Leaders in Training (LIT) at LSCC

The Honors College at Lawson State Community College is LIT with Leaders In Training (above). The LSCC Honors College/Phi Theta Kappa Officers were announced at the Annual Honors College Induction Ceremony on Friday, April 28, 2017. Officers were presented with leadership binders which contain the organizational mission, officers’ duties and responsibilities, and leadership development strategies. Officers were also required to attend a leadership training and transition meeting in order to effectively lead and represent the Honors College for the upcoming academic year. Congratulations to the 2017-18 Officers of the Honors College on their accomplishment!

Left to right (2017-2018 Officers): Briania Smith (President), Antonio Smith (Vice President), Shelby Stokes (Secretary), Shavette Thompson (Treasurer), Frank Gonzalez (Historian), Elijah Horton (Chaplain), JaCoyia Williamson (Event Planning Chair), Tyra Murry (Public Relations Chair), and Tiffany Cummings (Service Chair).
Mr. Weymon Holloway—Director, LSCC Honors College

This academic year marks the 4th year the Honors College has been in existence, and it feels as though we’re gaining traction within the region as a quality program that 4-year institutions have identified as producing students who are competent and competitive. Distinguished institutions like Samford University, Kentucky State University, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Tuskegee University and Birmingham Southern College have reached out to us in hopes of developing partnerships that should prove advantageous for our students throughout their entire undergraduate experience. The esteemed recognition we’re receiving from these institutions is more a reflection of the quality of students we have in the Honors College. Their leadership and drive for academic excellence has resulted in a host of new opportunities for the program like new scholarship opportunities for Honors Students to attend Spring Hill College, new research opportunities like paid research with Dauphin Island Sea Lab, and prestigious paid internships like the NASA Space Program. These opportunities, and a host of others, are being established as experiences that we can count on providing our students for years to come. In doing so, we’re undoubtedly enriching the lives of our students, our college, and the community we serve.

Dr. Shawanda Thomas—Co-Director, LSCC Honors College

The Honors College and Phi Theta Kappa share 3 of the same pillars: Leadership, Scholarship, and Service. So, for the 2016-17 academic year, we were tasked with integrating the two organizations. Although merging them was not seamless, the effort has definitely been rewarding for our students. Phi Theta Kappa is nationally recognized and many 4-year universities across the nation offer scholarships to students who are members. Having an awareness of these scholarship opportunities has been beneficial to our students. At the LSCC Annual Honors and Awards Day, quite a few members of the Honors College received Phi Theta Kappa Scholarships (p. 18). It is our hope that all members of the Honors College strive to become members of Phi Theta Kappa and maintain the required 3.50 grade point average. Our students are not only challenging themselves academically, but they seem to be developing as leaders as they are taking more of an initiative to contribute to their communities. During the 2016-17 academic year, they have volunteered at Hope House which is a resource for teens in transition, Habitat for Humanity, the annual MLK Day of Service, Grace House, Hayes K-8, and more. As the Honors College grows in depth, the impact is noticed both on and off campus.

SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We would like to acknowledge LSCC’s President, Dr. Perry W. Ward, for sharing his vision for the Honors College and for his unyielding drive to provide our students with programs of the highest caliber. We also want to acknowledge Dr. Bruce Crawford, Vice President for Instructional Programs and Mrs. Sharon Crews, Vice President for Administrative and Student Services for their support.
Honors College Mission

Lawson State Community College Honors College aspires to offer an engaging educational experience that cultivates academic excellence to ultimately produce a student who is culturally diverse and civic-minded with a global perspective. The Honors College is dedicated to providing an atmosphere that promotes critical thought and team-building through a variety of collaborative experiences. Through these initiatives, the Honors College empowers the student to embrace intellectual challenges, to champion civic responsibilities, and to actively participate and positively contribute to a global society.

THANK YOU!

Special thanks to the Honors Council for their role in the program design and implementation and for their continued support of the Honors College.

Dr. Sherri Davis
Academic Dean

Mr. Darren Allen
Acting Dean of Students

Dr. Calvin Briggs
Director of 2-PI STEM

Mrs. Rebecca Duncan
PTK Lead Humanities Instructor

Mr. Matthew West
Scholars’ Bowl Coach

Mrs. Melanie Wilson
Speech/Forensics Coach

Mr. Dorian Waluyn
College Transfer Coordinator

Do you have questions about the Honors College? E-mail us. honorscollege@lawsonstate.edu

To learn more about the Honors College, visit the website: www.lawsonstate.edu

Click on the Student Portal and search for the “Honors College” logo.

