

Dr. Howard-Hill Precious Memories as Second Mom, Mentor and Advocate



As Second Mom & Auntie Jean



I was asked if I was afraid to interact in the streets or have black young men come to my home. My answer was, "As a black woman, the day I am afraid of my own black sons, is the day I cease to be a BLACK WOMAN!"

It is my experience, now for over 30 years that black young men need a strong, loving and caring motherly

image, equally as much as they need a strong, stable and caring male figure in their lives. Both are important. However, "sons" seem to love and interact more with the "motherly image"

As a Second Mom or Auntie Jean to so many young men and youth throughout the United States, I feel tremendously blessed.

Let no one fool you! Even the worse individual can be turned around with love, time spent with them, discipline and direction, and the belief that they have value and worth.

I share with you a few of "my" MANY, MANY sons and daughters, and I am so very proud to have them consider me as their Second Mom and Auntie Jean. Not one of them have I lost to the streets,

the or prison. For this I am grateful.

As I was going through literally thousands of photos taken over the years, it brought back such treasured moments as I think of those precious times when "my" sons and "my" daughters came over just because they were in the neighborhood or came to eat!

Or when especially "my sons" brought their girlfriends over for me to meet and give the nod.

Or when they stopped by to see if I needed help with anything. And of course, I put them to work!



But they knew if they worked or even stayed longer than 10 minutes, I would surely get in the kitchen and cook whatever they wanted to eat - from scratch of course. I have them spoiled to southern homemade food - eat in and carry out!

I look back and wonder how on earth did I feed them all! But I did, and each dish, I cooked it with pure love!



My sons especially could eat me out of a house and a home! But there always was plenty of food for EVERYONE!

Each of them had their favorite dishes - which meant cooking for an ARMY! But I loved each moment of it!



But after cooking and grilling all day, the poor cook looks a "hot mess"!

Everything all done. And now it is time for "MY SONS", the DEVOURERS to eat! Hopefully something will be left for "MY DAUGHTERS"!





T.J. was ALWAYS leading the pack, with his version of a "carry-out" box - starting first with 2 slabs of ribs!





*... and when the food is ready,
they hit EVERYONE else up, to come
on over! Dr. Hill cooked!*



Now this is what a REAL carry-out box should look like!!!



T.J in the frig!!! Cleaning it out!!!



My Wonderful Sons!



Even their Lil Brothers come.



“Dr. Hill, this is sooooo GOOD!”



I ate so much that my belly hurts!



*They dared ask, "Why didn't I make
homemade ice cream to go with
the homemade cake! ...REALLY?"*

Even parents and siblings always know they are welcome to drop in.



I “tink” I even see a DAD with a T.J. carryout!

My Sons really take that "Second" Home and "Second Mom" thing serious! And of course this makes the young ladies a little jealous.



Yes! That's T.J!



The young ladies, feeling the guys were getting all of the attention, opted to raid my closet and dress up in my clothes, jewelry, hats and furs!



At least Shaylan IF you are trying to be me, you could try to match. ... A PINK hat, with a GREEN suit? REALLY?



*Dressed for Business? I LOVE my
DAUGHTERS!*



*WHY do they like hiding in MY
CLOSET?*

Now time with the girls.



...I am just trying to keep up!





*My Daughters always like doing
The Talent Show thing! With me of
course being THE LEAD SINGER!!!!*

Doing Ole School.....

*But as always, ALL of my other
SONS seem to get it and to
understand that I also need to
spend equal time with the girls -
except of course with the
exception of T J, who is in the
corner, acting like he is "My
Personal Body Guard"!*



*“T.J! WHY are you in here?”
Breoina asks.*

*According to the girls, he just
doesn't get it! That the girls
need some time too!*

“Supervising”, was his response!

*No one can BELIEVE that T. J. has
just completely taken over THE
TALENT SHOW!!*



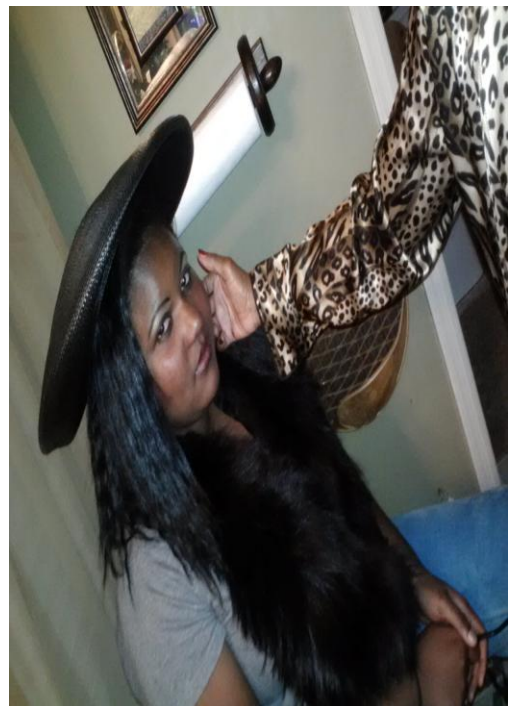
*“GO HOME T.J.!!! GO HOME!!!!”, is
what the girls are SHOUTING!*

*Still not sure why the FIRST place
My Daughters go, when they come
to my house, is MY ROOM and MY
CLOSET! ...This time, it's my UTC
students (daughters)!*





*Well I might as well help them
with their make-up and wardrobe,
or I should say "My Make-up and
My Wardrobe"!*



Such sophisticated ladies deserve a formal meal. No one leaves my house without knowing how to set a formal table. So we brought out the fine china...., and I showed them how to set the table.



Great Job ladies!



*Good Company - Good Manners -
Good Food! ...And NO T.J.!!!!*



*My house was where you came to
do laundry and to iron clothes!*

All of "My" Sons can iron!



The Family Room is “their favorite” hangout. I guess because it was right next to the KITCHEN!

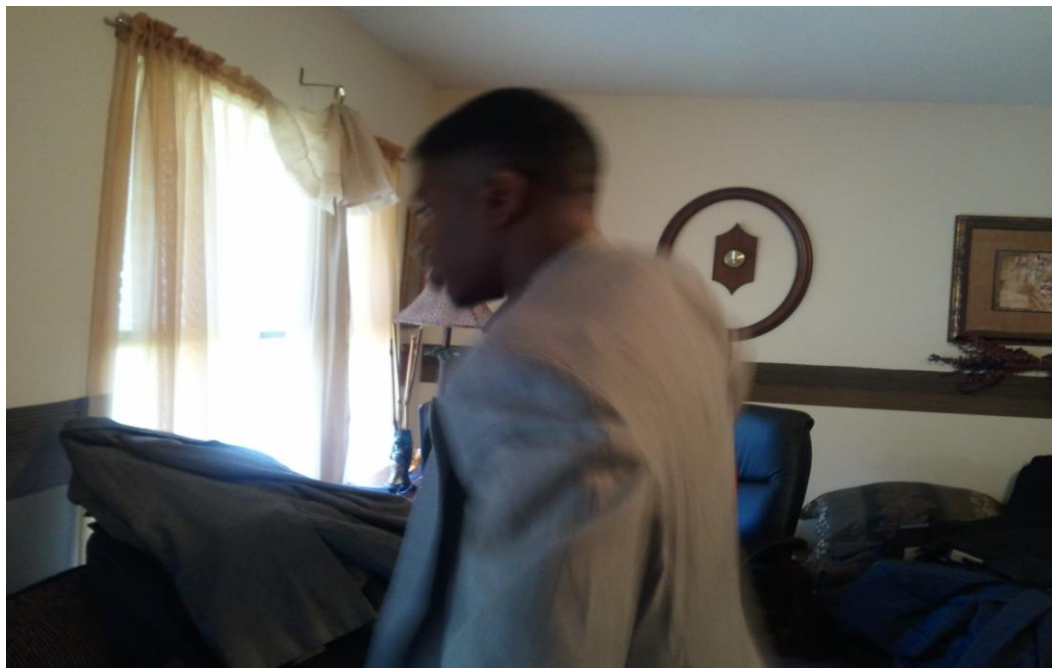


I “tink” I see another one of T.J.’s “carry-out” boxes sitting/hidden under the table!

