

Congratulations Math Majors

Statements from 2019 Graduating Students

Our department will successfully graduate three math majors this year: Ms. Jun King, Ms. Anjaolaoluwa Popoola, and Mr. Jamal B enoit. Our mission is to prepare our students for challenging opportunities after graduation, whether in competitive professional employment or advanced studies. We are happy to announce that all three of our graduating seniors have secured promising opportunities in line with our mission.

Ms. King has obtained employment at Marsh, a global leader in Insurance Broking and Risk Management. Ms. Popoola was accepted into graduate degree programs at four universities across the country (the University of California Davis, the University of Michigan, Bentley University, and the Georgia Institute of Technology), and has chosen to attend a Ph.D. program at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Mr. B enoit has obtained employment as an Operations Manager for Amazon. He also plans to continue building his real estate investment company, Benoit Enterprises.

To help share this wonderful news, we present statements from each of our graduating students, highlighting their experience during the program of training in the Department of Mathematical Sciences here at Lincoln University.

Jun King

I am Jun King, a soon-to-be graduate of the legendary Lincoln University.

I am a strong believer in the quote, "Greatness is contagious, you'll catch it if you get around it," by Bishop T.D. Jakes. With every bond created during my collegiate journey, I have realized that this statement could not be any more true.

My time at Lincoln has been one of focus and persistence from the very beginning. I began as a Biology major with the intent to become a Radiologist. Despite my eagerness to continue on that path, I quickly noticed my lack of engagement in labs, reports, and courses. I had a desire to succeed, but not to learn. I found myself more challenged in and excited about my Mathematics classes, and as a second-semester freshman, also in need of a different Major. That led to a declaration in Mathematics and the rest is history in the making!



The faculty and professors of the Mathematical Sciences Department have a special place in my heart. While quirky and sometimes too busy for their own good, they have shown me nothing but care and consideration. They have shared their craft and lives in such a way that had value, concern, and always a little humor. From summer conferences and graduate seminars to guest speakers and internships, I have been educated, supported, and heard by those around me.

This support, coupled with my fortitude and determination, has landed me in the world of Insurance. **This summer I will begin my career in corporate service at Marsh, the global leader in Insurance Broking & Risk Management.** To me, Lincoln University was not a mere college, but a garden – where I was planted, nurtured, and encouraged to blossom freely without fear. Now I am prepared to receive my harvest.

Anjaolaoluwa Popoola

My name is Anjolaoluwa Popoola. I am a graduating Mathematics major and Biology minor. I started my freshman year thinking that I was going to become a Biology major and ultimately go to medical school, but I realized that I had no passion or interest to do that. Hence, I ventured off to explore other majors. After taking Calculus 1 and speaking to Mathematics professors and students, I was convinced by their devotion to help me to succeed and my genuine and innate interest in mathematics that this was the perfect major for me. Even though I made this decision at the beginning of my third year at Lincoln University, I had the most supportive faculty and advisors who assured me that I could still graduate with my class. It was a very challenging and rigorous program, but thanks to my professors, who became friends, and amazing colleagues who have become family, such as Jun King, this has become a reality.



My journey as a Mathematics major was amazing. If I had to choose again, I would be a Mathematics major again. The department supported me and the faculty made themselves available to answer any questions I had regarding academics or future career plans. Being a Mathematics major exposed me to so many opportunities that I never expected. I became a part of the International Association of Black Actuaries, attended a boot camp in Atlanta, and learned how important Mathematics is to industry. I was also a part of the Summer Institute of Emerging Managers and Leaders at University of California Berkeley, which exposed me to the business industry its need for Mathematics. I even had the opportunity to

interview and attend seminars with several companies such as EY, Deloitte and the others. These opportunities helped me build my network and meet prominent people. I never thought that Mathematics was such a versatile field, but I have learnt that as a Mathematics major, you are really needed in every field.

As a graduating senior, I gained admission into the University of California Davis, the University of Michigan, Bentley University, and the Georgia Institute of Technology. **I have recently accepted the offer from the Georgia Institute of Technology to pursue my Ph.D. in Operations Research this coming fall.** I am really glad I chose this track and the outcome has been more than I expected.

