



NAA-SAU Newsletter

October 2021

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Watch the [video](#) of our President, Dr. Christine McPhail in a *Conversation with Episcopal HBCU Leaders*.

[NAA-SAU PRIVACYPOLICY](#)

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*****Succession Planning*****

The NAA-SAU biennial elections for national officers will be held the first quarter of 2022.

Now, is the time for Chapters to start the discussions on potential officers for the organization. The NAA-SAU is a critical stakeholder in the wellness of Saint Augustine's University, and it is imperative that the organization has the best representation available. Please start identifying candidates early, so when the process begins, your Chapter will be ready. All officers will be elected/re-elected in 2022 to serve for the 2022-2024 term, except the Alumni Trustee.



SAU at a Glance

Student Enrollment

Enrollment for the Fall 2021 academic semester has increased by 15% over 2020, with a total headcount of 1,239 and, equally exciting, is the report that freshmen enrollment was at 459, the highest in ten years. The University experienced a 42.1% increase in the enrollment of the *Gateway Program* (Adult Education) students and a 5.1% increase in the *Early College Program* students, which is a collaboration with the Wake Count Public Schools System. These enrollment numbers helped the Administration exceed the budget numbers for enrollment and will play a vital role in the sustainability and growth of our alma mater.

In addition, to this significant recruitment effort, a contributing factor in the enrollment numbers for this Fall 2021, was the ability and willingness of Saint Augustine's University to clear the tuition balances for students for the Spring, Summer, and Fall 2021 semesters. The University cleared all balances for

2021 after all federal, state, and private awards were considered. The money to pay off these balances came from the COVID-19 relief funding in the *CARES Act*.

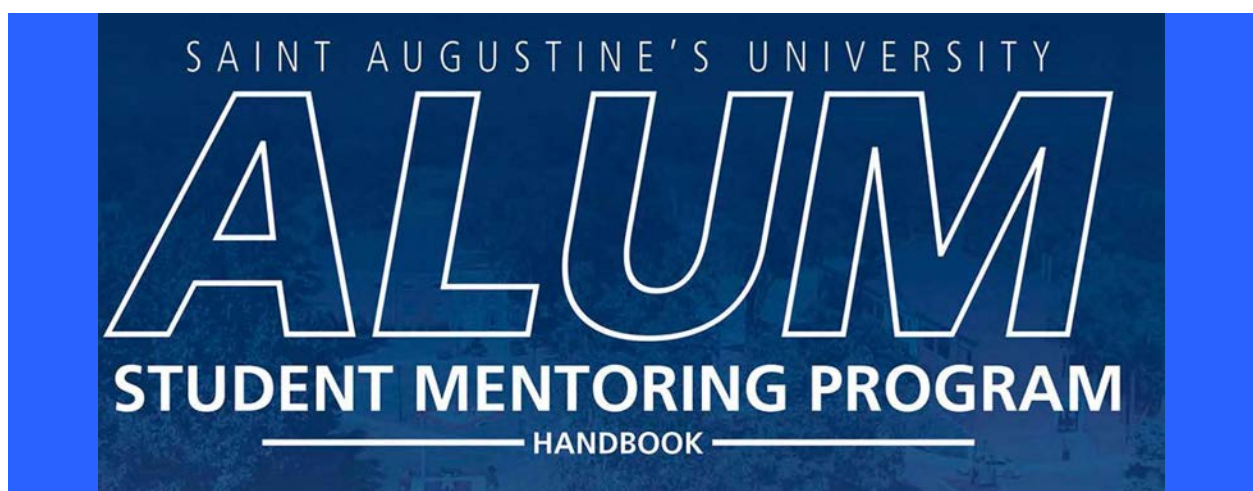
One of the main reasons that students drop out of school is lack of financial resources, which have an impact on the retention and graduation rates. Improving retention and raising our graduation rate is a goal of this Administration. Additional *CARES Act* monies may be available in the future, in addition to other funds that would enable SAU to substantially reduce the tuition for students going into the Spring 2022 semester.