“Oh yeal! I know I look GOOD!”

The guys know, at my house, there is a closet always filled with suits, blazers, pants, dress shirts and ties. to help them to look their best.









Then there were those times when they come, and DO NOT know when to leave! So after they EAT, they find a place on the sofa or floor in the family room and catch a few ZZZs.

Expecting home cooked BREAKFAST in the morning!!!



My Son sneaking back upstairs after raiding the frig for a snack!

They really take this "Second Home" and "Second Mom" thing seriously....



*YES! That's T.J!
SLEEP and FULL as a TICK!*



But the most wonderful part of all of this, is seeing them fall asleep with a BOOK in their arms!



And working hard in school....



and graduating!



2007 First Year MFDUTC Program



2007 Graduation from Howard Academic and Technology

...And then getting into college, and graduating , with a Bachelors of Art degree!



2012 Graduate from Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee

Lane College Conducts Spring Commencement Convocation

By news@wbbjtv.com

Story Created: Apr 29, 2012 at 10:44 PM CDT

Story Updated: Apr 29, 2012 at 10:52 PM CDT



Lane College conducted its Spring Commencement Convocation at the Oman Arena Sunday. The UNCF President Michael L. Lomax delivered the address.

More than 200 young men and women earned Arts and Science Bachelor Degrees.

7 Eyewitness News very own Terrance Akins walked across the stage to receive his diploma. Akins started working at WBBJ as an intern in March of 2011. He now works in production.

"It was a sign of achievements. It just let me know that everything I have worked for has paid off," said Akins.

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*Then getting into Graduate
School!*

YES! Medical School!

**Meet the Future Dentist
Dr. Preston Harris**



MY STORY



My mother and father married young and had three children. My oldest Sister, Lakethia Harris, myself, and DerMario Harris. In all, I have five siblings: Lakethia, DerMario, JaiDa, Avion and Kaleb.

Both my parents earned their high school diploma from Howard High School. Afterwards, my father pursued the Navy, and years after my mother received her Cosmetology degree from Chattanooga Community College. Unfortunately my father was imprisoned, leaving my mother as head of our household. But I never allowed myself to use this as an excuse. Yes I wanted a father and I understand the importance of having a male in my life. However, I relied upon my Heavenly Father to fill that void. Despite not having a male figure in the home, I was always happy under my mother's roof, because in my house there was plenty of love and discipline. It was my mother's disciple that taught me the "do's" and "don'ts" of manhood and to be humble, respectful, responsible and a strong, yet caring and compassionate man. For this I am grateful to my mother, Mrs. Remeca Tremese Harris.

Continuously we have moved from one area to the next in Chattanooga, TN. But thanks to my mom and grandmother, we always were together as a family. Mother only expected two things: Don't bring home any C's and play sports. Never give up on things you hope for. My grandmother, Mrs. Linda LaFay McMurray told us to always seek God and he will do the rest.

I spent Kindergarten through High School at the Chattanooga School for the Arts and Sciences(CSAS) . I made the decision to pursue a health profession after discussing with my high school best friend Steve Harris what we would like to do with our lives. My first exposure to dentistry was volunteering at Miller Motte Technical College with Mrs. Donna Cockrell. She taught a dental hygiene class and motivated me to look into general dentistry. After having the opportunity to teach a class about how soft drinks deteriorate the tooth enamel over time, I was fascinated in the profession as a whole.

My junior and senior year, I had the opportunity to participate in the Many Faces of Diversity Program at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga created and directed by Dr. Jean Howard-Hill and co-directed by her daughter Ms. LaShunda Hill. Meeting these brilliant individuals soon changed my life. My high school best friend and I were both accepted into the program and had the opportunity to apply for scholarships. We simply retrieved a list of scholarships from our guidance counselor and began picking from the list to complete. After countless applications,

I came across the Gates Millennium Scholarship. I knew nothing about the scholarship, but only the extensive paper work needed to complete it. Countless times I was approached about taking out loans, but I felt applying for scholarships was much more reasonable than to simply borrow funds.

God placed both Dr. Hill and Ms. LaShunda in my life and diligently worked alongside me to complete this prestigious scholarship award. The idea of college never resonated with me until my last semester of high school. My eldest sister attended college at Tuskegee University for a year, however, due to financial obligations she had to withdraw. I did not want my mother to be stuck with a financial burden so I focused much of my attention on finding ways to fund my education rather than choosing a university.

I graduated from CSAS in 2009 and accepted Fisk University as my choice for college. During my first year at Fisk University, I shadowed Dr. Henry Young at Meharry Medical College along with other instructors in the Endodontics and Oral Surgery Department. In the beginning of my second semester at Fisk University, my English professor, Dr. Bracks insisted that I apply for the Public Policy Leadership Fellowship, at the Harvard John F.

Kennedy School of Government. I was immediately intimidated by the ivy league school but she saw potential in me to be great and this program would help facilitate that determination.

I was accepted into the program and happened to be the only Biology major with interests in pursuing a dual degree in DDS and MsPH. The program sharpened my perspective of long and short term goals. I was drawn to the conversations about global issues and how to combat those issues as a dentist. My interests were oral health policy and managing ways to provide services domestically and internationally. Seemed very general at the time, but was a curiosity of mine.

In the summer of 2010, I was accepted into the Summer Medical and Dental Educational program at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. This six week program was certainly a turning point for my exposure to dentistry. I was introduced to different specialties and met one of the most amazing mentors Dr. Marcus Johnson, DDS who now specializes in Endodontics.

After returning from the summer I was introduced to the HBCU health and wellness program where I focused on paternal involvement in infant mortality. Conducting research projects in the Nashville area and presenting in a variety of public health symposiums. It was a great experience. In the spring of 2011, I was inducted into Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated. I was did my Summer Abroad Program in Beijing, China and attended Beijing Language and Culture University (BLCU) for the entire summer.

At BLCU, I took Sociology of China and beginning Mandarin (Chinese) language. I also took advantage of my interest in dentistry and shadowed/volunteered with Dr. Dixin Zhang. I conducted my final project on Traditional Chinese Medicine and Western Medicine. It was certainly an amazing experience.

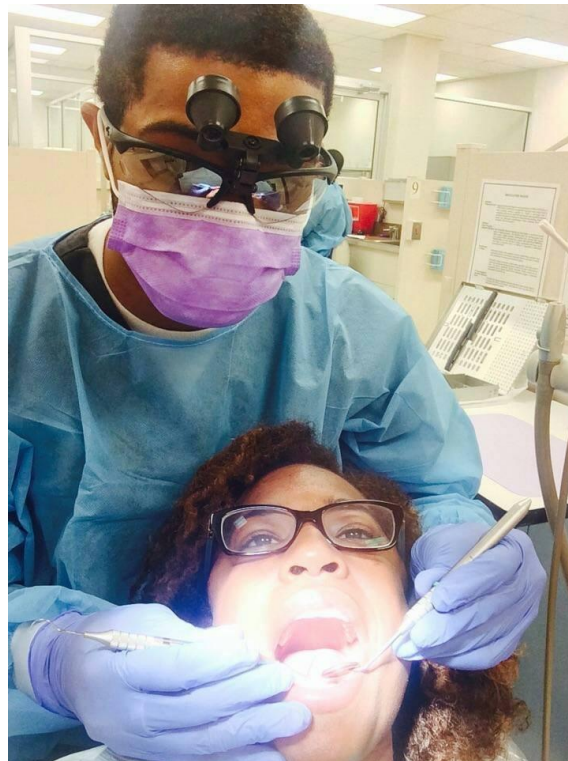
After being exposed domestically and internationally, my experience with dentistry still seemed lacking. I strived to know more about the profession and engage with local dentists. The following summer I was accepted into Texas A&M Health Science Center Baylor College of Dentistry Summer Pre-dental Enrichment Program Collegiate II in Dallas, TX.

