CAAS Synergy

In Loving Memory

ZEBEDEE STRONG JR
DECEMBER 14, 1963 - SEPTEMBER 1, 2018

Nothing can ever take away
the love a heart holds dear

In Memoriam: An Expanded Special Edition
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Dear CAAS Students and Supporters,

This issue is dedicated to the memory of several members of the black community here at UT Arlington. As you can imagine, their unexpected passing has significantly impacted students, staff, and faculty. Less than a month into the academic year, we lost Michelle Williams, Alisa Johnson, and Zeb Strong.

Williams worked in the Office of Admissions, Records, and Registration for more than a decade, while Johnson served various campus units including two terms as President of the African American Faculty and Staff Association. Strong was a UTA alum, administrator, and long-time supporter of the Center for African American Studies (CAAS). In fact, he helped write the proposal for CAAS that ultimately led to its establishment along with Dr. Marvin Dulaney and Charles Jackson.

In many ways, Strong was the heart of UTA’s black community. He was active in many organizations on campus and in the City of Arlington. When I interviewed for a faculty position at UTA in 2008, Strong gave me a tour of the DFW Metroplex and spoke with conviction about how my teaching and research interests would be valued here at UTA. His words and tour of the city helped to convince me that Arlington, Texas, should be the place to raise my family and build my career.

He, along with Michelle and Alisa, are gone but not forgotten. Their legacies—as well as that of Reby Cary, the first African American professor at UTA—have forever shaped our community and University.

In Memoriam,
Student Engagement

Black Maverick Welcome!
Fall 2019

Free Admission
Hosted by NAACP #6810 and CAAS
Doors Open @ 6:00

Black Maverick Welcome Celebration

Where: MAC Lonestar Auditorium
When: Monday, August 20, 2018 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Come and enjoy "THE" Black experience at UTA, explore the vision, find your hope, and come join the family.

For information on CAAS Events, contact us at caas@uta.edu
The Black Maverick Welcome (or “BMW”) helps to kick off the school year by inviting incoming first year and transfer students to campus a few days before the Fall semester begins! They meet students, staff, and faculty, as well as connect with a variety of black organizations such as Black Student Association (BSA), Collection of Brothers (COB), National Association for Colored Women’s Club (NACWC), Natural Kinks, and members of the black sororities and fraternities.

BMW includes various panels and a wealth of information about college life (both inside and outside of the classroom), and provides tips for success! This important event is organized and led by our campus chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). CAAS provides financial assistance, and hosts an evening BBQ afterwards!
CAAS always represents at the Activity Day Fair! At this University event, we encourage students, faculty, and staff to sign-up to receive our weekly emails so they can stay informed about upcoming events and engagement opportunities.
CAAS helped to organize UT Arlington’s first annual “Black Maverick Homecoming Mixer”! Current students mingled with alums and told stories about our University’s past, present, and future!

GO MAVS!
One of CAAS’ Student Development Initiatives featured Arati Kale, a doctoral student in the Department of Finance. Also, Ambrose Lee—a graduate student in Student Development at Angelo State University—completed his off-campus internship in CAAS. Ambrose earned his undergraduate degree at UTA in 2016.

Congratulations, Ambrose! Keep up the great work!
CAAS offers field placement opportunities for BSW generalist/MSW Community and Administrative Practice Students. We foster an environment for personal and professional growth concerning our interns.

Great news! Mrs. Ann Hunt-Rodgers is now an adjunct professor for the College of Social Work! In Fall 2018, she taught SOCW 1231 “Social Work Professionalism.”

Congratulations, Ann!
Near the end of the Fall 2018 semester, CAAS sponsored “Study Night.” This year’s food, fellowship, and studying took place on the sixth floor of the UTA Library!

