



NAA-SAU Newsletter

Third Quarter 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **SAU at a Glance--University Update and 2022 NAA-SAU Summer Conference**
- **NAA-SAU**
 - **Annual Fundraiser**
 - **Mentoring Program**
 - **Other NAA-SAU News and *Information***
- **Alumni Spotlight**
 - **Chapters**
 - **Charlotte**
 - **Columbia**
 - **Philadelphia**
 - **Raleigh Retired**
 - **Classes in Reunion**

Outgoing NAA-SAU President, Dr. John Larkins, received an award at the 2022 Summer Conference for his four years of unwavering dedication to our alma mater.





National Alumni Association of
Saint Augustine's University

NAA-SAU PRIVACY POLICY

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[SAU at a Glance](#)

SAU at a Glance -- University Update

and

NAA-SAU Summer Conference and Workshops

Saint Augustine's University (SAU) has completed academic year 2021-2022 and is beginning a new academic year with students arriving in August. Last year was President Dr. Christine McPhail first year and her administration has been able to increase enrollment, improve retention and make significant improvements to the appearance of the campus infrastructure. SAU Alumni Giving has improved, and the University was able to garner some significant grants for the Saint Agnes Hospital building and the University Chapel. In addition to these improvements, there were other [noteworthy initiatives](#) started at the school.

The 2022-2023 Academic Year will provide the University Team with an opportunity to continue its trend of working to maintain the enrollment increases and retention and, have the necessary resources to support improvements to the infrastructure, enhance a curricula that will bolster our ability to prepare students to become successful professionals and, position the university at a higher level of importance over the next decade.

During the ***NAA-SAU Summer Conference and Workshops*** we had several presentations from the SAU Administration on the University's Strategic Plan, Recruitment activities, and various initiatives for improving the future of St. Augustine's University, including the completion of requisite audits for SACS. Watch the President's presentation [here](#).



Read the [Highlights](#) of the Summer Conference. View more Summer Conference photo highlights in this [video](#) of Summer Conference attendees enjoying workshops and having fun!

NAA-SAU Annual Fundraiser

2022 Homecoming Alumni King and Queen Contestants



Doris "Tami" Dabney
DC Metro

Boyd Joye
Charlotte



Shontel Brunson-Wright
Metro Atlanta



Linwood Brockett
DC Metro



Rhonda Wright



SUPPORT OUR Annual Fundraiser

Homecoming 2022, King and Queen Contest.

Homecoming is October 9-15, 2022. The crowning of Alumni King and/or Queen will be held as part of the Scholarship Gala, on Friday, October 14, 2022, at 7PM, Sheraton Raleigh Hotel.

Please visit this [page](#) to learn more.

The NAA-SAU's major fundraiser is held during annual Homecoming. We need your help to make this and our other events (Jazz Brunch and Alumni Dance) events as successful as possible. Please purchase your event tickets at your earliest convenience and consider buying the whole NAA-SAU Homecoming Events Package as a way of supporting SAU.

Click on this [link](#) to purchase tickets for specific events. We hope to see as many of you as possible during Homecoming and in the event, you are not able to attend, you will still be a part of the Falcon experience.

Mentoring Program

The SAU Mentoring Program with the support of the NAA-SAU had a kick-off meeting in late January 2022, with approximately twenty-five alumni signing up to become Mentors. However, progress was stalled because of administrative challenges (e.g., background clearances, mentee assignments) and not everyone was assigned a Mentee. These administrative issues are being reconciled and some Mentor and Mentees are starting to interact as they should under the guidelines for the program and hopefully will continue into the summer and next academic year to grow the program. One of the objectives of the Mentor Program is to help in the retention of Saint Augustine's students through long term student-mentor partnerships. We will continue to accept applications from alumni to become mentors and work with the University's Leadership to have a successful Mentoring Program. Please contact Mr. Roland Otey (roland.otey@yahoo.com) with any questions you might have regarding the Mentoring Program.