This program taught me everything there was to know and provided me the best experience and exposure to dental school than I could ever imagine. As a result of my performance, I had the opportunity to meet an alumni from Baylor College of Dentistry that invited me to intern at her new office during my winter break in 2012. Dr. Regina Powe, one of the most caring and loving dentists I know. Her office was in Plano, Texas and she showed me basic procedures along with allowing me to shadow and work along other specialty dentists in the area or surrounding areas such as Dr. Fatima Robinson, DDS, specializing in periodontics, and Dr. Richard Martin, DDS. oral surgeon.

I continued to intern with Dr. Regina Powe during the following summer for three weeks and would return for school. I decided to transfer to the University of Tenn-Knoxville for the fall of 2012 because I felt my focus for dentistry was pulling more towards public health. At UT I grew interests in research under my advisor Dr. Elias Fernandez in a Biophysics lab and expressed my interests to faculty and was awarded the Emmet and Nannie Hale Scholarship for Pre-Dentistry.

I recently graduated from UT May 9th, 2014 and received my Bachelors of Science in Biochemistry Cellular and Molecular Biology. I will now begin a new chapter in my life at Meharry Medical College-School of Dentistry in Nashville, TN.

My goal is to continue to live in the light of the Lord and bring others into the light through dentistry, and to provide a way to assist low income individuals with dental insurance.



Third Year Medical School at MeHarry

More of my Sons

These are more of my Many Faces of Diversity sons! They have a FIVE-YEAR PLAN and KNOW where they are going!

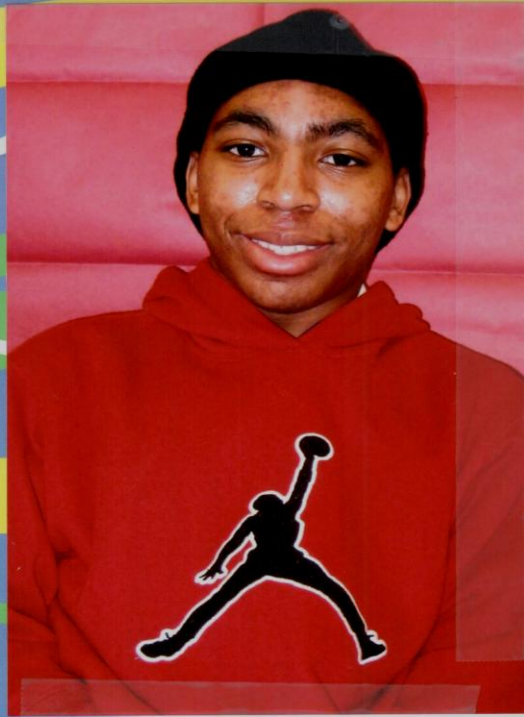
We meet each week in-school, but as you can see, I still have got to feed them!

With encouragement these young men are on their way to seeking career paths that are compatible with their dreams and aspiration. But most of all, they are now confident that they can DO IT!

A few of them shared those dreams and aspirations for the next five-years, as they also shared a few SNACKS!

No problem! A little snack as they work and study, takes the edge off.





It is my hope.
that five years
from now that
I'll be graduating
from King College
with a Bachelors
in communications.
During this time
I hope to have
a job at some
professional
environment and
have at least
one book published,
all the while looking
for a career writing
in television.

Tyson Jones



Matias
Miquel

During the Next 5 yrs. I Plan to go to college and learn more about drafting designers. After two years in college I Plan to go to Marines. After serving my years as a marine, I Plan to start a business of arts or drafting designer.




Five years from now I see myself
graduating from college and working
on my masters in Bio-Chemistry,
music, and culinary. Hopefully, with
the right guidance and advice I will
make all of my degrees real and make
my family proud.



Five years, from now I see myself reaching my goal of getting my degree in computer technology in the field of technology Enigeering and, then farther my education in studying to learn new technique's to build new equipment for the near future.

Antonio Woodall
Junior class

4-30-12



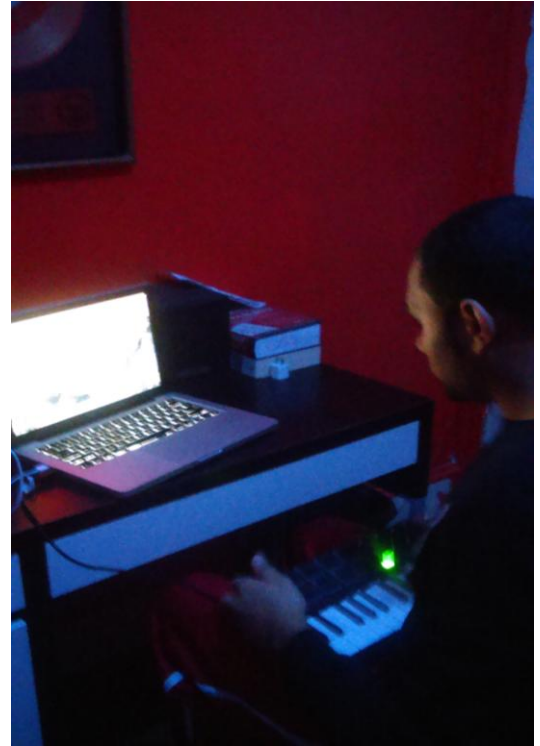
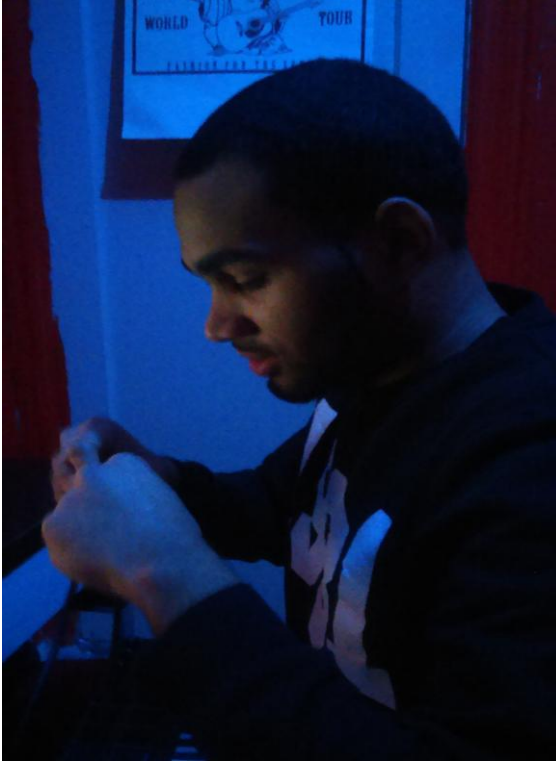
Five years from now, I see myself finishing up my last year of College and trying to re-incorporate NASA back to its old ways. Also I see myself well fit and having an healthy mind and body. Furthermore I see myself saving money to live on my own as an responsible adult who can take care of himself. Lastly, I see myself studying astronomy and being a well known astronomer in oniversities across the globe.

