President Nelson Reminds Reunion Classes of Lincoln’s Great Legacy

The following are excerpts from the speech delivered by Lincoln President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. during the Founder’s Day and Alumni Awards Banquet on May 3, 2003 at the University's Thurgood Marshall Living and Learning Center.

Good Evening. To our distinguished Mistress of Ceremonies, chairwoman, Lincoln University Board of Trustees, distinguished guests on the dais, trustees, alumni, students, faculty, staff, families and friends of Lincoln University, welcome to this Founder’s Day and Alumni Awards Banquet. The continuation of the celebration of our Sesquicentennial, this dual event for the University is a celebration of our founding and recognition of our alumni.

One of the compelling reasons for the founding of Lincoln University was a result of when James Ralston Amos approached John Miller Dickey in 1852 and asked how he might perfect himself for the Christian Ministry. John Miller Dickey first tried to help by volunteering his service as an instructor. Amos would walk four miles a

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day, to and from Oxford, for an hour of instruction. At the beginning of his walk he would stop in a grove a hundred yards from the house and pray. This is the site where Ashmun Hall now stands.

When John Miller Dickey found that he could not spare the time needed, he wrote to his friend and teacher, Professor Charles Hodge at Princeton Theological Seminary, and later would send James Amos to Princeton for an interview. Need I tell you that on May 8, 1852 Amos was denied admission. Thus began the quest to establish Ashmun Institute.

On April 29, 1854 Ashmun Institute was granted its charter to deliver a course of instruction in science, literature, the liberal arts, classics and theology. Instruction began at Ashmun Institute on January 1, 1857 with two students, James Ralston Amos and his brother, Thomas H. Amos, with President John P. Carter serving as the sole faculty member. A third student, Armistead Miller, joined in the fall of 1857. All three graduated in 1859. In 1859, Mrs. Jane Brown left a bequest of $2,868.30 - the first endowment capital.

On February 7, 1866, the Board of Trustees authorized the application for an amended Charter. The name of Ashmun Institute was changed to Lincoln University.

I suspect that John Miller Dickey in the founding of Lincoln University must have shared the perspective voiced by Robert Frost in his poem:

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood, and sorry I could not travel both. And be one traveler, long I stood. And looked down one as far as I could. To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair, And having perhaps the better claim, Because it was grassy and wanted wear; Though as for that the passing there Had worn them really about the same, And both that morning equally lay In leaves, no step had trodden black. Oh, I kept the first for another day! Yet knowing how way leads on to way, I doubted if I should ever come back. I shall be telling this with a sigh. Somewhere ages and ages hence: Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—

I took the one less traveled by. And that has made all the difference.

The road John Miller Dickey took in starting Lincoln University has made all the difference.

It was a winter morning in 1857 when Lincoln University welcomed its first students. Since this meager beginning, over 14,000 graduates have set out from these historic grounds.

Different and very personal voyages of discovery have brought each of us to this celebration today. But we all have at least two things in common. Each of us has a share in the rich and storied traditions of this great university. And we bring to it a personal history of small but decisive moments when education had a transforming effect on our lives. Everyone here has experienced the thrill of that “aha” moment.

This is one of the ties that bind us together. Ours is an ancient enterprise. The idea of Lincoln University has been tested and refined over the course of 149 years.
Lincoln’s 144th Commencement, Alumni Weekend Draws Thousands to Historic Campus

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Getting ready for Lincoln’s 144th Commencement
University President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. (front row, fifth from left) greets the 2003 honorary degree recipients as well as faculty, administration and members of the Board of Trustees. Pictured first row (l-r): Dr. Oswald H. Richards, interim chair, Economics and Business Administration; Minnie L. Jackson, owner/chairman, Harlem Globetrotters (Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters); Walter D. Chambers ’52, Emeritus Trustee (Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters); Frank C. Gihan ’72, Board of Trustees Chair-Elect; Adrienne G. Rhone ’76, Board of Trustees Chair; Mark E. Dean, vice president, IBM (keynote speaker and Honorary Doctor of Science); J. Vernon Peterson ’73, Trustee; Tracey J. Hunter Hayes ’87, Trustee; and Dr. Frank “Tick” Coleman ’35, Emeritus Trustee, special assistant to the President for Alumni Giving. Second row (l-r): William B. Ingram ’61, Trustee; Howard E. Merlin, vice president, Fiscal Affairs; Dr. Robert L. Albright ’66, Trustee; Rev. Calvin S. Morris, ’63, Ph.D., Board of Trustees Vice Chair-Elect; David E. Warr, Trustee; Warren R. Colbert, Sr. ’68, Trustee and chair of the Board’s Development Committee; Dr. William E. Bennett ’50, Trustee; Dr. B. Marshall Henderson, professor, Biology; and Lisa M.B. Johnson, president, Alumni Association. Third row (l-r): Dr. Grant D. Venerable, II, vice president, Academic Affairs; Michael B. Hill, vice president, Development and External Relations; Gregory C. Miller ’77, Trustee; Donn G. Scott ’70, Trustee, co-chair, Sesquicentennial Committee; Dwight S. Taylor ’68, Trustee; Dr. James A. “Moose” Parker ’42, Emeritus Trustee; and Dr. William B. Bynum, Jr., vice president, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Rev. Dr. Valerie Tate-Green, University Chaplain, delivered the invocation at the opening of the 144th Commencement ceremonies.

