FEBRUARY 2021

Hampton University began the virtual 2021 Winter Educational Staff Institute with the Opening Plenary Session on Monday, January 4. Dr. Pollie Murphy, Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs, presided over the session. The theme for the week-long Winter Institute was, “The New Transformational, Educational Paradigm, Part II.”

During the session, update reports included a pre-recorded, video presentation on “Title IX Guidelines” by Dr. Kelly Harvey-Viney, and a report from Dr. Alissa Harrison, Vice President for Information Technology, on technology upgrades for enhancing the teaching/learning environment. A highlight of the Opening Plenary session was the video presentation given by Dr. Josè Antonio Bowen, entitled, “Inclusive Teaching, Covid and the Election.”

Bowen, an educator, musician, scholar and consultant, talked about inclusive teaching and good teaching practices to advance equity and inclusion. Bowen also talked about the recent election and how to guide discussions about it in the classroom.

Several faculty members received the Chancellor and Provost’s Academic Excellence Award during the plenary session. Their respective School Deans recognized the honorees for their outstanding efforts. Each dean developed a set of criteria for the selection from his/her academic unit. The selected faculty members demonstrate innovation in teaching, the ability to motivate students, maintenance of high, academic standards, and the ability to keep pace with current practices in his/her disciplines.

The 2021 recipients of the award are:
- Dr. Glenda Evans, James T. George School of Business
- Dr. Demetris Geddis, School of Engineering and Technology
- Mrs. April Woodard, Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications
- Dr. Laurie Jean Carter, School of Liberal Arts and Education
- Mrs. Eumeka Taylor, School of Nursing
- Dr. Travonia Brown-Hughes, School of Pharmacy
- Dr. Willie Darby, School of Science

The 2021 Spring Educational Staff Institute concluded on Friday, January 8, 2021.

On January 29th Hampton University celebrated the birthday of its legendary leader, President Dr. William R. Harvey, with a surprise musical caravan made up of more than 50 vehicles!!

Happy Birthday

Hampton University Faculty Honored at 2021 Winter Educational Staff Institute
Hampton University’s Journalism School Welcomes Global PR-Communications Expert Julia Wilson as Adjunct Professor

Hampton University, one of the nation’s leading historically Black universities, welcomes Julia Wilson as an adjunct professor to its award-winning Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications. Wilson brings more than two decades of experience as an international public relations consultant and global marketing-communications pioneer.

“We are pleased to have Julia Wilson share her vast international experience and knowledge with our students at Hampton University,” said Dr. William R. Harvey, president of the 150-year-old institution, whose notable alumni include Booker T. Washington, Rosa Parks and the mother of Martin Luther King Jr., Alberta Williams King. Hampton was founded in 1868 by Black and white leaders of the American Missionary Association, shortly after the Civil War, to provide education to freedmen.

Wilson is the CEO and founder of Wilson Global Communications LLC, a strategic international communications and public relations consultancy in Washington, D.C. She will teach International Journalism and Communications on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 to 5:15 p.m. in the spring semester of 2021. The class is a cross-cultural study of journalism and communications in the “global village.”

“We are thrilled to have Julia join our faculty,” said Dean B. DáVida Plummer. “We feel blessed to have access to her talent.”

A former print and TV journalist, Wilson covered the 1994 election of Nelson Mandela in Alabama where my mother visited my home. I also remember that he, along with other African American leaders during the civil rights movement, visited my home in Alabama where my mother.


“I am delighted to join Hampton’s distinguished journalism and communications faculty,” Wilson said. “One of my passions is encouraging young people to explore international opportunities – internships and job opportunities in journalism and public relations. My goal is to bring textbooks to life and provide a real-world view of the communications industry. We will explore the importance of being sensitive to other people’s cultures, social mores and taboos, and we will evaluate news coverage of social injustice in this Black Lives Matter era.”

A native of Tulsa, Okla., Wilson received a Fulbright grant from the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs in 2010 and lectured at leading universities in Paris and Lyon, France. She previously taught public relations and media writing classes as an adjunct at the University of Southern California, her alma mater, where she graduated with honors. She also provided lectures on international public relations at the Hebei University of Science & Technology in Qinhuangdao, China. Wilson has been published in the HuffPost, Ebony.com and Presideny Key Brief in France, and in recent months, contributed essays on social justice, diversity and inclusion to the USC Center of Public Diplomacy blog site and the USC Center for Public Relations Relevance Report in the Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism.

Hampton University Remembers Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. with a Virtual Program Jan. 18

The Hampton University Office of Student Activities in conjunction with the HU Student Government Association, the HU chapter of the NAACP, the Gamma Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and Sixth Mount Zion Baptist Temple hosted the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. program virtually on Monday, Jan. 18.

“This virtual program allowed Hampton University to continue hosting our annual educational program honoring both Dr. King’s memory, and in remembrance of his dream,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey. “While it saddens me that our nation and the world are navigating circumstances that do not allow for normalcy and we are facing social and political unrest, I am happy that Hampton University can host such a program that will provide much needed knowledge not only for the university, but the entire world. This program is very special to me for several reasons. Not only is Dr. King’s mother an alumna, but Dr. King visited our beautiful campus several times. I also remember that he, along with other African American leaders during the civil rights movement, visited my home in Alabama where my mother.
The Hampton University School of Engineering & Technology is celebrating its 25th Anniversary with a fully virtual and interactive experience on Friday, April 16, 2021, from 9 am until 4 pm. The anniversary celebration includes workshops, panel discussions, networking and even a virtual evening gala that starts at 7 pm. Early Bird Tickets are $75 and registration is now open!

