Breaking New Ground
Editor’s Letter

Building on the Foundation

Thurgood Marshall once wrote, “None of us got where we are solely by pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps. We got here because somebody—a parent, a teacher, an Ivy League crony or a few nuns—bent down and helped us pick up our boots.”

In his highly acclaimed biography Young Thurgood, alumnus Larry Gibson captures the deep appreciation Marshall had for those who helped him “pick up his boots” and become a successful attorney and the first African-American Supreme Court justice. Young Thurgood, which received the 2013 International Book Award for biography, is a fascinating portrait of Marshall’s early years that includes growing up in Baltimore and studying at Howard University School of Law.

It is also the only biography of Marshall that has ever been endorsed by his family. In this issue of Howard Magazine, Gibson explains why he felt compelled to share some insights about the family and friends who shaped Marshall and why it was necessary to “set the record straight” on some misconceptions about Marshall’s life. Gibson’s contributions in this book—and his advocacy for getting Baltimore’s airport renamed after Marshall—further ensure that Marshall’s legacy will live on, generations from now.

In this issue, we also include an update on the construction in progress on Howard’s main campus. If you visit the campus today, you’ll see the cranes that dot the landscape and feel the growing anticipation for the expected completion in fall 2014 of two new residence halls and an Interdisciplinary Research Building.

At the same time the campus is expanding and buildings are being renovated, your alma mater is calling on you to help Howard students “pick up their boots” so they can become successful alumni. In this issue, you’ll find an envelope that allows you to donate to the University’s $25 million Bridging the Gap Student Aid campaign. Please answer the call and donate today. You can also donate online at www.howard.edu/bridgingthegap.

Finally, we are proud to announce that the winter 2013 edition of Howard Magazine and the mobile app we launched last fall each won an Apex Award for Publication Excellence. We hope you enjoy this issue, and, as always, we welcome your feedback and encourage you to send a note to magazine@howard.edu. Don’t forget to download the magazine’s mobile app on iTunes or visit us at www.howard.edu/howardmag.

Raven Padgett, Editor
Breaking New Ground
Interdisciplinary research building, new residence halls position Howard for growth in the 21st century.

A Rising Star on Broadway
Alumna makes her debut as civil rights icon Nina Simone in a new musical.

Sixty Years of Graduate Scholarship
African Studies will honor trailblazers who established and grew the department.

President’s Perspective

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Sandra Edmonds Crewe

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President’s Perspective

The Next Phase of Renewal

By Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D.

At each stage of the development of our nation and the African-American community, Howard University renewed and restructured itself and continued the "Long Walk" to address the changing needs of our nation, African-Americans and other underrepresented populations.

Following its founding in 1867, Howard was able to bolster itself and increase its physical plant, enrollment and operating budget, while continuing to improve its academic programs. The 1960s brought further improvement in the quality of the University’s academic programs and its central leadership role in research, teaching, advocacy and service related to the struggle for equal rights and justice. During the next three decades, Howard expanded its academic programs and evolved into the comprehensive university that it is today, addressing the higher education needs of the nation and the global community.

The new millennium brought with it new opportunities and challenges, not unlike those the University faced in the past, and has required Howard to assess its current state and its future developmental trajectory in light of the dramatic changes in higher education. Howard’s faculty, staff, students and alumni captured the diverse opportunities and academic, fiscal and administrative challenges in the University’s 2009 Middle States Self-Study and crafted a comprehensive renewal vision that includes academic program changes, faculty development, improved administrative processes and enhanced facilities and support for students. In response to the renewal vision and my specific strategy and policy recommendations, the University’s Board of Trustees made decisions that have created a new vision and laid a foundation to strengthen Howard for the future.

The entire University community is invested in the success of our efforts as we position Howard to respond to the opportunities and challenges ahead. We must continue to refine the focus of our academic programs and create greater interdisciplinary programs, use resources more strategically and raise more funds from diverse sources while leveraging Howard’s unique brand among alumni and supporters.

As in previous phases of Howard’s development, we must exercise increased fiscal discipline to achieve our strategic goals. We must communicate more effectively what we are doing and adjust where necessary as we continue to identify the resources required to support our academic programs, student support services and administrative operations and facilities.

In each phase of Howard’s development, the manner in which it took advantage of opportunities and responded to challenges was not without spirited debate. The common thread in each phase was an unyielding commitment to Howard’s mission, core values and students. Our love of Howard and our strength as a community will see us through this phase of development and enable us to do what is necessary to ensure that Howard will be strong and vibrant, serving future generations of students. I am asking each of us to do everything we can to guide, support and enhance our beloved University.
Fueled by her compassion and interest in the human experience, Sandra Edmonds Crewe, Ph.D., achieved a new milestone in her 40-year career in social work when she was appointed interim dean of the School of Social Work on July 1. Crewe, who served as associate dean from 2006 to 2012, says that in her new role she will continue advocating for faculty, students and anyone in need of a social worker’s support.

“I am focused on what I can bring to the table to be a part of the solution,” she says.

Crewe says her decision to become a social worker was sealed in the 1960s as a teenager when she witnessed the devastating effects of desegregation in her hometown of Halifax County, Va. “I started to understand the issues of social justice,” she says. “I realized I wanted to help others navigate those barriers that somehow stand in the pathways of success or the quality of life.”

There are some who underestimate the number and types of issues social work addresses. The challenge, Crewe explains, is getting the public to understand that social work evaluates all issues affecting human progress, growth and development. In her position, Crewe intends to increase the visibility of the School of Social Work on campus and in the D.C. community. One tool she is enthusiastic about leveraging is technology.

“I’ve always embraced technology,” she says. “It will never replace the human capacity, but it will help us check in with people and reach those who have different learning styles.”

Mindful of those differences, Crewe is pushing for a new online master’s of social work program, which she hopes to model after Howard’s online Executive MBA program, which was launched by the School of Business in January 2012.

She also intends to enhance the experience of students in the School of Social Work by creating learning communities. Crewe learned, from their feedback, that students want more interaction with faculty in a nontraditional classroom setting. The learning communities will allow students to identify two or three topics and collaborate with faculty, students across campus and members of the community to create an agenda.

In addition to serving as dean, Crewe will remain director of Howard’s Multidisciplinary Gerontology Center, which focuses on older minorities and their families through professional development seminars and workshops, research and scholarships, and support groups.

Crewe first became interested in older adults while working for public and assisted housing organizations in Maryland’s Prince George’s and Montgomery counties and the city of Rockville, Md., where she worked for more than 20 years before she became a professor at Howard in 1997. She became involved with older adults again after Brin Hawkins, Ph.D., former associate dean and then-professor and coordinator of the aging curriculum and programs, appointed Crewe as her successor for her gerontology class.

These days, Crewe’s professional and personal lives interlink—she is a caregiver for her mother, who resides in assisted living, and hosts a support group for grandparents in D.C. who are raising their grandchildren.

“They truly keep me laughing, as well as grounded in the realities of raising today’s grandchildren,” Crewe says about her support group. “Aging is not an area that a lot of social workers focus on. And there is a scarcity of African Americans focused on the area.”

Crewe says she looks forward to studying the African-American baby boomer population and intends to write a book on the subject. Her other areas of interest include poverty and HIV among older adults.

“It’s an exciting time to be a social worker,” Crewe says. “We are a school of social work that’s a leader among HBCUs and non-HBCUs, and I’m proud of that divine legacy. We have graduates who are out there that have made a difference, not only in the lives of individuals, families and communities, but we’ve changed how the profession thinks about things.”

Hutson is a writer based in Maryland.
HU Jazz Ensemble in Senegal

The Howard University Jazz Ensemble (HUJE) traveled to Senegal this past spring to participate in the 21st Saint-Louis Jazz Festival. For five days, HUJE performed with students from the Arts School (Dakar); musicians from the region of Louga; students from the Prytanée Military School of Saint-Louis; rap musicians from the group Vendredi Slam; and, at the West Africa Research Center, with musicians from Dakar. HUJE also performed for more than 300 spectators at a concert at the Blaise Senghor Cultural Center in Dakar. HUJE is celebrating its 40th year.
A Global Education

Close to 30 Howard students traveled to eight countries this summer to conduct research projects. The undergraduate students participated in the National Science Foundation-funded Global Education, Awareness and Research Undergraduate Program (GEAR-UP).

The program, which aims to increase global engagement of students in engineering and other sciences through study and research abroad, is spearheaded by the College of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Sciences and directed by Lorraine Fleming, Ph.D. (B.S.C.E. ’79), interim dean. In addition to the multiyear $5 million grant, GEAR-UP is supported by the Office of the Provost.

