I am truly honored to be named as the fifth President of Bishop State Community College. While serving the College for the past two years as the Acting President, I quickly aligned myself with the Executive Council to lead the institution in becoming one of the premier colleges in the Alabama Community College System. Our vision is to be a comprehensive learning institution that equips students with the skills, knowledge, and abilities to achieve real world success. I have joined forces with various educators, community leaders, and those in business and industry to ensure that Bishop State continues to offer programs and services that will attract students in our service areas.

My message to our students is to enjoy the college experience. Share with your friends and family members why you chose Bishop State Community College, and thus, you will be serving as a recruiter for the College. In addition to your hard work in the classroom, I encourage you to take advantage of student life activities. These activities will help strengthen your leadership skills, build character, foster self-confidence and much more. I thank you for making Bishop State your college of choice. Wherever you go in life, you can get there from Bishop State Community College – your Community College.

-Dr. Reginald Sykes, President
GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

Welcome to the Division of Student Development Services. On behalf of the entire staff, I invite you to take a few minutes to explore this edition of the Student Development Newsletter and discover the many outstanding co-curricular activities and experiences that are offered at Bishop State Community College. The upcoming year promises to be a time of growth for our students and the beginning of an exciting new chapter for each of them. At Bishop State, we are proud of our students, our distinguished faculty, and our dedicated staff, who serve the campus and create its vibrancy. We are responsive to student expectations. We are equally committed to ensuring opportunities for our students to develop skills in leadership, teamwork, and social responsibility to prepare them for their future roles in society. Our mission informs our daily interactions with students to ensure that their experience is one that maximizes student success. Why – Because WE CARE!

Additionally, our staff works in partnership with the faculty and other administrators to create a learning-centered culture that encourages student development and growth. We are just one of the many reasons why students have made Bishop State Community College their college of choice.

“BECAUSE WE CARE”
GET ON BOARD

The College kicked off the 2016-2017 academic year with “Get On Board.” This was an opportunity for all Bishop State students to get involved in campus life activities. On Thursday, October 20, student clubs and organizations gathered on all four campuses to showcase their activities and encourage students to join their organization. The Main Campus featured a health and wellness fair as part of their activities. The Baker-Gaines Central Campus featured a fall festival theme. The Carver Campus theme was centered on a cookout and was led by the Culinary Arts Department of Bishop State. Several vendors were invited as part of the event held on the Southwest Campus. This was a great opportunity for the college community to get involved with good food, friends, and fun.

FALL IN LOVE WITH QEP

The “Fall in Love with QEP” activity was implemented on February 6-15, 2017 to re-introduce the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) to students, faculty, and staff. The activity included a raffle of a Valentine’s Day basket filled with sweet treats and QEP promotional items (t-shirt, pens, pencils, flash drive, and water bottle) designed to highlight QEP. The names of students who answered a short questionnaire regarding Orientation 101 (ORI-101) were entered in the drawing. The winner of the gift basket was announced at the halftime of the Bishop State Homecoming basketball game.

In addition to the raffle, faculty and staff on each campus were given a Valentine’s Day basket by the QEP team as a small token of appreciation for their support of the QEP.

WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE DONATION

On February 1, 2017, staff and student members travelled to William Carey College - Hattiesburg Campus, to deliver items donated by the Bishop State family following the tornado that devastated the college community. The Bishop State bus was filled with cases of water, boxes of non-perishable food items, paper goods, and cleaning supplies for the storm-ravaged community. Special thanks to Brad Wallace and the Truck Driving Department in helping to coordinate the logistics of the trip.
There is nothing like being a Wildcat Ambassador at Bishop State Community College. It is an exciting opportunity to get involved and develop character, discipline, self-confidence, and much more. As Wildcat Ambassadors, students serve the College in a variety of capacities and are recognized for their leadership and service. Student participants receive a one hour credit and a partial scholarship in return for their time and dedication to the support and development of college-wide programs and services.

In observance of Black History Month, the Division of Student Development Services held a series of events of cultural significance from Tuesday, February 21 - Thursday, February 23, 2017. On Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2017, “A Tribute to Black History through Food, Music & Art” was presented in the Student Life Conference Complex. On Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2017, “A Tribute to Black History through Gospel Music” was presented by a trio of vocalists, including Dr. Terry Hazzard, Sonia Daniels, and Yvonne Matthews. On Thursday, February 23, 2017, a college-wide program was held with Mr. Davis Thomas, former instructor in the Division of Social Sciences, providing the keynote speech. The program was educational and well attended.

