

**NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF  
TURNER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**PRESIDENT'S MID-YEAR REPORT 2005**



**June 28, 2005  
General Board and Council of Bishops  
African Methodist Episcopal Church  
The Wyndham Anatole Hotel  
2201 Stemmons Freeway  
Dallas, Texas**

*“Now is the accepted time, not tomorrow, not some more convenient season. It is today that our best work can be done and not some future day or future year. It is today that we fit ourselves for the greater usefulness of tomorrow. Today is the seed time, now are the hours of work, and tomorrow comes the harvest and playtime.”*

W.E.B. DuBois

---

**The Right Reverend William Phillips DeVeaux, Sr.  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Turner Theological Seminary**

**The Reverend Daniel Wesley Jacobs, Sr.  
President of Turner Theological Seminary**

**The Reverend Ammie L. Davis  
President of the Alumni Association**

To the Chairman of the Board of Trustees, President of Turner Theological Seminary, Alumni Association Members and Friends of Turner Theological Seminary:

Greetings!

As President, I am delighted to submit this initial report to the Alumni Association of Turner Theological Seminary at this 2005 Mid-Year Meeting in Dallas, Texas.

Our work as the newly elected Executive Board of the Alumni Association began immediately following the Alumni Association election of officers, Tuesday, February 1, 2005, at the Annual Meeting during Turner Theological Seminary's 111<sup>th</sup> Founder's Day Convocation in Atlanta, Georgia. Hence, we are pleased to announce the following executive cabinet for the 2005-2009 administration:

2005-2009 Executive Board Members:

Reverend Ammie L. Davis, President, 8<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Philis J. Griffin, First Vice-President, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend James E. Thompson, Second Vice-President, 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Mashod Alex Evans, Third Vice President\*\*  
Reverend Dr. Lena Flowers, Recording Secretary, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Dr. Cassandra Hill, Assistant Recording Secretary, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Richard A. Yancey, Treasurer, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Vivian A. Deyone Douglas, Financial Secretary, 1<sup>st</sup> District\*\*  
Reverend Gregory Eason, Parliamentarian, 6<sup>th</sup> District\*\*  
Reverend Kyle Gibson, Historiographer, 11<sup>th</sup> District\*\*  
Reverend Lonnie McClain, Chaplain, 2<sup>nd</sup> District

## Executive Board Standing Committee Chairpersons \*\*

Reverend Leslie R. White, Fund Development, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Terrence Gray, Fund Development, 11<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend David R. Bishop IV, Public Relations, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Vetrel Smith, Public Relations, 13<sup>th</sup> District  
Dr. George F. Flowers, Global and Ecumenical Affairs, 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Moses Simms, Presidents' Projects, 8<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Gloria Bennett, Special Events and Programs, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Claude James, Bylaws and Constitution, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend Dorthea Haigler, Bylaws and Constitution, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Chaplain Ronald L. Owen, Chaplain's Committee, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
Captain Addison Burgess, Chaplain's Committee, 7<sup>th</sup> District  
Reverend George W. Tyler, Regional Chapters, 8<sup>th</sup> District

\*\* Indicates officers appointed by the President

In addition to the new officers, a President's Advisory Board has been established to assist the alumni association in carrying out its goals. The individuals who have agreed to serve on this board are as follows:

Bishop C. Garnett Henning, Sr  
Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr.  
Bishop E. Earl McCloud, Jr.  
Reverend Dr. George Flowers  
Reverend Dr. Daniel W. Jacobs  
Reverend Dr. Leeomia Kelly  
Reverend Dr. Jacquelyn Collier Grant,  
Reverend Dr. Teresa Fry Brown  
Reverend Dr. Debora F. Grant (Immediate Past President)  
Reverend Dr. Casey Childs  
Reverend Philis J. Griffin  
Reverend Kecia A. Lewis (2005-2006 Turner Fellowship President)

---

## **ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING**

The Executive Board and Standing Committees held the First Annual Organizational and Planning Meeting, April 21, 2005, in Turner Theological Seminary's Board Room on the Interdenominational Theological Center Campus in Atlanta, Georgia. The purpose of the meeting was to review the goals and focus on the mission of the Alumni Association. The following goals were adopted for the 2005-2009 administration:

