In 1873, Bennett College had its beginning in the unplastered basement of the Warnersville Methodist Episcopal Church (now known as St. Matthews United Methodist Church). Seventy young men and women started elementary and secondary level studies. In 1874 the Freedmen’s Aid Society took over the school, which remained under its auspices for 50 years.

Within five years of 1873, a group of emancipated slaves purchased the present site for the school. College level courses and permanent facilities were added. In 1926, The Women’s Home Missionary Society joined with the Board of Education of the church to make Bennett College in Greensboro, N.C., formerly co-educational, a college for women. The challenges that were overcome to establish Bennett demand that today’s challenges be met and overcome to ensure her survival.

For 145 years, women have found Bennett to be the ideal place to foster the constant rhythm of ideas. Each student’s individual need for self-expression and desire for achievement is constantly nurtured. The College fosters a strong respect for every student.

Today, in the midst of a very active renaissance, Bennett is preparing contemporary women to be well educated, productive professionals, informed, participating citizens and enlightened parents. The College offers twenty-four areas of study in Education, the Social Sciences, the Humanities and in Natural and Behavioral Sciences and Mathematics. Numerous opportunities to study at other higher education institutions at home and abroad are available to continue the educational enrichment of Bennett’s students.

The goals of the College continue to focus on the intellectual, spiritual and cultural growth of young women who must be prepared for lifelong learning and leadership. Since 1930, more than 5,000 women have graduated from Bennett College. Known as Bennett Belles, they continue to be among contributing women of achievement in all walks of life.
Mission
Bennett College prepares women of color through a transformative liberal arts education to lead with purpose, integrity and a strong sense of self-worth. Bennett provides educational access to students while promoting inquiry, civic engagement, social justice, lifelong learning and equity for all.

Vision
Bennett College is renowned for its intimate, engaging learning community that produces phenomenal women scholars and global leaders.

Philosophy
Bennett College’s undergirding philosophy is that a high-quality college experience should provide its students with strong academic and co-curricular programs that encourage their personal development, endorse lifelong learning, and prepare them to meet the needs of an ever-changing society.
Dear Colleagues, Alumnae, Friends and Supporters, I am pleased to present to you this report highlighting the 2017-2018 academic year and hope you find its information illuminating. Since my July 5, 2017, appointment as President, my Senior Leadership Team and I have made tough decisions and worked diligently in an effort to stabilize the Institution. Our students, staff and faculty continue demonstrating the resiliency that has been part of Bennett’s DNA since its founding in 1873 and subsequent change to an all-women’s institution in 1926.

I am proud of the fact that we completed the FY 2017-2018 Financial Statements and Uniform Guidance Financial and Compliance audits with no material findings. We also assisted in completing the calendar year 2017 403 (b) Retirement Plans audit and addressed all related findings/observations. During the 2017-2018 academic year, we continued our partnership with Royall and Company, which is producing some good results. It should come as no surprise to anyone that higher enrollment and increased unrestricted funds remain our primary foci as we strive to position the College for removal from probationary status under SACSCOC.

In spite of our challenges, there were reasons to smile during the 2017-2018 academic year: Our alumnae contributed over $2 million in gifts and pledges; many of our faculty published works and presented papers; staff attended conferences to further hone their skills and several of our students were recognized for outstanding academic performance while some of them received national awards. On May 4, civil rights icon the Rev. Jesse Jackson delivered a rousing Baccalaureate address inside the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel, and on the subsequent day, White House Correspondent and CNN Analyst April Ryan delivered our Commencement address on the Quad as 78 seniors became Bennett graduates. Of those graduates, two went to China to teach English for a year and several are in graduate school, including Valedictorian Shani McMichael who is enrolled at Columbia University.

Still, there is much work yet undone as we prepare young women for their rightful place in the global society. I take very seriously the challenge of leading Bennett College and am grateful for the opportunity. I humbly recognize that just as it takes a village to raise a child; it will take all of us working together to ensure Bennett continues serving as a beacon of hope for women of color for generations to come. Please stay committed to Bennett as we continue traversing this profoundly important journey.

Dr. Phyllis Worthy Dawkins
President, Bennett College
LEROY SUMMERS

Vice President for
Business and Finance
The Division provides administrative and fiscal support services to all College constituencies and is responsible for maintaining fiscal stability, integrity and technological advancement while providing efficient administrative support services through sound fiscal and administrative policies, procedures and best practices. Recording financial transactions, safeguarding physical and financial assets, allocating resources, procurement and delivery of services and campus safety and security are managed through the Controller, Human Resources, Information Technology Services, Facilities Management, Campus Safety and Dining Services departments. The Division’s overall goal is to support the College in its efforts to prepare students to function effectively in our highly competitive technologically advanced global society. Division unit directors are responsible for taking a proactive management approach, including providing leadership, direction and guidance to support staff; creating and maintaining open lines of communication; and holding staff accountable. This approach also includes using current reporting tools and other technologies to automate and streamline operations while increasing productivity. The Division strives to improve the quality of life, services and relations for students, faculty and staff by continually providing and upgrading services, training and staff development opportunities.

OFFICE OF BUSINESS AND FINANCE
• Assisted in preparing and submitting the following reports to SACSCOC:
  - Third Monitoring Report by September 8, 2017
  - Responses to SACSCOC’s Visiting Committee by November 14, 2017
• Developed and implemented the contingency plan for the FY 2017-2018 operating budget
• Assisted in writing a $500,000 grant proposal to renovate and upgrade Jones Hall
• Obtained approval from the Board of Trustees to implement five (5) policies that support the operations of the Office of Information Technology Services. These policies will remove a prior year audit finding from the 2018 Audited Financial Statements
• Coordinated the purchase of Fitness exercise equipment with the Director of Sponsored Programs and Title III Coordinator

CONTROLLER’S OFFICE
• Completed the FY 2017-2018 Financial Statements and Uniform Guidance Financial and Compliance audits with no material findings
• Assisted in completing the calendar year 2017 403 (b) Retirement Plans audit and addressed all related findings/observations

