STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS ....

The Next Walton College Top Model is: One student receives recognition, the other continues to carry the torch

Recipient of the National Association of Black Accountants Scholarship

Marsha James, a junior in the Walton College, has received the National Association of Black Accountants Scholarship worth $1,500 for the 2008-2009 academic year. James is the daughter of Marshall and Delois James of Forrest City, Ark. James said, “Receiving this scholarship means a lot. As we all know, trying to get an education is very costly, but it is scholarships such as the NABA scholarship that gives you the encouragement and financial assistance you need in order to reach your educational goals and aspirations. I am indeed grateful to the NABA Professional Chapter.” James, a business management major and double minor in marketing and music, excels in her leadership involvements and in her academics. She performs outstandingly holding a 3.8 cumulative GPA. She has accepted an intern position as a K-Mart retail management intern with Sears Holding Company. James is actively involved in many organizations including Connections, Inspirational Singers and Students Advocating Stronger Sisterhood. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is also the recipient of the John Johnson Scholarship, Katherine and Harold Hantz Scholarship, and the Minority Business Scholarship.

The Belize Exploration

Ranesha R. Critton, a sophomore accounting major, has recently been selected to participate in Community Development in the Belize Study Abroad Project, as a project leader for educating children about business. Critton is the daughter of Arthur and Nicole Critton of Magnolia, Ark. “I am looking forward to not only studying in another country, but also giving to the community while I am there to help them work towards being more sustainable,” says Critton. She is involved on campus, leading students to higher levels of development and being a mentor to others. Critton is a tutor in the Academic Center, SCREP reporter and event coordinator for the National Association of Black Accountants, chair-elect for the Walton College Dean’s Student Advisory Board, an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., and a member of Leadership Walton.

In addition, she is the recipient of many scholarships including the University’s Honors College Fellowship, Governor’s Distinguished Scholarship, National Achievement Scholarship, and the Ernst & Young Minority Scholarship.

Ashleigh Toatley, a junior in the Walton College, has been nominated as the team lead for the 2010 Operation Stimulus Competition in Denver, Colo. Toatley was recently selected to be on the University of Arkansas 2009 team by faculty. Because of successful and active participation, she has accepted the position team lead for the 2010 team. Toatley, a transportation and logistics major, is involved in opportunities that enhance the model for the University’s campus and the Walton College. She continues to maintain a 3.8 cumulative GPA. She is currently involved in the Center for Retailing Excellence student advisory board, secretary for the Mullin’s Library student advisory board, and University of Arkansas fees review board. In addition to campus involvements, she has previously held research internship positions with Tyson Foods in load planning and student researcher with the Supply Chain Management Research Center where she created and organized a project related to interstate commerce trucking regulations.

Toatley is also a recipient of many scholarships, including: Black Alumni Endowed Scholarship, Supply Chain Management Research Center Scholarship, Center for Retailing Excellence Endowed Scholarship, Minority Business Scholarship, Lloyd G. Hobbs Endowed Scholarship, and the African American Studies Scholarship. Toatley is the daughter of Dorthy and Claudius Johnson of Little Rock, Ark. She said, “Attending the competition allowed me to interact with other college students that were in the logistics industry. I was able to network and build relationships that I can use now and in the future.”

This competition was sponsored through the logistics department and the Supply Chain Management Research Center. Faculty members John Ozment & Jim Crowell attended the conference with the students.

Summer Johnson, a senior in the Walton College, was nominated as the team lead for the 2009 Operation Stimulus Denver Competition in Denver, Colo. She was selected to attend the competition as a junior in 2008, making her the team leader for the 2009 year.

Johnson, a transportation and logistics major and double minor in marketing and Spanish, has been involved in many leadership opportunities and continues to represent the Walton College in its outstanding aspects of learning and diverse culture. She has previously held internship positions with the Supply Chain Management Research Center and Walgreens Orlando Distribution Center, and is currently the Office of Diversity Programs Student Ambassador. She has recently accepted a position at USA Truck in Van Buren, Ark., as an operations manager trainee. Johnson also excels in her on-campus involvements. She is the director of events for the Women in Logistics Organization, vice president of the Gateway to Hope Ministries, Big Brothers/ Big Sisters member, Connections mentor, and an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Johnson is the recipient of the Office of Diversity Programs Scholarship, FedEx Scholarship, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Book Scholarship. Johnson is the daughter of Sandra and Ricco Johnson of Russellville, Ark. Johnson said, “Attending the competition allowed me to interact with other college students that were in the logistics industry. I was able to network and build relationships that I can use now and in the future.”

