Dr. Ivory V. Nelson embraces his new role as Lincoln’s twelfth president

After an extensive national search, the Board of Trustees has named Dr. Ivory V. Nelson President of the nation’s oldest historically Black university. He assumed his duties on Sunday, August 15, 1999.

A magna cum laude graduate of Grambling State University, Dr. Nelson also received a Fulbright Fellowship. He received his doctorate in analytical chemistry from the University of Kansas. With 30 years experience in higher education and numerous awards and commendations, Dr. Nelson comes to Lincoln from Central Washington University, where he was President. In the newly released book, Distinguished African American Scientists of the 20th Century, he was named among the world’s top scientists.

During his first few days on campus, Dr. Nelson eagerly embraced his new role by participating in a whirlwind of activities. On Sunday, he addressed the enthusiastic class of 2003 and their proud parents and family who were on hand for freshman orientation. Later that same evening he and his wife, Dr. Patricia Nelson, attended a reception at the Zanzibar Blue Jazz Club in Philadelphia where Lincoln’s alumni and friends welcomed them warmly. The reception was part of a weekend of fund-raising programs which the Office of Development and External Relations hosted. Within the first week of his tenure as President, Dr. Nelson shared his vision for a new Lincoln in a two-day faculty conference. In meetings with faculty and administrators, he also introduced an ambitious plan to conduct an internal evaluation of the University’s operations.

Talking with students and others along the way, he has explored the campus grounds and toured classroom buildings and residence halls. More information about Dr. Nelson and his vision for Lincoln will be released in the next issue of The Lion.

Lincoln searches for new alumni relations director

The energetic Edgar A. Mitchell, Jr., ’92, who served his Alma Mater as director of alumni relations, has accepted an exciting new position in sales. His departure leaves Lincoln without one of its most vital administrators — the University’s key liaison with its increasing undergraduate and graduate alumni. To fill this vital position, the University is now conducting a search for a new director who will report to the vice president of development and external relations, Anthony R. Fairbanks.

“One of the most important criteria is that the director of alumni relations should be able to forge a stronger continued on page 3
Almost fifty years have passed since I first walked into the classroom of Dr. Alfred Farrell of the English Department of Lincoln University in the rolling hills of Oxford, Pennsylvania.

Although he was an impressive, articulate and decidedly thorough teacher, I felt immediately that while he might be difficult to like, I would certainly learn from him because he made it abundantly clear that he knew precisely what he was doing and — more than that — he knew where we were going if we were to stay in his class.

Dr. Farrell’s first love was for the English language. One could tell by listening carefully to his lectures and how he caressed words and phrases that were dear to him from the poet Countee Cullen to novelist William Faulkner, from the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas to his imitating the language of J. Newton Hill of the college — my speech and drama teacher.

To take Dr. Farrell’s class was to commit a student to a number of things: to work on the student newspaper, The Lincolnian, to make excellent grades and to participate in extracurricular activities to anything at all to do with culture.

I had spoken before about his love of language. He loved his students equally, provided they could hear the music of language and just so long as they had the same kind of appreciation for a Shakespearean sonnet as they had for Ralph Ellison’s Invisible Man.

I knew after meeting Dr. Farrell and being in his classes that my life would somehow lead to a career in writing and journalism. I had been, at the age of 10, a managing editor of my father’s newspapers in North Carolina. The Tribune Publishing Company, founded by my father in the late 1930’s, had three editions in farm towns in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. This was the farm belt and the product of the farm was Bright Leaf Tobacco from which name brand cigarettes were manufactured by the patron of Duke University, Mr. Washington Duke, who was also the founder of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. My job as a father’s managing editor was to clip stories of importance from the New York Amsterdam News and put them in my father’s newspapers with a byline so that our readers would believe that we had reporters. Dr. Farrell did not look askance at my “newspaper experience,” for he often referred to me as “the editor” long before he chose me as the Editor-in-Chief of the Lincolnian for a semester or a year. I do not really remember.
The thing that has stayed with me all these years is that Dr. Farrell made me feel even then what a writer and editor should feel about his or her craft and the honesty and integrity that one must bring to the mission of the Fourth Estate.

When I was unable to get a job writing for any of the New York newspapers — there were eleven dailies in New York when I arrived — I decided that segregation and discrimination and the fact that there were no Black writers on White newspapers at that time would make it impossible for me to work in America.

