FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
HONORS PROGRAM

THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL

BERNARD D. HENDRICKS
Undergraduate Honors Conference

"Honoring the Rebirth of Pride and Spirit"

March 25 – 26, 2008
The Gallery & Auditorium Lecture Hall
School of Journalism & Graphic Communication

Title III Activity
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

March 24, 2008

Dear Students and Colleagues:

Welcome to the thirteenth annual Bernard D. Hendricks Undergraduate Honors Conference! This week of events promises to be very stimulating, refreshing, invigorating, and inspirational as Rattler Scholars engage in “Honoring the Rebirth of Pride and Spirit” through our recognition of exemplary scholastic achievement. Central to this theme is the recognition of the tradition of outstanding scholarship invested in all the honors students enrolled in the fourteen colleges, schools, and institute at Florida A&M University.

The activities of Honor Week run the gamut as the University Honors Program sponsors the Graduate School Preparation Seminar, The Bernard Hendricks Undergraduate Research Conference, Honors Convocation, and Honors Banquet to recognize and commend outstanding scholastic achievement. We begin with a graduate school seminar led by alum and Dean, Dr. Chanta Haywood; progress to the Opening Session conducted by Assistant Professor of English and alum, Dr. Faye Spencer-Maor; shift to the International Symposium, led by Professor of English, Dr. Yakini B. Kemp; continue to our annual convocation featuring keynote speaker and alum Bernard F. Kinsey; and culminate the week of activities with the annual banquet highlighting an interactive dialogue led by alumni Bernard and Shirley Kinsey.

These guest participants in their unique, individual, and collective talents epitomize the best of Rattler Pride and Spirit in their personal and professional lives as we celebrate Honors Week, for Dr. Haywood, Dr. Spencer-Maor, and the Kinseys are all stupendous, yet caring and compassionate scholars who continued their respective roads to success here at the Highest of the Seven Hills in Tallahassee as they earned undergraduate degrees.

It is most fitting, therefore, that as we honor the rebirth of pride and spirit, students in the University Honors program interact with former FAMU scholars as you present on various topics at the Bernard D. Hendricks Undergraduate Conference. The highlight of any conference is the scholarly dialogue engaged in by the presenters, and a brief undergraduate survey of the abstracts indicate that you are, indeed, the Talented Tenth for whom others have paved the way for you to continue a legacy of success: “The Seamless Business Plan,” “The Restoration of Voting Rights and the Crimes Committed,” “Black Wall Street,” “High-Fructose Corn Syrup: A Culprit in the Obesity Epidemic,” “From Ashes to Greatness: The History of Stanton High School,” “Transportation Safety Interventions: Night-time Driving Behavior,” “The Use of Halophytes as Biomass Source,” “Acquiring Financial Stability,” and “Who will Save the Soul of a Black Woman: The Inability to Overcome Oppression in Harriet E. Wilson’s Our Nig.”

Honors students at Florida A&M University, we congratulate you! We applaud you! We anoint you as you continue the phenomenal academic tradition of Rattler Pride and Spirit through your presentation of outstanding scholarship.

Sincerely,

Emma Waters Dawson, Ph.D.
Professor of English/Director
Class of 1976
This conference was given the name “Bernard Hendricks” Undergraduate Honors Conference in honor of one of the university’s outstanding administrators who was highly involved in student activities on this campus. His sudden passing away prompted Dr. Ivy Mitchell, past Director of the University Honors Program, to name the conference in his memory.

The Bernard D. Hendricks Honors Conference is held each year during Honors Week. This is an on-campus conference sponsored by the University Honors Program. The main purpose of the conference is to provide undergraduate students from all schools and colleges at Florida A&M University (FAMU) an opportunity to present papers and engage in intellectual discourse with their peers. The conference spans a two-day period, during which time pre-selected students present on approved topics for periods of fifteen minutes (10-15 minute presentation; 5-minute Q&A).

On the first day of the conference, Tuesday, March 25, 2008, there is the “Opening Session” starting at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Faye Spencer-Maor, PhD, Assistant Professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences, is the featured speaker. The title of her presentation is “Recovering Herstories: 19th Century African-American Literacy Workers.” The International Symposium is scheduled for the same day at 12:00 noon. The topic of discussion is “Feminist Theory, Woman’s Understanding: Self-Shaping in Novels by Alice Walker and Buchi Emecheta.” Leading the discussion will be Dr. Yakini B. Kemp, Professor of English, College of Arts and Sciences. On the second day of the conference, Wednesday, March 26, 2008, presentations will continue at 1:00 pm in the Auditorium Lecture Hall at the School of Journalism and Graphic Communications.