During the month of February 2017, the Alabama Deans of Students Association gathered in Mobile to prepare for the Alabama Community College Association Conference. During a major ACCA Retreat, the deans visited Bishop State and attended a basketball game. It was a first time for many on the campus of the College and in the Den of the Wildcats.

On Tuesday, February 21, members in the Division of Student Development Services were recognized by our then-Acting President, Dr. Reginald Sykes, for their many years of service to Bishop State Community College. The staff was honored and humbled by the presentation as it was a first, for most, specifying the number of years of service.
MAGMA
CORONATION

On Sunday, February 26, 2017, the Bishop State Community College Royal Court participated in the Mobile Area Mardi Gras Association 78th Royal Coronation of Queen Katherine Ashely Smith, a Bishop State Graduate, by King Elexis I Olabode O. Anise, II. At the conclusion of the elaborate coronation presentation, local royalty and courts were presented to salute the newly-minted royalty. Miss and Mr. Bishop State, Alexis Smiley and Kristian Payton, led the full court in their walk amid much fanfare. Bishop State was well represented.

BISHOP STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE HOSTS STEM WARS

STEM WARS is the 2017 statewide transition program for high school students who are blind or visually impaired in 8th-12th grades. This was the first time the College has ever had the opportunity to host such an outstanding event. The focus was on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). It introduced students to a wide variety of STEM careers involving a range of educational requirements. The purpose was to increase interest in STEM careers among these students. Participants had an awesome time.
WILDCAT PROWL

The inaugural Wildcat Prowl was held on Saturday, June 17, 2017, in the Fredricka G. Evans Cultural Centre on our Main Campus. Over 250 faculty, staff, and prospective students participated in the event.

Bishop State staff from the Offices of Admission and Financial Aid were on site to answer questions concerning the enrollment process and financial aid. Accepted applicants were permitted to take the Accuplacer in the Learning Assistance Center. The Enrollment Management Team plans to make this an annual event.

ALABAMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM DAY

On Thursday, April 6, 2017, the College was well represented in Montgomery for Alabama Community College System Day. Students, faculty, and staff participated in this special event to show their support of the Alabama Community College System. Tours and updates were provided. Bishop State was also represented with a student speaker, Alexis Scott, who did an amazing job. Kudos to Yvonne Foster, Cynthia O’Neal, and Symetha McDonald, who helped make the trip a grand success and did a wonderful job planning and coordinating our tent presentation. From the interesting academic display to “holding the tent legs against the strong winds,” thank you for your team efforts.
The annual pageant to select Mr. and Miss Bishop State Community College was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, in the Oliver H. Delchamps Student Life Conference Complex Theater. Six beautiful ladies were contestants for Miss Bishop State. They included Ashley Burrell, Marie Grace Camonias, Maiya Parker, Jasmine Steele, Jasalyn Thompson, and Deja Young. The two contestants for Mr. Bishop State Community College were Alvin Dailey, III, and Arnold G. Durham. Following weeks of rehearsals and preparation, four local judges selected Deja Young and Alvin Dailey, III, as Mr. and Miss Bishop State Community College for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The talent winners were also Deja Young who entertained with a dance tribute, and Alvin Dailey, III, who performed a thrilling drumline routine. Miss Jasalyn Thompson was chosen as first runner-up to Miss Bishop State and Miss Maiya Parker was chosen as the second runner-up. Mr. Arnold G. Durham was selected as the runner up to Mr. Bishop State Community College. While all the contestants will remain thoroughly immersed in campus life as members of the royal court, Mr. and Miss Bishop State Community College will receive a scholarship to cover tuition and fees. All of the court will participate as members of the Student Government Association and will act as diplomats for the college.

### MR. & MISS BISHOP STATE PAGEANT

The annual pageant to select Mr. and Miss Bishop State Community College was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017, in the Oliver H. Delchamps Student Life Conference Complex Theater. Six beautiful ladies were contestants for Miss Bishop State. They included Ashley Burrell, Marie Grace Camonias, Maiya Parker, Jasmine Steele, Jasalyn Thompson, and Deja Young. The two contestants for Mr. Bishop State Community College were Alvin Dailey, III, and Arnold G. Durham. Following weeks of rehearsals and preparation, four local judges selected Deja Young and Alvin Dailey, III, as Mr. and Miss Bishop State Community College for the 2017-2018 academic year.