Therefore, I decided to leave for another country and another city, Stockholm, Sweden. I had read about Sweden in a book about social democracy by the American writer Marquis Childs called Sweden: The Middle Way. I left for Sweden with a one-way ticket and not a single idea about the language or any person who lived there, save Gunnar Myrdal, the Swedish sociologist who had been introduced to us in class by Dr. Farrell. I determined to look him up, for I was sure that someone who had written the definitive work on Blacks in America would certainly help this aspiring writer find a job in Stockholm. When I tried to reach him, I discovered that he was in New York. I had only one other number and it was that of Sun Axelson, a young Swedish writer who was to become one of Sweden's most famous. Following our meeting, she introduced me to Artur Lundkvist, Sweden's most prolific writer who would become a member of the Nobel Prize Committee holding chair number eighteen, the Literary Chair of that august organization. During that time in Sweden, after I had found a job working for Sweden's major Stockholm newspaper as a writer and columnist, I thought of Dr. Farrell fondly and often. I thought of how proud he would be of me if he only knew that the seeds that he had sown in my mind would blossom into featured columns in a world class newspaper.

When John F. Kennedy was assassinated, I knew that I had to return to America for it was my belief that anyone with a liberal bent who was out of the country at that time had damn well better return to America and join the fight against fascism in our time.

It was Artur Lundkvist who gave me the best advice I have ever had. Certainly I would have gotten the same advice from Dr. Farrell had I called him to ask for it. That was, "Mr. Tatum, as outspoken as you are you will never be able to get a job on a major American newspaper. The reason for that is simple: no one else will buy your dream of unbridled democracy, especially if they own a major American newspaper. You must own your own newspaper and whatever other means of communication you can find in order to express your views without being crushed to the earth." I took that advice, returned to America and worked for ten years at other kinds of jobs in government and private industry until I had an opportunity to join forces with other Black entrepreneurs to buy the New York Amsterdam News, Inner-City Broadcasting and Palisades Amsterdam Communications.

In the final analysis, it was only Dr. Farrell who inspired, but, in a very real sense, guided what I did because his classes and his mission were forever with me. For whatever success I may have had, a major credit belongs to Dr. Alfred Farrell.

Search for new alumni director
continued from page 1

relationship between the University and the alumni," commented Dr. Frank "Tick" Coleman '35, special assistant to the president for alumni giving.

"He or she should also have excellent verbal and writing skills, relate well with people and be familiar with alumni programs and activities," said Dr. H. Alfred Farrell, '34, retired English professor at Lincoln who also served as executive secretary of the Alumni Association for many years.

In addition to these qualities, the director of alumni relations is responsible for the administration of a comprehensive program designed to increase alumni participation and financial support for the University. Lincoln is seeking a detail-oriented individual who will enthusiastically lead the revitalization of alumni chapters throughout the country. The position requires extensive local, regional, and national travel to numerous special events and frequent meetings with alumni, campus administrators, and students. Persons interested in applying for the position should contact the Office of Human Resources at 610-932-8300.

Visit Lincoln on the Internet at
www.lincoln.edu

The Lincoln Lion is compiled and edited by the Office of Development and External Relations, Lincoln University, Lincoln University, PA 19352 Phone: 800/726-3014 Contributions are welcome.
A Message from the Executive Officers of the Alumni Association

September, 1999

Dear Alumnus/-na:

This is a plea! The Alumni Association needs the support of all Alumni – not just a few! We have fewer than 500 life members, 300 subscribing members, and 47 regular dues-paying members as of this date.

We want the new President to know we are a viable force of support, and our giving must show that we can make a difference. WE SHOW OFF during Commencement by raising $200,000 for the university, and then that's that!

We need you to pay your regular dues of $35 NOW for the Association to accomplish some of the following:

- Network with other HBCU’s
- Travel to reactivate and develop alumni chapters
- Elect Alumni Trustees that will support our interests
- Support University-related activities such as Honors Day Program, Student Government Association Programs, Scholarships, Student Loan Programs, etc.
- Improve communication tools like our own newsletter

These are only a few items we address but could do so much more if YOU would support the Association with your dues. The Life members came through and donated $925 towards the purchase of two chairs for the International Cultural Center. Our many thanks to this group of Alumni who answered the call for support.

Just think, we have approximately 9,000 living alumni with 6,000 good address, and if 1,000 alumni would donate $1,000, that's one million dollars! Our doctors, lawyers, educators, preachers, professionals, and entrepreneurs can make this happen. All we ask is just $35 from you for regular yearly dues. So stop what you're doing, write that check and return it in the enclosed envelope today.

Again, thank you for your time, concern, and anticipated cooperation.

Yours for the Lion’s cause,

William Scott ’51
Association President

Bruce M. Benson ’75
Executive Secretary

RO. Box 182
Lincoln University, PA 19352

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Alumni Association
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The Lincoln Lion
In Memoriam

Mr. Robert M. Caver '25
died January 4, 1999

Dr. Robert N. Joyner, Jr. '37
died March 30, 1999

Mr. Isaac A. Mapp '49
died April 9, 1999

Reverend Shelby A. Rooks '28
died June 1999

Wendell M. Logan, Esquire '40
died January 23, 1999

Mr. Charles T. Carter, Sr. '51
died 3/21/99

Benjamin F. Amos, Esquire '34
died May 11, 1999

Mr. William D. Bryant '47
died June 1999

Dr. Clarence L. Guy '56
died August 17, 1999

Mr. Alphonso D. Walls '36
died August 14, 1999

Mr. Thomas K. Andrews, Jr.
'70
died June 12, 1999

Dr. Benjamin I. Dyett '49
died March 13, 1999

Ms. Irma F. Hartmaier '90
died May 9, 1999

JOIN THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TODAY!

