

The Journey

from the **Office of Institutional Diversity**
of the *University of West Georgia*

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Introduction

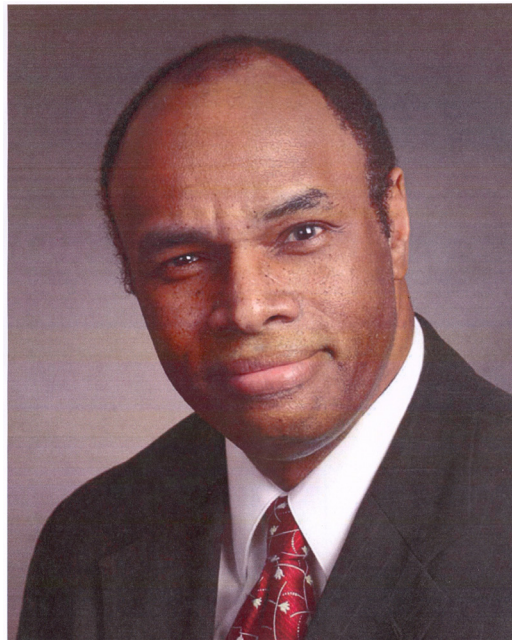
This issue of *The Journey* is devoted to some African American History at the University of West Georgia. Obviously, the University of West Georgia did not always have African American students, faculty, and staff but eventually African American students were admitted and African American faculty and staff were hired. Early hires were individuals such as Mr. Charles Wilson, Director of Affirmative Action and Developmental Studies and Testing; Mr. Wilson's wife, Mrs. Mattie Wilson, the first African American hired in the Ingram Library; Ms. Clois Reese, the first African American secretary on campus (she was secretary to Dr. Richard Dangle, then Dean of Arts and Sciences) began her tenure in 1969 and retired in 2002; Mrs. Erma Shooks, who assumed her duties in 1987, was the first African American secretary for the Office of Budget and Research; and I was hired in 1987 as the first African American Dean at what was then West Georgia College.

There has also been a number of staff hired in positions of some authority such as the first African American University architect, the first African American Director of Purchasing, and African Americans with various significant responsibilities in Student Services such as Mrs. Debra Hytower, the first permanent African American employee in the Registrar's Office hired in 1982; Mrs. Denise Parham, hired in 1994, was the first African American nurse practitioner hired in Health Services; Mrs. Renee Sparks (1997) and Mrs. Rebecca Riofrio (1997) were the first African American LPN's in Health Services. And there are certainly many other firsts

that are not included here. For example I have met other individuals who were among the first African American faculty hired here who did not stay such as Dr. Robert Yancy who was perhaps the first African American faculty member in the College of Business. Dr. Yancy eventually became Dean of the College of Technical Management at Southern Polytechnic College and University and Dr. Melvis Atkinson (Math Department) who left to become a faculty member at then Kennesaw State College.

Five African American faculty firsts and the first African American Director of Human Resources were interviewed for this issue of *The Journey*. Without a doubt the University has made significant progress in hiring African American faculty and staff but it is hoped that recruitment efforts will bear even more fruit in the future.

Many thanks to Tré Addison, a graduate assistant in the Office of Institutional Diversity, who interviewed the former faculty and Director of Human resources for this issue of *The Journey*. Mr. Addison works primarily with the African American Male Initiative Program in the OID. He is a graduate of Morehouse College and has taught in China. Mr. Addison is in the process of completing his master's degree in Psychology.

