



The Quintessential

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**Elected
Executive Board for
2018-2019**

President
Moniesha Lawings

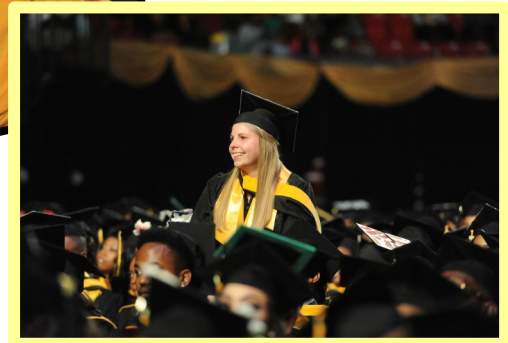
Vice-President
Tyra Harrison

Secretary
Caitland Okorafor

Historian
Chayla Duppins

Spotlight on Emily Lewis:

Ms. 4.0



Emily Lewis came to Bowie State University in fall 2014, and from the very start she aimed for perfection. Awarded a full Honors scholarship, Emily intended to keep her straight 'A' track record that followed her from Havre De Grace High School. Majoring in Early Childhood/Special Education there was no doubt that Emily's passion for education would shine through her coursework. She earned a 4.0 GPA each semester.

On May 22, 2018 Emily was recognized for graduating with the Latin Honors—*Summa Cum Laude*. She was able to reach that achievement in addition to performing as a high caliber athlete. Featured 24 times on the BSU Softball Athletics webpage, Emily proved that she could succeed as an Honors Student-Athlete. Emily was honored as *BSU Softball Defensive Player of the Week* on April 25, 2017. She seemed to shine both in the classroom and on the field.

As if being a Student-Athlete was not enough, Emily spent her spare time volunteering at Perryville Elementary, Charleston Elementary, and Havre De Grace High School. Whether she was helping an instructor grade papers or acting in a musical, Emily made being *Ms. 4.0* look easy. The Honors Program would like to congratulate Emily Lewis and wish her the best of luck as she carries that 4.0 drive to Graduate School.

*Pick up your copy of HSO Monthly in the Honors Suite, located in the Thurgood Marshall Library.

The End of the Road

On May 22, 2018 the Bowie State University (BSU) Spring Commencement took place at the Xfinity Center in College Park, Maryland. Eunique Jones Gibson, a BSU alum, addressed the graduates with an inspiring speech that included five ideals to help them get to greatness.

1. Take time to celebrate your wins before you rush out to create another one.
2. Fail fast.
3. Commit to the risk.

4. No matter what, always make excellence your goal.

5. It's bigger than you.

The Honors Program would like to congratulate our 2018 Seniors:

Faten Ashkar

Simone Fair

Phylecia Faublas

Byron Lewis

Emily Lewis

Somto Ndubisi

Jenelle Mathis

David Proctor

Christopher Stone

Ipah Usongo



Pictured: Faten Ashkar

Honda Campus All-Star Challenge: The Great 48



This year the Bowie State University HCASC team was excited to represent in The Golden State—Los Angeles, California.

The 2017-2018 BSU HCASC roster included Honors Program students Ibukun Ayo-Durojaiye, Beatrice Amoateng, Leo Genota, and Nailah Melvin. The team along with coaches Robert Batten and Dr. Monika Gross attended the Annual Honda Campus All-Star Challenge (HCASC) April 8-

10, 2017. The team ended its run in the round robin sessions. The national quiz bowl for students from historically black colleges and universities is an administered College Bowl and sponsored by the Honda Motor Company.

Congratulations HCASC team on your success; we cannot wait until next year!!

For more information visit www.hcasc.com.

Community Service and Outreach

The Honors students contributed over 1039 hours of community service. No matter what our students are asked to do, they always spring into action. The Honors Program is proud of the volunteer work all our students do. Thank you all for the hours you continue to contribute to the community and internationally.

- ◆ Food Donations—year long contributions
- ◆ Mentoring and Tutoring
- ◆ New Student Orientation
- ◆ Convocation Ushers and Program Participants
- ◆ ZONTA International (Golden Z)
- ◆ Dining Etiquette Program
- ◆ Annual African American Read-Aloud
- ◆ Vision Board Party (Golden Z)



The Race to Bring Commencement Back To Campus

To have watched the 2017-2018 Commencement for Bowie State University two questions arose. Where was Phylecia Faublas? Why wasn't she speaking? Because Ms. Faublas has been a very active Bulldog, it was quite surprising not seeing her give one of her eloquent speeches. She had been the "go to" for numerous speeches on campus, whether for Convocation, Founder's Day, or Student Government Association (SGA) events. A well-spoken Phylecia was always a pleasure to hear.