Name__________________________Class Year______________

Address________________________________________

City________State____Zip_____________________

Phone(H)________________________________________

(W)____________________________________________

e-mail__________________________________________

Check one: Regular Member $35____
Life Member $500____
Subscribing Life Member $100____
(payable over a 5-year period)
Alumni Scholarship Fund $_______

Credit Card: Master Card _____ Visa ______
Am Ex _____ Discover _____ Other__________

Card #________________________Expiration Date________

______________________________________________

Authorization Signature

UPCOMING EVENTS

Founder's Day/ Presidential Inauguration
April 15, 2000

Commencement Weekend
May 5 - 7, 2000

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
(800) 726-3014
May 22, 1999 — Freshman sprinter Rhondale Jones won three events and anchored a winning relay team as Lincoln won the men's and women's titles in the NCAA Division III National Track and Field Championships.

The Lincoln men and women dominated the sprint and short-hurdle events at Baldwin-Wallace College in this Cleveland suburb.

The Lincoln women scored 54 points while Wheaton of Massachusetts finished second with 48 points and Pacific Lutheran of Washington was third with 44 points.

The Lincoln men had 62 points, beating Pacific Lutheran by 14. Nebraska Wesleyan finished third with 41 points.

The Lincoln men and women won three events and anchored a winning relay team as Lincoln won the men's and women's titles in the NCAA Division III National Track and Field Championships. They also have won six indoor titles.

Jones, a freshman from Wilmington, also set two NCAA Division III championship meet records. She won the 100-meter dash in a record time of 11.79 seconds and the 200 dash in a record 23.72 seconds.

She won the 100-meter hurdles in 13.88 seconds and anchored Lincoln's winning 400-meter relay team. Tyra Kirkland, Jalima Levine and Mea Williams ran the first three legs. Levine was second in the hurdles with 13.97.

Lincoln's Chris Cobb won the men's 100 hurdles in 14.28, with teammate Alonzo Wiggins second in 14.35. Thomas Thompson won the triple jump with a leap of 49 feet 10 inches and was second in the high jump with a height of 6-8. Rambler Dane Ross won the 100 meters in 10.55.

Lincoln to honor track team at Homecoming Convocation
October 20, 1999

Coming soon...

~ Alumni Directory 2000 ~

Lincoln University will soon publish the Alumni Directory 2000, so please complete and return the form to the Office of Alumni Relations or call 1-800-726-3014!

Name ____________________________________________ Class of ______________________
Address ____________________________________________
City/State________________________________________ Zip________
Home Phone________________________ Work Phone________
Fax ______________________________ E-mail________
Employer ____________________________________________
Title or Position __________________________________
Employment Address __________________________________
City/State________________________ Zip________________
Special Interests ____________________________

The Lincoln Lion
HOLD THESE DATES

REUNION 2000 &
COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND

May 5 — 7, 2000

Lincoln Alumni
Classes Ending in "0" and "5"

Return Home to Celebrate
Your Class Reunions!

Making a gift at year-end?

REMEMBER LINCOLN BEFORE DECEMBER 31

Your gift may result in tax savings next spring!

- The International Cultural Center — "Is your name on a chair?"
- The Annual Fund — Scholarships, computers, equipment, library and more
- The 1854 Society — Gifts by will, securities, life insurance and more
- The John Miller Dickey Society — Gifts of $1,000 and more

Our students will love you for it!
Celebrating 145 Years of Excellence — And Still We Rise

1999 Homecoming Schedule

Friday, October 15, 1999
Philadelphia Alumni Chapter Fall Cabaret

Saturday, October 16, 1999
Gospel Rama

Sunday, October 17, 1999
Miss/Mr. Lincoln University Coronation

Monday, October 18, 1999
Alumni Career Day

Wednesday, October 20, 1999
Alumni Convocation (Honoring the Track Team)

Homecoming Day, Saturday, October 23, 1999

9:00 a.m. .......... Alumni Executive Council Meeting
                 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
                 Library OPEN HOUSE Exhibit
                 Cross Country Invitational

10:30 a.m. .......... Reunion Class (“0”s & “5”s)
                 Representatives Meeting

11:30 a.m. .......... Alumni/Student Luncheon
                 Speaker: Larry Smallwood ’63

12:00 noon .......... Women’s Volleyball

2:00 p.m. .......... Gala Parade

4:00 p.m. .......... Step Show

8:00 p.m. .......... Homecoming Extravaganza
                 Show & Dance Sponsored by Alumni Relations &
                 Student Activities

Founder’s Day/Presidential Inauguration • April 15, 2000