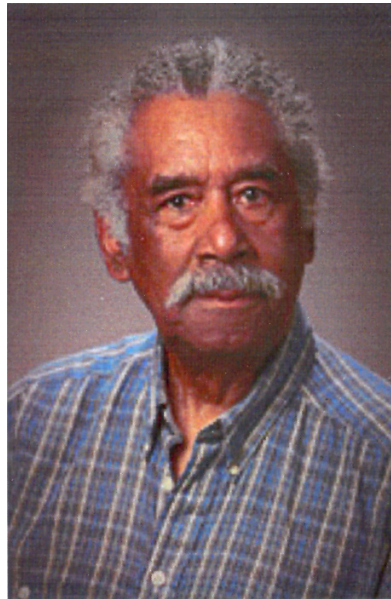


Dr. Harry Morgan

Educating All Minorities

By Tré Addison

For almost three decades Dr. Harry Morgan has been a staple in the West Georgia community. Dr. Morgan joined the West Georgia faculty as Department Chairman of Early Childhood Education in 1984. He is one of the few African Americans ever to hold such a position. Coming from Syracuse University, Dr. Morgan came to West Georgia with a wealth of knowledge and experience in education and childhood development. A native of Chester, Pennsylvania, Dr. Morgan received a Bachelor of Science in Education from New York University. He then furthered his studies by obtaining a Master of Social Work degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and later obtained a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Massachusetts. Dr. Morgan, now a long-term faculty member in the College of Education, has taught undergraduate and graduate courses in research and early childhood education. Additionally, he is the author of six books (see below) and a host of other publications.



Regarding diversity and equality, what was the environment of West Georgia when you began?

I have always viewed the University as being extremely fair to Black professors and Black students. I found that they respond to the needs of both groups extremely well. I have been treated very well here.

What were some barriers you encountered as an African American faculty member of West Georgia?

None. Actually this has been a rather pleasant experience for me. I find the students and the faculty to be very receptive and very cooperative. In fact, this was my first experience in working with students who had no problems with the assignments. By that I mean students always completed their work. At Syracuse University, for example, whenever I gave an assignment, students would question it. I did not mind it after a while, because I became accustomed to explaining why I asked them to do an assignment.

In what ways have you seen the West Georgia environment evolve during your time here?

The physical environment has always been well cared for and that has been refreshing. Similarly, there's always been an interest in creating an environment that is accepting of students. The school has always tried to tackle barriers that have occurred for minorities by recognizing, discussing, and developing ways to deal with the issues. Under our current president, I have seen the administration gradually try to improve circumstances for minorities. They have always tried to achieve a positive environment that is receptive and accommodating.

What were some of your most fulfilling experiences here at West Georgia?

Well, being provided an environment where I can develop my own scholarship has been most fulfilling. I would say my writings have been my most significant contribution to the institution. Since being at West Georgia, I have had the opportunity

to author five books and numerous articles on my research interests.

Outside of your duties here at the University, what are some of your other endeavors?

I am on the Board of Directors for Community Action for Improvement (CAFI) an organization which helps distribute federal funds to those in need within the community. We also manage the Head Start Program here in Carrollton.

CAFI Head Start provides a comprehensive program serving 3- to 5-year-old children from limited income families. The program focuses on the educational, social, emotional, and physical needs of the children and their families. Head Start seeks to create an environment that promotes a sense of self-worth, support and achievement, as well as encouraging social interaction for children and families.

What are some ideas you would share with students that you believe are critical to being successful and productive?

Speaking in national terms, in today's environment I would assert that there are many opportunities available for all young people. Your options are completely open, and restrictions are amazingly few in comparison to when I was of the age of attending schools, universities, and so on. That pathway was extremely difficult to navigate, but today I think it's easier because I'm a part of the system that provides that. And I have colleagues of all different backgrounds who share similar philosophies.

What is your vision for the future of the University of West Georgia in regards to diversity and racial equality?

I think every institution of higher education in the United States has to work against the variety of different ways in which Black students are considered second class. That remains one of the outstanding problems yet to be resolved; almost as if it's built into expectations. I would prefer to see more equality and balance regarding accommodations and standards when it comes to assessing competency for Black students and faculty – not just for Blacks but for all minorities.

Dr. Morgan is the author of six books:

The Learning Community: A Humanistic

Cookbook for Teachers (1973)

Historical Perspective on the Education of Black Children (1995)

Cognitive Styles and Classroom Learning (1997)

The Imagination of Early Childhood Education (1999)

Real Learning: A Bridge to Cognitive Neuroscience (2004)

Early Childhood Education: History, Theory, and Practice (2006)