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
• Completed the virtualization project of fifteen (15) servers
• Completed phase II of the campus-wide Wi-Fi project
• Coordinated the implementation of IssueTrak online software for tracking student complaints on campus to streamline compliance with several federal and accrediting requirements.
• Coordinated with Bennett College Middle College to make a new classroom available for their use, including a new Wi-Fi access point dedicated to GCS
• Created a cloud-based Call Log system for tracking incoming telephone calls at the campus switchboard
• Provided technical support and assistance to Facilities and Campus Safety in the planning, purchase and implementation of new LED-lighted signage for the College
• Provided technical support and assistance to faculty in the Cengage open source course materials and paperless initiative
• Coordinated planned power outages on campus in December 2017
• Provided one-on-one faculty training on using BelleNet in the classroom
• Provided critical assistance in updating PowerFAIDS for 2018 after the departure of critical personnel
• Managed data transference of the Royall project, critical to improved student recruitment efforts
• Provided advice and direct support for the SACSCOC committee visit the week of October 16th, 2017
• Provided support for student printing on campus, including maintenance of dedicated Xerox printers
• Managed updates to mission-critical software, including Jenzabar EX, JICS PowerFAIDS and Donor2
• Completed replacement of all obsolete Windows XP computers on campus.
• Replaced and updated all biology lab laptops
• Replaced and updated obsolete classroom and office PCs
• Provided advice, support and assistance in implementing technology for campus events, including major annual events like Commencement, Convocatum Est and Baccalaureate ceremonies
• Planned and implemented major Office 2010 update across campus to Office 2016

FACILITIES SERVICES
• Painted the Student Union’s interior and exterior while upgrading bathrooms and the kitchen and dining areas
• Painted and installed new carpet and furniture in the parlor of Player and Barge halls; painted the parlor in Jones and Reynolds halls
• Completed the bid process to paint the exterior of the Chapel/Little Theatre and the exterior and interior of Ida Goode Gymnasium, Barge, Player, Reynolds, Merner and Black halls and the Pfeiffer Science Building
• Installed new hot water heaters in the Pfeiffer Residence Hall mechanical room to support Reynolds Residence Hall
• Painted interior, replaced roof soffit and installed new rubber flooring in the Greenhouse
• Installed new flooring, computer desks and chairs in Barge and Reynolds halls and computer desks and chairs in Player and Jones halls
• Finalized schematic and architectural drawings for major upgrades in Holgate Library (Work in progress)
• Installed the new LED sign
• Replaced chairs in various computer labs with new, plastic swivel computer lab chairs.

DINING SERVICES
• Converted the LaBelle Café to Sandella’s Café in the Student Union Center.
### Audited Financial Statements Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

#### Statement of Financial Position
The statement is a financial document that provides an overview of the accumulated results of the College’s finances/operations at a given point in time. The reporting period for this statement is between June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS:</th>
<th>June 2018</th>
<th>June 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and certificates of deposit</td>
<td>$566,508</td>
<td>$1,114,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student, other accounts and loans receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts</td>
<td>2,254,651</td>
<td>651,875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pledges receivable</td>
<td>483,970</td>
<td>150,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due from unrestricted operations</td>
<td>410,099</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepaid expenses</td>
<td>174,972</td>
<td>184,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inventories</td>
<td>2,619</td>
<td>1,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deposits held by Bond Trustee</td>
<td>1,948,812</td>
<td>2,363,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments, at fair value</td>
<td>1,737,057</td>
<td>1,346,565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total current assets</td>
<td>7,168,589</td>
<td>6,223,808</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| NonCurrent Assets: | | |
| Investments, at fair value | 11,377,732 | 11,298,045 |
| Art collections, at estimated appraised value | 2,712,821 | 2,709,821 |
| Property and equipment, at cost, net of accumulated depreciation | 29,724,233 | 29,714,224 |
| Total noncurrent assets | 43,815,233 | 43,722,090 |
| Total Assets | **$50,983,822** | **$49,945,898** |

| LIABILITIES: | | |
| Current Liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable, deposits and accrued expenses | $1,192,220 | $1,449,670 |
| Deferred Revenues | 338,230 | 338,230 |
| Due to temporarily restricted funds | - | 410,99 |
| Notes, mortgages, and bonds payable | - | 915,747 |
| Total current liabilities | 1,565,975 | 2,736,850 |

| NonCurrent Liabilities: | | |
| Advances from federal government for student loans | 285,008 | 305,422 |
| Notes, mortgages, and bonds payable | 34,867,883 | 32,654,340 |
| Total Noncurrent Liabilities | 35,152,891 | 32,959,762 |
| Total Liabilities | **36,718,866** | **35,696,612** |

| NET ASSETS: | | |
| Unrestricted | 855,559 | 160,861 |
| Temporarily Restricted | 1,779,411 | 2,530,082 |
| Permanently Restricted | 11,629,956 | 11,558,343 |
| Total Net Assets | 14,264,956 | 14,249,286 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | **$50,983,822** | **$49,945,898** |

#### Statement of Activities
The statement reflects the College’s income and expenses for a specific period of time, showing the changes to the College’s net assets resulting from income and expenses that occur during the current fiscal year. The reporting period is between June 30, 2018, and June 30, 2017.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPERATING REVENUES:</th>
<th>June 2018</th>
<th>June 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition and fees</td>
<td>$7,758,066</td>
<td>$7,552,819</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Scholarships and fellowships</td>
<td>(2,957,627)</td>
<td>(1,680,843)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Tuition and Fees</td>
<td>4,800,439</td>
<td>5,871,976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government grants</td>
<td>3,339,574</td>
<td>2,901,809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private gifts and grants</td>
<td>4,247,532</td>
<td>3,557,811</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sales and services of auxiliary enterprises</td>
<td>2,401,304</td>
<td>1,986,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>8,503</td>
<td>10,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest income and investment earnings</td>
<td>3,483</td>
<td>3,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment return appropriated for operations</td>
<td>602,321</td>
<td>588,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Operating Revenues</td>
<td><strong>14,716,578</strong></td>
<td><strong>14,920,722</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| OPERATING EXPENSES: | | |
| Instruction | $4,687,396 | $4,687,396 |
| Public Service | - | - |
| Academic Support | 2,660,542 | 2,660,542 |
| Student Services | 1,580,774 | 1,580,774 |
| Institutional Support | 3,950,066 | 5,208,078 |
| Auxiliary Enterprises | 1,931,559 | 2,604,328 |
| Total Operating Expenses | 15,621,346 | 15,898,423 |
| Net Operating Change in Net Assets | (217,990) | (977,701) |