Students used wireless networks to collect seismic data in Cameroon; tested silicon detectors in nuclear physics labs in South Africa; used molecular biology techniques to investigate HIV resistance to antiretroviral therapy in Senegal; studied microbial fuel cells, evaluated encryption in embedded devices and studied green technology in Mexico and Thailand; studied artificial intelligence and mobile learning for literacy in the Philippines; studied wastewater treatment plants in Kenya; and worked on computer programming and battery management in electrical and self-directed vehicles in Turkey.

School of Social Work to Study Racial Disparities

The School of Social Work received a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation to evaluate the effectiveness of racial equality standards in countering the overrepresentation of African Americans in child welfare systems.

Ruby M. Gourdine, D.S.W., and Jacqueline M. Smith, Ph.D., are co-principal investigators on the $75,000 grant, which will fund the evaluation of child welfare procedures in two states where Black children are overrepresented. The grant period runs from April 2013 to March 2014.

“Too many African-American children are removed from their homes, and efforts should be made to eliminate the risk faced by children in fragile families in need of intervention services,” Gourdine says.

Gourdine points out that child welfare professionals often overlook alternatives to an African-American child entering state custody, such as kinship care or services designed to improve parenting skills and access to resources.

The agencies selected for the study have received training on racial equality standards from the advocacy organization Black Administrators in Child Welfare (BACW), which augments the established standards required by the Council on Accreditation, the accrediting body for child welfare agencies. Gourdine and Smith will evaluate whether implementation of the BACW standards has been effective.

First in Innovation

A cross-disciplinary team of Howard students won first place in the 2013 Partnership for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering and Education (PACE) Collaboration and Innovation Challenge. The annual competition promotes collaboration between students in different majors to fuel innovation in engineering, industrial design, manufacturing and market research.

The team tackled the issue of ineffective transportation in the Washington region. For their project, they designed a more effective public transportation system, which incorporated new ideas to extend the bicycle sharing initiative in the region to include a pod car system that would feature automated vehicles operating on a network of guideways.

The team was led by Grant M. Warner, Ph.D., associate professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and included Tony McEachern, Ph.D., interim chair of the Department of Art; David Smedley, associate professor in the Department of Art; Atiba Brereton, a graduate student in the Department of Mechanical Engineering; Tyrone Clemons, a graduate student in the Department of Art; Matthew Clarke, a mechanical engineering sophomore; Alicia Harris, a senior in the Department of Art; and Nicolas Hunter, a mechanical engineering sophomore.

The PACE competition is held in collaboration with General Motors, Autodesk, Hewlett-Packard, Oracle and Siemens PLM software.
Commencement 2013

Top: Jimmy Kemp accepted the posthumous award for his father. Bottom: Graduates, families and friends filled the Yard for commencement.
The University’s 145th commencement ceremony was held May 11 on the Upper Quadrangle of the main campus. Former President Bill Clinton, the keynote speaker, told the 2,600-plus graduates that they should confront adversity with resilience and use their talents to transform the world. He also stressed that students should recognize the growing interdependence between communities in different parts of the world.

“Creating cooperation works better than constant conflict, and we forget that at our peril. You can’t share the future unless you share the responsibility for building it, and I implore you to look for opportunities to do that,” he said.

Clinton received an honorary doctorate of laws degree in recognition of his service as the 42nd U.S. president and his global philanthropic work through the William J. Clinton Foundation.

Howard also granted honorary doctorate degrees to Patricia McGuire, president of Trinity Washington University; Marie C. Johns, former deputy administrator of the U.S. Small Business Administration and former president of Verizon Washington; and Sheila C. Johnson, CEO of Salamander Hospitality, a founding partner of Black Entertainment Television and the only African-American woman to have ownership in three professional sports teams. Former U.S. Rep. Jack F. Kemp, who died in 2009, was posthumously honored for his work in politics and as a former trustee.
Veteran Communications Professional Named Dean

Gracie Lawson-Borders, Ph.D., the new dean of the School of Communications, has spent nearly three decades in academia, communication studies and journalism.

Before joining Howard, she served as associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences and as a professor in communication and journalism at the University of Wyoming. She is also a former director of the African American and Diaspora Studies program at Wyoming. Additionally, she has served on the faculty at Kent State University and Southern Methodist University.

Lawson-Borders is a former journalist who worked as a reporter and editor at the Akron Beacon Journal, The Oakland Press and The Chicago Tribune. Her research and teaching examine media management, media convergence, emerging technologies, social media and media coverage of minority groups.

Lawson-Borders earned her Ph.D. from Wayne State University, her M.A. from Northwestern University and her B.A. from Michigan State University.

“I am looking forward to the opportunity to work with a faculty and staff whose experience, expertise and commitment have made a significant difference in students’ lives for decades,” she says.

Coach Looks to Build on Winning Tradition

Tennille Adams was named the new women’s basketball head coach. Adams comes to Howard with an impressive record, including an integral role in six double-figure winning seasons at Northwestern University and a notable coaching career with Big Ten, Patriot League and Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference Division I institutions.

“I am extremely humbled and honored for this opportunity,” Adams says. “It is a privilege to represent an institution with such a rich tradition and history, as well as return to the MEAC.”

While at Northwestern, Adams served as both defensive and offensive coordinator. No stranger to the District of Columbia, Adams was the assistant women’s basketball coach at American University. Prior to her stint at American, Adams spent two years with the Aggies of North Carolina A&T State University as an assistant. A standout herself at the University of Arkansas, she began her coaching career in 2004 as an assistant at Lon Morris Junior College in Jacksonville, Texas.

Adams will inherit a program with a strong reputation of winning, including three consecutive championship game appearances, the first-ever Women’s Basketball Invitational appearance (2013) and two seasons of 20-plus wins.

New Partnership to Develop Drugs for Africa

The College of Pharmacy signed a multiyear agreement with TNI BioTech Inc., a Bethesda, Md., firm that develops immunotherapy drugs to treat patients with chronic diseases. The College of Pharmacy will assist in TNI BioTech’s efforts to provide affordable health care and develop pharmaceutical skills in Africa. The college currently has pharmacy projects in a number of African countries, including Nigeria, South Africa, Zambia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Rwanda.

Joseph Fortunak, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry and pharmaceutical sciences in the Department of Chemistry and the College of Pharmacy, will be the lead on the project.

“We are especially pleased to provide support to assist nations in Africa and underscore our ongoing commitment to the African Diaspora,” says Anthony Wutoh, Ph.D., dean of the College of Pharmacy.

“Few universities have the experience and commitment to Africa provided by Howard,” says Noreen Griffin, CEO of TNI BioTech. “It is this very experience and the expertise of its professors that will allow TNI BioTech to implement both our business and health care commitment to Africa.”
WHUR Receives Crystal Award

For the third time, WHUR-FM 96.3 received the Crystal Radio Award from the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB). The award recognizes radio stations for outstanding year-round commitment to community service.

This year’s recipients were chosen from among 50 finalists. The 10 stations were honored at the NAB Show Radio Luncheon on April 9 in Las Vegas.

“WHUR prides itself on being an active part of the Washington community, and we are grateful to our listeners who help us to achieve excellence in community outreach,” says Jim Watkins, general manager for the station.

Fulbright Class of 2013–2014

Howard University has been awarded five Fulbright fellowships.

Christine J. Williams (B.A. ’13) was awarded an English teaching assistantship in Germany. Williams, whose mother is German, said she expects the Fulbright experience to help her improve her German language skills and prepare her for a career in teaching.

Matthew Wilcox (B.A. ’13) will spend his Fulbright year in Peru for an English teaching assistantship. Wilcox plans to learn more about Peruvian culture, as well as health and infectious diseases in the region.

Brenda Duverce (B.A. ’13) will study male and female sexual behaviors at the University of Botswana. She plans to pursue a career in international affairs.

Megan Echols (B.Arch. ’13) will spend a year in Medellín, Colombia, studying the role of architecture in the city’s redevelopment. She hopes the Fulbright experience will position her for a career in international urban planning.

Jon Robert Brown (B.A. ’13), who graduated magna cum laude, will spend the upcoming year in Bahrain studying behavioral and cultural factors that may contribute to increased risk of noncommunicable diseases. Brown grew up in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, before coming to the U.S. for high school and college.

Left to right: Brown, Wilcox, Echols, Duverce and Williams.
On Campus

Welcome Home, Deltas!

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority celebrated Founders Day Weekend on Howard’s campus in July. Crimson and cream blanketed the campus, as thousands of Deltas traveled to D.C. for the 51st national convention. During the festivities, a commemorative stained-glass window was dedicated in Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel and a plaza was installed around the Fortitude Sculpture in the “Valley.” The organization, which was founded on Howard’s campus by 22 college students, is celebrating its centennial anniversary.

