

**Report of the American Association of Blacks in Energy
(AABE) National Scholarship Committee**

December 2009
(12/4/09 Update)

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National Scholarships (7 students, \$23,000)	
Northeast (13 students, \$18,000)	
Mid-Atlantic (4 students, \$7,000)	
Mid-West (15 students, \$17,000)	
South-East (65 students, \$78,650)	
South-West (4 students, \$6000)	
West (8 students, \$9000)	
Grand Total (116 students, \$158,650)	

1. Summary Description – AABE Mission/Scholarship Program

AABE is a national association of energy professionals founded and dedicated to ensure the input of African Americans and other minorities into the discussions and development of energy policies, regulations, R&D technologies, and environmental issues. The objectives of AABE are:

- To serve as a resource for policy discussion on the economic, social, and political impact of environmental and energy policies of African Americans and other minorities;
- To ensure involvement of African Americans on governmental energy policymaking by recommending capable, sensitive, and informed personnel to appropriate officials;
- To encourage both the public and private sectors to be responsive to the problems, goals, and aspirations of African Americans in energy-related fields;
- ***To encourage African American students to pursue careers in energy-related fields and to provide scholarships and other financial aid for such students.***

Through its Scholarship Program, AABE seeks to help increase the number of African Americans and other minorities in energy related fields. By doing so, we help our nation address a critical need and a challenge to our future economic vitality in the world market.

Through the work of various members of the AABE National Scholarship Committee, AABE Chapter Presidents, local Scholarship committees and other AABE members nation-wide, this report was compiled in order to identify the 2009 recipients of AABE Scholarships, and continue the process for AABE to track these recipients so that they can potentially serve as a pool of future AABE members and carry-on the important mission of the AABE organization into the foreseeable future.

Each year, AABE local chapters advertise the Scholarship program and solicit applications from eligible candidates nation-wide. The local chapters review the applications received and select scholarship winners, from which the top candidates are forwarded to the AABE National Scholarship Committee for consideration for Regional and National awards.

After a rigorous review process, in 2009, the National Scholarship Committee awarded six \$3,000 scholarships to students representing the Association's six regions. Additionally, a Premier Award of \$5,000 was awarded to the candidate that was adjudged to demonstrate the most outstanding achievement and promise. Awards were made directly to the students upon presentation of proof of enrollment at an accredited college or university. This process for selecting the Regional and National award recipients is conducted each spring in advance of the annual AABE National Conference.

Further information about the AABE Scholarship Program can be found at the organization's website: www.aabe.org.

2. 2009 AABE National Scholarship Committee Members

<u>Committee Chair</u>	<u>Committee Co-Chair</u>	<u>Committee Co-Chair</u>
Gerald Dawes	Sheila Patterson	John Skipper
Con Edison Company of NY (212) 460-4742 office (646) 879-5507 cell dawesg@coned.com	CMS Energy (517) 788-1893 office (517) 206-9890 cell sapatterson@cmsenergy.com	Con Edison Company of NY (718) 904-4957 office (347) 203-8471 cell skipperj@coned.com

1. Northeast Region

John Skipper
Con Edison Company of NY
(718) 904-4957 office
(347) 203-8471 cell
skipperj@coned.com

4. Southeast Region

Jennefer Whisenhunt
Southern Natural Gas Co.
(205) 325 7675 office
Jennefer.Whisenhunt@ElPaso.com

2. Mid-Atlantic Region

Dianne P. Oliver
Pepco Holdings, Inc.
(202) 872 2973 office
dpoliver@pepco.com

5. Southwest Region

Terrence Griffin
Entergy Services, Inc.
(601) 969-4860 office
TGRIFF3@entergy.com

3. Mid-West Region

Sheila Patterson
CMS Energy
(517) 788 1893 office
sapatterson@cmsenergy.com

6. Western Region

Sonya Baskerville
Bonneville Power Administration
(202) 586-5640 office
slbaskerville@bpa.gov

4. Summary of 2009 National Scholarship winners/assigned mentors

National Premier Winner - \$5000:

- **Mr. Travon Johnson**
Texas A&M University/Mechanical Engineering
AABE Chapter – Michigan
Mentor: Pending

a) Northeast Region - \$3000:

