



Season's Greetings

Message From the President

Dear Alumni, Friends and Supporters of Clark Atlanta University:

Happy holidays to each of you. May you, your friends and loved ones be blessed with a safe and joyous holiday season as we look forward to a new year filled with incredible promise and opportunities.

This is the season for reflection on the past year and for making plans for the future. It is, therefore, an opportune time for me to express my appreciation to our valued alumni and friends for your generosity and support during 2009. We have been encouraged by the many alumni that continued to reach out to us as we made the sometimes difficult decisions necessary to improve and advance Clark Atlanta University. Most assuredly, I am appreciative of the support and assistance that you have given to me during my first full year as president.

Your continued investment in Clark Atlanta University helps to assure its progress toward achieving the vision of national leadership in American higher education and becoming a leading research institution on national and global issues. I am confident that we will attain greatness as our faculty, staff, students, trustees and alumni continue to work collectively toward achievement of the vision.

Our goals cannot be achieved without change and improvement at the University on several levels. Many of you know that my single most important focus has been on process improvement, which is why we launched the Clark Atlanta University Process Improvement Initiative (CAuPRI) in 2008 based on our assessment of business practices, services to our students, and the condition of our data and software systems. To date, the initiative has measurably improved several of our systems and processes, allowing improvement in the speed and accuracy of several student services.

A second important focus for us this year was to begin to improve communications with key constituents and build stronger ties with members of the CAU community and the external community. We have been most inspired by our visits with alumni in several major markets and we are excited about new collaboration with members of the alumni community. The New Year will undoubtedly present many opportunities for us to build on these collaborations and strengthen alumni engagement and support.

As we seek to intensify alumni pride, commitment and support for Clark Atlanta University in the coming year, I look forward to working more closely with each of you in 2010.

The First Lady and I wish you peace and joy throughout the holiday season and in the New Year.
Sincerely,

Carlton E. Brown
President



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Director of Alumni Relations

The WHO and the HOW

While I always try to avoid generalizations, one thing can be said about Clark Atlanta University alumni: **We speak our minds!** Whether our portal of entrance and exit came through Clark University, Clark College, Atlanta University and/or Clark Atlanta University during our undergraduate, graduate and/or professional matriculation, we share a vested interest in the institution.

We speak our minds with praises and concerns. We speak our minds through volunteerism and financial support. As we close out 2009, I want to thank you for speaking your minds through your support and contributions and ask that you to now embrace the “Who and How” of being alumni of Clark Atlanta University.

“Who” we are is important. “Who” we are as individuals and as collective voices makes a difference. “Who” we are in terms of participation locally and nationally as volunteers, as members of the Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association, ambassadors and recruiters of our alma mater speaks volumes.

So let’s remove the W from “Who” and move it to the end and embrace the word “How” which is just as critical. “How” does one become active and stay active with the programs and activities in the Office of Alumni Relations? “How” does one become an active member locally and nationally with the alumni association? “How” does one contribute their time, talents and financial gifts to our alma mater?

Simply put “How” is the execution of our dedication of “Who” we are. Our new tag line in the Office of Alumni Relations is something that we take seriously. Alumni Relations is the bridge to the University. We thank you for your participation in the three editions of “From Paws to Claws.” Moreover, we appreciate each of you who participated in welcoming our first-year students during the “From Paws to Claws—The CAU Experience Edition.”

We would be remiss if we did not applaud you for your outstanding support and engagement this year. We extend our deep appreciation to the all members in the reunion classes ending in the 4s and 9s for your participation and contributions. We are indebted to each individual who played an integral role of getting the CAU license plate back on the road. We are beholden to you for contributing more than \$50, 000.00 to the General Scholarship Fund through the Office of Alumni Relations Brick Plaza project. We are still enthusiastic about your participation in Homecoming 2009. We were also quite pleased as we perused the alumni section at the Presidential Inauguration. And we thank you for your presence and financial contributions during our inaugural Annual Holiday Celebration. Locally and nationally, you made a difference in 2009!