Dr. Emmanuel D. Babatunde (seated), professor of Sociology and Anthropology, and chair of the University’s Honors Program, congratulates a Lincoln graduate.
Lincoln faculty, administration and members of the Class of 2003 during and at the close of the 144th Commencement ceremonies.

From left: Keynote speaker and honorary degree recipient Mark E. Dean; Board of Trustees Chair Adrienne G. Rhone ’76; and Board of Trustees Chair-Elect, Frank C. Gihan ’72, just before the 144th Commencement.

Class of 2003 valedictorian R. Lynn Curry addresses the 144th Commencement crowd. Curry, a history and secondary education major, returned to college at age 59.

Board of Trustees Vice Chair-Elect Rev. Calvin S. Morris ’63, Ph.D., addresses administration, students, faculty and parents during baccalaureate ceremonies at Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel.

Baccalaureate recipients stand outside of Mary Dod Brown Memorial Chapel.
University Honors Distinguished Alumni on Founder’s Day

Lincoln celebrated its rich legacy by honoring six of its distinguished alumni during the University’s annual Founder’s Day and Alumni Awards Banquet on Saturday, May 3 at the Thurgood Marshall Living and Learning Center. The evening ceremony, culminated a full weekend of campus activities that brought hundreds of Lincoln alumni back to the historic campus.

Receiving the Founder's Day Honoree Award was Dr. Clisson M. Woods '64, a radiologist who specializes in nuclear medicine. On November 3, 2001, Dr. Woods established the Roslyn Woods Bogle Memorial Endowment Fund (named for his deceased aunt) with a gift of $20,000 to benefit the University's Langston Hughes Memorial Library.

Monford "Monte" Irvin, ex '42, a Major League Baseball Hall of Famer and Negro Baseball Leagues All-Star, also received the Founder's Day Honoree Award. Four other Lincoln alumni were also honored at the banquet with the Distinguished Alumni Award.

Those honorees included: Lloyd E. Asparagus, Jr. '68, Charisse Carney-Nunes '88, Dr. Martin L. Kilson, Jr. '53 and William C. King, Esquire '73.

Class of 1953 Reunites for 50th Anniversary at Founder’s Day 2003

This year, Lincoln University’s Class of 1953 marked its 50th anniversary and was honored at the Founder’s Day Emeritus Class Luncheon on May 3. President Ivory V. Nelson, Ph.D. presented each with special Emeritus Alumni Medallions after lunch. Class of 1953 members attending the luncheon included, front row, from left: George B. Jones (kneeling), Dr. Henry Cornell '33 (class advisor), Dr. Martin L. Kilson, Jr., Alfred Kase, Donald Pierce and Donald Ukkerd. Standing from left: Joseph Daniels, Ted Whitney, Dr. Bernard Duncan, Richard Marshall, Basil Gordon, President Nelson, Laval Corthran, Ernest Smith, James M. Skerrett, Andrew O. Smith, Samuel Desmond, Harry Joyner and Freeman Bradley.

An Evening of High Praise

Asparagus has served Lincoln in a variety of capacities since his graduation, including as vice president of Fiscal Affairs and Treasurer. He is currently University Bursar.

Ms. Carney-Nunes is an attorney for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and recipient of the White House Initiative Award for Excellence. Kilson currently serves as Director of the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington, D.C. King was a member of the Lincoln Board from 1993-2002, serving as Parliamentarian and as Vice Chairman.

Dr. Kilson, is the Frank G. Thomson Professor of Government Emeritus at Harvard University and is the first African-American to be granted full tenure at Harvard University. Kilson is a prolific writer who has authored several books and numerous social and political articles on Black life in scholarly journals.