All participants of the Bernard D. Hendricks Honors Conference will be recognized and awarded for their contributions to the conference at the conference. Each participant is also invited to attend the Honors Awards Banquet in the Grand Ballroom on Friday, March 28, 2008, at 6:30 p.m.
HONORS WEEK 2008 ACTIVITIES
March 24 – 28, 2008
"Honoring the Rebirth of PRIDE and SPIRIT!"
13th Annual Bernard D. Hendricks Undergraduate Honors Conference

MONDAY 3/24/08
Graduate School Preparation Seminar – 11:00am – 1:00pm

TUESDAY 3/25/08
Day 1
9:00am – 4:00pm, School of Journalism & Graphic Communication – Gallery

WEDNESDAY 3/26/08
Honors Convocation – 10:10am, Lee Hall Auditorium

Day 2
1:00pm – 4:00pm, School of Journalism & Graphic Communication – Lecture Hall Auditorium

FRIDAY 3/28/08
Honors Awards Banquet – 6:30pm, Grand Ballroom

For more information, please contact the Honors Program office at (850) 599-3540
"Recovering Herstories: 19th Century African-American Literacy Workers"

Faye Spencer-Maor, PhD
FLORIDA A&M UNIVERSITY
College of Arts and Sciences
Assistant Professor of English

This presentation examines a history of African American literacy and the people, specifically women, who helped create that history, specifically Frances Jackson Coppin and Hallie Quinn Brown. Through the examination of their lives and work we can add to the already existing stories of the history of Africans in America. Moreover, we can further and make more comprehensive these histories by examining "how" and "why" these women, and others, did their work. Coppin and Brown were women who, like Alice Walker suggests, were women concerned and interested in all things pertaining to women – womanist. What made them so successful, and how might their philosophical and ideological literacy practices be connected to twenty-first century literacy ideologies and philosophies? Often overlooked and/or relegated to obscure and minor references, this presentation seeks to bring these women and their work to the forefront of discussions.
The novel Meridian, by Alice Walker, is set in the post-civil rights South primarily, while Double Yoke, by Buchi Emecheta, is set on the campus of a contemporary Nigerian university. Still, there is a striking similarity in the issues that the protagonists Meridian and Nko must face as women in their respective societies. In varying degrees, both Meridian and Nko exercise the independence of thought and action characteristic of modern feminist women, yet each woman suffers great difficulties because of her choices. As women, their feminist perspectives actually create conflicts in their self-development. These conflicts arise because of inherent contradictions in the social and romantic ideals held by the women themselves. Each woman's understanding of her own familial, sexual, and political role in her community or larger society ultimately becomes one of the central foci/problems of the text.
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<th>PRESENTATION TIME</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:50</td>
<td>OPENING SESSION</td>
<td>“Recovering Herstories: 19th Century African-American Literacy Workers”</td>
<td>FAYE SPENCER-MAOR, PhD</td>
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| 10:00-11:20       | Presentation Session 1 | “Taking the World by Storm Renaissance Style” | Presenter: Je’Laune Walton  
Major: Pharmacy |
|                   | Presentation Session 2 | “The Use of Taguchi Methods to Optimize Shape Factors for Maximum Water Jet Stability” | Presenter: Tiffani Davis & Sade Chaney  
Major: Professional MBA |
|                   | Presentation Session 3 | “The Revolution of Six Sigma” | Presenter: Dominique Drake  
Major: Business Administration |
|                   | Presentation Session 4 | “The Seamless Business Plan” | Presenter: Alicia D. Roebuck  
Major: Marketing |
| Luncheon: The Gallery | 11:20 – 12:00 | |
| 12:20-1:20 P.M    | INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM | “Feminist Theory, Woman’s Understanding: Self-Shaping in Novels by Alice Walker and Buchi Emecheta” | YAKINI B. KEMP, PhD |
| 1:30-3:30         | Presentation Session 5 | “The Restoration of Voting Rights and The Crimes Committed” | Presenter: Herron Keyon Gaston  
Major: Political Science/ Pre-Law |
|                   | Presentation Session 6 | “Honors: The Evolution of the Student” | Presenter: Brandon Sims & Marline Daceus  
Major: English & Civil Engineering/ Freshman & Sophomore |
|                   | Presentation Session 7 | “Bridging the Gap - Education to Employment: An Initiative of the Florida Health Information Management Association” | Presenter: Crystal C. Jordan  
Major: Health Information Management |
|                   | Presentation Session 8 | “Synthesis of 2-Methyl-3-indolylacetic Derivatives as Anti-Inflammatory Agents That Inhibit Preferentially Cyclooxygenase 1 without Gastric Damage” | Presenter: Justin J.M. Penny  
Major: Chemistry (Biochemistry) |
|                   | Presentation Session 9 | “Cataracts: Causes, Symptoms, Types and Treatments” | Presenter: Ashley Kilgoe  
Major: Nursing |
|                   | Presentation Session 10 | “High-Fructose Corn Syrup: A Culprit in the Obesity Epidemic” | Presenter: Sherise L. Simms  
Major: Biology Pre-Medicine |
## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26, 2008