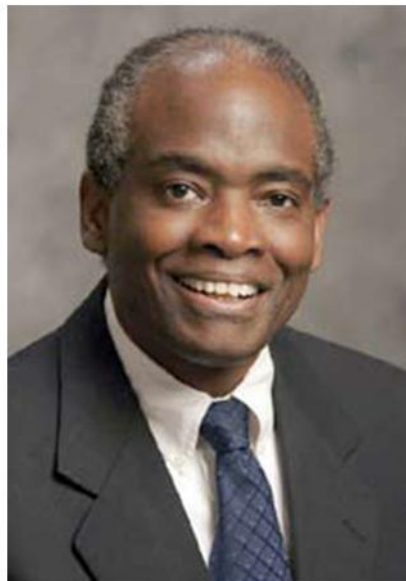
Dr. Don Rice

Altering Perspectives on Diversity

By Tré Addison

Dr. Don Rice, a native of Spartanburg, SC, arrived at West Georgia from Auburn University in 1978. During the past 34 years Dr. Rice has served the university in various capacities. In the Department of Psychology he has been an assistant professor, associate professor, and professor. Dr. Rice was the first African American chair of the Psychology Department and holds that position today. He also served twice on interim bases as the first African American Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Additionally, Dr. Rice served for a period as the first African American Associate Vice-President for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Rice received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from Wofford College (Spartanburg, SC), a Master of Arts degree in Psychology from Western Carolina University (Cullowhee, NC), and a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Psychology from Saybrook Graduate School (San Francisco, CA). Dr. Rice responded to the following questions:



What was the environment of the Psychology Department and the University overall when you began?

The Psychology Department was fairly diverse compared to other departments because we had two African American women professors and an Asian

woman professor from Thailand. That was more than any other department. My general feelings about the campus ... I made a choice to come here. I felt very comfortable. West Georgia College felt like it was a place that wanted to have diversity. Having grown up in the south, I was very familiar with and sensitive to racism, and I can't really say that I personally experienced any really overt kinds of racism and discrimination here.

Were there any barriers you experienced as an African American faculty member?

Students had to become adjusted to having an African American professor. I wouldn't call it a barrier as much as it served as a way to expose them to African Americans in this capacity. I tell you

what was interesting. I would frequently have students ask me where I was from. They meant, “Where are you from—in the world?!” For some reason, they thought I was not from the U.S. I took that as either I didn’t fit their stereotype of what a black male should be—I’m not sure what they thought. Actually, one time in an evaluation, a student commented, “I hope the other people from his country are as nice as he is.”

What do you consider some of your most significant contributions to West Georgia?

Establishing the doctoral program in psychology in 2006 and helping the university by working to gain approval of the Psychology Department’s Integrative Health Certificate.

In addition to your work here at West Georgia, what have been some of your other professional endeavors?

I have done some consulting/training work with various mental health groups in Carroll, Troup, and Coweta counties. Actually, some of the African American professionals in Carrollton—many from West Georgia—started an organization back in the early 1990’s called B.E.S.T. – Black Males Encouraging Success Today. I was the first president of that organization. I am the president of the Carroll County Mental Health association and a Carroll County Mentor. I am also the president of the Board of Regents Academic Advisory Committee for Psychology, which is comprised of the department chairs of all the universities in the University System of Georgia.

What motto or philosophy do you live?

One has to take responsibility for one’s decisions, but one has to always be aware that you accomplish nothing in the world by yourself. You have received help from known and unknown sources. Always be aware of that connection.

Regarding diversity and racial equality, what is your vision for West Georgia?

I think West Georgia is really getting there. I think the community has made an assertive effort, not only to recruit African American students here, but to create an atmosphere for those students to want to stay here. In that sense, the University has made great strides. However, we still need more African American faculty. Now, almost one third of the student population is African American, but we have far less faculty. I would like to see that change.

What final message would you to share with the West Georgia community regarding cultural diversity?

Cultural diversity has probably become more important now than ever because of exposure through various media outlets in our everyday lives. I think that the one thing we can all do is keep our minds open and see what we can learn from others. On one level we are all the same. On a basic psychological level, we experience the same emotions. However, there are very real cultural differences. The more that we can allow ourselves to appreciate those differences, the better we will be. I think that being able to accept and learn from each other makes us stronger and helps us to grow. Learning to do this should be a part of one’s education.

Dr. George E. Rolle, Sr.

To whom much is given...

