



NAA-SAU Newsletter

July 2021

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ALUMNI

**National Alumni Association of
Saint Augustine's University**

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 have 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.

Survey Results

Thank you for completing our NAA-SAU surveys conducted to gauge your interest/concerns about attending in-person activities for Homecoming 2021. Many expressed concern about the continued exposure to COVID-19. All of your concerns will be addressed in our planning for Homecoming. Thank you for your support.

NAA-SAU Bi-Annual (General) Meeting - Spring – Highlights

SAU Leadership Team and Staff Session

The National Alumni Association of Saint Augustine's University (NAA-SAU) held its General Meeting-Spring Session (Virtual), June 26, 2021. Members and guest in attendance concluded that the meeting was a success from both the participation level and meeting content. Over 200 individuals registered for the meeting.

SAU Leadership Team and Staff included: Dr. Christine McPhail, President; Mr. Edward Patrick, Senior VP, Division of Business & Administration; Ms. Debra Clark-Jones, VP, University Advancement & External Affairs; Dr. Josiah J. Sampson, Provost; Ms. Sheryl Xiximes, Director of Alumni Affairs; and Benardo Dargan, Special Assistant to the President /Liaison to the Board of Trustees

The SAU Leadership, under the direction of new President Dr. Christine J. McPhail, presented attendees with extremely helpful information. In her opening remarks, Dr. McPhail expressed a general willingness to being open

and transparent and a desire to work closely with the NAA-SAU to ensure the sustainability and growth of our alma mater.

The Vice President for University Advancement & External Affairs, Debra Clark-Jones, gave a concise presentation on how the NAA-SAU and other alumni can be supportive of the University consistent with the SAU Renaissance 2020- 2023 Strategic Plan Update. She discussed Six Goals:



Included in the discussion of the Six Goals was a proposed role for NAA-SAU engagement, some of which are currently part of active programs and in other areas new initiatives would be necessary to meet plans outlined in the Renaissance 2020-2023 Strategic Plan Update. Dr. McPhail noted in response to a question that the metrics needed to monitor the success of the plan needed to be finalized within the SAU Leadership, before they could be discussed with the NAA-SAU.

- The presentation included content on a specific programmatic approach for NAA-SAU engagement with the University in improving SAU’s ability to attract and retain students. Ms. Clark-Jones also discussed financial sustainability and how the alumni could be more engaged in fundraising in collaboration with SAU Leadership. The question was raised as to what the expectation/goal was for SAU Alumni giving as reflected in the SAU FY2021-2022 budget. The VP for Business and Administration, Edward Patrick, was not able to provide a specific number at the meeting but committed to get back to the Association soon.

The Executive Council of the NAA-SAU will review the Six Goals and potential role of the NAA-SAU and get back with SAU Leadership on how the Association plans to address the specific recommendations. The SAU Renaissance 202-2023 Strategic Plan Update. View document here in TWO Parts: [One](#) - and - [TWO](#).

Questions submitted for the SAU Leadership Team and Staff prior to the meeting, and during the meeting in the Chat Box included:

- Status of Campus Building and infrastructure to support increased enrollment (37 buildings on campus are in need some type of renovations)
- SACS Status: SAU remains on Warning Status with additional financial information needed. (SACS Report available on-line)
- Spring Enrollment (Actual number of students lower than previously announced—impact cushioned by CARES Act funding.) [SAU subsequently announced that Spring, Summer and Fall 2021 students will have their residual balances eliminated with the use of CARES funding.]

NAA-SAU Business Session

Overview

The NAA-SAU business session of the General Meeting covered previous meeting minutes, the Treasurer's Report, the Alumni Trustee Report, Membership Committee Report, Constitution and Bylaws Committee Report and Remarks by the NAA-SAU President. At the end of the Business Session there was a Question-and-Answer Session to address members' questions related to NAA-SAU activities. To view materials from this meeting, go to NAA-SAU website [here](#).

NAA-SAU President, Dr. John T. Larkins, gave remarks related to past and ongoing Association activities. His remarks covered the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 fundraising, recruitment, and support activities. He mentioned financial management plans for FY 2021-2022, collaborative fundraising activities with SAU Leadership, including working with the Episcopal Church during Black History Month as part of the Rev. Absalom Jones celebrations and SAU Day events, Recognition Events for Coach "Pup" Williams and Coach Larry "Peaches" Coleman.

He also noted the importance of relationship building as part of the NAA-SAU Philanthropy network—NAA-SAU needs more alumni to participate in this activity to reap greater benefits.

