

THE SPARTAN Connection

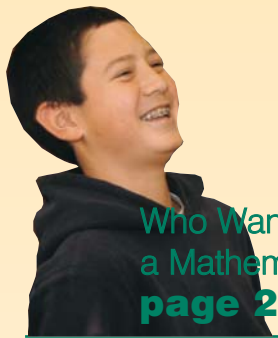
A monthly newsletter for faculty, staff, alumni and friends of Norfolk State University

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The Spartan Connection is published monthly by the Office of News and Media Relations.

Dr. Alvin J. Schexnider
Interim President

Paul E. Shelton
Vice President for University Advancement and Executive Director of the NSU Foundation, Inc.

Dr. Clarence D. Coleman
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Sharon Hoggard
Director of News and Media Relations

Misti Goodson
Assistant Director of News and Media Relations

Marie Uzzle
Administrative and Program Specialist III

Christopher Setzer
Assistant Creative Designer of Marketing Services



Black History Month Calendar



1 February, Wednesday

African-American Themed Drama. *Intimate Apparel*, Virginia Stage Company, Wells Theater, downtown Norfolk. Call the NSU Honors Program about available tickets at 823-8208.

2 February, Thursday

Lecture. *African American Arts Organizations Founded by Black Artists During the 20th Century.* Speaker, **Dr. Alvia Wardlaw**, art curator, Texas Southern University, Brown Hall, B-231. **Time: 12:30 p.m.**

Lecture. *Dr. John Biggers and the Mural Movement*, Brown Hall, B-189. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

3 February, Friday

Performance. Leon Bates, L. Douglas Wilder Center. **Time: Noon**

Drama. *Flying West*. Little Theater, Brown Hall. **Time: 8 p.m.**

4 February, Saturday

Drama. *Flying West*. Little Theater, Brown Hall. **Time: 8 p.m.**

5 February, Sunday

Drama. *Flying West*. Little Theater, Brown Hall. **Time: 6 p.m.**

6 February, Monday

Panel Presentation & Discussion. *African American Social Organizations and the 21st Century.* Discussions with the Masons, Eastern Stars, Links, and other social organizations. Facilitator, Dr. Khadijah O. Miller, Interdisciplinary Studies. Godwin Student Center Ballroom A. **Time: Noon.**

7 February, Tuesday

HIV/AIDS Testing sponsored by the Tidewater AIDS Community Taskforce (TACT). Godwin Student Center, Rm. 317. **Time: 10 a.m.**

Film & Discussion. *The Shawshank Redemption*, Godwin Student Center Ballroom A. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

8 February, Wednesday

Panel Presentation & Discussion. *African Americans in Norfolk: Previewing An Official History.* Lecturers, Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander (NSU), Dr. Tommy Bogger (NSU), and Dr. Michael Hucles (ODU). Bozeman Education Building, Rm. B-231. **Time: Noon.**

9 February, Thursday

Drama. *The Lion and the Jewel*. Godwin Ballroom A. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

10 February, Friday

Drama. *Flying West*. Little Theater, Brown Hall. **Time: 8 p.m.**

11 February, Saturday

Drama. *Flying West*. Little Theater, Brown Hall. **Time: 8 p.m.**

12 February, Sunday

Drama. *Flying West*. Little Theater, Brown Hall. **Time: 6 p.m.**

13 February, Monday

Panel Presentation & Discussion. *African American Organizations and Voting Rights.* Facilitator, Geraldine Hunt, political science department. Godwin Student Center Ballroom A. **Time: Noon.**

14 February, Tuesday

Presentation & Book Signing Event. Annette Montgomery, *Suffolk*. Madison Hall, Rm. 156. **Time: 12:30 p.m.**

Film & Discussion. *School Daze*, Brown Hall, B-231. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

15 February, Wednesday

Lecture. *Frederick Douglass and African American Organizations.* Speaker, Dr. Rev. Reginald Davis, Godwin Student Center Ballroom A. **Time: Noon.**

