



Iowa Black Alumni Association

Summer 2019

2019 IBAA Reunion in downtown IC a hit!

On Friday night we held our joint AAS/IBAA Awards Program



Iowa Black Alumni \$1000 Scholarships awarded to: Nicole Shaw and Jimmy Smith

Nicole Shaw is a sophomore from Naperville, Illinois majoring in Journalism and English on a publishing track. She says that race, class, gender, sexuality and its inherently systemic issues are the core themes that drive her writing as a journalist, essayist, and poet. Nicole is the communications manager, podcaster and senior office assistant at the Quill and Scroll International Honor Society for High School Journalists.

Jimmy Smith a first-generation college student who was born in Ghana, raised on the east coast, and his family currently resides in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. He is a junior, majoring in Human Physiology on the pre-med track. Jimmy lists his passions as health care disparities, mass incarceration, and mental health.

**Phillip and Barbara Kutzco \$1000 scholarships awarded to:
Tiffany Tucker and Temyla Holcomb**

**African American Studies \$1000 Scholarships awarded to:
Tamarah Hayslett and Tristan Schmidt**

Marie Nesbitt \$5000 Promise Prize awarded to: Tiana Warner

**UI National Association Of Black Journalists \$1000 scholarships awarded to:
Dilon Goncalves and Grant Glover**

**African American Studies graduating majors: Arika Allen, Devin Francis, Tristan Schmidt,
Maya Buchanan & T'Shailyn Harrington.**

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2019 IBAA Reunion Continued

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The Awards program was followed by Club Hawkeye Open Mic with outstanding performances by current and former UI students such as Nate Ferguson a UI masters student in Jazz Studies and Diana Sproles (Bryant) who sang *You Bring Me Joy* by Anita Baker.

On Saturday, Jeff Leiberman from the UI Center of Advancement discussed donations to the IBAA, followed by a book reading/signing for Venise and her brother Steve Berry. Venise read from her new book of essays *Driven, Reflections on Love, Career and the Pursuit of Happiness* and Steve presented two novels *Tears* and *the Honeyman's Son*.



The Black and Gold Gala was held on Saturday night where Claranne Perkins the former president of IBAA was honored, Robert Washington stepped down as an IBAA Board Member, and banquet attendees posed for an official photo. The banquet was followed by a dance where Aaron "Monk" Leonard was the DJ playing some good music and Larry Page meets Herky.





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AWARDS, HONORS & RECOGNITION

Kimberly V. Lacey-Chappelle (1987) received the Spirit of Excellence Award in January 2019 was honored by The Southland Ministerial Health Network with the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Spirit of Excellence Award.

College of Nursing Dean Emeritus

Geraldene Felton has been selected to receive the University of Iowa's 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award on Friday, October 18, 2019. Dr. Felton, who was also recently bestowed with a Hawkeye Distinguished Veterans Memorial Award, is the only African American to serve as Dean of the College of Nursing (1981-1997).

Ryan Ford (2000), Executive VP and Chief Creative Officer with the Cashmere Agency is excited because his Los Angeles company was named Ad Age 2019 Multicultural Agency of the Year. The agency offers a focus on cultural sensitivity and they have worked on promotional projects like *Black Panther* (Walt Disney), *Claws* (TNT), *Atlanta* (FX) and *Us* (Monkeypaw Productions),

Joseph Henry and **Diana Sproles** (1978) received an award on May 3, 2019 from the Black Graduate and Professional Student Organization (BGAPS) for their support of students of color at the UI. They were both honored for outstanding Contribution to Student Success.

IBAA Alumni, Friends & Family we've lost...

Lois Harper Eichacker (2004) died on November 18, 2018 in Las Vegas, Nevada. She was born in Keokuk, Iowa and attended the University of Iowa for several years. Eichacker was an activist fighting for those living in poverty including women, minorities, children and the elderly. She was the first African American to serve as President of the University of Iowa Alumni Association's Board of Directors and she was inducted into the Iowa Women's Hall of Fame in 1994.

Kenny Arnold (1982) at 59-years-old died on April 27, 2019 in Chicago, IL. with a brain tumor after several strokes. Arnold led the Hawkeyes to four appearances in the Final Four winning the Big Ten title in 1979. Iowa created the Kenny Arnold Spirit Award in 2017.

Damon Bullock (2011-2014) a 25-year-old Hawkeye running back died on March 3, 2019. He was hit by a car in Texas. Bullock came to Iowa from his hometown, Mansfield, TX.



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Iowa Tidbits

New Associate VP for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

TaJuan Wilson will start on June 28, 2019 as the Associate Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at the University of Iowa. He is leaving the Medical University of South Carolina as Executive Director of Student Programs and Diversity. A major goal for Wilson is to increase diversity among faculty, staff, and students on the UI campus. He received his EdD in 2015 at Lindenwood University, St. Charles, Missouri. His areas of expertise are higher educational administration and instructional leadership.



Iowa Students ask, “#DoesUIowaLoveMe?”

From *Little Village*, February 26, 2019 by Julia Davis

The #DoesUIowaLoveMe is a social media campaign allowing current and former students of color to voice their concerns about a variety of issues on the University of Iowa campus. Students were encouraged to share their stories and hundreds posted about discrimination from classmates, advisors, even faculty. Other issues that came up involved sexual orientation, racist situations, and financial status.

The University of Iowa’s official response: “We respect our students as they communicate their frustrations and experiences at the university of Iowa. We are committed to hearing their concerns and improving our campus climate.”

IBAA Board Member Spotlight

Michael Freeman, a Chicago native, is Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at Coppin State University in Baltimore, MD. For more than 30 years he has been an administrator and taught at several universities including: Tennessee State University, St. Mary’s College of Maryland and the University of South Florida. In 1993 Dr. Freeman received his Ph.D. from the University of Maryland-College Park in counseling and personnel services. He is a lifetime member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc and the UI Alumni Association. Dr. Freeman is published in *The Handbook of Student Affairs Administration* and *The Black Students Guide to College Success*.