- **Ms. Regina Hodge**
Harvard University/Engineering
AABE Chapter - New York
Mentor: Daphne Joseph

b) Mid-Atlantic Region - \$3000:

- Ms. Chika Ugbah
Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Engineering
AABE Chapter - Washington, DC
Mentor: Nimmie Hickman

c) Mid-West Region - \$3000:

- Ms. Elizabeth Ramirez
Notre Dame/Chemistry
AABE Chapter – Michigan
Mentor: Pending

d) Southeast Region - \$3000:

- Mr. Denzel Evans-Bell
University of Alabama/Computer Engineering
AABE Chapter – Birmingham
Mentor: Jonathan Porter

e) Southwest Region - \$3000:

- Mr. Armaund Merchant
University of Houston/Chemical Engineering
AABE Chapter – Houston
Mentor: Pending

f) Western Region - \$3000:

- Mr. Quincy Allen
Claflin University/Mathematics Major and Business Minor
AABE Chapter – Washington/Oregon
Mentor – Pending

Total National Scholarship Awards: (7 students, \$23,000)

5. Summary of Regional Scholarship Reports

a) Northeast Region (New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut)

(i) New York Metropolitan Area (NYMAC) Scholarship Award Winners:

- **Ms. Regina Hodge (Regional Winner - \$3000)**
Harvard University/Engineering
Mentor: Daphney Joseph
- **Mr. Kenneth Burmudez - \$2,000**
SUNY Fredonia/Physical Science
Mentor: Howard Sheard
- **Mr. St. Claire Bramble - \$2,000**
The City College of New York/Biomedical Engineering
Mentor: Frank Francis
- **Mr. Ben J. Antoine - \$2,000**
Carnegie Mellon University/Electrical Engineering
Mentor: Nathaniel Howard

Total Scholarship Awards: (4 students, \$6,000 excluding \$3,000 Regional Award)

(ii) New Jersey Scholarship Award Winners:

- **Mr. Ryan Davis - \$1000**
Drexel University/Computer Engineering
- **Ms. Alesha Jones - \$1000**
William Paterson University/Computer Science
- **Ms. Nadhira Ratliff - \$1000**
North Carolina A&T State University/Chemical Engineering

Mentor Assignments are pending.

Total Scholarship Awards: (3 students, \$3,000)

(iii) Connecticut Scholarship Award Winners:

- **Ms. Feizhen Dang -\$2500**
Suffolk University, Boston, MA
- **Mr. Miguel Mora -\$2500**
Bentley University, Waltham, MA
- **Ms. Amy Mitchell -\$2500**
Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
- **Ms. Ashley Gil -\$500**
Johnson & Wales, Providence, RI
- **Ms. Deborah Silva -\$500**
Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, MA
- **Ms. Ashley Silva -\$500** (former 2008 recipient received additional award)
Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI

Mentor Assignments are pending.

Total Scholarship Awards: (6 students, \$9,000)

b) Mid-Atlantic Region

(i) Washington D.C. Chapter Scholarship Award winners

- **Ms. Chika Ugba – (Regional Winner - \$3,000 plus \$2500 local award)**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Engineering
Mentor: Nimmie S. Hickman
- **Mr. Keith Michael Phox - \$2000**
Massachusetts Institute of Technology/Computer Engineering
Mentor: Phil Bennett
- **Mr. Chadwick E. Eason - \$1,500**
Harvard University (Cambridge, MA)/Engineering
Mentor: Wes Anderson
- **Ms. Racheida Lewis - \$1,000**
Virginia Commonwealth University (Richmond, VA)/Computer Engineering
Mentor: Lisa Beale

Total Scholarship Awards: (4 students, \$7,000)

c) Mid-West Region (Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana)