The Operation Stimulus competition included 14 teams from around the country and Canada. Each team was given a case a week in advance in order to prepare, and then given a twist on the case upon arriving to the competition in Denver. Each team was judged by a panel of professionals within the transportation and other business areas. The students also attended a conference, learning about the recent changes, problems, implementations and improvements within the transportation Industry. The Walton College team included Summer Johnson, Brad Booth, Marcin Mularski, Maria Torres, and Ashleigh Toatley.

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University of Arkansas Organizations to Honor Martin Luther King through Service Project

Three organizations at the University of Arkansas partnered to honor the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. through a service project called “Blankets for Warmth.” The Sam M. Walton College of Business, the department of intercollegiate athletics and the Multicultural Center collected blankets Jan. 21 through 30 to distribute to Seven Hills Homeless Shelter, The Salvation Army, Highland Towers and Abused Women and Children’s Shelter. Barbara Lofton, Director of the Office of Diversity Programs at the Walton College said, “This service project is one method of transforming the ideas and principles of Dr. King into helping others in the community. The sponsoring departments accepted used and new blankets of all sizes and shapes as well as monetary donations to purchase blankets.” The project had a successful kick off from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 22, on the third floor lobby of the Business Building, with popcorn and soft drinks. For more information, contact Barbara Lofton, 479-575-4557, blofton@walton.uark.edu; Veronikha Salazar, assistant director, Multicultural Center, 479-575-2064, vxs04@uark.edu; or Marvin Caston, assistant athletic director, intercollegiate athletics, 479-575-6536, mcaston@uark.edu.

Thank you to the following participating sponsors:

Sam M. Walton College of Business
Multicultural Center
Razorback Athletics
Four Seasons Cleaners
First Security Bank

“This faith can give us courage to face the uncertainties of the future. It will give our tired feet new strength as we continue our forward stride toward the city of freedom. I still believe that we shall overcome!” - Martin Luther King, Jr. Acceptance Speech, on the occasion of the award of the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo, December 10, 1964

WALTON COLLEGE PAYS TRIBUTE TO OUR STUDENTS FOR THEIR SUCCESS!!

Graduating Class of Fall 2008
Jeremy Bronson
Juanita Evurunobi
Erlyn Flores
Phillip Gahagans
Jade Kelly
Nilushika-Mallawarachchi
Phillip Morrow
Adam Norwood
Adam Ortega
Erika Rodriguez
Rushabh Shah
Susan Shopodock
Lena Sivilay
Ebony Thomas
Jennifer Tran
Xuan Vu

Chancellor’s List Fall 2008
Jisoo Bae
Dikemba Balogu
Whitnee Boyd
Andreas Chen
Marsha James
Li Hui Li
Stephanie Nguyen
Brian Oller
Blake Strode
Stacy Tan
Lucas Vinze

Dean’s List Fall 2008
Jisoo Bae
Dikemba Balogu
Whitnee Boyd
Andreas Chen
Joy Ibanga
Marsha James
Li Hui Li
Stephanie Nguyen
Brian Oller
Blake Strode
Stacy Tan
Lucas Vinze
Paul Buckley
Miles Johnson
Jaleesa Limbrick
Marc Lipscomb
Brian McCaster
Alice McMillan
Mitchell Munoz
Samata Neupane

In a location that fosters an ideal environment for business students, the MIS program has an outstanding curriculum that offers students access to top-notch technology and comprehensive studies of information systems in the business world. Students here are given priceless education with endless connections and limitless resources”

Corey Redden
MIS Program
Intern, Colgate-Palmolive

Tahiya Nuzhat
Robert Redwine
Meagan Richards
Tania Schmitfranz
Susan Shopodock
Nicholas Stephens
Denzel Turntine
Fredrick Washington
Michael Whitfield
Stephanie Wirges
University sponsored historic trip for students.....

