PRESIDENT’S OPENING CONVOCATION

10:00 a.m.
Monday, August 24, 2009

University of Maryland Eastern Shore
The Ella Fitzgerald Center for the Performing Arts
Princess Anne, Maryland
THEME
“Retention Excellence through Student Success”

Charles Williams, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Presiding

Processional
“Prelude in C”
J. S. Bach
Ms. Veronica Knier
Organ

Welcome
Charles Williams, Ph.D.

Invocation
Reverend Candy Miles, Pastor
Metropolitan United Methodist Church

Greetings
President, Princess Anne Town Commissioners
Mr. Frank White
President, Student Government Association
Mr. Tony Webb
Princess Anne Town Manager
Mr. Garland Hayward
Chair, UMES Board of Visitors
Jesse T. Williams, Sr., P.D.S.
Council of University System Faculty and Chair, Faculty Assembly
Edward Chapin, Ph.D.
Council of University System Senate
Mark Williams, Ph.D.
Council of University System Staff Non-Exempt Representative
Mrs. Rena Finney
Council of University System Staff Exempt Representative
Mr. Corey Bowen

Musical Selection
“A Simple Song” from Mass
Leonard Bernstein
Ms. Marcelle Nagoski, Voice
Ms. Veronica Knier, Piano

Introduction of the Keynote Speaker
Thelma B. Thompson, Ph.D.
President

The Address
E. Faye Williams, Ph.D., J.D.
National Chair of the National Congress of Black Women &
Former Counsel to the U.S. Congress

Musical Selection
“Sweet Chance, That Lead My Steps Abroad”
Michael Head
Ms. Marcelle Nagoski, Voice
Ms. Veronica Knier, Piano
THEME
“Retention Excellence through Student Success”

Charles Williams, Ph.D.
Vice President for Academic Affairs
Presiding

Introduction of New Faculty and Staff
President’s Office
Mr. Keith Davidson
Charles Williams, Ph.D.
Ronnie Holden, Ed.D.
Mr. Gains Hawkins
Mr. Quentin Johnson
Ronald Forsythe, Ph.D.

Academic Affairs
Administrative Affairs
Institutional Advancement
Student Life & Enrollment Management
Technology & Commercialization

Closing Remarks
Thelma B. Thompson, Ph.D.

Recessional
“Toccata in C”
Johann Pachelbel
Mrs. Veronica Knier
Organ
2009 PRESIDENT’S CONVOCATION
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. E. Faye Williams, Esq.
Positive! Powerful! Convincing!

BIOGRAPHICAL SUMMARY

• Author
• Professor/Teacher
• Radio Talk Show Host
• Business Woman
• Peace and Human Rights Activist
• Attorney
• Former Congressional Candidate
• Minister
• National Chair, National Congress of Black Women
• Member, Board of Directors, Broadband Everywhere

Williams is National Chair of the National Congress of Black Women and former Counsel to the U.S. Congress. She is a former Professor of International Law at Southern University Law Center in Baton Rouge, LA. She previously served as Legislative Counsel and Chief of Staff for a District of Columbia Councilmember.

She holds a Ph.D. in Public Administration from City University at Los Angeles, as well as a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Southern California, a J. D. degree from Howard University School of Law; Administrative Credential from U.C.L.A, and BS Degree from Grambling State University of Louisiana. She completed her Doctor of Ministry degree at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, DC. She has studied at the University of California, the University of Michigan, Pepperdine University & George Washington University—where she studied in the Education Policy Fellowship Program.

She has traveled extensively, and has done research abroad and at home on numerous subjects. Williams' Ph.D. dissertation is entitled “The Harassment of African Americans.” Her Doctor of Ministry thesis is on “The Role of the Church in the Health of its Members”. She is the author of 3 other books on political and foreign affairs—one of which is entitled “The Peace Terrorists”, which chronicles her 40 day peace mission.
leading up to the 1992 Gulf War. For 20 of those days, she and 200 women from around the world were held at gunpoint in the Arabian Sea off the coast of Oman in the Middle East.

