

# HBCU CONNECT

*on campus*

WINTER 2010

**JOB SKILLS  
EMPLOYERS  
WANT**

**DRESS CODE  
FOR ALL  
HBCUS?**

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**CAMPUS JOBS ARE  
REAL JOBS TOO**

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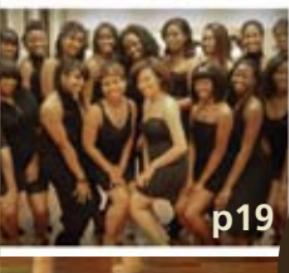
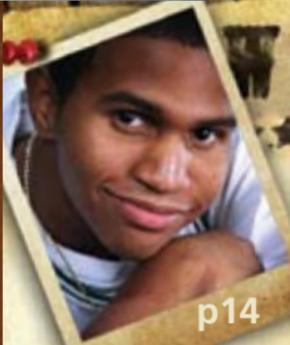
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# FEATURES

- 07 DRESS CODE FOR HBCU'S**
- 10 JOB SKILLS EMPLOYERS WANT**
- 16 CAMPUS JOBS ARE REAL TOO**



## DEPARTMENTS

- 12 THE CALENDAR**
- 14 MOST WANTED**  
Meet Ahkeem and Kendra
- 19 HBCU PHOTOS**  
HBCU Photo gallery on campus
- 22 GET CONNECTED**  
Your Distinguished HBCU Alumni

# HBCUCONNECT *on campus* STAFF



From left to right: Daniel Moss, Reginald Culpepper, Jehan Bunch, William R. Moss III, Meghan Leak, Elynor Moss



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# MOREHOUSE DRESS CODE CONTAINS SURPRISES

By Ashlei Williams – *Black College Wire*

FEATURE ARTICLE

In early October, Morehouse College administration enacted its new "Appropriate Attire Policy." Based on President Franklin's conceptualization on the Renaissance Man, specifically his expectation of the "well-dressed" man of Morehouse, the policy sets a campus-wide standard for students' attire. The policy outlines 11 expectations pertaining to what students should not wear while on campus. Instead of requiring certain articles of clothing, as a typical dress code would, the policy details those articles of clothing deemed unacceptable for students. They include "sagging" pants, women's clothing and headwear. The policy will be distributed to students electronically through

Tigernet and the school website. The policy will also be outlined in the student handbook and discussed in Crown Forums for students.

While some students disagree with the policy, others agree with the purpose behind it. "I would say that about 95 percent of the students on this campus feel that appearance matters to them," said Dr. William Bynum, Vice-President of the Office of Student Services. "We are not trying to isolate anyone that falls under a category, you can just look at it like it's one out of eleven things being addressed."

Dr. Bynum explained that students began voicing concerns to administration about attire on campus this semester. In turn administration partnered with the SGA to work with the student body on an attire policy. Some students feel that the anticipated policy lacks proper planning and investigation.

Co-president Michael Edwards said, "Creating this policy was easy and quick. But the energy and effort put into something determines the greater result."

Some students feel that the policy will not cater to the modern man of Morehouse. Sophomore Morehouse student Michael Leonard said, "I understand that the dress code may represent the great leaders of our community from our past who helped change our world through conforming and appearing mainstream with a suit and tie. But let's not forget about the Spike Lee's of Morehouse, who are continuing to make great strides through unconventional methods."

**Many students question exactly what it means for the Morehouse Man to be "well-dressed." Does he wear the suit and tie? Does he wear the high-end designer fashions? Or is he of moderate dress, simple and refined?**

Administration hopes that the policy will promote leadership and allow students to become easily recognizable; a factor they believe will indirectly assist with campus safety through student identification.

"We see men of Morehouse as leaders and we feel that should be seen in appearance," Dr. Bynum explained. "This policy will help to set a standard for college students that many other places do not meet, and Morehouse will lead in that."

*Ashlei Williams, a Spelman student, writes for the Maroon Tiger, the Morehouse College student newspaper, which originally published this article in 2009.*





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# JOB SKILLS EMPLOYERS WANT

Students in college should pay close attention to more than just academics. Although good grades are important, because it demonstrates positive behavior, it is not all that employers want from new grads.