Student Life

The University is working to improve student life at Saint Augustine's, with numerous infrastructure improvements. The Martin Luther King Building has not been completed and the students currently do not have access to the regular cafeteria or student union. However, this building and the Tuttle building will be completed in time for the Spring 2022 semester. The completion of these two facilities will be an enhancement to student life on the campus.

Homecoming 2021 was held. Our football team is relatively new, with several first year players that we hope will improve as the season progresses. The National Alumni Association did cancel all its in-door events because of COVID-19 concerns. We anticipate being able to have all our usual alumni events next fall, especially our Alumni King/Queen contest, and maybe some events prior to Commencement 2022 where we hope to include students.

NAA-SAU Updates



SAU Mentoring Program

The National Alumni Association is working with Saint Augustine's University to develop a program for Alumni to serve as mentors to SAU students. The SAU Administration and NAA-SAU Leadership strongly believe that a well-planned and orchestrated mentoring program will be a significant component in the University's efforts to improve SAU student retention and graduation rates. Mentors will be vetted and matched appropriately with students, who sign up to participate in the program. Mentors will be trained and have a *Program Manual* to follow in participating in the program. One of the key objectives of the Mentoring Program would be to help students navigate their way through the challenges and nuances of university life. Mentors will be an additional support line to our students.

The application to become a mentor is available [here](#) and the Mentor Program Handbook is available through this [link](#).

We ask **ALL** SAU Alumni to consider becoming a mentor to a SAU student. This is a valuable way to contribute to the success of SAU and its students. The initial *Program* will be a *Pilot* and, the number of participants will be somewhat limited.

Saint Augustine's University and the National Alumni Association Mentoring Program (SAU-NAA SMP)

Fundraising

Saint Augustine's University continues to need alumni financial support, not only for students, but facility repairs, and various programs that SAU needs to implement to be sustainable and to grow. We want corporations, other organizations, and the community to contribute. Given this, we must show a solidarity in supporting our alma mater.

The NAA-SAU was unable to have its normal fundraising events this *Homecoming 2021* due to COVID-19 concerns. We are inviting all NAA-SAU members and other alumni to give a portion of what you would have spent at Homecoming this year---[click](#) here to donate!

During *Giving Tuesday* in November 2021, please consider giving a minimum of **\$154 to celebrate the 154 years that Saint Augustine's University has been in existence**. This would a significant signal to our new President, Dr. Christine McPhail, that we support her improvement efforts for our alma mater, *as the mighty Falcon rises above all its adversaries*. Alumni can give directly to SAU, or the [NAA-SAU](#) Scholarship Fund and your donation will be tax deductible for 2021.

Recruitment



All though enrollment for SAU increased for Fall 2021, as alumni, cannot drop our recruitment efforts to support the University. It is, of course, more challenging to recruit during a pandemic than normal times, but recruit we must, as our competition from other colleges and universities continues to increase. We need to maintain our contact with our traditional feeder schools

and participate in College Fairs [*picture above is of a previous recruitment fair attended by members of the DC Metro Chapter*], either virtually or in-person, to keep growing our numbers.

The NAA-SAU will continue to coordinate recruitment activities with the University recruitment staff to be as efficient and effective in our recruitment efforts. Information on where and how we might best support the SAU staff will be made available to NAA-SAU Chapters soon and we hope alumni will continue to support this important activity. *Giving dollars* is very important, *but so is recruitment, mentoring, and advocating for "St. Aug"*.



NAA-SAU Elections

The National Alumni Association of Saint Augustine's University is an important organization in the viability and image of the University. This is not only true because of the *Fundraising contributions, Recruitment efforts, Mentoring and Advocacy initiatives*, but also because Alumni are the product and legacy of the University. The image of a university comes from the product it produces and that is what sells the school. Whether it is in attracting good students or seeking donations, it is import that its alumni are recognized for what they do, whether in the Community, State, or the Nation. A strong *National Alumni Association* significantly contributes to that image.

The election of NAA-SAU officers occurs every two years, with exception of the Alumni Trustee position that is held for four (4) years by the person elected. 2022 is an election year. Given this, now is the time to begin consider running for an office. Holding office is voluntary and can require a substantial amount of your time in carrying out the duties and responsibilities.