Social Media

Lawson State Honors College
@honors_lscc
@Honors_college
lscchonors
According to the National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC), one of the basic characteristics of a fully-developed Honors Program is "the honors program, in distinguishing itself from the rest of the institution, serves as a kind of laboratory within which faculty can try things they have always wanted to try but for which they could find no suitable outlet. When such efforts are demonstrated to be successful, they may well become institutionalized thereby raising the general level of education within the college or university for all students..."
**Phi Theta Kappa** is the world’s largest and most prestigious honor society for two-year college students. Pictured above are the 2016-17 Honors College/PTK Officers as they attended the “Honors in Action” Leadership Conference at the 4-H Conference Center in Columbiana, Alabama. One hundred thirty-nine attendees represented 18 chapters from across Alabama. The mission of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize academic achievement and to provide opportunities for students to grow as scholars and leaders.

### Interested in joining Phi Theta Kappa?

- You must be enrolled in a regionally accredited institution offering an Associate Degree program
- You must have completed at least 12 hours of coursework that may be applied to an Associate Degree (part-time students may be eligible).
- You must generally have a grade point average of 3.5.
- You must receive an invitation to membership from the chapter at college where presently enrolled (usually by e-mail).
- Accept membership by paying your membership fee (money should go to the national office).
- Get inducted in September at the annual Installation Ceremony at Lawson State Community College.

### Perks of Joining PTK:

- Scholarship Opportunities from 4-Year Universities
- Fellowship with Like-minded Individuals
- Travel Opportunities
- Leadership Development
- Recognition at Graduation (wearing of the stole)
- Did we Mention Scholarships???
The Honors College and PTK chapter of Lawson State Community College participated in PTK’s annual Honors in Action Leadership Conference in Columbiana, Alabama on September 23-24, 2017.

The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa is to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. To achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa provides opportunities for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.

Adriene Gadsden, Honors College secretary, wrote regarding her experience, “This conference was a very exciting experience. I have done things that I have never done before such as canoeing, rock climbing, and playing Titanic. I learned a lot of leadership and team building skills. I also learned that a team is made of eagles, bunnies, and mainly beavers. The beavers are the hard workers who can work as a team to achieve anything. The bunnies are the relaters who want to have everyone happy while they are working to achieve. The eagles are the directors or visionaries. The eagles have the mind that can see things that are not there and give the beavers and bunnies directions to help improve and pay off their hard work. I made really great networks in the PTK organization. Most of all, I learned about Athens University and ways to improve our PTK organization here at LSCC.”

The following students participated in the leadership conference: Erika Baskerville, Kayla Crenshaw, Richard Cribbs III, Adriene Gadsden, Cameron Hale, Amber King, Ryan King, and Donzella Washington.
The Honors College implemented several competition teams on campus: the Scholars (Quiz) Bowl, Speech & Debate, and Math Teams.

SCHOLARS BOWL

At the community college level, Quiz Bowl is a competitive, academic, interscholastic activity for which players attend periodic practices and then represent their school at varsity tournaments. Tournaments may be based on the school’s athletic conference or state, but, in most cases, they are open to all schools able to make the trip. Quiz Bowl questions range over the entire spectrum of a community college curriculum and also include current events, sports, and popular culture. The matches feature a blend of individual competition and team collaboration since no individual player is likely to be an expert in all subject areas. Quiz Bowl can reinforce classroom lessons and also encourage players to go beyond their majors to master other areas as well.

Contact: Mr. Matthew West
E-mail: mwest@lawsonstate.edu
Phone: (205) 929-6322

SPEECH & DEBATE

On October 15, 2016, the Speech & Debate team participated in the Crimson Classic Tournament at the University of Alabama. Honors College member Aisha Tarrant participated in the poetry interpretation category and instructors Rebecca Duncan and Melanie Wilson served as judges for this tournament. A fall workshop was also organized by the Humanities and Fine Arts Department whereby students were assigned to speech coaches and given a schedule which included one or more presentation (and/or speech competition) coaching sessions, plus a training session on presentations.