| NONOPERATING REVENUES AND (EXPENSES): | | |
| Investment return net of amounts appropriated for operations | 233,660 | 706,865 |
| Net nonoperating change in net assets | 233,660 | 706,865 |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS | **15,670** | **(216,836)** |

| NET ASSETS, Beginning of Year | 14,249,286 | 14,466,122 |
| Reclassification of net assets | - | - |
| NET ASSETS, End of Year | **$14,264,956** | **$14,249,286** |

The auditors rendered an unmodified opinion. The College ended fiscal year 2017-2018 with an unrestricted operating surplus of $461,038 or 3% of total operating revenues and unrestricted change in net assets of $694,698. This represents the first operating surplus in three (3) years. The previous three (3) years' operating deficits were $1.8 million, $1.5 million and $1.2 million for FY 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively. In FY 2018, the U.S. Department of Education approved the College’s application to deferred capital loan principal and interest payments over a six (6) year period, effective October 1, 2017. This decision resulted in a reimbursement of principal and interest totaling $1,185,573 for the period October 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018. The total expected financial benefit of the deferral is $8,935,358 over the six-year period.

The College’s composite score increased from 1.4 to 1.9 as determined in accordance with federal regulation 34 CFR 668.172, financial responsibility standards. The threshold score is 1.5. The Heightened Cash Monitoring 1 (HCM1) Zone sanction will be removed from the College as a result of the 1.9 score. The sanction requires the College to make disbursements to eligible students and parents before requesting student aid funds from the Department of Education. The removal of the sanction will reduce the amount of time necessary to receive federal student aid funds that fund operations.
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

DR. DOROTHY C. BROWNE

Provost and Vice President
for Academic Affairs
The Office for Academic Affairs is committed to ensuring the vitality of Bennett College’s academic enterprise. To fulfill its commitment, and to align with the College’s Strategic Plan, The Office supports an array of educational opportunities that prepare Bennett students for participation in the global economy of the 21st Century. The Office of Academic Affairs is responsible for the administration of the College’s academic programs, specifically planning, developing and implementing the overall academic vision and goals of the College by providing resources and coordinating the special contributions of diverse organizational units and personnel from a student-centered approach. The Office also enhances the academic environment by providing opportunities for faculty to learn and implement in their classrooms new pedagogies, which engage students in the educational process and links them to the realities of the workplace environment and additional educational experiences. Additionally, the Office for Academic Affairs provides resources that enable faculty and staff to keep abreast of advancements in their disciplines and areas of expertise, to increase their scholarly and research productivity and to employ institutional data in teaching, planning and assessing student learning objectives and outcomes.

The Office currently consists of two academic administrative units: (1) The Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and (2) the Office of Institutional Effectiveness. There are two academic support units: The Office of Student Success and (2) The Center for Global Studies. In addition to the academic administrative units, there are two academic divisions: (1) the Division of Arts and Sciences and the Division of Professional Studies. These divisions are further subdivided into nine (9) departments. The divisions offer eighteen (18) academic majors, five (5) dual degree programs, five (5) concentrations with 19 academic minors, one (1) certificate program and the opportunity for students in interdisciplinary studies to aid in the design of their interdisciplinary program of study. In keeping with Bennett’s mission, the academic program is a liberal arts curriculum designed to help students think critically and analytically, solve problems and explore new pathways to help change the world. The curriculum consists of the General Education Programs and the academic major programs. This has been a year of teamwork – within the area of academic affairs, across divisions and between governance and administration – with remarkable results.

During the 2017-2018 academic year, the Office of Academic Affairs was led by Mr. Steve Willis, M.F.A., and Dr. Dorothy C. Browne, Ph.D. Under their leadership, The Office of Academic Affairs began a recommitment to achievement of academic success and retention for both the entering and returning students.

FACULTY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Thirty-five (35) full-time and thirty-four (34) adjunct faculty delivered a total of two hundred eighteen (218) courses – one hundred forty-nine (149) for full-time faculty and sixty-nine (69) for adjunct faculty – during the academic year. In addition to their classroom endeavors:

• Bennett College signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Society for Financial Education and Professional Development, SFE&PD. This agreement requires the partnership of our Business department and
SFE&PD in a train-the-trainer program at Bennett College. SFE&PD will train four Bennett College students who serve as “Program Ambassadors” at Bennett College and the surrounding community.

- The Department of Business, Economics and Entrepreneurship initiated a new partnership with the Greensboro Regional Realtors Association of North Carolina, GRRA. Along with GRRA, departmental faculty developed a new, three-credit hour course in Real Estate Management. For the trial run offering of the course, twelve (12) licensed professionals from the association taught fifteen (15) modules of the course with one (1) department faculty supervising the class. The realtors association compensated all the visiting professional lecturers. Nine (9) students successfully completed the course. Both parties are currently in discussions about the future of the program and a follow-up offering of a second course during the fall semester to prepare our students for the agents/brokers’ licensure examination.

- Journalism and Media Studies hosted several media-related programs: Black History Media Festival, Media Entrepreneurship Roundtable and Voices for a Stronger Guilford Immigration Program. They also hosted a Political Forum for local candidates and premiered two CBS Network shows, “SWAT” and “Wisdom of the Crowd,” before their national screening.
  - The JMS Department unveiled a state-of-the-art multipurpose broadcast/photography studio. It is equipped with a TV anchor desk, backdrops and studio lighting.

- The Little Theatre underwent major upgrades and, as a result, it can now generate income through rentals to outside groups.

- One or two theatre majors will be employed to operate the lights and soundboard for outside professional theatre companies during the academic year and summer.

- Engaged with a consultant in the planning process for a Health Science Major combining both public and community health.