Study Hard for Finals!
CAAS’ Fall 2018 Community Mentor’s Dinner featured several recent UTA grads! They shared insights and early career experiences with students enrolled in our Emerging Scholars Program (ESP) and Emerging Leaders Initiative (ELI). Food was provided by Brandon Wal- ler, a recent UTA grad with a catering business that specializes in vegan cuisine.
Maverick Speaker Series: Terry Crews

OCT. 16, 2018
COLLEGE PARK CENTER
In October, acclaimed actor and speaker Terry Crews participated in UT Arlington’s annual Maverick Speaker Series. Thousands of people across the City of Arlington attended his keynote address in the College Park Center. Dr. Shelton also helped to organize a special “Master Class” that Crews led for 50 select students in the Central Library.

During both of his talks, Crews addressed various timely issues such as racism and his role in the #MeToo movement. He also told stories about life in Hollywood, and provided tips for helping students reach their personal and professional goals.
Russell Maryland—a legendary player with the Dallas Cowboys who won three Super Bowls in the 1990’s—delivered CAAS’ October Power Hour. A packed room of students, staff, and faculty listened and asked interesting questions about his upbringing in Chicago, playing days at the University of Miami (The “U”), and lessons that prepared him for life after football.
Comedian Michael Shawn of K104’s popular morning show “DeDe in the Morning” led CAAS’s November Power Hour. But Michael’s show was very serious: he discussed the trials and tribulations of recovering from alcohol addiction. He uses his comedy to cope, and empower others in overcoming various forms of abuse.
CAAS hosted the African American Council for Excellence’s (AACE) annual conference! This important group usually holds its Midwest Conference at the Lockheed Martin Campus in White Settlement. Due to remodeling, they reached out to CAAS and UT Arlington to see if we could host the event.

This year’s theme, “Reach and Unite: Transforming Together Through E3—Empowerment, Encouragement, and Engagement” featured many influential speakers across a wide range of fields such as Stephanie C. Hill (Senior Vice President at Lockheed Martin), Roderick McLean (Vice President and GM of the F-16/F-22 Integrated Fighter Group), US Representative Marc Veasey (33rd District of Texas), Rachel Hornbuckle (Miss Arlington USA 2018), and Major Paul “Loco” Lopez II (F-22 Commander and Fighter Pilot), to name a few.
The conference included a wide range of panels on various topics such as “Being an Ally,” “Why Culture Matters,” “How Great Leaders Inspire Action,” “What is Political Savvy and How Do I Get It?”

Throughout the day, members of UTA’s campus chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) attended, as well as students, staff, faculty, and high-ranking administrators including President Karbhari and Provost Lim.
A Special Thanks goes to Tonesha Smith of Lockheed Martin! Thanks for thinking of CAAS, and working with us to plan your important conference!
In October, Dr. Shelton moderated a panel discussion on “Taking a Knee: The Conversation Continues.” This important dialogue was sponsored by Jack and Jill of America, the most influential national organization for African American families. It was a town hall discussion that was part of the group’s larger regional meeting.

The panel featured several notable state and local leaders such as Senator Royce West (District 23), Ricky McNeal (President of Garland Branch of the NAACP, and Kevin Jackson (National Father’s Auxiliary Chair, Jack and Jill of America). Reggie Stephens and Hussain Abdullah shared their insights and experiences as former players in the National Football League.
7TH ANNUAL OPENING LECTURE

BITTER MEDICINES, SWEET POISONS:
THE BLACK MASULINE IMAGE IN THE MEDIA

SEPTEMBER 19, 2018
UC, ROSEBUD THEATRE
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

MEET AND GREET RECEPTION AT 5:30 PM

Anthony D. Greene, Ph.D.

