

THE DBAN QUARTERLY

February 2008

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Message From The President

Greetings!

We are thrilled to release our first newsletter of 2008 and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Davidson Black Alumni Network. We hope that you find this newsletter both informative and a pleasure to read.

We are committed to releasing the DBAN newsletter once every quarter and we will include some consistent items in each issue. Look forward to spotlights on alumni and students, a campus update from the BSC, career topics, an events calendar and an annual fund update just for DBAN! We hope that providing some consistency will encourage more readership and strengthen our connection.

We have also re-released the DBAN web page. The web page has been updated and will become a source of information for all DBAN members as well as current students. We will continue to improve the site as we get feedback from you and as capabilities are expanded. Please click on "Davidson Black Alumni Network" at www.davidson.edu/alumni.

If you have any feedback or if you would like to contribute to future issues, please don't hesitate to contact us. Our contact information can be found at the end of the newsletter. Thanks again for all of your support through the years and we look forward to a great 2008 and the next 20 years of DBAN!

Sincerely,

Tiara A. Henderson

DBAN President

Class of 1997

DBAN Calendar of Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Events</u>
Feb-08	23rd - Career Panel for current students
Mar-08	TBD - Cocktail event for current seniors
Apr-08	13th - Decision Davidson Info Session for prospective students
Apr-08	27th - Reunion Weekend Senior Lunch
May-08	TBD - DBAN Annual Fund Drive
	TBD - DBAN Community Service Project
Jun-08	TBD - Alumni Reconnect Event

Black Alumni Associations Across the Country

The Harvard Black Alumni Society (HBAS) was founded in 2002 by nine alumni. Since then, it has grown into a national organization with operations in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York and Washington D.C.

YBAN: Yale Black Alumni Network (YBAN) was founded in 1996. It is an independent, autonomous online community for alumni of African descent.

The Black Ivy Alumni League, founded in 1998, is a national non-profit organization representing alumni of African descent from the colleges and professional/graduate schools of the nation's eight Ivy League institutions: Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, University of Pennsylvania, and Yale.

Cornell Black Alumni Association (CBAA) was founded in 1976 to provide a communication network for Black alumni. Over the years, CBAA's mission and scope of activities has expanded to encompass four major programs— Recruitment, Mentorship, Update, and Scholarship.



Alumni Profiles: Leslie McIver
Bank of America Senior Vice President, Private Client Wealth Management

Class of 1986.

Hometown: Conway, SC

Currently resides in Charlotte, NC

Who was in your “crew” at Davidson and where are they now? I am afraid to name my “crew” out of concern for their safety even 22 years after graduation!!!! Most of them, including me have matured and are working in finance/business, medicine and law related professions.

Favorite Class and/or Professor and why? Gill Holland, Cynthia Lewis, Lance Stell, Irving Goldstein, just to name a few...I really liked the philosophy and English classes...those professors and the classes forced me to really think and they taught me how to put my thoughts in writing more effectively.

What was your major at Davidson and your current occupation? How are they related and how are they different? My major and my current profession are completely different ... I majored in philosophy but could have majored in English and I am a private banker working with wealthy customers at Bank of America.

When was the last time you were back on campus? Saturday night, 1/19/2008, at a basketball game verses Chattanooga with my son Jeremy age 12...**What was your impression?** Not a bad place to spend 4 years of your life...really glad that I graduated from here....

If you could go back, is there anything you would do differently while at Davidson or after graduation? Tough question, there are always things that you would like to tweak here or there but I am completely confident in my decision to attend Davidson and my after graduation decisions were good as well. **What advice would you give to current students or younger alumni?** Enjoy your undergraduate experience and make as many friends as possible!!!



Student Profiles: Cherita Jeffreys
Davidson College Senior—Class of 2008

Class of 2008.

Hometown Wake Forest, NC

Major : Anthropology with an Ethnic Studies Concentration

Favorite Class and/or Professor so far and why? Medical Anthropology thus far has been my favorite class because it combined two topics I am so passionate about: medicine and of course anthropology. I hope to integrate what I learned about cultural relativity into my own practice someday.

What are your aspirations after Davidson? As of right now I hope to become a family nurse practitioner, but that is subject to change. **What are you doing to prepare yourself for life after Davidson?** I am making sure that I stay active both on campus and off campus, staying on top of my studies and writing several graduate school essays.

Has your impression of Davidson changed over the course of your time there? If so, how? No, my impression really has not changed. I came into Davidson believing it was a great institution with friendly people and problems just like any other place and I leave feeling the same way.

If you could go back, is there anything you would do differently while at Davidson? I would have attended to the STRIDE pre-orientation event as a mentee because as a mentor I definitely feel that it is a worthwhile experience. **What advice would you give to other current students?** I would say to not allow other people's experiences to become your own; or the model for which you based your decisions upon in other words design your own Davidson career versus living a modified career of someone else.

Campus Update: From the BSC President

Three of the class presidents (Senior Class: Whitney White, Sophomore Class: Jessica Givens, and Freshman Class: Imani Bryan) are African American females. I consider this to be a tremendous achievement in the name of diversity and progress. The Student Government President, Chris Burton, is also an African American.

