CHAIR’S UPDATE

The faculty and students in the Department have placed our unit in the forefront of academia through their research and presentations before major scholarly bodies. Most recently at the 96th Annual Meeting of the Association for the Study of African American Life & History in Richmond, Virginia, October, 2011, Drs. Benjamin Arah & E. Rufus E. Ozomeyo, presented on Slave Trading in the Antebellum; our newest faculty member Dr. Karen Cook Bell, presented on Reassessing African American Responses to the Emancipation Proclamation, and Drs. J. Santiago Mauer, Tamara L. Brown, William B. Lewis and myself had a panel on Spiritual Connections in the African Diaspora.

Equally notable, Dr. George Sochan presented at the 77th Annual Meeting of the Southern Historical Association in Baltimore, October, 2011, on British Abolitionism; Dr. Mario Fenyo will be presenting in Salvador Bahia, Brazil at the Association of Third World Studies, November, 2011 on slave narratives; he was the former association president. Most significantly, our students presented at the Humanities & Technology Association Conference, October, 2011 hosted by our Department under the stewardship of Dr. George Sochan, which included Leanne Raley and Melody Johnson’s panel on the Internet and Youth. Bowie State students were presenters at the Phi Alpha Theta International Honor Society in History Mid-Atlantic Regional hosted by our Department in April, 2011. Among them were Jennifer DeGrafft, Keisha Brown, Courtney Hobson, Kesha Chandler, and Maurice Robinson.

Faculty and staff participation came from Provost Karen Johnson Shaheed at both conferences along with faculty from the University: Professors Tamara Brown (Phi Alpha Theta, Conference Sponsor), J. Santiago Mauer, Diarra O. Robertson, Andreas Woods, Benjamin Arah, William B. Lewis, Gerard Tikasingh, E. Rufus Ozomeyo, Dean George Acquaah, the College of Arts & Sciences, Roman Sznajder, Department of Mathematics, Kehbuma Langmia, Department of Communications, Robert Birt, Frederick Mills, Editor of the Humanities & Technology Review along with a book review in issue Vol. 30, Fall 2011 by recent graduate of BSU, Ronald Carter, George Sochan, Mario Fenyo, David Kaloustian, Department of English & Modern Languages, and Nelson Petulante, Chair of the Mathematics, Department.

Continued on next page.
Bowie State University’s Sigma Lambda chapter of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society (PAT) hosted the annual Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference April 2, 2011. The well attended conference hosted 15 schools and 15 panel sessions with 49 papers presented on various historical topics. History and Government faculty assisted in judging entries, moderating panels and commenting on papers, while current and past members of BSU’s chapter served as hosts and hostesses to the attending colleges and universities. Bowie State was happy to welcome the keynote speaker, noted historian Yohuru R. Williams of Fairfield University and the Vice-President of the Jackie Robinson Foundation, who captivated the luncheon audience with his address, “The Fierce Urgency of Now!” Dr. Williams served as an exemplar to the room of budding historians for what students can aspire to and achieve with a degree in history.

Special recognition goes out to associate professor George Sochan, who assisted students in readying their research for the competition, and chapter co-adviser Mario Fenyo who helped organize the proceedings and also coached students. Their work was evident as BSU students displayed their research, writing and speaking abilities. Graduating senior Jennifer DeGrafft presented her senior capstone research, “Greenhorns in America, 1919-1939: The Arduous Ordeal of Assimilation.” Sigma Lambda member Maurice Robinson wowed his panel with his presentation, “America’s Use of the Anti-Communist Campaign to Hide Imperialism in Austria from 1945-1955.” Department major Kesha Chandler contributed to her session on the Civil War and Its Aftermath with “Smoked Yankees: Buffalo Soldiers and the Spanish-America War.”

The event inaugurated a new feature, the book discussion, spearheaded by Phi Alpha Theta national president, Dr. Sandra Horvath-Peterson of Georgetown University. The participants discussed the new work Blood on the Snow: The Carpathian Winter War of 1915, written by the PAT executive director, Graydon Tunstall who attended the conference and discoursed with the students about his research. The participating chapters expressed the wonderful time they had at Bowie State University!

