



Xavier, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology Forge Partnership

Xavier University and The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (TCSPP) have signed a formal agreement of inter-institutional collaboration in the field of mental health education.

The agreement formalizes continued discussions and strategic planning to explore opportunities for future academic and educational collaborations in graduate professional psychology, including, but not limited to: doctoral and/or masters programs in clinical psychology, school psychology, forensic psychology, applied behavior analysis, and business psychology.

The nonbinding memorandum was officially ratified by XU President Norman C. Francis and TCSPP President Dr. Michelle Nealon-Woods during a campus ceremony.

“It is no secret that the mental health service needs in the New Orleans area are great, as they are throughout this country,” said Dr. Francis. “Through this joint effort we hope to address some of those needs by providing new, young professionals with the finest undergraduate and graduate psychology training experience possible.”

“We foresee this collaboration as being one of mutual benefit to both institutions, as well as to our respective communities,” he added.

“We are excited to partner with an outstanding institution such as Xavier, and the prospect of making available to these students and others in the new Orleans area, opportunities for graduate education in professional psychology,” stated Dr. Nealon-Woods. “As higher learning institutions, we embrace the values of diversity and inclusion as well as a commitment



(L-R) Xavier President Dr. Norman C. Francis joins The Chicago School of Professional Psychology (TCSPP) President Dr. Michelle Nealon-Woods in signing a formal agreement which calls for continued discussions and strategic planning to explore opportunities for future academic and educational collaborations in graduate professional psychology. Looking on is Dr. Orlando Taylor, president of the TCSPP Washington DC campus.

to work with communities to increase the number of mental health experts.”

TCSPP is very familiar with the quality of Xavier students. In the past two years seven Xavier graduates have entered graduate programs at TCSPP across its three campuses, and already this year at least two more students have applied and are awaiting acceptance for Fall 2013.

U.S. Surgeon General, XU Alum to Address 2013 Xavier Graduates

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin, a 1979 Xavier graduate, will deliver the commencement address at Xavier University of Louisiana’s 86th annual graduation ceremony Saturday, May 11, at 10:00 a.m. in the Convocation Center. It will be the University’s first commencement on campus since 1983.

Benjamin is expected to address more than 550 undergraduate, graduate and pre-professional students and their families at the commencement ceremony. She will receive an honorary degree.

For the past 29 years Xavier has held its commencement in various city venues, most recently the Kiefer Lakefront Arena and the New Orleans Arena. Earlier commencements, traditionally, had been held outdoors in the campus Quad. However, torrential rains in 1983 prompted the decision to

hold all future events indoors even though there was no facility on campus large enough to hold the anticipated crowds. The new Convocation Center has addressed that problem.

“Commencement is always an extraordinary time for Xavier, and bringing the exercises back to campus will certainly make very special,” said XU President Dr. Norman C. Francis.

The annual Baccalaureate Mass and Honors Convocation will be held the preceding evening, Friday (May 10), at 6:00 p.m. in the Convocation Center.

Benjamin is the 18th Surgeon General of the United States. As America’s Doctor, she promotes good health and disease prevention based on up-to-date information and scientific research. Her care and concern reaches beyond individuals and the public health of the nation to the operational

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Scholars to Put Research on Display at Festival

The Center for Undergraduate Research (CUR) will host its 10th annual Festival of Scholars spotlighting achievement in student research April 18-19.

The event, which will be held on the second floor of the University Center, will open at noon on April 18 and continue Friday until 4:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

More than 100 students are expected to present the research projects they have been engaged in during the past year through poster sessions, panel discussions, exhibitions and class forums. Close to 40 faculty members are serving as mentors to the students.

Xavier Jazz Festival to Hold Court at the Old Mint

The Department of Music's annual Xavier Jazz Festival, a three-day event which highlights various genres of the Jazz art form through performances, clinics, workshops and lectures, will have an exciting new venue this year: the Old U.S. Mint in the historic French Quarter.

Scheduled for April 16-18, this year's festival will feature three evening concerts and a day devoted to various clinics, workshops and lectures by various local and national Jazz artists. Among the artists participating are Dr. Michael White and the Original Liberty Brass Band, trombonist Delfeayo Marsalis and his group, and the internationally recognized saxophonist Donald Harrison.

All night events will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Old U.S. Mint. Clinics/Workshops begin at noon, 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m., respectively, in the Xavier Music Recital Hall. All events are free and open to the Public.

The purpose of the Xavier Jazz Festival is expose the News Orleans community to a varied range of jazz related concerts and clinics/workshops and provide them with a more sophisticated insight into the artistry and effort which goes into the creation of the music and the making of Jazz Greats. The programing and presentations are structured with a broad audience in mind, ranging from local junior/senior high school musicians to college students, to professionals.