Dr. Greene is an associate professor of African American studies with an
affiliated appointment with the Department of Sociology and Anthropology
at the College of Charleston. He has been at the college since the fall of 2016,
where he teaches various courses including Introduction to African
American Studies, Race Relations, Black Imagery in Popular Media,
Comparative Race Identity, Black Masculinity and Manhood, as well as
many other courses. Dr. Greene’s research interests concern race-ethnic
relations as well as cultural and ethnic identity. He has published various
research articles in journals and books, and has been invited to present his
research at academic conferences and symposiums across the country. He has
served as a featured speaker for various single, college, and radio programs
to discuss racial, educational, political, pop-cultural, and social justice issues.
Dr. Anthony D. Greene, Associate Professor of Sociology at the College of Charleston, delivered CAAS’ 7th Annual Opening Lecture. His talk was titled, “Bitter Medicines, Sweet Poisons: The Black Masculine Image in the Media.”

Dr. Greene traced the history and critiqued longstanding negative images of black men in the United States. From Sambo to Stepin Fetchit, to many contemporary stereotypes, Dr. Greene showed how many people have worked to perpetuate hostile beliefs about black men in order to limit their progress in society.

Dr. Shawn Madison, President of the Trinity River Campus of Tarrant County College (TCC) in downtown Fort Worth, attended this important event. Dr. Madison gave both Dr. Greene and Dr. Shelton their first jobs in higher education when he was a Department Chair at Miami-Dade College!
In Fall 2018, CAAS’ most popular course—“Introduction to African American Studies”—became part of the undergraduate Core Curriculum at UT Arlington!

Our course now fulfills the graduation requirement in Social and Behavioral Sciences! ANY student REGARDLESS of her/his major area of study can enroll and complete “Introduction to African American Studies” in earning an undergraduate degree from UT Arlington!
In Fall 2018, the Undergraduate Assembly approved a new course for the minor in African American Studies: “Black Political and Social Thought.”

In this class, students compare and contrast arguments from major leaders in black history and contemporary America. From Malcolm X to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, Booker T. Washington to W.E.B. Du Bois, Shirley Chisholm to former US President Barack Obama—and many others—this course addresses longstanding ideological debates over how to improve conditions for blacks in the United States.
A Resolution in Honor of Zebedee D. Strong, Jr.

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong earned his Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1987;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong served UTA for 25 years as Director of Multicultural Services and as Director of Employment and Recruitment Services;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong served as an advisor to approximately 40 UT Arlington student organizations;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong was one of the members of the Arlington Black Chamber of Commerce and the Arlington NAACP;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong served for decades with Big Brother and Sisters;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong served as a mentor to dozens of UT Arlington students;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong was a friend and colleague to many UT Arlington faculty and staff members;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong was a member of the UT Arlington African American Faculty and Staff Association;

Whereas Zebedee D. Strong assisted in the founding of the UT Arlington Center for African American Studies;

Therefore on this 8th Day of September in the year of Two Thousand and Eighteen, in Arlington, Texas, the Center for African American Studies recognizes and honors Zebedee D. Strong, Jr. for his selfless contributions to UT Arlington, its students, the Arlington community, and all of the people who knew him with this resolution in his memory.

Henceforth, be it resolved that room 129-I in the Swift Center at the University of Texas at Arlington be renamed the Zebedee D. Strong, Jr., Conference Room.

Dr. Jason E. Shelton, Director
Center for African American Studies
In Memoriam

Reby Cary: A Legend with Legacy

He was the first African-American elected to the Fort Worth school board, where he served four years before leaving to run for the Texas State Legislature, becoming the first State Representative elected to District 95.

Cary was an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity for 70 years, wrote more than 20 books about African American individuals, institutions and organizations.
Introduction: Before UTA

Today the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA) has the reputation of being a racially and ethnically diverse school. In fact, according to the highly-influential publication, *US News and World Report*, UTA has the fifth most diverse student population of all universities in the nation. Nevertheless, the diversity of our faculty does not match the same multifariousness of our student body.

