
William & Mary Law School
African-American Law Alumni Celebration
February 23-25, 2018
Dear Alumni,

I am delighted to welcome you back to William & Mary Law School for this year’s African-American Alumni Celebration. We last conducted this event in 2014 and plan to continue to host the event every four years.

This is a special milestone in the history of the nation’s first law school. We gather to celebrate the 64th anniversary of the Law School graduation of Edward Augustus Travis, the first African-American to receive any type of degree from William & Mary. To kick-off the weekend, we will unveil a portrait of Mr. Travis that will hang in the Law School.

This year is special as it simultaneously marks the 50th anniversary of African-Americans in residence at William & Mary, with a year-long series of special events, guest speakers and artistic performances. The university honors Lynn Briley, Janet Brown and Karen Ely (class of 1971).

These three ladies and Edward Travis were true trailblazers who paved the way for the many exceptional students of color who followed in their footsteps. This weekend provides the opportunity to remember Mr. Travis’ accomplishments and to celebrate all of the Law School’s African-American alumni.

I hope that you will enjoy reconnecting with classmates and meeting current students who have walked the halls of Marshall-Wythe before or after you.

Thank you for joining us this weekend! I hope you will wish to return often.

Sincerely,

Davison M. Douglas, Dean
Arthur B. Hanson Professor of Law
Schedule of Events

All events will be held at the Law School, unless otherwise noted. All panels and Saturday’s lunch will take place in the Law School, Room 124.

Thursday, February 22, 2018

6:00 PM  BLSA SYMPOSIUM: “The Influence of the Legal and Social Systems on Health Access and Health Outcomes in Minority Populations: A Panel Discussion on Intersecting Issues in Health, Race, and the Law.”
Sadler Center, Tidewater A&B

Friday, February 23, 2018

9:30 - 11:00 AM  Registration & Refreshments

11:00 AM  Portrait Unveiling of Edward Augustus Travis, B.C.L. ’54
Special remarks from President W. Taylor Reveley III and Bob Wise, Edward Travis’ Nephew

12:00 PM  Welcome Luncheon
Honoring of Judge Wilford Taylor ’78
Keynote by Judge Carla Archie ’95, Superior Court Judge for the 26th Judicial District of North Carolina
National Center for State Courts

Edward Augustus Travis received his B.C.L. degree from Marshall-Wythe in 1954, breaking the color barrier and paving the way for generations of exceptional students of color at William & Mary and the Law School.

Travis was living in Hampton when he entered law school. He was born on October 16, 1911, in Reed’s Ferry, Virginia. He attended high school at St. Paul’s in Lawrenceville, Virginia. Travis attended Hampton Institute and graduated from Florida A&M University in 1940. Travis died in November 1960 at Whittaker Memorial Hospital in Newport News, Virginia. He was a teacher at Carver High School at the time of his death and a member of the Newport News Teachers Association and Dochiki Civic and Social Club. He was married to Pearly Travis, and their daughter is Edwadine Travis of Hampton, Virginia.
Schedule of Events

2:00 - 3:00 PM  PANEL 1: "View from the Bench"
Judge Eileen Olds '82, Chief Judge, Chesapeake Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court (Moderator)
Judge Junius P. Fulton III '85, Norfolk Circuit Court
Judge Margaret Spencer, Retired, Richmond Circuit Court
Judge Wilford Taylor '78, Retired, Hampton Circuit Court
Judge Susan Wigenton '87, U.S. District Judge, U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey

3:15 - 4:15 PM  PANEL 2: "My Law Degree Doesn't Mean I Must Litigate - Career 'Alternatives' to the Traditional Practice of Law"
Latoya Asia '09, Assistant General Counsel, E*TRADE Financial (Moderator)
Craig Dixon '00, Co-Founder & Co-CEO, The St. James
Sabrina Johnson '91, Vice President, Equity & Access at the University of Mary Washington

4:30 - 5:30 PM  PANEL 3: "Fighting for FREEdom: A New Era for the First Amendment?"
Daniel Watkins, Associate, Clare Locke LLP (Moderator)
David Baugh, Trial Attorney & Civil Rights Advocate
Roscoe Roberts '78, General Counsel, Virginia State University

6:30 - 7:15 PM  Reception & Networking with Students
Alumni House

7:30 - 10:30 PM  Alumni Dinner & Dancing
Special remarks from President W. Taylor Reveley III and Keynote by Chief Judge Roger Gregory, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit
Alumni House