As you go forth during the rest of this holiday season, I wish you a very Merry Christmas, a fruitful Kwanzaa and a prosperous and Happy New Year. Always remember that the staff of the Office of Alumni Relations is here to serve and we look forward to being of service to each of you in 2010.

Until we communicate again,

Gay-linn E. Gatewood-Jasho, CC 1981; CAU 1994
Director of Alumni Relations



CLARK ATLANTA
UNIVERSITY

Connections

Connections is a publication of Clark Atlanta University and the Alumni Relations Office. For the 2009-2010 academic year, this newsletter will be printed quarterly.

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Message from the Vice President for Institutional Advancement and University Relations

Dear CAU Alumni and Friends:

I would like to wish each of you a joyous and spirit-filled holiday season, and to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and contributions in 2009.

Over the last 18 months we have celebrated several important milestones, including the Twentieth Anniversary of the consolidation of Atlanta University and Clark College to establish Clark Atlanta University and the 140th Anniversary of the establishment of Clark College and just last month we celebrated the Installation and Inauguration of our third president, Dr. Carlton E. Brown.

This has also been a year in which we have seen the effects of the economy challenge Clark Atlanta University and all of the members of our family in one way or another. The resilience that we have seen from our students has been especially moving and inspirational. I know you join me in a prayer that the United States and the world will see better days in 2010.

During this season of gratitude for the past and hope for the future, my colleagues in the Division of Institutional Advancement and University Relations and I are appreciative of having the privilege of working with you and on your behalf while we serve Clark Atlanta University.

Each year, my hope is that day by day, month by month and year by year, that all of us, faculty, staff, students, and alumni, continue to advance this great University in all that we do. Working together, we will undoubtedly accomplish more great things in 2010, including building a stronger University-alumni partnership, growing CAU's base of financial support, and enhancing the reputation of the academic enterprise.

Happy Holidays to you and all of those that you hold dear.

Warmest personal regards.
Sincerely,

Aristide J. Collins, Jr.
Vice President for Institutional Advancement and University Relations

Annual & Special Giving Tom Joyner School of the Month Kudos Korner

Special Thanks to the CAU Village Alumni Association

The organization kick-started the campaign with an alumni workshop held during the May Weekend.

Atlanta Alumni Chapter

The local alumni chapter hosted a wine and cheese function, as well as several other home-coming social events to which campaign representatives were invited. Volunteers from the chapter will also participate in our campaign long phone-a-thon.

Houston Alumni Chapter

The "CAU Houston Round-up" was a mixer held to promote and raise funds from alumni and friends in the Houston area. The chapter also conducted a phone-a-thon to reach out to area alumni.

Washington Alumni Chapter

The capital area alumni were the first to meet the Tom Joyner School of the Month "Chapter Challenge." All alumni chapters were challenged to raise a minimum of \$5,000 to contribute to the School of the Month fundraising effort. Alumni in the Washington, D.C. area have raised the \$5,000, including a \$1,000 donation courtesy of Verizon.

Athletics Department

Thank you to the Athletic Department for co-hosting the first home game activity. The department also invited SOTM representatives to their Athletic Mixer.

Booster Club

Our athletics booster club made a special presentation highlighting the fundraising campaign at their annual Hall of Fame Breakfast.

School of Arts and Sciences

Congratulations to the School of Arts and Sciences for hosting an event sponsoring the "School of the Month" initiative!

The school held a successful "FUN-D DAY" event that helped to raise additional funds of nearly \$4,000. The school has previously raised more than \$3,000 before the event and they are confident that they will reach their \$10,000 goal. The department is seeking 100% participation from faculty and staff. They are also encouraging student participation to help drive this effort.

Department of English

The department of English restaged Professor Willie Todd's play, *Black Voices: The Hidden Bruises* featuring Jennifer Holiday November 4-5 in Davage Auditorium. All proceeds will go to the SOTM effort.

The Broadway original dreamgirl, Jennifer Holliday, brought the house down both nights at Clark Atlanta University, where she was a guest artist in the play. The play is about the resilience of African-American children and is written by CAU English Professor Willie L. Todd.

Newell Rubbermaid Corporation

Tom Joyner Foundation.
The donation will be dispersed as four \$2,500 scholarships.