*There are many young men,
who find themselves in unfortunate
situation,
who need only support and to know
someone loves them and got their backs,
to excel and use those talents in which they
have been given.*

*Whether in the classroom,
on campus,
within the community,
or in the streets
and unfortunately in prison,*

*they ALL are "MY SONS",
and I love them
ALL
the Same.*

*SHOUT-OUT TO
My Son Lawrence from Queens, New York!*



Believing in himself and holding on to the love of his deceased father and grandmother, he has worked hard and used his talents to get out his music. He even made it to the charts!

[He is the first up on the video clip free-styling - telling his story of growing up in Queens, New York]

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RryGjXPZ3M&feature=youtu.be&t=10m25s>

[He promised he is going to do something for me - with a little "less, less..."]



*And all he wanted from his Aunt Jean and Second Mom for his birthday, was a homemade butter pound cake!
Filled with Lol.....
You got it Son!*

*A SHOUT-OUT TO
My Son Stephon from Save Our Streets of
Crown Heights - Brooklyn, New York*



*What a GREAT PRESENTATION he made at the
DOJJ Coordinating Council on Juvenile
Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Quarterly Meeting!*

*SHOUT-OUT TO
My Tennessee State Son - Bold, Brave and of
Service*

*Assisting two blind white brothers, of whom
he didn't know.*



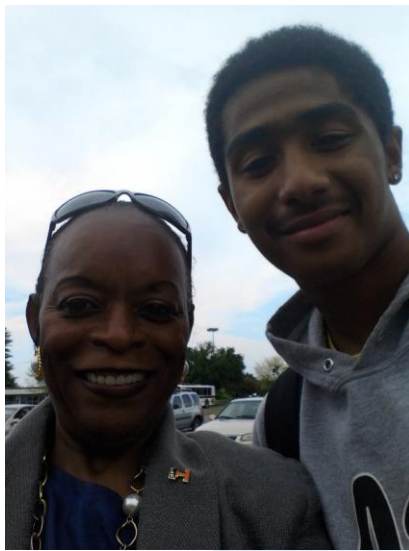
This is Why I Believe in Black Men! -
https://www.youtube.com/edit?o=U&video_id=hKZgI9dulxQ

Observing one of my sons step up to the plate and render assistance to two blind men (who happened to be white), was both encouraging and what I would expect out of one of my Black Sons! Because, ...I believe in Black Men!



*SHOUT-OUT TO
My Megabus Atlanta, Georgia Son.*

*He was so courteous in helping the ladies off
the bus. Couldn't wait to tell his mom, what a
GREAT SON he was!*



*SHOUT-OUT TO
My D.C. Son Jack and His Son*



One of Dr Hill's Son Determined to Make it! -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zjmyUEO8AUs&feature=youtu.be>

*SHOUT-OUT TO
ALL My Megabus Sons and Daughters!*

Parking my car, and instead of driving or flying, for the past three years, I have taken public transportation, which has given me a rare opportunity to meet some very interesting individuals, and even to gather research data from those, I never would have come in contact with.

It takes being where you can actually interact with youth and young adults in order to get to know, understand and speak their language. It also opens up a dialogue where you can effectively mentor.

These are just a few of those times:

Dr. Hill's Megabus Interaction 1 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H0QLNnLcHOU>

In order to gain a fresh prospective on children, youth and young adults, Dr. Hill travels across the country, using sources such as Megabus. Even spending time issuing a challenge to a basketball game, while waiting on the connecting bus.

Dr. Hill's Megabus Interaction 2 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kHAulDbFKto>

In order to gain a fresh prospective on children, youth and young adults, Dr. Hill travels across the country, using sources such as Megabus. Even spending time issuing a challenge to a basketball game, while waiting on the connecting bus.

Dr. Hill's Megabus Interaction 3 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E-5fthVcuL0>

In order to gain a fresh prospective on children, youth and young adults, Dr. Hill travels across the country, using sources such as Megabus. Even spending time issuing a challenge to a basketball game, while waiting on the connecting bus.

Dr. Hill's Megabus Interaction 4 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdpnVZyyc3g>

In order to gain a fresh prospective on children, youth and young adults, Dr. Hill travels across the country, using sources such as Megabus. Even spending time issuing a challenge to a basketball game, while waiting on the connecting bus.

SHOUT OUT TO MY SONS FROM THE STREETS

Redefining Moments

Even those who have messed up, deserve a SECOND and even as many CHANCES as it takes, to get them back on track in becoming STRONG, PRODUCTIVE, and RESPONSIBLE brothers.

....Sometimes, ALL that they NEED if just ENCOURAGEMENT and a FIRM, yet LOVING individual who BELIEVES in them and their ability to CHANGE. Someone who's committed for the long haul and will NEVER give up on them or let them give up on themselves!





Having enough confidence in a young man to allow him to take my luggage up the escalator, also built his confidence in who he could become, and uncovered who he truly was deep inside. My SON!!!

There is so much talent in the streets. We cannot afford to allow the TALENTS and ABILITIES of our SONS to be LOST to the STREETS!

My D. C. son designs rock gardens and do lawn make-overs.



SHOUT-OUT TO MY BABIES IN QUEENS, NEW YORK!

*Who says Mentoring
can't have its fun moment.*



In spending time in Queens, New York during the summer with “My Neighborhood Crew” as they call themselves, this proved to be true as I attempted to ride a bike!

My mistake was not in challenging them. But the mistake was in me thinking I still could still ride a bike - a BOY'S BIKE at that!

My challenge to them was that if I could not ride the bike down the block, (without falling), I would allow them to use my laptop at the library all day long for an entire week.

Well, as you can see from the Video, I got no work done for the week! Because for one week, they had my laptop at the Queens Public Library, while I sat and read my notes or a book.

Dr. Hill's Bike Challenge - Queens, New York
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFav57P2Eic>

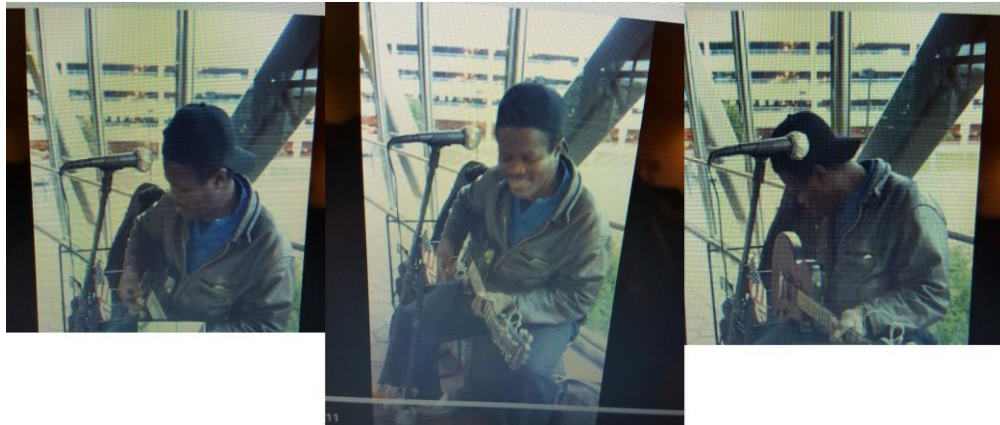
In exchange for them reading in the library, Dr. Hill was challenged to ride a bike! If she lost, then the kids got to use her laptop while in the library for the entire week! ...And of course, she lost miserably! ...And "her" kids have the video to prove it!!!