Saturday, February 24, 2018

8:00 - 10:30 AM  Registration

8:30 AM  Continental Breakfast
9:00 - 10:30 AM  CLE SESSION: “Looking into the Crystal Ball: The Future of the Practice of Law”
Barbara Johnson '84, Founder, BLJohnson Law PLLC
Willie Wilson-Herring '17, Clerk, Fairfax County Circuit Court

10:45 - 11:30 AM  PANEL 4: “Making the Case for Pro Bono”
Beth Hopkins '77, Retired Professor of Law, Wake Forest School of Law (Moderator)
Ashley Carter '10, Staff Attorney at Advancement Project, Justice Project
Karl Doss, Deputy Director of the Legal Services Corporation of Virginia
Vivian Hamilton, Professor of Law, William & Mary Law School

11:45 AM - 12:30 PM  PANEL 5: “This is Us - A Candid Conversation on the African-American Law Student Experience at William & Mary (Sankofa)”
Jennifer Bacon '09, Regional Director, Colorado at Leadership for Educational Equity (LEE)
Reginald M. Barley '77, Attorney at Law
Judge Birdie Jamison '92, Retired, 13th Judicial Circuit in Virginia
Courtney Malveaux '02, Principal, Jackson Lewis P.C.
Brian Woolfolk '97, Principal, Swan Creek Strategies

12:45 - 2:00 PM  Luncheon
Special presentation in recognition of Wilson C. Jefferson '72 and all former BLSA Presidents

2:15 - 3:00 PM  Tour of the Law School

6:00 - 6:45 PM  Reception & Networking with BLSA Students
Alumni House

7:00 - 9:00 PM  23rd Annual Oliver Hill Scholarship Banquet
Keynote by Oliver Hill, Jr.
Alumni House

Sunday, February 25, 2018

10:00 - 11:30 AM  Closing Brunch
The Honorable Judge Carla Archie ‘95

A native of Danville, Virginia, Judge Archie graduated summa cum laude from Hampton University with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. She received her Juris Doctorate degree from the College of William & Mary Law School. As a law student, she served as president of the Black Law Students Association and as a member of the Moot Court Board. Upon graduation from law school, she was honored with the Dean’s Certificate, the George Wythe Award, and was named into the Order of the Barristers.

Judge Archie started her legal career as a prosecutor in Charlotte, North Carolina, and was ultimately promoted to Chief Assistant District Attorney in charge of felony drug prosecutions. She then transitioned into commercial litigation as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel for Wachovia Corporation. She went on to serve as Deputy Executive Director and the first General Counsel of the North Carolina Education Lottery, before returning to her commercial litigation practice as Senior Counsel for Wells Fargo & Company.

Judge Archie was elected in 2014 to serve as a Resident Superior Court Judge for the 26th Judicial District of North Carolina based in Charlotte, NC. As such, she presides over felony criminal matters, civil matters involving more than $25,000 in dispute, and misdemeanor appeals from district court in Mecklenburg County and six surrounding counties.

Over the years, Judge Archie has been very active in the community as a member of the Junior League of Charlotte, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, The Links, Incorporated, and Friendship Missionary Baptist Church. She has also served on the board of directors and in various leadership roles with the Mecklenburg County Bar, the Charlotte Women’s Bar, the John S. Leary Association of Black Lawyers, the Charlotte Center for Legal Advocacy, the Triangle Urban League, and the STARS Math & English Academy.

For her professional and civic endeavors, she has received numerous awards, including the Hampton University Outstanding Alumna Award, the William & Mary Law School Citizen Lawyer Award, and being named among The Mecklenburg Times 50 Most Influential Women.
Chief Judge Roger Gregory

Chief Judge Roger Gregory earned his Bachelor of Arts degree summa cum laude from Virginia State University in 1975 and his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School in 1978. He worked as an associate for two different law firms from 1978 until 1982. He co-founded the Richmond, Virginia law firm of Wilder & Gregory in 1982 with L. Douglas Wilder (the first African-American to be elected governor in the United States), and became the chair of its litigation section in 1985.