Phi Alpha Theta is a national honor society that promotes the study of history. Members must have at least 12 credit hours in the discipline of history with a 3.1 GPA in the discipline and an overall average of 3.0. Sigma Lambda typically holds an induction ceremony each fall for qualified applicants. Recent inductees include Leanne Raley, Nicole Rapley, Jimmie Robinson, IV, and Maurice Robinson. Interested applicants may contact either Tamara L. Brown or Mario Fenyo, the chapter advisers.

CHAIR’S UPDATE CONTINUED

The keynote speaker for Phi Alpha Theta Regional was Dr. Yohuru R. Williams, Fairfield University & Vice President of the Jackie Robinson Foundation and the keynote speaker for the Humanities & Technology Conference was Ms. Jillian C. York, Director for International Freedom of Expression, Electronic Frontier Foundation. Dr. Joseph Kum, Associate Professor of Government is on sabbatical leave for the fall semester and we are being assisted with two visiting adjunct professors, Dr. Michael Frazier of Howard University and Attorney Sharre Brooks of Johns Hopkins University. Finally, we are preparing for the university wide celebration for National Black History Month in February 2012: the National Theme, “African American Women in History & Culture.”
Darlene Spitzer-Antezena (May 1992) holds the Ph.D. in History with specialization in African American history from Morgan State University; a Master of Arts (Historical Studies) from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and a Bachelor of Arts (History) from Bowie State University. She is a tenured full professor and Chair of the Department of History, Political Science, Geography, and Anthropology at Prince George’s Community College, Largo, Maryland. She has taught African American, U.S., European, and Latin American history at The College of Southern Maryland, Bowie State University, and Prince George’s Community College. Her research encompasses slavery and free blacks in Delaware. She published three articles in the Encyclopedia of the Veteran in America, and in Perspectives. Her dissertation, “Artful, Smart, and of a Smiling Countenance: Delaware’s Enslaved Women for 1760-1820,” is at the advance contract stage with the University Press of Mississippi.

Lorie Fratz Cox

- **Tom Korentsides** has been employed in St. Mary’s County since 2004 and is assigned at Chopticon High School to the Learning Adjustment Program where he teaches special education. This program deals with students that are socially, emotionally and behaviorally challenged. The class is set up as a safety net for students that are in danger of failing, or not able to deal with traditional curriculums and rules. Tom is still active in martial arts and has an 8th degree black belt.
- **Lorie Fratz Cox**, who graduated as a history education major, now lives and works as an administrator at Lely High School. She works with students in grades 10 through 12 and monitors their progress towards graduation. Before she moved to Florida, Lorie was a high school history teacher in Frederick County, Maryland.

- **Geneva Mitchell**, who graduated from Bowie State University in December 2008, recently returned from Afghanistan where she served in the U.S. army as a transportation officer. Her duties there included managing the container yard and coordinating movement of cargo in and around the post. In the near future Geneva plans to enter graduate school.

- History graduate **Courtney C. Hobson** (Dec. 2010) is the new community outreach and tour coordinator for Darnall’s Chance House Museum in Upper Marlboro, Maryland. This museum focuses on the 18th-century history of Prince George’s County.
- BSU government alumni **Joshua Miller, Laura Matias, Angela Davis and Cynnamon Oubre** (May 2009) graduated with master’s degrees from Howard University’s Department of Political Science in May 2011. Miller and Davis majored in American Government and minored in Black Politics, and Matias and Oubre majored in International Relations and minored in American Government.
- **Government majors Julius Nyerere, Jr. and Edmund Walton** spent the summer in Tanzania working on a documentary courtesy of the Center for Global Engagement. The documentary aims to link Africans and African Americans.
Dr. Tamara L. Brown presented on e-learning and online classes for the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture’s State of African and African Diaspora Studies conference (January 2011);

