUEDAA, P.O. Box 23705, Washington, DC 20026-3705.

### **Reminder...**

### **HUEDAA Elections Will Be Held in May!**

*Many thanks to the outgoing HUEDAA officers for their dedication and hard work since the founding of HUEDAA in 2001. Watch your e-mail for details! Volunteers needed!*

# News from the Economics Department...

## **Congratulations 2005 Omicron Delta Epsilon Inductees!**

Olaoluwa Akuyele  
Deirdra Archie  
Chad Cowan  
Shantelle Gumbs  
James Kiawu  
John Lekuton  
Abiana Mancell  
Jason Morancie  
Melanie Navarro  
Ndubuisi Odoe  
Omolola Ogunremi  
Christopher Rutledge  
Mphatso Tambala

## **2004-2005 ODE Officers**

Daren Conrad  
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Michael Stewart  
Treasurer

Dr. C. Kenrick Hunte  
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## **Award Winning Economics Students**

**Akilah Tucker** has been nominated for the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond's 2005 "Award of Excellence in Economics." The award is given by the Baltimore branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

For her outstanding performance during the 2004-2005 academic year, **Marie-Jose Bokossa** has been awarded the Chairman's Prize! This award goes to the first-year graduate student with the highest grade point average.

## **Department of Economics - World Bank Initiative Underway**

The Department co-sponsored a speaker series with the Ralph J. Bunche Center and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. With the assistance of Dr. Nwanze Okidegbe (Alumnus), the Department enlisted experts from the World Bank to speak on topics of trade, the environment, and poverty reduction. Discussions are underway with Bank staff about future lectures, including classroom lectures. Speakers and topics included:

**Dr. John Nash** - "What Will it Take to Put Development in the Doha Round?"

**Dr. Darius Mans** - "Poverty Reduction Strategies as Vehicles for Achieving the Millennium Development Goals"

**Dr. Jean-Roger Mercier** - "Environmental Sustainability and Poverty Reduction"

## **Congratulations New Graduates!**

### **B.A. Degrees\***

Akilah K. Tucker (Summa Cum Laude)  
Michael Stewart (Magna Cum Laude)  
Adam Hunter (Cum Laude)  
Tylon Kondowe (Cum Laude)  
Donavin Pugliese (Cum Laude)  
Alfred Adjapong Femi Audifferen  
Melody Bockelman Hassatou Diallo  
Nneka Faggett Michael Greene  
Jeremy Hardy Kareem James  
Camille Logan Sean Parker  
Brittany Shelton Tiffany Sims  
Seth Thomas Jeanelle Woolford

### **M.A. Degrees**

Linval Brown (Dec. 04)  
Lancelot Loncke (Dec. 04)  
Nsona Whiteman-St. Louis (Dec. 04)  
Camille Mwaisela (Dec. 04)  
Carlene Messam\*  
Makada Henry\*

### **Ph.D. Degrees**

Ozoemena Nnaji (Summer 04)  
Ubalduis Raymond (Summer 04)  
Kim Coleman (Dec. 04)  
James Moore, Jr. (Dec. 04)  
Betty Alleyne\*  
Taresa Lawrence\*  
Shelley Winston\*

\* Prospective May 2005 graduates

## **Departmental Faculty Participate in Study Abroad Program**

The Department will offer four courses in the second summer session as part of the College of Arts and Sciences Summer Study Abroad program. Dr. Emily Blank will teach Principles of Economics II and Industrial Relations in Glasgow, Scotland. Dr. Betsey will teach Principles of Economics I and Political Economy in Ghana.

## **Participants in the Department's Guest Speaker Program**

During the 2004-05 academic year, the Department invited a number of speakers to visit campus. They included:

**Dr. David C. Ribar** - George Washington University  
Topic: Food Stamps, Cash Assistance and Employment in South Carolina

**Dr. Ray D. Whitman**, President & Chief Economist-Job Trends Associates, Inc.

Topic: Is Federalism a Real Option for Iraq?

**Mr. Michael C. Hodge** - Director Of Revenue Bonds And Enterprise Zones, DC Government

Topic: Revenue Bonds and Economic Revitalization of The District of Columbia

**Dr. Robert Axtell**, The Brookings Institution, Center on Social and Economic Dynamics

Topic: Extreme Fluctuations in Firm Growth Rates

**Dr. Jinbiao Ji**, 2004-2005 Fulbright Visiting Scholar

Topic: Taxation System in China: Current Situation and Near Future Reforms

## **Other News from the Department...**

The Department will introduce a graduate course in Environmental Economics in Fall 2005. **Dr. Satish Wadhawan** has agreed to teach the course. An undergraduate course in environmental economics is being considered for introduction in Spring 2006.

During the first summer session the Department will offer a course in Political Economy for students in the Rangel Scholars Program which is operated by the Ralph J. Bunche Center under an agreement with the U.S. Department of State. The Rangel Program is designed to prepare students for careers in the Foreign Service. Last year's course, also taught by **Dr. Charles Betsey**, was well received.

**Dr. Jinbiao Ji** is serving as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar in the Department of Economics through November 2005. Dr. Ji is on leave from the Central University of Finance and Economics in Beijing, China, where he is Head of the Teaching Affairs Division and Professor of Taxation. He has published extensively on issues of Chinese taxation policy. Dr. Ji's research project is titled "Environmental Taxation in the United States: Theory and Practice."

## **Friends of the HU Economics Department**

If you are interested in joining the Friends of the Howard University Economics Department, contact Doris Newton at HUEDAA@hotmail.com.