



Voices

A biennial publication from the Sam M. Walton College of Business

Office of Minority Affairs



QUOTES

• "Learn to recognize your god-given talents (and we all have them). Develop these talents and use them in the career you choose."

-Benjamin Carson

• "If you have a purpose in which you can believe, there's no end to the amount of things you can accomplish."

-Marian Anderson

Financial Aid and Scholarship Preparation for 2005-06

Financial-Aid Information (for 2005-06)

It's that time again! Every year parents, students and all citizens begin the process of preparing tax returns for the previous calendar year. While preparing your 2004 taxes, it is important to remember to complete another annual task as it relates to students pursuing educational endeavors— completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is the beginning of the process that leads students and parents toward financial relief in the pursuit of higher education. Failure to complete this task early may prohibit students from being eligible for need-based federal, state and/or private aid (i.e. scholarships). The FAFSA requires the use of both the parent and student 2004 tax information to be completed. The form can be completed online at www.fafsa.ed.gov; however, it is necessary for both the student and a parent to sign the document either electronically or by printing and mailing in a signature page. The fastest and most efficient way to complete the process is for both the student and a parent to obtain pin numbers prior to completion of the online FAFSA. Pin numbers are individual identifiers that act as a signature for the individual to whom the number is assigned. Pin numbers can be obtained from www.pin.ed.gov.

Be sure to monitor state aid deadlines that can be found on the FAFSA. For the state of Arkansas, the state deadline is April 1. If you complete the FAFSA after that date it does not mean that you are too late; however, it may prevent your student from being eligible to receive need-based aid. Thus it is important that your taxes and the FAFSA be done early.

If there are **special circumstances** or changes in your income that are unforeseen, then it is imperative that you contact the institution's financial-aid office to find out the process for completing a special circumstances application. This may or may not be of assistance to you; but every little bit helps.

If after you have completed the FAFSA and an award notice is received from the school

and there does not appear to be enough financial assistance, then parents can apply for a parent-plus loan. (FYI: Loans that are awarded to a student or parent based on the FAFSA are a form of financial aid). Typically parents can obtain a parent-plus loan application form from the institution financial aid office or the financial institution where the loan request is being made. If the parent is denied a parent-plus loan, then it may be possible for the student to request in writing additional funds in the form of an unsubsidized loan.

If all else fails and funds are still needed then students and parents can turn to an alternative loan. Alternative loans are private loans used for educational purposes. These loans can be used to cover past due accounts (in some cases) or current balances. A list of alternative loan lenders can be obtained through the institution's financial

Scholarship Information (for 2005-06)

Please check the bulletin boards, scholarship e-mails, and other sources to take advantage of the scholarships that are available. For example: Minority Financial Aid Directory.

2005 Black Alumni Society Reunion

Join us **April 29–May 1** on "The Hill" for "A Triumphant Return". The Black Alumni Society will host its 7th Reunion event, which will be filled with exciting opportunities to connect or reconnect with your peers. Contact Angela Monts via email at ammonts@uark.edu for more information.

Walton College Promising, Astute, Career-minded, Together (P.A.C.T.)

The inaugural meeting of the PACT was held on November 2, 2004 at Walton College with an attendance of 10 students for the program. Students learned about the vision and mission of the P.A.C.T. and what their involvement would be for the program. Students were then provided a copy of the text to read during the holiday break so that it could be discussed during the second meeting which was held on Jan. 28, 2005. Students who participated in the second meeting each received a \$100 scholarship for the spring term.

The focus of the Walton College P.A.C.T. is to create an environment that will maximize student potential as it relates to academics using peer influence. The acronym P.A.C.T. was selected for a two-fold purpose: 1) to stay consistent with the text that perpetuated the idea for the program and 2) because it accurately reflects the quality of character of the students who are enrolled in the Walton College. P.A.C.T. is for students who demonstrate academic promise and are astute, career-focused and willing to work together to ensure academic success at the University of Arkansas and in the Walton College.

The program is designed around the text, *The PACT*, by Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins and Rameck Hunt with Lisa Frazier Page. The mission of the Walton College P.A.C.T. program is to improve retention rates of minority student in the Walton College and capitalize on benefits to aid in recruitment of other minority students to the Walton College (Good, 2000).

For more information, please contact LaTonya Floyd at lfloyd@walton.uark.edu.

Reference

Good, J.M. (2000, Fall). A Promising prospect for minority retention: Students becoming peer mentors. *The Journal of Negro Education*, 69(4), pp. 375-383.

