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CSP

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](mailto:csp@nccu.edu) or call 919-530-7814.

CSP welcomes financial support. Please contact [jdorsette@nccu.edu](mailto:jdorsette@nccu.edu) for details about how you can give to the program.

# Centennial Scholars Program Eagles' Talon

## CSP Hosts "Realizing Your Potential" with Hezekiah Griggs III

Written By Cameron D. Clifton, CSP Student



Philanthropist Hezekiah Griggs III visited NCCU to speak to the students about how they can maximize their potential and be successful in life.

"Life is a beautiful struggle," according to business entrepreneur and philanthropist Hezekiah Griggs III, who spoke to a packed house of more than 250 NCCU students in February. Griggs gave those in attendance an inside view of what it takes to overcome the difficulties life can hand you and how to use that as motivation to succeed.

Before delivering his presentation "Realize Your Potential," Griggs spent several days on campus getting to know the young men of the Centennial Scholars Program. From pickup basketball to one-on-one interviews, the scholars appreciated the attention of an extremely successful and young minority male.

Many students felt the importance of Griggs taking time out of his busy schedule to know on a more personal level.

At the onset of his presentation, Griggs let the audience know he would "keep it 100." After telling the students about his early beginnings in poverty in New Jersey and how he moved in with his grandparents in Charlotte, NC, he went on to reveal how he entered into his first business transaction by accident.

Griggs' grandfather was a pastor in Charlotte, and he asked then

seven-year-old Griggs to videotape his sermons for him. While videotaping, people in the church, he wanted to see if the tapes were for sale. His grandfather never said he couldn't sell the tapes, so he agreed at a cost of \$15 a piece. Griggs stated that this was the beginning of his long list of business ventures.

Griggs' financial advisor told him at age 11 he could retire, but he had more work to do. Now at 23, he has the resumé of man beyond his years. He has published a magazine and funded several start-up companies. He serves on numerous boards for public and private organizations and sets up mentoring relationships for minority students. Griggs plans to keep a close relationship with NCCU in the future and promised to work to raise several thousands of dollars to support its efforts.

## CSP Welcomes Two New Graduate Students



### Camille Cates

Camille Cates is currently pursuing her Master of Arts degree in Counselor Education at NCCU. Most recently, she served as an educational advisor for the Duke Talent Identification Program, where she assisted gifted students from traditionally underserved backgrounds emerge from high school ready for admission to top academic institutions. A native North Carolinian, she graduated from University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in May 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts degree with a double major in Sociology and Spanish. As an undergraduate, she served as the campus visitations coordinator and held various roles through the Office for Diversity & Multicultural Affairs. Cates continued serving students and families in Greensboro, NC by completing a two-year commitment in high-need high schools as one of the first four college advisors in UNC's Carolina College Advising Corps program.



### Malcolm Moody

Malcolm Moody earned a degree in business marketing from Virginia State University and a certificate in exceptional education from Virginia Union University. He is now pursuing a master's degree in Public Administration at North Carolina Central University. Moody has two years of teaching experience as an exceptional education instructor and one year of case management experience as a qualified Mental Health Professional. He is excited about the opportunity he has to contribute to the Centennial Scholars Program mission to provide leadership, mentoring, advising, and programming for the students.

## Faculty & Staff Spotlight



*Chimi Boyd-Keyes is the director of the NCCU Women's Center. The Women's Center is a place of advocacy, support and services for women and issues that disproportionately affect women. She is a native of Durham, NC, and received a bachelor's degree and master's degree in Psychology from UNC-Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University, respectively.*

"My advice to CSP students is that there are four steps to success: Identify and write down your unproductive (bad) habits. Under each bad habit, write down a successful habit to take its place.

Take action: Find three things you can do and put them into action NOW. Do one new behavior consistently for at least 21 days. It takes three weeks for the good habit to replace the bad one. The first 21 days are the most difficult because you must reprogram your brain.

This will equal success!"

Greetings Scholars, Families and Partners:

March is already upon us and with it comes the celebration of Women's History Month. The 2012 theme is "Women's Education – Women's Empowerment."

As is very evident at NCCU, women now outnumber men in American colleges nationwide, but this is a very recent phenomenon. The fight for equal rights in education was a long-fought battle. Even as women's opportunities for education expanded in the U.S., it was widely under the premise that they would use their skills to nurture the men. The concept that educating women meant teaching them to be wives and mothers endured in America for many years and contin-

## Hollywood Stars Share Experiences with NCCU Students

On a star-studded night at North Carolina Central University, the prevailing message delivered to students at the B.N. Duke Auditorium was one of perseverance, hard work, and humility.

