News You Can Use…

The Alabama State University Board of Trustees appointed Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd as president during its meeting in December 2013. Boyd will assume her new role on February 1, 2014. Boyd was one of three finalists for the position.

Kentucky Poet Laureate Frank X Walker is among the nominees announced for the 45th annual NAACP Image Awards. Walker was nominated in the category of Outstanding Literary Work – Poetry, for his latest book, "Turn Me Loose: The Unghosting of Medgar Evers." The NAACP Image Awards highlight achievements in art, entertainment, politics and culture. Governor Steve Beshear named Walker as Kentucky’s poet laureate for 2013-14. Walker is an associate professor of English at the University of Kentucky and the editor of Pluck! The Journal of Affrilachian Arts & Culture.

Highlights from the November BFSA meeting with featured speaker, Dr. Lou Davidson Tillson discussing steps to get promoted and/or tenured:

1. Build a road map—have a destination
2. Look the part—dress/act/talk/indispensable
3. Choose a mentor
4. Network—join committees and professional organizations
5. Practice humble self promotion
Staff Spotlight

Ms. Olympia Stewart works in the Office of Academic Affairs in the Center for Academic Advising. She is responsible for advising undeclared students, instructing Undeclared Transitions and coordinating activities and events to allow students to explore majors and career options. Ms. Stewart also serves as the liaison for support service offices on campus and assists with retention and recruitment efforts. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Middle School Education (Math/Social Studies), a Master of Arts in Education with an emphasis in guidance and counseling and a Master of Science in Human Development and Leadership with an emphasis in Organizational Communication. She implemented the Annual Fall Majors’ Fair that is attended by over 300 students.

In her free time, she leads a bible study for women on campus. She enjoys reading, spending time with family and traveling.

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Sonya Gabrielle Baker is a Professor of Voice and the Associate Dean in the College of Humanities and Fine Arts. She is an alumnus of Leadership Kentucky and she serves as a board member for the Kentucky Arts Council. She has also served as the Kentucky Governor for the National Association of Teachers of Singing. Dr. Baker is a former faculty member for the Kentucky Governor’s School for the Arts and the Virginia Governor’s School for Arts and Humanities, both programs for high school students. Last year, Dr. Baker was a fellow with the American Council of Education at Rhodes College in Memphis, TN. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University, a Master of Music in voice performance from Indiana University and a Doctorate of Music with a concentration in opera from Florida State University.

In her current positions, Dr. Baker teaches applied voice and voice related classes, serves as the graduate coordinator, oversees HFA assessment efforts and coordinates recruitment efforts for the college.

In her spare time, Dr. Baker enjoys walking with her husband Mike Fazio and their two dogs—Attitude and Sugar.
Please enjoy these photos from the January 20, 2014 BFSA meeting at Oakhurst
March 6, 2014 Meeting Agenda

11:30 pm Call to Order and Meal (site TBA)

11:40 pm Topic: Handling Conflict in the Workplace
Speaker: Dr. Tim Todd, Dean
Arthur J. Bauernfeind College of Business

12:15 pm Brief Business Meeting

12:30 pm Adjourn

Training Goals:
The goal of this training is for participants to understand roles and consequences in resolving conflict. By recognizing that conflict is inevitable and by learning proper strategies, individuals can manage conflict and turn it into a creative and productive dimension of an organization.

Training Objectives:
- Identify her/his own basic behavioral style at work
- Identify his/her/own basic approach to conflict
- Identify factors that influence conflict positively and negatively
- Create an individual action plan for improved conflict management

About Dr. Todd:
Dr. Todd grew up in Dawson Springs, Kentucky graduating from Dawson Springs High School in 1984. He graduated from Western Kentucky University in 1988 and 1990 with a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree, respectively, in organizational communication. In 1994, Dr. Todd graduated from North Carolina State University with his doctorate in organizational training and development. During his doctoral pursuit, Dr. Todd worked as the assistant to the director of a multi-million dollar grant on community development and empowerment in the upper Southeast United States (Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina). In July of 1995, he successfully competed in a national search for an assistant professor of organizational communication at Murray State University in Murray, Kentucky, which has enabled him to begin his journey of trying to “make a difference” in Kentucky.