(i) Michigan Chapter Scholarship Award winners

- **Mr. Travon Johnson – (National Premier Winner - \$5000 plus \$2000 local award)**
Texas A&M University/Mechanical Engineering
Mentor: TBD
- **Ms. Elizabeth Ramirez – (Regional Award Winner - \$3000 plus \$2,500 local award)**
Notre Dame /Chemistry
Mentor: TBD
- **Mr. Bryan Cotton - \$1500**
Michigan State or Western Michigan/Computer Engineering
Mentor: TBD
- **Ms. Jasmine Teamer - \$1500**
University of Michigan or Wayne State University/Science
Mentor: TBD
- **Ms. Matthew Rogan - \$500**
Michigan State, Wayne State, Lawrence Tech., U of D Mercy/Civil Engineering
Mentor: TBD
- **Ms. Raqibah Ansari - \$250**
Harvard, Princeton, Wayne State, Ferris, U of D Mercy/Mathematics
Mentor: TBD
- **Ms. Ciera Vines - \$250**
Michigan State University/Engineering
Mentor: TBD

Mentor Assignments are pending.

Total Local Scholarship Awards: (7 students, \$8,500)

(ii) Ohio Chapter Scholarship Award winners

- **Mr. Aaron Benson - \$1500**
The Ohio State University
Computer Engineering
Mentor: Joel Murphy
- **Ms. Nina Poole - \$1500**
Bowling Green State University
Mathematics
Mentor: Tracie Campbell
- **Ms. Larissa Williamson - \$1500**
Otterbein College
Computer Engineering
Mentor: Barbara Dunlap

Book Scholarships:

- **Mr. Anthony Durr - \$500**
Case Western University
Marketing
Mentor: Ramelle Fadis
- **Mr. Xavier Dunson - \$500**
The Ohio State University
Bio- Mechanical Engineering
Mentor: Renee Shumate

Total Scholarship Awards: (5 students, \$5,500)

(iii) Indiana Chapter Scholarship Award winners:

- **Mr. Cameron Brown - \$1,000**
Purdue University
Industrial Engineering
Mentor: Lafayette Jordan and Michael Suggs
- **Mr. Keith Daniel - \$1,000**
Purdue University
Electrical Engineering
Mentor: Lafayette Jordan and Michael Suggs
- **Kyasha Edmond - \$1,000**
Purdue University
Major: Engineering
Mentor: Marie Knox

Total Scholarship Awards: \$3,000

d) Southeast Region (Atlanta, Birmingham, Florida, Gulf Coast, North Carolina, Savannah, South Carolina, and Tennessee)

Atlanta Chapter

The Atlanta Chapter did not implement a mentorship program for the 2009 calendar year. However, students are able to apply for a continuing education program which affords the chapter an opportunity to talk with former recipients and determine how the funds have aided in their educational efforts/pursuits.

Scholarships 2009 recipients:

23 (\$24,000) - High school graduates

13 (\$6,500) - Continuing education recipients*

Total Scholarship awards: (36 students, \$30,000)

* Continuing education - Students that received a scholarship in their senior year are eligible to apply for a continuing education scholarship (3 years). Student must maintain a B average and must be majoring in a required field of study. This program is limited to availability of funds.

Birmingham Chapter

1. \$5,000 - Denzel Evans-Bell, University of Alabama, Computer Engineering
2. \$4,500 - Danielle Lee, Auburn University, Civil Engineering
3. \$3,000 - Ryan Leonard, Alabama A&M University, Engineering
4. \$1,700 - Aureale Vann, Auburn University, Engineering
5. \$1,500 - Andrea Ware, Tuskegee University, Accounting
6. \$1,200 - Sharlyn Williams, University of Alabama, Engineering
7. \$ 750 - Stephen Thompson, University of Alabama-Huntsville, Computer Engineering

Denzel Evans-Bell is the 2009 AABE Southeast Region Scholarship Recipient. His AABE mentor is Jonathan Porter at Alabama Power Company. Book Awards for \$500 each were given to two AABE Scholars during the chapter's annual scholarship golf tournament luncheon. There are no plans at this time to form a student chapter.

Total Scholarship awards: (7 students, \$17,650)

Florida Chapter

High School Recipients:

Christopher Norton Jr., Virginia Tech, Engineering
Mathew Morris, Tallahassee Community College, Engineering
Antonio Ollison, FAMU, Engineering
Alexander Mitchell, US Navel Academy, Nuclear Engineering

College Recipients:

Randell Rainey, UCF, Mechanical Engineering
Diago Garcia, U of F, Mechanical Engineering
Troy Mobley, USF, Engineering

Mikle Gordon serves as mentor for each of the chapter's current and past scholarship recipients.