You can find the duties and responsibilities for each officer on our website [here](#) . Additional information will be available soon.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Chapters

Charleston



New President, Lynnette Johnson



Columbia, SC Alumni Chapter News

Columbia, SC Alumni Chapter Meet & Greet

The Columbia Alumni Chapter held its Meet & Greet to start our new year off on Saturday, September 25, 2021. We held it on this day to provide an event to celebrate Homecoming 2021 since our members were not attending Homecoming on the campus because of the COVID surge. We invited other Alumni to join us if they were available. Our activities included a Predict the Homecoming Game Score Contest, A SAU Trivia Game, Door Prize Drawings, a Look back of Homecomings from 1930 to the present picture show, A Look Back at the evolution of our Cheerleaders from 1940 to the present, Homecoming and Miss SAUs from 1930 to present and pictures of the attendees when they were students at SAU! It was fun and everyone enjoyed our journey back in time. We would like to thank our visiting Falcon Alumni from other Chapters that included:

Bernadine Jordon- Howard – Washington, DC Metropolitan Alumni Chapter
Debra Samuels – Washington, DC Metropolitan Alumni Chapter
Daphne Miller – Hampton Roads Alumni Chapter President
Angelita Browne – South Florida Alumni Chapter President
Jerome Green – Class of 76 Class Leader and NAA Life Member
Teresa Brown Cuff – NAA Member

Prizes Winners: Gift Cards

Predict the Homecoming Game Score Winner – Leo Mackie
SAU Trivia Game & Door Prize Drawing – Bernadine Jordan- Howard
Door Prize Drawing – Debra Samuels and Daphne Miller



Hampton Roads



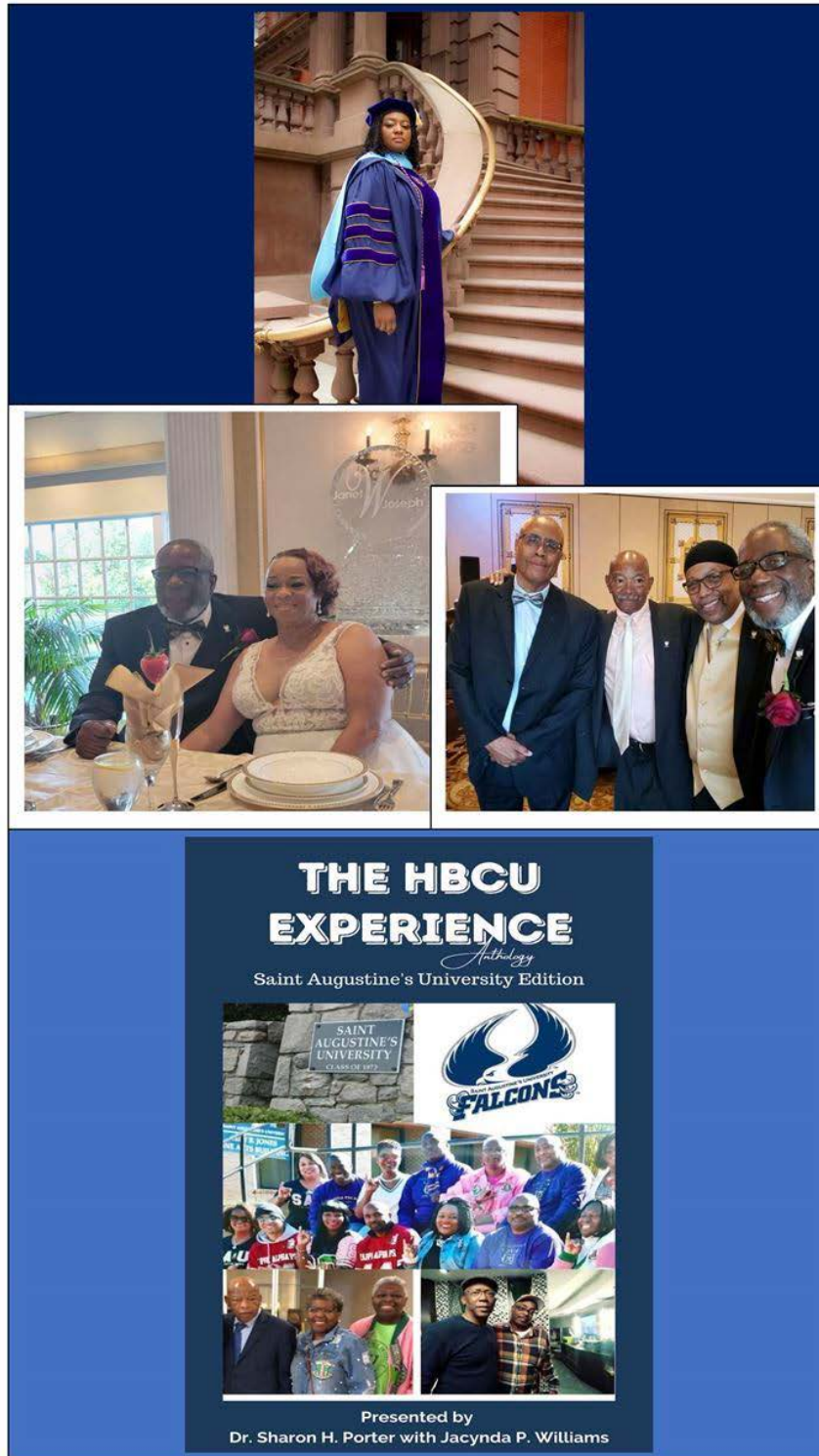
SAU Alumni continue to serve their community and help to make up for a critical shortage of teachers throughout the United States.