Looking at the history of the University however, one will find that changing the racial and ethnic diversification of the faculty at UTA has been a very long process that
Diversity of UTA Faculty

has yet to be completed. It took 24 years for the institution to hire its first minority faculty member, and another 28 years before the University finally hired its first African-American faculty member. Since its inception, the University has grappled with issues concerning the diversity of our faculty. We are still trying to rectify this historic problem that has impacted the institution since 1917.¹

The site on which UTA now sits witnessed several shifts between the last decade of the 19th century and the mid-20th century. The first academic institution established on the location was Arlington College in 1895. Arlington College was a private institution providing instruction for elementary, middle school, and high school students. However, Arlington College closed its doors in 1902, and Carlisle Military Academy began operations on the location. The Carlisle Military Academy increased the size of the campus, and its curriculum included two preparatory years and four academic years. The Carlisle Military Academy was forced to shut down in 1913 due to lack of funds. Following this, a pri-
A private high school was established on the property. This was Arlington Training School, which existed for three years before closing its doors as well.²

The following year in 1917, Grubbs Vocational College opened and began operations on the site. Grubbs Vocational College was the first traditional post high school academic institution on the location and had an initial enrollment of 66 students with 14 faculty members. The college experienced a name change in 1923 from Grubbs Vocational College to North Texas Junior Agricultural College (NTAC). At this point in time, NTAC was still a two-year institution. The school experienced another name change in 1949 to Arlington State College. In 1967 Arlington State College was adopted into the University of Texas system and became the University of Texas at Arlington.³
Historic “Firsts” among Our Faculty

Since its inception as a higher education institution, Grubbs College employed female faculty members. Grubbs Vocational College offered courses in secretarial work and the domestic arts. It was the responsibility of female faculty to teach the courses that were intended for the female student body. It is important to note that at this time all faculty members, both male and female, were white. Recognition of the need for a wider range of qualified faculty members across various racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds had not yet begun. The diversification of our faculty did not truly begin until Victor M. Cano, a Latino, joined the Social Sciences Department in 1941. The following year Professor Cano also taught Spanish. However, Professor Cano’s time at the college was brief as he was no longer with the institution by 1943. Nearly 20 years would pass before another Latino faculty member would be hired at UTA. This occurred when Gabriela Mora joined the Foreign Language Department in 1962. The following year Nelda Garcia joined the Busi-
ness Department. In 1964, Gilberto Hinjosa became a member of the Foreign Language department after Gabriela Mora left the University.

Marie Landua joined the English Department as the first Jewish faculty member in 1948. Professor Landua remained part of the faculty until 1953. Twelve years passed before the college hired another Jewish faculty member. Ira H. Bernstein joined the Psychology Department in 1965, and remained with the Psychology Department well into the 1980s.

Arlington State College hired its first Native American faculty member in 1957. Emory D. Estes joined the English Department at that time and had a very long and distinguished career with UTA. Professor Estes was a member of the Cherokee nation who was appointed chair of the English Department in 1971 and held that position until 1982. As department chair, Professor Estes was instrumental in establishing the English doctoral program at the University. Professor Estes remained at UTA as a full-time faculty member until he retired in
Diversity of UTA Faculty

2007. Professor Estes’s career at the institution spanned 51 years in which he impacted many students. His legacy left a profound impact on UTA and continues to impact students today, as the Emory D. Estes Endowed Scholarship is available to top-performing English students at UTA.\(^6\)

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, several academics of Asian descent were hired by various departments at Arlington State College. The first was Albert K.H. Tung who was hired by the Engineering Department in 1958. David Ling joined Professor Tung in the Engineering Department in 1960, and Paul Chung joined the Business Department in 1963. Tseng Huang was hired by the Engineering Department in 1963 and remained at UTA well into the 1970s and beyond. Also joining the college in 1963 was Mo-Shing Chen who was hired on with the Electrical Engineering Department. Professor Chen had a long and distinguished career with the institution that lasted well into the 1980s and he was appointed as the Director of the Power Systems Research Center where he con-
ducted groundbreaking research in his field. A year later, Albert Komatsu joined the Civil Engineering Department. The first Asian female did not appear as a faculty member at the University until Shirley Chu joined the Chemistry Department in 1969.