As part of the NCCU Lyceum Series, actress Elise Neal and actors Brian J. White and Lance Gross spoke during a panel presentation on February 23 to hundreds of NCCU students, staff, and faculty about their acting career journey and whether they feel they have ever compromised their integrity.

"It is important to know that you are portraying a role," said Neal. "You are telling a story, and that character is different from me."

Neal, who started out modeling and singing has been acting for many years. She performed on the Oscar Award winning film *Hustle and Flow*, as well as sitcoms such as *The Hughleys*. She attended the University of Arts in Philadelphia

## Director's Message

ues on even today in certain segments of our population. In spite of the progress, women continue to be minorities among positions of leadership, and they earn less than men for the same jobs. We have yet to see our first female president or even vice president.

As men, we often take for granted all that the women in our lives do not just for us, but also for those around us. They are asked to be the perfect combination of a mother, daughter, sister, wife, friend, confidante, teacher, cheerleader, cook, cleaner, business professional and caregiver, among many others. Be sure in this month of appreciating all women have done to advance society, you take a few moments to tell the women around you how



Jason J. Dorsette  
CSP Director

much they mean to you and that you value them. Say thank you. Give them a hug. Write them a note. Make sure they know how important they are to you.

Warmest regards,

Jason J. Dorsette

for two years before embarking on her acting journey.

"You have to be bold. And you have to think about your own identity," said Neal.

Moderators of the event, Associate Professor of English and Mass Communications Dr. Charmaine McKissick-Melton, and senior Mass Communications major Zevondah Barnes, challenged the actors to reflect on personal events through their poignant questioning.

Gross, a Howard University graduate and star of TNT's *House of Payne*, reflected on his broken wedding engagement amongst other trials in his life.

"Tragedy only makes you stronger, but only as long as you start with a solid foundation," said Gross.

The moderators allowed the crowd to ask questions in per-

son as well as live via Twitter.

Questions ranged from "Which person would you most like to work with?" to "Elise Neal, will you marry me?"

White, who has starred in films such as *Mr. 3000* and television dramas such as *The Shield* and *Men of a Certain Age*, capped the night with lasting words to the students in the audience, "In class now, and always (in life) stay humble."

The Dartmouth graduate, former National Football League and Major League Lacrosse player, and businessman recognizes that humility and education are just as vital as his talent.

"Get a degree," said White. "The business side of show business is more important than the acting side."

# Scholar Highlight

## CSP's Butler Wins Competitive Summer Internship at JPMorgan Chase



It is well known that a great internship experience can give you a leg-up when it comes to landing that perfect job. Junior Business Administration major Terrell D. Butler of Great Neck, NY, was fortunate enough to be faced with the choice between two top-notch financial services internships: one with JPMorgan Chase and one with PNC Bank.

After much deliberation, the CSP and University Honors Program member chose to join the JPMorgan Chase family. "It's one of the top banking firms in the world," he said. "It was the one I wanted the most, and it is also back home, which gives me the luxury of being home in New York for the summer as well as interning in the corporate office in Manhattan where I always saw myself working as a young teenager. I considered JP to be the 'Harvard' on my list of internships."

While at JPMorgan Chase, Butler will be an operations analyst development intern working with Worldwide Securities Services. Some of his duties will be providing support for innovative custody, fund accounting, securities, and alternative investment services to the world's largest institutional investors, broker dealers, hedge funds, and private equity firms and asset managers.

*Junior Centennial Scholar Terrell Butler, a business administration major from New York, has worked hard during his time at NCCU and is now reaping all of the benefits.*

"I wouldn't say that I'm nervous about starting," Butler said. "I feel the faculty and staff at NCCU's School of Business have instilled in me the necessary tools and knowledge to hold my own in a competitive environment and work place such as JPMorgan. I'm ready for the challenge, and I'm ready to show that I'm capable of competing with the best students around the country and even the world."

Butler found out about the JPMorgan Chase internship through the career services internship newsletter and through a colleague who helped him establish a good relationship with a representative at the company. He discovered the PNC internship at the September NCCU career fair, where he established a relationship with one of the campus recruiters.

"If I can give any advice to a student applying for an internship, it is to be persistent, stay professional and follow up frequently with the rep for the internship that you are applying for," Butler offered. "I would also say be able to market yourself. When applying for an internship, you have to be able to sell yourself and separate yourself from others to show your full potential and capabilities. Last, but not least, never stop striving." Butler hopes after graduating from NCCU, he will be employed at JPMorgan Chase or another banking firm and working toward his MBA, eventually obtaining a juris doctorate.