Employers continue to be concerned about the lack of "soft skills" they need from good employees. In a recent study written by researcher Paul Barton for the Education Testing Services, employers identified the following four soft skills as lacking in too many new grads:

- Good attendance
- Positive can-do attitude
- Strong communication skills
- Actual work skills

Additionally, a survey from the National Association of Manufacturers showed the following as some of the common reasons employers are rejecting new grad applicants:

- More than 66% cite a lack of "soft skills"
- About 33% of employers cite lack of experience
- About 33% cite inadequate reading and writing skills
- Academics and school achievement rank below soft skills for employability



Although the manufacturing sector is declining in the US, new grads should pay close attention to skills required beyond graduation. The skills required by employers' cuts across all industries and jobs.

Where do you stand with these in demand job skills? I know they are basic, but even if you do get hired, you won't have career success without mastering these on-the-job-skills.

Make an effort to find good examples of skills you possess that demonstrate positive behaviors, your ability to compete in the workplace and succeed at work. Use your part-time job during college, to specifically develop these soft skills that will be important to long term career success.

*Courtesy of Career Coach Marcie who has trained or coached students and new grads for 10 years on workplace, career, internship and employment success. Subscribe to her Bullseye Career Blog at [bullseyecareerblogs.com](http://bullseyecareerblogs.com)*

# THE CALENDAR

## THE TEXAS RELAYS

Place: Austin, TX

Date: March 31- April 3, 2010

Super party Weekend showcased under an exciting world class track and field event. Thousands pack the streets, clubs of Austin, TX for what has become the premier sporting event of the spring and summer of the south.

## THE 2010 BLACK ENTERPRISE ENTREPRENEURS CONFERENCE

Place: Atlanta, Ga

Date: May 2010

Hosted by General Motors, features four days of business, motivational, and leadership seminars. Millions of dollars worth of opportunities await you at the nation's largest gathering of black-owned business leaders and key decision makers.

## THE CANCUN JUMPOFF

Place: Cancun, Mexico

Date: May 27-31, 2010

"O" INTERNATIONAL is bringing Bourbon Street back. Anticipated to be the largest Memorial Day Weekend gathering ever held in Cancun, the 2010 extravaganza will celebrate all that is positive in the young, trend setting, urban professional landscape, in grand fashion.

## TOM JOYNER'S FANTASTIC VOYAGE CRUISE

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Date: May 2010

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## WANTED

FEATURED FEMALE

**Kendra Moutry**

**College:** Prairie View A&M University class of 2010

**Collegiate Major:** Nursing

**Claim To Fame:**

KKI TILL THE DAY I DIE!! YOOOOOOOO KOURT!!!!

**Most Memorable Moment:**

PVAMU MARCHING STORM!!

**My Life & Professional Aspirations:**

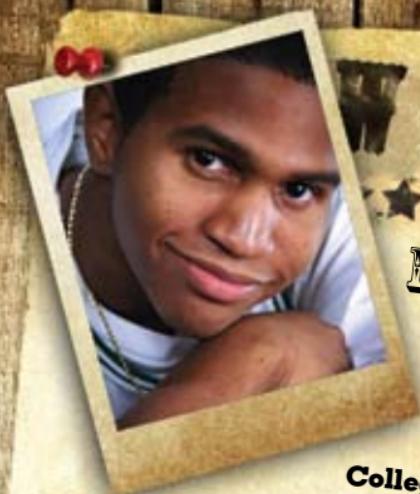
To be a nurse.

**My Biography:**

I am a member of Karnation Kourt Incorporated!! I am also a member of the Prairie View A&M University Marching Storm.



[http://club.hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/show\\_member.cgi?registry\\_id=1145556](http://club.hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/show_member.cgi?registry_id=1145556)



# WANTED

## FEATURED MALE

**Ahkeem Smith**

**College:** Tuskegee

University class of 2010

**Collegiate Major:** Mechanical  
Engineering

### **Claim To Fame:**

Making my presence felt during Freshman Orientation in fall 2005; running for Freshman Class Representative (which I ended up losing.....)

### **Most Memorable Moment:**

My probate on October 31, 2008.

### **My Biography:**

I'm a godly young man who knows that the Lord is the only way to make it through. I'm very humble, honest, and goal-oriented. I do have the tendency to slack off at times, but I always get the job done.



