

## GRADUATE PANELIST



***TIMOTHY C. JONES***

Timothy C. Jones, a native of Shannon, North Carolina, received his diploma from St. Pauls High School in St. Pauls, North Carolina in June 1992. Subsequently, he completed a pre-engineering program at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke transferring to North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in 1996. Timothy received a B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from A&T in May 1999.

As a student, Timothy was active in several clubs and organizations including the American Indian Science and Engineering Society, the Native American National Honor Society, and the Tau Beta Pi Honor Society. He achieved recognition at UNC-P on the Chancellor's List, and was on the Dean's List each semester while enrolled at North Carolina A&T. As an undergraduate, Timothy was the recipient of many awards and honors such as the Outstanding Pre-Engineering Student Award, Native American Incentive Scholarship, Nuclear Energy Scholarship, A.T. Anderson Memorial Scholarship, 3-M Academic Scholarship, and most notably, he received the Quality Education for Minorities Award for Excellence in Engineering presented at the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual National QEM Conference in Washington, DC.

Timothy was an outstanding tutor in Calculus II, and volunteered many hours as a student guide for the Greensboro Area Mathematics and Science Education Center, and as an algebra and physics tutor at the Guilford Native American Association. In addition, from 1991 to 1998, he was a member of the North Carolina National Guard serving in the 1<sup>st</sup> /252<sup>nd</sup> Armored Infantry Brigade and 105<sup>th</sup> Combat Engineering Battalion.

After graduating from NC A&T State University in May 1999, Timothy was accepted into the One Year on Campus Program (OYOC) at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Before beginning the OYOC Program, he worked for Sandia as a mechanical engineer for 9 months performing finite element analyses for the Solid Mechanics Department. During this time, he was a member of the American Indian Outreach Committee and a volunteer for the Dream Catchers Science Program.

In January 2000, Timothy enrolled at Duke University under the OYOC Program and received his M.S. degree in civil engineering in December 2000. His thesis was titled, "**A Study of Stability and Accuracy of HHT- $\alpha$  and Energy-Momentum Methods in Nonlinear Elastodynamics.**" Presently, Timothy is employed at Sandia National Laboratories in the Solid Mechanics Engineering Department as a finite element analyst. He continues to serve as a member of the American Indian Outreach Committee and as a member of the New Mexico American Indian Science and Engineering Society (ASIES) Professional Chapter.

Timothy plans to earn a Ph.D. degree and develop enrichment programs in mathematics and science in his home county to increase the ability of high school graduates to be competitive academically on a national level in SMET disciplines. Timothy and his wife, Tangela have a son Donavon and expect arrival of a second child this summer.



**STACIE HILL**

Stacie Hill is a native of Washington, DC. In 1992, she received her diploma from Woodrow Wilson Senior High School, with the noted distinction by her peers as "*Most Likely to Succeed.*" Her classmates also acclaimed her "*Best Personality.*" During high school, Stacie was recognized for her scholastic achievement, strong leadership ability, and exemplary involvement in several organizations. While in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, she was elected to serve as Student Government President. Subsequently, during her senior year, Stacie led her high school's "Odyssey of the Mind" to the city-wide championship. In addition, she was an active participant on BET's "Teen Summit."

After receiving her diploma, Stacie journeyed to Greensboro to become a North Carolina A&T State University "Aggie." As a freshman, she was selected to represent the NC-LSAMP Program (then NCAMP), in the summer internship program sponsored by the Alabama Alliance for Minority Participation Program. While engaged in this program, Stacie was first place winner in the engineering category for the faculty-mentored research competition involving students from eight Alliances.

Upon returning to the A&T campus, Stacie was designated a Chancellor's Scholar. She was also a voice personality on the university radio station's (WNAA) "The Ear to Ear War," Aggie Ambassador, Miss Freshman, and a NASA-CAR scholarship recipient. In addition, she served as editor for *The National Alliance of NASA University Research Centers' First National Student Conference.*

In 1996, Stacie earned the B.S. degree in mechanical engineering. Presently, she is a candidate for the M.S. degree in industrial engineering, also at A&T, with a specialty in engineering management systems. As a graduate student, Stacie was engaged in research at NASA headquarters working on the International Space Station. She expects to receive the M.S. degree in December 2001.