Contact: Mrs. Melanie Wilson
E-mail: mcwilson@lawsonstate.edu
Phone: (205) 929-2029

MATH TEAM

The math team, “Prime Examples,” is the latest team to join the Honors College. The team was established on September 16, 2016 in preparation for their first mathematics competition. Congratulations, Prime Examples, for winning 3rd place in the “team competition” portion of the Inaugural Mathematics Competition at Shelton State Community College. The team’s motto is "Leading by Example." The Math Team Coach/Advisors are Dr. Charles Fowler, Naila Jaraysi, Darlene Martin, and Dr. Shawanda Thomas.

Contact: Dr. Shawanda Thomas
E-mail: sthomas@lawsonstate.edu
Phone: (205) 929-3443
Inaugural AlaMATYC Mathematics Competition

Shelton State Community College | Friday, March 4, 2016

The AlaMATYC Inaugural Mathematics Competition was held on Saturday, October 8, 2016 at Shelton State Community College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Two teams were represented from Lawson State Community College. The competition consisted of two parts: a morning individual calculus exam (90 minutes, 40 questions, multiple-choice, calculators not allowed) and an afternoon team competition containing solely pre-calculus problems (scientific calculators only, provided by the competition organizers). Approximately three-fourths of the calculus exam questions pertained to Calculus I topics; the rest pertained to Calculus II and Calculus III. Lawson State was well represented at the Competition with the following students participating: James Brinkley, Richard Cribbs III, Cameron Hale, Mohamed Jalloh, Ajie Mboob, Amber Venable, and Javain Whitt. The Prime Example B team placed 3rd in the “Team Competition” event.

Eligibility

Any student attending college who does not have an associate’s degree or higher and has never taken a math course beyond the sophomore level is eligible to compete.

Rules & Scoring

Individual Competition

The test consists of 40 multiple choice questions, and students have 90 minutes to complete it. No calculators or outside resources are allowed on this exam. Collaboration is also prohibited and scratch paper is provided. The test is meant to be difficult and students are encouraged to work diligently and as accurately as possible.

Team Competition

The team competition consists of 10 questions and at most 4 people. Collaboration within the team is encouraged, but collaboration between teams is prohibited. A scientific calculator is provided. Teams have 10 minutes to answer each question. With regard to scoring, both time and correctness impact the score. If the answer is correct, the number of points awarded is the same as the number of minutes shown on the clock when the answer sheet is turned in to the proctor. If the answer is incorrect, no points are awarded.

The teams are then ranked according to their total number of points after the 10 questions are completed. In the case of a tie, a tie breaker question will determine who wins.

If you are interested in being a member of the math team on campus, contact Dr. Shawanda Thomas at sthomas@lawsonstate.edu.
The Blazing to Biomedical Careers (BBC) program provides an opportunity for area community college students to enter into advanced biomedical research careers. It is part of a larger National Institutes of Health (NIH) initiative to create an upward momentum for students who do not have access to advanced biomedical training and careers. BBC assists students in earning a baccalaureate degree in biomedical or behavioral sciences so that they may pursue advanced education and entry into a career in biomedical research. The program has the special mission of serving groups that are underrepresented in science professions, including racial minorities, women and rural students. Participants receive $5000 for their participation in the program. Congratulations to the following students for completing research projects in the 2016 Blazing to Biomedical Careers Summer Research Internship: Malik Bothwell, Sonya Haines, Whitney Hinkle, Itzel Mendoza, and Karl Pruitt II. For more information about the BBC program, contact Dr. Tracey Wilson at twilson@lawsonstate.edu.
Earlandrea Coleman, Latreyana Parker, and Shavette Thompson, all STEM majors, became Girls IMPACT Interns for Summer 2016. The mission of Girls IMPACT is three-fold:

- To build the participants’ foundational skills in algebra concepts which can be critical in successfully pursuing STEM fields,
- To broaden participants’ awareness of STEM careers by introducing them to professional women with STEM backgrounds, and
- To ultimately increase the participants’ interest in pursuing STEM fields.

The interns were tasked with being mentors and tutors to the participants. They were also asked to organize, set-up, run errands, and assist the Project Director in any capacity. Interns received the opportunity to network with professional women with similar career interests. The interns collectively served a total of 75 volunteer hours while working with the program this summer. If you’re interested in becoming a Girls IMPACT Intern on campus or participant of the program, please contact Dr. Shawanda Thomas at sthomas@lawsonstate.edu.