The bike ride (or should I say bike drag) was embarrassing. But this is how you engage kids within the community. Because although I "stunk -up" the sidewalk as a bike rider, I got them to spend time in the Library with me, some reading books with me, while others took turns on my laptop looking up subjects of interest. These were the rules: No music, no facebook, no

*nothing, except using it for enrichment.
They complied and we ALL had fun - even
with them occasionally mocking me on the
bike!*



*...And sometimes while I am out there in
the streets, there are those Sons, who will
serenade me with a song!*



Temptations Serenade to Lady J, Dr. Hill -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ajlYOLeos4s>

As Advocate



When it comes to “MY SONS” or “My Daughters” , I am more than willing to fight and go to bat for them - despite the odds.

Trust me, I never saw a young man or a young lady or a child, who was not worth the fight!

This is why I say with great confidence....

“Those who make countless investments of love, time and resources into the lives of those who have not reached the fullness of their potentials, are the wealthiest people on earth. Although the initial investments may be enormous and the risks taken extremely high, when the stock from those invested lives do finally mature, they are worth more than their shares in gold! Therefore, those who are wise will seek every opportunity to invest in the potentials of at-risk and undeveloped lives.”

*_jhh, Golden Nuggets of Wisdom to
My Daughter LaShunda*

*“To give of one’s self in true love
and humility, is the gift of an
endless flow of God’s love.”*

*_jhh, Golden Nuggets of Wisdom to
My Daughter LaShunda*

*“Love is not an option! It is an
essential part of one’s being, which
upon its absence,
all humanity and compassion is
lost.”*

*_jhh, Golden Nuggets of Wisdom to
My Daughter LaShunda*



AN OPEN LETTER TO THE AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY: A CRY FOR HELP!

You want to know why my music is so loud? It is because I am trying to get you to hear me! Do you want to know why my pants are so indecently low? It is because I thought that if I showed you my hind parts, you would pay attention to me and confront me with tough love face-to-face. Don't you hear my cry for help? My English is broken and my language is filled with grammatical error because I thought you might be provoked to correct me! I speak loud and foul because inside I am trying to get you to pay attention to what I am saying long enough to truly hear me! I have dropped out of school because I am trying to tell you that life has me disillusioned and fooled. I am breaking into your houses to get you to come out of your comfort zones. I am stealing your cars because I need for you to stop driving by me as if you do not see me. I am killing myself because I am trying to get you to see death that is all around me. I die, so that others can be saved! I take a life, so that you can understand just how little I have come to value life itself. How much louder must I cry, and what more need I do to get you to pay attention, and to become attentive to my needs?



A Letter to My African-American Sons:

I have many sons on this campus of all races. But I have spent the past three years burdened and concerned about you. What I see, and even what I hear trouble me. I have had the opportunity to have that motherly-love talk with some of you. But I want to reach all of you. You may ask why would a woman who does not know me other than as a student want to talk to me? I will tell you why. Because I LOVE YOU SON!

For me, it does not matter whose child you are, your race or ethnicity, when you hit the campus of UTC, or even if I see you out in the streets, you become MY CHILD – MY SON. Therefore, I care about where you are in life, and where you are going. I even care about the bumps in the road and the obstacles that lie ahead for you as my young African American sons.

The American society has not been always fair or welcoming to African Americans, and especially African American males. Slavery took away your forefather's ability to be their own man. It even attempted to reduce them to being 3/5th of a person. It placed them in chains, loaded them on ships, and sailed them across the mighty waters of the Atlantic as human cargo, so that they could become the slaves of masters so cruel that it cost many not only the loss of their freedom, but the loss of their lives as well. They witnessed seeing those they love be taken away from them and sold to the highest bidder. They saw their women and children

raped and without legal recourse, they stood by helpless. With spirit broken, and bearing the scares of brutal beatings, they endured the suffering of slavery. They toiled the field of their master, to ensure their financial gain, while they barely had clothing on their backs, and ate from the lower parts of the swine. It was nothing to begin their day at 4:00 a.m., working through temperatures that were so exhausting that it threatened their physical and mental welfare. Yet they dared not stop, because the punishments for a nigger slave who refused to work under these conditions, was far worse than to die from the heat and exhaustion. Their day did not end at 5:00. There was no 9 to 5 workday. Working way over into the night, getting sometimes less than four hours of sleep, they arose to another day of work, toiling and tiling the soil that produced for their masters cotton, tobacco, peanuts, and crop that netted them gain. But for them, this same soil produced the anguish of suffering, with their sweat and tears being the waters from which the bountiful harvest came. Yet in the still of the night, although legally forbidden and punishable by law, those slaves who could, stole away to learn to read. Thirsty for a drink from the Wells of Knowledge, they risked their lives to learn to read, and to teach others the forbidden right to be educated.

Even after the freeing of the slaves, the color of one's skin remained the focus for racial hatred. Lynching became as common as the magnolia tree's blossom. The strange fruit of the southern tree was a black man hanging from it by a rope, often with his penis and testicles removed. Preserved in a pickling jar, the black man's body parts were displayed by some as trophies. Lynching was to them a sport of a human kind.

It took the lynchings, the brutal beatings, being dragged out of bed at night, the disappearance of blacks never to be seen again, and even the bombings to prompt African Americans that enough was enough. It was a young man by the name of Emmett Till whose brutal killing became the last straw that ignited the Civil Rights Movement of the mid 50s. From this came the demonstrations and protests for freedom NOW. But you may be surprised to know that it was college students who led the way!

Down in North Carolina, a group of college students around the same ages as you decided that education was the key to freedom. They took that key and began to unlock the segregated lunch counters of the South. From this, keys were passed across the south, with even students from Fisk University in Nashville participating in this divine movement of freedom. Right here in Chattanooga at Woolworth and S.S. Kresses high school students did the same. They did not demonstrate with guns, knives or any weapons of violence. Instead, they sat at the lunch counters with their college books, reading, dressed in shirt and tie. Their white counter parts taunted them, but they refused to be moved! Just like a tree planted by the waters, they swore, I shall not be moved – not until justice and equality became a reality for blacks. They made that decision to fight with the most potent weapon known to mankind. They chose to FIGHT WITH THEIR HEADS. They chose to use THEIR INTELLECT, because they knew that no matter how they were enslaved, and no matter how many times they were denied their civil rights, that what they acquired within their intellect and their souls, NO ONE COULD TAKE FROM THEM! It was not an easy task. Yet they stayed the course!

In Ingram Park in Birmingham, Alabama young people dared to stand up to the dogs and hoses turned loose on them by all people, the police. In Arkansas, young people dared to cross the line of segregation to integrate the Arkansas public schools. They faced national guards hostile to their attempts to be educated in an equal environment, but this did not stop them because within the very depths of their souls, their spirits cried out FREEDOM! It wasn't just the freedom to be treated equally. More importantly, it was the freedom to achieve the American Dream denied to them since their forefathers came here in chains. They realized that freedom would have to come from two sources: The freedom of their souls to seek a spiritual refuge where when troubling times came, they could draw from a power higher and greater than themselves, that would allow them to persevere despite those who hated them so badly that they stooped to the unspeakable and the inhumane to stop them. From their souls, they knew no bondages. For the soul had the ability to soar high and to anchor itself deep within the God in whom they believed and trusted one day would deliver them from the hands of the southern pharaohs. It also was the freedom of the mind to absorb the wealth of knowledge and understanding that was concealed within books, and within the educational systems of higher learning. They thirsted and hungered for it so much that nothing could stop them from getting it.

Knowing this history, which I have only presented to you in a capsule proportion, I am greatly troubled when I see now, after all of the humiliation, suffering, beatings, lynchings, sweat and tears of those who have gone before us that there are African American men on college campuses and even in the streets who living out stereotypes that once we fought so hard to disprove.