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2005 Summer Programs to Commence – Accounting Career Awareness Program, Technology Awareness Program and Girls and Money Management Enrichment (ACAP, TAP, and GAME)

The Sam M. Walton College of Business is pleased to announce the return of the Accounting Career Awareness Program (ACAP) and the Technology Awareness Program (TAP). The college would also like to introduce the Girls and Money Management Enrichment Program (GAME) for the 2005 Summer term. ACAP, TAP and GAME are each intensive, one-week residency programs designed to



bridge the gap for minority students in the areas of accounting, technology and finance. Each program focus hopes to fulfill a need that exists in business to diversify the employee pool with talented individuals who have undergone education similar to that offered

in the summer programs and in the Walton College. Students benefit from exposure to University life, networking opportunities, and skills that will assist them in making career decisions for their future.

Applications for each program are available online at <http://www.waltoncollege.uark.edu/minorityaffairs> or you can call our office at (479) 575-4557 for additional information.

Program Dates:

ACAP—June 11- 18, 2005

TAP—June 18- 24, 2005

GAME—July 9 - 16, 2005

Congratulations to our Fall Academic Scholars

Fall 2004 Chancellor's List

These individuals maintained a **4.0 Grade Point Average (GPA)** for the term: Richard Keech, Jenny Kilgore, Jana Kim, Natasha McGill and Nikki Truong.

Fall 2004 Dean's List

The following individuals maintained a **3.69 GPA or higher** and made the Walton College Dean's List for the term: Chanta Givens, Chaney Youngblood, Eric Torres, Duyen Vu, Nathan Fox, Imraan Ismail, and Landi Mkhize.

Minority Affairs Academic Excellence (3.0 to 3.68 Grade Point Average)

The students listed below met the requirements for the Minority Affairs Academic Excellence Honor:

Demeica Birmingham, Crystal Anderson, Brandy Branch,

Martell Brown, Randy Brown, Adrienne Bush, Walter Canady, Caleb Caesar, Carla Craig, Brandi Crew, Latrice Duncan, Scott Eady, Balance Reed, Juanita Evurunobi, Kimberly Harris, Ra Hearne, Dominique Hunter, Kimberly Phillips, Mario Riles, Leah Spurling, Courtney Swanigan, Alexander Vance, Kristal Walton, Keri Alexander, Cynthia Barnes, Charlene Charles, Tina Choi, Kristin Tynor, David Taylor, Zachary Smith, Joshua Rupe, James Gill, Fernando Martinez, Jason Harris, Jerry Yang, Angali Vyas, Monica Navarro, Alisa Lewis, Melinda Gray, Kristie Porter, Jessica Lewis, Justin Johnson, Jan-Michael Akers, Yanisha Brown, Zamie Burnette, Sudsahara Callaway, Patricia Edwards,

Andrea Gill, Juemo Graham, Amanda Jones, Brian Key, Daniel Nealey, Damarcus Winston, Terry Fette, Andrew Greenwood, Amy Ha, Matthew Hopkins, Michael Kihara, Sang-a-Shannon Lee, and Kenny Nguyen.



Student Accomplishments & Awards

Randy Brown, current Associated Student Government president, was recently recognized as a Rising Star Award winner at the National Association of Student Personnel Administrator's (NASPA) Region IV-West annual conference. A reception was held in December at the multicultural center to honor the recipients from the University of Arkansas. Randy has also been accepted into graduate school at the University of Vermont to begin in the fall 2005 term.

Congratulations to **Choi Lai, Thomas Vo, & Nathan Fox** on making the Dean's List for the Fall 2004 term.

Emily Kilgore was one of the scholarship recipients for the Northwest Arkansas Martin Luther King Scholarship, for which she was recognized at the annual Martin Luther King banquet on January 17, 2005.

Laura Germer was inducted as a member of Alpha Kappa Psi—Professional Business Fraternity.

Stephanie Cuningkin, President of the Lambda Theta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. was inducted into the Order of Omega Greek Honor Society. Accept a position with Ernst and Young and will be attending graduate school at Notre Dame University in Indiana.

Current undergraduate student and member of the Lambda Theta Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., **J J Akers** recently accepted a position as a buyer with General Mills. Upon graduation Ms. Akers will be spending two weeks in Italy prior to beginning her career with General Mills in Minneapolis, Minn.

Upon graduation in May 2005, graduate students **Jeremy Loyd** and **Julienne Gutierrez** will be working for PriceWaterhouseCoopers in Dallas and New York respectively.