Inaugural EMBA Class Graduates

A graduation ceremony to honor the inaugural class of the School of Business Executive MBA (EMBA) program was held in July. Degrees were awarded to nearly two dozen candidates, all of whom continued to hold senior business positions while completing the 18-month program. On average, the EMBA graduates have 15 years of executive experience and are leaders in a wide range of fields, including banking, consulting, information technology, telecommunications, education and Armed Services.
School Year Kicks Off

Students show their exuberance for the start of the new school year.

On Aug. 17, members of the class of 2017 arrived on campus for Move-in Day, kicking off the 2013–2014 academic school year at Howard University. Classmates, faculty and staff ushered the freshmen to their new homes in the residence halls. Close to 1,600 freshmen joined the Howard family this year.

Day of Service

Freshmen Justina Moffett (left) and Naima Jenkins (right) work on a beautification project at Anne Beers Elementary School in Washington, D.C.

Sophomore Rodrigo Sandrin, an exchange student from Brazil, and sophomore Aaron Meekins install new carpet for a children’s playroom in D.C. General Shelter in Washington, D.C.

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington, students participated in the inaugural Howard University Day of Service on Aug. 23. More than 400 students assisted with community service projects in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, including projects that focused on education, homelessness and voter registration.
Breaking New Ground

Interdisciplinary Research Building, New Residence Halls Position Howard for Growth in the 21st Century

By Tamara E. Holmes (B.A. ’94)
When Nicholas Owen (B.A. '09; M.P.A. '12) started his term as president of the Howard University Student Association (HUSA) in 2008, he had a list of improvements that he wished the University would make. One of the top items on that list was the addition of new residence halls.

"There were freshmen who did not have housing on the main campus," he recalls. "That was a major issue, because how can you attract students if you cannot house them?"

Because Owen believed new residence halls would make Howard a stronger university, he advocated for new student housing during his HUSA term. "We were looking for ways to build a better brand for Howard University for the long term, and not just looking for short-term fixes," he says.

Owen and his fellow students were not alone in thinking that Howard needed new facilities to accommodate the University’s growth. President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., made facilities renewal a major goal of his administration. To ensure that Howard remains competitive, Ribeau has stated that the University needs additional classrooms and laboratories for students and faculty to do their best work.
Now the University is making huge strides toward that goal. Earlier this year, ground was broken on three new buildings that are poised to rejuvenate the campus and cement the University’s standing in the 21st century. The first is the new Howard University Interdisciplinary Research Building (HUIRB), located prominently at 2201 Georgia Ave., NW, next to the Howard University Bookstore and the Howard Center. It will be a state-of-the-art facility for multiple fields of study, including the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines that are in such high demand. The other two will be residence halls situated on the 4th Street corridor that will house approximately 1,360 students and create a residential neighborhood where underclassmen can live, learn and socialize.

News about the construction instills pride in Owen, who is now an alumnus. But it also assures him that Howard is committed to building upon its rich legacy. As a management program analyst for the U.S. Department of Education, he is in a position to see just how important a university’s facilities are in today’s competitive education landscape. “Howard will have the infrastructure to continue to attract top talent,” he says.

A Collaborative Effort

As excitement grows for the new additions to Howard’s campus, it’s important to note that the planning and development of three buildings is no easy task. With the residence halls slated for completion by August 2014 and the HUIRB scheduled to open in the fall of the same year, many people are involved, from the administration to the board of trustees to the faculty. Then there are the architects, designers and contractors whose job it is to turn the ideas into reality. The construction of the residence halls is a collaboration between Howard, Campus Apartments, Provident Resources Group, RBC Capital, Clark Construction and McKissack & McKissack. The project team for the HUIRB includes Turner Construction Company, Brailsford & Dunlavey, HDR Architecture and Lance Bailey & Associates.

“A lot of things have to fall into place in order for you to construct a building,” says alumna Tiffany Smith (B. Arch. ’11), project engineer for Clark Construction, the general contractor working on the residence halls. Smith coordinates with her field counterparts to ensure the timely delivery of materials required for construction. She also collaborates with the design team to solve issues as they arise.

It’s clear to Smith that the new buildings mean better housing and enhanced learning for students. The buildings also help Howard keep up with the growth and innovation around it. “If you look on the Georgia Avenue corridor, you see all the progress and Howard is a part of that,” she says.

When Smith reports each day to the worksite—two trailers parked on College Street—she brings not only her expertise to the project, but also her love for her alma mater. Having lived in the Harriet Tubman Quadrangle (“The Quad”) as a freshman and Meridian Hill Hall as a

“It’s an opportunity to bring together people from a variety of fields to solve problems across disciplinary lines.”
“Howard will have the infrastructure to continue to attract top talent.”
sophomore, Smith understands firsthand the value of living comfortably among peers on campus. For that reason, her work on the new residence halls is no ordinary project.

“When I first heard about the construction, I thought, ‘It would be great if I got to go back on campus and build something that the campus needs,’” Smith says. “My team trusts me as a Howard alumna to bring the job home.”

**State-of-the-Art Facilities**

Thanks to new technologies, all three buildings will include amenities not seen on Howard’s campus before. Throughout the development process, much care has been taken to come up with unique features that will enhance the lives of Howard students, faculty and staff.

The residence halls, a $107 million project, will feature two-person semi-suites, along with social and study lounges, game rooms and even apartment units for faculty, staff and guests, and a multipurpose room designed to accommodate 200 people, as well as classrooms and academic advisory offices.

“We want to have the presence of a faculty member within the residence halls to do some mentoring, offer courses and work in partnership with the community director,” says Barbara L.J. Griffin, Ph.D., vice president for student affairs.

The University’s Office of Residence Life will relocate to the new space, and the residence halls will allow neighborhood groups to hold events. “We’re hoping that will help us develop closer ties with the community,” Griffin says.

The HUIRB will also have much to offer Howard students. The 81,000-square-foot building will include wet and dry laboratories and space for instruction and research support. It also will house retail space and offices for faculty, students and staff.

The new buildings will reflect Howard’s commitment to the environment and green technologies. They will comply with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards, and the construction teams are taking steps to protect the environment, such as controlling the amount of waste they produce. “The University made it clear from the beginning that developing energy-efficient buildings was an important goal of the project,” Smith adds.

**A Sign of Academic Renewal**

Not only do the new buildings bring about a physical transformation on campus, but they also support the University’s academic renewal initiative. When Ribeau launched the President’s Commission on Academic Renewal (PCAR) to review each of Howard’s undergraduate, graduate and professional degree academic programs and align them with the University’s mission, vision, strategic goals and available resources, a number of priorities emerged that would ensure that Howard remains competitive.

“The renewal strategy is a very ambitious one,” Ribeau says. “It’s an attempt to help us to assure that our academic programs are competitive for all colleges, schools and disciplines.”

The HUIRB helps with that goal. The building will impact the experience of current students and will attract future students and alumni. “It will also help us to recruit new faculty that excel in different fields, as well as retain faculty that have been doing very well here,” says Wayne A.I. Frederick (B.S. ’92; M.D. ’94; M.B.A. ’11), provost and chief academic officer for the University.

Among the priorities of the academic renewal initiative are a commitment to the STEM fields and an increased emphasis on research. The HUIRB will help the University achieve both of those, Frederick says. In fact, it will be the hub for the University’s work in the STEM fields.

“A great deal of the research that will take place in the building is in the STEM-related fields, and one of the academic renewal initiatives was linked to our promoting and enhancing our STEM experience on campus,” Frederick says. “Another academic renewal initiative was to promote collaboration, and again, this will certainly do that in a major way as well.”

Unlike buildings on campus that are confined to one field of study, the HUIRB will house research efforts from various undergraduate and graduate programs. While final decisions have not yet been made as to which departments will be located in the building, Frederick says, “We’re making an effort to involve all of the schools and colleges on our campus.”

The research building also creates a unique opportunity to break down silos across the University. “This gives us an opportunity to bring in a lot of what is being done, not just in STEM, but in the law school, the divinity school and the business school,” Frederick says.

Ribeau agrees. “It’s an opportunity to bring together people from a variety of fields to solve problems across disciplinary lines,” he says.

“This building won’t just be four walls on Georgia Avenue,” Frederick adds. “It will be a spirit of academic collaboration and excellence that everyone can participate in.”

**Putting Students First**

The new buildings also satisfy the Students First Initiative (SFI), which was designed to enhance the University’s student-centered learning environment and to improve the quality of service delivery to students.