By Tré Addison

During his 21-year tenure at West Georgia, Dr. George E. Rolle, Sr. served as the: first African American Professor for the Department of Counseling and Education Psychology; first African American to gain full professorship in the entire College of Education (1989); and Assistant to the Dean of College of Education. He was also selected by Dr. Price Michael, then interim Dean of College of Education, to be the director of the Pre-School-Post Secondary Education

Initiative (P-16). The P-16 Initiative was a collaborative effort for the State of Georgia that brought together legislators, educators, and communities to concentrate on improving student achievement, transition, competency, preparedness, and ultimate success. Additionally, Dr. Rolle was the first African American to be awarded Advisor of the Year (1987-88) for his involvement and mentoring in student related activities.

A graduate of the University of Miami where he helped to integrate the student body, Dr. Rolle received a Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education and a Master of Education in Guidance and Counseling. He later earned a Specialist in Education degree in Educational Psychology and Doctor of Philosophy in Counseling Psychology from Georgia State University.

Regarding diversity and equality, what was the environment of West Georgia when you began?

When I arrived, there were maybe four other African American faculty and about five professional staff in the entire College. The environment was non-hostile, very open to growth in the areas of diversity and new experiences. There had been several meetings with African American faculty and staff, and in the spring of 1985, on behalf of the Black faculty, I convened a town hall meeting with Dr. Maurice Townsend and Dr. John Lewis, President and Vice President of the college. The significance of this meeting was an agreement for affirmative action in three major areas: 1) Black faculty would assist the college with attracting other Black faculty and students; 2) Black faculty would assist the college in the retention of faculty and students; and 3) Black faculty would play an active role in and have a community presence throughout the service area.



This agreement resulted in African American faculty taking active participation in capacities such as providing leadership in the various institutional search committees for employment of other African American faculty and staff; assisting in the recruitment of graduate and undergraduate minority students; building partnerships with local school districts; becoming a “support group” for one another; and facilitating a series of professional and counselor development training workshops. Dr. Rolle went on to note that these activities were executed by minority faculty beyond their regular assigned duties.

What were some barriers you encountered in your position at West Georgia?

I experienced a very supportive environment among my professional colleagues. While there were some instances where I had to manage adjustments and guide personal growth with students, my focus was on building trust and combating stereotypes with students who may have had little or no exposure with African Americans as teachers.

What do you consider some of your most significant contributions to West Georgia during your tenure?

I truly enjoyed the recruitment and mentoring of not only African American students, but the opportunity to assist in bringing students (and faculty) from a variety of backgrounds into the college community, which certainly helped to enrich the College and the entire West Georgia Region.

Overall, I think I was a professor, a voice and mentor for ALL Students... and specifically, a source of pride for African American students and communities.

Did you serve as the first African American in any other capacities?

I was one of the first African American faculty members to help to establish a partnership with the local school districts and high school counselors in the service area, which resulted in counselors assisting the university in recruiting, encouraging, and recommending students to West Georgia.

What are you currently doing after West Georgia?

As Professor Emeritus and a licensed professional counselor, I continue to mentor and supervise school counselors, professional licensed counselors and other mental health professionals. I'm a life-long motivator... encouraging students and young professionals to achieve at high levels. I have been doing this for a long time, but I am in no ways tired.

What final thoughts and ideas would you like to impart upon students, faculty, and staff regarding cultural diversity?

My motto is, “To whom much is given, much is required.” This notion has intrinsically driven me all of my life, inspiring me to seek opportunities and embrace challenges for growth. Thus, I urge members

of the West Georgia community to open themselves to allowing diversity to transform them and utilize this unique experience as an opportunity for growth.

What is your vision for the future of West Georgia in regards to diversity and racial equality?

Early on, I believed that West Georgia College was one of the best kept secrets of metropolitan Atlanta. However, as a result of the ripple effect of the aforementioned agreement and other activities, I am happy to see that the current administration, under

the leadership of President Beheruz Sethna, continues to make strides in making the university a positive influence for all citizens in the West Georgia region. Further, I believe the general environments throughout the University experienced many “social, cultural and educational transformations” and these will surely have far-reaching implications and will impact areas beyond the service boundaries. I am also very proud of my affiliation with the University, and I take pride in the legacy and growth of University of West Georgia, and hope that citizens now view the University with an enlightened perspective because of its diversity.