[http://club.hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/show\\_member.cgi?registry\\_id=375458](http://club.hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/show_member.cgi?registry_id=375458)

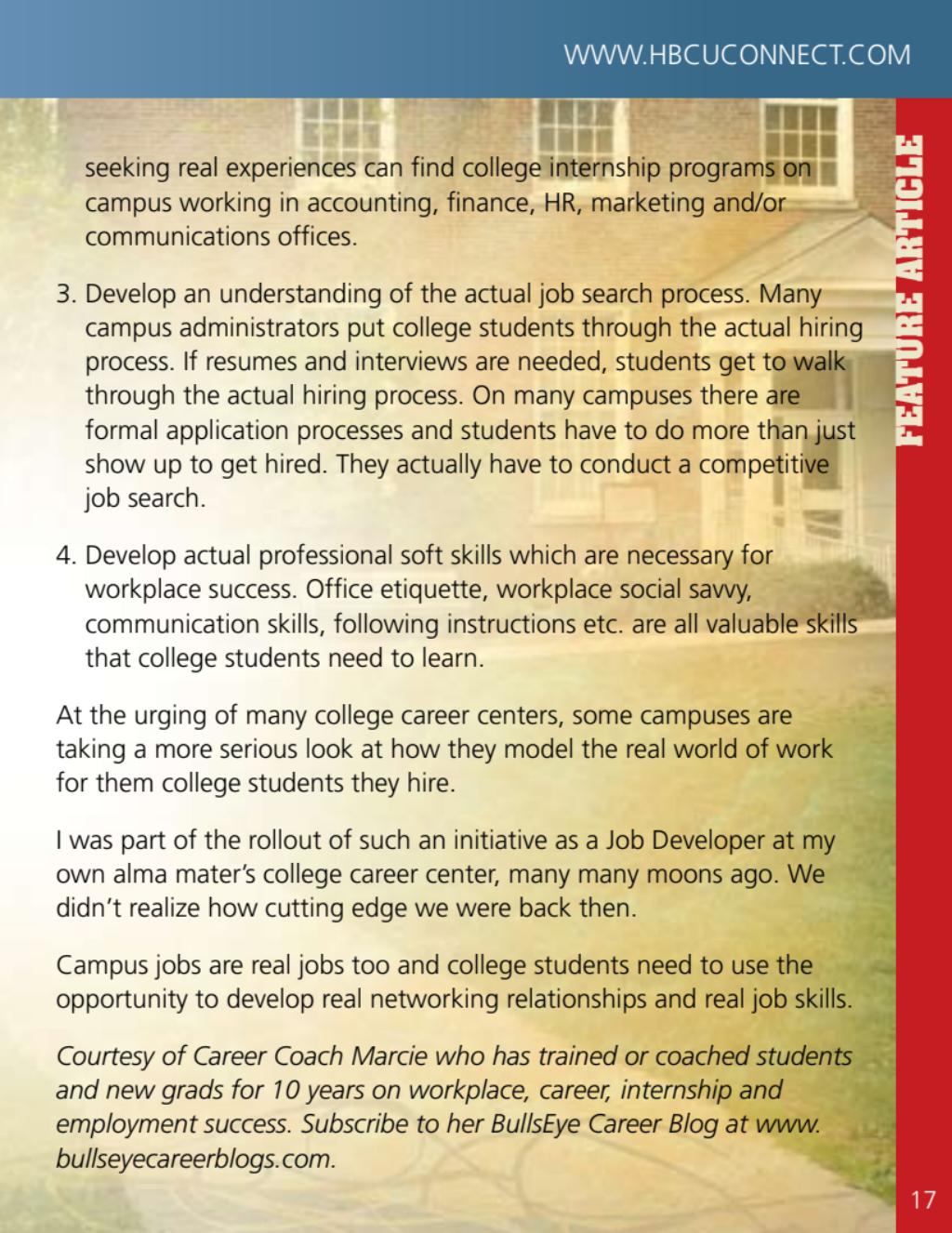


# Campus Jobs are Real Jobs Too!

For many college students working while in school is a must and a reality. Whether enrolled in 2-year, 4-year or a vocational training or career education program, campus jobs are often at a premium and college students try to land them early in the semester.