“We know that students spend 80 percent of their time outside of the classroom, and that should be a learning environment also,” Ribeau says. For that reason, the new residence halls will be more than a place for students to sleep. “These residence halls will become a place to learn outside of the classroom.”

There are a number of ways such learning could occur, Ribeau explains. “There might be a Wednesday night poetry reading where students read their work and interact with faculty members, or there might be discussion groups where we bring in a leading scholar who is visiting the sociology department, but comes by
“While we are modernizing the campus we will keep the ‘family’ feel of the residence halls to provide the students the support they need away from home.”

Another benefit will be getting more freshmen and sophomores residing on the main campus. One of the new buildings will house freshman women, while the other will be coed and house mainly sophomores. “It cuts down on a little bit of the anxiety that students may have in their first year,” Griffin says.

Griffin points to Marc D. Lee, Ph.D., dean of residence life, as being instrumental in developing ideas for the design of the building, as well as programs for first- and second-year
Increasing Howard’s Impact

There are myriad reasons the new buildings will benefit Howard University, but perhaps the most important has to do with preparing students to excel in the workplace and the world beyond.

A recent survey conducted by *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and American Public Media’s *Marketplace* suggests the nation’s colleges and universities are not preparing students for the workplace as well as businesses would like. Half of the employers surveyed said they had trouble finding recent graduates who were qualified to fill their open positions. And nearly one-third of those surveyed said colleges deserved fair to poor marks for their ability to produce successful employees.

Employers said graduates with bachelor’s degrees often lacked the ability to adapt, communicate effectively and solve complex problems.

The study results give Howard and the HUIRB an opportunity, says Gerald D. Prothro, managing director of IKT Investments Ltd. in Goldens Bridge, N.Y., and chair of the research committee for Howard’s Board of Trustees. “To the extent that we can use the interdisciplinary nature of the building to better enable students to enhance their communications skills, their ability to work with others and to solve problems, our students will be a lot more valuable to employers and hopefully hired a lot faster,” Prothro says.

The HUIRB will also allow the University to make more of an impact in the world, as students and faculty conduct research that can affect every field, from medicine to product development. “We have identified health care disparities and diseases that disproportionately impact the Black community and the African Diaspora,” Ribeau says. “Sickle cell, HIV/AIDS, hypertension, cancer, heart disease—all the statistics clearly demonstrate that those diseases disproportionately ravage the Black community. Our researchers are looking at ways of discovering cures, treatment and medication—ways of actually helping us confront these terrible diseases that are devastating our communities.”

The new facilities will also pave the way for new partnerships and alliances for Howard. “We’ll be doing cutting-edge research, so there will be companies coming to us wanting to partner with us,” Ribeau says.

Then there is the role the HUIRB will play in preparing students for STEM careers. “The future of most universities is going to be heavily tied to how successfully they are producing STEM students,” Prothro says. “We want to be major players in this space, and with this building, we’re doing our level best to be in a key leadership position.”

The construction of the HUIRB achieves a number of goals that will raise Howard’s profile globally, Prothro says. First, it shows that Howard is producing graduates who are equipped to excel in the STEM fields. Second, the research that is done will lead to more recognition within the academic community, as well as the STEM fields. And, third, the new building makes Howard more attractive to the established grant community, increasing the likelihood that companies and government agencies will take a chance with Howard researchers.

“I think we can make it a very attractive entity for corporations to donate to—everyone from the Department of Defense to NASA to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory,” Prothro says. “It can be a magnet for projects to be done here because it will be a world-class facility.”

As the time gets closer for the buildings’ completion, there will be opportunities for alumni to get involved. There will be fundraising and naming opportunities for alumni who might want a conference room or laboratory in the HUIRB named after them. Alumni can also contribute in other ways. For example, alumni who are currently working in various research fields might agree to give a lecture. Finally, alumni can do their part to help to publicize the building, Prothro points out, showing corporations and grant-making institutions that Howard can be an attractive research partner for years to come.

While there is a general spirit of pride among members of the Howard community about the strides the University has taken in the construction of the three buildings, many alumni, such as Owen, are particularly vested, as they have family members continuing the Howard tradition.

“As an alumnus, it’s always amazing to see the forward progression of your university, but my little sister is a rising sophomore right now at Howard, so I want to make sure she has the facilities to support her research and her endeavors as a student,” he says.

Holmes is a writer based in Maryland.
A Rising Star on Broadway

Alumna makes her debut as civil rights icon Nina Simone in a new musical.

By Cheryl Blair
Amber Iman (B.F.A. ’08) starred in her first show at the age of 3, when she played civil rights mother Rosa Parks in a Black history production. Now, the rising star is tackling the role of another civil rights icon, singer and songwriter Nina Simone. Iman made her debut on Broadway in August in the musical Soul Doctor, which chronicles an unlikely friendship between Simone and Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, who played nontraditional Jewish music during the 1960s.

Iman is thrilled to be on Broadway, and having struggled to land roles just a few years earlier makes it all the better. Before she was cast as Simone, she had a string of roles in shows, jobs singing backup for major R&B artists and performances at local events. But in the early days of her career in New York City, there were times she barely made ends meet and had to choose between eating for the day and going to an audition.

“Some nights I didn’t know where I would sleep. I brought my suitcase with me to the theater, and there were many nights when I slept at the theater,” she says.

Iman says Howard University prepared her well for life after college and for making her transition to professional acting on Broadway. She has been rooted in musical theater since she was a child, and her mother, who was also in show business, pushed her to be her best both academically and as an entertainer. But it was at Howard, she says, where she found her sanctuary.

“In particular, [professor] Reggie Ray, who is the head of costumes and the reason I went to Howard, has had a huge impact on me. He taught the hardest class I have ever taken. And, he showed me what it means to be a Black woman in this business. He would take something as small as a makeup lesson and turn it into a life lesson,” says Iman, who has remained in contact with Ray and is continually encouraged by him to keep reaching for her goals.

The Role of a Lifetime
Iman says she loves the stage and believes she can learn so much more by getting to walk in the footsteps of others when she performs, particularly those of the woman she is currently portraying. To Iman, Simone’s relentless pursuit of her dreams mirrors her own, and she is inspired by how Simone was true to herself and firm in her beliefs.

“Nina tells her story through her music, and listening to her music allowed me to embrace her as my character,” she says.

Iman prepared for the role by fully studying and becoming Nina Simone. From the way she spoke in different stages of her life to how she carried herself from day to day, Iman has embraced it all to make herself and Simone become one.

Iman’s schedule is hectic even on the days she isn’t performing. Theater rehearsal is generally from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and includes costume fitting, lessons with a dialect coach, working with a vocal consultant and meeting with her personal trainer for exercise.

But she’s doing what she loves and is getting terrific reviews for the role. She says her time at Howard led her down a successful path. Being in the business of theater requires persistence and the ability to not get discouraged or distracted, and these are lessons she says she learned at Howard.

Without the guidance of her professors, she says, she would not be where she is today and, for that, she is forever grateful.

“Acting lets you be anything, and Howard let me be an actress.”

Blair is a senior at Old Dominion University and a former intern in the Office of University Communications.
Howard University takes great pride in fostering a passion for and appreciation of the African Diaspora in young scholars. While many students arrive at the University unaware of the saga of powerful African people, professors in the Department of African Studies are ensuring that they leave equipped with an impenetrable pride in the continent.

“The contributions of Africa and people of African descent all over the world are just too important not to study and engage in academically and intellectually,” says department chair Mbye Cham, Ph.D.

Visionary Leadership Paves the Way

The Department of African Studies, so integrated and vital to the University’s DNA, is celebrating 60 years of graduate scholarship this year. Among those being recognized are pioneers who established the African Studies and Research Program (ASRP) in 1953, including professors Leo Hansberry, E. Franklin Frazier and others such as C.L.R. James and Leon Damas, who played a key role in designing and developing an interdisciplinary graduate program in African Studies, offering first the M.A. degree and then, beginning in 1969, the Ph.D. degree. (Until recently, Howard was the only university in the U.S. to formally offer both the M.A. and the Ph.D. in African Studies.)

In 1991, ASRP evolved into the Department of African Studies, moving from the Graduate School to the College of Arts and Sciences, and began to also offer a B.A. degree.

Since its inception, the program has enjoyed visionary leadership, a renowned and productive faculty and high-caliber students. Among the first directors were professors Chike Onwuachi, Sulayman Nyang, Ph.D., Damas and the late Robert Cummings, Ph.D.

Cummings served as director of the ASRP from 1976 to 1986 and then became the chairman of the full-fledged department. When he recognized great lapses in the awareness of African history in his college students, Cummings dedicated Saturday mornings to educating elementary, middle and high school students in the community about the many cultures and geography of Africa.

