

Sisters of the Academy Institute

NEWSLETTER

SOTA Leadership Team 2006-08

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Devona L. Foster, M.Ed.

Legislative Affairs

Position Open

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Scholarship Through Collaboration

When Sisters of the Academy (SOTA) Institute was formed, we set definite goals that would drive and propel us toward longevity and respect in the academy. One of those goals was to develop and encourage a research focus for Black women in the academy. In every regard, our voices, presence, intellect and scholarship need to be addressed and supported within and by the academy. With that, SOTA's research agenda highlights Black women as graduate students, tenured and non-tenured professors, and professionals through scholarship and collaboration. In keeping with the mission of SOTA, "To produce collaborative scholarship among Black women in higher education", the purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed, interested, and engaged.

SOTA Boot Camp: Sisterhood and Professional Support

SOTA is very excited about the upcoming Research Boot Camp, our signature event. The event is not only important to us as an organization but also as a means to support, learn, and grow as sisters in the academy.

The first Boot Camp was two years ago, and from that inaugural event, many of our participants are progressing in their programs while others have completed their programs and waiting for the next big adventure in their life.

In this edition of the Newsletter, we bring the past and present together with the hope of making a better future for all. From the past, we present a former Boot Camp participant who shares with us her success; in the present, we introduce to you the second Boot Camp cohort—an amazing group of young women with diverse interests; and for the future, we encourage of all to work toward high goals for achievement as we envision ourselves in future roles, continuing to support and encourage our number of sisters in academia and in professional roles.

The Past

Kaye Thompson-Rogers

Doctoral Candidate and 2005 Inaugural Boot Camp Participant

Attending the Sisters of the Academy (SOTA) Research Boot Camp in 2005 was a great opportunity for me to network and work on my dissertation proposal with some knowledgeable scholars.



I applied to the Executive Ph.D. Program in Urban Higher Education at Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi in March of 2005. This was a 2-year program with summers totaling 6 semesters.

At the boot camp Senior and Junior Faculty members worked with me on refining my proposal to resubmit to the Executive Ph.D. Program. After submitting my proposal I was accepted three days before the orientation. While working on my dissertation the members of SOTA were available to give feedback and recommendations on my research throughout each phase of the dissertation process. With the professional guidance and sisterhood, which are key aspects of Sisters of the Academy, I will be graduating August 4, 2007 with a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Urban Higher Education.

Thank you SOTA for helping me to achieve a lifetime goal.

Newsletter Editor Comments

In this SIGNATURE EVENT issue of the Newsletter, we encourage all of you to support the event with your time and resources. If you can only make one or two days, we appreciate your time in supporting all participants. The winter Newsletter (SCHOLARSHIP) will present highlights from the event along with helpful resources to encourage a productive academic year.



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SOTA Outstanding Achievement Recognition

SOTA is an amazing organization, full of talented young women from various fields in academia and administration. The Outstanding Achievement Recognition allows us to highlight and celebrate our accomplishments. We highlight the accomplishments of Dr. Dannielle Joy Davis.

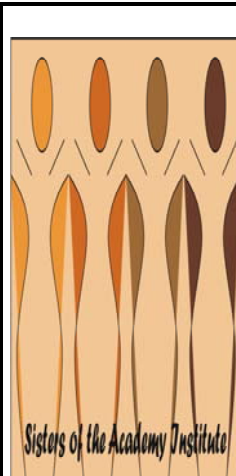


Dr. Dannielle Joy Davis is assistant professor of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies Department at the University of Texas-Arlington. Dr. Davis' professional strengths are seen in her research interests and scholarly productivity. She recently published a feature article in *College and University Journal*, which was honored by the American College Personnel Association Roberta Christie Paper Award for exceptional scholarship on diversity. Dr. Davis was also recognized as an emerging scholar in her field and is sought after nationally for her expertise in mentoring and faculty retention. At UTA, she was acknowledged as the Vice President of UTA Black Faculty and Staff Association and elected on the UTA Women's Studies Advisory Board. Mentorship is a research focus and a personal act of service. Therefore, Dr. Davis mentors students at the high school, undergraduate, and graduate levels "to influence their presence and success throughout the academic pipeline."

SOTA Sister Success

SOTA is very proud of the work that our members are doing professionally and academically. In the Newsletter we will highlight our accomplishments and successes. Don't be shy; we want to know what you have done and are doing! If you something to share—professional, academic and personal—please send your information to Felicia, moorefe@tc.columbia.edu, to be included in the SOTA Sister Success section.

- ◆ *Dr. Janell Catlin* successfully defended her dissertation and has accepted a postdoctoral position at Teachers College, Columbia University in the Science Education program.
- ◆ Dr. Dannielle Joy Davis recently presented her scholarship on academic socialization and mentorship in Venice, Italy.
- ◆ *Dr. Felicia M. Moore* was accepted to the Editorial Review Board of *Journal of Science Teacher Education*, term 2006-2011; and she was approved from Columbia University with GSAS Dissertation Sponsor status.
- ◆ *Dr. Giovanna Brasfield* received two doctoral degrees simultaneously from University of La Verne, California; Doctor of Education (EdD) and Doctor of Public Administration (DPA).
- ◆ *Devona Foster* successfully passed her comprehensive examination, Auburn University, Higher Education program.
- ◆ *Dr. Denise Davis-Maye* was granted Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor, Auburn University, and the first Boot Camp contributed greatly to this accomplishment.