The University of Arkansas’ Center for Leadership and Community Engagement planned an educational trip to the 2009 Presidential Inauguration. The trip served as an opportunity to take part in swearing in the first African-American president of the United States of America. This experience allowed students to engage in conversation and reflection regarding diversity in civic engagement taking place in America today. The presidential election has captured the minds and hearts of the American people, especially the youth. Here at the University of Arkansas, many of our students were directly involved in the presidential campaigns and in organizations providing programs to increase political awareness and dialogue about our nation’s future. In this historic election, the role individuals played was evident within our campus political organizations. The educational outcome of the trip was phenomenal! There is much that can be harnessed from this very unique moment in history. The learning outcomes for the presidential inauguration participants include: recognizing the importance of social responsibility and concerns for others, building relationships and the ability to work with others as a member of a team, developing an appreciation for one’s own culture and an understanding of others, understanding the importance of reflection as a tool for life-long learning, and identifying their values relating to service and civic engagement. The event would not have been such a success without the support of our sponsors!

Thank You:

Sam M. Walton College of Business
Center for Leadership & Community Engagement
Associated Student Government
The Office of First Year Experience
Faculty Sponsors of the University of Arkansas

The Office of Diversity Programs Corporate Advisory Board members utilize their experience and expertise to develop and support ways to advance the presence of diversity and inclusion of underrepresented groups in the Walton College, the state, the region, and the nation. The Office of Diversity Programs Corporate Advisory Board members serves as ambassadors for the Office of Diversity Programs by developing initiatives to recruit, retain, and graduate underrepresented students. They also assist in identifying potential diverse faculty and staff from Arkansas and the United States. The board members aid the director of the Office of Diversity Programs by helping to define and realize the institutional diversity goals of the Walton College. These members also serve as ongoing consultants to the Office of Diversity Programs by developing strategies, programs, and enhancing the curricula.

The members of The Office of Diversity Programs Corporate Advisory Board are invited to serve on the board by the director of the Office Diversity Programs, acting upon the advice of the current members and the dean of the Sam M. Walton College of Business. For more information about membership or nominations for the Diversity Corporate Advisory Board, please contact Barbara A. Lofton, Ed.D at blofton@walton.uark.edu

Thank you for all your hard work, dedication, and help in shaping the Office of Diversity Programs:

◆ Charles Stewart, Regions Financial Corporations
◆ Lisa Bogle, FedEx Freight
◆ RaMona C. Alexander, Fox S-W
◆ Gerald Taylor, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
◆ Jean Lacefield, Frito-Lay
◆ Pepe Estrada, Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
◆ Isiah Reese, Sr. Manager, Walt Disney Consumer Products
◆ Erica Holliday, Northwest Arkansas Community College
◆ Jason W. Green, Baldor Electric
◆ Colleen Trichell, State Farm Insurance
◆ Timothy Howell, Howell Consulting and Networking
◆ Michael Easterling, Open Roads Institute, LLC
**IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:**

**Accounting Career Awareness Program (ACAP) Program Dates:** June 20-27, 2009  
**Technology Awareness Program (TAP) Program Dates:** July 11-16, 2009  
Please visit [http://waltoncollege.uark.edu/diversity/](http://waltoncollege.uark.edu/diversity/) for more information

- **April 30:** Last day of spring classes  
- **May 1:** DEAD DAY  
- **May 2-8:** Final exam week  
- **May 9:** University Commencement  
- **May 18-June 26:** Summer Class Session I  
- **June 29-August 7:** Summer Class Session II

**INTERESTED IN STUDY ABROAD?** Opportunities to study in Japan, China, Italy, as well as other countries exist through the Walton College. Study abroad offers valuable information and experience! For more information, contact the International Business Studies Office, WCOB 402, at 575-6836.

**Alumni News:** We’d like to hear from you. Let us know your accomplishments, job changes, advancements, and community service achievements. E-mail us at blofton@walton.uark.edu.

The Sam M. Walton College of Business was ranked in the nation’s top 24 public undergraduate business schools, according to *U.S. News & World Report’s* 2009 “America’s Best Colleges.”