In the late 1960s, as the nation’s immigration policies were changing due to the Immigration and Nationality Act, the University hired its first Indian faculty members. The first Indian faculty member was Rama Mohan Rao who joined the Electrical Engineering Department in 1967. Professor Rao remained with the department into the 1970s. Asir Sarker also became a faculty member with the Department of Economics in 1970. The Mathematics Department hired V. Lakshmikantham in 1973 and he remained with the department until 1986. During his career at UTA, Lakshmikantham became chair of his department. It was not until the 1980s that the University hired its first Indian female faculty members. Nazneen Sada Mayadas joined the School of Social
Work in 1982 and Flora Lahiri was hired by the Accounting Department in 1985.\textsuperscript{7}

The University hired its first Arabic faculty members in the late 1960s. The first two, hired in 1968, were Ghazi B. Duwaji in the Economics Department and A. Haji-Sheikh in the Mechanical Engineering Department. Professor Duwaji remained with the Economics Department into the 1970s, while Professor Haji-Sheikh was a part of the Mechanical Engineering Department into the 2000s. The Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering Department hired Khyruddin A. Ansari in 1971. The first Arabic female to join the faculty at UTA was Noushin Ashrafi. Professor Ashrafi became a member of the Information Systems and Management Science Department in 1988.

**Reby Cary, The First African American Professor at UTA**

By 1969, UTA had hired at least one faculty member from each of the largest and most recog-
nizable racial and ethnic groups in the US except for one: African Americans. It must noted that throughout the 1960’s—which was the height of the Civil Rights and Black Power Movements—UTA proudly displayed the racist “Rebel” mascot and flew the Confederate battle flag. By the end of the decade, protests, demonstrations, and activism aimed at improving conditions for blacks had significantly influenced our campus climate. African American students (and non-blacks who were sympathetic to their plight) demanded change by submitting a list of 21 demands for addressing racial inequality on campus and in the broader Arlington community. One demand was to banish the Confederate flag and Rebel mascot. Another was to hire African American faculty members. The students’ efforts were rewarded as the flag came down in Spring 1968, and Reby Cary—the first African American faculty member at UTA—was hired in 1969.8

In an interview conducted by Texas Christian University in 2013, Cary recalled how he was hired at UTA. He gave a speech on campus
in which he criticized the City of Arlington for its discriminatory housing policies. However, Cary then changed the subject of his speech to challenge African American students. While he supported their activism, he felt that the best way that they could make profound changes in our society was through their academic success. A few days after his speech, Cary was asked to join the faculty in University’s History Department. At the time, Cary was a full-time professor at Tarrant County Junior College (TCJC). He was also apprehensive to make the move to UTA, which had a reputation for being a racist institution. Nevertheless, UTA was determined to hire Cary. They offered to double his salary at TCJC and make him Assistant Dean of Student Life. Cary took the job and paved the way for other African-Americans to join the faculty at UTA. In subsequent years other African-Americans joined the faculty at UTA. The next African-American hired was H. Rhett James in 1970. Professor James joined the History
faculty, Hoise Bell joined the Military Science Division in 1971. That same year the first African-American females were hired by the University as well. Both Shirly King and Florence Harlee Phelps joined the School of Social Work, and in 1979 the History Department hired another African-American female, Thavolia Johnson.

**Conclusion: Where Do We Go From Here?**

The road to a more racially and ethnically diverse faculty at the University of Texas at Arlington has been very long and arduous. From its beginning as an institution of higher education, it took 24 years before any minorities were hired. Furthermore, minority faculty members did not join the institution in at least somewhat notable numbers until the 1950s and 1960s, which coincided with a dramatic shift in US immigration policy. From this
point forward, the historic “firsts” recognized in this report should be revered and cherished by our University. These pioneers paved the way for a more diverse faculty. As with Emory Estes, we should consider developing scholarships, awards, and other forms of recognition in their honor.