Dr. William B. Lewis was the moderator and panel discussant for “Change, Democracy and the Political Future of Egypt” (February 2011);

Dr. Andreas Woods addressed the faculty and students of Grambling State University on the topic, “African Origin of Humanity: Myth or Reality?” (March 2011);

Dr. William B. Lewis coached and accompanied BSU department students to the Ninth National Model African Union Conference held at Howard University (February 2011);

The Department’s Philosophy Club sponsored the forum “Dr. King’s Legacy in the Obama Era.” Dr. Robert Birt and Dr. Arah participated in this Black History Month event (February 2011)

The BSU College of Arts & Sciences awarded Dr. Benjamin Arah the 2011 Extra-Miler Award, and Dr. Tamara L. Brown the Teacher of the Year (April 2011);

At the Department’s annual Honors Day Celebration, Dr. Arah received the award for Outstanding Faculty Service (April 2011);

Dr. Adrian Taylor earned a graduate certificate in Intelligence Analysis from the University of Maryland;

Dr. M. Sammye Miller was a member of the State Department’s Foreign Service Selection Board (summer 2011);

Dr. Mauer served as the United States coordinating committee member for the inaugural World-wide Summit of Persons of African Descent held in La Ceiba, Honduras (August 2011);

The American Political Science Association (APSA) awarded Dr. Benjamin Arah the Excellence in Teaching award (September 2011);

His Excellency Professor Adebowale Ibidapo Adefuye of the Embassy of Nigeria was the keynote speaker for the 2011 Ambassadors’ Forum (May 2011).

More than 45 BSU faculty and students, facilitated by Drs. Arah and Lewis, attended the Bureau of Public Affairs US Foreign Policy Briefing for Historically Black Colleges and Universities where Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton presented the keynote address (Feb 2011);

The Department co-sponsored a presentation by actress and activist Sheryl Lee Ralph in observance of Women’s History Month (March 2011);

The Department along with the Center for Global Engagement and the Women’s Studies Program hosted the Honorable Leticia Nyerere of the Tanzanian Parliament, the daughter-in-law of former President Julius Nyerere of Tanzania. The Distinguished Lecture Forum was entitled “The Role of Women in Politics in Tanzania” (April 2011);

In honor of Black Women’s History Month, the Women’s Studies Program presented former female members of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) for a lecture and booksigning about their activism and the book Hands on the Freedom Plow (April 2011).

Dr. Robertson received a leadership and learning grant from the National Education Foundation (NEA) for “Raising GRE Test Scores among Minority and Low Income Students.” Classes for interested department students began in September.

Dr. George Sochan presented “A Fight for Freedom against the Slavers: The British Version of the Incidents on Lake Malawi,” for the national Underground Railroad Conference (April 2011);

Dr. James Mauer was a participant in the Howard University conference on the African Diaspora and delivered the presentation “State of Afrika Diaspora Instruction and HBCUs in Hispanophone and Lusophone Americas.” (September 2011)
NEW STAFF

Mrs. Betty Carrico is the Department of History & Government's new administrative assistant. Mrs. Carrico comes to BSU with extensive experience as a business owner and Secretary for the Department of Juvenile Services for the State of Maryland.

NEW FACULTY

Karen Cook Bell holds the Ph.D. in U.S. history with specialization in slavery and emancipation from Howard University; a Master of Arts (History) from Howard University; and a Bachelor of Arts (History) from Savannah State University. She is currently engaged in postdoctoral study and research in race and gender studies at Johns Hopkins University. She has taught African American history and U.S. history at Towson University and Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland; and Savannah State University in Georgia. Her research encompasses the history of slavery and emancipation in the U.S. South. Her publications on slavery, emancipation, and the African Diaspora have appeared in the Georgia Historical Quarterly, the Journal of African American History, U.S. West Africa: Interaction and Relations. She has held research fellowships at the Schlesinger Library for the History of Women in America (Harvard University) and served as an American Association of University Women (AAUW) American Dissertation Fellow.