Team Xavier Heads for Honda Campus All-Star Challenge

If their performance in the preliminaries is any indication, look for Xavier's Quiz Bowl team to make waves at the 2013 Honda Campus All-Star Challenge when it convenes in Torrance, CA April 7-8.

Team Xavier is coming off a big win in the Texas Invitational Tournament at Prairie View A&M, where they defeated five fellow HBCU's (Historically black Colleges and Universities – including Alcorn State, Grambling State, Langston College, Mississippi Valley State, and Prairie View A&M. Honda allows all teams planning to compete in the national challenge to participate in a pre-tournament (regional) event.

The team, coached Darryl Keller, Jr., includes Javon Bracy, McKenzie Moses, Kirkland Penro, Jessica Piernas, Skyler Quintero, and Meggan Simien. Nekita Bannister-Lee serves as XU's institutional representative.

Xavier has participated in Honda Campus All-Star Challenge – an intense academic competition among the best and brightest students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) – 21 out of 24 years starting in 1992-93 season. Through the years, the University has been awarded more than \$75,000 in grants during the competition. In addition, Xavier was presented the 2012 Community Service for partnering with Lafayette Charter Academy to tutor kids with after school program.



If their performance in the Texas Invitational Tournament – where they whipped five fellow HBCU's – is any indication, look for Xavier's Quiz Bowl team to make waves at the 2013 Honda Campus All-Star Challenge in Los Angeles, CA later this month. Team members include: (L-R, front row) Javon Bracy, Skyler Quintero, and McKenzie Moses; (back row L-R) Nekita Bannister-Lee (institutional rep), Kirkland Penro, Jessica Piernas, Meggan Simien, and Darryl Keller, Jr. (coach). Photo courtesy Darryl Keller, Jr.

This year's tournament is expected to draw 48 schools from 18 states.

Xavier Earns CNCS Community Service Award

Xavier was among 690 colleges and universities nationwide named to the Corporation for National and Community Service's (CNCS) 2013 President's Community Service Honor Roll, which recognizes outstanding commitment volunteering, service-learning, and civic engagement. The XU Center for Student Leadership and Service is directed by Typhanie Jasper-Butler.

Xavier Offers Session on New State Educational Standards

The XU Division of Education & Counseling and the Departments of Mathematics and English will host a Parent Informational Session about the new state education standards and assessments April 20 from 10:00 a.m. to noon in Room 111 of the Convocation Annex (corner of Washington Ave. and Fern St.).

At the session, which is free and open to the public, parents will hear from content specialists about the expectations of the new Common Core State Standards (CCSS) that will replace the GLEs and the Louisiana Comprehensive Curriculum,

as well as the new assessments that will replace LEAP and ILeap. A special education expert will also be available to advise parents with special needs children.

The Common Core is a set of educational benchmarks developed by leaders in education and the National Governors Association which have been adopted in 45 states, including Louisiana. All public schools in Louisiana are required to use curricula aligned with state standards.

For more info contact Dr. Renee Akbar, XU Division of Education at 504-520-7536.



(L-R) Royce Duplessis '04 of the multinational law firm SNR Denton, who served as keynote speaker for the annual Freshman Honors ceremony, congratulates Kennedy St. Charles of New Orleans, D'Undria Taylor of Houston, TX, and Nathan Hines of Atlanta, GA on being initiated into the Xavier chapter of the national academic honors society for freshman.



Seniors Jeremy Pierre of Boutte, LA (Hahnville High), Courtney Jason of Opelousas, LA (Opelousas High), and Jacob Thomas of Nashville, TN (Pope John Paul II High) enjoy a private moment with Cedric Richmond, U.S. Representative for Louisiana's 2nd congressional district and keynote speaker at the University's annual Black History Month Convocation, which was held for the first time in Xavier's newest facility.



XU Student Academic Success Office staffers Kim Moorehead, (left) and Dr. Vaneshette Henderson (second from right) joined six Supplemental Instruction student leaders – (L-R) Kyle McClue of LaPlace, LA, Lawrence Jackson of Garland, TX, Christan Williams of New Orleans, Kara Everhart of Brentwood CA, Jayla Jones of Cordova, TN, and Emmanuel Spence of Memphis, TN – at the 2013 American College Personnel Association National Conference in Las Vegas, NV, where they made a presentation, “Students Helping Students: Facilitating Collaborative Learning Experiences.”

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command of 6,500 uniformed public health officers who serve in locations around the world to promote and protect the health of the American People.