Stacie became a high school teacher of mathematics in 2000 while residing in Durham, North Carolina. Her strong love for children resulted in Stacie's becoming a foster parent. Currently residing in Charlotte, North Carolina, Stacie is now married with three children of her own.

As a long-term goal, Stacie plans to earn a Ph.D. degree in education. Her aspiration is to create a math tool kit geared for children and their parents, which will supplement learning for grades pre-K through 12.

## GRADUATE PANELIST



***SHREE Y. WHITAKER***

Dr. Shree Whitaker received her B.S. and M.S. in mathematics from Clark Atlanta University in 1995 while on a five-year scholarship program funded by the Office of Naval Research (ONR). As a Department of Defense Fellow, she entered North Carolina State University and in December of 2000 earned a Ph.D. in applied mathematics with a concentration in computational mathematics. Shree is now a postdoctoral fellow at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) in Research Triangle Park, NC. Her primary research area is the application of mathematical modeling and computational mathematics. She develops systems of mathematical equations that can be used to describe and predict biological processes.

In addition to being a mathematician, Dr. Whitaker is also a proactive leader in her workplace and community. She is the co-chair of the NIEHS Trainees Assembly (NTA) Fourth Annual Biomedical Science and Career Fair which attracts 300 graduate and postdoctoral students and over 20 company representatives from the Research Triangle Park. She is also the co-director of the first annual "Feet for the Fight: 2001 Association for the Concerns of African American Graduate Students (ACAAGS) Run to End Prostate Cancer". The upcoming race will be the debut 5K in the nation for raising prostate cancer awareness. Recently, Dr. Whitaker was also appointed to the board of directors for the Phillips Foundation. This public charity organization is dedicated to the community with the mission of providing assistance to those with circumstances that would otherwise hinder attainment of their educational goals. Dr. Whitaker enjoys working with youth in the community who are interested in learning about mathematics. She has worked with numerous outreach programs and was involved at all levels from program coordinator to volunteer. Each program had the purpose of attracting and retaining members from underrepresented populations into the fields of mathematics and science.

Dr. Whitaker enjoys various outdoor activities and reading the biographies of African Americans. She works diligently to empower young brothers and sisters in the community by emphasizing the importance of education and by serving as a role model.



## GRADUATE PANELIST



### ***RASHIDA M. SHIVERS***

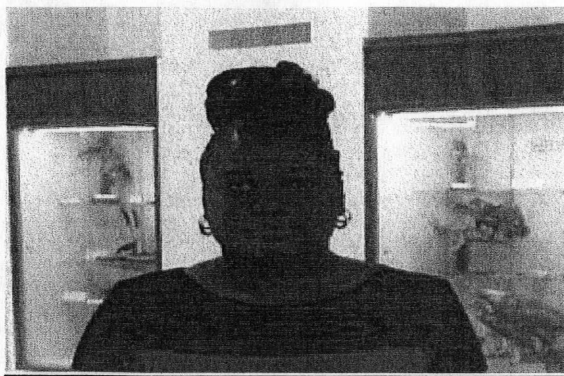
Rashida M. Shivers is a native of Shelby, North Carolina, received her diploma from Crest High School in Boiling Springs, North Carolina in May 1996. As a Chancellor's Scholar, she pursued and received a B.S. degree in biology from Fayetteville State University in May 2000, graduating *cum laude*.

Throughout her academic career, Rashida has been a very active and involved student on campus as well as in the community. She has been affiliated with several clubs and organizations including the Fayetteville State Science Club, serving as treasurer; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., serving as vice-president; and the North Carolina-Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (NC-LSAMP) program, where she was a participant and later served as a biology tutor. Rashida also served as a peer mentor for the freshman class and was an active member of the Fayetteville State Chapter of the NAACP. In addition, she was a member of two honor societies: Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, where serving as treasurer, and Beta Kappa Chi Honor Society. In the community, Rashida has volunteered many hours to the Fayetteville VA Medical Hospital pharmacy and to Margaret Willis Elementary School participating in the "Reading One-on-One" reading and tutoring program.

Rashida is the recipient of several awards. These consist of Who's Who Among America's College Students, and the Fayetteville State University College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Award, which she received for two consecutive years. Rashida represented the NC-LSAMP at the national LSAMP conference in Fort Collins, Colorado in 2000 and winning second for the poster competition in the biology poster session. She achieved recognition on both the Fayetteville State University Dean's list and the National Dean's list for academic achievement throughout her undergraduate career.