"Sneak-Peep"

Boot Camp and Symposium Program

Sunday, August 5 ~ Registration & Tour of Campus

Monday, August 6 ~ Conference Center Breakfast, Mentoring Activities

Tuesday, August 7 ~ Conference Center Breakfast, Mentoring Activities

Wednesday, August 8 ~ Conference Center Breakfast, Symposium Reception

Thursday, August 9 ~ Conference Center Breakfast, Mentoring Activities

Friday, August 10 ~ Proposal & Dissertation Defenses

Saturday, August 11 ~ Keynote Speaker

Sunday, August 12 ~ Closing Reception

The Present- WELCOME Boot Camp Participants

We are extremely excited to introduce the second cohort of participants for Boot Camp 2007. The participants (11 level one doctoral, 5 level two doctoral, and 7 junior faculty) are from diverse backgrounds and interests, spanning broad fields in education and studying at diverse institutions across the country. During the week-long Boot Camp, participants will come to know each other professionally and personally.

Ulanda Adams	University of Illinois	I	Educational Policy Studies
Nia Cantey	Nova Southeastern	I	Conflict Analysis & Resolution
Devona Foster	Auburn University	I	Higher Education
Sonanya Jones	Teachers College, Columbia University	I	Higher Education
LaShawnda Lindsay	Georgia State University	I	Educational Psychology
Bahiyah Muhammad	Rutgers University	I	Criminal Justice
Janie Phillips	Florida A & M University	I	Educational Leadership
Rema Reynolds	University of California, Los Angeles	I	Education
Kim Rich-Rice	University of Texas, Arlington	I	Social Work
Tiffany Russell	Georgia State University	I	Educational Policies Studies
Darlene Sampson	University of Colorado, Denver	I	Culturally Relevant Curriculum
Ifeoma Amah	University of California, Los Angeles	II	Education
Barbara Cooper	University of Colorado-Denver	II	Educational Leadership
Danielle Lesure	Michigan State University	II	Education Policy
Joanne Sutherland	New York University	II	Higher Education
Shenique Thomas	Rutgers University	II	Criminal Justice
Lisa Belfield	Delaware Valley College	Jr Scholar	Psychology/Sociology
Dannielle Joy Davis	University of Texas, Arlington	Jr Scholar	Education
Yvette Murphy	University of Arkansas	Jr Scholar	Social Work
Chavella Pittman	New College	Jr Scholar	Sociology
Jeanine Staples	University of Maryland, College Park	Jr Scholar	Urban Education
Floretta Thornton-Reid	Georgia State University	Jr Scholar	Early Childhood-Literacy
J. Celeste Walley-Jean	Clayton State University	Jr Scholar	Psychology

Boot Camp Committee Service

SOTA members can get involved with Boot Camp 2007 by serving on one of the committees below. Contact the leadership team member of the committee you would like serve:

- ◆ *Accommodations/Logistics*- (Devona, sotains@auburn.edu)
- ◆ *Curriculum*- (Denise, david4@auburn.edu & Kimberly, kingki1@auburn.edu)
- ◆ *Evaluation*- (Tamara, tbertrand@fsu.edu)
- ◆ *Food and Beverage*- (Cheryl, sealscd@auburn.edu)
- ◆ *Health*- (Dannielle, djdavis@uta.edu)
- ◆ *Hospitality*- (Melanie, mhayden@vt.edu)
- ◆ *Marketing & Recruitment*- (Anna, drgreen29@hotmail.com; Felicia, moorefe@tc.columbia.edu; Cheryl, sealscd@auburn.edu)
- ◆ *Registration*- (Melanie, mhayden@vt.edu)

The Future- Upcoming Events

November 1-4, 2007 / Leadership Meeting

SOTA Leadership Team meeting will discuss evaluation of the Boot Camp and begin preparation of other SOTA member activities.

April 10-13, 2008 / Writing Symposium & Writing Circles

Think about submitting a proposal for a workshop or research paper presentation or help with planning this mixture of a conference and symposium format to promote scholarship and interaction among SOTA members.

SOTA MISSION STATEMENT & PURPOSE

To facilitate the success of Black women in the Academy

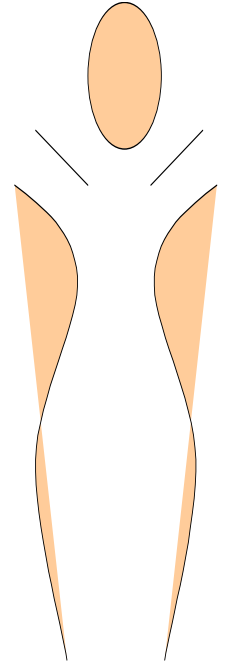
To create an educational network of Black women in higher education in order to foster success in the areas of teaching, scholarly inquiry and service to the community

To facilitate collaborative scholarship among Black women in higher education

To facilitate the development of relations to enhance members' professional development

We WELCOME your input and service to SOTA!

Contact Anna Green for Membership Information: drgreen29@hotmail.com



The SOTA Newsletter is published three times: Winter (February/March), Spring (May/June), and Fall (September/October). Print copies and share with colleagues, professionals, students, and friends. If you have suggestions, stories, or information for the SOTA NEWSLETTER, contact Felicia M. Moore at moorefe@tc.columbia.edu.

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