



# MONDAYMORNINGMENTIONS

January 11, 2016

Happy New Year Coppin Family:

I hope each of you took the time to relax and rejuvenate during the winter break. The spring semester will be super busy and we need your positive energy and enthusiasm to support our students' success -- especially the Class of 2016 for whom the finish line is fast approaching!

A few highlights, updates, and good news are listed below.

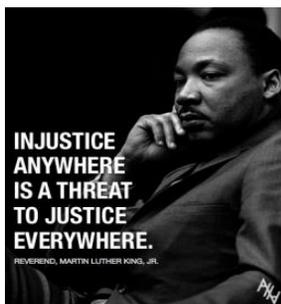
We welcome **Dr. Beverly Downing**, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and **Dr. Danielle Prendergast**, Government Relations Specialist, to the Coppin family.

Dr. Downing, who will provide interim leadership while we search for permanent leadership, comes to us from Kentucky State University where she was in a similar role. Dr. Prendergast, who will be with us through June 30, last served Bowie State University heading up their Government Relations activities. Take time to reach out and welcome Beverly and Danielle to Coppin.



The Abell Foundation has made a \$100,000 grant to CSU to support the Our House Community Mentoring Program. Abell is one of Baltimore's largest foundations and supports activities that build a stronger Baltimore City. The Our House Program has also received funding from M&T Bank, PNC Bank, SunTrust Bank, Bon Secours Hospital, the Baltimore

Teachers Union, St. Paul Company, Bethel AME Church, Maryland Higher Education Commission, and numerous individual donors.



Join us on Friday, January 15<sup>th</sup> for the celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday. The MLK breakfast will begin at 8:30 a.m. in the Talon Center. Baltimore City Councilman Brandon Scott will serve as the keynote speaker. A new spotlight on the CSU website has been dedicated to the celebration and is linked to more information regarding this year's event.

**Dr. Jamal Uddin**, Director for the Center for Nanotechnology recently received an award at the Pacificchem conference for his “contribution in the advancement and application of organic dye sensitized solar cells and nanotechnology research.” In addition to receiving the award, Dr. Uddin participated as an invited speaker on behalf of the university. Please congratulate him on his recent accolade!

**Dr. Tulio Chavez-Gil**, Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Department of Natural Sciences, has been invited to speak at the World Chemical Conference in Toronto, Canada. The topic of the conference, which will be held from August 8-10, is “Exploring Ultimate Researchers in the Apex Science.” Congratulations, Dr. Chavez-Gil, well done!!!



Tomorrow is University Day at CSU. I look forward to seeing everyone at this most important opening event for the spring semester. You won't want to miss the latest University updates and exciting presentations by our own **Chief Leonard Hamm** and the co-chairs of our new Student Success Council, **Dr. Dionne Curbeam and Ms. Marian Johnson**. The event will take place in the Talon Center. Registration and hot beverage service will began at 8:30 a.m.



Don't forget – the deadline for the 2016 University System of Maryland Board of Regents Staff Awards is January 29th. Coppin has had award winners in each of the last two years; so let's try to make it three in a row.

With Coppin Pride,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Maria Thompson".

Maria Thompson, Ph.D.  
President