As I drove in this morning, I did not see blacks working in cotton fields. I didn't see the plantations of old, with unlivable slave quarters. I did not see the strange fruit of blacks hanging from trees. I did not see the Tennessee National Guard on campus forbidding your attendance. Instead, I saw fields ripe with educational opportunities just waiting for you to harvest. Those fields already having been tilled by those who came before you, awaits your due diligence in taking this thing called "equality", to the next level.

You are here sons, because somebody paid a price in order to make that happen. You are here because somebody wanted, wished and prayed that this day would come. A day when education was afforded to the black man, and to the black woman without regards to the color of their skin. You are here because somebody thought about the future of the African American race. Most of those who sacrificed never got the chance you now have. Yet they fought for it with their very lives. Now I ask you, what are you going to do with that sacrifice that now has brought you onto a campus, which at one point refused admission to anyone of your race? Did you not know that it was not many years ago that this very university would have had you arrested for even setting foot on campus? Now that it has opened its doors to embrace you, you too must embrace it with a determination and resolve that you will and shall take advantage of this opportunity and shall not fail!

Not failing means going to class, keeping your grades up, seeking help when you need it, taking advantage of not just the social life, but also the academic opportunities of lectures, programs, internships and anything that is related. It means looking like you are here to learn, and not here to mug, rape, steal or to commit a felony! How you present yourselves will determine how others will treat and deal with you. If you look like a felon, you will be treated like a felon. Even if you have not committed a crime and never intend to, if you dress the part, you become the obvious suspect. Sons, this is not racial profiling, it is reality starring you back in your face.

Walking around with your pants hanging down so low that the rest of your pant legs are dragging the ground is not the image you should desire. Think sons! THINK! Reason it out with your own intellect! No one is going to hire you looking the way you do. Even after getting the degree, who will want you attending to their medical, legal, financial and other needs? Very few will even give you the benefit of the doubt! That is not racism! It is a common sense choice!

Showing your underwear is not cute. Nor is it manly! Underwear by definition is meant to be worn under your clothing, and concealed. What it says is that you don't give a damn about yourselves. It also raises the issue of why do you need to have your pants hanging half the way off you. It raises the question of whether this is because you are looking to have sex, to rape or if you are either just coming out of prison or on your way there. This is an institution of higher learning where we are preparing you to take your position in the world in significant roles as leaders, shakers, movers and drivers of society. It is not the ghetto! It is not behind the prison walls! It is not Bling-bling Capitol of your world! It is a place of preparation and in that preparation, there are rules that although the university may not impose them, as a race that has been denied civil rights, you ought to impose them upon yourselves!

If parents, the church or the community have failed to tell you this, it is because they do not love you! Neither do they care. For if they loved you, and if they truly cared, you would not be here looking this way. I know some of you are away from home, and because Mama or Daddy is not here, you have slipped. But don't slip! Whether they are here or not, you are, and because of that you have to care and love yourselves enough to remember the teachings which you left home with!

Recently I raised the issue of racial insensitivity on campus, but I cannot and will not go a step further until I am convinced that as a race, we have done all we need to do to prevent self-imposed discrimination. The present day society can no longer enslave us, if we refuse to wear the chains! After we have done our part, then if there still remains that same insensitivity and discrimination based upon race, I am dedicated to do whatever is necessary to tear down even further the institution of inhumanity to mankind called racism wherever it may reside. But for now, I need your help and I ask something special of you. I want each African American male on the campus of UTC on Monday, September 24th, to be dressed in shirt and tie with pants that do not look like you are suffering from acute diarrhea and the evidence of that is in your pants. Yes! You look like you are carrying around your last major bowel movement! So major that it has your pants dragging the ground! I said it! Sometimes you have to be real in order for you to

understand and get the message. You even can wear a suit if you like. But I want you in professional attire.

We are going to call this, **African American Male Dress for Success Day**. A day when you can distinguish yourself as one who is going to succeed, and not become one of the statistics. It is a day to prove that you do give a damn, and that YOU control your own destiny and fate. A day to show your self-reliance, and determination to make good on the dreams of your forefathers. A day of respect for yourself. (Also a day to find a female who now will see the potential in you, and won't mind being with you – now that they know you are not about to commit a felony or vying to become their “baby's daddy”!) This is also a day when I want to see you in the LIBRARY, in CLASS, and about the business of SERIOUS LEARNING! This is a beginning to many other projects we are going to do to prepare you intellectually and socially to take your part in the world as leaders, and professionals, and to leave behind a legacy of **University of Tennessee African American Male Academic Scholars**.

I am going to be working in the meantime to get donations of dress shirts, pants, ties, socks and dress shoes. So I will need to have your sizes should you not already have these items. I am also going to be working to get donations of cologne. I not only want you looking good and well dressed in business attire, but I also want you smelling good! Additionally, I will see if I can get local barbers and stylists to give some much needed haircuts and styles! I want you clean, Wall Street, Brooks Brothers, GQ, on this day from head to toe! This means no sagging pants, tennis shoes, smelly socks, bling-bling, do rags and raggedy looking heads!

Also African American males from the community will be available to assist you with tying ties and hooking it up! They will even treat you to lunch! Further I have asked and even challenge those who say they are sick and tired of seeing you dress this way, to donate what you need for that day to dress for success. Those items will be distributed, Sunday, May 23rd from 2 to 5 in Fletcher Hall. You may e-mail me at jean-howard-hill@utc.edu with your sizes and comments. My office number is 423-425-5702. Call me if you need me.

I LOVE YOU SONS! I want to see ALL of you succeed, and if ever I can help you in any way, you have but to come to me. I am here for you. I also appreciate the RESPECT you have shown me as I have asked you to pull up, and even assisted you in pulling up your pants and taking do rags from your heads. This shows me that you ARE made of the **RIGHT STUFF! Thanks also to those of you who already have your pants up!**

Your Second Mom,

Dr. Hill

November
19, 2007



Dr. Jean Howard-Hill, a UTC adjunct professor and motivational speaker who touts a message of "Pull Your Pants Up," spoke to a group of YouthBuild participants. Dr. Howard-Hill encouraged the young people to always exhibit self-respect. She also admonished them to dress and speak appropriately, saying this would help lead to better job opportunities. Dr. Howard-Hill challenged the group to strive for excellence and set homeownership as a personal goal. "I smell success in this room," she told the YouthBuild participants. [Click to enlarge.](#)

Mentoring Program Makes a Positive Change for Middle School Students

Jessica Morris, Channel 9 News
September 28, 2007 - 4:54PM



Mentors Make A Difference
NewsChannel 9's Jessica Morris tells us about a mentoring program at Chattanooga Middle that is making a difference in a group of young men's lives.



They have caused trouble on the streets and problems at school, but now some middle school students are being offered a new beginning. Chattanooga Middle is trying an alternative way to dealing with students who have caused trouble. Instead of suspension, they're learning about life in a program called LIFE, an acronym for Living in Full Expectation.

"I am somebody special," said the group in unison.

That's what these middle school young men are learning. They are special and have a future. It's a message they don't hear often. Instead, according to Principal Faye Ison, these students are usually being scolded for bad behavior. But that's not the case during lunchtime on Fridays.

Professionals in the community, like Dr. Jean Howard Hill from UTC, are serving as mentors speaking truth in love.

When asked if he had been in trouble before, 8th grader Ladarius Hicks said, "Sometimes."

When asked why he replied, "Playing."

But Ladarius said he isn't playing anymore. Thanks to this mentoring program he's Living in Full Expectation. He joined several other classmates in exchanging what one of them said are their sagging pants for a nice pair of slacks along with a shirt and tie.