Dr. Clisson M. Woods '64 was one of two Founder’s Day Award Honorees. The other was baseball great Monford "Monte" Irvin ex '42. Dr. James A. "Moose" Parker '42 (see cover page photo caption with President Nelson), accepted the award for Irvin, who was unable to attend the event.
Class Gift Update: Top Contributors For Classes Ending in 3s and 8s

Which class will have the largest gift to Lincoln University by June 30, 2003? The University’s goal is to obtain at least 1,000 alumni contributors on or before June 30, 2003. If you have yet to make your annual contribution to Lincoln, it’s not too late. Enclosed for your convenience is a gift envelope. You may also call the Office of Development and External Relations at (800) 726-3014 to make your contribution by credit card. Hurry because the race is on. Here's a look at the top alumni class gifts for classes ending in the 3s and 8s as of May 3, 2003:

**CLASS 1963 TOTAL - $34,880.00**
- Dr. Vincent R. Bridgewater `63
- Dr. Glennwood C. Brooks, Jr. `63
- Gerald Cousins `63
- Rev. Larry Edmunds `63
- Donald A. Green `63
- Terry L. Guerrans, Jr. `63
- Leslie T. Harris `63
- Dennis A. Hughes `63
- Ray M. Johnson `63
- Roland H. Johnson `63
- Edward W. Keels `63
- Dr. William W. Mallet `63
- Dr. Edgar O. Mandeville `63
- Dr. William W. Malloy `63
- Roland H. Johnson `63
- Ray M. Johnson `63
- Leslie T. Harris `63
- Donald A. Green `63
- Gerald Cousins `63
- Dr. Vincent R. Bridgewater `63
- CLASS 1963 TOTAL - $34,880.00

**CLASS 1973 TOTAL - $23,300.00**
- W. Brooks Morris `63
- Rev. Bernard D. Oates `63
- Prof. Sylvester Murray `63
- Arthur B. Henderson `73
- Gloria E. Guess `73
- Nancy C. Giagnacova `73
- Alexander Garrison, Jr. `73
- Dr. Martin L. Kilson, Jr. `53
- Alfred J. Kase `53
- Dr. Adolph W. Johnson `53
- Basil P. Gordon, Jr. `53
- A. Freeman Bradley, Jr. `53
- Dandridge E. Wilkerson `63
- Earl M. Simpkins `63
- CLASS 1973 TOTAL - $23,300.00

**CLASS 1983 TOTAL - $1,620.00**
- Tanea K. Hines `93
- Erica M. Green `93
- Debra L. Geiger MHS `93
- Rhonda P. Elliott-Hall `93
- Narberth C. Rice, Jr. `98
- Dr. Eric J. Becoats `88
- Darian J. Bagley `88
- Rev. Clarence J. Word `33
- CLASS 1983 TOTAL - $1,620.00

**CLASS 1993 TOTAL - $1,040.00**
- Michelle Harrwel-Miller `78
- Donald C. McLean `78
- Ondra E. McKenzie `78
- Stanley M. Mizzell `78
- Karl R. Proctor `78
- Oscar L. Rider `78
- Carol L. Robinson `78
- Stanley Smallwood, Esq. `76
- Charles E. Spaulding `78
- Marlene White `78
- Michael R. Young `78
- CLASS 1993 TOTAL - $3,050.00

**CLASS 2003 TOTAL - $1,000.00**
- James A. Tidwell, III `83
- Janice Hartwill-Miller `83
- Ronald T. George `83
- Leroy Franklin `78
- Rodney G. Jackson `78
- Juanita Johnson Thornton `78
- Dr. Donna C. Jones `78
- Dr. Donna Jones `78
- Jeraldine D. Jones `78
- Elsna E. LaRosa `78
- Laurence K. Little, Sr. `78
- Michelle Harrwel-Miller `78
- Donald C. McLean `78
- Ondra E. McKenzie `78
- Stanley M. Mizzell `78
- Karl R. Proctor `78
- Oscar L. Rider `78
- Carol L. Robinson `78
- Stanley Smallwood, Esq. `76
- Charles E. Spaulding `78
- Marlene White `78
- Michael R. Young `78
- CLASS 1998 TOTAL - $1,040.00

**CLASS 2003 TOTAL - $1,000.00**
- Michael J. Hancock `88
- Andrea Gladden-Postles `88
- Dr. Francine Fulton MHS `88
- Joseph N. Franklin MHS `88
- Antonio E. Emanuel MHS `88
- Jean Wilkins Dember MHS `88
- George M. Davis MHS `88
- Charisse A. Carney-Nunes Esq. `88
- Carol A. Burk MHS `88
- Dr. Eric J. Becoats `88
- Darian J. Bagley `88
- Rev. Clarence J. Word `33
- CLASS 1983 TOTAL - $1,620.00

**CLASS 1943 TOTAL - $2,750.00**
- Dr. Woodrow Wilson `43
- James N. Reaves `43
- Calvin H. Raullerson `43
- Dr. Walter W. Haynes `43
- Theodore A. Durant `43
- CLASS 1943 TOTAL - $2,750.00

**CLASS 1958 TOTAL - $7,630.00**
- Wilbert A. Tatum `58
- Dr. Ernest C. Levister, Jr. `58
- Hon. Levan Gordon `58
- Robert W. Bivins `58
- Rev. Jesse F. Anderson, Jr. `58
- CLASS 1958 TOTAL - $7,630.00