WCLK

Members of the WCLK staff made logos and helped engagement opportunities become realized. The station recorded public service announcements from students, faculty, and alumni to help promote the campaign.

Thanks to our alumni, students, faculty, and staff who donated their time and money to the campaign!

A Pictorial Review of the Year

From Paws to Claws

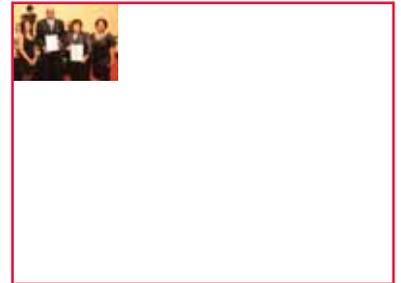
Students Networking with Alumni

The Spring and Fall editions of “From Paws to Claws” afforded the opportunity for alumni to return to campus to share their professional experiences and advice with students. CAU students had the occasion to receive first-hand knowledge on hopeful career choices and to gain knowledge to follow and develop.



May Weekend and Reunions of the 4s and 9s

The opportunity to walk down memory lane occurs every five years for reunion classes and the classes returning this year had private class gathering, friendly financial competition and the 50th Anniversary class started of new tradition of wearing gold robes.



CAU Commemorative License Plate Back on the Road

The CAU commemorative license plate will be on the road again in 2010 as Clark Atlanta University alumni and friends become rolling billboards.



Homecoming 2009

Unveiling of the President's tiles of Atlanta University, Clark University, Clark College and Clark Atlanta University and Open House at the Albert H. Watts Alumni House kicked off Homecoming Weekend. The Grand Marshalls for this year's parade donned the CAU Love Float which represented individuals who met during their collegiate years. Other highlights included the Hall of Fame Breakfast, the Office of Alumni Relations and Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association Tent; a check presentation to The Linda M. White Book Scholarship Fund in memory of Trecia Wilhite Rodgers; visits to "Boosters Hill" and the celebratory time of the Fifth Quarter to name a few.



President's Inauguration

Alumni commemorated the Presidential Inauguration of Dr. Carlton E. Brown and First Lady, T. LaVerne Ricks-Brown with each photo opportunity.



Fall Conference 2009

On Friday, November 13th, the CAUAA hosted Cocktails and Conversation with the President in honor of Dr. Brown. On the following evening, The CAUture Exchange, an evening of music and art was the other highlighted event of Fall Conference.



Alumni Visits

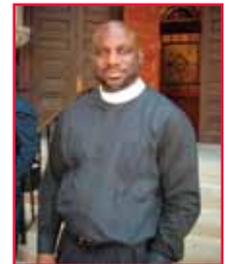
New York

An annual event, the New York UNCF dinner affords the opportunity to support and thank members of the New York Chapter of CAUAA. On the following day, a dinner reception at the famous Sylvia's was the venue for President Brown to share updates and receive Q&A from chapter members.



Philadelphia

Aristide J. Collins, Jr. pins the new alumni pin on Fannie Bakon, now past president of the Philadelphia Chapter. On a subsequent visit, President Brown visited with alumni before bringing greetings at the historical Mother Bethel AME Church where alumnus Reverend Dr. Mark K. Tyler serves as pastor and at the chapter meeting following the service.



Los Angeles

Dr. Carlton E. Brown; Mrs. T. LaVerne Ricks Brown; Dr. Ramona Houston, president of the CAUAA, Inc.; Aristide J. Collins, Jr., vice president for Institutional Advancement and University Relations and Cynthia Buskey, special assistant to the President for Operations attended the Los Angeles Chapter Reception and greeted a cross generation of alumni. Gay-linn Gatewood-Jasho, director of Alumni Relations proudly shared a moment with Cory Wynn who served as the president of the Pre-Alumni Council during his matriculation at CAU and congratulated him as the new chapter president of the Los Angeles Chapter. The following day, Dr. Houston and Ms. Gatewood-Jasho prepare to enter the taping of the UNCF Evening of Stars honoring Lionel Richie.



