

NORTH CAROLINA
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Mission

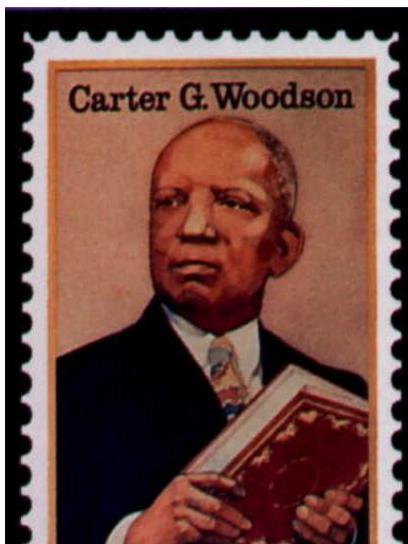
Statement

The mission of the NCCU Centennial Scholars Program is to provide participants with relevant academic, professional, and social experiences to be productive citizens without excuses.

The CSP staff is always open to suggestions about how we can better serve you. Please feel free to send your comments and suggestions to us at csp@nccu.edu or call 919-530-7814.

Centennial Scholars Program Eagles' Talon

Origins of Black History Month



February marks the celebration of African and African American history in the United States of America. Black History Month has been a staple in American society since the 1960s.

Adapted from: History.com

Black History Month is an annual celebration of achievements by black Americans and a time for recognizing the central role of African Americans in U.S. history. The event grew out of "Negro History Week," the brainchild of noted historian Carter

G. Woodson and other prominent African Americans.

The story of Black History Month begins in 1915, half a century after the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery in the United States. That September, Woodson, a Harvard-trained historian, and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by black Americans and other peoples of African descent.

Known today as the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass.

The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

In the decades that followed, mayors of cities across the country began issuing yearly proclamations recognizing Negro History Week. By the late 1960s, thanks in part to the Civil Rights Movement and a growing awareness of black identity, Negro History Week had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses.

President Gerald R. Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976. Since then, every American president has designated February as Black History Month.

PUSH Symposium Coming to NCCU

CSP and University of North Carolina at Greensboro's Rites of Passage Program invite all male students to save the date for the Propelling Undergraduate Students Higher (PUSH) Symposium that will take place on Saturday, March 24, at NCCU. Though details are still being finalized, this one-day conference will feature sessions aimed at minority males from high schools, community colleges, and

four-year universities.

Topics will include Financial Literacy, Domestic Violence Awareness, Hoops Dreams Repurposed, Living Away from Home, Self-Branding, Social Media from an Employer's View, Performing Academic Research, Dressing for Success, Unknown Facts Regarding the Judicial System, Political Involvement, Transitions through College, Men's Health, Embracing Diversity, and

Career Exploration and Assessment, among others. There is no cost to attend, but only the first 230 students and chaperones who register will be accepted. Registration must be completed at <http://pushsymposium.eventbrite.com/> by March 9, 2012. Questions may be directed to NCCU CSP Director Jason Dorsette at jdorsette@nccu.edu or (919) 530-7814.

Faculty & Staff Spotlight



Erica Dixon is the director of Campus Recreation and Wellness at NCCU. She is responsible for contributing to the total health and well-being of the members of the university community by providing quality service through diverse recreational and leisure programs and activities on campus.

Many people know her for her enthusiasm and passion about getting others to lead healthy lifestyles. Dixon teaches three Zumba classes on campus and recently was selected by Zumba Fitness, LLC to be a choreography specialist, which travels around the world teaching other instructors choreography to share with their classes. She was selected from more than 7,000 instructors and is the only one in North Carolina.

“The first tip I would give to the future leaders of the CSP is to first live your life as an example for others to follow. Passion is essential but your character, attitude, and integrity is everything – protect it with your life! My final tip is best illustrated in the words of Harvey McKay, and that is to ‘Find something that you love to do, and you will never work another day in your life.’”

Greetings Scholars, Families and Partners:

February is typically the month we turn our attention to thoughts of hearts, cupid, flowers, candy and all things Valentine’s Day. According to Hallmark’s research, 141 million Valentine’s Day cards are exchanged annually, making Valentine’s Day the second-most popular greeting-card-giving occasion after Christmas. That’s a lot of love!