## CSP's Scholarly Tips

Helpful hints to make better students



The college experience can be so many different things. It can be exciting, trying, stressful, fulfilling, disappointing, and fun all wrapped into one semester. Often times the relationships students engage in can add or subtract from this experience. For those of you who plan to embark into the realm of romantic relationships (or for those that already have), these tips may be essential in making this experience fulfilling and fun, as opposed to stressful and difficult. (Tips adapted from SUNY Geneseo)

**Tip 1 - Communication**—Both people in the relationship need to feel free to express positive and negative feelings, complaints, and affection.

- Do not make assumptions about the other person's feelings or motives.
- Do not assume that the other person knows how YOU feel. Talk directly with the other person about your needs.

**Tip 2 - Expectations**—Both people need to be on the same page about what they want from the relationship.

- Agree on how much time you will spend together and how you will spend that time.
- Be aware of the other person's needs and interests.

**Tip 3 - Conflict**—In all relationships, there are times when communication breaks down; healthy relationships are able to clear up conflicts and emerge stronger as a result.

- Negotiate a time to talk about difficult topics.
- Use "I" statements to express your own feelings; avoid "you" statements.
- Use respectful language and avoid name-calling.
- Focus on one problem at a time.

# Centennial Word Search

H	A	R	P	Q	N	I	L	B	U	D	Z	G	W	V
E	H	R	B	L	A	R	N	E	Y	S	T	O	N	E
M	C	K	M	A	B	S	D	U	F	P	P	L	M	J
E	R	L	U	B	N	I	R	E	L	A	N	D	P	X
R	A	G	N	N	S	S	Q	C	V	S	G	J	M	Z
A	M	R	S	U	S	T	H	Z	B	K	T	H	B	H
L	Y	E	T	M	A	G	A	E	L	I	C	E	V	S
D	N	E	E	K	I	H	W	Z	E	J	F	U	R	I
I	N	N	R	L	N	Y	C	H	M	S	D	G	L	R
S	E	Y	P	P	T	P	S	E	I	R	E	A	F	I
L	K	R	W	O	B	N	I	A	R	S	S	F	O	B
E	L	W	T	Y	E	C	N	A	D	P	K	D	L	V
J	I	G	D	T	R	O	F	G	L	L	E	E	K	T
Y	K	Q	K	C	I	R	E	M	I	L	D	L	Y	O
P	A	T	R	I	C	K	C	O	R	M	A	H	S	P

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| BANSHEES     | JIG        |
| BLARNEYSTONE | KILKENNY   |
| CORK         | LEPRECHAUN |
| DANCE        | LIMERICK   |
| DUBLIN       | LUCK       |
| EMERALDISLE  | MARCH      |
| FAERIES      | MUNSTER    |
| FOLK         | PATRICK    |
| GAELIC       | POT        |
| GOLD         | RAINBOW    |
| GREEN        | SAINT      |
| HARP         | SHAMROCK   |
| IRELAND      | ULSTER     |
| IRISH        | WHISKEY    |

## HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- |                  |                    |                    |                    |                |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Jalen Baker      | Donavin Green      | William Hill       | Roderick Setzer II | Cameron Walton |
| Yahrock Bates    | Eric Green         | Dreddrick King     | Christian Sharp    | Corey Walton   |
| Jared Beckwith   | Shaquille Hairston | Gerod King         | Amondre Smith      |                |
| Desmond Boone    | Marcus Hall        | Reginald McCrimmon | Terrell Snipes     |                |
| Harold Elmore    | Kelby Henderson    | Andre McNeil       | Edward Squires     |                |
| Everett Faucette | Derrick Hicks      | Alex Mitchell      | Devon Starks       |                |

## Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Time	Place	
	CSP General Body Meeting	March 6	7 p.m.	Miller-Morgan Auditorium
	CSP Cohort 3 Meeting	March 8	7 p.m.	New School of Ed Auditorium
	Residence Halls Close	March 10	6 p.m.	
	Spring Break	March 10 – 18		
	Residence Halls Reopen	March 18	12 p.m.	
	Classes Resume	March 19		
	Registration opens for summer sessions and fall 2012	March 19		
	FAFSA for 2012–13 must be filed if attending summer school	March 19		
	CSP General Body Meeting	March 20	7 p.m.	Miller-Morgan Auditorium
	PUSH Symposium	March 24	9 a.m. — 6 p.m.	Miller-Morgan Building



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