Greetings!

As we convene for our 2013 Annual Fall Conference and Homecoming, I welcome and greet you with sincere appreciation and pride. The Homecoming Committee and Office of Alumni Relations’ consistent efforts to provide an organized meeting and good entertainment, deserve our recognition for their tirelessly hard work. We are fortunate to have their planning skills and dedication.

Your presence at this Conference is a demonstration of your commitment to the Association and Benedict College. At the beginning of this Administration, the ground work was laid to expand our sphere of alumni engagement. We are beginning to see the results of the work being done to increase alumni clubs and membership. This edition of “Tiger Pride” highlights those activities and accomplishments.

I thank you for your continuous commitment of service to Benedict College and your personal determination to make a difference in educating our youth. These are extraordinary characteristics of graduates of this fine institution. Enjoy your weekend.

Elsie
Greetings,

With each passing day, we are reminded that in order to move forward, we must keep our eyes on the horizon where the earth meets the sky. This helps me to reflect on all that we have accomplished within the National Alumni Association and at Benedict College this past year.

Thank you for having shared, reached, accomplished, achieved, both literally and figuratively in the growth of our association and our alma mater. With the strong roots of the Benedict College National Alumni Association to ground us, we are embracing this welcomed economic recovery with tenacity and renewed hope.

I hope you will enjoy reading the enclosed updates about our association and come join us for another wonderful year of providing for those we educate, both young and life learners as well.

National Vice President Dr. Willie Joe Hill, Chairman of Membership, and Patricia Ackason, Co-Chairman, are hard at work with plans to increase alumni membership in the Association. Dr. Hill and the Membership Committee are working multiple strategies to increase alumni participation across the nation.

One successful and innovated strategy was the Committee’s Campaign which reached out to those alumni who give every year to the College, but were not members of the BCNAA. This initiative was a huge success and has impacted the bottom line of the Association’s membership and operations.

“The key is to work smarter, not harder as we develop strategies for alumni involvement and engagement” says Dr. Hill who is known for his analytical approach to implementing solutions.

Nearing “700” and Counting...
The 2013-2014 Annual Giving Campaign is in full swing with an aggressive plan to reach the $1 million dollar mark this fiscal year. The relentless combination of Chairman Marlene McClerkin and Co-Chairman Teshine Good, and the Committee, are in contact with club presidents around the nation to assist them in reaching their 2014 goals.

There is a confidence in the air that if we focus on reaching the clubs’ quota, then our goal is obtainable.

Let’s Go Tigers!

Our Spring Planning Meeting in Orlando Florida was a huge success! Mary Jones and Jean Grant, Conference Coordinators, along with the members of the newly revived Orlando Club, led by Club President JoAnn Ingram-Lys, gave their all and delivered a spectacular event. The conference was well organized with that extra touch to ensure that the guests were taken care of in many ways.

Judge Bevin Perry delivered a powerful message to the banquet attendees that required each one of us to reflect and rebuke the status quo to make a difference in communities across this nation. His speech was packed with revealing statistics of the unjust in our justice system.

Alumni came for the information and to enjoy the fun and sun of Florida.

Job Well Done!!!
The awesome Regional Vice Presidents are making it happen across America. They toil hard and long for Benedict College and the National Association. From Sylvia Woods negotiating the closing of streets for the Benedict College Band to perform on a busy Friday evening; to Dr. Mary Gaffney traveling across the state of Virginia to charter new clubs; to Mary Jones re-instituting the District Coordinators to cover a vast alumni territory; to Virginia Finlayson and Barbara Linda Murray exploring tech savvy and innovated approaches to reaching and rounding up alumni over more than half of the United States territory.

Yes, they are a mighty force to be reckoned with and work their regions like they are getting paid, when in fact, they are spending their time, money and other resources to make outstanding strides and accomplishments for Benedict College.

**The Forces are at Work!**

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**Young Alumni Update...**

As the results of the efforts of our Young Alumni Vice President, Dr. Walletta Moore Johnson’00, there has been an insurgence of younger graduates who are joining the leadership ranks across the Regions. *(partial list):*

- Mary DuRant Dechamps ‘80, Pres., Raleigh Tri County
- Nicol Martin ‘94, Pres., NoVA Club & 2013 Banquet MC
- Jamie Thomas ‘04, Young Alumni Service Awardee
- Shauna Woods ‘04, Pres., New York Inc.
- Julius Scott ‘01, Principal, 2012/13 Awards Luncheon MC
- Tameka L. Brown ‘99, 2012/13 Awards Luncheon MC

**Young alumni leaders stepping forward, relying on tradition, yet bringing innovation, to help secure the future of Benedict College!**

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**Tigers on the Rise**

*With the newly organized/revived clubs...*

- Clarendon County Alumni Club
  President: Ms. Barbara Williams King
- Berkeley County Alumni Club
  President: Mr. Herbert Bodison
- Darlington County Alumni Club
  President: Ms. Brenda Warren Herrington
- Lee County Alumni Club
  President: Ms. Betty Addison
- Sumter County Alumni Club
  President: Ms. Shirley Blasingame
- Orlando Alumni Club
  President: Ms. JoAnn Ingram-Lys
- New York Inc.
  President: Ms. Shauna Woods
The Augusta Benedict Club reports that 2012-2013 has proven to be the best year ever. The Club is growing in membership and has been very successful in our fundraising activities. We are in the process of planning for the 2014 Spring Planning Meeting to be held March 27-30, 2014, at the Marriott Convention Center located on the River Walk. More information will be forthcoming.