This year when you are busy expressing your feelings to those who mean the most to you, I ask that you take a moment to also appreciate and recognize the

Director’s Message

diversity that surrounds us every-day. The one thing that unites all human beings, regardless of age, gender, religion, economic status, or ethnic background is love. Every person desires to love and be loved by others. In celebrating love, you are celebrating what makes us all human. Love and respect can unite us all and make us able to achieve so much more than we can alone. Rejoice in those things that make us individuals and take time to learn more about other cultures. An educated society is a tolerant society.

In his speech, “Strength to Love,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

summed it up best when he said, “The good neighbor looks beyond the external accidents and discerns those inner qualities that make all men human and, therefore, brothers.”

We believe in each of you!

Warmest regards,

Jason J. Dorsette

Unsung Heroes in Black History

Cornelius Nathaniel Dorsette, born in 1852, was Alabama’s first licensed Negro physician and the founder of the Hale Infirmary in Montgomery, the first hospital in Alabama for Negroes. He was Booker T. Washington’s physician and often was mentioned by Washington in speeches as an example of black perseverance and initiative. He helped organize the National Medical Association for black physicians and was a trustee at Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.



Eunice Hunton-Carter became a social worker who practiced in New York and New Jersey for several years before earning a law degree from Fordham University Law School, the first black woman to do so. In 1945, she entered private practice and continued her activities in organizations including the National Council of Negro Women, the United Nations and on the national board of the YWCA until her death in 1970.



It’s hard to say who invented the Internet, but the Web owes much of its existence to Philip Emeagwali, a math whiz who came up with the formula for allowing a large number of computers to communicate at once. Emeagwali was born to a poor family in Akure, Nigeria, in 1954. As a young man, he earned a general education certificate from the University of London and later degrees from George Washington University and the University of Maryland, and the University of Michigan.



Make A Difference During Spring Break With the United Way

During spring break this year, hundreds of student volunteers from across the United States trade swim trunks for tool belts and team up with United Way to make a meaningful impact in communities across the country. United Way continues its National Alternative Spring Break tradition for the seventh year by providing student volunteers the opportunity to engage in communities through on the ground service projects in Biloxi, MS, from March 11 to March 17.

Projects on which volunteers may work include:

- Participating in community beautification projects such as planting community gardens, cleaning up beaches, clearing vacant lots and cleaning up of community parks
- Assisting low-income families with income tax preparation and maximizing the use of the earned income tax credit to help families manage in difficult economic times

•Helping to build new housing or rehabilitate housing damaged by the variety of natural disasters in the last five years

There is a \$250 participation fee that covers all ground transportation once students arrive in South Mississippi, meals, lodging, and program fees.

For more information about this opportunity, contact asbms@local.unitedway.org.

Scholar Highlight

Overcoming Adversity is More Than a Tagline for Terry Washington



Sophomore Terry Washington is a physical education major and a transfer student to NCCU. He has overcome many circumstances and continues to flourish academically and socially.

Life provides challenges for all people, and in a variety of ways. Some cry foul and blame life or others for the things that happen to them. Some join the crowd and become the problems they hate in their own lives. Some cope with life's ills and find a way to get by. Then you have the Terry Washington's of the world who refuse to let life's curve balls strike them out and simply make things happen.

Washington has overcome much adversity in his life. Like many teenagers, Washington faced his fair share of bullying in high school. He experienced ridicule from classmates and others for the slow and deliberate way he spoke. Washington was ostracized by many of his peers and in the process, lost his sense of self. The pain and rejection he felt from people he thought were friends put him in a dark, lonely place at age 16. Questioning whether or not life was worth it, Washington had to dig deep to reclaim the light in his life. He credits his faith in God for allowing him to realize his value.

"I asked God to humble me and give me strength," said Washington, a junior Physical Education major. That was the moment he decided it was time for him to take control of his life and become an individual. With the love of his family, especially his mother, Washington grew closer to his Christian family and God. He put his energy into academics and stopped wasting energy on people who showed him little or no concern. Working hard to become a great son, brother, Christian, student, and person, he grew stronger in his faith, became a member of the National Honors Society, found new friends, and most importantly, he found himself.