In 2008, the department established the annual Robert J. Cummings Lecture, and renamed the department’s main conference room, The Robert J. Cummings Conference Room, in his honor.

The Next 60

Cham grew up in The Gambia hearing stories about the legacy of Howard University, and when he arrived in the U.S. in 1969 he believed it to be “the pinnacle of education and one of the finest institutions for higher education for everyone, not just Blacks.”

Over the years, the department has produced ambassadors, Foreign Service officers, scholars and teachers who have successful careers in local, national and
international affairs and development. And, today, professors are focused on research projects and global partnerships, including Robert Edgar, Ph.D., who spent a semester as a visiting professor at the University of the Western Cape (UWC) in South Africa, part of an official international partnership between UWC and Howard University.

In addition, Nyang provides weekly commentary and education on The Voice of America Radio about the state of American and African-Muslim relationships and analysis of U.S.-Africa relations; Alem Hailu, Ph.D., is researching the impact and prevalence of social media on African politics (he and School of Education colleague Helen Bond, Ph.D., developed a course called “Social Media, Political Change, and the African World”); and Krista Johnson, Ph.D., a 2011-2012 Fulbright recipient, published the major reference book Encyclopedia of South Africa.

The work of these professors has inspired students to travel to several African nations to make a difference. This year, students spent time in Kenya, Senegal, South Africa and several other countries, working to exemplify Howard’s mantra of “Truth and Service” through their knowledge of engineering, education and economics.

And African Studies alumni are carrying on the legacy, including John Kakonge (M.Ed. ’79; Ph.D. ’88), who was appointed in January 2013 as the new Kenya Ambassador for the U.N. Office in Geneva, after serving as a UNDP resident representative across the continent of Africa for more than 20 years, and Carole Boyce-Davies (M.A. ’75), a professor at Cornell University, who will conduct the Robert J. Cummings Lecture in October and speak about the impact her Howard experience had in her development as a leading scholar of African Diaspora and Women’s Studies.

As the department celebrates its legacy, Cham says he wants to continue to see it flourish by connecting today’s students with contemporary history, achievements and innovations, while respecting and strengthening the eternal bonds between the continent and its children around the world.
As planes take off from the Baltimore Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, there is a feeling of great pride that a major travel hub bears the name of the first African-American Supreme Court justice. For Larry S. Gibson (B.A. '64), the principal advocate for passing the legislation to rename the airport, it is a fitting tribute to a Baltimorean who soared to unprecedented heights in the nation’s history.

With the release of his book, *Young Thurgood: The Making of a Supreme Court Justice*, Gibson, a longtime University of Maryland law professor and political activist, has further ensured that Marshall’s legacy endures for generations to come. The book covers extensively the people and places that shaped Marshall, years before his arguments in the *Brown v. Board of Education* case desegregated public schools and transformed the landscape for racial equality in the United States.

*Young Thurgood* revisits Marshall’s early life in segregated West Baltimore, his undergraduate studies at Lincoln University and his time at Howard University School of Law, where he was the only student in 1933 to graduate *cum laude*. And history buffs will appreciate how it captures the nuances of Baltimore’s Black legal community, starting from the turn of the century until the 1930s.

“I wanted this book to be an exception to the other books written about Marshall. I wanted to write a book that provided a strong picture of his formative years and showed how he became the man he was,” Gibson says.

The book also allows Gibson to “set the record straight” about Marshall’s legacy,
he says, and dispel myths that have evolved over the years.

"I would hear information about him that was simply not true. One of my colleagues said to me one day, 'If you're so unhappy with the way Marshall is portrayed, then why don’t you write your own book?" Gibson recalls.

For example, Gibson discounts the long-held belief that Marshall applied to and was rejected from the University of Maryland Law School. In fact, he explains, Marshall already knew the law school was segregated and therefore would never have been inclined to apply. Another myth, Gibson says, is that Marshall disliked his hometown. Not true either. Although Marshall despised the segregation in Baltimore, he had fond memories of the community in which he grew up, Gibson explains.

Young Thurgood, which took more than 10 years to complete, is getting rave reviews. It received the 2013 International Book Award for biography and is the only one endorsed by the Marshall family. In the foreword, Thurgood Marshall Jr. writes: "Readers will see in this book the origins of my father's penchant for storytelling and his desire to act as an advocate for fairness on behalf of those who are marginalized in American society."

Gibson's interest in writing the book also stems from his admiration of Marshall's career. He still vividly recalls their first meeting—July 1, 1975. Then a novice Maryland attorney, he knocked on the door of Marshall's Virginia home late one night. He and one of his colleagues were there to ask for help securing an emergency order for a client. After 20 minutes discussing the order, the justice signed it. But it was the next two hours that stayed with Gibson.

"We thought we would be there for a brief time, but we were at his house until 2 in the morning," Gibson says with a laugh. "We spent very little time discussing the business at hand, and the next two hours discussing our backgrounds and his life in Baltimore. Many of us young Black lawyers were proud of him, but we didn’t know him personally. This showed me a personal side."

Young Gibson
Like Marshall, Gibson is a Baltimorean. He graduated from Baltimore City College, where he was the first African-American class officer. At Howard, he served as president of the student body and as chair of D.C. Students for Civil Rights. He graduated from Columbia Law School in 1967, the same year that Marshall began serving on the Supreme Court. In 1972, Gibson became the first African-American law professor at the University of Virginia. He joined the faculty of the University of Maryland School of Law in 1974, where he currently teaches evidence, civil procedure, race and the law, and election law.

"Every year the students are the same age; it's perpetual youth, which I enjoy," he says. "I'm also now teaching second generations of students."

Gibson's career includes serving in the U.S. Justice Department as associate deputy attorney general during President Jimmy Carter's administration. He has also worked on several political campaigns, including as Maryland state chairman for the Clinton-Gore presidential campaign, and as campaign manager for former Howard law school dean and Baltimore mayor Kurt Schmoke.

"He managed my campaigns for state's attorney for Baltimore City and for mayor of Baltimore. The result was five victories in five elections," says Schmoke, vice president and general counsel for Howard University. "The advice he gave me that stands out the most was never ask your volunteers to do something you would not do yourself, and thank people daily for the small and big things that are done to help the political campaign. I think he learned those lessons running student elections at Howard University."

Schmoke is not surprised at the success of Young Thurgood. "Because of the depth of his research and his unique knowledge of the history of the African-American community in early 20th-century Baltimore, Professor Gibson has written a most insightful biography of Justice Marshall."

Preserving Marshall's Legacy
After Maryland Del. Emmett C. Burns Jr. introduced legislation in 2005 to rename BWI Airport, Gibson organized and led the lobbying and negotiating efforts to get it passed through the state Senate, even becoming involved in getting the highway signs changed to reflect the new airport name. He wants young people to not only recognize the magnitude of Marshall's contributions, including his service on the Supreme Court for 24 years, but also to understand how it grew from the foundation that his family, friends and colleagues provided.

As Gibson continues to tour the U.S. promoting his book, he says he is already working on a new one. In his second book, he plans to chronicle the next chapter in Marshall's life, from 1938 to 1948. But in Young Thurgood, he has added fresh research to the historical canon in the U.S.

"I hope that when people finish reading my book, especially young people, they will see how much a single young person can accomplish," Gibson says.

Padgett is the editor of Howard Magazine.
Milestones
Alumni

’60s
Hugh N. Duhaney, D.D.S. 1962, co-wrote with three siblings Short Stories from Jamaica—Happy Grove, Portland, which details their rural life in Portland parish, Duhaney’s later employment at the West Indies Sugar Company and his final journey to the U.S.A. Duhaney taught dentistry at Howard from 1962–1991.

William Small Jr., B.A. 1962; LL.B. 1965, was elected to the South Carolina State University Board of Trustees by the South Carolina General Assembly.

Linda Goss, B.F.A. 1969, was awarded the 2013 Kathryn Morgan Award for Folk Arts and Social Justice by the Philadelphia Folklore Project for her lifetime of work in storytelling. Goss, whose work addresses social injustice, was recognized by the Philadelphia Folklore Project during its 26th anniversary celebration.

’70s
Kibbie F. Payne, J.D. 1970, retired as an acting Supreme Court justice after dedicating 20 years of public service in the New York State Judiciary.

Minnie Baylor-Henry, B.S.P. 1972, was elected president of the Drug Information Association’s board of directors. As president, Baylor-Henry will play a key role in establishing and informing the strategies employed by the association.

Floyd Malveaux, M.D. 1974, was inducted as the first alumni member of Creighton University’s chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society. Malveaux, executive vice president and executive director of the Merck Childhood Asthma Network Inc., is a nationally recognized expert on asthma and allergic diseases. He is also dean emeritus of Howard’s College of Medicine and a former professor of microbiology and medicine at Howard.