The talent winners were also Deja Young who entertained with a dance tribute, and Alvin Dailey, III, who performed a thrilling drumline routine. Miss Jasalyn Thompson was chosen as first runner-up to Miss Bishop State and Miss Maiya Parker was chosen as the second runner-up. Mr. Arnold G. Durham was selected as the runner up to Mr. Bishop State Community College. While all the contestants will remain thoroughly immersed in campus life as members of the royal court, Mr. and Miss Bishop State Community College will receive a scholarship to cover tuition and fees. All of the court will participate as members of the Student Government Association and will act as diplomats for the college.

### ADMISSIONS OFFICE MAKES PROGRESS

The Office of Admissions and Records had an exciting year. Additional staff was hired to serve the needs of students. Staff members include: LaTanya Council, Carver Campus; Kyana King, Main Campus; Donjoli Rowser, Main Campus; and Marsie Winston, Southwest Campus.

During the 2017 spring semester, the Admissions staff joined forces with the recruitment staff to take college services to potential applicants in high school students in various locations.

Acceptance letters were presented “on the spot” to students who completed the admissions process. The staff visited Alma Bryant, Mary G. Montgomery, Baker, Citronelle, and Satsuma high schools.

Thanks to the technological advancement at the College, the office launched its new selection of online eForms currently available on the College’s website. No longer will students and alumni have to come to the Admissions office to fax in paper forms. The forms currently available online are the Certification of Eligibility for In-State Residency, Change of Major Form, eWithdrawal Form, Transcript Request Form, and the Enrollment Verification Form. Please visit our website at www.bishop.edu to locate the forms. Click on the Admissions tab at the top of the page and select “Admissions & Records eForms.”
The Coronation of Miss Bishop State Community College was held on Thursday, November 10, 2016. This royal event is considered to be the one cultural event that is hosted by the College for the student body and the community. Miss Alexis Smiley, a graduate of S.S. Murphy High School, reigned as the College Queen. She was escorted by Mr. Bishop State, Kristian Payton, a graduate of C.F. Vigor High School. This royal event is a formal affair for the participants. As a recruitment channel, area high school kings and queens are invited to represent their respective schools by offering a salute to the newly crowned Bishop State royalty. Former royalty and student leaders from Bishop State Community College are also invited to return for this event in support of their alma mater. Potential students and community members are provided an opportunity to observe student activities and opportunities available at Bishop State Community College.
The first reception honoring students enrolled in the College’s Dual Enrollment Program was held on April 18, 2017. Forty (40) high school students and their families attended this event. The students received certificates of recognition for their participation. This reception was used for a recruitment event and an opportunity for parents to ask questions about the College and its programs. Students enrolled in the program earned college credit while still in high school which placed them closer to college completion at the college of their choice.

SPRING 2017 INDUCTION CEREMONY

The Alpha Epsilon Nu Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted thirty new members during the induction ceremony held on April 27, 2017. These new inductees who were welcomed to our honor society group included: Debra Baldwin, Aniya Bettis, Monique Brooks, Kyle Brown, Kristen Campbell, Kelsey Causey, Candace Coleman, Angel Cox, Dianka Crenshaw, Ashley Davis, Tawana Edwards, Rosalyn Jackson, Gamel James-Dixon, Courtney Johnson, Eboney King, Paul Lopez, Victoria Mai, Andrew McDuffie, Kayla McMillian, Farbie Moye, Emily Neeb, Keith Nelson, Marcy Patterson, Shalesis Penn, Quinetta Petite, KaSara Rambo, Joan Sanders, Adrezia Simon, Kourtlyn Smith, Amanda Sullivan, Ra-Amon Ta-Neter II, Thearthur Thames, Joseph Tompkins, Michael Vaughn Sr., Ivey Van Voast, Peggy-Danielle Walton, and Rosalind Williams.

SGA ELECTIONS

The Student Government Association plays an instrumental and awesome role in promoting college life activities during the academic year. It serves as a representation for all Bishop State students and their collective interests. SGA promotes the cultural, education, and social needs of the entire campus community. It works closely with the college administration and staff to ensure that the voice of the student body is heard.

After a week of strong campaigning on all campuses elections were held on April 27. Danielle Walton was elected president; Lorraine Yates, vice president; and Marie Grace Camonias, secretary. These students will lead the way in student activities and opportunities for service and in other capacities around the College. Recognized as the voice for students, the SGA strives for excellence and works to keep students in the center of college life by creating both an academic and social environment on the four Bishop campuses that can be enjoyed by all.

DUAL ENROLLMENT RECEPTION
Bishop State Community College held its first Signing Day Ceremony on Monday, May 8, 2017, at 2:00 pm on the Main Campus. The event was held to honor student athletes that excelled in the classroom, on the basketball court, and on the baseball field. The students received scholarships to further their athletic careers and education at four year colleges and universities. Bishop State had a total of eight athletes this year that signed and committed to attend a particular institution.

