IN CASE OF EMERGENCY... Emergency notifications for students, faculty and staff will be handled by mass email, Channel 19, WURC 88.1 FM, RC-TV 2, and campus loud speakers. If you would like to receive emergency notifications by text message, please submit your cell phone number to Mrs. Carolyn Hymon, Dean of Students. The numbers will be used for emergencies ONLY and will not be distributed.

Emergency Numbers:
Security office: 662-252-8090
Security guard on duty: 662-216-3429

Announcements

Rust College assistant professor of English, Dr. Alisea McLeod, recently received the Exemplary Teacher Award, given by the United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

Faculty members were nominated and selected based on exemplary teaching, service to students beyond the classroom and commitment to values-centered education. The program expresses the church’s support of and appreciation for outstanding teaching at United Methodist-related colleges and universities.

Rust College is one of eleven Historically Black Colleges & Universities affiliated with the United Methodist Church.

McLeod Chosen as “Exemplary Teacher”

Dr. Alisea McLeod

Dr. David L. Beckley, ’67, President
Dr. Ishmell H. Edwards, ’71, Vice President for College Relations
Ms. Adrienne Phillips, Public Relations Specialist

Alumnae Inducted into National Journalism Honor Society

Mrs. Sharon White, ’08, who is currently taking graduate courses in journalism at the University of Mississippi (Ole Miss) was inducted into the Kappa Tau Alpha National Journalism Honor Society during a luncheon held April 20 in Oxford, Mississippi.

White’s academic record and excellence in journalism afforded her the invitation to become a member of Kappa Tau Alpha.

Mrs. White is an anchor for Ole Miss’ “NewsWatch”, which recently won first place for “Best Student News Cast Election Day 2011” by the Mississippi Associated Press Broadcasters Association.

Mrs. White is a 2008 graduate of Rust College. She currently anchors “Campus Report” which airs Sundays on WTVA (Tupelo), and she can be heard weekdays on WURC 88.1 FM.

Our Condolences

… to the family of Mrs. Ollie Holloway, whose mother, Mrs. Chrestora Hawk, was funeralized April 21, 2012.

…to the family of Dr. Kenneth E. Jones, whose brother, Mr. Clay C. Jones, was funeralized Saturday, April 28, 2012.

…to the family of Mrs. Barbara Rayford, whose sister, Mrs. Thelma Freeman Glasper, will be funeralized Friday, May 4, 2012 at 11:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, 2250 Main Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Celebration Time!
Rust College Congratulates the 118 seniors of the Class of 2012

“Where Tomorrow’s Leaders are Students Today”

Campus NewsBriefs
A Weekly Update of Activities at Rust College

Vol. 41, No. 27
May 1, 2012

“Commencement continued on page 2”

“You were made for the best.” “Don’t ever give up.” “Welcome to the Future.”

Three powerful messages of encouragement were given to the Class of 2012, as they celebrated the 146th Commencement of Rust College with a flurry of events.

Dr. David L. Beckley, along with other members of the Executive Council, hosted the Service of Consecration Saturday evening, April 21. This event serves as the final Rite of Passage for seniors before they receive their undergraduate degrees.

“We, who wear the Royal White and Blue were made for the highest, the best, the noblest… to strive for anything less, is to alienate ourselves from our true character,” said Dr. Beckley. “You were made to walk the high road of love, peace, excellence… not the low road of human destruction, ignorance, war, hate, mediocrity, indecency, violence, and intolerance. The worst in us needs no encouragement. You are ready to move into the wider world because you are receiving degrees from Rust College.”

Equally powerful words were given during the Senior/Alumni Breakfast held Sunday morning. The College welcomed back alumnus Michael J. Smith, ’77, who is the Academic Director for Memphis City Schools.

Mr. Michael J. Smith points to his visual aid during his address at the Senior/Alumni Breakfast held April 22.

(Commencement continued on page 2)
“BY THEIR FRUITS…

Rust College Class of 2012

“You and I represent 99 percent of the American Democratic society which has endured enough of the system’s big corporations and big banks’ monopoly stranglehold over us and our potential income,” Smith said. “Are you willing to never, ever give up? If you answered affirmatively, then you are armed and geared to survive this hunger game, this jungle.”

“Chinese philosopher Confucius said, ‘the journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.’ Take heed to these words of wisdom as you walk out into the real world to confront everyday challenges… and remember never, ever give up.” Smith urged.

Keynote speaker for the 146th Commencement Convocation was Bishop Teresa E. Snorton of the 5th District, C.M.E. Church. Bishop Snorton was made the first female bishop of the C.M.E. Church in July 2010. Her message: Welcome to the Future.

“A new future waits for you. We pray it will be bright and filled with good things. A future full of surprises; some good, some not so good. There will be mountains and valleys… you must welcome your future,” said Bishop Snorton. “As you think, plan, and dream for the future, remember two things. One, the future is important. No matter how difficult and challenging it may be, you will spend the rest of your life in your own future. Two, never be afraid to trust an unknown future in the hands of a known God. The future helps us to have faith in ourselves and beyond ourselves. Don’t get discouraged. Don’t give up before you even try and don’t be seduced by things that look good, but mean you no good.”

Bishop Snorton encouraged the graduates to not only look to the future, but to realize that the NOW is important as well.

“Take your now, your present, each day you awaken—take it seriously. Life is not a rehearsal, each day is the real thing, each day is important.” She told students that the things they do now are vital to how their future will turn out.

Senior Recognized at Ceremony for Outstanding Teacher Candidates

Members of the Division of Education traveled to Jackson, Mississippi Friday, April 13, to attend the first annual Recognition and Awards Ceremony for Outstanding Teacher Candidates, given by the Mississippi Association of Colleges for Teacher Education.

Mr. Royce D. Griffin was one of 15 student teachers who were honored from schools around the state. Royce graduated from Rust College on April 22, earning his Bachelor of Science in English Education.

New Members Inducted to Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society

Rust College inducted 34 new members into the Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society in April 2012. The purpose of Alpha Kappa Mu is to promote high scholarship; to encourage sincere and zealous endeavor in all fields of knowledge and service; to cultivate a high order of personal living; and to develop an appreciation for scholarship and scholarly endeavor in others. New members are: Christine Ambiah, Tineka Barber, Adriane Burns, Fatoumatta Ceesay, Lolley Ceesay, Andrea Cooper, Cusi De la Cruz, Cecilia Ellington, Portia Ellis, Charlese Gulledge, Christian Irvin, Benita Jackson, Sohna Jagne, Megan Kimmons, Jasmine Kindell, Jessica Lucas, Demitrius Moore, Brittany Murphy, Ashley Outis, Caleb Ovino, Ashley Richardson, Shawndreka Robertson, Taesha Simmons, Dominique Smith, Nyirizhe Smith, Christina M. Taylor, Allen Thurman, Angel Wallace, Brandon Williams, Brittany Williams, Jamisthela Williams, Kyaria Williams, and Tara Williams.