Dean of HU Business School Serves Portsmouth Homeless Over Holidays

Ziette Hayes, Dean of the Hampton University School of Business, and her family provided food for over 50 homeless people over the holidays with the staff at the Oasis Social Ministry in Portsmouth, Va. Hayes along with her two daughters and mother were on hand to prepare and serve food to those who otherwise had no place to go.

“Three generations helping the community,” said Hayes, who brought her own daughters to help their grandmother Fannie Baker. “It’s extremely important for us to pass down through the generations the importance of giving back, and helping those in need, not just yourself, but those who are in need especially at holiday time.”

“Serving others strengthens your spirit of gratitude, while overall making your community a better place,” said Tiffany Hayes, a 4th year in the 5-year MBA program. “I just really enjoy helping others, especially during the Holiday season.”

Editor’s Note: Andy Fox of WAVY TV contributed to this article.

Hampton University Nursing Students Raise Healthcare Awareness

Nursing students at Hampton University had a fun filled weekend giving free health screenings and educating Commonwealth residents at the Celebrate Healthcare Enrollfest last month.

Hosted by Celebrate Healthcare LLC, the three-day event at Hampton Convention Center offered health insurance enrollment assistance, free health screenings and free information about the healthcare marketplace.

Among those getting a free health screening was outgoing Virginia Gov. Terry McAuliffe, who had his blood pressure checked by HU’s nursing students.

“According to the Urban Institute, nearly three quarters of a million Virginians were uninsured in 2015. This is a decline of about 2 percent from 2014. Events like Enrollfest are a great opportunity to assist in decreasing the numbers of those who live without insurance in our state,” Dean of the Hampton University School of Nursing Dr. Shevellanie E. Lott said.

“I am thankful that our students were able to play a small part by providing blood pressure screenings to participants. I look forward to the day when there will no longer be a need to host such events because all Virginians will be insured.”

Celebrate Healthcare LLC was founded by Gaylene Kanoyton, Hampton Roads entrepreneur and co-host of the “Soul Street” radio show heard on Hampton University’s 88.1 WHOV. Celebrate Healthcare LLC focuses on educating citizens and businesses on the benefits of the Affordable Healthcare Act. They work with municipalities, businesses and organizations to develop comprehensive plans to increase healthcare enrollment by the uninsured.

Hampton University Students Awarded Hollings Scholarship

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Education has awarded two Hampton University students, David Barnes and Maurice Roots, with the prestigious Ernest F. Hollings Undergraduate Scholarship.

The Hollings Scholarship Program provides Barnes and Roots with a two-year scholarship, a stipend and a paid 10-week summer internship at a NOAA facility. The internship will provide them hands-on experience in NOAA-related science, research, technology, policy, management, and education activities.

Barnes is a junior pursuing his bachelor’s in mathematics with a minor in nanoscience at Hampton University. He has conducted research in synthetic biochemistry for the Partnership for Research and Education in Materials (PREM) program. He was recruited from the Honors College at Hampton University by the Department of Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences (DAPS) NOAA Educational Partnership Programs (EPP) Cooperative Remote Sensing Science and Technology Center (CREST) team.

“I am grateful to have been selected as a participant in such a prestigious program,” Barnes said. “I am hoping that I can use this opportunity to further develop my skills as a scientific researcher and explore my options for employment after completing my Ph.D.”

Roots is also a junior at Hampton where he’s pursuing his bachelor’s in physics with a minor in nanoscience and mathematics. He also was recruited from the Honors College to conduct research in DAPS. He was first introduced to atmospheric remote sensing and weather through the CREST Undergraduate Research Experience program at Hampton University in the summer of 2016.

“I am very excited and honored to receive this award,” Roots said. “I hope to gain more knowledge, networking opportunities, and skills to apply to my professional career development.”

Both students attended the NOAA EPP Education and Science Forum in August, 2016.
Six Becomes Winningest Lady Pirate Hoops Coach on 6th

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Contributors: Luana Munoz, Matthew White, Glenn Knight, B. Da’Vida Plummer, Butch Maier, Aaron Strickland
Laron Clark Jr Remembered as a Gentleman With a Purpose

Hampton University said farewell to one of its icons, Vice President of Development Laron J. Clark, Jr., Dec. 16 at Memorial Chapel. He was 80.

The memorial service was a celebration of Clark's 40 years of service to Hampton University as its vice president of development. The words spoken, however, were the memories of a gentleman whose kindness, peppered with tenacity of purpose, defined a life of service to others while helping Hampton University grow financially.

Testimony after testimony spoke to the love he had for his family, his friends and his co-workers, but his passion was to ensure the success of Hampton University.

Hampton University Chaplain Rev. Dr. Debra Haggings read scripture that captured Clark's life: a passage from the Bible explaining that faith without works is dead.

President Dr. William R. Harvey, Clark's companion on countless fundraising trips for Hampton University, said he was a kind-hearted man with tremendous focus; tenacious but always looking out for his staff. He told of trips around the nation, hotel rooms shared, bread broken and plans made. And, Dr. Harvey pointed out that Clark always dressed the part.