During the Signing Day event, three baseball players and one basketball player were recognized. Turner Imhoff who plays baseball will be attending the University of Mobile on an athletic scholarship. James Rowland, another baseball player, signed an academic scholarship to attend the University of South Alabama. Brandon McCleod will be attending Keiser University on an athletic scholarship. Tony-Toni Wright committed to play basketball for the University of Mobile on an athletic scholarship. Bishop State is proud of the accomplishments these students made both in and out of the classroom during their time at the college.

KEFLYN X. REED HONORS DAY CONVOCATION

The Keflyn X. Reed Honors Day Convocation was held on Tuesday, May 2, 2017. The Convocation is named in memory of Dr. Keflyn X. Reed who served the College in numerous capacities from September 1, 1984, until his death in December 2010. The Convocation is a special and exciting time of the year. It provides an opportunity to acknowledge students who have excelled in academic areas, technical programs, and extracurricular activities. In addition to these awards, presentations were made to students who were selected for inclusion in Who's Who among students in American Colleges and Universities and the National Technical Honor society. Presentations were also made to a number of students who received scholarships to attend universities throughout the region.

ATHLETICS

Bishop State Community College held its first Signing Day Ceremony on Monday, May 8, 2017, at 2:00 pm on the Main Campus.

The event was held to honor student athletes that excelled in the classroom, on the basketball court, and on the baseball field. The students received scholarships to further their athletic careers and education at four year colleges and universities. Bishop State had a total of eight athletes this year that signed and committed to attend a particular institution.
The 2017 spring commencement was held on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at the Mobile Civic Center Auditorium. Approximately 450 students received various certificates, awards, and degrees. The commencement address was provided by Cynthia Tucker Haynes, Pulitzer Prize winning columnist. Others receiving outstanding recognition included the recipient of the President’s Outstanding Student Award, Abby Jett, and the recipient of the Green-Knight Technical Award of Excellence, Tiffany Jackson. We were also honored to present to the Class of 1967 their 50th Year Golden Diploma from Bishop State Community College.

SPRING FLING

Bishop State hosted a Spring Fling celebration to allow students to unwind prior to finals. Spring Fling was a multi-sport production for 2017. The day began with a faculty/staff vs. student basketball competition in the Fredericka G. Evans Cultural Centre on the Main Campus. The students narrowly escaped with a win over the faculty/staff team. Students from all campuses travelled via the Wildcat Bus to the Southwest Campus to cheer on the Wildcat Baseball Team for a doubleheader versus Enterprise State Community College. There was plenty of food, fun, and games for all attendees.
BOOKSTORE

The Wildcat spirit is stronger than ever at your campus bookstore. With a full lineup of all the course materials options at Bishop State and a great assortment of Wildcat gear and supplies, the campus store is the perfect destination for students and alumni.

Front and center for us is the task to make your education experience more affordable and more successful. This is why we offer the widest range of options at the store that help combat the high cost of course materials. From new editions to used textbooks, digital courseware and rental options, you’ll find lots of ways to gather the course materials you need, in whatever format you need, and at the best possible prices. For example, our rental program saves up to 80% of the retail price of a new textbook, and we offer our Price Match program should you find a lower price locally or online at Amazon or Barnes & Noble.

We’re working with other campus partners as well to help drive down costs, including faculty to encourage savings through early adoptions, publishers to deliver savings through digital programs and with technologies that streamline access and offer more affordable choices.

In store or online, you’ll also find a great selection of supplies to support courses and programs at Bishop State. This year we’ve expanded supplies and material choices to include the nursing, culinary, cosmetology and welding programs.

Of course, if it’s Wildcat spirit wear or gifts you crave, the campus store is the place for you. From authentic Bishop State hoodies, T-shirts and hats to dorm stuff, computers, and all sorts of supplies, you’re sure to find it here.

Our store team is excited to serve the Wildcat campus community! Stop on by … we’re looking forward to seeing you.

STAFF NEWS

Maynard Odom retires after 32 Years of service as Enrollment Manager and Advisor to International Students. Congratulations!

Carol Thompson Retired in 2015 after 29 years of service as Counselor on our Southwest Campus. Congratulations!

Nondiscriminatory Statement

The Alabama State Board of Education, through the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education, proclaims nondiscriminatory practices in Alabama two-year institutions under the jurisdiction of the Alabama State Board of Education.

It is official policy of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education and Bishop State Community College that no persons shall, on the basis of race, color, disability, sex, religion, creed, national origin, or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or employment.