Our very own Sequoia Benjamin (2017 Honors College Inductee and member of the Delta Cohort) is a leader in her own right. She “spearheads” an organization called A.W.E.S.O.M.E. on Purpose. A.W.E.S.O.M.E. on Purpose is a nonprofit organization providing mentor programs for middle and high school aged youth. Through her organization, members of the Honors College gave back to the community by volunteering as tutor students and speaking to the participants at Hayes K-8 for the Spring 2017 semester.

The organization’s ultimate goal is to foster a commitment to youth that will promote advocacy, worship, education, service, outreach, mentoring, and experience. A.W.E.S.O.M.E. on Purpose provides an atmosphere for all to learn, have fun, serve the community, grow in love, and teach each other to give freely of themselves; both time and talents! A.W.E.S.O.M.E. on Purpose also requires parental involvement and participation in activities, community service projects, events and fundraisers.

Sequoia wrote regarding the picture above, “The event was called Cupcakes & Cocoa, and members of Honors College and PBL spoke to the girls about preparing for college and the benefits of connecting to clubs and sports. Some of the girls had never been to a panel and have never been to a "nice" event. They enjoyed it, and we look forward to next year!”
The Grace House
The mission of Grace House is to provide stable, Christian homes for girls from crisis backgrounds with the commitment to developing mature, Godly women. Honors College participant, Tyra Murry wrote, “I had a wonderful experience at the Grace House. I had just started participating in the Honors College, but I wasn’t inducted into the Honors College just yet. So, this was my first community service event not only in honors college but in my entire life. I am always willing to help people, but I don’t think I have ever done anything in the community that I logged or could put on a resume. The Grace House was fun, and it felt good to help. While volunteering at the Grace House, we got a chance to socialize and laugh with two nice ladies. Shavette, Richard, and I learned how to make hot chocolate the “old fashion way”. It was interesting to learn how to make hot chocolate without using a box with instructions. I will surely show my family how to make hot chocolate the “old fashion way”. The hot chocolate was one of the gifts that they were giving out for a special event that they were having for their girls. I enjoyed myself and wouldn’t mind at all going back to the Grace House. It was indeed lovely!”

Project Hope
Items were collected and donated to the Hope House, a resource center for homeless teens.

Concessions
Honors College members work tirelessly in concessions during the basketball games on campus. Proceeds raised from concessions are used to support community service projects.
The Honors College volunteered for Habitat for Humanity at the Restore Center on Saturday, April 15, 2017 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.


MLK Day of Service

The Honors College participated in the annual MLK Day of Service on January 16, 2017 alongside other Lawson State campus organizations and UAB students. Students had several sites to choose from, but Lawson State students ultimately decided to volunteer at Red Mountain Park which is located close to the Birmingham campus of Lawson State Community College.

The MLK Day of Service celebrates the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by turning community concerns into volunteer action throughout the United States. The day begins with participants meeting at University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) recreational center where participants enjoyed fellowshipping over lunch and were able to choose their preferred project site. This year, project sites in Birmingham included Legion Field, Red Mountain Park, and Docena.

After the service event, participants were invited to an ice skating party.
2016 Honors College Christmas Party
At the Honors College Christmas Party, Honors College members decorated the door for the annual “Deck the Halls” contest.

Left to right:
Elijah Horton, Richard Cribbs III, Patricia Scott, Tyra Murry, Kayla Crenshaw, Cameron Hale, Shelby Stokes, Frank Gonzalez, and Donzella Washington

Did we really just win the “Deck the Halls” Contest?!

Bessemer Campus "Deck the Halls" Winners:

Overall Top "Deck the Halls" Winner!!!!!--Bessemer Campus--
Student Support Services (The Land of Misfit Toys)

Runner Up: Candyland (Registrar’s Office)

Top Group Category Winners--Bessemer Campus
• Most Festive Top Winner--Bessemer Campus: Admissions Office (Winter Wonderland)
• Most Creative Top Winner--Bessemer Campus: The Registrar’s Office (Candyland)--2nd Year in a Row!!!

Top Faculty and Staff Winners--Bessemer Campus:
• Top Staff Office "Deck the Halls" Winner: Dr. Katrina Swain (Health Professions Office, Bessemer Campus)--2nd Year in a Row!!!
• Top Faculty Office "A Christmas Theme"--Cris Martin--2nd Year in a Row!!!