’80s
Denice Cora-Bramble, M.D. 1980, was named chief medical officer for Ambulatory and Community Health Services at Children’s National Medical Center. Cora-Bramble is a recipient of the Academic Pediatric Association’s Health Care Delivery Award.

Shirley Marie Watts, B.A. 1980, was appointed by Maryland Gov. Martin O’Malley to the Court of Appeals, the state’s highest court. The appointment makes her the first Black female in this role. Watts served as a judge in Baltimore City Circuit Court from 2002 until 2011.

Rosalynne Whitaker-Heck, B.A. 1980, earned a doctorate in higher education administration from George Washington University in January 2013. Whitaker-Heck is the former assistant dean for academic affairs for the Scripps Howard School of Journalism and Communications at Hampton University. She and her husband are the co-owners of HECK Productions.

Velma Maia Thomas, B.A. 1977, uncovered the life of Charles Carr, a slave aboard the slave vessel the Wanderer. Through lectures and, soon, an exhibit, Thomas retraces the life of Carr, from the Congo where he was captured, to his middle passage memories to being led off the slave ship on Jekyll Island, Ga., where, in 1858, the Wanderer anchored. Thomas is a writer and public historian, and recently co-authored the book Emancipation Proclamation: Forever Free.

Richard Smith, M.D. 1976, an obstetrician at Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit, marked a career milestone when he delivered his 8,000th baby. Smith has been delivering babies for more than 40 years.

Judy C. Seibert, B.S. 1974, received a doctorate degree in education on May 18, 2013, from Widener University. Seibert is an administrator with the school district of Philadelphia.

Lawrence O. Yates, M.S.W. 1975, retired from the District of Columbia’s Department of Health after 33 years of service and received a ceremonial resolution. At his retirement, Yates was an inspector for community-based residential facilities.

George Keith Martin, J.D. 1978, will chair the University of Virginia Board of Visitors as rector for the next two years. Martin is the managing partner of the Richmond office of McGuireWoods, where he focuses on construction, commercial real estate and local government law.

Sharon Hairston Dennis, B.A. 1981, was selected by Project GRAD of Akron, Ohio Achieving Dreams initiative to receive the Community Service Award. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta, where she launched the Darfur Project in
2010 to create awareness and raise money for the construction of fresh-water wells for endangered Sudanese refugees. Dennis is a presiding magistrate in Akron and the first African-American magistrate to garner an appointment to the Summit County Domestic Relations Court.

Wosene Worke Kosrof, M.F.A. 1981, held his first London exhibition of paintings in more than 10 years. Sixteen paintings were included in the exhibition WordPlay that was held at the Gallery of African Art. Kosrof is the first Ethiopian-born artist to incorporate Amharic script images into contemporary fine art. In 2010–11, he had a major exhibition of more than 40 works at the National Museum of Ethiopia, Addis Ababa.

Olga Osby, B.A. 1982; M.S.W. 1989; D.S.W. 1995, was awarded Delta Sigma Theta sorority’s 2013 Distinguished Professor Endowed Chair Award. Osby is an associate professor at Jackson State University’s School of Social Work. The $220,000 award will support her research on the role that African-American grandfathers play in child-rearing.

Robin Brooks Taylor, B.S. 1982, was accepted to attend a Fulbright program, “Diversity in German Education,” at the University of Tubingen, Germany. Brooks just completed her fourth year teaching at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Virginia and is a lead mentor teacher in the Great Beginnings Program.

Deryl McKissack, B.S.C.E. 1983, was selected by the District of Columbia Society of Professional Engineers (DCSPE) as the 2013 Engineer of the Year. McKissack is the president and CEO of McKissack & McKissack, a woman/minority-owned organization specializing in architecture and interiors, program and construction management, planning and facilities management, environmental engineering and transportation.

Junifer Hall, J.D. 1986, received an M.B.A. from Indiana University. She plans to specialize in international finance and international branding.

Rosie Allen-Herring, B.A. 1988, was named president and CEO of United Way. Allen-Herring is known for her role in managing the annual Help the Homeless Walkathon and has raised more than $100 million for local charities. She also assembles business and government leaders to expand financial assistance programs for homeowners and homebuyers.

Forrest A. Daniels, B.B.A. 1988, received a doctor of science degree in administration-health services from the University of Alabama-Birmingham (UAB). With more than 20 years’ experience as a health care administrator and health disparities advocate, Daniels was in the inaugural cohort of UAB’s Executive Doctoral Program.

Daniel J. Alexander II, B.A. 1991, was hired as an adjunct professor of law at University of California, Irvine School of Law.

SAVE THE DATE
The Howard University Pharmacy Alumni Association is holding its annual gala April 13, 2014, at the Greenbelt Marriott in Greenbelt, Md. For more information, contact Fred Munford, chair of the gala, at fmun44@gmail.com or visit www.huxalumni.com.
Former Bison Looks to Make an Impact in the NFL  Deron Snyder (B.A. ’85)

Keith Pough’s mother was a South Carolina State Bulldog. So were an uncle and a grandfather. A cousin played in the NFL after earning All-America honors as a Bulldog. Another cousin went from all-conference tackle to assistant coach and has been the team’s head coach since 2002.

With all of that history and so much family in Orangeburg, S.C., and with Pough growing up in the Bulldogs’ locker room, at their practices and on their sidelines, one might ask: How on Earth did Pough land at Howard University instead of South Carolina State?

“That’s the million-dollar question,” says Pough, a stellar linebacker who went undrafted in April, but immediately signed a free-agent contract with the Buffalo Bills. “I’ve been hearing that since my freshman year.”

Pough wasn’t highly recruited by major colleges as he finished high school (a summer growth spurt before his junior season took him from 5-foot-8 and 160 pounds to 6 feet and 180 pounds), but S.C. State, Howard and every other member of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference was interested.

He had offers to walk on at LSU and Clemson, but the combination of Howard’s prestige and academic tradition—not to mention a full scholarship—led him to the Bison. No one knew he would evolve into a bona fide NFL prospect. “This was never in the cards for me,” he says.

As a senior last season, Pough was named the MEAC Defensive Player of the Year and won several other honors while setting a Football Championship Subdivision career record with 71 tackles for losses. He became the first Howard player invited to the East-West Shrine Bowl and captained the Bison to a 7-4 record, Howard’s best season since 1998.

He says he grew immensely in other areas after his sophomore season. Former strength and conditioning coach Darryl Haley inspired Pough to read books for enlightenment, beginning with As a Man Thinketh. An uncle, Jimmy Leach, instilled a love for health and nutrition. Pough began to expand his mind, push his body and study football film more than ever.

“The summer before my junior year was a turning point,” says Pough, who majored in physical education with a minor in secondary education and is one semester shy of his degree. “I had to make some changes from the path I was headed and I had an epiphany.”

Pough, listed at 6-foot-3 and 236 pounds, has dived into his new profession, pursuing it like a loose football in a scrum. Perhaps fate has directed his path from the start: The Bison and the Bills have virtually identical helmet logos. “I don’t think any other institution is better than Howard,” Pough says.

Snyder, a former award-winning journalist, is a communications professional based in Washington, D.C.
Edward Branch, M.Div. 1991, was honored by Pope Benedict XVI with the title of monsignor on Feb. 14, 2013. Branch is the Catholic chaplain for the Atlanta University Center, a cluster of historically African-American institutions of higher education. He is also a preaching instructor in the Deacon Formation Program of the Archdiocese of Atlanta.

Valerie Maholmes, Ph.D. 1992, was named chief of the newly formed Pediatric Trauma and Critical Illness Branch (PTCIB), Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). Maholmes has had a long career focusing on the needs of vulnerable and at-risk children. Before joining NICHD, she was a faculty member at the Yale Child Study Center.

Clarence Belnavis, J.D. 1994, was featured in Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business 2013 and in the 2013 Oregon Super Lawyers. Belnavis is a partner with Fisher & Phillips LLP in Portland, Ore.

Ira Arthell Neighbors, D.S.W. 1994, received the Sol Gothard Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Organization of Forensic Social Work (NOFSW). The Gothard award is the highest honor bestowed by NOFSW and is presented to an individual who has made outstanding contributions to the forensic social work profession, public welfare and humankind. Neighbors has dedicated his life to helping individuals with developmental disabilities.

Stephanie Elam, B.A. 1995, joined CNN as a correspondent based in Los Angeles. Elam returns to CNN from KNBC in Los Angeles, where she served as a weekend evening anchor and general assignment reporter.