Milwaukee

Dr. Carlton E. Brown, president; Dr. Tamica Jones athletics director, and the CAU Men's Basketball Team pose with alumni Marlo Thomas and Jonathan Spruill at the alumni gathering in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Later in the afternoon, Dr. Brown met with Mildred Brawner Pollard and her husband Dr. Randle Pollard. On the following day, Merryl Billingsley, Chicagoland chapter president and Gay-linn Gatewood-Jasho share a moment at the Fresh Coast Classic in Milwaukee, Wisconsin after the CAU's Men's Basketball Team won the championship.





CAUAA President

Season's greetings to the entire CAU Family:

On behalf of the Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association, I hope that you, your family and friends are having a wonderful holiday. As we celebrate the holiday season, may we give thanks for all that is good in our lives. We each have a lot to be thankful for, and we must be especially thankful for our alma mater Clark Atlanta University.

We had so many exciting events and accomplishments in 2009. In January, we inaugurated our first African-American president, Barack Obama, and in November, we inaugurated the third president of Clark Atlanta University, Dr. Carlton Brown. As we move forward in this era of new leadership nationally and locally, may we all use our gifts and talents to uplift our leaders and assist them in realizing their visions. There has and always will be a place for members of the Clark Atlanta University family in building our institution, nation and world.

As we celebrate our new leadership, may we also be thankful for our achievements this year. Wow! What a fantastic 2009 Homecoming! Wasn't it great weather, too? So many people participated in Homecoming this year. It was so nice to connect with old friends and make new ones. Thank you so much to our partner, the Office of Alumni Relations, Gay-linn Gatewood-Jasho, director, and our Homecoming chair, Krista Sanders. Gay-linn's staff and Krista's committee, along with the volunteers for the Mobile Membership Campaign, did an excellent job in making everything perfect during the weekend. Thank you!!!

Our thanks also to the Clark Atlanta Athletic Boosters Association for hosting an outstanding Hall of Fame Breakfast. This homecoming the Boosters celebrated its 20th anniversary breakfast. Congratulations!

I would also like to extend a special thank you to our fundraising chair, Barbara Paramore, our partners, the Clark Atlanta Athletic Boosters Association, and others who contributed to the completion of the fundraising drive for new CAU Marching Band uniforms. Didn't the band look great? Thank you to everyone who made this effort a success!

We are all excited that CAU has been selected to be the Tom Joyner School of the Month for the month of October. Thank you to everyone who has made contributions. We encourage everyone to support this campaign. We have until December to accomplish our goals. As you plan your gifts for the holiday season, please consider giving to Clark Atlanta University.

The CAUAA has some exciting activities planned next year. During CAU Founders Week, we will host the Spirit of Greatness Gala, our signature event and fundraiser. The gala will be Saturday, March 20, 2010, at the Sheraton Downtown Atlanta. We are thrilled to host this event and encourage alumni from all over the country and world to come home to celebrate the founding of Clark Atlanta University. Mark your calendar! It is going to be an absolutely spectacular event!!!

As always, I encourage you to be a member of the CAUAA and contribute to your alumni mater. It is the responsibility of alumni to lead the charge of advancing our institution through our example of service and giving. I look forward to working with each and every one of you as we continue to build an even greater Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association and Clark Atlanta University!

Yours in service,

Ramona Houston, Ph.D., President
Clark Atlanta University Alumni Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 15 – 19

Founders Week

March 20

CAUAA Spirit of Greatness Gala

April 6

“From Paws to Claws” – The Spring Edition

April 24

Screen on the Green – School Daze

May 13 – 17

Clark Atlanta University Association May Weekend Conference

May 14 – 17

Reunion Weekend 2010 for the 0s an 5s

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Informing, engaging and highlighting our alumni family

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, INC.

SAVE * THE * DATE

MARCH 20, 2010

GRAND BALLROOM
SHERATON ATLANTA HOTEL
DOWNTOWN ATLANTA

IN REAFFIRMING THE GREATNESS OF OUR NATION
WE UNDERSTAND THAT
GREATNESS IS NEVER A GIVEN.
IT MUST BE EARNED.

BARACK OBAMA
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

Print of Greatness