Top Student Organization Deck the Halls Winner (Bessemer):
• Honors College--A Christmas Tree

Above: While some members of the Honors College were off competing in a Scholars Bowl competition, others members met for the bi-weekly meeting. Afterwards, members expressed their support for the Scholars Bowl team by sending them this photo.

Above: Members of the Honors College and Mr. Holloway take a photo in support of Go Red.
Liberian Peace and Women’s Rights Activist
Honors College members are given the opportunity to participate in a host of events to educate and embolden. One of these activities was the opening of the UAB Institute for Human Rights. Nobel Peace Prize winner Leymah Gbowee gave a lecture at UAB on Thursday, September 29, 2016. The lecture was free to the public and several honors college members were present to hear a dynamic speaker talk about her experiences leading a nonviolent movement that brought together more than 3,000 women across ethnic and religious lines.

Free Screening of Hidden Figures
UAB hosted a showing of Hidden Figures on March 8, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Hill University Center. Members of the Honors College were eager to attend the event.

The movie was based on the non-fiction book of the same name by Margot Lee Shetterly about African American female mathematicians who worked at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) during the Space Race. The film was very moving and inspiring.
Introducing Our 2016-17 Honors College Representative

Ms. Donzella Washington

Lawson State Community College’s 2016 Coronation festivities were held on October 13, 2016 at the Bessemer Civic Center. This year’s theme was “A Salute to Harlem.” Ms. Honors College is Donzella Washington, a Social Work major with a 3.9 grade point average. Ms. Donzella received an Alabama A&M University Transfer Merit Scholarship and will be continuing her education.

Below are other members of the Honors College who represented various departments on campus.

Royal Court
Miss LSCC
2nd Attendant

Donzella Washington
Erika Baskerville

Departmental Representatives
Mr. Admissions
Ryan King
Paul Franklin
Donzella Washington
Amber King
Richards Cribbs III

Taking A Closer Look at 4-Year Universities

Not only does the Honors College travel to visit 4-year universities, representatives from 4-year universities are invited to attend Honors College meetings on Lawson State’s Campus. Representatives from UAB, Samford University, Talladega College, and University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa) attended meetings for the 2016-17 academic year. Allowing representatives from 4 year universities to sit in on the Honors College meetings exposes students to the array of possibilities beyond the campus.
The Honors College traveled to Mobile, Alabama on Friday, February 10-11, 2017 to visit Spring Hill College, Dauphin Island Sea Lab, and enjoy the annual Mardi Gras festivities. Spring Hill College is the fifth oldest Catholic college in the United States and is located in the Spring Hill neighborhood of Mobile, Alabama. The Dauphin Island Sea Lab’s (DISL) mission encompasses the pursuit of excellence in marine science education, marine research, coastal zone management policy and educating the general public through the Estuarium, a public aquarium. Mardi Gras in Mobile is the oldest annual Carnival celebration in the United States, started by Frenchman Nicholas Langlois in 1703. This was fifteen years before New Orleans was founded, although today their celebrations are more widely known.

Honors student, Julie Smith, wrote about her account saying, “I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to take the trip to Dauphin Island in Mobile, AL with the LSCC Honors and PTK members. This was a very rewarding trip, and I learned a lot while having fun as well. Dauphin Island Sea Lab was extremely interesting, and I would highly recommend a visit for any student, especially if you are considering a degree in marine biology. The research assistants and scientists were eager to answer any questions we had, and we were led on a tour that was very informative. I learned a lot about the wildlife, the facility, their research procedures, and what they had to offer students. Later that day, we visited Spring Hill College campus. The entire campus was beautiful as well as accommodating. I was very impressed with what they had to offer students. The professors were all genuinely caring and concerned with helping each student reach their highest potential as individuals. They focused on building the student as a whole, including academically, socially, and even spiritually to ensure success for every student. The trip in its entirety was a learning experience for me. We then closed the evening by attending the Mardi Gras parade in downtown Mobile. This was my first experience with Mardi Gras, and I was thrilled with the festivities and the bright atmosphere. On the way back to Birmingham, Mr. Holloway gave us more information on the history of Mardi Gras which was very interesting. I am very happy that I had this learning experience, and I definitely gained a lot. I would recommend this trip to anyone interested in learning more about what Mobile has to offer.”

