



## MONDAYMORNINGMENTIONS

February 22, 2016

Good Morning Coppin Family:

Budget hearings for our campus will take place in Annapolis February 25th and 29th. The hearing before the House Education and Economic Development Subcommittee is scheduled for the 25<sup>th</sup> in the House Office Building, Room 120 at 1:00 pm. The hearing before the Senate Education, Business, and Administration Subcommittee is scheduled for the 29<sup>th</sup> in the Miller Senate Building, Amoss Room at 1:00 pm. Thanks to all who provided data for our testimony.

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



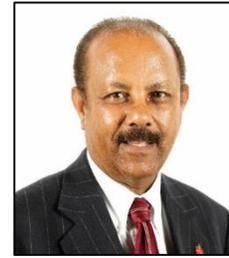
It's Homecoming Week at CSU. A number of events have been scheduled throughout the week culminating in the men's and women's basketball games against Morgan State University on Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. I hope you will come out and support events aimed at both CSU alumni and CSU students. Events of note include the Alumni Gala on Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, which will be held at the Champagne Room from 8:00 p.m. until midnight and the Jazz Brunch on Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, which will be held in the Talon Center from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Check the CSU website for a full list of events. See you at Homecoming!!!!

The Coppin State University College of Health Professions, West Baltimore Health Enterprise Zone and Central Church of Christ initiative to address heart disease has been an ongoing campaign since 2015. According to the Center for Disease Control (2015), heart disease, stroke and complications associated with hypertension are the leading causes of death in America.

Dr. Tracey L. Murray, Dean and Professor of the College of Health Professions, and lead faculty Ms. Lori Harvin, Ms. Stacey Wood, Dr. Vaple Robinson, Ms. Ericka Smith and Dr. Ihuoma Ezebuihe joined junior nursing students enrolled in the NURS 320 Maternal Child and Women's Health course for the February 14, 2016 Red Dress Sunday event at Central Church of Christ. The event provided health education, screening and a healthy meal to more than 300 individuals.

On February 11th, several students, faculty, and staff from Coppin participated in the annual USM Advocacy Day in Annapolis. The annual event is an opportunity to raise awareness of issues related to higher education and student success. Representatives from many of the USM campuses spent the day at the state capitol and met with legislators to discuss various policy issues and budget priorities. The day concluded with a luncheon featuring remarks from Senate President Mike Miller and USM Chancellor Robert Caret, and a photo opportunity with Lieutenant Governor Boyd Rutherford. Thanks to the students and faculty for participating and the Office of Residence Life for coordinating this event.

Dr. Habtu Braha will be retiring this year after a long career of service to CSU. A celebration in his honor will be held on Saturday, March 12<sup>th</sup> at the Radisson at Cross Keys from 11:00 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Contact Dr. Mary Wanza for additional details about the event. I hope to see you there to wish Dr. Braha a happy retirement!!!



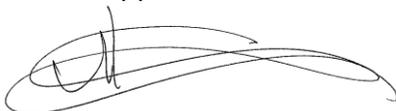
I was invited to a reception at the White House in celebration of African American History Month on February 18th. President Obama spoke about the role of African Americans in shaping the nation. "From our earliest days black history has been American history," he said. "We're the slaves that carry the stone to build this White House. The soldiers who fought for our nation's independence, who fought to hold this union together. Who fought for freedom of others around the world. We're the scientists and inventors who helped unleash American innovation." It was an honor for me to attend this event and shake hands with President and Mrs. Obama.

Coppin State University students have been invited to compete in the 27th annual Honda Campus All-Star Challenge National Championship Tournament, which features teams from America's HBCU's. Teams compete in a quiz-bowl style competition. The tournament takes place in Los Angeles, on April 2-6, 2016. Teams compete to win a grant of \$50,000 for their school. This activity is coordinated through the Office of Student Activities and Leadership.



The CSU student group, Active Minds, which is dedicated to promoting positive attitudes about mental illness both on and off-campus won the Text, Talk, Act 2015 Award for \$1,000 in the small college category. The Text, Talk, Act is a national online activity designed to engage students in discussions about mental health in order to break the stigma of mental illness on college campuses. This is Coppin's 2nd year in a row winning Text, Talk, Act!

With Coppin Pride,



Maria Thompson, Ph.D.  
President