**CLASS 1978 TOTAL - $11,800.00**
- Deborah J. Allen-Smith `78
- CLASS 1978 TOTAL - $11,800.00

**CLASS 1988 TOTAL - $4,700.00**
- Dandridge E. Wilkerson `63
- Earl M. Simpkins `63
- CLASS 1988 TOTAL - $4,700.00

**CLASS 1938 TOTAL - $4,700.00**
- Dr. Julius H. Taylor `38
- The Hon. Joseph D. Roulhac `38
- Haywood G. Jones `38
- Dr. William T. Harper `38
- Wendell P. Brown `38
- CLASS 1938 TOTAL - $4,700.00

**CLASS 1933 TOTAL - $3,050.00**
- Wilbert A. Tatum `58
- Dr. Ernest C. Levister, Jr. `58
- Hon. Levan Gordon `58
- Robert W. Bivins `58
- Rev. Jesse F. Anderson, Jr. `58
- CLASS 1933 TOTAL - $3,050.00

**CLASS 1968 TOTAL - $21,111.71**
- Aubrey L. Watkins `68
- Clarence O. Williamson, Jr. `68
- Crenhua H. Ann `68
- Daniel Lee, Jr. `68
- David E. Peter `68
- David W. Bucley `68
- Dr. Allen J. Lertome `68
- Dr. J. Paul Stephens `68
- Dr. John A. Kerro `68
- Dr. Richard M. O’Daniel `68
- Dwight S. Taylor `68
- Frederick A. Miller `68
- George E. McCray `68
- Harold H. Wilson `68
- Joseph W. Williams, Jr. `68
- Moira D. Fried `68
- Randolph S. Stone `68
- Richard G. Boddie, CSW `68
- Ronald V. Cole, Esq. `68
- Siglo R. Hule `68
- Theodore F. Hawkins, Jr. `68
- Thomas L. McGill, Jr. Esq. `68
- Warren R. Coller, Sr. `68
- CLASS 1968 TOTAL - $21,111.71

**CLASS 1963 TOTAL - $34,880.00**
- Dr. Robert E. Hill `73
- Ezra E. Hill, Jr. `73
- James W. Hudson `73
- Kathleen Johnson Benjamin `73
- Sharon L. Johnson-Lee `73
- Lisa Johnson-Smith `73
- Donna Jones-Brown `73
- Ivan S. Juddins `73
- Christine H. King `73
- William C. King, Esq. `73
- Vicki N. Lakin-Thomas `73
- Ian Wimox Lavern `73
- Katrina R. Moss `73
- Jubaq Mujahid `73
- Laura A. Nelson-Turner `73
- Sharon D. Nesher `73
- Gail O’Neil `73
- Joanne Parker Wright `73
- J. Vernon Peterson `73
- Zeke Reid `73
- Janice L. Rice-Hicks `73
- Casandra Summ-Clarke `73
- Peter W. Smillie `73
- Regina L. Smith `73
- Dr. Romie A. Tribble, Jr. `73
- Anthony D. Walker `73
- Larry Watson `73
- Mary J. Western-Johnson `73

The Class of 1963 was the top donor group as of May 3.
Lincoln’s 144th Commencement, Alumni Weekend Draws Thousands to Historic Campus
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Walter D. Chambers ’52 (left), Emeritus Trustee, receives the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree medallion from President Nelson during the 144th Commencement as Board of Trustees Chair-Elect, Frank C. Gihan ’72 (center), looks on.

Mark E. Dean (left), who received a Honorary Doctor of Science degree, also delivered the keynote address. Board of Trustees Chair Adrienne G. Rhone ’76 is pictured to Dean’s left.

Mannie L. Jackson (center), chairman of the Harlem Globetrotters basketball team, is presented with the Honorary Doctor of Humanities degree medallion by President Nelson. Dr. Robert L. Albright ’66 (left), Trustee, helps with the presentation.

Acting Lincoln Student Government Association President Greg Corbin (foreground) is all smiles after receiving his degree.

Dr. Dana R. Flint, University Marshall and professor of Psychology, leads the Class of 2003 procession.
Lincoln University continues its yearlong celebration of its 150th anniversary into the summer with two upcoming Sesquicentennial events.

The Annual Lincoln University Alumni Picnic Weekend will take place July 19-20 from noon till dusk on the University’s campus near the Fitness Trail.

On July 21 at 8:30 a.m., the Sixth Annual Lincoln University Golf Classic will be held at the Wyncote Golf Course, 50 Wyncote Drive, Oxford, Pa. Please look for more information on both events through upcoming mailings, or on our Web site www.lincoln.edu. You may also call (610) 932-1235 for more up-to-the-minute event information.

As of May 3, the Class of 1968 ranked fourth in giving for alumni classes ending in the 3s and 8s.