- All full-time faculty participated in a least two professional development opportunities.
Over sixty percent (60%) of the faculty attended a professional conference.

Ten full-time faculty, or 29%, presented at a state or national conference during AY 2017-2018.

Twenty-eight, or 80%, of the faculty participated in community events in the greater Greensboro community.

Eighteen, or 51%, of the faculty served as a reviewer for a journal article, NSF grant or coach/mentor for a national or international program.

Eight, or 22%, of the faculty members submitted articles for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

Bennett College faculty submitted seven grant proposals for consideration to federal agencies or foundations for funding.

The professional (creative, research and scholarly) accomplishments of individual faculty, staff and students are provided in the divisions’ annual reports. However, a snapshot of the array of activities in which the faculty, staff and students engaged to ensure that Bennett College students are provided with high-quality educational programs and opportunities are identified below.

**STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Ninety-one (91) students attended professional conferences.
  - Twenty-one (21) students presented papers at professional conferences.

- Twenty-six (26) students served on an intramural research project.

- Eighteen (18) students participated in an extramural (summer) research project.

- Forty-four (44) students received a departmental or division honor or award.

- Six (6) students from the Division of Arts and Sciences received external awards.

- Eleven (11) students developed a program at Bennett College called “Wonder Girls,” a Mentorship Program that arranged for students from Alderman Elementary school to visit Bennett College for a field trip in 2017.

- The Bennett College Model United Nations team participated in the annual North Carolina Consortium for International and Intercultural Education (NCCIIE) Model United Nations simulation, March 22-25, 2018. Ten (10) students participated as delegates and one (1) student served in the key leadership role of Secretary-General.


- Ms. Grace Stewart, Destiny Collins, Imani Stephen and Nia Watson participated in the Journalism School Hackathon, University of North Texas (UNT).

**THE DIVISION OF STUDENT SUCCESS AND RETENTION**

While all units affiliated with the Office of Academic Affairs are responsible for ensuring the academic success and retention of Bennett students, one unit, The Division of Student Success and Retention, provides
students with comprehensive academic support services designed to enhance first year students’ entry into the College and to assist with students’ progression to graduation.

The Division for Student Success and Retention is designed to maximize every student’s potential to achieve academic success and to adjust responsibly to the individual and interpersonal challenges presented by the College. The Division for Student Success and Retention provides resources that will ensure student success through the collaboration and coordination of all academic divisions on campus. All of the programs are designed to promote engagement and to help students develop academic and life skills that are essential for success in college and the global community. The Program’s services complement the courses taught at the College. The Division for Student Success and Retention brings all stakeholders on campus together to work toward improving retention and graduation rates.

Additionally, The Division for Student Success and Retention provides instruction in study techniques and learning strategies that all students need to complete assignments, master course content and ultimately achieve their academic and career goals. We promote self-awareness while challenging students to understand their place within an ever complex and interconnected global society to become independent thinkers and learners. Subsequently, The Division for Student Success and Retention equips students with a sense of place at the College, ensuring that they receive academic advising, tutoring and guidance when needed. Efforts across the institution, led by the Dean of the Division in partnership with input from other divisions led to an increase in first-to-second year retention rates for new freshwomen as indicated in Table 1. Although there has been some instability in our retention rates during recent years, this fall (2018) we achieved a six (6%) increase in our retention of first-year students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entrance Year</th>
<th>Retention Rate (%) Following Fall</th>
<th>Total Number Fall Enrollment</th>
<th>Number Returned Following Fall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>50.3%</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>44.3%</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>45.2%</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>54.2%</td>
<td>166</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>51.5%</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TABLE 1**
During the 2017-2018 year, the Division provided the following services to Bennett College students:
- In Fall 2017, one hundred nine (109) students registered for tutoring in one of ten (10) courses.
  - Seventy-eight (78) students, or 72%, requested tutoring for a math course.
  - Seventy-seven (77) students, or 71%, participated in more than one tutoring session.
    - Sixty-six (66%) percent of those participating in at least two sessions were in math. Students requesting tutoring in MA 120: Finite Math (94%) were more likely to continue in tutoring after the initial contact.
In Spring 2018, one hundred ten (110) students registered for tutoring while only sixty-eight (68), or 62%, participated in more than one tutoring session. Thus, during the 2017-2018 academic year, there were two hundred nineteen (219) student requests for tutoring and sixty-six (66%) of students participated in more than one tutoring session. This represents an increase from the 2016-2017 academic year, where one hundred forty-one (141) students requested tutoring and only fifty-eight (58), or 41%, of students participated in more than one session.

Supplemental Instruction was implemented as a new tool to assist students with improving their academic experiences in designated gateway courses. This academic support model is a peer-assisted study session to improve student retention and success in historically difficult courses. The Supplemental Instruction Leaders (SI) attended the class during the designated times and held sessions after the class to assist students with understanding concepts. The department supervised three (3) SI Leaders in Fall 2017 and four (4) SI Leaders during the Spring 2018 semester – which covered Literature and Writing I & II and Intro to Psychology.

Ms. Holmes became the Academic Advising Coordinator on October 18, 2016. She assumed administrative duties including monitoring early alerts and absence warnings, tracking student progress, preparing midterm data and creating Academic Success Plans for students on academic probation. She also completed updates on the Emerging Scholars’ brochure as well as the academic advising brochure and manual. Ms. Holmes:

- Registered twenty-three (23) new freshwomen during Quick Start for Belles July 10, 2017.
- Developed a peer-mentoring manual to aid upper class women in mentoring the freshwomen - August 2017.
- Piloted a peer-mentoring program with six (6) mentees who conducted peer mentor chats and workshops for their mentees in August 2017.

**CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES**

The Center for Global Studies has developed a vision for global learning at Bennett College. It has also articulated student learning outcomes (SLOs) at basic, intermediate and advanced levels. The strategic goals of the Center include:

**Objective 1:** Creating relationships with foreign universities and establishing Memorandums of Understanding.

- Outcome: Two MOUs established (AUC Egypt and Hitit University).