For the third year, the Augusta Club has been in partnership with SCSU Alumni Club of Augusta in a major fundraiser. In 2012, we toured Washington, DC; in 2013 we toured Niagara Falls/Toronto and in 2014, we will tour San Antonio, Texas for nine days, eight nights, June 14-22, 2014. This year, the Club is in the process of establishing a scholarship with guidelines to be presented to a student at the High School graduation. The student will attend Benedict College.

The following alumni have joined the Augusta Club: Georgia Ann Barker ‘68, Leroy Sutton ‘68, Elizabeth Jones ‘76, and Benjamin Zimmerman ‘2010.

Our Club members are very active and committed. Not only are we growing in active membership, we are growing financially. Willie Mazyck ‘67, challenged the members to match his contribution of $500. Several members met the challenge and for the first time in our history, we reached the $20,000 plus level. The members made a commitment to continue the matching concept every year with an increase in their annual contribution.

Jacqueline Lawrence, an eight-year Breast Cancer Survivor, was recognized for her support to the American Cancer Society. Jackie raised the highest amount of money in her support group, “The Pink Magnolias”. She raised $3,775 and received several awards and certificates.

Jackie also represented the Club by attending the Alumni Club Presidents’ Retreat and Leadership Training, June 22-24, 2013, in Hilton Head, SC. The Retreat focused on two areas: 1) current activities and plans for reaching the 2012-2013 Annual Giving and membership goals and 2) Plans and strategies for accomplishing the 2013-2014 goals. We had the opportunity to meet and dine with the Benedict College Board of Trustees. The Retreat was very productive and enjoyable.

**2013-2014 Officers**
Jacqueline D. Lawrence, **President**
Richard Johnson, **Vice-President**
Arma J. Gerald, **Secretary**
Vickie Rogers, **Assist. Secretary**
Jane Gibson, **Treasurer**
Charles Lamback, **Parliamentarian**
Rev. James Edwards, **Chaplain**

**Business Managers:**
Leroy Rogers, Herbert Gerald, & Sharon Cook

**Annual Giving Captains:**
Willie Mazyck & Elizabeth Jordan

**Publicity:**
Judy Lamback, Eula Chestnut, Frances Wimberly, & Georgia Ann Barkley

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*“The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.”*
- Mohandas (Mahatma) Gandhi
Richmond Virginia Alumni Club
Dr. Mary Gaffney, Eastern Regional VP, along with National President Elsie Hamler, recently traveled to Richmond Virginia to meet with alumni in the area interested in establishing a BCNAA club.

Reverend Tommie Williams, Mr. Woodrow Jackson and Ms. Vivian Stephens Davis have convened to make the Richmond VA Alumni Club a reality. The first of many meetings to come began on Saturday, October 5th, 2013.

The Reverend Tommie Williams has graciously agreed to lead the effort to establish the Richmond Virginia Alumni Club. Recently honored for community service and involvement, Williams has the skills and experience required to accomplish this goal. Stay tuned...

Northern Virginia (NoVA) Alumni Club
Eastern Regional Vice President Dr. Mary Gaffney beams as she greets attendees to the first official meeting of the Northern Virginia Alumni Club at the Trivinia Italian Restaurant in Woolbridge, Virginia on Saturday, October 5, 2013 at 3 PM. The following officers were elected:

- President: Nicol Martin ‘94
- Vice President: Lisa Wright ‘84
- Secretary: Lucy Jones ‘96
- Treasurer: Deloris Lawrence ‘74
- Assistant Treasurer: Nelda Barnes ‘86
- Chaplain: Loretta Hudson ‘82

Their purpose is to develop a strong Benedict College Alumni presence in the Northern Virginia area. They are planning to have at least 3 signature events throughout the year, attend local church and community sponsored college fairs to represent Benedict if a recruiter is not available, and be an active club in the annual giving campaign.

BCNAA National President Hamler, who was also in attendance at this historic meeting, congratulated the group on a very impressive beginning.
An interest meeting to form a new club in the Raleigh Durham area was held at the home of Mary DuRant DesChamps (class of 1980) on September 7, 2013. Fifteen very interested and excited alumni members responded to the invitation to meet and 11 members were in attendance. The following officers and board members were elected for the year 2013-2014.

Officers:
- President: Mary DuRant DesChamps ‘80
- Vice-President: James Parnell ‘77
- Secretary: Sherry Pierce Patillo ‘89
- Treasurer – Harriet Alston Bellamy ‘79

Board Members:
- Dr. Shirley Brown Barnes ‘63
- Dr. James Carter ‘67
- Mrs. Ann Carter ‘67
- Mrs. Margaret Deas George ‘79
- Mrs. Rosetta Moore ‘59
- Mr. Melvin Kelly ‘82
- Mrs. Shirley Kelly ‘82

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 9, 2013. Their theme is “Each One Reach One” with all members reaching out to as many alumni in the area to support the goals and objectives of Benedict College.
Dues expire June 30 annually. Please pay your dues as soon as possible. Why? Your dues help support the Association’s annual operating budget from July 1\textsuperscript{st} to June 30\textsuperscript{th}. Annual membership dues are $25.00.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please send to Dr. Willie Joe Hill at wjdds2000@yahoo.com or call 864-967-2054, or call the Alumni Office at 803-705-4600. Please visit the College’s website at www.benedict.edu for a complete listing of benefits.

### Membership Benefits
- Hotel discounts
- Car rental discounts
- 15% Bookstore discounts
- Reserved deck parking on campus
- First Class mailing and publications
- Annual meeting and election voting privileges

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**Join us in Augusta, GA. for 2014 Spring Planning Meeting**

March 27-30, 2014, at the Marriott Convention Center located on the River Walk.