Paula B. Mathis, B.A. 1995, received tenure and was named associate professor of elementary education at the University of Hawai‘i-West O‘ahu. Her current research includes identifying ways to use culturally responsive materials to stimulate classroom discussions, awareness and appropriateness with regards to various cultural contributions to academic learning.

Carl W. Johnson II, M.D. 1996, and Kenya McGuire Johnson, B.S. 1994, and their children were featured on Ebony.com as one of the coolest Black families in the country. The article also details how the two met at their alma mater.

Akiba Solomon, B.A. 1996, was named managing editor of Colorlines.com. Solomon is a journalist, editor and essayist who has extensively written about the intersection between gender and race for Colorlines, The Root.com and Ebony.com. She is also co-editor of the book Naked: Black Women Bare All About Their Skin, Hair, Hips, Lips and Other Parts.

Monica Barnes, B.A. 1998, was named one of the 2013 “40 Lawyers Under 40” by the National Bar Association and IMPACT. This award recognizes young African-American lawyers age 40 and younger who have achieved professional and philanthropic prominence and distinction. Barnes is an assistant city attorney for the City of Miami Gardens, Fla.

Darius Billings, B.B.A. 1998, is celebrating his engagement to Ashley Baker. Billings is the director of marketing for a major athletic footwear company in Atlanta. The couple will wed in November in Atlanta.
Milestones
Alumni

’00s


Evelyn McKenzie (McIntyre), B.B.A. 2003; M.Ed. 2006, was married on June 29, 2013, at Andrew Rankin Memorial Chapel. The newlyweds honeymooned in the Cayman Islands and reside in Washington, D.C. She is a teacher with D.C. Public Schools.

Lloyd Freeman, B.B.A. 2004, was elected chairman of the board of trustees for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Burlington, Camden and Gloucester counties in New Jersey. Recently, he completed his term as the organization’s treasurer and provided oversight to the agency’s budget that grew to over $750,000.

Gerard McMurray, B.A. 2004, is an associate producer for the movie Fruitvale Station.


Lakia Q. Gray, B.A. 2006, was named director of recruitment and student development for Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine in Ohio. Gray, who held positions with

Alex Dixon, B.B.A. 2003, was named vice president and assistant general manager of Horseshoe Casino Baltimore. Prior to his appointment, Dixon served as chief of staff to Caesars Entertainment’s president of enterprise shared services.

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Alumnus Honored at Morehouse

Alvin Thornton (Ph.D. ’79), senior academic advisor to President Sidney A. Ribeau, Ph.D., was named Alumnus of the Year at Morehouse College for his work supporting Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the community at large. The award was bestowed in a ceremony in Atlanta on May 18.

“I am deeply honored to be recognized in this manner by the national alumni association of the institution that did so much to define and shape my life,” Thornton says. “Morehouse first served me so I could then serve the community.”

Thornton was Howard’s interim provost and chief academic officer for two years and associate provost for eight years. He was a faculty member in the Department of Political Science for 20 years and its chair from 1995 to 2002. Thornton plays a key role in the annual Morehouse-Howard AT&T Nation’s Football Classic and “The HBCU Experience Is More Than a Game” events held during the week leading up to the classic.

Flashback

Martin Luther King Jr. (pictured with baseball legend Jackie Robinson and former ACLU executive director Patrick Murphy Malin) was honored during Howard’s commencement on June 7, 1957.


Girl Scouts of Western Ohio and the Democratic National Committee, is the director of the medical school’s Horizons in Medicine program.

Phillip San Gabriel, B.Mus.Ed. 2009; M.Mus.Ed. 2011, was one of six awardees to receive a $2,500 grant from The Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts for the 2012–13 school year. The grant will be used to enhance curriculum and enrich classroom learning. Gabriel is currently teaching in the District of Columbia Public Schools at H.D. Woodson Senior High School.

Kaila Iglehart, B.S. 2009, launched an online market for Omni World Incorporated, which specializes in all-natural hair care, skin care and pain relief aids. After graduating from law school in May 2012, she was appointed EVP of marketing and distribution.

‘10s

Candiace Dillard, B.A. 2010, was crowned Miss United States 2013. The pageant was held in July in Washington, D.C. Dillard had served as Miss District of Columbia United States since May 5, 2013.

Carolyn Smith, B.A. 2012, received the Alfred Fleishman Diversity Fellowship. Smith and six other fellows from around the world will participate in a yearlong program designed to immerse recent college graduates in the field of integrated communications. Smith is the first Alfred Fleishman Diversity Fellow in the Atlanta office.

’11s

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In Memoriam
Alumni

40s

Blanche Beatrice Sorrell, Dip.N. 1941, died May 5, 2013. Sorrell became a staff nurse for Freedmen’s Hospital and later a general public health nurse for the D.C. Department of Public Health and Secondary School of Nursing. Sorrell was a life member of Alpha Beta Chapter of Eta Phi sorority. She was 93 years old.

Pauline Edwards Thompson-Spalding, M.D. 1944, died May 3, 2012. Thompson-Spalding practiced for 41 years at Harlem Hospital in New York. She was appointed chief of in-service for the adult division of the Department of Psychiatry. During that period, she was also an associate professor of psychiatry at Columbia University. Thompson-Spalding was the only African-American staff member of Planned Parenthood of New York City for 18 years. She was 93 years old.

50s

Leonard A. Altemus Sr., D.D.S. 1950, died Feb. 8, 2013. Altemus was a professor of orthodontics and former chairman for Howard’s dental school. During his tenure as chair, the postgraduate program was developed. Altemus later served as the dental school’s director of continuing education until his retirement. He was a member of several organizations, including Omega Phi Phi. He was also a Tuskegee Airman. He was 94 years old.

Purvis Melvin Carter, M.A. 1950, died Feb. 13, 2013. Carter was a professor in the Department of History at Prairie View A&M University for 50 years, and was a well-respected lecturer on U.S. foreign relations and race relations. He received countless awards, including the Texas Historical Commission and Texas Historical Foundation Award and the Prairie View A&M University Teacher of the Year Award. He was 87 years old.

Mary Henderson Finley, M.A. 1951, died May 27, 2013. She was a social worker whose career began in 1934 and lasted until her retirement in 1973. Finley was passionate about social justice and was deeply involved in the care of individuals and families. She was 99 years old.

Ruby M. Weaver, Dip.N. 1952, died Dec. 12, 2012. She was a graduate of Freedmen’s Hospital School of Nursing. She retired from the McGuire VA Hospital after many years of service.

Fred D. McLeod Jr., LL.B. 1953, died June 8, 2013. McLeod was a World War II veteran and served as a member of the Red Ball Express, a truck convoy system used during the war. He was 88 years old.

Haley Simmons, B.Arch. 1953, died April 9, 2013. Simmons was a prominent architect and one of the principal architects on one of St. Louis’ major hotels, the Adam’s Mark. He was 83 years old.

Emmett Coleman Jr., B.S.P. 1954, died March 23, 2013. Coleman was a pharmacist for more than 50 years in Washington, D.C.

Beverly Roscoe Dorsey, M.D. 1954, died April 12, 2011. Dorsey was a 1st lieutenant with the U.S. Army in Europe and the Philippines. He received his bachelor’s degree at Oberlin College before attending Howard. There, he met and married Beverly Hosten, his wife of 57 years. They practiced medicine together for 37 years in Binghamton, N.Y.

M. Lucius Walker Jr., B.S.M.E. 1957, died June 6, 2013. A summa cum laude graduate of Howard, Walker later earned his master’s and doctoral degrees in mechanical engineering from Carnegie Institute of Technology. Walker served as acting dean of the School of Engineering at Howard from 1975–1977, and subsequently served as dean from 1977–1995. During his tenure, several new major programs were implemented, including master’s degree programs in systems and computer science and chemical engineering; a bachelor’s degree program in computer science; doctoral programs in electrical and mechanical engineering; and a school-wide computing network.

Walker retired from Howard in 2002 after 44 years of service in the engineering school. He was particularly instrumental in the formulation of the national movement started in 1972 to increase the number of underrepresented minorities in the fields of engineering. Notably, he was one of the founders and the director of the Engineering Coalition of Schools for Excellence in Education and Leadership, a National Science Foundation-sponsored coalition of seven major university engineering schools.
Hazel Waller Seale, DH. Cert. 1956, died July 3, 2012. Seale worked with the New York City Department of Health until her retirement, providing dental hygiene services to school children in Brooklyn, N.Y. She was 80 years old.

John J. Lawrence, M.D. 1957, died Nov. 30, 2012. He established his private practice in internal medicine in 1962 and ran this practice until 1988. He then moved to the administrative staff of St. Vincent’s Medical Center, where he became its first chief medical officer until his retirement.