Jamal B noit

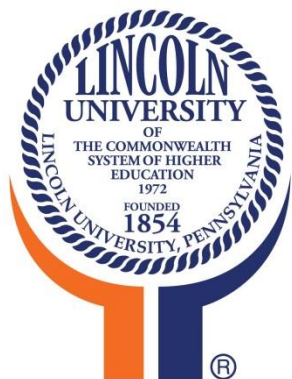
I am a graduating senior here at The Lincoln University, earning my B.S. in Mathematics. My path to graduate with a Mathematics degree was a path that had me look within myself to understand what I really wanted. My freshman year, I was completely adamant about following in my sister's footsteps in becoming a lawyer. But I soon came to realize that reading and writing papers for hours on end was not something I particularly enjoyed. I spent my sophomore year trying out new things, searching for other options. After meeting with several people, I got the chance to sit down with Dr. Tameze. He soon cleared up a misconception I had that majoring in Mathematics only served those looking to become a math teacher. He explained how all industries, large or small, needed Math majors. He told me that by obtaining a degree in Mathematics, I would be working towards building a skill that every company across the world needed, problems solving. From Fortune 500 companies to small town entrepreneurs, problem solving is vital in the operation for any business.

I took heed of Dr. Tameze's advice and set out to become a Mathematics major. While I switched from nights of reading letters and essays to solving letters in differential equations, the benefits were worth it. After I graduate, I have the opportunity to work as an Operations Manager for Amazon. I also plan on continuing to build my real estate investment company, Benoit Enterprises. I can honestly say that if it wasn't for the support from professors in the Math department, like Dr. Bahn and Dr. Pathak, I would not be where I am today. Lincoln University has helped me grow as a man, both in and out of the classroom.

The department would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms. Popoola, Ms. King, and Mr. B noit on their fantastic accomplishments. We hope that their education here will serve them well for whatever challenges life brings them.

HBCU Consortium Inaugural Symposium

Dr. Carson Represents Department at Penn State



From April 28-29, Penn State hosted the Inaugural Symposium for the HBCU Consortium. Efforts to bring this consortium together began during the fall of last year. The initiative was spearheaded by Dr. Jason E. Gines, Assistant Dean of the Office of Inclusion and Diversity Engagement at Penn State.

Our department has been working diligently to build partnerships with departments at other institutions, including Princeton University and the University of Michigan. With Penn State, this endeavor took the form of involvement with the HBCU Consortium. Dr. Claude Tameze and Dr. Zaq Carson have been working with Dr. Gines and other representatives from Penn State and the other HBCU members to coordinate our involvement. The efforts resulted in our participation in the Inaugural Symposium.

The Inaugural Symposium was hugely successful and represents a significant step forward in developing mutually beneficial relationships between Penn State and several local HBCUs, including Lincoln University.

Dr. Zaq Carson represented our department at the inaugural symposium. Representatives from Bowie State University, Morgan State University, and Virginia State University also attended. Dr. Carson gave a short presentation describing his earlier research in physics as well as his current work with the department's Intervention Plan and our new College Algebra and Precalculus labs, which was well received. The challenge of serving underprepared students is one shared by many HBCUs, and several representatives were excited by the initiatives our department has taken in improving this service.



The symposium culminated in a round-table discussion, where the Consortium agreed upon several concrete goals for the coming year. The Consortium hopes to attain these goals before its next symposium, which is tentatively slated for mid to late March, 2020. Among these goals is a commitment from Penn State to host at least one student from each of the HBCU members for a summer research internship. Another goal is to have a representative from Penn State visit each of the HBCU members to share the wide variety of collaboration and internship opportunities they have available. Likewise, a representative from each HBCU member will visit Penn State in a reciprocal endeavor.

In addition to these concrete goals, the consortium is also interested in facilitating the development of research collaboration opportunities for faculty and staff at each of the member institutions. Each consortium member has been tasked with compiling statements of research fields and interests from its faculty and staff. These documents will be shared among all consortium members, so that interested researchers can identify opportunities for collaboration. Dr. Tameze and Dr. Carson will continue representing our department to the Consortium. They will reach out to the other faculty and staff over the coming months to prepare our department's statements.

The department would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Gines and the others at Penn State who made this inaugural symposium possible, as well as the representatives from Bowie State University, Morgan State University, and Virginia State University, who each presented broad research overviews and offered important contributions to the round-table discussion. We look forward to working with all of the HBCU Consortium members to provide exciting opportunities for all of our students, faculty, and staff.

Department of Mathematical Sciences Faculty and Staff

Dr. Maiko Arichi	Prof. Abel Ayele	Dr. Tong Banh
Dr. Zachary Carson	Dr. Michael Faulkner	Dr. Moses Haimbodi
Dr. Panakkal Mathew	Dr. Patrick Mwerinde	Dr. Ranjan Naik
Ms. Martha Parisan	Dr. Jawahar Pathak	Dr. Claude Tameze
Dr. Laurellen Treisner	Dr. Penglong Xu	Dr. Vesna Zeljkovic