President Larkins discussed the potential benefits of a NAA-SAU collaborative Mentoring Program with the SAU Enrollment Leadership to improve SAU's retention of students and ultimately the school's graduation rate. Chapters are reaching out to students who have been accepted into the University for the fall 2021 to establish forms of communication with the hope of encouraging these students to enroll.

Treasurer's Report: Our investment account did very well over the fiscal year and the Association was able to donate over \$30,000 for the fiscal year. Our goal for academic year 2020-2021 was reduced somewhat from last year, but because of good financial management we can make substantial donations in very tight financial times.

Report Highlights

Alumni Trustee

The SAU Board of Trustees (BOT) appointed two new members, increasing the total number to seventeen (names and backgrounds should be on the SAU web site). In addition, new officers were appointed, and a SAU budget was approved. Several contracts were also approved, including one for the work on the MLK building (funded by a DOE grant). The BOT updated its By-Laws, approved a new student success management platform, approved two honorary degrees, and conducted a BOT campus tour.

Membership

The use of our new platform, *Wild Apricot*, to collect membership dues and donations has really helped to facilitate the process and make it much more efficient to make payment to the NAA-SAU. Wild Apricot allows the organization to record your payment, issue a receipt and track membership. It affords an opportunity for members to review their payments and donation on-line in real time. We encourage all members to invite other alumni to join the NAA-SAU.

We continue to expand the number of Chapters in the NAA-SAU and the Oxford, NC, chapter received its *Charter* during this meeting. Increasing

membership numbers and alumni participation are especially important when soliciting donations and foundation grants, as the organizations giving those needed philanthropy dollars often look at the level of alumni participation as a criterion in how much or their willingness to support our alma mater.

The Membership Committee held a raffle for any Alum who paid dues for Life Membership or Subscribing Life Membership during the period, June 1-June 30th. Anyone purchasing Life or Subscribing Life Membership had their names placed into a drawing for 2 gift baskets.

The winners of the are:

Life Membership: Dr. Voris McBurnette '91 – Raleigh, NC, pictured in military uniform.

Subscribing Life: Ms. Viola Underdue '80 - Bowie, MD, pictured holding basket.



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!!!

Homecoming 2021

With the number of Covid-19 vaccinations increasing, we are planning on several Homecoming events, but, the type, venue, and dates are dependent upon several factors, including alumni willingness to participate at that time due to continuing concerns over Covid-19.

Many of you in a recent survey noted reluctance in participating in events involving large gatherings through September 2021 (Homecoming) and we are factoring those concerns in our event planning. We are considering our *Meet and Greet* on Thursday evening, the *Life Member Honors Brunch*, *General Meeting-Fall Session* (both on campus under a tent) on Friday, possibly a *Wiley Davis* event on Friday evening and Alumni dance on Saturday night.

Below are the NAA-SAU activities for Homecoming 2021([Please visit the NAA-SAU website for Update Information.](#))

Date	Activity	Location	Time	Menu
Thursday, 9/23/2021	NAA-SAU with Class of 1971 Meet and Greet	North Raleigh Hilton	TBA	Hors d'oeuvres Cash Bar
Friday, 9/24/2021	Life Members Scholarship Brunch	John Chavis Community Center	10 am – 12 pm	Brunch meal (A ticketed event.)
Friday, 9/24/2021	NAA-SAU Fall General Meeting	John Chavis Community Center	1 pm - 3/3:30 pm	n/a
Friday, 9/24/2021	NAA-SAU Scholarship Honoree Program	North Raleigh Hilton	TBA	Meal or Hors d'oeuvres (A ticketed event.)
Saturday, 9/25/2021	Dance with Dynasty	North Raleigh Hilton	TBA	Cash Bar (A ticketed event.)

Philanthropy

We still need alumni to volunteer to become a part of our Philanthropy Network and to identify alumni who are associated with of an organization

through work or membership that does philanthropy giving. Please contact us about connecting with these groups. SAU alumni have in the past played a significant role in supporting philanthropy giving from corporations and foundations. We are still in need of a marketing plan to utilize in explaining the benefits of donating to SAU to prospective donors and continue to review ways that SAU Leadership and NAA-SAU Leadership can work together to produce a plan agreeable to the university and interested participating stakeholders.