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<tr>
<td>1:00-4:00</td>
<td>Presentation 13</td>
<td>“Diagnosis X”</td>
<td>Presenter: Jenese L. Fuller Major: Health Information Management &amp; Psychology</td>
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<td>Presentation 14</td>
<td>“Research Abroad on Globalization in International Business Markets up close &amp; Personal”</td>
<td>Presenter: Tyrone D. Smith, Jr. &amp; Tiffany Williams Major: 4th Business Administration &amp; 3rd Year MBA</td>
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<td>Presentation 15</td>
<td>“The Use of Halophytes as Biomass Source”</td>
<td>Presenter: Nancy Metayer Major: Environmental Science</td>
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<td>Presentation 16</td>
<td>“Acquiring Financial Stability”</td>
<td>Presenter: Ashley-Alexis Alfred Major: Business Administration</td>
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<td>Presentation 17</td>
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<td>Presentation 18</td>
<td>“The Convention of Doubling in Alice Walker’s <em>The Color Purple</em>”</td>
<td>Presenter: Michele Phillips Major: English/Political Science</td>
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<td>Presentation 19</td>
<td>“The Bonds of Pride”</td>
<td>Presenter: Sydnee Hollingsworth Major: Biological &amp; Agricultural Systems Engineering</td>
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<td>Presentation 20</td>
<td>“Black Wall Street”</td>
<td>Presenter: Tanisha Swaby Major: Business Administration</td>
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<td>Presentation 21</td>
<td>“Who will Save the Soul of a Black Woman?: The Inability to Overcome Religious Oppression in Harriet E. Wilson’s Our Nig”</td>
<td>Presenter: Marika Long Major: English</td>
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During the fourteenth century, the Renaissance sparked curiosity through innovation. The Renaissance era set a challenge to those during that time period to be more attentive. Unconsciously, the participants accepted the challenge that the Renaissance gave. Therefore, they were able to exceed their limits and seek improvement in the arts. The Renaissance urged people to envision improvements and set them into action. We have unconsciously accepted this same challenge. Honors students have the potential to create a difference in communities, and ultimately the world, by finding the hidden talents and cultivating them to grow and spread like the Renaissance.

It has been discovered that proper design of a nozzle can promote water jet stability for longer distances and that a quantity called a shape factor can be used to describe the capacity of a nozzle to maintain water stream stability over longer distances. This is particularly important in the field of fire fighting in order to bring a fire under control. In this paper we demonstrate the versatility of Taguchi methods by using them to analyze shape factors for several nozzle types to select the type of nozzle shape producing the greatest water stream stability.

Six-sigma is a discipline that has revolutionized many corporations. It has literally transformed them from loss to profitability. It can be used to improve any process and is particularly useful for improving production systems. Although the Japanese are ordinarily credited with having originated and advanced the quality movement, its origin, including six-sigma, is in the United States. Neither the history of six-sigma nor the rather subtle underlying theory is well understood. In this paper we develop the historical roots of the quality revolution, show its development into six-sigma, and develop the theory behind six-sigma.

A business plan is the starting point for any entrepreneur; however, many business plans do not give a detailed description of the business (i.e., their target markets, market analyses, sales and marketing,
management and financials). My presentation will guide the potential business owner through the steps of creating an effective marketing communication plan or a “Seamless Business Plan.” The PowerPoint presentation will guide individuals through each component of the Business plan, provide the appropriate information for each topic, and present the most effective method of conveyance of pertinent information in the business plan.