Currently, Rashida is pursuing a M.S. degree in biology at Fayetteville State University. She is also engaged in an independent research project in Molecular Genetics, funded by the Minority Biomedical Research Program. Recently, she received a graduate student travel award from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology to attend and present her research at the Experimental Biology 2001 Conference in Orlando, FL. Rashida is a Thurgood Marshall Scholar and co-advisor to student, the Fayetteville State Science Club. Subsequent to completion of the M.S. degree, Rashida plans to publish her research and pursue either a doctoral or medical degree.

## GRADUATE PANELIST



### **JENORA TURNER-WATERMAN**

Jenora Waterman, a native of Los Angeles, California, received her diploma from Davis Starr Jordan High School in Los Angeles, California in June of 1993. As a United Negro College Fund (UNCF) Scholar, she pursued and obtained a B.S. degree in Biology from Bennett College in Greensboro, North Carolina in May 1997, graduating *magna cum laude*.

While at Bennett College, Mrs. Waterman was active in many social and honor organizations. Throughout her matriculation, she achieved recognition on the Bennett College Dean's List and Honor Roll. She was also Junior class Vice-President, yearbook editor, and a member of the Residence Council, Biology Club, and National Americorps. In addition, Mrs. Waterman provided tutorial services in general and organic chemistry, and in human physiology. Also, she was a member of several honor societies such as Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society, Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society, and National Dean's List. Mrs. Waterman received the National Collegiate Scientific Association Award, and was recognized in Who's Who Among America's College Students and as an All-American Scholar.

In the community, Mrs. Waterman has been an avid volunteer for the Boys and Girls Club of Greensboro, NC. She was an instructor in the NASA Summer Science Institute at Bennett College, which offered intense mathematical and biological courses to high school students. She is also a member of the World Wildlife Foundation. Following graduation from Bennett College, Mrs. Waterman taught biology and physical science at Page High School in Greensboro, NC.

Currently, Mrs. Waterman is a candidate for the M.S. degree in biology at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. Conferral of this degree is anticipated on May 12, 2001. She is an active member of several honor societies and professional organizations, including Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, Beta Kappa Chi Scientific Honor Society, North Carolina Academy of Science, American Association of Veterinary Immunologist, and American Dairy Science Association. Her Career goals are to obtain the Ph.D. degree in Genomic Sciences and join the professoriate.

## GRADUATE PANELIST



***MICHAEL KING***

Michael C. King earned the B.S. and M.S. degrees in electrical engineering from North Carolina A&T State University in 1994 and 1997 respectively. Since his freshman year, Michael has been a research assistant in the Machine Intelligence and Power Associated Research Laboratory. His early exposure to research promoted development of professional publications in the area of machine intelligence and soft computing, with the first publication completed as a sophomore in college.

In 1992, Michael was one of 14 students selected from a national pool of applicants to participate in the National Science Foundation's Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program at Duke University. Following a successful summer at Duke, he was invited to join the Program in 1993. Moreover, he took advantage of a unique opportunity in 1994, when encouraged to write a proposal thereby extending his REU research for a third summer. During the third year, Michael was awarded a highly competitive position as a researcher for Duke's Engineering Research Center (ERC) for Emerging Cardiovascular Technologies. This proposal entitled, "The Development of an Interactive Simulation Tool to Study Cardiac Dynamics," was the first student project funded by the supercomputing division of the Microelectronics Center of North Carolina (MCNC), an industrial affiliate of the NSF/ERC. This summer project facilitated Michael's recruitment to work at MCNC as a visualization specialist. During his employment with MCNC, Michael worked on various projects related to high performance computing and communications, visualization of large-scale volumetric data, and virtual reality.

Currently, Michael is a Ronald E. McNair Fellow completing his Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering at A&T. In addition, he serves as a part-time faculty member at Shaw University CAPE in High Point, North Carolina. He is also a consultant on projects in the areas of network security and information technology.

Besides his excellence as a role model, Michael is an inspiration to young people and a mentor and friend to the many students who benefit from his exceptional skills as a teacher. Furthermore, Michael is particularly admired by those who have had the good fortune to work with him and capture the enthusiasm and knowledge that this exceptional young man brings to life and the electrical engineering discipline.