**Objective 2:** The Center for Global Studies will seek funding for student study abroad opportunities.

- Outcome: $15,000 CIEE grant awarded to Bennett in the Spring of 2018.

**Objective 3:** The Center for Global Studies will actively engage with our Alumnae Association.

- Outcome: Alumnae Scholarship Network established.

The accomplishments for AY 2017-2018 include:

- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with AUC Egypt and Hitit University.
- Master Internship Agreement (MIA) with Church World Service and African Coalition Society.
• $15,000 grant to Bennett College student for study abroad tuition through CIEE.
• Establishment of the Global Studies website.
• Programming for Minor Recruitment and Passport Scholarships (collaboration with Guilford County Register of Deeds).
• Creating new courses for the Global Studies minor and certificate program.
• Establishing a Scholarship Network with alumnae for Belle support.
• Increasing international student enrollment through program partnerships.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness (IE)
The mission of the Office of Institutional Effectiveness (IE) is threefold. IE must coordinate the development and monitoring of the College’s strategic plan, assist in the evaluation of all academic and support programs through the collection and review of the assessment plans and collect and analyze data for reporting of information to the College and internal and external stakeholders to remain in compliance with federal, regional and state accreditation organizations. IE staff performed the following selected tasks:

• Scheduled and conducted assessment workshops for internal stakeholders to develop 2017-2018 operational plans.
• Prepared draft SACSCOC documents (e.g. monitoring report) for review, approval and submission by senior management.
• Co-directed the SACSCOC-required QEP’s components of the action plan and timeline
• Organized and facilitated meetings with stakeholder groups to develop the College’s draft 2017-2022 Strategic Plan.

Two other areas that are under the direction of the Office of Academic Affairs are the Middle College at Bennett and the Martin Dixon Intergeneration Center.

THE MARTIN DIXON INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER (MDIC)
The MDIC is a childcare program catering to children ages 3 to 5 that’s designed to enhance the lifelong learning process from toddler to senior citizen. The Center is under the auspices of Bennett College Administration and is physically located on its campus. The Martin Dixon Intergenerational Center’s objective is to facilitate learning for young children through opportunities for experiential learning. The Center’s philosophy is rooted in the educational philosophy of Erik Erickson's stages of socio-emotional development. Learning is an active process, and young children must be actively involved both cognitively and physically in experiences that are developmentally appropriate for this age group. Our curriculum is the Creative Curriculum 5th Edition, which is based on developmentally appropriate needs, interests and abilities of children ages 3 to 5 that’s designed to meet all domains of learning including intellectual, social/emotional, physical and language development. The curriculum allows young learners to gain an appreciation for the commonalties among diverse populations and of their own culture.

THE MIDDLE COLLEGE AT BENNETT
The Middle College at Bennett has the distinction of being one of only two all-female high schools in the state of North Carolina. With dual enrollment, students take college courses and earn transferable college credit as they earn their high school diploma. Students begin taking college courses during their 9th grade year and may earn up to two years of transferable college credit hours upon completion of their senior year. Today, the Middle College is nationally recognized as an honor school.

Major Achievements
• 100% graduation rate
• 100% of seniors were accepted to and plan to enroll in post-secondary institutions
• Two (2) out of fifteen (15) students plan to attend Bennett College in the Fall 2018

ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS OUTSIDE OF BENNETT COLLEGE
• LINKS Women’s Community Organization (monthly)
• Seniors tutoring at Jones Elementary (weekly)
• 4-H (all students) (bi-weekly)
The Enrollment Management Division consists of the Admissions, Financial Aid and Registrar departments, each charged with “moving” students through their enrollment at Bennett College. The Division launched the New Student Checklist, which guides new freshwomen on their next steps before New Student Orientation in August. To date, we have over 550 site visits to this section of the College’s website.

The Office of Admissions recruits and admits new freshwomen, transfer and re-admit students. Although enrollment has declined over the past five years, new strategies have been implemented to drive increased enrollment to improve fiscal stability. A major strategy is our partnership with Royall & Company, a marketing firm that is helping to attract and recruit new students to Bennett. To date, the Office of Admissions has increased applications by 79%, compared to June 26, 2017. The Department’s positive progress indicates a favorable outcome for Fall 2017. The Department’s positive progress indicates a favorable outcome for Fall 2018.

The Office of Financial Aid packages and awards student financial aid to new freshwomen, transfer, re-admit and continuing students. The Department is undergoing revitalization by focusing on processes, policies and federal regulations and procedures that maximize the use of their systems and time. This effort will garner a positive impact on customer service.

The Office of the Registrar safeguards student records and evaluates transfer and re-admit policies to align with the College’s strategic direction. The 2018-2023 academic calendar was published to assist the College in future planning. The Department also published the 2017-2020 Academic Catalog. Both documents can be found on the College’s website at www.bennett.edu.

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

- Published 2017-2020 Academic Catalog
- Published 2018-2023 Academic Catalog
- Currently revising policies
- Enforced Purging
- Enhanced its Registration process
- Launched a Re-Admit Checklist (acceptance letter)
- Standardized all curriculum patterns
- Revised Transient Student/Transfer Credit Form

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

- Transgender Admissions Policy passed by Board of Trustees in 2017;
- Revised View Book;
- Created a 1-page Fact Sheet;
- Implemented on-site interviews for prospective Belles;
- Launched 'Call to Action Campaign' by texting and call-em-alls;
- Streamlined the admissions process to include a partially auto-admit strategy;
- Hired Brittany Harris as an admissions counselor;
- Confirmed Events hosted by Alumnae Chapters;
- Hosted the Guilford County Schools' Counselors monthly meeting;
- Established monthly deadlines for institutional scholarship offerings;
- Mailed recruitment packets to alumnae chapters;
- Increased on-campus group visits;
- Revamped Tour Schedule to accommodate staffing levels;
- Launched online Alumnae Request for Recruitment Materials;
- Enhanced Communication Plan;
- Revised Campus Tour route;
- Enhanced Belle Beginnings with the President and Senior Leadership team hosting lunch at the President's home for parents only;
- Increased attendance to Transfer Fairs.

**OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID**
- Increased awareness and efforts for UNCF-completed scholarship applications;
- Increased awareness and efforts for AwardSpring-completed scholarship applications;
- Launched ‘Call to Action’ campaign utilizing call-em-alls;
- Attended training for PowerFaids;
- Focused on policy and federal regulation compliance;
- Revised departmental documents;
- Revised SAP Appeal process;
- Community outreach with Vance Chavis Library;
- Continued unprecedented collaboration with the Office of Admissions;
- Unprecedented collaboration with the Division for Student Success and Retention, specifically Quick Start events;
- Hired Mrs. Pamala Douglas as Director of Financial Aid

### OFFICE OF FINANCIAL AID - INSTITUTIONAL AID SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th># Accepted Scholarship</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Illustrious Belle Award (Full-ride Scholarship)</strong> Full tuition, fees, room &amp; board (GPA 4.0+)</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bennett College Presidential Scholarship</strong> $25,000 (GPA 3.8 – 3.99)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bennett College Excellence Scholarship</strong> $18,000 (GPA 3.5 – 3.79)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bennett College Leadership Scholarship</strong> $15,000 (GPA 3.26 – 3.49)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bennett College Promise Scholarship</strong> $10,000 (GPA 3.0 – 3.25)</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bennett College Spirit Scholarship</strong> $7,500 (GPA 2.5 – 2.9)</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### FALL 2017 ENROLLMENT SUMMARY

#### Registration Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Freshwomen</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continuing Students</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong> (after mini-semester)</td>
<td><strong>409</strong></td>
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#### Registration Summary by Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshwoman</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>93</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>409</strong></td>
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</table>

#### Major Summary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Freshwoman</th>
<th>Sophomores</th>
<th>Juniors</th>
<th>Seniors</th>
<th>Subtotal</th>
<th>December Graduates</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arts Management – Music</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Arts Management – Visual Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Administration</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>82</td>
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<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Elementary Education</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>English</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary Studies</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Office of the Registrar ** Division of Enrollment Management ** Fall 2017 Enrollment Summary
Revised 2018.05.14*
DR. LORRAINE ACKER
Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
Bennett College’s Division of Student Affairs takes great pride in contributing to the College’s efforts to create a community of scholars, developing civic-minded leaders and aiding students in their intellectual and personal pursuits.

Student success is the core value of our mission in Student Affairs. As a division, we are committed to ensuring all students succeed both academically and personally. Working collaboratively with campus partners, from entry to exit, students are touched by the services and programs offered by the Division.

While some characteristics of the student condition have remained unchanged, each entering class presents new opportunities that alter the demographics, lifestyles and expectations of our student body. As a Division, it is our responsibility to understand both the longstanding and developing issues and trends in student life while presenting and interpreting these to our partners in other areas of the College and community.

The following is a summary of the major accomplishments of the Division of Student Affairs during the 2017-2018 academic year.

STUDENT AFFAIRS DIVISION

• Partnered with Academic Affairs on development of Living Learning Communities
• Partnered with Project Success on a number of projects including Strong Interest Inventory and ECMC Emergency Aid program
• Established a partnership with Academic Affairs to address student parents’ childcare needs

LEADERSHIP AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

• Established The Office of Leadership & Civic Engagement, with Kimberly Drye as director
• During FY17, The Office of Leadership & Civic Engagement was awarded a $1,000 grant by North Carolina Campus Compact to assist with student voter education and registration. This initiative will be a collaboration between the Student Government Association, campus branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), National Pan-Hellenic Council and the Department of Political Science
• The Office of Leadership & Civic Engagement and the Office of Campus Life made improvements to the civic engagement requirements for students to ensure they’re positively engaged within the Greensboro Community and reflecting on concepts to create progressive social change
• A civic engagement requirement was added to the Five Residential Living Learning Community curriculum for first-year students, which will launch in the FY18

CAMPUS LIFE

• During 2017, over 90 programs were offered to students who had the opportunity to attend two to three programs per week consisting of community service opportunities, sexual assault awareness, health and fitness and social activities
• Implemented the new Male Visitation policy
• Bennett students participated in over 5,125 hours of community service
• Partnered with Alumna Dr. Joyce Martin Dixon to update residence hall parlors in Player and Barge halls
• Enjoyed a successful New Student Welcome Week
• Registered 50% of the Freshwoman class through a Voter Registration Program
• Updated computer labs in all residence halls
• Partnered with Martinsville High School to recruit new students
• SGA members participated in 2017 UNCF National Alumni Council and National Pre-Alumni Council Annual Leadership Conference in Atlanta
• Hosted Women’s Empowerment Series
• Partnered with Mellon Women’s Leadership Development on LEAD Conference, with more than 200 participants
• Reopened the Belle Boutique

CAREER SERVICES
• Career Services collaborated with Dr. Gwendolyn M. Bookman and other faculty on the Bennett’s NetVUE Grant project geared towards vocational/career exploration
• Partnered with Academic Affairs to integrate Academic Advising with Career Services.
• Established a Student Career Services Ambassadors Program
• Developed a partnership with IBM and Bennett College faculty for Fall 2018 implementation. The goal is to introduce curricula content from IBM's Academic Initiative, with a specific focus on Mainframe (zSystems)
• Established a partnership with the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) on HBCU/MIHE Fellows Scholar and NCDOT internships program for students in STEM subjects and in other areas in the transportation industry. This past year two (2) Bennett College students worked as NCDOT interns
• Successfully hosted the Annual Distinguished Speaker Series. During FY17, Career Services conducted eleven (11) workshops, presented by alumnae and other business leaders, on career-readiness topics
RELIGIOUS LIFE & ACES

• Awarded a $4,000 Interfaith Youth Core Campus Innovation Grant to support our campus interfaith initiative
• A total of sixteen (16) ACES workshops were held in Fall 2017, with an average attendance of 151 students
• A total of twelve (12) ACES workshops were held in Spring 2018, with an average attendance of 127 students
• Hosted weekly Bible Study throughout the semester