Mr. Kendrick Dunklin, Director of Admissions at Spring Hill College, welcomes the Honors College to “The Hill”

The Honors College learn about internship opportunities available at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab

Honors College students observe current interns working at the Dauphin Island Sea Lab
Student representatives from campus organizations were invited to meet with the President of Lawson State, Dr. Perry W. Ward, on January 19, 2017. Dr. Ward spoke specifically to the student leaders on campus. His presentation was titled “Leaders and Leadership.” The student leaders were challenged to develop the best programs at Lawson State. In attendance were members of the SGA, Kappa Beta Delta International Honor Society, Phi Beta Lambda, the Ambassadors, the Honors College, Phi Theta Kappa, the Scholars Bowl team, the Golden Essence Dance Team, Cheerleaders, Athletics, and the Criminal Justice Club.
The 2017 Honors & Awards Day was held on Thursday, April 13, 2017 at the Bessemer Civic Center. This year’s theme was “Recognizing Excellence and Persistence.” The students listed on this page represented the Honors College well as they received many of the honors and awards that day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honors College Members</th>
<th>Honors &amp; Awards</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erika Baskerville</td>
<td>Auburn University Board of Trustees Scholarship &amp; Ever to Conquer Scholarship</td>
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<td>Auburn University at Montgomery James Beard Scholarship</td>
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<td>Erika Baskerville</td>
<td>Birmingham Southern College PTK Scholarship</td>
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<td>Erika Baskerville</td>
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<td>Malik Bothwell</td>
<td>Murray State University Scholarship</td>
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<td>Kayla Crenshaw</td>
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<td>Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Award—All Alabama Academic Team</td>
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<td>Adriene Gadsden</td>
<td>Birmingham City Council Shelia Tyson Award</td>
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<td>Adriene Gadsden</td>
<td>Samford University NSF Transfer Academic Scholarship</td>
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<td>Cameron Hale</td>
<td>Alabama A&amp;M University Transfer Merit Scholarship</td>
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<td>Cameron Hale</td>
<td>University of Alabama Alumni Honors Scholarship and PTK Scholarship</td>
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<td>Cameron Hale</td>
<td>UAB Transfer Presidential Scholarship</td>
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<td>Cameron Hale</td>
<td>University of Montevallo PTK Scholarship</td>
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<td>Aleecia Jones</td>
<td>University of Alabama PTK Scholarship</td>
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<td>Tameka Key</td>
<td>Trio-Student Support Services Most Outstanding Student Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan King</td>
<td>UAB Transfer Presidential Scholarship</td>
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<td>Ryan King</td>
<td>Bessemer City Council Ronald Marshall Award</td>
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<td>Ryan King</td>
<td>George Washington Carver Science Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emily Long</td>
<td>Phi Beta Lambda Award</td>
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<td>Chastity Marks</td>
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<td>Ajie Mboob</td>
<td>Alabama A&amp;M University Transfer Merit Scholarship</td>
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<td>Karl Pruitt II</td>
<td>University of Alabama Presidential Community College Scholarship</td>
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<td>Karl Pruitt II</td>
<td>President’s Scholastic Achievement Award</td>
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<td>Karl Pruitt II</td>
<td>Honors College Pillars of Excellence Award</td>
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<td>Karl Pruitt II</td>
<td>President’s Leadership Award and Dean of Students Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Scott</td>
<td>Criminal Justice Award</td>
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<td>Antonio Smith</td>
<td>Birmingham City Council Jay Roberson Award</td>
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<td>Shelby Stokes</td>
<td>Outstanding Performance in Spanish Award</td>
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<td>Shavette Thompson</td>
<td>Alabama House of Representatives Merika Coleman Award</td>
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<td>Social Work Technician Award</td>
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<td>Donzella Washington</td>
<td>Dr. Marjorie H. Lawson Achievement Award</td>
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<td>Jordan Watkins</td>
<td>University of Alabama Honors Scholarship</td>
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<td>Jordan Watkins</td>
<td>Vice-President’s Scholastic Achievement Award</td>
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<td>Jordan Watkins</td>
<td>Business Administration Award</td>
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<td>Chasten Webb</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brittany Welch</td>
<td>Alabama State Senate Priscilla Dunn Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Isaiah White-Booth</td>
<td>2-Pi STEM Academic Excellence Award</td>
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Our very own Sonya Haines has blossomed into an inspiring young writer! The former Honors College President received a full-academic scholarship to the University of Alabama and hit the ground running for the Fall 2016 semester. She has already written several articles for the Crimson White, the official student newspaper for the University of Alabama.

