



*The Official Newsletter for the
Greater Los Angeles Chapter
North Carolina A&T University
Alumni Association*



LA AGGIES

Volume 6, Winter Issue



Message from the President

Greetings on behalf of your Chapter Executive Board (CEB)! I must say that this foundation-building year started off with ups and downs. We have had executive board members changes and concerns about the management of the chapter. We have surprises around every corner and we continue to receive divine favor in our efforts. We are blessed to see the efforts of the chapter be recognized by persons new to the historically black college/university (HBCU) experience and community high school students.

Increased exposure of the chapter and university within the Greater Los Angeles Community is a reality. We have visited the Faithful Central Bible Church Takeover twice within the year, and students who have attended chapter events are sharing their experiences within their schools. Our activities have included a trip to A&T for University Day, advertising and participation in the Black College Expo, participation in the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Martin Luther King Day Breakfast, Student Gathering and Inter-Alumni Council, and information sessions at the downtown Hilton. With all of these things, the word about our chapter and our beloved university is spreading slowly but surely. Networking with churches and other community organizations is progressing, but we have a great way to go. We believe that the spread will continue at a higher rate once we have a chairman in place to focus on the public relations initiative.

We have approximately fourteen (14) chapter members. The bylaws state that chapter members are those who pay membership dues and fall into a membership class. The goal for this fiscal year is twenty (20) members, so we are only six (6) members away. This goal is achievable; therefore, we must encourage Aggies and supporters to become members of the chapter. With all of our activities and efforts, the desire to join an active and life-changing organization should be very attractive. Social events (including skating and bowling parties) have been planned and executed. Keep an eye out for more social events on our chapter calendar.

We are doing fairly well with our finances; however, we need to improve particularly with revenue. As of January 2006, the chapter revenue total is approximately \$1,420.00. The expenditure total is approximately \$1,510.00. To achieve financial stability, we must bring the chapter's revenue total higher than the expenses. Beyond operational and business spending, the chapter has sent a total of \$350.00 to the A&T Foundation Annual Giving Fund. To achieve our goal of financial stability, a Chairman of the Finance Committee has been assigned and a financial solicitation plan and effort is underway. To contribute to this effort, join the Finance Committee.

The chapter bylaws and management act are being followed and enforced by the chapter. We, the CEB, have enforced the bylaws policy that says only chapter members can

hold a position on the executive board. We had supporters that held positions on the CEB and were removed due to non-compliance with the chapter bylaws authority on chapter membership. The executive board structure proves to be effective; efficiency will be applied when we have more members step into executive and committee leadership. The chapter officers have conducted committee meetings to keep members and supports involved with the decisions of the chapter. So, the CEB is following and enforcing the direction given by the membership!

With our efficient use of chapter e-mail accounts, Post Office box, voicemail, and fax capability, the chapter communication with the national association and members is very effective. E-mails have been sent to the distribution list that contains updates regarding the university and chapter. The website has sixty-five percent (65%) more content and information than a year ago. Members, supporters, and prospects can now use the website to apply for membership, request information, and give financially to the chapter. The fall newsletter was distributed to the distribution list and will be mailed or passed out to the chapter members that request a hard-copy version. We are also in the process of creating a newsgroup so that members can send messages to each other through an internet host. The E-vite mechanism allows us to get feedback on planned event participation.

So, what is left for the fiscal year? We must continue and improve upon financial solicitation, membership recruitment and activities, program evaluations, and business efforts to set the foundation for the chapter. As the President, I am pleased with the success and efforts of those members of the chapter that share the vision and are working to see it come true. Aggie Pride month – April 2006 – is approaching and we plan to take the community by storm! God has blessed our commitment to do what is necessary for others to have an impact on the University and Los Angeles Community. Much thanks and appreciation goes out to the members who are making a difference in the chapter. I pray that God continues to bless you, your efforts, and your family. I look forward to the future and hope to see you there! AGGIE PRIDE!

Byron Simpson, Jr.

2005-2006 Chapter Executive Board and Committee Chairmen

President Byron Simpson, Jr.