After graduating from high school, Washington attended Central Piedmont Community College where he attained an Associate of Arts degree. During his first semester at NCCU, he earned a 3.46 GPA for the fall 2011 semester.

Coming to NCCU has made him feel "like a fresh pair of Nikes right out of the box. My story is a redemption story. It definitely feels great," Washington said. "Everyone at NCCU, especially CSP and others, has helped me make an impact. I hope to leave a legacy behind."

It would seem he is well on his way.

CSP's Scholarly Tips

Helpful hints to make better students

Spring break is fast approaching, so it is time to start planning and thinking about what you would like to do. But before you start packing, you need to plan your getaway. Below are four tips to help you plan for an exciting college spring break trip that you will never forget.

Decide on your budget. As a college student, keep in mind you are on a tight budget, so it's important to plan your spring break trip with your budget in mind. Sure, it might be fun to go somewhere exotic, but not if you have to stress about your finances when you return. Plan your college spring break trip around a budget you can afford, and stick to it no matter what.

Decide who you want to go with you. The best part about spring break is that you can enjoy it with your closest friends. Organize a meeting with some of your close friends and bring up the topic of a college spring break trip. See who is interested in going, determine what the general budget is and then start getting together an idea of how many people for whom you'll need to plan this trip. You can sometimes get discounts from travel companies if you travel in groups of four or more.

Decide what kind of a trip you want to go on. Although rowdy beach destinations are the usual college spring break trip hot spots, you do have other options. Think about the motto of our beloved institution, "Truth in Service," and look for alternative spring break activities that will allow you to make a positive difference in your community. Visit Web sites like United Way, Habitat for Humanity, or Peace Corp to see how could participate in one of their many spring break activities.

Book early. When you have decided on the perfect spring break trip for you and your friends, it's important to book your tickets early. You do not want to be disappointed by lack of availability at your preferred hotel or resort. Remember you will be required to pay for your trip ahead of time so plan accordingly. Make sure that you have enough funds available for the flight (if necessary) and hotel as well as at least \$400 set aside in case of emergency.

Centennial Word Scramble

D	U	I	P	C	—	—	—	—	—
W	F	E	R	O	L	S	—	—	—
S	R	E	O	S	—	—	—	—	—
D	C	A	Y	N	—	—	—	—	—
C	D	S	R	A	—	—	—	—	—
V	E	L	O	—	—	—	—	—	—
R	A	H	E	S	T	—	—	—	—
D	R	E	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
K	I	N	P	—	—	—	—	—	—
R	O	W	A	R	—	—	—	—	—

BONUS:



HAPPY FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jyron Bailey	Tony Burwell	Jeremy Hagan	Tobias Morrison	Sam Stewart
James Banks	Jeffrey Carpenter	Blake Hampton	Christopher Norman	Ryan Stowe
Terrell Bass	Alexander Cole	Jeron Hayes	Shawn Polite	Brandon Sullivan
Donovan Bell	Darrin Dixon	William Jennette	Bobby Richardson	Travis Sydney
Derek Bing	Zachary Gasperino	Demario Johnson	Davron Rorie	Keith Tucker
Matthew Brown	Justin Glaspie	Dawanas King	Quenton Rucker	Korey Williams
Joshua Bryant	Riddim Hackett	Franklin McCoy	Reginald Simon	

Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Place
Feb. 7	“Realizing Your Potential” ft. Hezekiah Griggs	7 p.m.	Miller-Morgan Auditorium
Feb. 9	“Let’s Talk about Sex” Presentation	7 p.m.	Hubbard-Totton Auditorium
Feb. 13	Communication Presentation with Annie Day Scholars	7 p.m.	TBD
Feb. 21	CSP General Body Meeting	7 p.m.	Miller-Morgan Auditorium
Feb. 23	CSP Cohort 3 Meeting	7 p.m.	New School of Ed Auditorium
Feb. 28	CSP Cohort 2 Meeting	7 p.m.	New School of Ed Auditorium
March 2	Midterm Progress Reports		
March 6	CSP General Body Meeting	7 p.m.	Miller-Morgan Auditorium
March 8	CSP Cohort 3 Meeting	7 p.m.	New School of Ed Auditorium



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