Other NAA-SAU News and Information

Recruitment

Recruitment efforts have improved significantly. Dr. McPhail expects to increase enrollment to two thousand students over the next two - three years. The NAA-SAU has been asked to help in this goal, not only in our normal recruitment activities, but by making a special effort to reach out to the students who have been accepted to attend Saint Augustine's but may be still undecided. Chapters have started reaching out to the students, but we need many more alumni to help. If you are aware of any student considering attending Saint. Augustine's University, make a special effort to reach out to them and talk about your alma mater or have them reach out to other alum, who might be able to provide more information. Contact H. Sousa at jsousa@st-aug.edu or 919.516.4642 for additional information.

Increasing enrollment is fundamental to reimaging Saint. Augustine's.

Advocacy and Fundraising

How can we help our Alma Mater?

There are several factors—(1) the University's Warning status with SACS, (2) developing new and increased revenue streams for the school, and (3) competing against other publicly funded HBCUs (some of whom have reduced their tuition to \$500. per semester) that will influence the University's ability to maintain a sustainability environment of providing quality education. With money from the CARES Act, the SAU Administration was able to reduce some of the University's debt (i.e., pay off mortgage on Falkcrest dormitory), help with retention and enrollment. However, these funds are no longer available. Given this, we as alumni must find alternatives to support our alma mater.

With the increase in giving last year, the SAU alumni level of participation is low, as monitored by organizations like the UNCF, noted to be around ten percent, not measured by what we donate, but by how many of us donate annually.

So how can we help? If each of us who participates in giving can get one other alumnus that you know to make a small donation, we can double our alumni participation rate, which is significant in soliciting corporate giving. (Many of the UNCF schools are raising their alumni participation rate and we can also.)

As we stated in last quarter's newsletter, let's set a goal of **Alumni Giving at One Million Dollars for Fiscal Year 2022-2023**. If we can get all our fellow Falcons to give something this year, whether it is \$50 or \$5,000, we easily reach this goal. The SAU Administration has asked alumni to support the implementation of some 'Smart Classrooms', "Gap Scholarships" to worthy students, who may need limited financial help to stay in school, and Scholarship monies for the Honors Program for especially talented or gifted students to attend St. Augustine's University. (<https://www.st-aug.edu/academics/school-general-studies/honors-college/>) Alumni can also adopt a local student in your area and support that student through your local NAA Chapter or individually.

If you are not active in a NAA-SAU Chapter, but would like to sponsor a fundraiser, [please reach out to any NAA-SAU Officer](#) .

NAA-SAU Elections

The election of new officers for the NAA-SAU was completed in June 2022, with the installation occurring at the NAA-SAU Summer Conference and Workshops. Please [visit this site](#) to learn more our officers and other members of the NAA-SAU Leadership Team.

Please give them your support during their tenure. As you are aware these are voluntary positions, which require an elevated level of dedication to the organization and the University. All the elected officers put in a significant amount of time, energy, and personal resources. A strong Leadership team is critical to the organization and the NAA-SAU being a supplement to SAU.

Homecoming

The NAA-SAU has set into place teams to plan the 2022 Homecoming events. They are working on several events to make this Homecoming a memorable event, especially as we are coming out of two years of the pandemic, and everyone is ready to have

fun and reunite. Visit the [NAA-SAU Homepage](#) to learn more.

Chapters

Please support your local Chapters!

Charlotte

Chapter has held several fundraisers. Shared below are their forthcoming Activities/Fundraising/Community Engagements.

August 2022

9 - First Meeting Session via Zoom

13 - *Back to School Bash* for students and families @ Southside Homes held at Marie G. Davis School, Charlotte, NC. The Executive Board Members provided backpacks, and school supplies including highlighters, dividers, notebook paper, composition books, pencils and pens! Thank you to Janice Joye, Marquina Jackson, Nicole Lewis, April Moore, Wayne Reed, and Candace "Candee" Richardson! We received a gracious thank you note from the program coordinator, Dr. Tangela Williams.

27 - Charlotte Alumni Chapter - *2022 Alumni King Fundraiser : All White Affair Dinner & Social*

September 2022

10 - *The HBCU Pride Experience: Operation HBCU* (College Fair) @ Harding University High School, Charlotte, NC from 9

---***Candace Richardson, President | candeenc1908@gmail.com***

Columbia (SC)

The Columbia Alumni Chapter congratulates its treasurer Ms. Sarah Ford who was honored at the National Alumni Association Summer Conference in June at Saint Augustine's University. Sarah is a 1975 graduate and a Life Member of the NAA-SAU. Sarah was nominated for this honor by her Chapter because of her dedication

and hard work.