Dr. Karen Cook Bell

David Leon Reed earned his doctorate in United States history with a minor in African American history and education at Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland. He also holds a Master of Arts degree in history from Morgan State and a Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Bowie State University. He has taught history for ten years at the collegiate level including United States history, World Civilization, Introduction to Philosophy, and African American history. He has been a guest lecturer for the U.S. Capital Historical Society and was awarded a graduate fellowship to study at Cornell University’s Africana Studies Center. Dr. Reed has also served as the liaison between the Department of History & Government at Bowie State and Bowie High School where history education majors complete their practicum field experience. He also has published articles in encyclopedias such as Black Heroes and Notable Black American Men. The main focus of Dr. Reed’s scholarly work has centered on black intellectual history and Pan-Africanism in the service of the liberation of Africans throughout the diaspora. Currently he is completing two articles for publication: one on the nexus between the scholarship and activism of Rayford W. Logan during early years of the Pan-African Congresses and the other is a critique of the failure of the United Nations’ policies regarding colonialism in Africa after World War II from a Pan-African perspective.

NEW FACULTY

Dr. David Leon Reed

DEPARTMENT NEWS

Dr. M. Sammye Miller was selected by the Bowie State University National Alumni Association as the 2011 Outstanding Faculty. This award which recognizes the impact and contributions of a faculty member who exemplifies the ideals of BSU was awarded at the annual Scholarship Gala on October 7, at the Marriott in Greenbelt, Maryland.

HTA REVIEW

The Department of History and Government has hosted the Humanities and Technology Review (HTR) for five years. HTR is the peer-reviewed journal of the Humanities and Technology Association (HTA), and Dr. Fred Mills has served as Editor-in-Chief during this period. The HTA was founded in October 1978 to bring together a wide variety of disciplines to promote understanding of the cultural interaction of the humanities, science and technology to help define how humanistic concerns interface with technological achievements and advances. Dr. Darrell Arnold of St. Thomas University will take over the reigns as editor in January 2012.
The Department of History & Government is preparing for its upcoming accreditation review by the National Council for Accreditation in Teacher Education (NCATE). The Teacher Education Advisory Board for History and Social Studies for the Department met on Wednesday, October 26, 2011. The Board consists of former graduates of the Department who are employed in secondary education positions, in both the private and public sectors, throughout the Washington metropolitan area; current students of the Department, both teaching and non-teaching, who will bring a fresh, twenty-first century view of the Department’s strengths and weaknesses in the preparation for current and future teachers; and a cross spectrum of faculty and administrators who impact upon the teacher education programs for the University.

**Teacher Education Advisory Board**

- **Dr. E. Rufus Ozimeyo**, History Department Faculty, School of Arts & Sciences, Bowie State University;
- **Dr. Andreas Woods**, History Department Faculty, School of Arts & Sciences, Bowie State University;
- **Dr. David L. Reed**, History Department Faculty, School of Arts & Sciences, Bowie State University;
- **Dr. Bruce Crimm**, Education Faculty, School of Education;
- **Dr. Constance Brooks**, M.A.T. Program Coordinator, School of Education;
- **Professor Dawn R. Johnson-Tate**, NCATE Coordinator, School of Education;
- **Mrs. Julia Goodman** (BSU graduate 1992), Prince George's County;
- **Timothy Williams**, current student in History Education Program, Bowie State University; and

- **Ex officio Members:**
  - **Dean George Acquaah**, College of Arts & Sciences, Dean Traki Taylor-Webb, College of Education and Dr. M. Sammy Miller, Chair Department of History & Government.
Dr. Frederick B. Mills, a member of the Center for Global Engagement (CGE), was engaged in service work in the areas of education development in El Salvador. Most recently, as a board member of the Association for Educational Development in El Salvador (ADEES), he helped develop academic remediation, drop out prevention, and theatre programs at the San Jose public school (Kindergarten to ninth grade) in the department of Morazan, El Salvador.