“I will miss seeing him in those sharp suits and ties,” Dr. Harvey said, drawing laughter from the crowd. Earlier in the week, Dr. Harvey said, “I have lost a trusted advisor and a dear, valued friend. Others will take on his responsibilities, but no one can ever completely replace what he has meant to our Home By The Sea and to me.”

After painting a picture of Clark's life well-lived, Dr. Harvey tasked the crowd to celebrate, not mourn.

“We can share tears that he is gone, or we can share smiles because he lived,” Dr. Harvey said. “We can cry and close our mind, be empty and turn our back, or we could do what he would want: smile, open our eyes, love, forget the sad voices and go on.”

A former co-worker in Clark's Development Office, Joy Jefferson, shared what it was like to work with Clark earlier that week.

“He was a master development professional, and we all learned from him,” Jefferson said. “We always knew that Mr. Clark had our best interests at heart.”

A native of Atlanta, husband, father and grandfather, Clark joined Hampton University in 1975 as Director of Development. His role then until now has been to find benefactors for HU, a role at which both he and Dr. Harvey succeeded by any measure. Under Dr. Harvey’s leadership, Clark helped grow Hampton University’s endowment from $29 million to more than $260 million.

In 1998, Clark returned to his alma mater to be Vice President of Institutional Advancement at Morehouse College (’61), and his reputation for encouragement and positive attitude went with him.

Dr. Harvey wooed him back to Hampton University, this time as Vice President of Development, in 2001.

One of those glad to see him return was Hampton University Chancellor and Provost Dr. Joann W. Haysbert, who first worked with him at Hampton University in 1980.

“He has always been a welcoming figure, a tower of strength, a wealth of knowledge, energy, expertise with a strong commitment to Hampton University and its president, Dr. William R. Harvey,” Haysbert said. “Over the years, I have found him to be a consummate professional and friend. He could be described objectively by anyone as a statesman and a gentleman.”

Interim Vice President of Development Evelyn Graham remembered him as a terrific mentor.

“He was always in teachable moment mode,” Graham said. “He’d say, ‘wee I you, I’d do this, this and this.’”

She hopes to carry his strong sense of purpose forward as she works to carry his vision on without him.

“I want to continue to honor his legacy that he has established in me as a professional,” Graham said. “We have a strong sense of loss but a strong sense of his mission and vision.”

Dr. Haggings perhaps summed up Clark’s life best.

“When a life is well lived, there is not much more to be said. He let his life do the singing.”

Hampton University Business Journalism Student First from Scripps Howard School to Land Bloomberg News Internship

Hampton University senior Brianna Jackson has become the first Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications student selected by Bloomberg for a news internship.

She might be the first of many.

“I visited Bloomberg a few months back and — along with a sizable group of deans from some of the top journalism schools in the country — heard Bloomberg executives address the need to diversify the business journalism industry,” Scripps Howard School Dean and Assistant Vice President for Marketing/Media B. DáVida Plummer said. “We have taken a successful first step toward creating a pipeline between Scripps Howard and Bloomberg.”

Jackson will participate in a 10-week, paid internship next summer in New York. The journalism major and marketing minor from Chesapeake connected with the worldwide-leading financial news service through Professor Butch Maier’s JAC 451 Business Journalism class.

“I feel very grateful to be given this opportunity, and I think it’s the start of something big,” Jackson said. “Knowing that I graduate in May and the next month I’ll be heading to New York is surreal. It’s awesome to know I have my foot in the door and I’m one step closer to furthering my journalism career.”

During her internship, Jackson will help report breaking news about financial markets, economies, technology, business and governments. According to Bloomberg.com, the company’s interns also pitch and write enterprise stories, conduct interviews and collaborate with other consumer-facing platforms.

After completing her internship, Jackson will have the chance to become a full-time reporter through Bloomberg’s rotational program, where she could spend several months on three different reporting teams before possibly receiving a permanent assignment.

Maier, a first-year assistant professor and former editor-in-chief of Norfolk-based Inside Business, has hosted four visits by Bloomberg personnel this semester.

“As a former business editor, it has been very gratifying to help prepare students for the rigor of the industry,” Maier said. “For Brianna to get her foot in the door and vie for a spot at such a prestigious company is just tremendous.”

Scholarship

(continued from page 1)

And, both students have high praise from Hampton University Associate Research Professor Dr. John Anderson in the School of Science and Co-Director of the Center for Atmospheric Science Dr. Pat McCormick.

“Noticing the strong work ethic and communications skills Roots and Barnes shared, I felt both students were prime candidates for the scholarship and encouraged them to apply,” Anderson said. “They are able to think outside the box, which is an important ingredient to do well in science.”

“I am beyond proud of both young men. They are bright, hard working, and disciplined,” McCormick said. “Being honored with the Hollings Scholarship speaks volumes, not only of their knowledge, skills and abilities, but of the professors in this department who helped foster those talents.”