Phylecia Faublas was well known on the campus of Bowie State University, and served 2017-2018 as Student Government Association (SGA) President. However, her role stretched far beyond SGA, the Honors Program, and this campus. Phylecia played an active part in the Coalition of Equity and Excellence v. MHEC hearing. She spoke on the funding bill for Maryland HBCU's and stated, "We stopped being 3/5's human and it's time that our institutions stop being 3/5's of a university." Additionally, Ms. Faublas had been an advocate on the behalf of many students. She gave countless speeches, interviews, and attended many meetings in an effort to not only leave a legacy, but to add to the legacy of the "Illustrious" Bowie State University.

After classmate Richard Collins' death on the campus of University of Maryland College Park, Phylecia was quoted by Fox45 News saying, "...We're not in a post racial America. We are not at a place people believe we should be. In 2017. It's not surprising. It's just heartbreaking." The murder of Mr. Collins awakened a fight in her that she had been researching since attending her first BSU Commencement (2015). The fight to bring commencement back to Bowie. For her having the ceremony on campus was a given. Phylecia stated in an email, "The first time I realized something was wrong with having Commencement at another institution was my freshman year. I attended the 2015 graduation, and it was so dull. As lively as HBCUs are, I didn't understand why we wouldn't hold a Commencement equally the same, and I thought it had to do with the location." After doing research of her own, she was shown a survey that asked two questions about where to hold Commencement. She felt that the one regarding the Xfinity Center was skewed in its favor.

As she began to study the history of UMD College Park, she discovered that black students at one time were not able to study there. And currently she found that the university has the lowest enrollment amongst black students, yet it has the highest rate of racial problems. Phylecia stated, "I was more baffled that, that was the location for which I was set to graduate. I wanted Commencement to be on the campus in which I matriculated. A campus founded on the belief of embracing others who had been barred from neighboring institutions. The final straw was when Richard Collins III was murdered on that very campus, out of a hate towards black people. I could never walk across the stage there after that." So she didn't. Ms. Faublas decided not to participate in commencement if it was not returning to BSU. And in Phylecia Faublas fashion she wrote a letter to her fellow classmates about her decision not to walk with them.



Monday, 21 May 2018

Dear Bowie State Bulldogs:

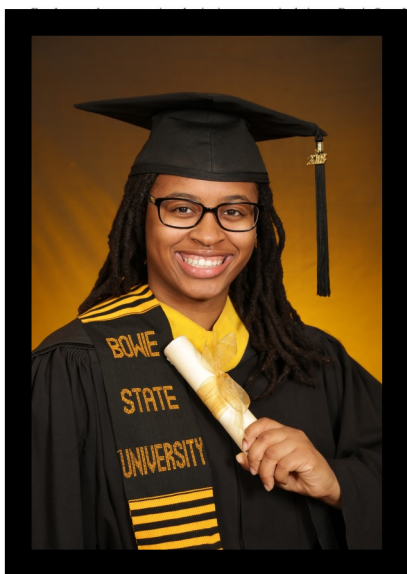
"There can be no deep disappointment where there is not deep love." – Martin Luther King, Jr.



"Although people believe it is out of disdain (which would be incredibly justified) for another institution, it is truly out of a place of deep love and reverence for Bowie State University that I will not be walking tomorrow." With Phylecia's decision not to walk came many mixed emotions, but ultimately PRIDE prevailed. We often hear and recite the quote, "If you don't stand for something, you will fall for anything." Phylecia took a stand and whether she had anything to do with it or not, the race to bring commencement back to Bowie is currently in the works.

In an email sent June 1, 2018 to faculty, staff, and students President Breaux informed them that the May 2019 Commencement would be moving. A committee has been assigned to explore sites including holding separate ceremonies in the Leonidas S. James Physical Education Complex. Additionally, the committee will investigate the Bowie Baysox Stadium as an alternative site. One thing is for sure, the campus we will not renew the contract at the Xfinity Center for next year.

Phylecia Faublas You Have Made HSO PROUD!!! Congrats Grad!



university, I have done my best of my word. I quickly strived as SGA President tomorrow. I was an English tutor, as well as join the Elite Epsilon Lambda of speeches and interviews, sat students to go to the state house just endeavor was to ensure that referred on their own campus. te to this, I am not too fond of commencement Ceremony being (ified) for another institution, it sity that I will not be walking sold it against me, but I would ing. My parents, family, and o me their understanding and d though I am disappointed in ion, I owe a great deal of the face I have had the pleasure of Student Government Association nor. Lastly, congratulations to

A Year of Success!