He also helped organize fundraisers in the DC metropolitan area that financed the first computer lab, school supplies, and textbooks for the school.

Dr. Mills travelled to Morazan in July 2011 to visit the San Jose School and other candidate schools in the department.

He also met with Ministry of Education officials to lay the groundwork for a memo of understanding between the Center for Global Engagement and Educators in El Salvador.

Dr. George Acquaah, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, provided a letter of interest, addressed to the Ministry of Education and so far the Ministry has responded positively to this idea.

Dr. Adrian Taylor is honored to be a part of the Bowie State University community of learners and scholars. In 2010 and 2011, Dr. Adrian Taylor served in the Bureau of African Affairs' Office of Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs (AF/PDPA) as a Franklin Fellow at the Department of State. With AF/PDPA, Dr. Taylor was the Deputy to the Planning Coordinator; Special Advisor on the Horn of Africa focused on strategic communications and counterterrorism; the Bureau's Muslim Outreach Coordinator; and advised AF/PDPA teams focused on resolution of regional conflicts and outreach to the African Diaspora. In 2009, he served as a member of the Foreign Service Selection Boards at the State Department.

Dr. Taylor knows Africa well from his travels, his studies at the Arabic Language Institute in Morocco, his work with the International Research Foundation in Ghana, and his study and work with the United Nations Development Program and the United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organization in Senegal. Additionally, he was Africa Affairs Director of the United Nations Association of the National Capital Area, and he also worked on political framing and voting rights as a Policy Analyst with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation. In 2006 – 2007 he was a Teaching Fellow at George Mason University.

Adrian Taylor has been a member of the International Studies Association, the African Studies Association, the Human Development and Capability Association, the United Nations Association of the National Capitol Area, the American Philosophical Association. Currently, he is a member and Fellow of the Phylaxis Society.

Dr. Karen Cook Bell will serve as chair of a panel on “Slave Rebellions and the Building of African Identities in the Caribbean” at the 126th Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago, Illinois, January 6, 2012. She also has been nominated to serve a three-year term on the Committee on Minority Historians for the American Historical Association (AHA).
Mission Statement: The History and Government Department contributes to Bowie State University’s major mission as a regional comprehensive liberal arts university. It provides an atmosphere that promotes intellectual development, scholarship, and critical thinking for its diverse group of students. Students who major in history and government have the opportunity to experience the responsibilities and rewards of leadership. This combination of learning and personal challenge enables the graduates to face the demands of an ever-changing world in the 21st century with confidence and authority.

Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to The Bowie State University Foundation, and note in the memo section of your check that your contribution is intended for the Department of History & Government. Your gift will be used to underwrite departmental activities intended to enhance the intellectual experiences of the department’s students and faculty. Send your contributions to: BSUF, P.O. Box 939, Bowie, MD 20718-0929. Or go online to www.bowiestate.edu and click on the “Donate to BSU” button on our main page.

Visit the BSU Department website for information on degree programs; requirements for graduation; course syllabi; course descriptions; senior comprehensive examinations; senior exit interview form; online learning; careers and employment; associations, clubs and conferences; photographs; and the faculty and staff directory and information.

DEPARTMENT FACULTY & STAFF

Chairman: M. Sammye Miller, Ph.D., Professor of History
Mario Fenyo, Ph.D., Professor of History
William B. Lewis, Ph.D., Professor of Government
Frederick Mills, Ph.D., Professor of Philosophy
Ralph Parris, Ph.D., Professor of Geography
Joseph Kum, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Government
George Sochan, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Benjamin Arah, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Government & Philosophy
Robert Birt, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Karen Cook Bell, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History

Tamara L. Brown, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History
E. Rufus Ozomeyo, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History
David Leon Reed, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History
Diarra O. Robertson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Government
Andreas Woods, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History
James Mauer, Ph.D., Lecturer of History
Adrian Taylor, Ph.D., Lecturer of Philosophy
Mrs. Betty Carrico, Administrative Assistant
Kristin Clark, Student Assistant
Wendell Felder, Student Assistant