North Carolina A&T State University
Class of 2001
Computer Science
Hometown: Suitland, Maryland



(206) 339 - 7730
president@losangelesaggies.com

Vice President William Smith

North Carolina A&T State University
Class of 1974
Business Administration
Hometown: Telham, North Carolina



(206) 339 - 7730
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Secretary Courtney A. Bessent

North Carolina A&T State University
Class of 2001
Electrical Engineering
Hometown: Gary, Indiana



(206) 600 - GLAC
secretary@losangelesaggies.com

Treasurer Byron Simpson, Jr.

North Carolina A&T State University
Class of 2001
Computer Science
Hometown: Suitland, Maryland



(206) 339 - TRES
treasurer@losangelesaggies.com

Chairman Fletina Smith

Community Involvement Committee
University of Redlands
Class of 2005
Business Management
Hometown: Palmdale, California



(206) 337 - COMU
community@losangelesaggies.com

Chairman Amis Nolan

Finance Committee
Dillard University
Class of 1999
Business Management
Hometown: New Orleans, Louisiana



(206) 339 - FINE
finance@losangelesaggies.com

Other positions:

Public Relations Committee Chairman - (206) 339-PUBL, publicrelations@losangelesaggies.com
Recruitment Committee Chairman - (206) 339-RECR, recruitment@losangelesaggies.com
Parliamentarian - (206) 600-GLAC, parliamentarian@losangelesaggies.com
Immediate Advisor - (206) 600-GLAC, advisor@losangelesaggies.com
Historian - (206) 600-GLAC, historian@losangelesaggies.com

Committee Spotlight

Welcome to another exciting year with the North Carolina A&T State University Alumni Association, Inc.- Greater Los Angeles Chapter! You are part of a community of students, professionals and alumni members who have demonstrated a commitment to excellence. Your initiative to explore involvement in student recruitment opportunities is an important step in maximizing the value of your membership. The purpose of the Student Recruitment committee is to develop and manage programs and activities that foster the Chapter's presence in the Greater Los Angeles community and maintain contact with prospective college-bound students. We encourage you to:

Get Connected!

- ▶ Post, read, and respond to email messages about any topic important to you in the community.
- ▶ Have meetings to connect with fellow members to plan events and to find out what is happening in your local area.

Get Involved!

As a member, you can get involved at many levels and in many different ways. Make the most of your membership by getting involved today!

- ▶ Volunteer for University Day at North Carolina A&T State University
- ▶ Participate in Mentoring and Tutoring Programs
- ▶ Participate in the Black College Fair and High School Career Days
- ▶ Identify other Opportunities within the Los Angeles community
- ▶ Create a Brand new North Carolina A&T Storyboard

Get Recognized!

It is important to the Student Recruitment Committee to recognize volunteer efforts and to nurture volunteer motivation throughout the year. Methods of informal recognition range from saying a simple "thank you" after a task is complete to a concerted effort to include volunteers in decision making.

Let's Do It Up Right!

Do you have questions about the committee or a request for participation in your community? Contact the Student Recruitment Chairperson at recruitment@losangelesaggies.com . Connect your time, talent and expertise and begin benefiting today while contributing to the future of our organization.

You Belong Here!

Los Angeles Students Attend University Day

On October 28, 2005, four students from different high schools in Los Angeles County joined Chapter President Byron Simpson, Jr. and Chairman Fletina Smith as they traveled across the country to visit North Carolina A&T for University Day. Jasmine Edwards is a senior at Quartz Hill High School in Quartz Hill; Sydnee Kennedy is a sophomore at Alexander Hamilton High School in Los Angeles; Chardonnay Johnson is a senior at John Muir High School in Pasadena; and Chanel Jackson is a senior at Blair High School in Pomona.

University Day is a day that A&T welcomes students to explore the campus, learn what possibilities are available if enrolled, and receive information on school programs, university infrastructure, and accomplishments of the school, students, and graduates. The day is filled with information fairs, campus tours, performances by student organizations, and a conference football game.



Students view the Greensboro Four memorial on the campus.

The trip started early Friday morning as some awoke to alarm clocks and others finished conversations with friends as they prepared to embark on a trip that would change their lives. The students received their tickets, kissed their parents goodbye, and made their way through the terminal and onto the airplane. They were surprised to come upon R&B singer Trey Songz, comedian and actor DeRay Davis, and hip-hop artist Fat Joe. This was one of their most memorable moments. After arriving in Greensboro Friday afternoon and checking into the hotel, they went to Golden Corral for dinner where they experienced a variety of southern foods. Then they enjoyed hours of roller skating at SkateLand USA.