The Hollings Scholarship is named in honor of Ernest “Fritz” Hollings, the South Carolina senator who was a champion for ocean policy and conservation. In 2005, the scholarship was established in his honor to bolster undergraduate training in NOAA mission sciences as well as increase environmental literacy.
Robert Prunty was introduced as the 21st head coach of the Hampton Pirates at a news conference Dec. 8 at Hampton University’s Student Center Theater.

“I am up for the challenge,” Prunty said.

Eugene Marshall Jr., Director of Athletics at Hampton University, welcomed Prunty, a Hamptonian with more than 30 years of football experience as a player and coach and a four-time conference recruiter-of-the-year honoree with two different Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) programs.

“Coach Prunty’s record speaks for itself,” Marshall said. “He’s from Virginia. He played for Hampton. It was very refreshing to hear him say ‘I want to come back to Hampton.’”

Prunty served last season as East Carolina University’s associate head coach, defensive coordinator and defensive line coach. Prior to that, he served four years as the University of Cincinnati’s associate head coach and defensive ends coach and three years as co-defensive coordinator. Before impacting the Bearcat program, Prunty spent three seasons under Tommy Tuberville at Texas Tech, 2010-2012, directing the Red Raiders’ defensive ends.

“You have no idea how great it is to be back at Hampton,” Prunty said. “This is not my team. It belongs to the university, the alumni, the fans and I want to make that clear.”

Prunty is up to the challenge of taking a winning Pirate team into the bigger spotlight of the Big South Conference, which Hampton University joins next July.

“We will be fundamental and disciplined,” he said. “I didn’t come to Hampton to lose!”

Prunty has been part of five bowl appearances, a conference co-championship and has been recognized by Scout.com as the Big 12 Conference Recruiter-of-the-Year in 2010-11 and 2011-12 before earning similar honors as the American Athletic Conference’s (AAC) top recruiter in 2012-13 and 2013-14.

His player evaluation and relationship cultivation skills produced Texas Tech’s second-highest rated class in school history in 2012 and his efforts were saluted by both Scout.com and Fox Sports. Prunty plans on putting that skill to work on tapping the Hampton Roads rich high school talent pool for the Pirates.

“The 757 area: it will be our bloodline,” Prunty said. “Every coach on my team will be looking for 757 talent.”

Prunty is a Chatham, Va., native and a 1983 Hargrave Military Academy graduate. Prunty split his collegiate career between Hampton University and Alabama A&M, where he graduated in 1988.

For more information on Hampton University football, contact the Office of Sports Information at (757) 727-5757, or visit the official Pirates website at www.hamptonpirates.com.

Hampton University Welcomes New Football Coach

Team of Hampton University Students Wins NASA Competition in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS — A cross disciplinary team of Hampton University students won first place at the NASA Institute for Local Innovations (ILI) Technology Implementation Market Engine (TIME) Challenge Competition in New Orleans.

“Please know how proud I am of these wonderful students,” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “They are a true example of THE Standard of Excellence that we produce here at Hampton University.”

During the ILI TIME Challenge, Hampton students reviewed scores of NASA-patented technologies and developed a pitch to bring them to market in areas such as water, soil/food production, energy production, robotics, with a high likelihood of marketability.

“My goal is to have the students embrace ‘Community Development and Applied Economics’ as the vehicle to transform their space in the world,” said Dr. Oliver Jones, team faculty advisor and HU assistant professor of Entrepreneurship, Economic and Marketing.

This innovative student engagement program allowed Hampton students to apply their academic and job skills; build confidence and develop success-oriented attitudes; and increase motivation for engagement in the larger economy. The project has the potential to generate revenue, launch careers, and bring important technologies to the marketplace.

While the TIME Challenge allowed Hampton students to apply their academic and job skills; build confidence and develop success-oriented attitudes; and increase motivation for engagement in the larger economy. The project has the potential to generate revenue, launch careers, and bring important technologies to the marketplace.

Well versed in today’s era of technology, Pamela Wimbush returns to her home state of Virginia with a vision to tackle her new role at Hampton University as assistant dean of the University College and director of Hampton University Online.

Her new role started with online consulting work for Hampton University. And then…

“I got a call from Dr. Harvey and when Dr. Harvey calls, you heed that,” Wimbush said, smiling.

“When I saw Ms. Wimbush’s credentials, I had to invite her to become a permanent part of Hampton University,” said Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey. “She brings so much to THE Standard of Excellence.”

On an unlikely day – Labor Day – Wimbush met with Dr. Harvey and Hampton University University College Dean Dr. Kim Luckes for an interview.

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“It was during that conversation that sealed the deal for me,” Wimbush said. “Having access to a leader like Harvey and having the opportunity to work with Dean Luckes, who has done amazing things in higher education, I knew that this was where I wanted to be.”

“When I saw her credentials, there was never a doubt she was the right person to lead our online programs,” Dr. Harvey said. “Online degree programs will allow thousands more people the opportunity to experience THE Standard of Excellence as they pursue their academic dreams.”

Wimbush will oversee all online course developments, technology integration for online undergraduates, graduate and certificate programs. But, her greatest task will be to increase online enrollment by 2,500 percent.