



# ABWHE National Newsletter

## President's Column



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*The following letter is sent to welcome new members to the ABWHE. Join President Carson-Warner in spreading the word about ABWHE and continuing to increase our membership.*

*Dear ABWHE Member,*

*Welcome to the sisterhood of the Association of Black Women in Higher Education, Inc. You are now a part of a prestigious group of women who promote intellectual growth and educational opportunity and attainment for Black women and youth and other groups who have been discriminated against. Our motto states, "ABWHE members seek to lift as we climb," and a result of*

*membership is the direct support we gain that empowers us as leaders, scholars, staff and students in the academy. You are invited to become an 'active' member by participating on one of many of the Association's committees.*

*Visit the website, [www.abwhe.org](http://www.abwhe.org), go to board members and find the contact for the committee of your interest.*

*Some of the benefits of membership in ABWHE consists of invitations to international, national and regional conferences. Our conferences serve as forums for the dissemination of information of interest to women at all levels in the academy. Of course, our conferences also serve as won-*

*derful opportunities for networking, finding that perfect mentor or mentee, broadening your colleague pool or just making new friends.*

*Because of the tough economic times travel budgets are diminishing at all our institutions. That is my reality. But in extraordinary times such as these is when we must find opportunities to reflect and renew in our professional lives. So, you have made a good decision to join ABWHE and be embraced by a nurturing network of women who are academic leaders and innovators from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts.*

*Sincerely,  
Carol O. Carson-Warner, Ed.D.*

## National Conference Update

The Association of Black Women in Higher Education, Inc.'s National Conference will be hosted by the Los Angeles Chapter. **"Mission Possible: Reaching New Heights in Academia,"** will be held on October 13—15, 2010 at the Radisson Hotel.

Four tracks of sessions are available during the conference. They include Personal

Development, Health and Wellness, Race and Gender and Leadership Development. Session topics include: Challenges and Opportunities: Professional Advancement in the Ivory Tower ; Social Determinants of Health: The Impact of Stress on African American Women; Women's Work: Gendered Issues of

Intellectual Engagement and Administration ; and Student Leadership: Life on Predominantly White and Historically Black Campuses. In addition, there will be student poster presentations and recognition of award recipients. Further details and registration materials are located on [www.abwhe.org](http://www.abwhe.org).



UCLA Conference Services

Source: [www.discoverlosangeles.com](http://www.discoverlosangeles.com)

*Become an ABWHE member: National membership applications are located at [www.abwhe.org](http://www.abwhe.org) or contact your local chapter!*

Source: [www.discoverlosangeles.com](http://www.discoverlosangeles.com)

## If We Work Together, They Will Come: Recruiting Black Females In Graduate Studies

Lindsay Torrico, Masters in Public Policy Candidate, UCLA

There is a key question at the heart of recruiting black female candidates in certain fields of graduate study: Is the Department to blame for the scarcity of black females in the program or are black females just not that interested or qualified?

With the emergence of the Policy Professionals for Diversity and Equity at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), I have been wrestling with this question about who is to blame for the lack of women of color in the policy, engineering, business and other departments. Without knowing what the underlying cause of their absence is, how will we find the solution?

My own experiences with department faculty reveal that it is not often a lack of inter-

est or effort on the part of the University to recruit diverse candidates. In the midst of an unprecedented fiscal crisis, most schools are operating under a strained budget, inadequate resources and a skeleton staff. While diversity recruitment enhances the experience of the student body, it simply is not a priority. Instead of pointing fingers, we must reach out to departments in a tactful and diplomatic way to provide them with the necessary support and advice on how to recruit potential black female applicants and address the barriers preventing them from matriculating.

For instance, departments must understand that financial aid and a welcoming environment are critical pieces to recruiting diverse candidates.

But black women in graduate education must also take the initiative to participate in the application process. These individuals should look for opportunities to meet with and provide support to secondary and undergraduate black female students to pave the way for a more diverse academic body and a more educated community of black female leaders.

Whether insufficient department recruitment efforts or lack of interest or some other unidentifiable variable can be attributed to the dearth of black women in graduate education, we all must work together – as the Policy Professionals for Diversity and Equity at UCLA has done – to ensure that everyone has the access and opportunity to receive a high-quality education.

## ABWHE Standing Committees

President Carson-Warner has invited you to get involved. The Standing Committees are in place in the National and local chapters. Volunteers are needed at all levels to ensure the activities of the association are implemented.

**CHAPTER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.** The Chapter Development Committee shall actively promote chapter development, review chapter applications, recommend geographic boundaries for chapters, and make recommendations to the Board of Directors. The Chair of the Membership and Credentials Committee is a member

of this committee.

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE.** The Conference Committee shall organize the various aspects of the annual conference, including site selection, program solicitation and development, budget preparation and oversight, and payment of bills through the Financial Affairs Committee.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.** The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, who will chair the committee, Vice President, President-Elect, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Treasurer and one Advisory Board Member. The Immediate past president shall be a

member of the committee for one year. A quorum of the committee shall consist of the President and three members. The duties of the committee shall be to assure the orderly transaction of Association business, to develop the agenda for the Board meetings, and to develop long range plans.

**FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.** The Financial Affairs Committee shall be composed of the Treasurer, Financial Secretary, President, Vice President, President-Elect, and one member at large. The Financial Secretary shall serve as Chairperson of the Committee.

The Committee shall prepare a budget for the upcoming fiscal year, and after approval by the Board, will present it to the membership at its Annual Meeting. This Committee shall have the responsibility for planning ways and means of raising revenue for the Association, making decisions on the procedures for paying bills, and monitoring the outflow of cash. The Committee will collaborate with the Chairperson of any fund raising activity, or Association planned event, to ensure that funds are available for the core needs of these activities, as well as lending their expertise to their plans.