The students began Saturday with breakfast at the hotel, and then it was off to Aggieland! Their first stop was the Animal Science building where the girls were greeted by animals from the A&T farm. "I was glad that I was able to meet a girl from Georgia, and we exchanged phone numbers," says Sydnee Kennedy. "They were really nice!" Sydnee plans to major in Animal Science.

The group also attended a presentation at the Business building and a program at Aggie Stadium. They watched a fashion show, step show, and performance by the A&T band and drum line. Later that night, they visited the Four Seasons Mall and attended a football game at Aggie Stadium. "They had so much pride," says Chanel Jackson. "People at my school don't have much pride, but that's not the case for A&T. Aggie Pride!" Chanel plans to study Mass Communications and Journalism.

As the day went on, the girls frequently remarked, “It’s so different here! It’s so green here! This is nothing like LA!” “I will never forget that sweet tea from the Cook Out restaurant,” says Jasmine Edwards. “I didn’t know it was going to be that good!” Jasmine plans to study in the field of Accounting.

The students attended the football game and sat with the Aggie Live Wire Organization. They participated in A&T cheers, sang the Alma Mater, and watched the A&T cheerleaders face-off against the Bethune-Cookman cheerleaders. “I liked the Aggie Live Wire Organization and was glad to meet a professor,” says Chardonnay Johnson, who plans to study in the field of Psychology.

During the game, the students had V.I.P. access to the Chancellor’s tent where they met and were greeted by the Chancellor and Provost. After the game and before heading back to the hotel, they were sure to make a stop at the Cook Out restaurant for one last taste of hushpuppies and sweet tea!

Chanel Jackson and Chardonnay Johnson will start school at A&T in the Fall. Sydnee Kennedy will attend A&T this summer for the Research Apprenticeship Program.



Sydnee, Chanel, and Chardonnay display their Aggie Pride in preparation for the football game on Saturday night.



President Simpson, Jasmine Edwards, Chairman Fletina Smith, Chardonnay Johnson, Chanel Jackson, and Sydnee Kennedy at the Greensboro Airport.

The New



Experience



On February 11, 2006, the Greater Los Angeles Chapter participated in the 2006 Black College Expo held at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The purpose of the Black College Expo is to expose African American youth to higher education and to reach those that haven't considered or been encouraged to attend college. The Expo serves as resource of information for parents and students to gain knowledge about the college admission process and additional opportunities that exist. The year's event was filled with college recruitment, workshops on financial aid and institution selection, networking, and entertainment.

The chapter set up an information booth to recruit and accept students to attend NC A&T SU. The blue and gold chapter banner and university banner were displayed to make the information booth pleasing to the eye and very inviting. Chapter member participants for the expo recruitment included President Simpson, Vice President Smith, Chairman Fletina Smith, Chairman Amis Nolan, and Ms. Shez Kennedy.

This year Ms. Wilvena McDowell (class of 2001) from the Office of Admissions joined the GLAC to recruit and offer acceptance letters in person to students that applied for admission. Ms. McDowell accepted highly qualified students from the black college expo to attend A&T. Acceptance was very competitive. The requirements for on-the-spot acceptance included a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and an SAT score of 1000 (math and verbal). President Simpson was especially pleased with the quantity and caliber of students accepted to the university.



Wilvena McDowell and Martina Chavis from the Office of Development and University Relations.

More than fifty students showed interest in the school, and parents asked questions and received information about the chapter. Additionally, the chapter-sponsored University Day trip (see previous pages) was publicized and chapter members collected contact information for students interested in attending. Three students that visited A&T during the University Day trip, Ms. Chanel Jackson, Ms. Sydnee Kennedy, and Ms. Chardonnay Johnson, were on hand to recruit students and share their experiences with visiting the school.

Though the Expo College Fair shut down early due to gun violence, the chapter continued with its goal of sharing A&T with interested students. The chapter held an information session at the Hilton Checkers Hotel in Downtown LA to present additional information about the university and chapter to interested attendees. The room was decorated with blue and gold balloons and

included recruitment materials which provided a comfortable environment. The program included introductions of chapter members, A&T chant session, Office of Admissions and University presentations, University Day interest display, and question and answer sessions.