"Like [people] give me more respect when I'm in them, give me compliments," said Denzel Montgomery, 7th grade student.

They didn't know one mentor, Rocky Peters, would hand out cold cash as

reward for their new look.

"My goals is not to be in the streets. Don't hang around with wrong crowds. Get a good education. Go to college, and get a good job," said a beaming Markel Mitchell, a 7th grade student.

Miss Ison said this attitude is a BIG change from the start of the school year when, as one of the mentors told us, many of these students were making choices that were landing them in school suspension or juvenile court.

"The way they're looking today, the pride they take in being part of the group, I have no choice but to say it's really going great," said Miss Ison.

Antonio McMath, a case worker from the Department of Children's Services, has volunteered to lead the class every Friday for as long as it's needed. He works with the school to bring in mentors who come in on their own time. The students say they are learning skills and manners they've never been taught before.



Friday, December 7, 2007

Opinion

The Human Face Of Howard

Friday, December 07, 2007 - by Dr. Jean Howard-Hill, UTC Instructor
I read with a troubling spirit the articles and opinions regarding students at Howard. These kids are very special to me because they are not just students, I have worked with them at Howard and in the Many Faces of Diversity Summer Program here at UTC, and they have become my children. (Not only those at Howard, but at other schools as well, and even at UTC.)

I believe there will be two questions asked of us as I stand before God to given an account of the role I have played in improving society and the lot of my fellow mankind. Did you understand the dilemma facing youth, and did you do anything about it to change that dilemma? As an educator, and educational and research consultant, I understand the dire straits that our kids are in, and the need to change that course into a more positive and productive one. I spent the night so very grieved and troubled to see how neglected we have allowed our kids to be within the educational environment, then we place all of the blame on them. If only you knew what many of these kids have to face each day, then we would understand why they are in situations that causes truancy and lack of achievement.

I do understand that dilemma, because I see it each day. Literally, there are very few days that go by that I am not approached by a situation that involves our kids, parents and guardians. From the 13-year-old young girl whose mother has put her out in the middle of the night, wearing nothing but her panties and bra, calling, and me picking her up and providing safe haven, and sitting down with both her and mom to work things out; to staying up all night with someone on the telephone to keep them from taking their lives because they do not feel it is of value; to holding hands, when a hand needs to be held of both parent and child; to going to the crack house to get someone out; to assisting young men to pull up their pants and to improve their appearance; to going to prisons to see those who have

been locked up; to consoling and helping take care of children and parents left behind due to incarceration; to providing school supplies, basic necessities and Christmas to families without; to taking food out of my pantry and buying grocery for a grandmother or single mom who has run out of food to feed her kids; to counseling with youth and having them in my home for sleep-overs and just to give them someplace to go to keep them out of trouble; to being a second mom and Aunt Jean to youth, and especially to those who are in gangs; to taking the time to stop a young person in the streets, at the mall, and any other place I see them to let them know they are loved and that they have a future if they will seize the moment to make it happen for them; to assisting students with issues of self-worth and dignity; to providing academic assistance in improving oral, written and presentational skills; to speaking at school, churches, community groups, parent groups; to encouraging those who are discouraged; daily I am in the midst of this dilemma. I see it up-close and personal. ...And personal is exactly how I see it.

Unfortunately because I do take it personal and to heart, what I see breaks my heart because I know there are good kids out there who are just caught up in bad situations. I also realize that but for the grace of God, I too could have been one of them.

This is not just a black issue. It is a human issue which impacts children of all color. Unfortunately, the focus is on Howard. But I have seen and loved on white kids in situations at home that were unbearable as well.

I grew up in a time when teachers loved their students and loved teaching. This is why no matter what professional paths I take, I always end up back in the classroom! I do it because I love teaching and I love all of my students. Regardless of our profession or who we are, it takes love, compassion and understanding to reach our kids. These three ingredients do not require a degree – only someone who cares and is willing to show it. Our kids need to know that someone cares, and believes in them, even when they do not believe in themselves, or even worse, do not have parents who have confidence in their ability to succeed.

I got this e-mail today from one of my UTC students, who has allowed me to share it. He is one of my “pull-up your pants sons”, who sent me an end of the semester e-mail. (There are many others, but I want to share his to make a point.)

From: Joshua Subject: There is a God

Thank you for all you've done for me. You've really made me feel proud of myself and have faith in my abilities. Even though I may not receive that A

in your class like I wanted and hoped, I still think I did well. You gave me a reason to be happy of who I am what I can become, no matter how dumb or stupid my parents say I am. I actually brag about you to my family about how and what you teach. My parents told me I wouldn't do well in college and should expect only C's because that's all I'll measure up to in life, an average black boy. However, you gave me an inner drive to do better and succeed to places uncharted in my life. I will prove them wrong and do well, and I have you to thank. I am a great student Dr. Howard-Hill, I promise you I am. I am smart and worth something, just due to political socialization (smile), I never thought so. I apologize if I disappointed you and God knows I sincerely didn't want to. I promise to excel in my studies and go far. I know this may seem small or insignificant, but in my eyes this letter is a way of me telling you what I couldn't in the class. Thank you so, so, so, much. You are truly my MOM :). I thank God for putting you in my life.

God Bless Your Son, Joshua (Last name removed for privacy)

[My reply]

Thank you son. I do love and believe in you, and no matter what, I will do my best to be there for you while you are pursuing, and after you have pursued your dreams.

Hang in there, and continue to believe there is a God which lives within you who can do great things in and through you! Never settle for anything less than your best son. Love your parents in spite of what they fail to see in you right now. In time, those who doubted you will become believers in who you are and who you have been created to be! You are smart, and you have done very well this semester. Keep up the good work, and next semester, take it to the next level! Remember that you do not have to compete to become someone else – just be the best you are equipped to be, which is better than being the BEST! Because it is being YOU!!

Love you much, Your Second Mom, Dr. Hill

See Other Involvement of Dr. Hill:

http://howard-hillconsultants.com/Howard-Hill_Consultants/Our_Projects.html

[Research and Programs Created and Implemented by Dr. Howard-Hill](#)



Dr. Hill, Fighting Hard to Increase Minority Enrollment and Retention, as a member of the University of Tennessee Faculty Senate

the university echo

the student newspaper of the
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

UTC looks at raising minimum ACT score

BY LAURA BOND
MANAGING EDITOR

Faculty and staff debate whether the minimum ACT score for undergraduate students to be admitted into UTC should be raised from a 17 to a 18.

"The change in the ACT score is still in the discussion phase," Yancy Freeman, director of admissions, said.

According to Freeman, the score changed from a 16 to a 17 two years ago. The university suffered a drop in freshmen enrollment after the score was changed, he said.

However, Freeman said the change in the ACT score would increase the retention rate among students.

"It would improve the quality of students we're getting," he continued.

Lyn Miles, a sociology anthropology and geography professor, agreed with Freeman.

In response to questions submitted by e-mail, Miles said, "I think the best way is to retain students is to start with prepared students who score higher on ACT and other tests."

Freeman said he was "hesitant to give a definite answer" on whether he was for or against raising the ACT score.

"We need to determine who we are as a campus," Freeman said. "Do we want to be more selective or more accessible?"

Miles supports the raising the ACT score.

"The 1969 Merger Agreement which created UTC and joined with the UT system states that UTC and UTK should have the same admissions standards," she said in an e-mail. "Even if we increased our ACT minimum just one point, we are still far below Knoxville."

Jean Howard-Hill, a political science professor, opposes raising the ACT score.

In response to questions submitted by e-mail, Howard-Hill said, "The university as a part of the UT system has a responsibility to service students at all levels, and to assist them in getting past built in biases that have been proven to exist with standardized testing."