Drs. Price and Jacqueline Michael

Dynamic Duo

By Tré Addison

Dr. Price Michael and Dr. Jacqueline Michael have been married for over 52 years. The two were wed after having met at Knoxville College, a Historically Black College in Knoxville, Tennessee. Together the couple’s educational background alone is truly extensive and inspiring. Dr. Price Michael obtained a B.S. in Elementary Education (Knoxville College), and later earned the Ed.M. in Educational Administration and Supervision, and the Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Cincinnati.

Dr. Jacqueline Michael received a B.A. degree in History from Knoxville College, a Master’s degree in Social Work from Ohio State, a Masters in Public Administration from Tennessee State, and a Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from Georgia State. The couple came to then West Georgia College from Nashville, TN where Dr. Price Michael served as an Associate Professor in the Peabody College of Vanderbilt University and Dr. Jacqueline Michael as a faculty member of the University of Tennessee, School of Social Work. One beautiful afternoon I had the honor and privilege of sitting down with this amazing couple in their lovely home in Douglasville, GA to discuss their experiences at West Georgia.



In what capacities did you serve at West Georgia College/the University of West Georgia and how long was your tenure?

Dr. J. Michael: We were at West Georgia for 15 years. I was the Assistant to the President for Minority Affairs and later became the first African American Director of Personnel (Human Resources). I retired as the Director of the Post-secondary Readiness Enrichment Program (PREP) for the Board of Regents, and I worked with the 33 institutions in the University System of Georgia.

Dr. P. Michael: I was the first African American Professor and Chair of Educational Leadership and Policy Studies, and I was also the first African American Dean of the College of Education.

Regarding diversity and equality, what was the environment of West Georgia when you began?

Dr. J. Michael: Dr. Maurice Townsend, President of the college at the time, was 200% behind me in terms of establishing my position which was new to the college. He was very strong and supportive. At the time there were about 900 African American students. Some faculty and administrators were hesitant about having

a program specifically for minorities. I worked to help them understand the need to provide a support system to help African American students feel more comfortable in this environment.

Dr. P. Michael: When I came to the College of Education, we had one African American department chairman, Dr. Harry Morgan, in Early Childhood. I was the second to arrive in Educational Leadership. There was an all-white faculty. Our Dean, Dr. Evelyn Fulbright, was very supportive of my arrival and very supportive of the vision that I shared with building the program from just having three professors to being the tenth largest dedicated education leadership program in the nation. The Black students in the program took great pride in seeing an African American in an administrative and supervisor role.

What were some barriers you encountered in your positions?

We came at a time when the leadership was very supportive, recognized the need, and attempted to move towards a more integrated environment. So there was a push to try to bring about more diversity in the whole college environment. J. Michael said, "In my role as Director of Personnel, I met some resistance to implementing affirmative action policies in hiring, however these were infrequent instances."

What do you consider some of your most significant accomplishments during your tenure at West Georgia?

Dr. J. Michael: For me, it was the establishment of the Minority Achievement Program, now called the Multicultural Achievement Program, which recognizes minority students who have a cumulative B average or above. Since its establishment the program has grown immensely. Now, to see the recognition of so many minority students, who have done so much, makes me feel good that we started that program.

Dr. P. Michael: West Georgia is now a doctorate-granting institution. My work with Dr. Fulbright in establishing a real cooperative doctoral program with the University of Georgia in Educational Leadership

eventually led to the president being able to use this program as doctoral experience in order to be granted the doctoral program at West Georgia. Now there are doctoral programs in several areas.

What are you currently doing after West Georgia?

Dr. J. Michael: I volunteer at Grady Hospital. I literally rock babies who are in the special care unit. I lift, hold, and feed them, and my work there is very fulfilling and meaningful. I am also an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. I am very active at my church. We spend a lot of time following the activities of our grandchildren.

Dr. P. Michael: I am also active in church. I sing in the male choir and head the scholarship committee. I am a founding and charter member of the Rho Pi Lambda chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. I am still involved with the West Georgia community, particularly in a mentor capacity, especially through the athletics department.

What motto do you live by that you would like to share with students and the West Georgia family?

Dr. J. Michael: Have a belief in the dignity and worth of the individual—all individuals, not just a particular group.