"I am very impressed with the work of the Student Recruitment and Information Session committees," President Simpson said of the committees' effort which contributed to the day's successes. "The college fair was so organized and the information session was fun and very professional. I tip my hat to Chairman Smith and Tammy Hayes for a job well done! I'm looking forward to next year!"



I first want to start by expressing my gratitude on behalf of myself and the University for such a job of perfection displayed by the LA Alumni Chapter at the annual Black College Expo on February 11! Truly you all exemplified the attributes of what defines what we call the "Aggie Family" here at North Carolina A&T State University. Even if proximity separates the students from our campus, I am convinced and assured that their interactions and connections established by the LA Alumni Chapter will greatly surpass any campus visit they venture to endeavor here, for surely all of you made salient what it means to be an "Aggie" and you represented the university name with prestige. Your work and accomplishments, aligned with the vision of your president Mr. Byron Simpson, speak highly of your drive as active members to work together within the chapter. Until NC A&T SU is graced to visit your wonderful city again, it is my sincere hope that each of you will continue to inspire the minds of our future generation, and to spread the meaning of Aggie Pride worldwide!



*Sincerely,
Wilvena McDowell
Asst. Director of Admissions
North Carolina A&T State University
C/O 2001*

NC A&T SU AA, Inc - GLAC Curtis Figures Memorial Scholarship

On November 20, 2005, the members of the North Carolina A&T State University Alumni Association, Inc. - Greater Los Angeles Chapter voted to name the first chapter scholarship in remembrance of Mr. Curtis Figures. The scholarship is named after Curtis because of his importance to the Aggies that reside in the Los Angeles community. Mr. Figures is remembered for his love for God and his fellow man, selflessly giving his time to the community, actively supporting the chapter's efforts with donations, and exhibiting the drive to run his own business.

This scholarship will be given to the student that displays extraordinary service to the Los Angeles community and has been accepted and will attend North Carolina A&T State University. If the chapter deems appropriate, the scholarship funds for a given year may be divided between students. The scholarship is non-renewable and will be distributed annually to a different student.

The chapter accepts scholarship donations year round. If anyone would like to give to the scholarship, they may send the contribution and make payment to:

NC A&T SU AA, GLAC
P.O. Box 5234
Lancaster, CA 93539-5234

You can also give through the chapter website at <http://www.losangelesaggies.com/finance>

Change in University Leadership

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Chancellor James Carmichael Renick announced he has accepted the position of senior vice president for programs and research at the American Council on Education (ACE) in Washington, D.C., effective June 1.

Renick has served as chancellor and professor of political science at N.C. A&T since July 1999. Prior to A&T, Renick was chancellor and professor at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

In addition, Renick announced that Dr. Carolyn W. Meyers, A&T provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, was tapped today as the next president of Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Va.

For the rest of the story, visit http://www.ncat.edu/announcements/senior_leadership_transition/senior_mgmt.html

Alumni Weekend 2006

Classes ending in 1 & 6 will reunite and celebrate
"THE GOLDEN CLASS" --- Class of 1956 --- will celebrate 50 years

MAY 12-14, 2006

Registration: 12:00 Noon until 5 p.m.
Registration Fee \$70.00
On-Line Registration Available
Pride 101-102
Alumni-Foundation Event Center

Host Hotel: Downtown Greensboro Marriott
304 N. Greene St
\$92.00/night before tax (deadline for special rate is April 18)
(336) 379-8000 or (800) 228-9290 (ask for Ann Allen)
Online Reservation Code: www.marriott.com/gso dt
Scroll down to "Group code" box and enter code: ATRATRA

Alumni Association

Annual Meeting: Friday, May 12, 2006
6-10 p.m.
Pride 101-102
Alumni-Foundation Event Center

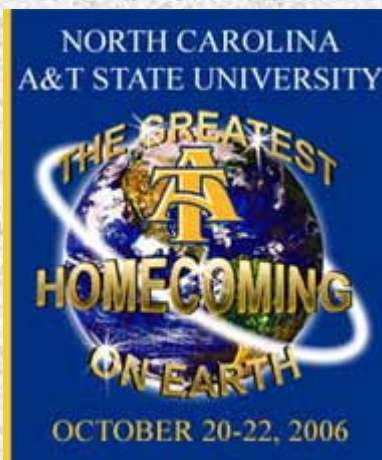
Commencement: May 13, 2006
9:00 A.M.
Greensboro Coliseum

Awards/Reunion Banquet: May 13, 2006
7:00 P.M.
Alumni-Foundation Center
Cost: TBD
Class Picture: TBD

For more information, visit: <http://www.ncat.edu/~alumni/events/newsevents.htm>



Homecoming 2006



The 2006 Homecoming date has been changed in order to meet the hotel accommodation needs of all alumni.. The new date is **October 20-22, 2006**. So, save the date!