Seniors:



Simone Fair—Attending Penn State Law School—Awarded a 35K scholarship; plus a couple thousand in grants.

Byron Lewis—will work with Dr. Carter at BSU managing the Computer Technology Department's Oracle Database—Studying to get the SQL Fundamental and Oracle Database

Post Graduation:

Admin 1 Certifications.

David Proctor—working at the NSA.

Christopher Stone—moving to Seattle, Washington to start a career at Microsoft as a Support Engineer.

Ipah Usongo—accepted to Howard University School of Pharmacy for fall 2018.



Conferences & Presentations:

Anthony Gervacio (Junior) - writing center consultant—presented at eh Mid-Atlantic Writing Centers Association Conference at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ.

Jaron Loures (Junior) - participated at the iNOVation Hackathon hosted by Northern Virginia Community College—competed against groups and other schools in cyber security, computer science and technology related challenges.

Harrison Razanajatovo (Junior) - participated at the iNOVation Hackathon hosted by Northern Virginia Community College—competed against groups and other schools in cyber security, computer science and technology related challenges.

Moniesha Lawings (Sophomore) - writing center consultant—presented at eh Mid-Atlantic Writing Centers Association Conference at Rowan University in Glassboro, NJ.

A Year of Success!

Inductions and Other Recognitions:

Aaliyah Bratcher — inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success

Larry Dickens Jr. — inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success—awarded a National Organization of Black Law Enforcement scholarship—accepted a job with the DOJ Civil Rights Division as a Legal Assistant—LSAT score above the requirement needed for the Fannie Angelos Scholar scholarship

Simone Fair — History & Government - academic achievement - Phi Sigma Alpha

Phylecia Faublas — History & Government - academic achievement - Phi Sigma Alpha

Deja Forester — sponsor of “Keeping Bowie Clean” accepted as an official BSU organization

Leo Angelo Genota — inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success

Tyra Harrison — will serve as Campus Activities Board Vice-President for 2018-2019

Moniesha Lawings — inducted into Pi

Sigma Alpha, Political Science Honor Society— History & Government - academic achievement

Jhori Parrish — inducted into the National Council of Negro Women

Akili Smith — accepted into the White House & OHUB Exchange Program; will serve as the 2018-2019 SGA Treasurer

Summer 2018 Bulldog Academy Workers

Amelia Bradshaw (Freshmen Seminar)

Aaliyah Bratcher (Math Instructor)

Jenelle Carter (Freshmen Seminar/Engl.)

Caitland Okorafor (Math Instructor)

Internships:

Larry Dickens Jr.—pathways position with the Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division as a Student Trainee

Isaiah Gregory—Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, 2017

Moniesha Lawings—Lex Fellowship (law based internship) - Madrid, Spain, summer 2018

Jhori Parrish—AT&T in Atlanta GA, summer 2018

Derrick Robinson—M&T Bank, summer 2018

Akili Smith—Bowie Business Innovation Center, spring 2018

Imani Wilburn—NOAA in North Carolina, summer 2018



The Dean's List

According to the Bowie State University catalog, a student who completes twelve (12) or more semester hours in regular, graded courses with a semester GPA of 3.50

or higher will be placed on the Dean's List.

During the fall 2017 semester the Honors Program had a total of 43 students that made the list. And in the

spring 2018 semester 39 students were able to maintain their Dean's List status. Continue to keep up the great work Honors Students!

Dean's List

BOWIE STATE HONORS PROGRAM

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*Audentes Fortuna Iuvat
Fortune Favors the Bold*

FAFSA Reminder!!!

Please remember that FAFSA is a Honors requirement. ALL honors students are to complete the application and adhere to the FAFSA deadlines. Be sure to check the FAFSA website for deadlines and filing options.

<https://fafsa.ed.gov/>

FAFSA®
Free Application for Federal Student Aid

*Interested in becoming a Peer Mentor of a Freshmen?
Contact a HSO Officer for more information.*

Care to be involved?

Contact us via email or phone call for
information about our numerous projects!

The Honors Program

The Honors Program is an ancillary academic program within the University Undergraduate Program. The primary focus of the program is the development of intellectual ethical leadership skills while fostering excellence in education, commitment to the learning process, experimentation, and the sense of a learning community.

It is designed to augment the educational experience in the undergraduate academic program through cultural exposure and community uplift projects.

This program best addresses the needs of students who possess a seriousness of academic purpose and a desire to be active rather than

passive learners. Also, the Honors Program challenges those who have an intellectual curiosity that supersedes an obsession with grades. Honors students seek success rather than avoid failure; have courage to take intellectual risks and demonstrate superior, ethical leadership in their chosen careers.



Find Us on Instagram: @BSUHSO