Dr. P. Michael: Every day you attempt to achieve something positive either in your own life, the life of others or your community...life is too short to do otherwise.

What is your vision for the future of West Georgia regarding racial diversity and equality?

The University of West Georgia is well on the path to being an outstanding institution for minority students. Programs and departments, like the Honors College and Institutional Diversity foster and cultivate high achievement for minorities. They help us to all be inclusive and make sure we involve everyone in integrating and building communication among everyone. To see African Americans as a critical mass of the minority student population, is a testament that



the institution is indeed moving in the right direction.

In addition to their positions at West Georgia, the Michaels have blazed trails in serving as the first African American in various capacities. Dr. Jacqueline Michael was the first Director of the Department of Metropolitan Services for the University Of Cincinnati. Dr. Price Michael was the first African

American professor hired in Educational Leadership Department at Peabody College of Vanderbilt University; the first African American principal for a Montessori public school in Cincinnati, Ohio; and one of the first principals in Cincinnati's magnet elementary school for academically advanced students.

Prof. Ozzie Binion

Designing a Path to Success

By Tré Addison

Hailing from the great state of Tennessee, Professor Ozzie Binion grew up and was educated in the Memphis City School System. He received both a Bachelor of Fine Arts and Master of Fine Arts degree from the University of Memphis. The Vietnam veteran came to West Georgia College after completing graduate school and serving as an adjunct professor teaching courses in Memphis at Shelby State Community College and Memphis State University. Prof. Binion owns the distinction of being the first and only African American tenure track faculty member of the Department of Art. As a professor of art and design, Binion established the graphic design program and guided the program progressively into the computer era during his tenure. Additionally, from 1979-2007, Prof. Binion taught six specialized graphic design courses and classes ranging from art appreciation, to drawing, to basic design, to photography and printmaking.

As the first African American professor in the Art Department, did you encounter any barriers in your position?

As for barriers, being a child of the 50s and 60s who experienced segregated schools and finishing out the 60s as a young college student that had my first integrated educational experience, barriers were ever present. Furthermore, in 1965 my innocent merger

into college athletics as one of a handful of African American athletes that opened doors at Memphis State University served as a tremendous preparation for what was to come. Consequently, a tour in the military serving in Vietnam added to my maturity long before arriving at West Georgia College.



These early diverse preparations solidified my divine growth for the demanding role as a trail blazer in the 70s and overcoming social barriers.

I was received well by my colleagues. However, I had to make some adjustment for students who may have been introduced to an African American professor for the first time. In a twist of fate, I had gone full circle from a white teacher–African American student relationship in the college classroom to an African American teacher–white student situation.

This resulted in a dynamic situation of continual and evolving personal growth. Of course there were normal adjustments to people (faculty, parents, and students); however one can't overlook the adjustments for the community. Throughout it all, I remained focused on my mission, and spent little time focusing on anything else that may have been occurring behind the scenes, and ultimately made personal adjustments when necessary. I also had a base of African American colleagues at West Georgia when I arrived that served as motivation and assurance for me that the challenge ahead could be met.

As a fairly new college professor, I'm confident that I was not hired because of any racial quotas, but most importantly because I was the best candidate for the job and best potential colleague to assist in the growth of the Department of Art and University. Early on salary was certainly a barrier.

What do you consider some of your most significant accomplishments and/or contributions to West Georgia during your tenure?

By far, the organization, establishment and progressive growth of the graphic design program—well into the new computer era—which was my sole responsibility for a 28-year period, stands as the most stellar of my accomplishments. Also, the array of projects and contributions with other faculty for the department, University and the community get high votes. The major project I am enormously proud of is the art direction assistance in the layout, design and print production of the book “From A & M to State University,” a major documentation of the history of the University. “At Home in Carrollton 1827–1994”, a book collaboration for the Carroll County Historical Society (Carrollton community) is one more graphic design project that I treasure.

What were some of your most fulfilling experiences here at West Georgia?

Touching the thousands of lives and assisting the multitudes of students in their college education will always be my most rewarding experiences. Just knowing that the son of two sharecroppers could humbly make a mark on education at West Georgia.

In what other areas were you one of the first African Americans to blaze a trail for others?