For a list of [Partnering Hotels](#), visit:

http://www.ncat.edu/%7Ealumni/alumni_affairs/homecoming/2005/savehomecoming.html

Make your reservations early!

Ask for the 2006 A&T Homecoming rate (refer to code: ATA)

Guarantee your reservation with a credit card

Reservation deadline September 20, 2006

We look forward to seeing you for yet another one of "*The Greatest Homecomings on Earth.*"

NEWS BOX

Upcoming events for Aggie Pride Month

April 1st - Aggie Bowling Night

April 8th - Aggies Stock a Food Pantry

April 16th - Aggies go to Church at Faithful Central Bible Church

April 22nd - 25th - College Recruitment

April 29th - Party on the Rooftop

For more events, visit <http://www.losangelesaggies.com/calendar.html>
and also see the minutes from the last CEB meeting



Welcome New Members!

Dr. Arlene Joyner '73
Dr. Sylvia Braswell '69
Ms. Tyesa Harvest
Ms. Shez Kennedy
Ms. Tammy Hayes '95
Chairman Amis Nolan
Ms. Melva Clivens '01

Have you checked out the chapter website? The Executive page highlights the goals for the chapter. The membership page lists benefits of joining the chapter and provides a way for inquirers to apply online. You can also financially contribute to the chapter through the finance page. Visit <http://www.losangelesaggies.com> today!

Man sentenced in Benson club slaying of A&T linebacker shot in 2004

Rontragus Leevon Atkins, 22, of Goldsboro pleaded guilty to second-degree murder Thursday for shooting [Herbert] Dixon to death in a crowded Benson dance club in the spring of 2004. He'll spend between 16 and 20 years in prison.

Atkins and Dixon each headed to D&L Nightclub in Benson with friends the night of March 13, 2004. The two groups bickered over some girls, said Susan Doyle, Johnston County assistant district attorney. Later, as the two groups crowded onto the dance floor, Dixon accidentally bumped one of Atkins' friends. Atkins pulled a handgun from his waistband and opened fire, Doyle said. It sounded like fireworks, other club-goers later told detectives.

Dixon, who was an N.C. A&T State University linebacker home in Clinton for spring break, took a bullet through his left lung and spleen before it became lodged in his left kidney. He collapsed on the dance floor. "He was a determined young man, and he could take over a football game," Dale Johnson, a lawyer and friend of the family, told the judge. "[Atkins] snuffed out a beautiful life."

For the rest of the story, visit <http://www.newsobserver.com/102/story/401287.html>



Membership Application

Name (First and Last): _____

Title: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail address: _____

Web URL: _____

Preferred method(s) of contact (check all that apply):

- Phone
 Email
 Mailing Address

School attended if you didn't attend A & T: _____

Major of Study: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

With which committee would you be interested in participating?

- Community Involvement
 Finance
 Membership Recruitment
 Public Relations

The Finance Committee shall plan, promote, solicit, and execute programs for generating funds for Chapter operations and giving.

The Public Relations Committee shall keep the Greater Los Angeles community informed of and assist with pertinent Chapter programs and activities.

The Community Involvement Committee shall develop and manage programs and activities that foster the Chapter's presence in the community.

The Student Recruitment Committee shall develop recruitment strategies and opportunities designed to enroll students and recruit chapter members.

Benefits According to Membership Level	Basic	Blue	Gold
General information e-mails or mail-outs	*	*	*
Financial Contribution to the A&T Annual Giving Fund	*	*	*
Committee Membership	*	*	*
Newsletters	*	*	*
Special event notices		*	*
URL/Homepage listing on website		*	*
Advertise business/organization in newsletter		*	*
Advertise business on the web site		*	*
Discounts on chapter activities			*
Special gifts of appreciation			*
	\$50.00	\$100.00	\$150.00

Choose one level: _____

Note: A \$10.00 joining fee must be added to the membership level payment if you haven't consistently paid membership dues for within three (3) consecutive years.