Below are some of her article titles:
1. The Weather Man: The Career of James Spann
2. Virtual Sandbox Offers UA Students Unique Experience
3. Faculty Looks to Stay Healthy with Strive-for-five Initiative
4. Preview: Crimson Kitchen to Host Greek Night
5. What UA Students Need to Know Before Voting in 2016

Sonya is currently a journalism major who holds a 3.9 grade point average at UA. Sonya aspires to someday teach journalism at the community college level.

Check out her articles at https://sonyahaines.wordpress.com/blog/

Congratulations are in order for Shirlacia Gray who earned a Bachelors of Science Degree in Public Health from UAB on Saturday, April 29, 2017 in UAB’s Bartow Arena. Shirlacia was a member of the very first cohort (Alpha) of the Honors College at Lawson State. While at UAB, she also participated in the Honors College as well as summer research experiences. Additionally, Shirlacia recently became a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, a public service organization.

Our very own Sonya Haines has blossomed into an inspiring young writer! The former Honors College President received a full-academic scholarship to the University of Alabama and hit the ground running for the Fall 2016 semester. She has already written several articles for the Crimson White, the official student newspaper for the University of Alabama.

Below are some of her article titles:
1. The Weather Man: The Career of James Spann
2. Virtual Sandbox Offers UA Students Unique Experience
3. Faculty Looks to Stay Healthy with Strive-for-five Initiative
4. Preview: Crimson Kitchen to Host Greek Night
5. What UA Students Need to Know Before Voting in 2016

Sonya is currently a journalism major who holds a 3.9 grade point average at UA. Sonya aspires to someday teach journalism at the community college level.

Check out her articles at https://sonyahaines.wordpress.com/blog/
## Delta Cohort

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**2017 Induction Ceremony**

**Theme:** Excellence is Never An Accident — **Date:** Friday, April 28, 2017

**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Paulette Patterson, UAB Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

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*Above: Members of the Gamma Cohort helped to organize the induction ceremony*

*Above: Jordan Watkins (left) and Chasten Webb (right) take a pic before the ceremony begins*

*Above: Inductees were nervous and excited about the event*
Trust Yourself

On the journey to success.
You have to search for truth within to get out.
Water your God-given garden of curiosity
and watch yourself sprout.
Believe that you are already
what you desire to be.
Because on this journey,
SELF-CONFIDENCE is key.
Try some DETERMINATION on for size.
Yes, that would be wise.
Be PATIENT with yourself
on the nights you're up studying
but would rather cry.
COMMUNICATE and build valuable
CONNECTIONS with people who have been
where you're going.
Their experience alone
will be priceless knowing.
Follow the advice from your instructors
on how to build your skills.
Believe that no matter your shortcomings,
your goals can be fulfilled.
To get to where you're headed,
the door of self-doubt has to be shut.
Negative self-talk only puts you in a deeper
rut.
Practice honesty in everything that you do.
INTEGRITY builds character;
your character defines you.
But above all this,
SELF-CONFIDENCE holds the key
To you
stepping out on faith and unlocking
everything you desire to achieve.
Trust Yourself!

Written By Tameka Key
Honors College Inductee (Delta Cohort)

Inductee Sequoia Benjamin recognized the Honors College and wrote, “I enjoyed every moment of the induction ceremony. You all are always well organized and I love your energy! You know they say oil flows from the head down! Both you and Mr. Holloway do a great job of showing us how it's done; teamwork at its finest! Dr. Dilworth's message was phenomenal! She touched some things I'm facing right now. She was that confirmation that we must keep going regardless of the situation...And Tameka's poem was amazing!”