The Chapter also congratulate Chapter President Dr. Johnelle L. Sherald for being elected President of the National Alumni Association, 2022-2024! Dr. Sherald was the Vice President of the Association from 2018-2022. She is a Life Member and a member of the Class of 1976!

On Saturday, September 24th the Chapter will host a *Cookout Meet & Greet* for SAU Falcons in the Columbia, Sumter, Florence, Greenville, Lexington, Aiken, Orangeburg, Camden, and Darlington areas at Saluda Shoals Park at the Water Oak Shelter. Please come out and reconnect with fellow Falcons and have fun! The event is scheduled take place from 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM. Location is: 5605 Bush River Road, Columbia, SC 29212. Parking \$3.00 per car.

Columbia Alumni Chapter
Of
Saint Augustine's University
Invites you to an
Alumni Meet & Greet Cookout!
Sat. Sept. 24th, 2022 (3-6 pm)
Saluda Shoals Park-Water Oak Shelter
5605 Bush River Rd.
Columbia, SC
Parking - \$3.00 per car
RSVP:
CSCACSAU@gmail.com



Mrs. Sara Ford



Dr. Johnelle Sherald

Philadelphia

The SAU Philly Metro Chapter is proud of Dilcia Rodriguez Diaz, (NJ) senior public health administration major. She represented

Saint Augustine's University very well this summer at Johns Hopkins University. She was the only selected student from "The Aug" to participate in their 2022 Diversity Summer Internship Program. The Chapter was able to support her with a \$500 scholarship that she put to good use. Dilcia also participated in a research study with The Department of Health Policy Management.

---Jacynda Williams, President | SAUPhillyMetro@gmail.com



Piedmont Triad

Jazz Brunch on October 1, 2022.

- Featuring: The Reggie Buie Trio
- 11:00 am - 2:00pm
- Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church
- 810 Highland Ave.
- Winston - Salem, NC
- Live music, Food, Door Prizes, Silent Auction'
- Cost: \$30.00
- Contact: Sidney Morgan @ elumell@triad.rr.com or 336-617-7926 or 336 456-027

---Esther Coble, Ed. D., President | esthercoble53@gmail.com

Raleigh Retired

President Mildred Keith and Assistant Secretary Lillian Scott Lee served on the 2022 NAA-SAU Summer Conference Planning Committee.

Alumni Delores White Revis was recognized as the Chapter's our outstanding 2022 Chapter member. She has served as recording secretary for two chapter administrations for a total of 10 years. Additionally, She accepted responsibilities that are usually ascribed to a corresponding secretary. She served as chairman of chapter Bylaws for 4 years. Sher represented chapter in the Queen's contest and became first Saint Augustine's University Alumni Queen when the name changed to University.



**Awardee Delores Revis
with Chapter President
Mildred Keith**



**Raleigh Retired Chapter
Members at 2022 NAA-SAU**



Classes in Reunion -- 2022

GOLDEN RECOGNITION

Members of the class of 1972 received their Golden Recognition, commemorating their 50th Anniversary. This was held at during the 2022 School Graduation Ceremony on Saturday, April 30, 2022. Class members has w weekend celebration beginning with a meet and greet social time, Memorial Program for Fallen Falcon classmates, received their Medallion at the Reunion Breakfast, and submitted a contribution at the Stone of Hope Gala which culminated in a total class contribution as of June 30, 2022 of \$60,238.00.

Class Leaders are Henry Debnam, Lillian Scott Lee, Evelyn Little Hazel Bell Spruill, and Novella Ford Wright. Class Leaders thank all classmates, community and friend for their contribution. This is the highest contribution that a Golden Class has contributed to date.



Class Leaders:

L-R: Henry Debnam, Lillian Scott Lee, Evelyn Little, Hazel Bell Spruill, and Novella Ford Wright.





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.

Stay connected to your National Alumni Association

The NAA-SAU Newsletter represents an opportunity for Chapters/Members to submit items of interest to share with all Alumni.

Please submit content to the NAA-SAU Website/Communications Coordinator (naasauwsm@gmail.com) for review.

**Post Office Box 28122
Raleigh, North Carolina 27611-8122**