"Standardized testing is only one indicator of a student's academic attitude," she continued. "Therefore, one test should not be given so much weight that it outweighs other indications such as GPA and student social skills."

According to Freeman, the ACT score is a good predictor of how well a student will do their first year at college and GPA is a better indicator of how well students will do overall in college.

Howard Hill also said she is against the raise in the score because it might be unfair to some students.

"I also oppose the raise

See ACT page 5

ACT

Continued from page 1

because in many cases African-American, first generation college, and "at-risk" students may not have had some of the advantages other have," she said. "For example, the ability to take the test multiple times and to afford test preparation courses."

"This is not just about African-American students. At UTC we have many African-American students who have medium and high ACT scores, and the raising of the score does not affect them," she continued. "Also, there are white students and other minorities as well who come to UTC with low ACT scores, which again proves that standardized testing is not everyone's cup of tea."

Miles said, "Raising ACT scores will not necessarily negatively impact minority students. UTC statistics show that some minority students score higher than white students."

Howard-Hill questioned the purpose of raising the score.

"We have seen evidence that the graduation rates for those with 17 scores are no worse than those with 18. Both 17 and 18 scores are producing students who graduate. This is something that should be a strong indicator in making the case for not raising the score," she said.

Freeman said African-Americans who scored a 17 on the ACT had a higher graduation rate than students who were of

other nationalities.

"I have seen absolutely no indication that students with lower ACT score perform poorer in class," Howard-Hill said. "In fact, I see them working hard, and coming to me when they have questions."

Miles disagreed. She said, "They are often not as well prepared and find courses overwhelming and frustrating. They often do not have good study skills and do not even obtain a copy of the textbook. Some of these students are not taking school seriously."

"Others are frustrated and just need guidance. The best place for that guidance is another institution that will prepare them better for their later experience at UTC," she continued.

Miles said there are other options for students who do not do well on the ACT.

"Minority and other students who do not score high on the ACT can go to colleges in the Regents system, such as Chattanooga State," she said. "Teachers there can assist them and bring them along so that they come to UTC in their junior and senior year. Students who cannot pass courses at Chattanooga State can choose other careers."

Students who do not meet the admissions criteria can appeal to a faculty admissions committee. Freeman said the admissions committee looks at each

individual student carefully.

"We do not want to admit someone we know won't do well academically," he said.

According to Freeman, only 12 out of 80 students who appeal are admitted to the university in a full academic year.

"I want us to build a class of students who can be successful," Freeman continued. "I tell students that if you can get into UTC, there's no reason you shouldn't graduate."

According to the UTC admissions Web site, the current undergraduate admissions criteria is "a high school grade point average of at least 2.75 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum score of 17 on the Enhanced ACT (810 SAT) or a high school grade point average of at least 2.00 (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum score of 21 on the Enhanced ACT (980 SAT)"

UT-Martin's Web site says undergraduate admissions criteria is "a composite score of 20 or above on the ACT and a cumulative high school GPA of 2.40 or above on a 4.0 scale, or a composite score of 17 or above on the ACT and a cumulative high school grade point average of 2.75 or above on a 4.0 scale."

According to UTK's Web site, "The middle 50 percent of the fall 2006 class had score ranges of a 24-28 ACT and a core high school GPA range of 3.30 to 3.98."

Excerpts from Support Letter from UTC Chancellor Emeritus Roger Brown

“Dr. Hill certainly has earned these accolades as she is known both inside and outside of the classroom for promoting student success and participation in ways which allow students to use what is taught in the classroom to prepare them for active citizenship and to make worthwhile contributions to society.

As I mention before, it is not only her excellence in teaching that caused her to be voted Outstanding Professor of the Year, but equally her love of students, her care for their personal welfare, and her willingness to go beyond the call of duty to support and inspire them inside and outside of the classroom, and within our community. She is best known as a “Second Mom” to many kids, and at UTC, she has become a “College Mom.”

One memorable activity involved an effort to get young black men on and off campus to pull up their pants and to dress with dignity and respect. She became widely known as the “Pull-Up Pants Professor”, who encouraged students and those outside of our campus to dress with respect for themselves and others.

She inspired men of color within the local community to become mentors and role models for students, putting together a Dress For Success Luncheon, which was well attended and supported. From those efforts, immediately we saw a difference, with young men attending classes even in shirts and ties – some of whom had received these items from the donations of African American males who began to invest in the lives of students at UTC and local middle and high schools.

Along with many others at the University and in the community, we supported this effort 100 percent because of the way in which it was done. She did not cause anyone to feel badly, but encouraged them to have self-esteem. To be honest, she stepped in and assumed a role in which many of us could not do. But as a Black woman, she harnessed an army of prominent as well as ordinary African American males to come to the aid of young men, most who were without fathers in the home, to mentor and encourage them. I hope in the package she has sent to you, she has included some of the press clippings from this outstanding event.

The impact she has especially on young Black males is nothing short of amazing. She seems to be able to bring out the best in individuals with a motherly touch which inspires you to do better. They not only respect her, but they love her dearly. Indeed she is a mother to thousands of sons. Perhaps that is because she listens and she relates well to whatever dilemma in which most find themselves. Years later and I still see these young men staying in touch with her, and filled with pride as they send messages to her on FB to let her know how they are fairing and to say “thank you” or “I hope I make you proud of me”. This is something that is rare, but much needed.

As a member of the Faculty Senate, I also saw her fight for opportunities for minorities to achieve, and for the University to become even more inclusive. As a result of this, she went a step further to create and direct Many Faces of Diversity at UTC, a high school college preparatory program for “at-risk” students, that had a 100% student college entrance success and a 99% retention rate. It was presented at the Encore Conference as one of our outstanding flagship programs of the University. Even with students who had been written off academically, she and her daughter LaShunda Hill, who served as Assistant Director, were able to make this tremendous turn-around in the academic achievements of first generation college bound and “at-risk” students. This was nothing short of being remarkable.

My university chief of staff and I can personally attest to the success of this program and how it impacted lives. I had the rare opportunity to spend hours with students in the program, break bread with them, and interact during their daily sharing sessions. No words can adequately express the positive flow which took place within those two and one-half hours. I literally sat there fighting back my own emotions, as students felt free to share their own personal stories and give, as well as receive, support from each other and Dr. Howard-Hill.

I left there thinking that I had heard so many positive things about the program. But it was nothing in comparison to what I experienced when I witnessed with my own eyes a transformation of lives in a loving, caring and supportive environment that facilitated learning and success, as well as honest, heartfelt exchanges of dialogue. Like the students whom I observed, I always will keep this experience dear to my heart.

May I also add that because of budget cuts that summer, the meal we enjoyed was cooked by Dr. Hill. Daily, for seven weeks, she got up at 3:00 each morning and prepared a home cooked, full course meal, including two desserts and homemade rolls or corn muffins. This meant going beyond the role of program director, counselor and instructor.” _ UTC Chancellor Roger Brown

For full text from Letters of Support from University of Tennessee Chancellor Roger Brown See:

[Letter – UTC Chancellor Emeritus Roger Brown](#)

See also Other Letters:

[Letter-UTC Vice Chancellor Richard Brown 1-21-2016-1.pdf](#)

[Letter-Boatwright-President Obama-9-8-15.pdf](#)

[Letter-BreaktheCycle-DwightHarrison-President Obama-Sept 8 - 15.pdf](#)

[Letter-DC Son-President Obama-Sept 8 2015.pdf](#)

[Letter-Preston Harris-President Obama 9-8-15.pdf](#)

[Letter-Danysha-President Obama-Sept 8 2015.pdf](#)