One of the problems I continue to see on college campuses is that working on campus is not considered to be serious work by many students or by departments that hire them. It is not unusual to hear college students say something like – “Oh, I just work on campus”. Aside from the fact that no one ever “just works” anywhere, since all work is important, campus employment offers really significant benefits for college students. Putting aside the schedule flexibility and the short commute, college students can gain the following real advantages by working on campus:

1. Meet college and university staff beyond the classroom. Most employees on college campuses love to work with college students and speak positively of their experiences. University employees are always willing to support exemplary student workers with letters of recommendations or become a reference for them in a job search or internship search.
2. Gain real, marketable skills in your preferred career area. College campuses are just like other organizations with employees in pretty much every functional area. For example, business students



seeking real experiences can find college internship programs on campus working in accounting, finance, HR, marketing and/or communications offices.

3. Develop an understanding of the actual job search process. Many campus administrators put college students through the actual hiring process. If resumes and interviews are needed, students get to walk through the actual hiring process. On many campuses there are formal application processes and students have to do more than just show up to get hired. They actually have to conduct a competitive job search.
4. Develop actual professional soft skills which are necessary for workplace success. Office etiquette, workplace social savvy, communication skills, following instructions etc. are all valuable skills that college students need to learn.

At the urging of many college career centers, some campuses are taking a more serious look at how they model the real world of work for them college students they hire.

I was part of the rollout of such an initiative as a Job Developer at my own alma mater's college career center, many many moons ago. We didn't realize how cutting edge we were back then.

Campus jobs are real jobs too and college students need to use the opportunity to develop real networking relationships and real job skills.

*Courtesy of Career Coach Marcie who has trained or coached students and new grads for 10 years on workplace, career, internship and employment success. Subscribe to her Bullseye Career Blog at [www.bullseyecareerblogs.com](http://www.bullseyecareerblogs.com).*



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# HBCU Photos



Kendra Moutry – Prairie View A&M  
*Diamonds are forever*



Terrance Brooks – Alabama A&M  
University, *Making a difference*



Kappa Alpha Psi probate  
after party



Alaceyia Stubbs – Benedict College  
*Elite Distinguished lady escorts*

# SEARCHING FOR A SECOND CHANCE AT LIFE

Being the president's daughter of a HBCU was no easy task for Ashante Sloan, who graduated from Florida A&M University (FAMU) and received her master's from Clark Atlanta University. She came to value the strength and courage her father demonstrated as the 12th president of Miles College.

Several years ago, Ashante began noticing red dots on her body. At the time, she was focused on her father who passed away soon after. It was then that she saw a doctor. After many attempts to identify the cause, Ashante was diagnosed three years later with aplastic anemia and would need a marrow transplant to live.

Every day is a journey as she deals with disease symptoms like heavy bleeding, bruising and fatigue. She credits her father, family and faith for aiding her through the process. "I want to be a part of showing that God still heals," she says, so more people will believe in miracles.

Ashante and her family are actively involved with Be The MatchSM, holding marrow donor registry drives throughout the community.

Be The Match has launched the **Say It Loud! Save Lives and Be Proud!** program to help Ashante and people like her find the marrow donor they need to live another day.

Be the one to save a life.



