You're invited to attend a Homecoming Welcome Reception on Friday, Oct. 15, from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Kennedy Union Torch Lounge. The event, which includes Flyer food, folks and fun, features the musical sounds of Jazz Lite (and some familiar faces, including band member Don Hubbard, a '67 UD alumnus).

The reception is free, but reservations are requested. RSVP by Friday, Oct. 8, to African-American student services at (513)229-3634. Also plan on attending the After-Party, sponsored by BAAD, a local alumni group. Details will be available at the Welcome Reception. See the calendar, page 4, for a complete list of Homecoming events.

Homecoming's happening

Alumni welcome students

Remember your first weeks as a college student? Remember the people who made you feel at home? More than 30 University of Dayton alumni who remember how much an encouraging word can mean turned out to welcome 50 African-American first-year students at an Aug. 28 picnic. The picnic brought together new students, returning students and alumni for a day of fun, food and networking sponsored by African-American student services and alumni and parent relations. Alumni shared business cards, scrapbooks and memorabilia from their UD days. Students set up display tables to profile their fraternities, sororities and other campus organizations. The rain didn't get in the way of memories and mentoring. Weston Philpot '77 led the effort to get local alumni involved.

No, it's not a wrong number

Persons calling UD's office of minority student affairs may be surprised by an unfamiliar greeting: "office for diverse student populations." The name change reflects a new organizational structure. Debra Moore, associate dean, administers the office for diverse student populations, which includes:

- African-American student services, which promotes African-American culture on campus, offers supplemental academic and personal counseling to students and sponsors public speakers on cultural diversity in higher education. Director is Tim Spragins; assistant director is Kathleen Henderson.
- Latin-American student support program, which promotes unity among students from Latin American countries, promotes an awareness of Latin American culture on campus and provides counseling. An adviser will be named.

Thanks for the feedback

Thanks to all who responded to last semester's readership survey of the Black Alumni Chronicle. Your comments prompted some changes, including a redesign on recycled paper.

You'll also see the Chronicle more frequently. We now mail three times a year — in September, December and April — to more than 2,000 black alumni of the University of Dayton. Know an alumnus or alumna you'd like to see profiled in the Chronicle? Call the public relations office at (513) 229-3241.
Two generations, two views of campus

When preparing to come to the University of Dayton last fall, Kemba Niambi Hubbard received helpful advice from her father, Donald, a '67 alumnus. Kemba doubted him when he told her that she would come into contact with people who had never interacted with blacks before.

"My father warned me," she said, "but I didn't believe it." And like her father, who had his first experience with middle- and upper-middle-class whites at Dayton, Kemba found it to be a good introduction to the real world.

What Mr. Hubbard did not believe upon his return to Dayton, was that Marycrest had become a co-educational residence hall. After all, it had taken him 25 years just to get into a Marycrest room and that was to help his daughter move in. "There are so many things different, I don't know where to start," he says.

A major change that Mr. Hubbard has witnessed is the University commitment to recruiting and retaining minority students. While pursuing his B.S. in music, he recalls that "there was no focus, no organized program."

Returning for her second year, Kemba, an elementary education major, enjoys big improvements that her father would have appreciated during his years here. Kemba explains that the University now offers services and programs to "encourage us (African-American students) to get together," she states. "There's a great interaction and that does help you out a lot."

What would they like to see when the time arrives for the next generation of the Hubbard family to attend Dayton? Kemba would like to see more interaction between the races on campus and more cohesion among the black students. Mr. Hubbard hopes to see UD students and the city's black community become more interactive. As director of personnel for Dayton Public Schools, Mr. Hubbard has already seen positive steps in this direction by education students and hopes the trend will continue and expand to other majors.

"That will help to break down the image barrier," he explains, "and to get more minorities at UD."

—Adrian Morgan

Like mother, like daughter

For the Claytor family, the schoolhouse has been a constant. When LaVon Davis Claytor graduated from the University of Dayton in December 1990, her daughter Hope followed in her footsteps and enrolled at UD the following August.

Her mother did not stay out of school long. Putting her newly acquired elementary education degree to use, Ms. Claytor began work in the Trotwood School District that fall and now teaches seventh-grade language arts.

Obtaining her degree was the culmination of a 20-year process for LaVon Claytor, who dropped out of Bowling Green State University in 1972. She eventually managed to return to school part time to earn her associate's degree at Edison State before transferring to Dayton.

Hope is proud of her mother. "For all those people who tell you you can't go back if you leave, here's someone who did."

Although Ms. Claytor doesn't take credit for bringing Hope to Dayton, Hope chose to attend UD because "it just seemed like a nice, creative learning atmosphere."

While at UD Ms. Claytor found the office for diverse student populations (formerly minority student affairs) to be very supportive. After she graduated, it became an even greater resource for her. "I told them that they would probably see more of me after my daughter hit campus." Ms. Claytor now works with the black alumni steering committee and the black alumni activities group.

Hope, a public relations major, works at the Miriam Media Center and plays flute for the University of Dayton Marching Band.

Ms. Claytor says that attending UD prepared her to deal with her students in the same nurturing way she was treated here and also smoothed the transition when Hope left home to go to college.

"[The experience] has helped me to better help my daughter in the college process. She and I are very close," says Ms. Claytor. Hope agrees, adding, "We're close, but you still have the mother-daughter fights."

—Adrian Morgan
Brothers dream big

Senior pre-med majors Roderick and Broderick Rhyant room together, plan to go to medical school together and hope, one day, to practice together. The identical twins are serious about their "ultimate dream" — to open an inner-city community clinic and provide affordable health care.