We have not yet reached our goal of a more diverse faculty. While our student body is incredibly diverse, the percentage of faculty members of color has not grown at such a rapid pace. Nevertheless, there has been meaningful progress. For example, the racial and ethnic distribution of faculty members in 1989 was as follows: whites (85%), Asians (11%), Latinos, (2%), blacks (1%), and Native Americans 1%. Compare this to the distribution in 2017: whites (68%), Asians (22%), Latinos (5%), blacks (4%), and Native Americans (1%). Save for Native Americans, percentages for all minority groups had at least doubled.
Americans remain comparatively low.

Hopefully, this will change in the near future. UTA now participates in a national initiative with 10 leading educational institutions that focuses on increasing the number of faculty members from historically under-represented groups. Ongoing discussion regarding the recruitment and retention of faculty members of color, as well as potential changes to regulations regarding search committees are now frequent topics of discussion on our campus. It is also worth mentioning that the UT System recently instituted the “opportunity rule,” which “establishes requirements for promoting diverse candidate interview pools for leadership positions within the UT System.”

Hopefully these programs and initiatives—as well as others under consideration—will allow UTA to become a model university for the 21st century with a faculty that reflects a wide range of diverse racial and ethnic groups.
Diversity of UTA Faculty

1 A note on sources: Unless cited otherwise all information is from the University’s yearbook collection, The Junior Aggie and Reveille, and the University’s annual budgets, LD5315.A124. These sources are available on the sixth floor of the Central Library in Special Collections. This research project was made possible thanks to the generous funding from the Center for African-American Studies at the University of Texas Arlington. Best Colleges Rankings: University of Texas—Arlington, US News and World Report, https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/university-of-texas-arlington-3656, Accessed January 25, 2019.

2 History of U.T.A., Vertical Files Collection, Special Collections University of Texas at Arlington Library, Arlington, TX.

3 Ibid.

4 Ibid. Grubbs Vocational College Faculty Group Photo, University of Texas at Arlington Photograph Collection, AR324 OS180-9, Special Collection University of Texas at Arlington Library, Arlington, TX.

5 Recognition for Jewish faculty is primarily based on the professor’s surname. We are aware of the limitations of this approach. For example, some Jewish faculty members may not have had common Jewish last names. If not, we would presume an ethnic or religious affiliation.


7 The shift in immigration policy opened the door for immigrants to come to the U.S. that had been excluded since the 1920s. The quota system was still in place, but preference was given to those that had an education, or marketable skill. This caused an increase of highly educated immigrants in the United States making it possible for the university to hire faculty members from India and the Middle East.

9 "Becoming a Professor at UTA," from Reby Cary oral history interview with Miles Davison, March 04, 2013, Fort Worth, TX, Civil Rights in Black and Brown Interview Database, https://crbb.tcu.edu/clips/16/becoming-a-professor-at-uta, accessed October 20, 2018.

10 Data on the racial and ethnic distribution of the UTA faculty in 1989 is from a file containing the Executive Report from “A Study of Current Minority Faculty Recruitment Practices at the University of Texas at Arlington.” (Fall 1991)

11 Data on the racial and ethnic distribution of the UTA faculty in 2017 was obtained from the Office of Human Resources. These percentages capture non-tenured, tenure-track, and tenured faculty.

12 Please read about this important initiative at https://www.uta.edu/news/releases/2017/01/Three-20grants%20PhDs.php

13 Please read the UT System report on this important initiative at https://www.utsystem.edu/documents/docs/human-resources/uthsch-opportunity-rule-report
### Historic “Firsts” at UTA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year Hired</th>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Department</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Victor Cano</td>
<td>1941</td>
<td>Latino</td>
<td>Social Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie Landua</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory Estes</td>
<td>1957</td>
<td>Native American</td>
<td>English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albert K.H. Tung</td>
<td>1958</td>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghazi B. Duwaji</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Economics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haji-Sheikh</td>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Arabic</td>
<td>Mechanical Engineering</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reby Cary</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td>African American</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Amber Jolly and Justin Jolly completed Masters Degrees in History at UTA in 2016. They currently serve as Adjunct Professors of History at Tarrant County College, and Justin will soon begin the Doctoral Program in History at Texas Christian University.