16 February, Thursday

Presentation & Book Signing Event. Guest author, Colita Nichols Fairfax, assistant professor, NSU School of Social Work. *Hampton, Virginia* – part of the *Black America Series* published by Arcadia Publishing. Professor Fairfax will discuss the synergistic impact of history and social policy on Black culture in the 20th century as well as the remarkable story of the contributions of Black people in the city of Hampton. Location TBA. **Time: 12:30 p.m.**

23rd Annual African American History Month program. Images in Black Voices. Sponsored by NSU's Xi Nu Chapter, Sigma Tau Delta International English Honors Society. Godwin Student Center Ballroom. **Time: 11 a.m.**

21 February, Tuesday

HIV/AIDS Awareness Panel. Madison Hall Lecture Rm. 156. Sponsored by Tidewater AIDS Community Taskforce (TACT). **Time: 12:30 p.m.**

Film Presentation & Discussion. *Glory*, Brown Hall, B-231. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

22 February, Wednesday

Film Presentation & Discussion. The role and usage of the word, *Nigger*. Guests, scriptwriters Nimrod A. Clouden, Jr. and Onaje R. Turner from Hearts of Men Entertainment, Inc. (HOME). *Hobson's Choice* is a 7-minute socio-realistic film by Clouden and Turner, which explores how the word, *nigger* is used "loosely" by all ethnic groups and races because of its acceptance in the hip hop community. Brown Hall, B-189. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

23 February, Thursday

Lecture. *African American Women's Organizations at the Turn of the Twentieth Century.* Speaker, Dr. Wanda Hendricks, University of South Carolina. L. Douglas Wilder Center, Conference Room. **Time: 12:30 p.m.**

27 February, Monday

Panel Presentation and Discussion. *Celebration of New African American Scholars.* Convener, Dr. Carol Pretlow, NSU Political Science Department. Godwin Student Center Ballroom A. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