The Rhyants, who are from Indianapolis, are also serious about projecting positive images of black males. Last year, with the help of Timothy Spraggins, director of African-American student services, the Rev. Walter Green, graduate assistant in campus ministry and African-American student services, and other concerned men, they formed the African-American Male Support Group at UD. They organized a community-wide conference on the theme of "Black Men Shaping their Own Destiny" and invited men from 16 to 60. The conference, which addressed issues such as relationships, success and giving back to the community, also demonstrated that college is an option for black males.

The support group gives black males "a common ground, a forum to address our issues," Broderick says. "There are so many factors that can go against you — even your own peers."

Young black males face peer pressure when "getting good grades is seen as trying to be white," says Roderick, who insists, "education has no color. You need something inside of you to stay focused."

Hiring for diversity is a UD priority

The University's faculty diversity policy has a goal of recruiting, retaining and promoting minority and women faculty. This fall, four blacks and 13 women were among 34 faculty members hired.

A diversity fund of $500,000 has been set up to provide seed money to hire minority and women faculty members into tenure-track positions. Priority goes to departments with good retention and promotion plans for the candidate, the greatest need to diversify the department and the greatest number of students with whom the candidate might interact.

The policy's goals go beyond just hiring. "We don't want a revolving door. We want faculty to stay," says John Geiger, associate provost for faculty affairs. "I think students will see (diversity) not just in the faculty, but in the services, the curriculum and to the extent to which minority students want to participate in the life of the University."

New faculty join UD

Ann Marie Whyte — Economics and Finance
Ann Marie Whyte's teaching and research focus on financial institutions, corporate and international finance. She enjoys studying ties among different institutions and countries — for instance, she has looked at market reactions to divestiture from South Africa by U.S.-based multinational corporations. Born in Jamaica, Whyte earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from Florida Atlantic University. She was one of only three academics in the nation to receive a 1993 Ayres Fellowship to attend the Stonier Graduate School of Banking this summer.

Charlie P. Edmonson — Industrial Engineering Technology
Associate Professor Charlie Edmonson teaches facilities layout, industrial economics analysis, and production methods and controls. He previously worked at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

Horace Bartilow — Political Science
"The world's more complex than your parents or presidents may have told you. Be skeptical," says Horace Bartilow, who teaches international politics and U.S. foreign policy courses. Bartilow, who will earn his Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Albany, next month will defend his doctoral dissertation on the politics of international debt negotiation. Born in Kingston, Jamaica, he worked for the Jamaican government during its debt negotiations with the International Monetary Fund. He's also interested in researching the effects of perestroika on such countries as Cuba and Nicaragua.

Willie Morris — Music
UD's first-ever associate director of athletic bands, Willie Morris comes to UD from the University of Alabama. He plans to emphasize marching technique and make the Pride of Dayton marching band performances more of a production. He also teaches applied saxophone, jazz studies and aural skills.

Members of the support group also sponsor retreats, serve meals at a homeless shelter and plan to tutor in Dayton. While serving as a role model means additional responsibility, the Rhyants see it as part and parcel of the privilege of going to college.

In addition to help from the black male support group, Rod says the University of Dayton "is truly genuine about getting African-Americans to graduate." The brothers credit their grandmother and the talks they had before her death with giving them the motivation to succeed. And they think of their parents as heroes. Rod says of his father, an executive with General Motors, "to see where he's been and what he's been through and he made it — I have no excuse not to succeed."
USA Today ran UD law professor Vernellia Randall’s op-ed article on Sept. 2. Randall, a former public health care nurse, cautions against reform that perpetuates minorities’ lack of access to health care.

Black Issues in Higher Education July 15 profiled successful efforts to enhance the presence of minorities in graduate schools. Among them: the Andover Institute for Recruitment of Teachers, where University of Dayton students have attended each summer. This year’s participants were Ramonda Gates and Adrian Morgan.

Herbert Martin, a professor of English at UD, has located the original manuscript of Paul Laurence Dunbar’s never-published three-act play, Herrick. Scholars familiar with Dunbar, the first black American to achieve national eminence as a poet, say the discovery of the drawing-room comedy is a rare find and important because it gives insight into the diversity of the poet’s work.

Office of Public Relations
300 College Park
Dayton, OH 45469-1679

Calendar of Events

Friday, Oct. 15
Homecoming Welcome Reception sponsored by African-American student services and alumni and parent relations, 7-10 p.m., in the Kennedy Union Torch Lounge. RSVP: (513)229-3634.


Saturday, Oct. 16
UD Octoberfest, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Welcome Stadium parking lot. Look for the B.A.A.D. banner and table. Homecoming Game, 1 p.m. UD vs. Butler.
Halftime: The Ebony Heritage Singers, Celebration and a marching band contingent will perform “The Hallelujah Chorus” from Handel’s Messiah - A Soulful Celebration.
B.A.A.D. Saturday Night Party. Details: (513)229-3299.

Sunday, Oct. 17
Alumni Open House, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 208 L St. Complimentary coffee and doughnuts.
B.A.A.D. Farewell Brunch. Details: (513)229-3299.

Sunday, Oct. 31
Open House for prospective students. Information: (513) 229-4411.

Friday, Nov. 12-Saturday, Nov. 13
“RACE” Retreat, for students, faculty and staff, Camp Joy. Information: (513)229-3634.

Saturday, Dec. 4
Ebony Heritage Singers Winterfest with Donna Cox, director. Kennedy Union Ballroom. Information: (513)229-3634.

Protestant Worship Services
Sunday, Oct. 17, 2:30 p.m., Virginia Kettering Hall Chapel
Sunday, Nov. 14, 2:30 p.m., Stuart Hall
Sunday, Dec. 12, 2:30 p.m., Marycrest Hall