Dr. Shelton was so impressed by their scholarly contributions to his graduate seminar on “Racial and Ethnic Groups in the United States” that he asked them to undertake this important research project.
As always, Dr. Pamela “Safisha” Hill led us through the Nguzo Saba during CAAS’ Annual Evening of Arts and Letters. Kwanzaa is an African-centered celebration of life, gratitude, and principles. It would be a mistake to recognize our graduating students without acknowledging our culture and ancestors who paved a way for them.

Congratulations!
Congratulations!
Congratulations!

Fall 2018 Graduates

Continue to strive and give your best efforts so that you will obtain your greatest rewards. We hope you stay connected to CAAS so that we may follow your growth and success!

--Brandy Fields, Emerging Leaders Initiative
--Shariah Harris, Emerging Leaders Initiative
--Brittany Higgins, Emerging Leaders Initiative
--Hannah Sparks, Emerging Leaders Initiative
--Brittany Polonio, AAST Minor
--Brianna Wright, AAST Minor
Established in August 2012, the Center for African American Studies (CAAS) at the University of Texas at Arlington aims to cultivate an exceptional transdisciplinary experience through teaching, civic engagement, and community-based research focused on the diverse contextual conditions of Blacks in America and society at large. Our purpose is to foster the development of student, faculty, and community capacity to create progressive solutions that address social problems.

Endowed funding is being sought to support:

- Lectures, events, and conferences
- Student enrichment initiatives
- Undergraduate and graduate scholarships
- Faculty and student community-based research

To Give a Gift to CAAS:

1. Go to: https://giving.uta.edu/Give
2. Specify the amount
3. In the “Designation” box, please select “other”
4. In the “Comments” box, please type “Center for African American Studies”
5. Contact CAAS to let us know about your gift

Thank you for supporting CAAS!

For more information on how to support CAAS, please send and email to: caas@uta.edu
African American Studies Minor

Center for African American Studies
MINOR IN (AAST)

What can you do with an African American Studies Minor?

Careers in:
- Business
- Education
- History
- Law/Politics
- Literature
- Medicine
- News Media
- Social Work
- & more

Requirements include: Only 6 classes with 3 required in AAST
- Intro to African American Studies
- African American History, Contemporary Black Experience, Or Human Behavior and Diverse Populations
- Service Learning Capstone

Collaborations with units across campus including ANTH, CRCJ, ECON, ENGL, LiNG, MANA, POLS, PSYC, SOCI, SOCW.

For more information about the Center for African American Studies (CAAS)
Contact us at:
1022 UTA BLVD
Box 19024
Arlington, TX 76019
casas@uta.edu
www.uta.edu/caas

For more information about the AAST Minor contact CAAS at 817-272-9642 or caas@uta.edu
Save the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Power Hour Lecture
February 6, 2019
(Rickie Clark of the My Brother’s Keeper Program)
Bluebonnet Ballroom

7th Annual CAAS Conference
February 15, 2019
Bluebonnet Ballroom & Foyer

Black History Month Program
(Desegregation of Public Schools in Mansfield, Texas)
February 26, 2019
Library Atrium

Power Hour Lecture
March 19, 2019
(Roderick McLean of Lockheed Martin)
Rio Grande B

Community Mentor's Dinner
March 20, 2019
Library Atrium (6th Floor)

Power Hour Lecture
April 3, 2019
Dr. Jasmine Ward
Red River/Concho

Evening of Black Excellence
May 8, 2018
Lonestar Auditorium
Center for African American Studies
UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ARLINGTON

Get Connected!

Center for African American Studies
Swift Center, Suite 129
Box 19024
1022 UTA Blvd.
Arlington, TX 76019
T: 817-272-9642
casas@uta.edu