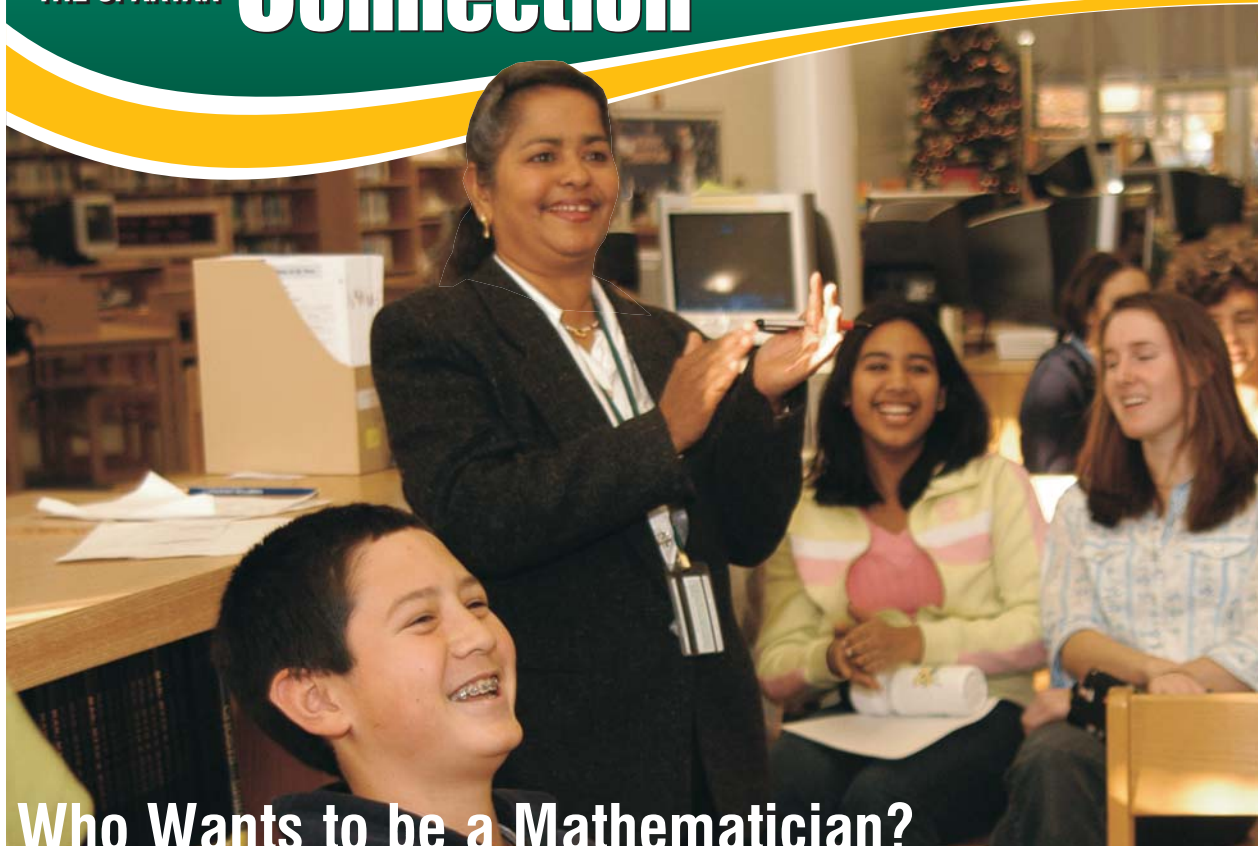
28 February, Tuesday

Film & Discussion. *Lumumba*. Godwin Student Center Ballroom A. **Time: 6:30 p.m.**

5 March, Sunday

Performance. *One Voice Chorus* from Richmond, Virginia. African American Spirituals. Co-sponsored by the Southeastern Virginia Arts Association. L. Douglas Wilder Center. **Time: 4-6 p.m.**





Who Wants to be a Mathematician?

Renuka Verma, associate professor of mathematics at Norfolk State, proudly applauds the students at Ocean Lakes High School in Virginia Beach. Thirty-two students, most of whom were members of Mu Alpha Zeta Math Honor Society, participated in *Who Wants to be a Mathematician?*, an interactive game based on the national version of *Who Wants to be a Millionaire?*

Everything is in Compliance

If you don't work in the NSU Athletics Department, you probably haven't met Alexis Robinson, the new athletics compliance coordinator.

A native of Philadelphia, Robinson grew up buying the cheapest tickets available for the Philadelphia 76ers. "My friend and I would sit in the rafters until half-time, and then sneak onto the floor," she said. "I liked the excitement."

Her excitement soon grew into a passion because she knew every statistic. Given the nick name, "Miss ESPN," by her friends, Robinson, who graduated from Hampton University, landed an opportunity during her senior year to intern with the 76ers. "That was a dream come true," said Robinson. "I realized that I wanted to affect lives on the intercollegiate level."

Soon after, Robinson, who never played any sports, enrolled in graduate school at Indiana University, where she earned a master's degree



in athletics administration and sports management. After graduation, she interned at the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference office under the direction of Sonja Sills, director of compliance; and Dennis Thomas, MEAC Commissioner. "I like working behind the scenes," said Robinson. "Ms. Sills gave me so much of a broad range of responsibilities in compliance. And, I had the opportunity to develop relationships with other compliance officers, and athletic directors at other MEAC institutions."

At Norfolk State, Robinson's most important job as the compliance officer is to protect the university and athletes from NCAA violations. She handles eligibility requirements, recruiting and rules education for all sports. "I make sure that each coach follows the MEAC and NCAA rules and regulations," said Robinson. Even though the job is very demanding and detailed-oriented, Robinson loves what she does because she has a lot of support and encouragement from the Athletics department and Marty Miller, athletics director. "He's one of the key reasons I accepted this position," she said. "I admire his attitude as it relates to making sure that everything is 'in compliance' and how he is committed to NSU."

