

TALLADEGA AN EXEMPLAR

Talladega College President Dr. Billy C. Hawkins with Wiley College President and CEO Dr. Herman J. Felton Jr. in the Dr. Billy C. Hawkins Student Activity Center

“Among UNCF institutions, Talladega College is an exemplar in terms of how it handled COVID-19. It is the first place to come up when discussing campus reentry plans,” said Wiley College’s President and CEO, Dr. Herman J. Felton Jr., who recently visited campus to glean information about Talladega’s Safe Start Reentry Plan. Talladega leaders talked to Dr. Felton about COVID-19 testing, quarantining, social distancing, contact tracing, safety products and equipment, mental health support, and other aspects of managing a campus during the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, Wiley College closed its campus for the fall semester. Dr. Felton plans to reopen campus in January, and he believes the advice he received from Talladega leaders will be indispensable.

“I was told that I should consider visiting Talladega College and now I know why,” he stated.

Dr. Felton is co-founder of the [Higher Education Leadership Foundation](#), which helps ensure that a pipeline of transformational leaders are identified and cultivated to meet the needs of HBCUs.



LANDSLIDE VICTORY FOR SENATOR



When legendary Congressman John Lewis died in July, 2020, State Senator Nikema Williams, the first Black woman to chair the Democratic Party of Georgia, was immediately identified as the one to replace him on the ballot for Georgia’s 5th congressional district. Given her proven advocacy for women and families, voting rights,

and fair representation, her decisive victory on Tuesday was no surprise. Williams, who serves on the Executive and Resolution Committees of the Democratic National Committee and has a reputation for getting into the “good trouble” that helps demolish barriers and transform lives, won approximately 85% of the votes in her race. The congresswoman elect, a proud Talladegan, majored in biology and became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated at Talladega College.



TYANA PORTER

Tune in to [YouTube](#) to watch multitalented mass media studies major Tyana Porter discuss her passion for photography and unveil the striking Black Lives Matter pics she recently entered in an international competition.

“Tyana Porter is quite a talented photojournalist. She has a great eye for photography and viewpoint. I’m so proud of her and the fact that a student in our department is officially competing in the Unsplash Awards 2020 international photo competition,” said Mass Media Studies Chair Dr. Luis Almeida.



2020-2021 Student Government Association leaders include President Jamal Hairston, SGA Vice President Trevion McClary, Student Representative to the Board of Trustees Shakayah Midgett, SGA Secretary Geornipha Milbin, SGA Treasurer Reanna Burroughs, SGA Parliamentarian Troy Brown, Speaker of the House Tevante Harris, and Chief Justice Ashton Hall.

PATRIA GATSON

Miss Talladega College 2020-2021 Patria Gatson has been named a finalist in the Miss National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Queens Competition. The preliminary stages of the scholarship competition included a live interview that was shown on



the NBCA Hall of Fame Instagram page. After her outstanding interview, Patria was one of only ten competitors selected to advance to the next level.

“Now that we are in the final stage of the competition, voting is critical. The contestant with the most votes wins, so I urge everyone to vote for Patria today,” said Mr. Anthony Jones, advisor to Miss Talladega College. “You get ten free votes per day from your email account. If you purchase additional votes, the proceeds will go toward scholarships for the winner and the top finalists.”

Voting ends November 16, so show your Dega Pride by supporting Miss Talladega College daily at:

[VOTE NOW](#)

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



PHOTO BY TYANA PORTER

<https://www.facebook.com/TheTalladegaCollege>



MCDONALD'S INITIATIVE

Director of Career Pathways Sherissa Gaitor, seated, spoke with students Katlyin Battiste, captain of the Dega Diamonds; Ashton Hall, SGA (Student Government Association) Chief Justice; and Reanna Burroughs, SGA treasurer, about the McDonald's Youth Opportunity initiative. Students interested in joining the online program, which helps prepare participants for success in the workplace, may contact Ms. Gaitor at skgaitor@talladega.edu.

PATHWAY TO YOUR PHD

Talladega College Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Jeffery T. Burgin Jr. was featured on "How did you do it? Getting through your doctoral degree," an inspiring event on Lead On's Facebook page.



"Just as in all educational experiences, you have to keep moving forward when pursuing an advanced degree. You press on despite the obstacles that are almost sure to arise. While I was pursuing my PhD, my parents became ill and lived with us for a period of time. I had a demanding career. Our children needed time and attention, and giving my wife the quality time she deserved was also non-negotiable. Through it all, I had to remain focused on attaining my doctorate," Dr. Burgin stated.



A march to the voting poll on election day was led by Talladega College SGA President Jamal Hairston, Miss Talladega College Patria Gatson, Miss UNCF Talladega College Brittany Wynn, SGA Vice President Trevion McClary, Student Representative to the Board of Trustees Shakayah Midgette, SGA Secretary Geornipha Milbin, SGA Treasurer Reanna Burroughs, SGA Parliamentarian Troy Brown, Speaker of the House Tevante Harris, and Chief Justice Ashton Hall.