She was the first African American to run a viable political campaign for the U.S. Congress in Louisiana – narrowly missing victory after a mysterious "computer breakdown". She received nearly 100,000 votes and came within 6/10ths of 1% of winning a congressional seat. Supporters often refer to her as “Louisiana’s Congresswoman in Exile”. She later worked briefly as White House Liaison to the U.S. Department of Energy.

She is a prolific public speaker internationally. She has appeared on numerous radio and television programs, including BET, CBS, CNN, Good Morning America, The David Brinkley Show, the Canadian Broadcasting System, C-Span, MSNBC’s Hard Ball and others. She has appeared on WorldNet Television to discuss the role people of African descent play in elections. She has addressed numerous peace and human rights groups in the U.S., Greece, Iraq, Haiti, Gabon, Senegal, Tunisia, Palestine, Israel, Benin and other nations. She was a delegate to the Reconciliation Conference in Benin, West Africa, and the StraightTalk Economic Empowerment Conference in South Africa. She served as an election monitor in Venezuela’s recent elections. She is a member of the Board of Directors of Council for the National Interest and Partners for Peace. She is on the Board of Girls and Boys Club USA and the National Council of Women’s Organizations. She is on the Board of Directors for Broadband Everywhere and City at Peace.

She was a news talk show host for a number of years on "Focus on the African World" on Radio One. She later hosted "The George Washington Carver Health and Wellness Show" on WWGB Radio, served as Director of Public Affairs, and hosted the popular news talk show, “PowerTalk". Additionally, she hosted “Empowerment 2000” on WYCB Radio. She appears as a regular commentator/panelist on several radio and television programs.

She is member of Delta Sigma Theta, NAACP, District of Columbia Bar Association, and Alpha Kappa Mu National Honor Society. For 10 years, she served as President of the Grambling Alumni Association, and the Shreveport, LA Chapter has been named in her honor.

She is a member of many other business, education, professional, peace, human rights and civic organizations – from which she’s received hundreds of honors—including OIC’s Key to Success Award in business. Another of her many honors includes the Council for the National Interest’s They Dare to Speak Out Award for her work on international affairs and peace and human rights. She was inducted into The HistoryMakers, and recently received the Zeta Phi Beta Community Service Award.

She is a member of the Board of the Shundahia Network – a Native American human rights organization, Cease Fire—an anti violence group, and Co-Chair of “Conversations for Economic Development”. She is former chairperson of the International Business Committee for Washington, DC.

She has been a recipient of the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority's (a national organization of business and professional women) Woman of the Year award. She received the Star Performer Award from the Asian Benevolent Society for her work in creating diversity and promoting business opportunities in Washington, DC among the various cultures. She traveled to Damona, Israel to receive the Humanitarian Award from the African Hebrew Israelites. Williams received the Winnie Mandela Endurance with Dignity award from the Support A Child Foundation, Inc., Community Service awards from many organizations, and Woman Entrepreneur of the Year award from the Indiana Black Expo.
She is one of Ebony Magazine’s “100 Most Influential Black Americans” and Ebony’s “Power 150”. For the 2008 election, she was a surrogate for the “Obama for President Campaign.” She is a member of Unity Church of Washington, DC.

She has been a recipient of the Iota Phi Lambda Sorority’s Woman of the Year award. She received the Star Performer Award from the Asian Benevolent Society for her work in creating diversity and promoting business opportunities in Washington, DC among the various cultures. She traveled to Damona Israel to receive the Humanitarian Award from the African Hebrew Israelites. Williams received the Winnie Mandela Endurance with Dignity award from the Support A Child Foundation, Inc., a Community Service award from The Nation of Islam, and Woman Entrepreneur of the Year award from the Indiana Black Expo.