From her commitment as the founder of a rural health clinic in Alabama – which she kept in operation despite damage and destruction inflicted by hurricanes Georges (1998) and Katrina (2005) and a devastating fire (2006) –

to her worldwide advancement of preventive health care, Benjamin has forged a career that has been recognized by a broad spectrum of organizations and publications.

“Xavier is proud of Dr. Benjamin because of all her accomplishments,” said Francis, “but more importantly because she embodies the vision and core values articulated by St. Katharine Drexel when Xavier began.”



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Xavierites

Students

Jessica Cooper, a senior biology/premed major from Oberlin, LA (Oberlin High), has been accepted into medical school at LSU-Shreveport and St. Louis University.

Jasmine Douglas, a biology/premed major from Shreveport, LA (Caddo Parish Magnet, has been accepted into the University of Texas-Houston SMDEP program.

Gabrielle Gable, freshman biology/premed major from Harvey, LA (Archbishop Shaw High), has been accepted into the HERO Summer Research Program at MCV medical school in Richmond, VA.

Danny Giang, a senior biology/premed major from Harvey, LA (Archbishop Shaw High), has been accepted in dental school at LSU and the University of Michigan.

Beunca Graffree, a biology/premed major from Hampton, GA (Dutchtown High), has been accepted into the University of Louisville School of Medicine.

Christopher Hayes, a junior business/accounting major from Chicago, IL (Chicago-Agricultural High), has been awarded a INROADS internship in program planning and controls with United Technologies (UTC) Aerospace Systems in Rockford, IL. He will receive a one-time stipend and a salary.

LaTasha Henderson, a senior biology/premed major from Shreveport, LA (Caddo Parish

Magnet High), has been accepted into the LSU-Shreveport School of Medicine.

Akia Jackson, a senior English major from St. Louis, MO (Metro Academic High), has been accepted into graduate school at Iowa University.

Lawrence Jackson, a senior psychology major from Garland, TX (Naaman Forest High) has been accepted into The Chicago School of Professional Psychology-California.

Deanna Johnson, a senior chemistry/premed major from Baton Rouge, LA (Redemptorist High), has been accepted into medical school at LSU-New Orleans and LSU-Shreveport.

Kara Keller, a senior mathematics major from LaPlace, LA (East St. John High), has been accepted to the Ph.D. program in statistics at Purdue University.

Nicholas Rayfield, a senior psychology major from New Orleans (McDonogh 35 High), has been accepted into The Chicago School of Professional Psychology.

Alonza Terry, a senior mathematics major from Conyers, GA (Southwest Dekalb High), has been accepted into the master's degree program in mathematics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Corrine Williams, a senior speech pathology major from Lynwood, IL (Thorton Fraction South High), has been accepted into graduate school at Midwestern University.

Alumni

Shaheera Chughtai '12 has been accepted into medical school at Meharry College, Indiana University, and Texas A&M.

Jennifer Christopher Colbert '71 has been elected to the Board of Directors for the League of Women Voters of Louisiana.

Charisse Graham '12 has been accepted into Meharry Medical College.

Jasmine Holmes '12 has been accepted into the UCLA School of Medicine.

Maya Jones '12, made the cover with her first FEATURE story for ESPNW. on Olympic runner Jeneba Tarmoh.

Twins **Ashley Matthew '12** and **Asia Matthew '12**, both currently pursuing MD and Ph.D. degrees at the University of Massachusetts (UMass) Medical School, have been named co-recipients of the 2013 Chairman's Award for Leadership in Health & Wellness by the 100 Black Men of America, Inc. The awards will be presented this summer during the organization's 27th Annual Conference in New Orleans.

Marylynn Nguyen '11 has been accepted into the LSU-New Orleans School of Medicine.

Ashley Sutherland '09 has been accepted into the University of Cincinnati Medical School.

Aishah Yanssaneh '10 has been accepted into the Southern Illinois School of Medicine.

Faculty/Staff

Dr. Nicole P. Greene (Kellogg Professor of English) had her book review of Heather Ingman's *A History of the Irish Short Story* published in the Spring 2013 issue of *Irish Literary Supplement: A Review of Irish Books*.

Dr. Megan Osterbur (political science/women's studies) served as moderator for the Newcomb College Institute's faculty seminar, The Anna Julia Cooper Project on Gender, Race and Politics in the South.

Dr. Joseph LaRochelle (pharmacy) co-wrote an article, "Vincristine and daunorubicin administration in an adolescent during ECMO," published in the medical journal *Critical Care and Shock*.

Two Division of Business faculty – **Dr. Joe Ricks, Jr.** and **Dr. Richard Peters** – co-wrote a paper "Motives, Timing, and Targets of Corporate Philanthropy: A Tripartite Classification Scheme of Charitable Giving" accepted for publication in *Business and Society Review*.