Actually, I was one of a handful of African American student athletes who were the first to compete for and represent the University of Memphis as track athletes. This is just one of my earlier experiences that prepared me for my faculty role before I arrived at West Georgia College.

What are you currently doing after West Georgia?

Well, I have a four-year-old grandson and a three-month-old granddaughter that I try to spend as

much quality time with as I can. I am also working on my health and fitness through training for, and participation in, competitive track and field. My wife Patricia and I try to travel often. We are regular volunteers at the Carroll County Soup Kitchen. Since retirement, we can put a little more time into those types of volunteer efforts and give back to our local community. I still enjoy my hobby of doing art at my leisure and the explorations it offers me.

What is your vision for the future of West Georgia in regards to diversity and racial equality?

West Georgia has already taken many strides. I can't remember what the enrollment was when I first arrived, but it's nothing like what it is now. So, I simply state that the university is succeeding and will succeed in establishing a strong system of diversity and equality on all fronts through the Office of Institutional Diversity and the international organizations on campus. They are doing a fine job in bringing attention to the mission of diversity and equality.

What final thoughts or messages would you like to impart upon students, faculty, and staff regarding cultural diversity?

“In God's plan, we all need to learn from, accept and live with each other, or we will perish as...” In other words, we need to accept and learn from each other's differences because everyone can bring something to the table. You must have faith in prayer. Be humble and know that you cannot do anything or live this life alone. I have to give honor to all the professors throughout my educational career and to those people who gave me the opportunities to show my abilities in college classrooms, as well as in the community. Diversity means that we learn from, grow with and succeed through one another.

Most of my life, I have taken a spiritual approach toward my career and life. My motto is “To whom much is given much is required”. I want everyone to know that I have been truly blessed, and I have simply done my very best and left to God to do the rest.

Office of Institutional Diversity

Upcoming Events

March 15, 2012

Multicultural Festival

Campus Center Ballroom
12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

The 3rd Annual Multicultural Festival sponsored by the Office of Institutional Diversity and the Anthropology Department will take place in the Campus Center Ballroom from 12:00 noon–5:00 pm. It will feature cultural displays, consulate-general offices from Atlanta, entertainment, and food. Free, public welcome!

March 27, 2012

Women's History Month

Campus Center Ballroom
7:00 p.m.

Special Screening of *Miss Representation* with Panel Discussion
In honor of Women's History Month, the Office of Institutional Diversity is hosting a screening of *Miss Representation*. *Miss Representation* is a 2011 American documentary film written, directed, and produced by Jennifer Siebel Newsom. It explores how mainstream media contributes to the under-representation of women in influential positions by circulating limited and often disparaging portrayals of women. The film premiered in the documentary competition at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. A panel discussion addressing the film will be held immediately after the screening. This event is co-sponsored by UWG Women Studies program and Amnesty International.

April 2 – 22, 2012

Older American's Month Sock Drive

Socks, Socks, and more Socks! Please join the Office of Institutional Diversity and our co-sponsors: National Pan-Hellenic Council and Pan Hellenic Council in celebrating Older Americans Month by participating in our annual "Sock Drive". Older Americans Month's (celebrated in May since 1963) – 2012 theme is "Never too Old to Play!" Did you know that one in every eight or 13.1% of the population (or 40.4 million in 2010) is an Older American (65+). Our office will be collecting **NEW socks** April 2nd – April 27th. Please help us reach our goal of **500 NEW pairs of socks!** Bring all **NEW socks** to Room 217 (Row Hall, East Wing) or place them in campus mail. All socks will be donated to local nursing homes in Carroll County during the month of May. For questions call 678-839-5400.

For additional information on Older Americans Month, visit aoa.gov/AoARoot/Aging_Statistics/Profile/2011/2.aspx

April 11, 2012

Multicultural Conversations

Discussant: Dr. Sal Peralta, Assistant Professor, Political Science.

Topic: Film: *Brazil in Black & White*

(Z-6) – UWG Faculty and Staff or Dr. Anthony Fleming, Assistant Professor

Topic: Gun Cultures of the U.S. and Canada

April 13, 2012

Multicultural Book Discussion

Book: *Darfur: A History of a Long War*

Author: Julie Flint & Alex De Wall

Discussant: Dr. George Kieh