“Even though we cannot celebrate the School of Engineering & Technology’s 25th Anniversary together in person, I am happy that Hampton University can host such a program that will provide education and important networking for students, faculty, alumni, and a whole host of others will be able to hear the wonderful stories of how we have arrived at one of the top HBCU engineering schools in the country!”

One of the invited keynote speakers for the anniversary program is Ron Nersesian, chairman, president, and CEO of Keysight Technologies. Nersesian began his career in 1982 with Computer Sciences Corporation as a systems engineer for satellite communications system. He has worked at such companies as Hewlett-Packard and Agilent Technologies. Nersesian holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Lehigh University and an MBA from New York University, Stern School of Business.

In September of 2015, Eley launched Outpour, Inc. in the garage of his family household. Today, Outpour is a 501(c)3 organization that has impacted over 1,400 college students through its live events and digital community groups. For this work, he was recognized as a 2019 Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion “Stories of Strength” honoree.

The program was live streamed via the Office of Student Activities' YouTube page.

Hampton University School of Engineering & Technology Celebrating 25th Anniversary with Virtual Experience

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“Even though we cannot celebrate the School of Engineering & Technology’s 25th Anniversary together in person, I am happy that Hampton University can host such a program that will provide education and important networking for students, alumni, and engineering professionals from all over the United States,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey.

The anniversary event includes special presentations and workshops regarding topics such as artificial intelligence, autonomy, augmented reality in architecture, aviation and engineering, and the future of biotechnology. Dean of the School of Engineering and Technology, Dr. Joyce Shirazi, said, “We are excited to hold this celebration in spite of the conditions with the pandemic. We have a truly storied history...students, faculty, alumni, and a whole host of others will be able to hear the wonderful stories of how we have arrived at one of the top HBCU engineering schools in the country!”

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Finally, 100% of net proceeds from the anniversary event will be put towards endowed scholarships for the School of Engineering & Technology. Each ticket for this virtual celebration also includes an Anniversary Care Package, which comes with a commemorative wine flute, sparkling cider, anniversary t-shirt, and virtual program journal. To register and get your tickets, visit here: https://hamptonalumnievents.universitytickets.com/ and click on “School of Engineering & Technology 25th Anniversary Celebration.”

For more information, visit https://givetohamptonu.org/engineering-25th/.

April 16, 2021, 9am - 7pm Virtual Event

Get your tickets today!
HamptonAlumniEvents.com
Contact Dr. Demetris Geddis
demetris.geddis@hamptonu.edu for details

25th Anniversary Care Package for all Participants

HamptonUniversity
School of Engineering
& Technology
25th Anniversary

HamptonAlumniEvents.com

Sparkling Cider

HAMPTONLIFE • FEBRUARY 2021
Hampton University Alumni Played Important Parts in 59th Presidential Inauguration

Hampton University alumni played significant roles in the 59th Presidential Inauguration. HU alumna Army Brig. Gen. Janeen L. Birkhead, the assistant adjutant general for the Maryland National Guard, was chosen to command the National Guard troops who provided support to the Inauguration, and alumna Casey Blowe, Ensign (0-1) of the United States Coast Guard Ceremonial Honor Guard, was involved in the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

“Hampton University is incredibly proud of Brigadier General Janeen Birkhead and Ensign (0-1) Casey Blowe for their important parts in the peaceful transition of presidential power that took place at the Capitol. Thank you to both of them for all they do to protect and serve our wonderful country,” said Hampton University President, Dr. William R. Harvey.

Brig. General Birkhead earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Hampton University in 1991. She also holds master’s degrees from the University of Maryland University College and the U.S. Army War College. Currently, she serves as Assistant Adjutant General, Maryland Joint Force Headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland. She is the 14th Hamptonian to reach flag officer status.

Ensign Blowe is a 2018 Hampton University graduate who earned her bachelor’s degree in Kinesiology. She is the daughter of Dr. Eleanor H. Blowe, the principal of Denbigh High School, who is a 1990 HU alumna. In July 2020, Blowe became the second African American female officer in the history of the U.S. Coast Guard to become an Honor Guardsman. For the Inauguration, Ms. Blowe has been given the assignment of the Wreath Laying Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

“Hampton University proudly announces the release of a commemorative calendar, showcasing our Historic Legacy Park. This calendar features iconic names and faces that have significantly contributed to the lives and futures of the students, faculty and staff of this storied institution of higher learning. The individuals depicted here cover a wide spectrum of US Presidents, Civil Rights icons, HU alumni as well as the University founder Gen. Samuel Chapman Armstrong and Dr. William R. Harvey, who has served the institution as President for more than four decades.

Purchase Your Commemorative Calendar Today! $25.00 - Free Shipping

For More Information Visit s.hamptonu.edu/legacy-park-calendar