**Luncheon**  
School of Journalism Gallery  
11:20 – 12:00

**INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM**  
12:00 – 1:20

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<th>Time</th>
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<th>Advisor</th>
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<td>1:20-1:40</td>
<td>Herron Keyon Gaston</td>
<td>“The Restoration of Voting Rights and The Crimes Committed”</td>
<td>College of Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>Elizabeth Murrell Dawson</td>
<td>Political Science/Pre-Law/Senior</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:40-2:00</td>
<td>Brandon Sims &amp; Marline Daceus</td>
<td>“Honors: The Evolution of the Student”</td>
<td>College of Arts &amp; Sciences and FAMU-FSU College of Engineering</td>
<td>Frances McMillon</td>
<td>English &amp; Civil Engineering/ Freshman &amp; Sophomore</td>
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<td>2:00-2:20</td>
<td>Crystal C. Jordan</td>
<td>“Bridging the Gap - Education to Employment: An Initiative of the Florida Health Information Management Association”</td>
<td>School of Allied Health Sciences</td>
<td>Marjorie H. McNeil</td>
<td>Health Information Management/Senior</td>
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In May 2006, the American Health Information Management Association House of Delegates passed a resolution sponsored by the Florida Health Information Management Association (FHIMA) designed to bridge the gap between education and employment. To facilitate the employment of new graduates from health information management academic programs at the
baccalaureate and associate degree levels and coding programs at the pre-degree level, the FHIMA Bridging the Gap Task Force was formed. A model incorporating three areas of activities was developed. This multi-faceted strategy enhances students’ quality of life and prepares them for the workforce through partnership with the state professional association.

College/School: College of Arts and Sciences
Presentation Title: “Synthesis of 2-Methyl-3-indolylacetic Derivatives as Anti-Inflammatory Agents That Inhibit Preferentially Cyclooxygenase 1 without Gastric Damage”

NSAIDS are potent COX inhibitors that are widely used for the treatment of inflammatory disorders. Chronic usage of these drugs is associated with perforations and bleeding of GI. In an attempt to obtain drugs without GI side effects, novel substituted 2-methyl-3-indolylacetic derivatives were synthesized and evaluated for their activity in vitro and in vivo on COX-1 and COX-2. Active compounds were screened to determine their GI tolerability in vivo. Results showed that 3 and 4 preferentially inhibited COX-1. MD simulations indicated an induced fit for COX-1 but not for COX-2 probably because of a lower plasticity of the latter.

College/School: School of Nursing
Presentation Title: “Cataracts and Their Effects on Elderly America”

Cataracts are a clouding of the natural lens of the eye (St. Luke’s, 2007). This disease can affect people of all ages, but it is usually present in individuals 55 or greater. While the primary cause of cataracts is unknown, it is linked to an array of disorders, including diabetes and exposure to radiation. Cataracts are characterized by accumulated dead cells in the capsule of the lens of the eye. The dead cells cause a cloudiness of lens and produce a fuzzy, blurred image. Examples of how cataracts may be corrected or treated are given.

College/School: College of Arts and Sciences
Presentation Title: “High-Fructose Corn Syrup: a Culprit in the Obesity Epidemic”

Obesity has become a growing epidemic in American society where, according to the National Institutes of Health, approximately two-thirds of Americans 20 or older are overweight, one-third of whom are obese. More troubling is the fact that over 70% of African Americans fall into these categories. Given that diet is a major factor in the epidemic, recent studies on nutrition have implicated high-fructose corn syrup in the onset of obesity. Here we examine the biochemical effects of high-fructose corn syrup and how its incorporation into a typical American diet is fueling the obesity epidemic in this country.

College/School: College of Arts & Sciences
Presentation Title: “From Ashes to Greatness: The History of Stanton High School”

Too many times there are those who place limitations on their lives, and then there are those who don’t see limitations at all. For instance, a phoenix is a mythical creature used to symbolize perseverance and
success. From the short story “A Worn Path” by Eudora Welty to the history of Stanton High school founded 1868, the message is clear; you can’t keep a good thing down.

**3:40-4:00**  
**Session #12**  
Colleges/School: CESTA  
Presentation Title: “Transportation Safety Interventions: Night-time Driving Behavior”

The researcher conducted an analysis of studies done on Nighttime Safety restraint usage. The target population of this study is persons aged 16 through 34. Utilizing the information from the preliminary synthesis conducted, the researcher conducted a survey on the campus of Florida A&M University through a classroom setting. The survey queried students to verify patterns in their nighttime driving behavior and describe causes for any changes. The results from this survey will be used to make recommendations for the development of new transportation safety interventions targeted at African American drivers aged 16 through 24.

