More than 300 new students have come to campus to begin their academic collegiate career at Rust College. New students began arriving August 11th, the first day of New Student Orientation—Survivor: Destination Graduation 2016. The Office of Enrollment Services worked diligently throughout the school year and summer to recruit students from as close as the Mississippi Delta to as far away as Los Angeles, California. Mr. Johnny McDonald, Director of Enrollment Services, says students are still arriving on campus and he expects another 30 students to register before classes officially begin August 22nd.

Students are currently testing, registering for classes, attending concurrent workshops that will aid them in adjusting to college life, and meeting faculty and staff members. Orientation Workshop Leaders (OWLs), as well as Peer Advisors and Resident Assistants are working closely with new students to help them with the whirlwind of activity that can sometimes be overwhelming to a first-year student. Orientation will conclude August 21, 2012 with the final Rites of Passage Ceremony scheduled at 7:00 p.m. in Morehouse Auditorium of the Doxey Alumni Fine Arts-Communication Center.

Photos: 1. Freshmen Kendra Thomas with her mother Sylvia; 2. Freshmen sisters Dionne and Jalen of Milwaukee, WI; 3. Freshmen Dearren Young of Shannon, MS, with Admissions Counselor Melanee King-Nyan; 4. Student staff Jamie Harrington, Christina Taylor and Shanita Hampton; 5. Student Staff Larance Carter and Darion Johnson assist students and parents in Gross Hall; 6. Rev. Annie Travis, Chaplain, receives a BEARCAT hug.
New Chairperson Named for Freshmen Year Experience Program/COPE Center

Dr. Kenneth E. Jones has been named Chair of the First Year Experience (FYE)/COPE Center, with supervisory responsibility for the office of Student Support Services. He also has been asked to serve as Director of the Quality Enhancement Plan, an aspect of the college’s preparation for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

A native of Holly Springs, Jones received his Ph.D. in Mass Communications from Howard University in Washington, D.C. and holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia. Prior to his appointment as FYE chair, Jones served one year on the Mass Communications faculty and holds the rank of Associate Professor of Humanities. This is Jones’ second employment at Rust College, having served from 1979 to 1983 in a seminal role for the mass communications program.

Prior to returning to Rust last year, Dr. Jones was vice president for Academic Affairs/Academic Dean at Miles College in Fairfield, Alabama, where he led the faculty in uniform assessment and preparation for SACS. While at Miles, he also served a number of years as chairman of the Division of Communications and director of College Public Relations. Jones’ extensive professional experiences include District of Columbia and federal government leadership roles in public information; academic research, academic administration and communications education. As an accomplished journalist, he has served as a reporter and copy editor at several newspapers, including the *Knoxville Journal*, *The Worcester Telegram and Evening Gazette* and the *Waterbury Republican*. He is currently serving in his fourteenth year as editor of *The Christian Index*, the official publication of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. He has served as pastor of several CME churches and currently serves the congregation at Mt. Moriah CME Church in Clarksdale, Mississippi. He and his wife, Frances, maintain residences in Pleasant Grove, Alabama and Oxford, Mississippi.

Rust College COPE Center *(Counseling, Outreach, Problem-Solving for Excellence)*

The mission of the COPE Center is to equip students with the necessary skills and resources to excel academically, while providing a wide-range of confidential counseling that enhances the student’s social, mental, and emotional development. The office staff consists of the Chairman Dr. Kenneth E. Jones, the Coordinator of Career Development/Counselor John Peaches, Administrative Assistant Vivian Gulledge, and counselors Josephine Muruako, Jordan Collins, Armastine Gipson, Dr. Alisea McLeod (Honors Counselor), Shelley Jackson, and Norma Neely (Tutorial Lab Coordinator). The center also employs Peer Advisors, upperclass students who have been trained to assist their peers.

Retention is a challenge that is faced by many colleges and universities. The COPE Center is in place to aid in student retention. It helps students to identify emotional, mental health and personal challenges that may interfere with retention. College retention is the process of retaining students throughout the school year and into the following year.

The COPE Center provides early intervention for students who are encountering problems whether personal or academic. The students are assisted in making informed choices about opportunities, community resources, and other services. An open-door policy makes the center inviting and appealing to students, who can also take advantage of the Stress Free Zone. The Stress Free Zone is located inside the COPE Center and is designed to help students cope with stress while maintaining focus on their studies. Counselors are on hand to assist students in identifying sources of stress and provides avenues for stress reduction.

The COPE Center is located on the 2nd floor of the McCoy Administration Building.
Allstate and the Tom Joyner Foundation are asking alumni, students and supporters of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) across the country to do their part to raise scholarship funds as part of the fourth annual Allstate Quotes for Education program.

For every person who receives an insurance quote from an Allstate agent and mentions Quotes for Education between August 1 and Dec. 31, 2012, Allstate will donate $10, up to a total donation of $150,000. The funds will be donated to the Tom Joyner Foundation and earmarked for general scholarship funds to assist students attending HBCUs.

For the first time ever, participants in this program will also have a chance to vote for the HBCU of their choice to receive a separate $50,000 donation for scholarships specifically at that school.

“Each year, hundreds of students will be forced to drop out of college due to financial hardship,” said Cheryl Harris, senior vice president at Allstate. “The Quotes for Education program brings to life a vision shared by Allstate and the Tom Joyner Foundation, which is to support programs for HBCUs that create educational opportunities for the next generation.”

This marks the second year that Allstate has partnered with the Tom Joyner Foundation for the Quotes for Education program. Additionally, for the past eight years, Allstate has title-sponsored the Allstate Tom Joyner Family Reunion. Both programs are part of Allstate’s year-round commitment to create, support and sponsor programs that empower the African-American community.

“This is a big help to these students,” said Tom Joyner, chairman and founder of the 14-year-old foundation bearing his name. “Given this tough economy these days, every single dollar we can provide to help a student finish their education will make a difference.”

To participate in the Quotes for Education program, HBCU supporters should visit [www.allstate.com/represent](http://www.allstate.com/represent) to find a nearby participating agent or receive a quote online, or call 855-REP-HBCU at any time to receive a quote from an Allstate representative. Supporters can also join and follow the conversation on Twitter via the hashtag #RepHBCU to encourage the participation of friends and family.

Vote via the Rust College Twitter page: [@Rust_College](http://twitter.com/Rust_College).
Announcements

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

All vehicles must be registered by September 14, 2012

Vehicles without a parking permit will not be allowed on campus after 6:00 p.m.

Parking stickers will be available in the Development Office on September 4, 2012 (1st floor of Administration building)

Faculty and staff decals: $10.00
Students decals: $5.00

All faculty, staff and students operating vehicles on campus (including residence halls) are required to purchase parking stickers.

Catfish Corner
(formerly S&H Barbeque and Grill)
540 Highway 7 North
Holly Springs, Mississippi
662-252-5000

College Students & Faculty,
Show your college ID and receive 5% off!
Offer good through August 21, 2012

SPECIALS

Tuesday: 50¢ wing night (4:00–7:00 p.m.) ***DINE-IN ONLY***

Wednesday: COLLEGE NIGHT! (4:00–7:00 p.m.) Students & faculty receive 5% off order with college ID

Thursday: All You Can Eat CATFISH—$10.99 (4:00–7:00 p.m.) ***DINE-IN ONLY***

Friday: Chitterlings plate $9.99

Lunch Specials 12:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m.—$5.99 (meat, fries, 2 oz. coleslaw)