**MEMBERSHIP AND CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.** The Membership and Credentials Committee shall actively promote membership, keep accurate records of the membership – in cooperation with the Financial Secretary – and certify membership. The committee will

determine voter eligibility of members, and monitor and tally votes at elections. The Chair of this committee is a member of the Chapter Development Committee, and shall certify the financial status of chapter members.

**NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE.** The Nominations and Elections Committee will present a slate of candidates to be placed in nomination for the election of officers of the Association. The membership of the Committee shall be elected by the members.

**PROGRAMS COMMITTEE.** The Programs Committee shall identify, plan and organize programs consistent with the goals and objectives of the Association.

**PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE.** The Publications Committee shall oversee the planning and development of all Association publications including the membership

newsletter, web-page, conference reports, keynote speaker series, and other documents to be published by the Association. This committee shall be composed of the Chairpersons of the various Association publications subcommittees and at least one Board member.

**RESEARCH AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE.** The Research and Evaluations Committee shall be responsible for the research, evaluation, and planning related to the Association's purpose and goals delineated in Article II of the By-Laws. This Committee shall be a resource for all committees of the Association and shall generally react to priorities established by the Board of Directors.

**RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.** The Resource Development Committee shall conduct fundraising campaigns and develop a program of on-going solicitation of funds.

## Chapter Updates

### Minneapolis Chapter

Welcome to the Minneapolis Chapter's Executive Committee!

President – Yvette Pye  
 Vice President – Starr Sage  
 Secretary – Darlene Fry  
 Treasurer & Webmaster – Karla Davis  
 Communication & Membership Chair – Eva Scates-Winston  
 Spiritual & Outreach/Community Leader – Yvonne Banks

### Chicago Chapter

Members of the Chicago Chapter joined with students from the City Colleges of Chicago which included six

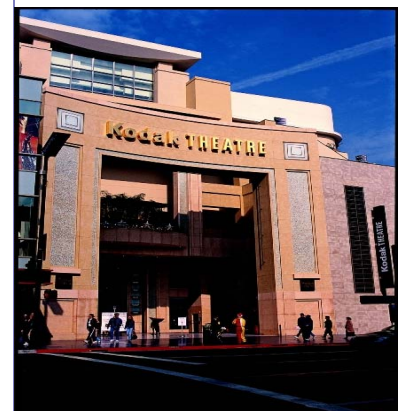
students from Olive-Harvey College, to experience an amazing program held recently in Chicago, IL. "Women Working Together — Writing the Next Chapter of herSTORY!" This program was presented by the Women's Bureau of the U. S. Department of Labor. No one left the program untouched by the stories shared and the struggles overcome by the presenters. The diverse group of presenters included Lisa Madigan, Illinois Attorney General, Reverend Willie Barrow, Rainbow Push Coalition Chairperson, Emeritus, Dr. Carol Gill, Director of the Chicago Center for Disability

Research, University of Illinois at Chicago, Dr. Elizabeth Ortiz, Vice President of Diversity and Equity at DePaul University and Bernada Wong, President of the Chinese American Service League. In addition, Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky, U. S. House of Representatives shared opening remarks with the group. As part of the intergenerational conversation young ladies also shared their stories and how more experienced individuals can serve as mentors. A major benefit for students were the willingness of presenters to share their personal contact information with attendees after the program.



Source: [www.discoverlosangeles.com](http://www.discoverlosangeles.com)

*Prepare to learn, network  
 and see the sights in  
 Los Angeles!*



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## Association of Black Women in Higher Education, Inc.

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Editor

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The Association of Black Women in Higher Education, hereinafter called the Association, is a national membership organization whose mission is:

- to promote the intellectual growth and educational development of Black women in higher education,
- to seek to eliminate racism, sexism, classism, and other social barriers that hinder Black women in higher education from achieving their human potential,
- to communicate the history, personal and professional achievements and contributions of Black women in higher education in order to help preserve the presence of Blacks in higher education,
- to provide academic and social mentoring for Black youth in order to insure a future generation of Blacks in higher education, and
- to utilize our talents, strengths, and expertise to advance a vision of social justice.

*ABWHE*  
“Lifting as we Climb”

### SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The Association of Black Women in Higher Education, Inc., Publications Committee requests submissions for the next edition of the newsletter. Articles will be accepted that will enhance the knowledge of African-American women in higher education. Articles may be research based papers, abstracts, informational items or reports on activities occurring in local ABWHE chapters. Articles may be no longer than 400 words. The Publications Committee reserves the right to edit all submissions. The Committee also reserves the right to accept or reject submissions. Material in the newsletter represents the point of view of individual contributors and does not necessarily reflect ABWHE’s position, unless so stated. Submissions should be forwarded to the editor, Dr. Ria R. Pinkston-McKee ([rrpm04@aol.com](mailto:rrpm04@aol.com)), in Microsoft Word format.

## Calendar of Events

National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators  
Denver, Colorado  
July 18—21, 2010

National Association of College and University Business Officers  
San Francisco, California  
July 24—27, 2010

Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)  
“Fitting STEM into the College Opportunity Equation”  
San Diego, California  
September 1—4, 2010  
Legal Issues in Higher Education  
Burlington, Vermont  
October 17—19, 2010

NASPA  
“Educating for Lives of Purpose”  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
March 12—16, 2011

American College Personnel Association (ACPA)  
“Be More” 2011 Conference  
Baltimore, Maryland  
March 26—30, 2011

[www.abwhe.org](http://www.abwhe.org)