**WEDNESDAY**

**1:00-1:20**  
**Session #13**  
College/School: School of Allied Health Sciences and College of Arts & Sciences  
Presentation Title: “Diagnosis X”

As college students, we have a higher risk of being exposed to an array of different illnesses while on campus. Some of these illnesses are curable with medicinal interventions whereas other illnesses, if not detected or treated early, can lead to permanent physical and/or mental damages or even death. These illnesses can be sudden and fast moving, and late detection or treatment affects the outcome of the illness greatly. This is an informative presentation about a college student who acquired an unknown illness that resulted in the ultimate price . . . death.

**1:20-1:40**  
**Session #14**  
College/School: School of Business & Industry  
Presentation Title: “Research Abroad on Globalization in International Business Markets up close & Personal”

This presentation will give an overview of our research abroad experience we conducted this semester in Santo Domingo with our International Business Class (MAN 3600); we had the opportunity to learn and also research the different dimensions of international travel from a cultural perspective and learn about international business related opportunities in the Dominican Republic that American students can take advantage of. Key international business areas such as globalization of markets and globalization of production companies that engage in international business for marketing their products or for producing their products emphasized.
### Presenter: Nancy Metayer
**Advisor: Michael Abzinge**

**Major:** Environmental Science/ Sophomore

**College/School:** Environmental Science Institute
**Presentation Title:** “The Use of Halophytes as Biomass Source”

A halophyte is a plant that naturally grows where it is affected by salinity in the root area or by salt spray, such as in saline semi deserts, mangrove swamps, marshes and sloughs, and seashores. An example of halophyte is the salt marsh grass. Benefits of the halophyte plant include freeing up arable land and freshwater resources, cleansing the environment, decontaminating soils, desalinating brackish waters, and carbon sequestration. Some halophytes are being studied for use as biofuel precursors. As a result, halophytes can be grown in harsh environments and typically do not compete with food crops for resource, making them a promising source of ethanol. My presentation will be based on the use of halophytes as biomass source for the production of biofuels.

### Presenter: Ashley-Alexis Alfred
**Advisor: Johnny McCaskill**

**Major:** Business Administration/ Sophomore

**College/School:** School of Business & Industry
**Presentation Title:** “Acquiring Financial Stability”

There are many families in debt, for they do not know how to save or invest; therefore, they do not know how to become financially secure. The scenario of each household is different, requiring a variety of solutions. In my study I will show how a college student, a single mother, and a family of four can attain financial security.

### Presenter: Michele Phillips
**Advisor: Emma Waters Dawson**

**Major:** English/Political Science/Senior

**College/School:** College of Arts & Sciences
**Presentation Title:** “The Convention of Doubling in Alice Walker’s *The Color Purple*”

Most theologies and theories are based on binary characteristics: male and female, sun and moon, fire and water, and the most common, good and evil. All encompass the convention of doubling. The number Two represents the balance of dual sides: parallelism in nature and of human beings. Alice Walker’s *The Color Purple* actualizes the notion that the world is divided into two parts, units that can be characterized as conventional and unconventional. The sums of those parts are embodied in the characters in the novel. Walker’s world represents the duality and dichotomy of sex/gender, male/female, mind/body, culture/nature, and race/racism.
College/School: School of Business and Industry
Presentation Title: “Black Wall Street”

Usually when one hears the term Wall Street, he thinks of the historical financial district located in lower Manhattan, New York. Several major U.S. stock and other exchanges remain headquartered on Wall Street and in the Financial District, including the NYSE, NASDAQ, AMEX, NYMEX, and NYBOT. What many people do not know is that there was once a Wall Street solely owned by African-Americans. Centered along busy Greenwood Avenue, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the African-American commercial district was a bona fide American success story. Commonly referred to as Black Wall Street, Greenville Avenue was home to literally dozens of black-owned and operated businesses in the days before the Tulsa Riot.

College/School: College of Arts and Sciences
Presentation Title: “Who will Save the Soul of a Black Woman?: The Inability to Overcome Religious Oppression in Harriet E. Wilson’s Our Nig”

Religion is seen as a way of life for most people in the world. Many place religion on a pedestal, admiring the forgiveness and salvation it provides. However, many overlook the major problem with religion, hypocrisy. During a time when racism was prominent, religion was tainted not only by hypocrisy but also by racism as well. Harriet E Wilson’s Our Nig deals with religious oppression based on race; displaying the hypocrisy of religion through the treatment of the protagonist Frado, Wilson allows the reader to unveil religious oppression through the “life of a free black, in a two-story white house north; showing that slavery’s shadows fall even there.”
Honors Program Staff

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PROGRAM ASSISTANT

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