# SAY iT LOUD! SAVE LiVES AND bE PROUD!

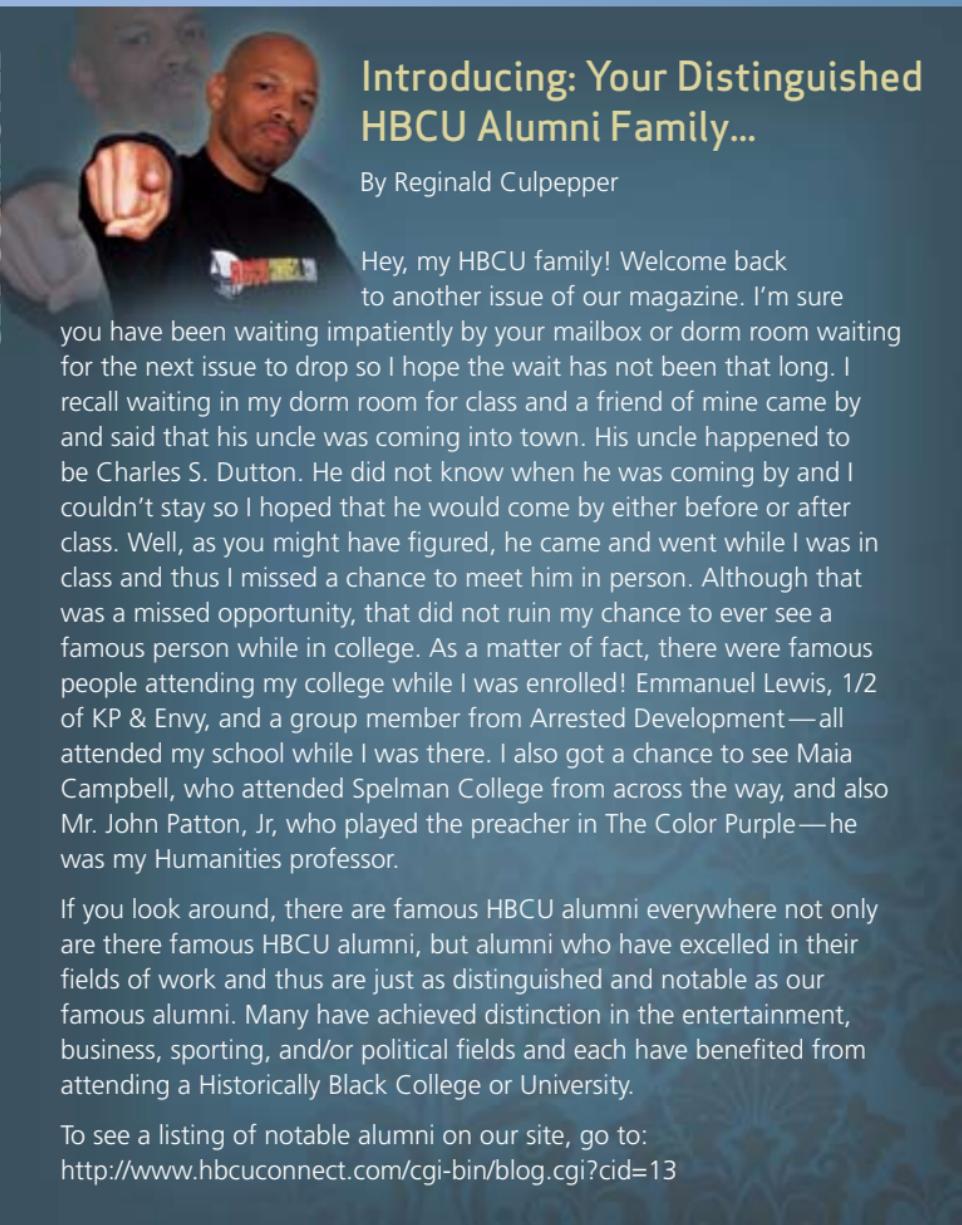
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Jackie (right), AKA sorority,  
saved the life of Paizley (left).



## Introducing: Your Distinguished HBCU Alumni Family...

By Reginald Culpepper

Hey, my HBCU family! Welcome back to another issue of our magazine. I'm sure

you have been waiting impatiently by your mailbox or dorm room waiting for the next issue to drop so I hope the wait has not been that long. I recall waiting in my dorm room for class and a friend of mine came by and said that his uncle was coming into town. His uncle happened to be Charles S. Dutton. He did not know when he was coming by and I couldn't stay so I hoped that he would come by either before or after class. Well, as you might have figured, he came and went while I was in class and thus I missed a chance to meet him in person. Although that was a missed opportunity, that did not ruin my chance to ever see a famous person while in college. As a matter of fact, there were famous people attending my college while I was enrolled! Emmanuel Lewis, 1/2 of KP & Envy, and a group member from Arrested Development—all attended my school while I was there. I also got a chance to see Maia Campbell, who attended Spelman College from across the way, and also Mr. John Patton, Jr. who played the preacher in The Color Purple—he was my Humanities professor.

If you look around, there are famous HBCU alumni everywhere not only are there famous HBCU alumni, but alumni who have excelled in their fields of work and thus are just as distinguished and notable as our famous alumni. Many have achieved distinction in the entertainment, business, sporting, and/or political fields and each have benefited from attending a Historically Black College or University.

To see a listing of notable alumni on our site, go to:  
<http://www.hbcuconnect.com/cgi-bin/blog.cgi?cid=13>



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