COUNSELING AND HEALTH SERVICES

• Funding allocated to hire a part-time Nurse Practitioner to begin in Fall 2018
• Increased office coverage for services within Health Center/Counseling Center
• Provided monthly testing through NIA for STI’s
• Continued success with Office of Violence Against Women - Campus Grant through Department of Justice (2nd Cycle) and received another grant through OWH (Office of Women’s Health) in 2017 that focuses on sexual assault prevention/education.
  • The Rise Project continues to increase programming to students, faculty and staff in the following areas:
    • Creation of “Resilient” – a psychotherapeutic group focused on fostering a brave, positive space for individuals to heal from the visible and/or unseen scars of intimate partner violence.
    • Faculty/Staff training on protocol for supporting students affected by sexual assault. Updated versions of one-pagers distributed to faculty/staff
    • Consistent up-to-date and culturally relevant intimate partner prevention programming throughout the school year
• Certified thirty (30) students in GirlTrek training for Mental Health First Aid
• Conducted SAFE Zone training for eight (8) staff and thirty (30) student leaders
• Established YANA support students in need of help, mind, body and soul
• Launched Stigma-Free campaign to end stigma and create hope for those affected by mental illness
• Bennett students continue participating in the Annual Shea’s Chase 5K Run that supports Suicide Awareness. Bennett students have participated in this program for the past five (5) years.
• Successful partnership with Monarch Behavioral Health, Moses Cone Behavioral Health and local psychiatrists who provide support for Bennett students.
MASON J. BLACHER
Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement
By any measure, Fiscal 2018 resulted in great accomplishments attributable to the efforts of a Bennett College community that is committed to strengthening the Institution’s financial footing and accelerating momentum for its future. Total giving in Fiscal 2018 exceeded $4.2 million in gifts and pledges, compared to $3.2 million raised in Fiscal 2017, which represents a 31 percent increase. Total unrestricted giving rose by 28%, to $3,374,075. Likewise, we saw the number of donors increase to 1,811.

These accomplishments would not have been possible without the guidance and leadership of Evelyn P. Leathers, who served as the Vice President for Institutional Advancement for two years, until April 2018, and Mason J. Blacher, who served as the Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement for several months. We also salute the philanthropic support from those that continue to believe in the mission, values and significance of Bennett College. Our faculty and staff continue to support academic programs and scholarships at an increased level.

Likewise, the Board of Trustees is committed to increasing financial support to the College by increasing their contributions and cultivating others to do the same.

Bennett Belles have been donors by tradition, and just as in years past, the alumnae continue demonstrating their tremendous support through fundraising. By contributing over $2 million in gifts and pledges to the College in Fiscal 2018, Bennett Alumnae again ranked in the Top 3 of the country’s 101 accredited HBCUs in terms of the percentage of alumni that give. Led by the efforts of many alumnae that worked tirelessly to encourage donations, alumnae giving increased more than $1 million, which represented a 102% increase over the previous fiscal year. In tribute, this achievement would not have been realized without the bequests of $400,000 from Dr. Glendora Putnam ’45 and $120,000 from Margaret Prillerman ’47. They both recognized the importance of legacy giving and made arrangements to include Bennett College as a beneficiary in their estate plans.

The Office of Alumnae Affairs continues engaging alumnae across the country through annual White Breakfats, Alumnae Weekend and other events. Alumnae continue volunteering their time in support of student recruitment and retention efforts at college fairs and admission events. Alumnae Weekend continues being successful at bringing Belles from near and far to celebrate their anniversaries, and it is always a joy to see members of the “50-year Class” return to campus to reminisce and participate in Commencement Exercises once again.

The Office of Communications and Marketing continues promoting Bennett in many and varied ways, strategically focusing on the College’s uniqueness and strength of sisterhood. News articles and press releases are submitted to area media outlets, posted on the Bennett College website and disseminated via social media. The College also has a Twitter page and President Dawkins has a Twitter page as well.
2017-2018 COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

• Bennett College received a bronze 2017 HBCUgrow LEAD Website award

• General Website Stats (09/22/17-09/23/18):
  o User: 141,898 (up 16.4% from previous fiscal year)
  o New Users: 135,765 (up 14.10% from previous fiscal year)
  o Pageviews: 578,004 (up 9.19% from previous fiscal year)

• Bennett College National Alumnae Association was a Finalist for Alumni Association of the Year at the HBCU Digest award ceremony

• My Bennett Story – www.bennett.edu/mybennettstory

• Social Media Insights (as of 09/23/18):
  o Facebook: 5,096 (up 5.38% since 12/13/2017)
  o Twitter: 3,384 (up 5.38% since 12/13/2017)
  o Instagram: 2,539 (up 5.38% since 12/13/2017)
My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.

-Maya Angelou
Belle Highlights

Carmesha Blackmon ’22

Fall semester classes began Aug. 20, but freshwoman Carmesha Denise Blackmon, a Journalism and Media Studies major, got her start at Bennett before then.

Blackmon, of Greensboro, worked with Assistant Professor of Journalism Tom Lipscomb during the summer on various projects. The two met during Blackmon’s senior year at the Bennett College Middle College.

“I had Carmesha in a JMS class when she was a senior in high school, and she was the most reliable student in class in terms of completing her assignments,” Lipscomb said. “On top of this, she connected with the mission of Bennett College. She told me that Bennett matched her ‘values.’ She could have gone to any college in the country, and she chose us. I believe this decision will ultimately lead her to becoming the best version of herself, and, if she works at it, she will be wildly successful in her career after Bennett.”

Blackmon said she was attracted to Bennett because she felt at home when she visited the Institution.

“I also felt that I would have an advantage being that I attended the Middle College and would come in with credits,” Blackmon said. “I love the sisterhood at Bennett, and I love their mission and how the Bennett women carry themselves. Bennett fits my values and beliefs, and I like some of the traditions that Bennett has.”

So far, Blackmon likes attending Bennett as much as she’d anticipated.

“Everything is going very well,” she said. “I like the small classroom sizes and the one-on-one attention I get from professors and the fact that they always offer to help us students. Bennett also offers many opportunities. I’m constantly being pushed to seek new opportunities to better myself.”

