29th Annual Andrew A. Best, MD

Senior Recognition Banquet

East Carolina Heart Institute

January 26, 2013

The Brody School of Medicine Chapter of the Student National Medical Association

East Carolina University

“To serve for the sake of service. Yes, let this my motto be. Let me give, and give freely to all humanity!”

- Andrew A. Best, MD
A native of Kinston, North Carolina, Dr. Best played a key role in the establishment of the East Carolina University medical school, as well as serving as an advocate for African American students and faculty at the university. Dr. Best served in a variety of leadership roles in the city and state.

Dr. Best earned his medical degree from the Meharry Medical College of Nashville, Tennessee in 1951. He established his medical practice in Greenville, North Carolina in 1954 and practiced until 2004. Dr. Best served the needs of many citizens in Pitt County through his medical practice. Additionally, Dr. Best served the humanitarian needs of the area encouraging African American students to enroll at ECU and by bringing highly qualified African American faculty and staff to the university. Dr. Best was the first African American member of the ECU Board of Trustees. He helped develop a plan for the peaceful and successful integration of the East Carolina University by African American students. In recognition of his outstanding service to the county and the state, Dr. Best was awarded many honors. One such honor was his appointment to the University of North Carolina Board of Governors in 1971, one of the first African Americans to serve. Dr. Leo Jenkins served as chancellor of ECU during that time and a partnership was formed between Drs. Best, Jenkins and others to lobby the state legislature to create a medical school at ECU.

Another of the honors bestowed upon Dr. Best was the establishment of the Best-Irons Humanitarian Award. The annual banquet, sponsored by the Greenville Human Relations Council which Dr. Best helped to establish, recognizes the efforts of Dr. Best and Dr. Malene G. Irons who helped desegregate Pitt County Memorial Hospital in the 1960's. East Carolina University bestowed its highest service honor the, Jarvis medal, to Dr. Best in spring 2007.

Dr. Best was a member of numerous organizations including Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., the Pitt County Interracial Committee, the local and the National Medical Association.
Program

Opening & Presiding
Bailee Hill, Class of 2015

Welcome
Todd Savitt, PhD
Assistant Dean of Diversity, Office of Diversity Affairs

SNMA History
Kenya Caldwell, Class of 2015

Tribute to Dr. Andrew A. Best
Gerard Farrow, Grand-nephew of Dr. Best

Recognition of Guests
Cierra Piggott, Class of 2015

Invocation
Marlana Sheridan, Class of 2015

Dinner
Musical Interlude

Introduction of Speaker
Roytesa Savage, MD
Department of Pediatrics
Assistant Dean, Student Affairs

Keynote Address
Cedric Bright, MD, FACP
112th President, National Medical Association

Presentation of Awards
Akilah Grimes, Class of 2015

Special Tribute
David Holder, MD
Department of Pediatrics

Class of 2013 Remarks
Cierrea Roach, Class of 2013

Closing Remarks
Paul Cunningham, MD, F.A.C.S
Brody School of Medicine Dean, Senior Associate Vice Chancellor of Medical Affairs
Keynote Speaker

Cedric M. Bright, MD, FACP
112th President, National Medical Association

Cedric M. Bright, M.D. served as the 112th President of the National Medical Association (NMA) from July 2011 to July 2012. “Serving as the President of this great organization, was one of the great highlights of my professional career, an awesome honor coupled with a tremendous responsibility.”

Dr. Bright is currently the Assistant Dean of Special Programs and Admissions in the Department of Medical Education at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine. He recently worked as an Associate Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine and Community and Family Medicine at Duke University and a staff physician at the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) in Durham, NC. He is a graduate of Brown University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine. He completed residency training at Rhode Island Hospital/Brown University. In June 2011, Dr. Bright received the title of Fellow of the American College of Physicians (FACP) from ACP President Dr. Virginia Hood. He has been appointed to the North Carolina Institute of Medicine in 2012.

Dr. Bright continues to be very active in mentoring and teaching medical students and residents. He is an active mentor for the SNMA and was elected to a two-year term as a professional board member of SNMA. For the past ten years, he has led health empowerment programs in indigent communities in Durham. He continues to serve his community and the medical profession by participating in various task forces and on several committees including healthcare reform and implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Dr. Bright plans to continue his focus on ensuring that all Americans have access to basic healthcare. He is the recipient of numerous citations and awards for his professional and community service.

