The Annual Fall Convocation formally opens the academic year at Morris College and articulates the institution’s mission and expectations to help launch students toward good academic performance and satisfactory grades. At yesterday’s Convocation, in the Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center, President Luns C. Richardson and Dean Leroy Staggers were presented as the speakers.

Dean Staggers, academic dean since 1993, began by urging students to understand the importance of being actively engaged in their coursework and to do well. “Being in college is a wonderful opportunity for you to make your life count, to do something productive and important. You have the opportunity to be great.” Because staying in school and graduating helps enhance their purpose, Staggers offered practical, easy to understand recommendations to help every student stay in school until they graduate. He suggested the following: “Don’t waste your money and time; get your textbooks; attend classes on time; and get into the habit of studying every day.” He also recommended that students not violate policies regarding student conduct. Information about Policies Regarding Student Conduct can be found on pages 104-110 of the 2015-2016 Student Handbook. It can also be viewed on the college’s website via the “Student Life” link.

President Richardson gave an overview of the college’s history, especially for new students and faculty. Owned and operated by the Baptist Educational and Missionary Convention of South Carolina, Morris College was established in 1908. When he became the 9th president in 1974, the institution had already begun the candidacy stage of accreditation. In 1978, the institution started on its road to success with the president leading the institution in achieving the goal of being accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate degrees. The Richardson-Johnson Learning Resources Center was the first building constructed during Richardson’s tenure as it was needed to comply with accreditation standards.

“Morris College is not a struggling institution trying to stay accredited,” he said. “The institution has had its accreditation reaffirmed four times without any deficiencies or recommendations from the accrediting agency.”

Richardson briefly spoke on the expansion of the campus with the erection of several new buildings, including those constructed with the generous $10 million gift given by Dr. Solomon Jackson, Jr. in 2010.

...continued on page 2
SEPTEMBER 12, 2015
9:00 a.m.
STUDENT LEADERSHIP RETREAT II
Note: Officers of classes, clubs and organizations are invited to attend.

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015
4:00 p.m.
TEACHER EDUCATION MEETING
H. H. Butler Building, Conference Room
OPERATIONS WITH FRACTIONS
WBSB, Room 104
7:00 p.m.
OPEN MIC & FORUM ON RACISM AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
Student Center
Note: This event is presented by the Literary Society and Sociology Club

SEPTEMBER 17, 2015
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
CONSTITUTION DAY
Front Lawn, Academic Hall
Note: Everyone is asked to wear red, white, and blue.

6:00 p.m.
LADY HORNETS VOLLEYBALL
Paine College
Garrick-Boykin Human Development Center

OUTLET TO DELIVER SGA ADDRESS SEPTEMBER 17
On Thursday, September 17, the Student Government Association (SGA) will present its annual assembly. The speaker will be 2015-2016 SGA president, Patrick Nathaniel Outler.

Outler, a native of Augusta, GA, is a senior elementary education major. As an honor student and active student-leader he is an O. R. Reuben Scholar, on the Dean's List, and listed in Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

A few of his other student-leader affiliations include member of the Call Me MISTER Program, Phi Beta Lambda National Business Fraternity, immediate past president of the Durham Ministerial Alliance, and the inaugural president of the Morris College Toastmasters Club.

Later this month, at the HBCU Week conference in Washington, DC; he will be inducted into the 2015-2016 HBCU All-Star cohort to serve as the White House Initiative on HBCUs student ambassador for Morris College.

The Sting is on EVERY Friday...
Join the campus community and wear Morris College paraphernalia or blue and gold!

STAY CONNECTED WITH US ONLINE AND VIA SOCIAL MEDIA  morris.edu facebook.com/MorrisCollege @MorrisColl1908

Academic programs were also expanded as President Richardson increased academic offerings from six academic majors, when he became president, to 21 academic majors currently available to students. He also gave a partial listing of some of the graduate and professional schools in to which Morris graduates are fully accepted. He concluded by wishing everyone a good year and challenging students to be informed, recharged and to maximize their resources and continue their education.

The longest serving college president in South Carolina, Richardson announced that he has been officially affirmed by the United Negro College Fund (UNCF) as its longest serving president. Morris College became a UNCF member institution in 1982.

Seated on the platform in addition to the president and academic dean were members of the president’s cabinet, academic division chairpersons, the Student Government Association president and Miss Morris College.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE - The new 16,400 square-foot administration building is currently under construction. It is projected to be completed within a 15-month period and will house the Office of the President. Additional offices to be housed in the building will be announced later. This building is the final capital development project financed by the college’s generous gift of $10 million from Dr. Solomon Jackson, Jr.