Hampton Roads Chapter President Daphne M. Miller returned to substitute teaching at the Victory Elementary School in Portsmouth, Virginia, after being contacted by the Superintendent for schools for help addressing a critical shortage of elementary school teachers in the city schools.

Ms. Miller, who has over thirty years of teaching experience in the South Hampton school system, was able to negotiate working conditions to satisfy her concerns and is back teaching kindergartners. She enjoys working with the youngsters, even though she has taught both Middle and High school. She much prefers teaching elementary school. **Congratulations and thanks go out to Ms. Daphne Miller.**

Philadelphia Metropolitan Area

The Philadelphia Metropolitan Area Alumni Chapter congratulates its Parliamentarian, Dr. JaNe't Roberson (Class of 2000) on obtaining her doctoral degree (EdD) from Drexel University in Educational Leadership and Management. (Top Picture.)



Also, to be congratulated, is the chapter's VP, Mr. Joseph Woodlock (Class of 1976) and Mrs. Janet Woodlock on their wedding, which was held on Saturday, September 25, 2021, in Deptford, NJ. No celebration is complete without fellow alumni present. (Center picture.)

In addition, fellow alumni are spotlighted through the release the book, *The HBCU Experience Anthology - Saint Augustine's University Edition*. This book is one in a series of *HBCU* anthologies that are being written by HBCU alumni and published by Dr. Sharon H. Porter, CEO and owner of *Perfect Times SHP, LLC*. The books will sell for \$24.99 and includes shipping and handling. If you have any questions about purchasing the book, please email the chapter at: SAUPhillyMetro@gmail.com. Information will also be posted on the chapter's Facebook and Instagram pages. (Bottom picture.)

Raleigh Wake



New President, Cynthia Whitney

Raleigh Wake with Mazie Lewis

Saint Augustine's College Celebrates College Park 111 Year Reunion

Residents of the College Park community in Southeast Raleigh returned to celebrate 111 years of existence during week-long activities from September 13th until September 19, 2021. Organized by Octavia Rainey, community activist, events began with The Neighborhood Exhibit Showcase at the City of Raleigh Museum; An Evening with the St. Augustine's University President; Candlelight Vigil at Tarboro Road Community Center; Presentation of the History of Richard B. Harrison Library at the Tarboro Road Community Center; College Park Neighborhood Tour beginning at the First Church of God; College Park Family Day at Tarboro Road Community Center and culminating at the Sunday Church Service at Grace AME Zion Church.