Blackmon is the daughter of Glendneil Blackmon and Marielle Ford. While attending the Middle College, she was a cheerleader at Dudley High School and served as Miss Middle College at Bennett, which enabled her to deliver a speech at graduation in May.

Blackmon lives in the Johnnetta Betsch Cole Honors Residence Hall. She participates in Bennett’s internship program through the Office of Career Services, which is run by Darryl K. Johnson and provides resume workshops for students, equips them to make 30-second elevator pitches and prepares them for summer internships – among other things. She aspires to join the Pre-Alumnae Council, to work with the College’s Entrepreneurship Program run by Sacha Blalock and to study abroad.

Blackmon said she has some very good professors this semester but feels privileged to work with Lipscomb.

“The most fun assignment I had over the summer with Professor Lipscomb was when we did the campus tours for the College,” she said. “We did some drone shots, and he recorded me talking about each building. I believe he is an awesome professor because he always seeks perfection and is good at what he does. I feel blessed to be able to work beside him to learn what he knows. He’s very engaging … and everything he puts his hands on turns out to be great.”

Lipscomb said Blackmon isn’t afraid to ask questions and is quick to help classmates. He’s not the only one noticing her talent.

“Carmesha is very smart and determined to succeed at anything she does,” said Shatori Rose, a senior JMS major from Washington, D.C. “She’s a leader. I’m grateful to have met such a brilliant, competent young lady.”
Constance Staley '18

During the summer of 2018, Bennett College senior Constance Staley participated in a prestigious internship in the Graves Lab at the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, an academic collaboration between North Carolina A&T State University and UNCG.

She learned about the internship from former Bennett Provost Dr. Dorothy C. Browne and Dr. Rasheena Edmondson, an assistant professor of biology at Bennett.

“During the internship, we transferred cells daily as part of an experimental evolution protocol,” Staley said. “We worked a lot with cells and learned about different lab techniques. My favorite part was when I learned how to prepare genomic libraries for DNA sequencing.”

Staley, a senior chemistry major from Ramseur, North Carolina, aspires to be a cardiologist. She said being accepted for the internship was a blessing.

“The internship lasted the entire summer, and we worked Monday through Friday from 9 to 5,” she said. “There were other student interns from UNCG, UNC Asheville and also East Carolina University. I made some friends through the internship, and we still talk to each other today.”

Instead of living on campus during the summer, Staley opted to commute from her hometown and accept a stipend. She describes the internship as amazing.

“The amount of information I learned was invaluable,” she said. “It was a phenomenal internship. The Graves Lab was a network of people from various scientific backgrounds. From having to present in lab meetings to coding in Python, there was never a moment we didn’t have an opportunity to learn a new skill or technique. Dr. Graves was absolutely wonderful. I am honored to have been mentored by one who encouraged us to be the best scientists we could be.”

Graves, interim dean of the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering and a professor of biological sciences at A&T, said Staley was a mainstay of the genomics research group during the summer.

“Constance participated in daily bacterial culture maintenance, physiological performance assays of metal and antibiotic resistance, as well as genomic library preparation for DNA sequencing,” Graves said. “She also attended the summer research congress of Biocomputational Evolution in Action (BEACON) at Michigan State University, where she had the opportunity to meet and interact with top researchers and students in evolutionary science from five research universities. She is continuing her work with my group this fall in conjunction with Dr. Edmondson.”

Staley will also be busy this fall in her role as vice president of Bennett’s Student Government Association. No stranger to campus leadership, she served as treasurer of the Minority Association of Pre-professional Students (M.A.P.S.) during her junior year, and as president of the Chemistry Club, a position she still holds. Staley is also president of the Zeta Xi Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.*

Moreover, she is an LSAMP Scholar, a GlaxoSmithKline Scholar, a member of the Beta Kappa Chi National Scientific Honor Society and a member of the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society at Bennett. Among Staley’s hobbies are reading, singing, playing the alto saxophone and attending First Pentecostal Church in Asheboro, where she’s been a member since birth and sings in the choir.

“Constance Staley is the epitome of a Bennett Belle,” said President Dr. Phyllis Worthy Dawkins. “She’s very conscientious about her studies and manages to earn good grades while being involved in several extra-curricular activities. I am so proud of her for landing the Nanoscience and Nanoengineering internship over the summer, and I have no doubt she will continue doing well and one day become a physician.”
Our Special Visitors

“STRONG WOMEN KEEP COMING”
-REV. JESSE JACKSON, SR., CIVIL RIGHTS ICON

“GRADUATES, I ALSO WANT YOU TO REMEMBER YOU’RE BEAUTIFUL BLACK WOMEN, BUT MOST OF ALL YOU’RE BEAUTIFUL.”
-APRIL RYAN, WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT/CNN POLITICAL ANALYST

-LINDA MCGILL BOASMOND, OWNER AND PRESIDENT OF CEDAR CONCEPTS CORPORATION

COMMENCEMENT 2018
THE EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATION THAT BENNETT OFFERS IS AN EDUCATION THAT HELPS WOMEN ACQUIRE THE INTELLECTUAL TOOLS THEY NEED TO LIVE PRODUCTIVE LIVES AS GLOBAL CITIZENS. A BENNETT COLLEGE EDUCATION ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO STAND UP AGAINST THE KINDS OF PREJUDICE AND OPPRESSION THAT THEY AND SO MANY OTHERS FACE."

-DR. JOHNNETTA BETSCH COLE, BENNETT COLLEGE'S 14TH PRESIDENT

FOUNDER'S DAY 2017
Board of Trustees

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Deputy Minority Leader of the North Carolina Senate

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Mrs. Gwendolyn Mackel Rice ’61
President, National Alumnae Association

Dr. Prenard R. Mickens
Owner of Prenard Mickens Endodontics

Dr. Sara C. Wrenn
President, Bennett College Faculty Senate
Bennett College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097; telephone number 404-679-4501).

The Bennett College Educator Preparation Program (EPP) is accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP), formerly NCATE.

Individual departments also hold memberships in the regional and national professional organizations associated with their respective disciplines.

Bennett College is a member of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) and the Black College Fund of the United Methodist Church.