Dr. Todd has led and been involved in organizational training & development activities for organizations such as General Electric, Briggs and Stratton, Bristol Meyers / Squibb, Peoples Security Finance, the Kentucky Consumer Finance Association, Phillip Morris, Baptist Healthcare Systems, Jewish Hospitals, the Murray Calloway County Hospital, the Trover Healthcare Foundation, Land Between the Lakes, the police departments of Paducah, Kentucky and Murray, Kentucky, and the Chambers of Commerce of Paducah, KY and Murray, KY. He also performs comprehensive statistical analyses of ongoing organizational climate surveys of the Briggs & Stratton workforce throughout the United States. Additionally, he has published 9 refereed articles and presented 15 refereed presentations across the country.

Dr. Todd has been an assistant provost and an associate provost at Murray State. He is a full professor and as dean, Dr. Todd and his team lead a college of close to 2,000 majors and over 100 faculty and staff members. He manages close to a $10 million dollar budget.
UPCOMING EVENTS

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<th>FEB</th>
<th>BFSA Meeting via conference call-February 13, 12:30-1:30 pm</th>
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<td>MAR</td>
<td>BFSA Meeting, March 6, 11:30 am-1:00 pm-Sirloin Stockade</td>
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<td>APR</td>
<td>OMA Annual Diversity Achievement Awards, April 4, 6:30 pm-Large Ballroom, Curris Center</td>
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<td>BFSA 2013-2104 Finale, April 26, 4:00-6:00 pm, Central Park-Courthouse Pavilion</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
<td>OMA Spring Hitimu Celebration, May 9, 7:00 pm-Theater, Curris Center</td>
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Employee Accomplishments

Dr. Kenny Taylor, Academic Program Director & Assistant Professor of the Nonprofit Leadership Studies program accompanied approximately 20 students to the Alliance Management Institute conference in Chicago from Jan 5-8th. For students in his program, the conference is a capstone experience for those seeking the Certified Nonprofit Professional (CNP) designation. The conference is sponsored by the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance.

Congratulations to Mr. Morris White for his new responsibility of advising the MSU Cheerleaders. Mr. White serves as Director of Staff Relations for Athletics for BFSA and is Director of Marketing & Promotions for Racer Athletics.

Congratulations to Ms. Caroline Atkins for completing her second year of doctoral studies at Western Kentucky University. Ms. Atkins’ program emphasis is postsecondary leadership. Ms. Atkins serves as Vice President of BFSA and is Director of the Training Resource Center in Continuing Education and Academic Outreach.

Congratulations to Dr. Kimberly Stormer who was the recipient of a Faculty Incentive Grant ($5000). Dr. Stormer also presented at the National Council of Teachers of English conference in November. She will be presenting at the Kentucky Council of Teachers of English in February. Dr. Stormer is an Assistant Professor in the College of Education.
BFSA “Excellence Award” nominations are now open!

Nominations close Friday, February 28th at 5:00 p.m.

Awards will be given to the recipients at the April 4th Diversity Achievement Awards banquet. Awards will be mailed to those who cannot attend. Please email the following to Crystal Coleman:

1. Name, title and department of your nominee
2. The category listed below that you feel most represents your nominee
3. Why you feel he or she deserves a BFSA award for excellence at Murray State University

**MSU Employment Categories**

1. SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE
2. FACULTY
3. TECHNICAL AND PARAPROFESIONAL
4. EXECUTIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, MANAGERIAL
5. CLERICAL AND SECRETARIAL
6. SKILLED CRAFTS
7. OTHER PROFESSIONALS

Email to: ccoleman@murraystate.edu
Membership Application

Academic Year 20___ - 20___

Date _____________________

Receipt No. _______________

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| Department Unit/Name | Status (circle one) | Faculty | Staff |

Events of Interest ____________________________________________________

Annual Membership Dues are $25.00 due at the beginning of the fall semester for the entire academic year. Please make checks payable to Murray State University, put BFSA in the “memo” and forward to Donald Adongo, BFSA Treasurer at 6-A7 Faculty Hall.