NAA-SAU National Mentor Program

The NAA-SAU Team continues to work with Saint Augustine's leadership to develop and implementation plan for a Pilot Program in the fall 2021. The Mission and Vision statement is available for this Program, and we are currently waiting on SAU Leadership to provide a mechanism for vetting mentors and matching mentors with student, to be available for the coming semester. If you or someone would like to participate in this NAA-SAU program, please contact a Chapter President or Roland Otey, NAA-SAU Executive Director.

NAA-SAU Website

Alumni are encouraged to visit the [NAA-SAU website](#). Important content can be found there, including information on the operations of the NAA-SAU, Chapter contacts, our Bylaws, Meeting Minutes, and other useful information.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Chapters

Coastal Carolina

Barbara Scott Akinwole, '68, NAA-SAU Media/IT Chair and former NAA-SAU Secretary - Appointed to the North Carolina Rice Festival Board and is Chair of its Genealogy Committee. Learn more about the Rice Festival Board here: <https://www.northcarolinaricefestival.org>

Columbia

Chapter puts the Spotlight on Tina Herbert



The Columbia, SC. Alumni Chapter of Saint Augustine's University **Highlights** Alumna Tina Herbert who is a 1996 Graduate and a member of our chapter and a Life Member of the National Alumni Association of SAU. We are very proud of her career accomplishments, and her bid for a seat on the Columbia City Council. We support her and pray for a successful race.

Tina is a Columbia native who has lived in North Columbia, specifically in District One, most of her life. She began her legal career in 2000 and represents injured workers with Mickle and Bass, LLC. Tina has a long history of public and community service in Columbia, including working for the City of Columbia from 2010 to 2017.

While at the city, Tina worked in the Community Development Department and the Office of Business Opportunities (OBO). Tina worked on many policies and initiatives, however, she believes her work with the following had the greatest long-term impact on the city:

1. Implementing the Main Street Façade Program,
2. Increasing the portfolio performance rate of the commercial revolving loan program for small businesses,
3. Developing the Minority Business Opportunity Conference to connect minority businesses with city departments, and
4. Developing the Columbia Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program.

Creating the Real Business Women of Columbia for Women's Empowerment was by far THE MOST FUN!!

Tina has strong family ties to North Columbia and District One. Tina proudly credits public schools in Richland School District One for her education, graduating from W. J. Keenan High School in 1992.

Tina received her Bachelor's in Accounting in 1996 from St. Augustine's University in Raleigh, NC. She graduated from North Carolina Central University in Durham, NC in 2000 with a dual degree, Juris Doctor/Masters in Business Administration (JD/MBA).

Raleigh Retired



Lillian Scott Lee, '72, NAA-SAU Assistant Secretary, and former Ms. Alumni, 2016 - Appointed to the AARP NC Executive Council in March 2021 for the Triangle Region. AARP is a volunteer led organization with Executive Council members who work closely with staff and volunteers to provide strategies that guide the creation of programs of benefit to members and other citizens throughout the United States. North Carolina has over 1.1 million AARP members. Learn more about [AARP NC here](#).

Raleigh Wake



Mazie D. Lewis, '69, Recording Secretary for Raleigh Wake Chapter and NAA-SAU Recording Secretary - Appointed to the Board of Trustees for Advance Community Health Center and is Chair of its Governance Committee.

New Chapter and New Chapter Presidents

New Chapter

Oxford, NC - The National Alumni Association announces a new Chapter chartered in North Carolina. We welcome The Oxford, NC Alumni Chapter. The Oxford Chapter was chartered June 26, 2021. The Chapter elected Marva Davenport '91 as their first President. We invite all Alumni in the Oxford, NC area to join the chapter and be a part of their programs and projects. Contact Marva Davenport at metoogin@yahoo.com.

New Chapter Presidents

The following Chapters elected new Presidents! We Welcome our new Chapter Presidents!

Coastal Carolina

Michael Ervin Brown '79: Micbrown128@gmail.com

Oxford, NC

Marva Davenport '91: metoogin@yahoo.com

Philadelphia Metropolitan

Jacynda Williams '90: Jacynda.williams@gmail.com

****We invite Alumni in these Chapter areas to join these Chapters!****

Contact the Presidents at the email addresses listed.

Homecoming 2021



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.



Fundraising

Chapters, Regional Coordinators, and NAA-SAU officers have continued to conduct fund-raising activities that were exemplary, despite the COVID-19 environment. Support of our alma mater has been unwavering.

FUND RAISING, FUND RAISING, AND FUND RAISING!

As Alumni, we must do all we can to raise money for University

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

Post Office Box 28122

Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-8122

FACEBOOK

NAA-SAU WEBSITE

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