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THE SPARTAN ENGAGEMENT

Official publication of MSU Black Alumni Inc. This newsletter is published quarterly by the MSUBA Communications Committee for members and friends. It is available electronically. If you have any questions feel free to email communications@msuba.org or visit our website at www.msuba.org

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MSU Black Alumni Inc., National President - **Dr. Shondra L. Marshall**



2020 Virtual Homecoming

The 2020 Virtual Homecoming was a success! We started off with a virtual student networking event Thursday, which was in collaboration with MSU Black Student Leaders. The panelist provided excellent and useful information for student participants. The idea was to be led by students and geared towards students. We are hopeful for the growth of this event and look forward to future successful programs. Friday night, we continued with our annual board meeting and virtually voted on six new board members who are eager and ready! Saturday, we hosted an energetic virtual Pep Rally, which had cameo appearances by some of our favorite friends at MSU including Coach Izzo and Coach Tucker! Our excellent Co-Hosts *Cortney Hicks* and *T.G. the Host* kept the evening fun and energetic! We ended the weekend with an awesome Distinguished Alumni & Scholarship Recipient event, commemorating 40 years of existence. We also honored our Fallen Spartans who are no longer with us.

Our historical Homecoming weekend is a joyous time reconnecting with college friends and celebrating our accomplishments as an organization. Although, this is the most attended event, there is so much more MSU Black Alumni Inc., focuses on a daily basis through out each year. We have aligned our efforts to **Funding, Hiring & Student Success**. We continue to partner with MSU as we carry out our mission of supporting Black students, faculty, staff and Administrators at MSU. Learn more in this edition about the ways you can **engage** and continue to support MSU Black Alumni Inc., fully!

Congratulations to our 2021 Elected Officers!

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
DR. SHONDRA L. MARSHALL

NATIONAL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
DR. NICOLE D. BRODIE

NATIONAL SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
MR. BRYAN COTTON

NATIONAL TREASURER
MR. DARNEL MANNING

NATIONAL FINANCIAL SECRETARY
MR. JEFF AKINS

NATIONAL SECRETARY
VACANT-WILL BE APPOINTED

NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARIAN
MRS. LAYNA GARDNER-LOTT

NATIONAL COMPTROLLER
MRS. LA VERNE WILSON



People & Places



Jasmene Bowdry - (B.S. Fashion Merchandising, '05) is providing mentorship to students at MSU who are in the inaugural cohort of the Burgess Institute Entrepreneur-in-Residence Program. **Click her image** to read the full story.

Way to go Ms. Bowdry!



MSU Law Makes Critical Appointments in Student Support Positions: **Goldie Y. Pritchard** - (Assistant Dean of the Academic Success Program) recently received a promotion to a key student support role in MSU College of Law. Since joining MSU College of Law in 2009, she founded the Academic Success Program at MSU Law and has directed and co-directed the Academic Success Program. Through her leadership and vision with success, she now serves as the Assistant Dean of the Academic Success Program. Dean Pritchard, continuously supports MSUBA and is a volunteer during Homecoming.



Congratulations Dean Pritchard!



Harold Henderson - is a Graduate of MSU and he and his wife returned to MSU in 2019, to establish the *Harold & Franzine Henderson Judicial Clerkship Mentoring Program*, which aims to support law students from disadvantaged backgrounds through their clerkship application process. Mr. Henderson has supported MSUBA in multiple ways, but also through our endowment efforts.

Click the image above to read more!

CONGRATULATIONS

Share your good news with us!

Send Emails:
communications@msuba.org &
CC: President@msuba.org



Mary Ann Ferguson is the Assistant Dean for Diversity and Equity Service at MSU College of Law. She received the Outstanding Service to the College Award! Dean Ferguson is also a member of MSUBA National Board of Directors.

Congratulations Dean Ferguson!



Expanding Senior Leadership at MSU!



Dr. Rema Vassar is one of the newly elected Board of Trustee members at MSU!

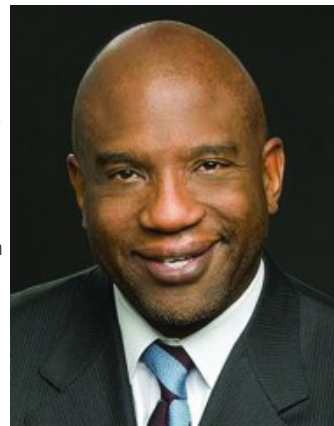
To learn more about Dr. Rema please **click her image**.



Dr. JABBAR R. BENNETT - is the first Vice President & Chief Diversity Officer at MSU. His first day was officially December 1, 2020. We are excited to support Dr. Bennett in his new role!

To read more about him, click his image (The link to his interview with Russ White at the bottom of his bio shares his vision).

Feel free to extend a kind MSUBA welcome to Dr. Bennett by sending an email to: **vpcdo@msu.edu**



Floyd Akins Jr., - is the Associate Vice President for Advancement at MSU. MSUBA appreciates his partnership and support !

Feel free to extend a kind MSUBA welcome to Floyd Akins Jr., by sending an email to: **akinsjrf@msu.edu**

MSUBA GET ENGAGED

2020 was a year that showed us our strength and tenacity. As mentioned earlier, in this edition, Homecoming is not our only major event or focus. As a professional 501c(3) organization, we have several operating committees continuously developing and carrying out action plans to promote engagement. In an ongoing effort, the 40th National President made a plea to membership in 2020 requesting engagement, enhancement, and evolvement for more MSUBA members to help support, strengthen and fortify the organization. Therefore, it doesn't stop; We still need more of you, your expertise, and support year round to continue to expand our scope of impact.

To express interest in joining a committee, please email: **President@msuba.org**

Follow us on our social media outlets: **Instagram:** @msublackalum; **Twitter:** @MSUBA; **Facebook:** MSU Black Alumni Inc., and feel free to visit our website at **www.msuba.org**