On June 30, 2000, President Bill Clinton nominated Gregory to a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit. After the Senate declined to take up Gregory's nomination, and the 2000 presidential election was already over, Clinton installed Gregory on the Fourth Circuit on December 27, 2000 via a recess appointment, which would have lasted only until end of the 2001 Congressional session. However, he was renominated by newly elected President George W. Bush on May 9, 2001.

The Senate confirmed Gregory on July 20, 2001 in a 93-1 vote. Gregory was the first judge nominated to the Fourth Circuit by Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate and is the first black judge to serve on the Fourth Circuit.

On July 28, 2014, Judge Gregory joined the majority opinion with Henry Franklin Floyd in Bostic v. Schaefer that declared Virginia's ban on same-sex marriage unconstitutional. This decision led to the legalization of same-sex marriage in Virginia as well all other states throughout the Fourth Circuit.

Gregory became Chief Judge on July 8, 2016.
Harold R. (Bob) Wise, Jr.

Bob received his Bachelor of Science degree in Education from West Chester University and his MBA in International Business from Kennesaw State University. He served for over 30 years in the United States Navy Reserve and retired as a Navy Captain where he held several leadership positions including Commanding Officer of three Navy Reserve units. He attended the Naval War College, the Armed Forces Staff College, completed the Reserve Components National Security Course and served as a member of the Secretary of the Navy’s National Naval Reserve Policy Board. He is the past National President of the National Naval Officers Association, the past National Vice President of the Association of the United States Navy, and currently is a member of the board of directors and Treasurer for the Atlanta Council - Navy League of the United States.

Bob worked at IBM for almost twenty years in marketing, sales training, systems engineering, and management assignments before joining Emerson Electric’s Computer Power Division as the Regional Sales Director. From there, he joined Equifax, Inc. where he worked for sixteen years as Director of Sales Training, Director of Data Security, Director of Systems Services and Director of Fulfillment Services. In August of 2007, Bob joined Kennesaw State University as the Director of Development for the College of Science and Mathematics. From there he took the position of Assistant Project Director for the University System of Georgia’s African-American Male Initiative (AAMI) which supports the 26 public universities and colleges in the state of Georgia.

Bob has been actively engaged in his community and alma mater where he serves on numerous boards. He was featured in Kennesaw State University’s first-ever Corporate Image Award and was highlighted in the Atlanta Business Chronicle and Georgia Trend magazine. The following year, Bob received Kennesaw State University’s Distinguished Alumni Award and was featured in the 10th anniversary edition of “Who’s Who in Black Atlanta.” He recently served a four-year assignment as Chair, Board of Advisors for the Cobb County Office of the United Way of Greater Atlanta and holds memberships in the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, the Paulding County Chamber of Commerce, the Atlanta Chapter of the National Black MBA Association, the Cobb County Chapter of the NAACP, and the American Legion. Finally, he teaches life skills subjects to ex-offenders.
Oliver Hill, Jr.

Oliver W. Hill, Jr. is a Professor of Experimental Psychology at Virginia State University specializing in the study of cognition. He received his undergraduate training in History at Howard University in Washington, DC, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Michigan.

In addition to his research interests in mindfulness and contemplative practices, he is currently principal investigator on three projects funded by the National Science Foundation: one studying the efficacy of cognitive training as an intervention in STEM education; and two examining the impact of the content and pedagogy of the Algebra Project on mathematics performance of minority students at both the K-12 and college levels. He is also particularly interested in fostering the concept of quality education as a civil right for all students.
Many thanks to our hardworking and dedicated committee members for making this wonderful celebration possible:

Latoya Asia ’09, Co-Chair
Barbara L. Johnson ’84, Co-Chair
Reginald “Reggie” M. Barley ’77
Beth Hopkins ’77
Megan Tumi Jackson ’08
Earl G. Pinto ’00
C. Ezekiel “Zeke” Ross ’03
Courtney M. Malveaux ’02
The Honorable Eileen A. Olds ’82
Mary Pickard ’17
Jimmy Robinson ’98
Willie Wilson ’17
Brian Woolfolk ’97
William & Mary in 2017-2018 commemorates the 50th anniversary of the admission of its first African-American undergraduate residential students with a year-long series of special events, guest speakers and performances.

The theme is Sankofa, which, in the Akan Language of West Africa, reflects the idea that "it is not taboo to go back and fetch what you forgot," a philosophy represented by various Adinkra symbols, among them a bird with its head turned backwards taking an egg from its back.

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