Each event provided participants with the history of the community and fun activities were held for all ages. Memories were shared by past and current residents of the area.



(From left to right)

Cory Branch, District C, City Council, Mazie D. Lewis (*69), Octavia Rainey (*78), Senator Deborah Ross, and James West, District 5- Wake County Commissioner

Mazie D. Lewis and Octavia Rainey are with Cory Branch, Deborah Ross, and James West as they gather at the College Park Family Day at the Tarboro Road Community Center on September 18, 2021. Corey Branch, Deborah Ross and James West spoke to the large reunion group celebrating with food, fellowship and memories.

CIAA 2022

SAINT AUGUSTINE'S UNIVERSITY CIAA 2022 HOST HOTEL

THE SAINT AUGUSTINE'S UNIVERSITY ROOM BLOCK HAS BEEN UPDATED AND THE ROOMS
HAVE BEEN SECURED AT THE

BALTIMORE HILTON

401 W Pratt St, Baltimore, MD 21201

Standard Room - One King Bed (\$195.00) - Standard Room - Two Double Beds (\$195.00) |
February 20, 2022 - February 27, 2022

The following link has been created for SAU. Please use this link to book reservations
within SAU's block of reserved rooms.

Web-link: <https://book.passkey.com/go/CIAA22SAUAL>

Once you click on the link, please follow the directions below:

- Input the dates of stay to the right
- Choose the number of rooms you would like to book, click "Find"
- Your assigned hotel will show, "Select" this hotel
- "Select" the preferred bed type, click "Next"
- Follow the steps to add the guest's information and to confirm

Access Code: If you or your guests will be calling into the housing bureau to book reservations
within your block, please ensure that you have your access code readily available. Your access
code is **CIAA22SAUAL**.



IMPORTANT DEADLINES AND POLICIES:

DEADLINE TO ASSIGN ROOMS:

Your reservation must be made no later than Tuesday, January 25, 2022. Effective Wednesday, January 26, 2022, rooms within SAU's room block that have not been assigned through a reservation will be released.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

Once reservations have been completed, you will receive an email acknowledgement for each reservation at the email address provided in the reservation link. Please review the email acknowledgement information for accuracy.

DEPOSIT & CANCELLATION POLICY:

No deposit will be required at the time of booking. A deposit of one night's room and tax will be charged by the hotel as early as, February 1, 2021. The deposit is refundable if the reservation is cancelled more than 3 working days prior to arrival. In addition to the deposit, please see the tiered cancellation policy below. The below cancellation charges will appear on your credit card as Convention Services, Folsom, CA.

- If you cancel a reservation between April 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021 by 11:59pm EST, your credit card will be charged \$50. *This will be a flat fee
- If you cancel a reservation between September 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021 by 11:59pm EST, your credit card will be charged \$125. *This will be a flat fee
- If you cancel a reservation between January 1, 2022 – through to the arrival date of the reservation, your credit card will be charged \$200. *This will be a flat fee

HOTEL CANCELLATION POLICY:

How to make modifications to an existing reservation:

Go to <https://book.passkey.com/go/ciaa2022>

1. Click 'Manage Existing Reservation'
2. Enter the acknowledgment number and corresponding last name as it appears on the reservation
3. Click 'Show Reservation'
4. The system will pull up the reservation and on the reservation information click "Modify"
5. You will then be able to change the name, billing address, credit card information, etc.



FUND RAISING, FUND RAISING, AND FUND RAISING!

As Alumni, we must do all we can to raise money for our university's scholarships, infrastructure, and athletics; and to support a dedicated and competent faculty and staff. As part of your *Resolution to Give* to your alma mater, please pledge your support, time, talent, and treasure (money) to your alma mater.

This Newsletter represents an opportunity for NAA-SAU Chapters/Members to submit items of interest that they would like to share with all Alumni.

Please submit content to the NAA-SAU Website/Communications

Coordinator (naasauwsm@gmail.com) for review.

Stay connected to your National Alumni Association

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Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-8122

FACEBOOK

NAA-SAU WEBSITE

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