Credit/Debit Card Payment: Debit Cards (also called check cards, ATM cards or banking cards) are accepted if they have a Visa or MasterCard logo. A transaction fee of no more than \$5.00 may be added to your payment. Your bank account information is necessary to ensure that it matches the transaction information for this item. Must include all information requested below.

Name (as printed on the card): _____

Payment Method: MasterCard Visa American Express Discover

Card Number: _____ Expiration Month: _____ Year: _____

Card Holder Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

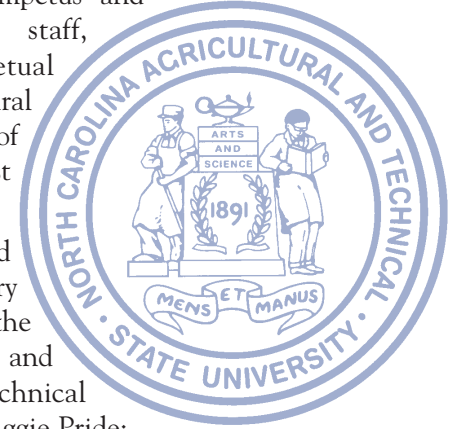
Card Holder Signature: _____ Date: _____

Check Payment: Please have the payment amount include the joining fee if applicable.
Make check payable to NC A&T SU Alumni Association, Inc., GLAC
Include the membership level in the memo section.

Please send payment and application to: Attention: Chairman of the Membership Committee
NC A&T SU Alumni Association, Inc. – GLAC
P.O. Box 5234
Lancaster, CA 93539 - 5234

Aggie Pride Compact

The essence of Aggie Pride is manifested in standards depicting what it truly means to be a responsible member of The North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Family. These standards provide the impetus and inspiration, which motivate students, faculty, staff, administrators, and trustees alike in their perpetual commitment to excellence. North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University has a unique legacy of nurturing individual students to realize their fullest potential.



North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is a learner-centered community that develops and preserves intellectual capital through interdisciplinary learning, discovery, engagement, and operational excellence. As members of the university community, all stakeholders share a pervasive sense of trust, pride, and allegiance in ensuring the preeminent status of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in a global society. The following standards define the essence of Aggie Pride:

A chieving	Aggie Pride is consistently communicating and behaving in a manner that displays integrity, honesty, sound character, and virtuous ethics.	<i>Values</i>
G reat G oals	Aggie Pride is expecting and achieving success and setting high standards in all personal and professional ventures.	<i>Achievement</i>
I n E verything	Aggie Pride is taking a personal stand to positively affect the continuous growth, development and enhancement of the University at large.	<i>Commitment</i>
P roducing R enowned I ndividuals	Aggie Pride is accepting and demonstrating a steadfast commitment to learning by taking responsibility through personal and professional development.	<i>Self-determination</i>
D edicated to E xcellence	Aggie Pride is striving to significantly influence the development of individuals of all ages within and beyond our community to become lifelong learners.	<i>Lifelong Learning</i>
	Aggie Pride is exhibiting a positive and willing attitude to unselfishly serve and to pledge ones talents and gifts for the betterment of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and the larger world community.	<i>Service</i>
	Aggie Pride is contributing to the establishment and maintenance of a safe, clean, and aesthetically appealing campus with a favorable ecosystem.	<i>Building Community</i>
	Aggie Pride is exhibiting a relentless desire and commitment to treat all individuals with a high level of appreciation and respect and to expect the same in return.	<i>Respect</i>
	Aggie Pride is effectively representing the University by utilizing personal knowledge, skills, and resources.	<i>Confidence</i>
	Aggie Pride builds on the past, maintains the present, and accepts the challenges of the future while providing our personal financial resources to preserve our legacy and ensure our future.	<i>Legacy</i>

Therefore, as a member of the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University family, I unconditionally accept the obligation entrusted to me to live my life according to the standards set forth in this Compact. By my words and actions, I commit to Aggie Pride and the pursuit of excellence for myself and for my university.