<https://www.facebook.com/TheTalladegaCollege>

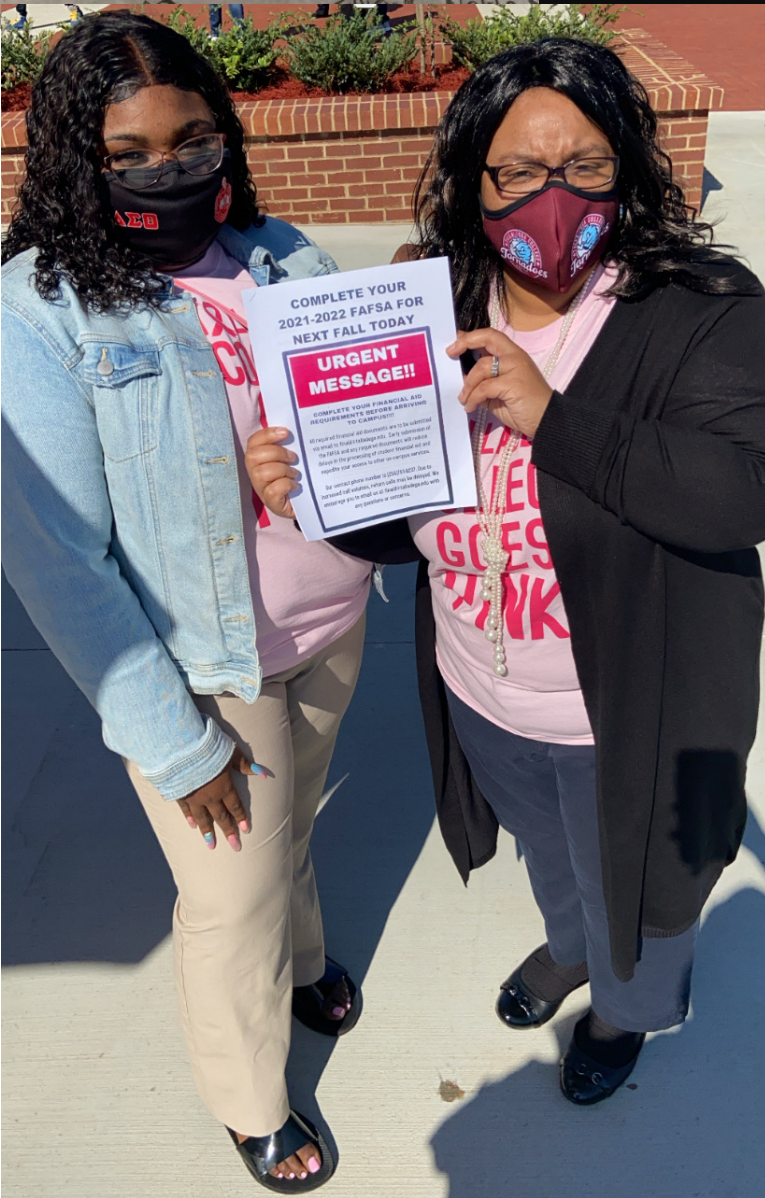


WILLIAM SAVERY



History Note

Talladega College is built upon a firm foundation laid by William Savery and Thomas Tarrant, two formerly enslaved Talladegans who met at a freedmen's convention in Mobile, Alabama, on November 20, 1865. Because they regarded the education of their children and the children of other newly freed men and women as "vital to the preservation of our liberties," Savery and Tarrant pledged to create this great institution.



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

When the Student Government Association gathered outside the Dr. Billy C. Hawkins Student Activity Center to distribute free breast cancer awareness t-shirts to students and staff during Spirit Friday on October 30, 2020, the Financial Aid Office seized the moment to remind students that many scholarships are still available.

All students are encouraged to join the Financial Aid Office for UNCF/FAFSA Fridays on November 6 and November 13, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., on the lawn outside of the Financial Aid Office. Students will be given packaged snacks after they complete their UNCF and FAFSA applications. Contact Interim Financial Aid Director Ms. Lakecia Taylor at ltaylor@talladega.edu for details about UNCF/FAFSA Fridays and a wide variety of UNCF scholarships.

Freshman biology major William Drake is a recipient of the UNCF Quillin-Hastings Scholarship. His goals include earning a degree in sports medicine.





Talladega College President Dr. Billy C. Hawkins thanked Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated for its continued support of HBCUs.

Talladega College has received an initial endowment of \$50,000 from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in partnership with the AKA Educational Advancement Foundation. The donation comes on the heels of the sorority's third annual HBCU Impact Day initiative where more than \$1.5 million was raised in one day for the support of HBCUs.

Last year, AKA began the process of donating to HBCUs through the AKA-HBCU Endowment Fund with the goal to donate \$10 million within four years. The sorority gifted \$1.6 million to the first 32 of 96 HBCUs at a ceremony held at AKA's International headquarters in Chicago. Each HBCU received \$50,000 in unrestricted endowment funds as part of a phased approach to help schools reduce student debt through scholarships, fund industry-specific research, recruit and retain top faculty, and other critical operations.

AKA International President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Glenda Glover stated, "Given the current economic state of our world, in which we are dealing with a global health pandemic and widespread injustice against people of color, now more than ever is the time for historically Black sororities, fraternities and other HBCU supporters to step up and be of service to our historic institutions of higher education."

In a video recorded message, Dr. Hawkins expressed his gratitude to Dr. Glover and AKA members for their commitment to HBCUs.



FROM THE EYES OF AN IMMIGRANT

Luis C. Almeida



GOODNOW RECEPTION FRIDAY, NOV 6

A reception for "The Eyes Of An Immigrant: My Southern Travels," an exhibit of works by Mass Media Studies Chair Dr. Luis Almeida, will be held November 6, 5 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the Goodnow Fine Arts Center. Food and drinks will be served and 40% of sales will be donated by the artist to support mass media studies majors' photography needs at Talladega College. Vibrant photography, umbrellas, and clothing are among the items on sale. Purchases made [online](#) or at Goodnow by November 22, 2020 will benefit students. For more information, contact Dr. Almeida at lalmeida@talladega.edu.



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