Rosa Lee Miller, Dip.N. 1957, died Feb. 26, 2013. Miller was a graduate of Freedmen’s Hospital School of Nursing. She was 77 years old.

Lavell Victor Allen, B.S.E.E. 1958, died April 27, 2013. An electrical engineer, Allen lived in Scandinavia, France and Italy where he engineered products for North American Phillips and Norelco. He brought his talents back to the U.S., where he worked for General Electric, Ford Aerospace, General Railway, Loral Systems and, finally, as one of the earliest engineers at the then-fledgling Mantech. He was 76 years old.

Bernard P. Jenkins, B.S.C.E. 1958, died Jan. 7, 2013. He served as a radio operator during the Korean War. He also established BP Jenkins Inc., one of the first minority-owned engineering and construction companies in Northeast Ohio.

‘60s

George D. Ward, B.A. 1962, died Oct. 2, 2012. Ward became a certified public accountant in Maryland in the early 1960s. He left the government to become a partner and executive vice president and treasurer of Automated Business Systems and Services, a minority-owned business. He retired as a compliance review manager for Senior Service America. Ward was a member of Omega Psi fraternity. He was 75 years old.

James E. House, B.S.M.E. 1963, died Feb. 26, 2013. House began his career as an engineer in the aircraft and aerospace industry, responsible for the design and testing of the F4 Phantom for the Vietnam conflict, and worked on the development of the 747 as the nation's first commercial jumbo aircraft. As a presidential appointee under the administrations of Presidents George H.W. Bush and George W. Bush, House served as the director of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

James E. Sheffield, LL.B. 1963, died March 28, 2013. Sheffield was nominated by President Jimmy Carter to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. In 1974, he was appointed by Gov. Mills E. Godwin Jr. to the Circuit Court of the City of Richmond, Va., the first such appointment to a court of record in the Commonwealth of Virginia of an African American since the Reconstruction era. He subsequently served as chief judge. He was 81 years old.

Eugene Carmichael, LL.B. 1964, died Jan. 12, 2013. After earning an LL.M. in tax from New York University, he worked as a tax attorney for Shell Oil Company for 18 years.

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Edward J. Yates, M.S.W. 1963, died Feb. 18, 2010. Yates was a graduate of Howard’s School of Social Work. He was 73 years old.

Gayleatha B. Brown, B.A. 1968; M.A. 1970, died April 20, 2013. Brown was a U.S. Foreign Service officer and ambassador for more than 30 years. Brown’s dedicated career included serving as ambassador to Benin, counselor for political affairs at the U.S. Embassy in South Africa and extensive service as a State Department negotiator. She is listed among the first women in the Rotarians of Tanzania and received two Department of State Superior Honors Awards.

Berton Heiserman, B.A. 1969, died June 22, 2013. Heiserman designed and built many homes in Montgomery County, Md. He also owned and operated Meadows Deli in Silver Spring, Md. For the past opening his own practice in northwest Detroit in 1971. He was 74 years old.


Omar Sykes, a junior marketing major, died July 4, 2013. Sykes was known as hard-working, entrepreneurial and an advocate for social justice. He was also an active member of Alpha Phi Omega. Having grown up in California, Tanzania, Nigeria, Ethiopia and South Africa, he adopted Washington, D.C., as his home. Sykes was 22 years old.
24 years, he owned Pen Haven, where he turned his hobby into a rewarding career. Heiserman was recognized internationally as one of the foremost authorities on vintage fountain pens. He was 68 years old.

**70s**

Thomas A. Armstrong, D.D.S. 1970, died April 1, 2013. Armstrong practiced dentistry at the Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center in association with Boston University, where he worked to champion the cause of dental care in the inner city. He later became a faculty member at Boston University's Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine. While maintaining his private practice, Armstrong became director of the Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center. He was 82 years old.

Charles D. Buggs, B.F.A. 1971, died Oct. 25, 2012. A fine arts major, Buggs taught junior high school in Washington, D.C., before he moved to Juneau, Alaska, where he taught children and adults the art of paper masks. He also served three years in the U.S. Army. He was 76 years old.

Alton L. Gill Jr., J.D. 1971, died April 3, 2013. Gill served as corporation counsel for the city of Gary, Ind. He also served as legal advisor for the Gary Police Department, vice-president of the Gary Board of Public Works and Public Safety and board member for the City of Gary Port Authority. He was 75 years old.

Janice Lancaster Nicholson, B.S. 1971; M.S. 1972; Ph.D. 1974, died March 20, 2013. After working as a research chemist for General Electric and a systems analyst for the Department of the Navy at Mobile Oil, she came to work at Howard. Her last post at Howard was associate vice president of enrollment management, a position she held until her retirement in 2000. She was 63 years old.

Mary E. Murray Link, B.A. 1972, died March 18, 2013. After graduating from Howard, Link held a career as a human resources manager with the Federal Home Loan Bank Board. She was 83 years old.

Worsham N. Caldwell Jr., J.D. 1975, died March 12, 2013. For 31 years, Caldwell worked as an attorney in the St. Louis area. He was a member of several firms bearing his name over the years. Along with his colleagues, he founded the private law practice Worsham N. Caldwell Jr. & Associates, LLC. He was 64 years old.

Jo-Linda Sanders, B.A. 1971; Mus.M. 1974, died Nov. 30, 2012. She was a principal real estate broker and served on several real estate boards. She owned several art galleries in North Carolina and Virginia and Back to Earth Foods of Virginia.

Raymond F. Thompson Jr., B.A. 1971; M.Ed. 1975, died April 17, 2013. After graduating from Howard, Thompson returned to his alma mater to teach modern literature. He was a counselor for Prince George’s Community College and the Prince George’s Public Schools in Maryland. He was 65 years old.

**00s**

DeCardis Armand Holder, B.B.A. 2006, died April 23, 2013. After graduating from Howard’s School of Business, Holder went on to serve in the U.S. Army Reserve as a first lieutenant. He participated in the Memphis in May Triathlon in 2007 and was a 2009 U.S. Army Officer candidate school graduate. He was 28 years old.
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Make Your Mark! Why Legacy Still Matters (Healthcare Businesswomen’s Association), by Freda Lewis-Hall (M.D. ’80), contains leadership lessons gleaned from Lewis-Hall’s remarkable career in health care (she is the chief medical officer of Pfizer Inc.), as well as inspiration gained from her family, mentors and colleagues.

Domestic Tranquility (Endpapers Press), by Ken Pakman (D.D.S. ’73), is an action-packed thriller about U.S. citizens who have suffered through martial law as a result of an attack from the Soviet Union.

I Will Give You Rain (Tate Publishing and Enterprises, LLC), by Kiva Gates (B.A. ’78), is a riveting novel about a woman left reeling when the man she was in love with suddenly leaves. With the pain of a broken heart, the protagonist discovers an undeniable truth about who her beloved truly is.

The Brotherhood of Drew Hall (Burns Books Publishing), by Jeff Burns, Jr. (B.A. ’72), is a collection of compelling essays from successful alumni who recount their undergraduate journey at Howard and the impact that living in Drew Hall had on their lives.

Just Say Yes! (Xulon Press), by Marilyn Granville Davis (M.S.W. ’92), is a novel about how six teenagers living in Gaza, Ala., deal with various challenges in their lives, including peer pressure and family struggles.

25 Letters (Xlibris Corp.), by Wade J. Savage (B.A. ’85), is a compilation of letters that detail the author’s life and the events that discouraged him, lifted him up and led him to his faith.

WASH: George Washington Abrams: Faith in Hard Times (TaHaHo Books), by Harvey Webb Jr. (B.S. ’56; D.D.S. ’60; M.S. ’62) and Willa Mae Abrams Webb (B.S. ’56), chronicles the story of a boy who was born into slavery and falsely held responsible for a crime he did not commit. The novel describes his journey across the country and how he overcomes prejudice.

SUNDIAL (iUniverse, Inc.), by L.C. Morse (Ph.D. ’73), is a novel about the African-American college experience, including fraternity life and social status.

Seven Days: The Journey Home (AuthorHouse), by Patricia Baines (M.D. ’93), recounts the author’s journey providing comfort and support to her 23-year old nephew, who had non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. The book recounts the final seven days of her nephew’s life and the challenges and life-changing moments that she and her family faced.

To submit a book for consideration in Bison Bookshelf, please mail a copy to: Howard Magazine 2225 Georgia Ave., NW Suite 614 Washington, DC 20059
Calling all Bison! It’s time to return home. Invite your friends and family to join you on a trip back to the Mecca for Homecoming Weekend, October 26 -27, 2013.

For alumni Homecoming information, please visit:

http://www.howard.edu/alumni/homecoming2013

See you in October!