The following students will be participating in cooperative education opportunities during the summer 2005:

Charlene Charles—General Mills

Yolanda Bryant—City of Fayetteville Accountant Department

Mario Riles—Deloitte & Touche, LLC

Carl Mathis—Conoco Phillips

Schedule of Events

April 2005

- 4/1/05—Deadline for Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for AR
- 4/5/05—Beta Gamma Sigma Banquet
- 4/14/05—Walton College Awards Banquet
- 4/15/05—Last Day to file 2004 Taxes
- 4/17/05—Accounting Banquet

May 2005

- 5/02/05—Dr. Lofton's Birthday
- 5/08/05—Mother's Day
- 5/09/05—05/13/05: Final Exam Week. Refer to the web site: <http://www.uark.edu/registrar/classes/SpringExam.html>
- 5/13/05—Last day of classes
- 5/14/05—Commencement/ Graduation Ceremonies

Summer Session I

May 23, 2005 to
July 1, 2005

Summer Session II

July 5, 2005 to
August 12, 2005

Fall Session

August 22, 2005 to
December 12, 2005

Spring Tutoring Available

If you are having trouble in a class, there are tutors available for ECON 2023, ECON 2013, WCOB 1023, WCOB 1033, WCOB 1012, ISYS 3603, FINN 3003, WCOB 2023, & WCOB 2043.

Tutoring is also available for non-business classes at the **Enhanced Learning Center** (elc.uark.edu) located in the Gibson Hall Annex. If you can not find a tutor for a subject area where you are having difficulty; then come by our office and we will seek one out for you.

We want you to be successful!!!

Having trouble with a course?



When a student is experiencing difficulty in a class, there are a few options available to the student. Prior to any meetings, students should first check to make sure that they have done the following:

- read the assigned material prior to class (and after class lecture if necessary)
- take notes from the reading to compare to the lecture notes from class
- attend class (unless there is a severe illness or other extenuating circumstance, it is imperative that students attend class regularly)
- take notes during lecture (it might be helpful to tape record lectures with instructor permission for review later)
- find a study partner (s) for the class (find the person who sits front and center and asks lots of questions in class - not your friends)
- sit front and center in the class to minimize distractions
- review materials from class lecture, reading and homework as soon as possible after class for retention of the information presented
- do the homework early so that you can seek help from a tutor or the instructor prior to the due date (tutors are available in the Walton College Monday through Thursday for most subjects; if there is a tutor not available for a subject you need let us know and we will find someone.)
- create a calendar that outlines the exams, homework, and papers due for the semester (a picture is worth a thousand words)
- Take responsibility for academic experience, learning and readiness
- Visit with professor during office hours to discuss your academic challenging area from classification, discuss test preparation information including after a test.

If all of this fails; there may be other avenues that are needed for you to be successful. Come by our office and we will be glad to assist further.

We have copies of The Black Collegian available for those of you who are interested.

Please come by the Walton College, Room 328, and ask for one.

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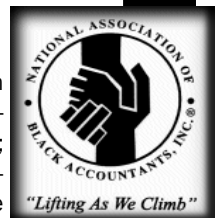
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CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB AT
WWW.WALTONCOLLEGE.UARK.EDU



Student Organization:

The National Association of Black Accountants (NABA) is a national organization that facilitates minority students in finding jobs in the accounting profession. NABA also helps to promote and develop the professional skills of its members. The officers of the University of Arkansas Chapter are: Nakisha Bosah, President; La'Keshia Jones, Vice-President; Nyree Wine, Treasurer; and Latasha Long, Secretary; Mario Riles, Assistant Secretary; and Emily Kilgore, Public Relations Representative. NABA meets on the first Tuesday of each month in room 244 of the Walton College. For the Spring 2005 term, NABA has been preparing its members for the **Second Annual Men's Summit: Changing the Game, Part II**, to be held March 12, 2005 at the Reynolds Center Auditorium. NABA held its first Women's Summit entitled **"The Essence of a Corporate Woman,"** during the Fall 2004 term, which was a huge success. If you would like more information on NABA please feel free to e-mail the organization at naba@walton.uark.edu.



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

March 9, 2005: 2nd 8 week classes begin

March 12, 2005: NABA Men's Summit

March 18, 2005—University Wide Scholarship Deadline

MARCH 21-25, 2005: Spring Break

MAY 14, 2005: COMMENCEMENT

INTERESTED IN STUDY ABROAD? Opportunities to study in Japan, China, Italy, as well as other countries exist through the Walton College. Study abroad offers valuable information and experience! For more information contact the International Business Studies Office, WCOB 402, at 575-6836.

Alumni News: We'd like to hear from you. Let us know your accomplishments, job changes, advancements, and community service achievements. Email us at lfloyd@walton.uark.edu.