Robinson has found a home at NSU and she really likes it.

Editor's note: Staff Member Marie Uzzle was a contributing writer to this story.

Making the Grade

Talking about "Achieving with Excellence"! Well, that's what students in NSU's Dozoretz National Institute for Mathematics and Applied Sciences (DNIMAS) program are doing. An award ceremony was held on January 11 for more than 100 students in this program who achieved the highest grade point averages. Not only do these students have high GPAs, but they are giving back to the community by providing tutoring and mentoring services. The DNIMAS students making the grade received movie passes, NSU gift items and a Friendly's ice cream party. Congratulations to all of these students for their hard work.

I. Highest Semester GPA by Classification Fall 2005

NAME	MAJOR	SEM GPA
FRESHMEN		
Joseph Msefya	Biology	3.98
Anthony Parker	Biology	3.98
Clifford Denize	Chemistry	3.94
Monica Pollard	Chemistry	3.92
Doreen Jackson	Chemistry	3.81
Ariel James	Biology	3.82
TeJay Lord	Biology	3.76
Rachel Anazia	Biology	3.75
Tamera Thompson	Mathematics	3.73
Brittany Herring	Computer Science	3.58
Darius Robinson	Engineering	3.57
Nigel Barner	Chemistry	3.56
Akia Scruggs	Chemistry	3.54
Vincent Baylor	Engineering	3.52
Adeyiah Sultan	Engineering	3.50
SOPHOMORE		
Keith Goodman	Physics	4.00
Eddie Howell	Chemistry	3.96
Isabella Griffin	Physics	3.83
Whitney Osborne	Chemistry	3.76
Angelitta Britt	Mathematics	3.69
Jasmine Hollingsworth	Biology	3.67
Zakiya Hoyett	Chemistry	3.56
JUNIOR		
Micah Baker	Mathematics	3.87
Kevin Reynolds	Physics	3.84
Kyal Wright	Engineering	3.64
Sharisse Felton	Engineering	3.56
Mikhaila Douglas	Chemistry	3.54
SENIOR		
Ashley Robinson	Computer Science	4.00
Kira Howell	Biology	3.88
Jessica Bowers	Chemistry	3.83
Roy Limas	Mathematics	3.75
Terra Irons	Chemistry	3.68
Breia Williams	Chemistry	3.68
Donald Goggans	Physics	3.59
Frederick Rogers	Computer Science	3.50

NEWSBRIEFS&NOTES

NSU Students Receive Prestigious Internships at The Washington Center

Three NSU students have been accepted for internships with the prestigious *The Washington Center* program. **Britanny Cunningham**, a sophomore majoring in accounting, has received the Norm Mineta Internship Immersion Program scholarship

for the spring semester. Ms. Cunningham began work at the DOD as an intern financial analyst in January. **Katrina Field**, a sophomore majoring in history and social science, is interning at the Anti-Slavery International organization.

Her program is a part of the Free the Slaves project, where she will work with child labor laws and policies in Third World countries. **Christopher Coleman**, a senior majoring in interdisciplinary studies, will complete his internship in the Montgomery Council Public Defender's Office. He will work closely with the office's chief attorney. *The Washington Center* program is the preeminent internship program in the nation's capital. It offers a unique combination program of internships at major corporations, government agencies

legal firms and non-profit organizations, academic coursework, lectures with national and international leaders, meetings with members of Congress, and historic site visits.



Britanny Cunningham



Katrina Field



Christopher Coleman

2006 Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars Awards



Diverse: Issues in Higher Education is gearing up for its 13th annual Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars Awards program, which recognizes outstanding student athletes of color from the nation's colleges and universities. This year's recipients will be announced in the April 6 edition of *Diverse* magazine. Nominations are being accepted NOW. Student athletes

must have a GPA of 3.2 or higher, completed one full academic year, and have a demonstrated record of community service, etc. All nominations are due by February 17. For more information, call 703-385-2981 or email asheawards@cmublishing.com.