Tyra Murry wrote, “The Induction Ceremony went well. I enjoyed everyone that spoke... The speaker did a wonderful job with inspiring everyone in the room as well as motivating us. The awards and scholarship offers were amazing. Lawson State has determined students who will try their very best to go far and be successful. I thought that [recognizing] everyone's offers was a great idea. I can't wait to see what next semester's induction ceremony will be like.”
The Birmingham Business Alliance (BBA) invited top STEM students to attend the Engineering and Technology Talent Recruitment Project at Honda Indy Grand Prix at Barber Motorsports Park, from 8:30am to 2pm on Friday, April 21. During this event, students worked in teams to innovatively solve a problem facing the Birmingham business community. Following each team’s presentation and Q&A by employers, students had the opportunity to network with company recruiters and hiring managers; learn about internships and full-time job opportunities; and enjoy the experience of the Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama. Representing Lawson State Community College were Honors College members James Brinkley, Emmanuel Rodriguez, and Shavette Thompson. This is the second year that members of the Honors College participated in this event. Honors student Shavette Thompson wrote, “The Talent Recruitment Project was an initiative between the combined companies in the Birmingham area focused on attracting potential talent into the city. Companies such as the BBA, Honda, Virtue Technologies, and Shipt partnered together to host an event that engages students in competition as well as network employers to recruit talent from participating institutions. The competition involved the students addressing one of the problems created by the judges. Our team which included James Brinkley, Emmanuel Rodriguez, and myself had to offer a proposal to a problem that our team chose to address. Out of the three problems, we chose the “Blight” problem. There are abandoned houses that decrease property values and pose as potential sites for criminal activity. As a team, our job was to create a program to raise awareness of the blight problem in Birmingham consisting of three components: business, organizational, and technological. We completed a PowerPoint presentation and proposed our solution to the problem. Our main point was to focus on educating the youth. There were 14 teams that competed in the competition and our team came in 4th place.”
Student Highlights — In Pursuit of Opportunity

NASA Scholars Program
Congratulations to Honors College President, Richard Cribbs III, for being accepted as a NASA Science & Engineering Scholar. As a Level-2 NASA Scholar, Richard participated in weekly activities on campus which included taking a Chemistry 250 Fundamentals of Biochemistry course. The course instructor was former NASA astronaut, Dr. Lawrence DeLucas, and the course included Ph.D. MERIT Scholars from UAB as well.

Richard was also selected to participate in the online portion of the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) program by a selection panel based on his application profile, essay, and a letter of recommendation. The 5-week online component of the program is hosted on D2L and runs from June 7, 2017 to July 12, 2017. A final project is due on July 12, 2017. Selection into the fall workshop at a NASA center will be based upon his successful completion of the graded online component. Richard has a 3.9 grade point average and is majoring in mathematics. He received a Presidential Community College Scholarship to the University of Alabama and plans to major in Electrical Engineering. Way to go Richard!

Honors College Student Selected to Visit NASA
Honors College member Jordan Watkins was selected to travel to NASA’s Glenn Research Center in the Spring to participate in the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars project (NCAS). Jordan was selected as one of 348 community college students from across the U.S. to be part of NCAS.

Jordan said regarding her trip to Glenn Research Center in April, “The experience was a great way to get exposure, learn from different individuals around the country and grow intellectually. I left the program feeling very confident in my future endeavors!! The teamwork collaboration task was to build a business and create a rover that will be capable of functioning on mars by collecting rocks and maneuvering around to collect accurate data for programmers, technicians, etc. The green team (my team) was competing in a rover round against the red team in order to determine the successful testing, design and programming of our rovers. Rocks were placed on the playing field and each rock collected was additional income for our business. In the photo (below), we are watching the competition take place between our rovers. The overall object was to design a rover and sell it to NASA.”

The on-site experience at NASA included a tour of facilities and briefings by NASA subject matter experts. NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars is a project funded in part by the Minority University Research and Education Program, or MUREP, which is committed to the recruitment of underrepresented and underserved students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to sustain a diverse workforce.
It’s an HONOR to be HONORS!
Join the Honors College at Lawson State Community College!

Calling All Freshmen with:

- 3.3 - 4.0 GPA
- An ACT score of 20 or above
- Maximum of one developmental education placement only
- Absolutely no history of disciplinary issues in high school or in college
- Active involvement in extracurricular activities
- A great attitude and self-motivation

Here’s How to Apply!

Step 1: Go to www.lawsonstate.edu

Step 2: Go to the “Quick Links” and click on “Honors College”

Step 3: Click on “Honors College application” and complete.

Step 4: Ask an instructor to complete the recommendation form on the Honors College webpage.

Step 5: After completing the previous 4 steps, you will be contacted for a personal interview.

Contact:
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(205) 929-3454

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st Thomas@lawsonstate.edu
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Lead Today!