He is married to Maria Moore Bright and they have a son, Andrew “Drew” Weldon. They reside in Durham, North Carolina.
Honorees of the Class of 2013

Nicole Jacobs
Parents: Leon and Connie Jacobs
Specialty Interest: Psychiatry
Undergraduate Institution: UNC Pembroke
Quote: “Your vision will become clear only when you look in your heart. Who looks outside, dreams. Who looks inside, awakens.” Carl Gustav Jung

Ashley Mabina
Parents: Mark and Michelle Mabina
Specialty Interest: Pediatrics
Undergraduate Institution: UNC Charlotte
Quote: “Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.” Ephesians 3:20-21

Cierrea Rashonda Roach
Parents: Tommie and Vivian Roach
Specialty Interest: Pediatrics
Undergraduate Institution: NC Central University
Quote: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.” Philippians 4:13
Honorees of the Class of 2013

Diana Nicole Spell
Parent: Mrs. Linda L. Spell
Sibling: Van M. Spell, Jr.
Specialty Interest: General Surgery
Undergraduate Institution: Spelman College
Quote: “Never stop pursuing the dreams God had placed on your heart to achieve.” Anonymous

Jennifer Elaine Threatt
Parents: Melvin and Cathy Threatt
Fiancé: Travis Perry
Specialty Interest: Ophthalmology
Undergraduate Institution: UNC Chapel Hill
Quote: “Surround yourself with the dreamers and the doers, the believers and the thinkers, but most of all, surround yourself with those who see the greatness within you, even when you don’t see it yourself.” Edmund Lee
Banquet Donors

**Platinum Donor Level**

Drs. James and Rukiyyah Anderson  
Dr. Karen Coward (*Class of 1989*)  
Dr. Paul Cunningham  
East Carolina University Medical & Health Sciences Foundation, Inc.  
Dr. Darlene Keene (*Class of 1989*)  
Mr. Thurman and Dr. Roytesa Savage (*Class of 1999*)  
Dr. and Mrs. Stuart and Wilshawnda Squires (*Class of 1995*)

**Gold Donor Level**

- Dr. Kelvin Baggett  
- Dr. Maxlyn LaVie Ellison  
- Ms. Myra Farrow  
- Justice Henry E. Frye  
- Dr. MGF Gilliland  
- Dr. James G. Peden

**Silver Donor Level**

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- Dr. Virginia Hardy  
- Dr. Gerald Hill  
- Dr. Marcono Hines, Jr.  
- Dr. Phyllis N. Horns  
- Dr. Tom Irons  
- Dr. Ronald S. Johnson  
- Drs. Warren and Cheryl Knudson  
- Mr. and Mrs. Clarence and Edna Moseley  
- Dr. Robin Peace  
- Dr. Todd Savitt
2012-2013 SNMA Officers

Faculty Advisor: Roytesa Savage, MD
Chapter President: Bailee Hill
Vice President: Akilah Grimes
Secretary: Cierra Piggott
Treasurer: Kenya Caldwell

Regional Leadership

Assistant Regional Director to the North: Justin Foster
Regional Secretary: Demi Dawkins
Regional Parliamentarian: Shannon Banks

Special Thanks

The Brody School of Medicine Chapter of the SNMA wishes to express its sincere appreciation to faculty, staff, and students of The Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University; alumni; area physicians; area businesses; and many “special friends”, including Mrs. Jacquelyn Alston, who donated the floral arrangements. It is through the efforts of many that our chapter has continued to thrive. We would like to acknowledge our alumni for their contributions and successes. Thank you for paving the way, setting the standards, and providing the light. We are proud to have you with us as we celebrate the accomplishments of future minority physicians.
The mission of the Dr. Andrew A. Best Scholarship is to enable Brody School of Medicine students to make a difference in the communities they will serve. Recipients will be chosen by their peers based on criteria of service as exemplified by the life of Dr. Best. Donating to the Best Scholarship is an investment in the future of health care. Your donation can help build a stronger, more prepared healthcare provider and will uphold the legacy of Dr. Andrew A. Best.

**How can I support the scholarship?**
To contribute to the Dr. Andrew A. Best Scholarship, mail the completed donor form and your tax deductible donation, payable to Medical Foundation of ECU to the address shown below.. All donations, of any size are greatly appreciated.

- Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of $___________ (Make check payable to The Medical & Health Sciences Foundation of ECU)
- Please charge my:  ____ Visa ____ MasterCard ____ American Express
  - $ _____________
  - Account Number: _______________________________________________________
  - Expiration Date: __________________
  - Signature: _____________________________________________
- I am interested in making a pledge of $________ to be paid over _____ years.
- Please contact me, I would like to make a stock gift.
- Please contact me, I would like information about including the Brody School of Medicine in my estate plans.
- I am interested in making a donation, but not at this time.

Thank you!

Name: ____________________________________________________________
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City________________________ State ________ Zip ______________________
Home Phone: ________________ Business Phone: __________________________
E-mail: ___________________________________________________________

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For additional information contact: Michael Dowdy (dowdym@ecu.edu)
“Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.