Dr. Williams is President/CEO of Natural Health Options. She has exclusive manufacturing, marketing and distribution rights to natural products created from the work of the scientific genius, Dr. George Washington Carver. NHO is one of the successful businesses inspired by the 1995 Million Man March—for which Williams served as Host Committee Co-Chair and International Spokesperson. She was one of few women to address the March.

The flagship product of Dr. Williams’ company is a peanut rubbing oil created by Dr. Carver more than 70 years ago for arthritis, gout, diabetic neuropathy, stress, and various other pain relief. NHO also produces natural hair products from the peanut, made famous by Dr. Carver.

She is one of Ebony Magazine’s “100 Most Influential Black Americans” “and Ebony's Power 150”. She is a member of Unity Church of Washington, DC.

PARTIAL LIST OF PAST SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS
1. National Baptist Convention
2. 1995 Million Man March
3. A.M.E. Women’s Regional Conference
4. National Organization for Women
5. NAACP
6. United Nations Conference on Women
7. Urban League
8. National Conference of Black Mayors
10. National Association of Business and Professional Women
11. Operation PUSH
12. Journalists’ Association (Lima, Peru)
13. Coalition of Black Trade Unionists
14. AFSCME, U.S. Steel Workers
15. Democratic National Convention
16. Headstart
17. Shriners, Masons, Order of the Eastern Star
18. Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania
19. San Francisco Muslim Mission
20. National Conference of Black Lawyers and National Bar Association
21. National Education Association
22. Council for the National Interest
23. The African Hebrew Israelites
24. OIC of America
25. Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.
27. National Association of Arab Americans
28. Indiana Black Expo
29. New York Black Ministers Alliance
30. Internal Revenue Service
31. U.S. Department of Agriculture
32. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
33. U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Agriculture
34. Meharry Medical School
35. Islamic Association
36. College for Kids; College for Teens
37. Economic Development Conference, Johannesburg, South Africa
38. The Martin Luther King “I Have A Dream” rally at the United Nations (NY) and numerous Martin Luther
King Day celebrations throughout the nation
39. Numerous Family Reunions, Graduations and other special occasions
40. Universities: University of Maryland, Emory (GA), Columbia (NY), Grambling University (LA) Southern
University (LA), Florida A&M, Harvard, St. Augustine’s (NC), Louisiana State University, University of
Maine Northwestern (IL), Bethune-Cookman (FL), George Washington (DC), University of the District
of Columbia; American University (DC); City University of Los Angeles; Dartmouth College,
Georgetown University, Howard University (DC) and many others.
41. National Baptist Convention, as well as numerous churches: Sardis Baptist Church (Birmingham, AL),
United Methodist Church of the Redeemer (Temple Hills, MD), Camphor United Methodist
(Philadelphia, PA), Goodstreet Baptist Church (Dallas, TX), Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Baton Rouge,
LA), Unity of Washington, DC, Christian Church of the Disciples (DC), Isle of Patmos (DC), National
Spiritual Science Center (DC); New Hope Baptist Church (Buffalo, NY) and many others.
42. International Peace and Human Rights programs in Iraq, Jordan (where she was a guest of Queen
Noor), Greece, Haiti, Tunisia, Palestine, Benin, Israel and many others.
43. Graduation/Ordination Ceremony, National Spiritual Science Center, (DC)
44. Graduation speaker for Cicely Tyson School for the Performing and Fine Arts (NJ)

*******Note: To book speaking engagements, call Ted Terry at 323-383-6471
UMES’ Interpersonal Values

We will;

1. Respect the legacy and history of UMES
2. Work for the greater good of UMES and the surrounding community, and encourage the same from our students
3. Work with a commitment to excellence
4. Trust and be trustworthy; maintain a strong sense of integrity
5. Practice honesty and truthfulness
6. Be respectful of and fair to each other
7. Speak with one voice and support each other’s activities and programs
8. Practice civility, caring, and courage to do the right thing
9. Keep the lines of communication open (speak freely and honestly)
10. Be open-minded
11. Be available and approachable
12. View change as a challenge and not a barrier

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