The Martin Luther King Celebration on Monday January 21, 2008 featured a number of events that were noteworthy. These events included:

King Day for Kids Community Read-In, Community Lunch, The Return of the King, A Montage of a Dream Deferred, Science, Race, and Human Behavior, From No Rights to Civil Rights: Untold Stories of Town & Gown Relations in Davidson, MLK Gospel Extravaganza.

On Wednesday January 23, 2008 **The Martin Luther King Jr. Community Convocation** was held in the Duke Family Performance Hall, featuring Civil Rights leader, Roger Wilkins. Wilkins is best known for his role as part of the 1972 Pulitzer Prize-winning team of *Washington Post* reporters and editors who exposed the Watergate Scandal.

On January 26th the Union Board and the Black Student Coalition produced a comedy show in the 900 Room of the Alvarez College Union. Superstar Jones, featuring Prescott, Honest John, and Tyler Craig, hosted the event.

Black History Month is here, and the Black Student Coalition has a number of events planned. The BSC plans to show a student documentary on "Juneteenth" in Little Rock, Arkansas with a discussion to follow. During the discussion there will be a display of Art created by African American students from Davidson. Later, the BSC will be showing the movie "White Man's Burden", a story that considers societal roles of black and whites being reversed. Finally the Black Student Coalition will be presenting a speaker at the end of the month, whose topic will be political activism and outreach.

Davidson will also host the Second Annual Legacy Black Student Leadership Conference on February 1st, 2nd, and 3rd. The conference will be attended by students from Davidson, Furman, Presbyterian, Wofford, Washington & Lee, Hampton Sydney, and Queens Colleges. On February 23rd, 2008 Davidson will host its Second Annual Greek Step Show. The Step Show will be held in Duke Auditorium and tickets will be on sale soon. If you have any questions you can contact the heads of the committee: Jeffrey Scott (jescott@davidson.edu) and Richard Torrence (ritorrence@davidson.edu)

Furthermore, I believe the presence of President Tom Ross is extremely important for Davidson, as he has put diversity forward as his mantra as President of the College. In his first address to the school, President Ross spoke of diversity and the progress that has been made, but how far society and the campus still have to go. Addressing the issue of diversity is something that is extremely important to many of us because it shows some type of commitment to a diverse student body on campus.

Jeffrey Scott
Black Student Coalition President
Class of 2008
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The Annual Fund: Why Do You Give?

The current Annual Fund fiscal year ends June 30, 2008 and DBAN's current participation rate is only **7.48%**.

Over the years, Davidson has given me so much. As a student in the late 70s, I was able to develop important relationships with some very unique people, many of them who are still in my life today. As a DBAN member, I have been able to network with fellow alumni over the years who make me feel like I am part of something very special. As a trustee, I am very proud of being associated with an institution that could see the profound positive impact that the Davidson Trust (no-loan program) could have on the Davidson family and the rest of the higher educational community. Finally, as the parent of a recent Davidson grad, I have had the opportunity to be exposed to the present day Davidson experience which truly values diversity. So, why do I give to Davidson? I give because I know that Davidson is making a huge difference in the lives of many people, including myself.

- Erwin Carter '76



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Career Corner: Excerpts from *Talk of the Nation*, January 15, 2008

How to Recession-Proof Your Job and Your Finances

With the unemployment rate at a two-year high and the housing market in a slump, talk of a recession is on the rise. Stephanie AuWerter, editor of *SmartMoney*, and Stephen Viscusi, author of *On the Job*, offer tips on what you can do to protect your finances and your job when the economy is looking grim:

Set Up an Emergency Fund. AuWerter recommends having three to six months' worth of living expenses held in savings or a money market account. In the event that you lose your job, you don't want to end up tapping your 401K or relying on credit cards. It's hard to put the money away all at once, AuWerter says, but do it a little at a time and you'll feel better knowing that you have a cushion.

Be Valuable and Visible at Work. "This is a very important time to perfect the art of looking busy," Stephen Viscusi says half-jokingly. Show that you can multi-task. It's important to be visible, so if you're working from home or from a distance, make sure that out of sight doesn't mean out of mind. Remember that human beings make firing decisions, so don't have a bad attitude and don't be a high-maintenance employee. "It's the time to get close to your boss," Viscusi says, "Have that nose as brown as possible." (You can read more job tips in Viscusi's book, *On the Job*.)

Invest in Yourself, Your Career. Spending money for additional training to switch careers or bring your skills up to date is a great investment, AuWerter says. There are some industries — she gives nursing as one example — where demand for skilled work is so high that employers will pay for your training.

Rent or Buy? AuWerter says that if you are going to be in a house for several years — five at least — you are better off buying now than trying to time the market. Trying to time the real estate market is very tricky, she warns. If you are trying too hard to strategize, you may end up sitting out on the sidelines and miss a good window to get in. As long as you have enough of an investment horizon, AuWerter says, buying a house during a recession can turn out OK.

Reduce Your Debt. Viscusi recommends taking one or two credit cards out of your wallet. "Leave them in your dresser drawers," he says. After all, if you aren't carrying them with you, you are less likely to use them. Reduce your debt — and the possibility of going further into debt — as much as possible.

Questions, comments, suggestions?

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