1. Revitalize Regional and State Alumni Chapters
2. Initiate an Alumni Day in each region

3. Create an Alumni E-Newsletter and Directory
  4. Support Turner Student Fellowship Web site – [www.turnerseminary.com/alumni](http://www.turnerseminary.com/alumni)
  5. Explore Alternative Financing for Turner Seminary and the Alumni Association
  6. Establish a Mentorship Program (Partnership with Turner Fellowship)
    - a) Alumni Association Scholarship Fund
    - b) Turner Seniors' Awards and Honors Banquet (This will be the official induction of graduating seniors into the Alumni Association)
    - c) Honors and Awards at ITC (The Alumni Association plans to attend this annual event in support of students at Turner Theological Seminary)
    - d) Endowment Fund for the Charles Hurley James Resource Center
  7. Establish Presidents' Projects: three projects which focus on service and continuing education. They are as listed
    - a) The Alumni Wall of Fame at Turner Theological Seminary
    - b) The Water-Well Project, which is currently under research until February 2006, as an outreach ministry to West Africa through Africare.
    - c) The C.T. Vivian Leadership and Civil Rights Museum – an ecumenical project in support of the Institute and Museum to be built in Atlanta, Georgia.
- 

## **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. Adopted official name of the association: ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF TURNER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
2. Created an Alumni Association email account: [turneralumni@aol.com](mailto:turneralumni@aol.com) for the dissemination of news and information.
3. Joined the Turner Theological Seminary web site at [www.turnerseminary.com](http://www.turnerseminary.com).
4. Published the first alumni brochure to generate support for the association
5. Reviewed the 1966 Bylaws and Constitution to determine its effectiveness for governing the business of the association.
6. Established standard meeting months for the Executive Board and Standing Committees: April, June, October and February.
7. Participated in the ITC Intra-Alumni Council meeting and 2005 Charter Day Events.
8. Participated in the ITC Senior Honors and Awards Day Chapel Service with special support given to Turner students.

9. Received an Employee Identification Number (EIN) for the association
10. Adopted official logo for the association



---

### **FUND DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN**

1. The Executive Board voted to raise a minimum of 50k to be presented at Founder's Day 2006. Each chair agreed to raise 25K from their region. All funds will go to support Turner Theological Seminary.
2. Regional Chapters Alumni Day: 15% regional chapters; 15% for Alumni Operation Budget; 70% for Turner Theological Seminary.
3. Annual Souvenir Journal: 50% Alumni Operational; 50% Turner Theological.
4. Membership Dues: All funds will go to support the Alumni operational budget.
5. Donations: All monies will be distributed as earmarked.

---

### **THE 2005-2009 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR**

At the April 2005 Executive Board Organization and Planning Meeting, the board approved and adopted the 2005-2009 administrative CALENDAR. Events, activities, and scheduling are detailed below. With the exception of June and July, all meetings will be held at Turner Theological Seminary, unless otherwise announced.

It should be noted that in many instances, the 1966 Alumni Association's Bylaws and Constitution usually specifies where and when certain meetings are held. In an effort to adhere to specific guidelines of the 1966 document, a Standing Committee on Bylaws and Constitution has been established. The primary foci of the committee are 1) to revise the 1966 document, taking into consideration the traditional practices of the alumni, and 2) to integrate new approaches to governing the association.

---

## **2005 CALENDAR**

### June

General Board Meeting and Bishops' Council,  
Dallas, Texas

- Monday, June 27 – Alumni Executive Board Meeting
- Tuesday, June 28 – Annual Turner Breakfast

### October

Turner Theological Seminary Board of Trustees' Meetings, Atlanta, GA

- Alumni Executive Board and Standing Committee Meeting

### TBA

Regional Alumni Day

---

## **2006-2007 CALENDAR**

### February

Turner Theological Seminary's 112th & 113th Founder's Day Convocation

- Monday – Executive Board and Standing Committees' Meeting
- Tuesday – Alumni Association Annual General Meeting and Worship Service

### April

Executive Board and Standing Committees' Meeting

### June

General Board and Bishops' Council

- Monday – Executive Board and Standing Committees' Meeting
- Tuesday – Annual Turner Breakfast

### October

Turner Theological Seminary Board of Trustees' Meeting

### TBA

Regional Alumni Day

---

## **2008 CALENDAR**

### February

Turner Theological Seminary's 114th Founder's Day Convocation

- Monday – Executive Board and Standing Committees' Meeting
- Tuesday – Alumni Annual General Meeting and Worship Service

### April

Executive Board and Standing Committees' Meeting

### June or July

48th Quadrennial Session of the General Conference

- Annual Turner Breakfast at the seat of the General Conference
  - Regional Alumni Day
- 

## **2009 CALENDAR**

### February

Turner Theological Seminary's 115th Founder's Day Convocation

- Monday – Executive Board and Standing Committees' Meeting
  - Tuesday – Alumni Association Annual General Meeting and Worship Service
  - Tuesday – Alumni Association Election Meeting
-

In conclusion, the work of the Alumni Association has been challenging and productive. The sense of fellowship and expertise from the Executive Board, Standing Committees, and President's Advisory Board has been both inspiring and exciting. We thank God for the opportunity to serve the church and community of friends who support the work of our alma mater, Turner Theological Seminary.

To God be the glory!