Total Scholarship awards: (7 students, \$4,500)

Gulf Coast Chapter

1. Shawn A. Morris, Engineering
2. Kyle A. McCaskill, Morehouse College, Biology
3. Jenilyn T. Enriquez, Computer Software Engineering
4. Eric C. Dawkins, Jr., Mississippi State University, Computer Science
5. Rodger O. Sims, Jr., University of South Alabama, Electrical Engineering
6. Kimberly A. Rogers, Franciscan University, Communications

Total Scholarship awards: (6 students, \$1500 per student = \$9000)

North Carolina Chapter

2009 Scholarship Winner - Brittany Jones, Winston Salem State University, Business/Finance - \$2500

Past scholarship recipients with summer internships:

1. Heather Venant, UNC-Chapel Hill, Summer Math Teaching Assistant
2. Lamar Hill, NC State University, Summer Research Intern NC State FREEDM Center

Lamar Hill, NC State University, was the National Scholar for AABE in 2007 and is continuing his academic excellence in electrical engineering. He was selected as an undergraduate intern on a very competitive research project funded by the National Science Foundation. The project, FREEDM Center, is doing state-of-the-art research on smart grid, renewable energy, solid state transformers, and energy storage. See more at www.freedom.ncsu.edu/. We expect that Lamar will be invited back each summer to continue his internship for the FREEDM Center. Carl Wilkins and Pamela Hoyles work as liaisons between AABE and the current and past scholarship winners.

NC State University provided \$1,500 on behalf of AABE to Lamar Hill.

Total Scholarship Awards: (1 student, \$2,500)

Savannah Chapter

No scholarships awarded in 2009

South Carolina Chapter

1. Dale Collier, Clemson University
2. Bria Dawson, Clemson University (Bridge Program)
3. Briana Jackson, Clemson University
4. Vaughn Volious, Presbyterian College
5. Nigel Wigfall, Clemson University

Total Scholarship Awards: (5 students at \$2000 per student = \$10,000)

Tennessee Chapter

1. \$2,500 - Aynalem Ameha, Vanderbilt University, Biology and Biochemistry
2. \$1,500 - Chanrika Williams, Rhodes College, Chemistry
3. \$1,000 - Bronson A. Worthy, Vanderbilt University, Biology and Business Administration

Total Scholarship Awards: (3 students, \$5000)

Mentor assignments are pending.

e) Southwest Region

(i) Houston Chapter:

Ms. Lauryn Smith		\$2,500.00
Mr. Armaund Merchant		\$1,500.00
Mr. Ejikeme Obukwelu		\$1,000.00
Mr. Taylor Hassell		\$1,000.00

Total Scholarship award: (4 students, \$ 6,000)

f) Western Region (Southern California and Denver Chapters)

(i) Southern California Chapter:

(5) \$1000 scholarships for \$5000 as follows:

Continuing Education

Ms. Camille Davis, a 2008 award recipient who transferred in the fall from California State University – Pomona CA. to Virginia State University.

New Enrollees

Ms. Monetta Tenea, a 2008 Woodrow Wilson High School – Long Beach, CA. graduate attending California State – Long Beach.

Mr. Jameel Odom, a 2008 Damien High School – La Verne, CA graduate attending Morehouse College – Atlanta, GA.

Mr. Eduardo Soria, a 2008 Glendora High School – Glendora, CA graduate attending the University of California – Los Angeles.

Mr. Russell White, a 2008 Verbum Dei High School – Los Angeles, CA graduate attending California State University – Los Angeles.

(ii) Denver Chapter:

- **Ms. Shakari T. Grigsby (\$2,000 – *Paid to Colorado State University*)**
Computer Science Engineer, Colorado State University
- **Mr. Efrem Y. Woldu (\$2,000 – *Paid to Colorado State University*)**
Mechanical Engineering, Colorado State University

Total Scholarships awarded: (2 students, \$4,000)