2-1-2008

The 48th Sit-In Movement Anniversary Celebration Our Heritage: Redefining Our Legacy

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.library.ncat.edu/sitinprograms
The 48th Sit-In Anniversary Celebration

Reclaiming Our Heritage:
Redefining Our Legacy


February 1, 2008

Sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs
Dr. Sullivan Welborne, Jr., Vice Chancellor

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Greensboro, North Carolina
The Significance of February 1, 1960

As A&T freshmen students in 1960, Blair (later known as Khazan), McCain, McNeil, and Richmond requested service at the segregated lunch counter of the F. W. Woolworth's store in downtown Greensboro, North Carolina. After being refused service, they sat at the lunch counter until closing. The next day, twenty-five other students from A&T and other Greensboro colleges and universities joined them. During the next ten days, students across the state participated in similar sit-ins. By the third week of February 1960, demonstrations had spread to other states throughout the South. The "Sit-In Movement" spread to at least 250 major cities and towns in America in which over 400 demonstrations took place by the end of 1960. Millions of Americans joined this movement for equal rights. This lead to: (1) The passage of the 1960 Civil Rights Bill; (2) The interstate commerce commission ruling in September, 1961, against racial segregation on interstate carriers and terminals and, (3) The first National Public Accommodations Act in 100 years (Khazan, 2004). By the end of July 1960, the "Greensboro Four" had succeeded. Woolworth's was desegregated. Dr. Jibreel Khazan recounts the following:

On Sunday night, January 31, 1960, we decided we were going to request equal service for all Americans at F. W. Woolworth's lunch counter on Monday, February 1, 1960. We thank our life giver, Rabboni Yashua Al-Masih, our Parents, Relatives, Teachers, Friends, Believers in our life giver, Bishop Apostle Marcelino Manoel Da Graca, Mahatma Gandhi, Mrs. Rosa Parks, Drs. King and Abernathy, Their Families, SCLC, NAACP, Ms. Ella Baker, SNCC, Core, The Labor Movement, the Martyrs, I.B.P.O. Elks of the world, Prince Hall Masonic Lodge, F. & A. M., A. E., A. E. A. o. -Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and millions of Americans for "Helping to set the captives free." God sent us. We fulfilled the prophecy. All praises and thanks are due to our life giver for "God's amazing grace."

The legacy of our four heroes proves the true potential and appeal of nonviolence. It was their protest that became the model and inspiration for later civil rights, anti-war, and women's liberation movements. Their courageous actions contributed to a chain of events that changed the destiny of Americans.
Human Rights Medal Award

The Human Rights Medal, designed by Charles E. Watkins, is awarded annually by North Carolina A&T State University to recognize individuals who have endeavored to correct social injustice and have significantly contributed to the betterment of the world. The design features The A&T Four as they appeared as freshmen, a dove with an olive branch in its mouth, and four stools and a torch, all encircled by the name of the university.

The award was established to honor individuals whose courageous actions are a reflection of the extraordinary action against social injustice that was demonstrated by Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair Jr.), Dr. Franklin Eugene McCain Sr., Dr. Joseph Alfred McNeil, and the late Dr. David Richmond Jr. Their bold move to lead a group of students to take a stand for justice by sitting down at the lunch counter of the local Woolworths “five and dime” store initiated a wave of similar sit-ins by college students across the South.

Honorees include:

**Mr. Lewis A. Brandon, 2001**
Civil Rights Activist

**Mr. Vincent G. Harding, 2002**
Civil Rights Activist,
Co-Founder, *the Veterans of Hope Project*, Author

**Mrs. Rosemarie Frenzy Harding, 2002**
Peace and Reconciliation Activist,
Co-Founder, *the Veterans of Hope Project*, Author

**Mr. J. Kenneth Lee, 2004**
Attorney and Civil Rights Activist

**Dr. Julius Chambers, 2005**
Attorney, Leader, Educator, Civil Rights Advocate

**Dr. Alvin Blount, 2007**
Physician and Civil Rights Activist

AWARDS COMMITTEE

Candidates for this award are selected from nominations submitted to the Committee for Awards, Honorary Degrees, and Founders/Honors Day. The membership of this committee is appointed annually from N.C. A&T faculty and staff. The committee adheres to the criteria listed below when reviewing candidates. Following the committee’s review, the Chair of the committee sends recommendations to the Chancellor who announces the honoree.

ELIGIBILITY

The Human Rights Medal is presented to an individual who has had a positive impact on correcting social injustices and other humanitarian activities. Other humanitarian activities might include human welfare and social reform, acts of heroism, promotion of fellowship, dedication to technological discovery, academic advancements or contributions, diplomatic endeavors, and community contributions. Candidates for this award may be locally, nationally, or internationally recognized. Nominees for the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University’s Human Rights Medal are evaluated according to the need fulfilled and actions demonstrated by the individual and the scope of his or her contribution within the community.
The A&T Four

Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell Blair, Jr.)

Dr. Jibreel Khazan (Ezell A. Blair, Jr.), one of the A&T Four, was born in Greensboro in 1941. He received his basic education from the Greensboro Public Schools. As a member of the Crown and Sceptre Club and National Honor Society, Dr. Khazan received an academic scholarship to attend North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. During his tenure, he served as President of the Student Government Association and was an honor student. Dr. Khazan graduated in 1963 with a Bachelors of Science degree in sociology and social studies. He has studied at Howard University Law School, Massachusetts University in Dartmouth, Massachusetts in the field of education and also studied voice at the New England Conservatory of Music. He received the honorary doctorate of humanities degree from North Carolina A&T State University.

Dr. Khazan has served as a tutor/counselor for Rodman Job Corps Center, a minority history teacher at OIC (Opportunities Industrialization Center) in Boston, Mass., programming coordinator for Boston area construction trades program – AFL/CIO, skills teacher/counselor for CETA, taught a pilot course on Afriyaaan American history for the New Bedford, Mass. Public Schools, and worked as program assistant for adults who are developmentally disabled. Dr. Khazan is a Mass-Star Story teller, Oracle, Oral Historian, and Lecturer.

Dr. Franklin Eugene McCain

Dr. Franklin McCain, one of the A&T Four, currently a resident of Charlotte, N.C. retired from the Hoechst Celanese Corporation Headquarters in New York, N.Y. and Charlotte, N.C. He held a number of positions in the technical and marketing/sales divisions, progressing from development chemist to division executive. Dr. McCain received the honorary doctorate of humanities from North Carolina A&T State University. He graduated from A&T with a B.S. degree in Chemistry and Biology. He did further study and training at N.C. State University, Princeton University, Farr Associate, Clemson University and American Management Association, New York, N.Y.

Dr. McCain has remained extremely active in his community while holding leadership positions in the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc., Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity, the Bond Campaign for Mecklenburg County, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews, to name a few. Dr. McCain is an Elder at Memorial Presbyterian Church and formerly sat on the Board of Visitors of Bennett College and the Board of Trustees at North Carolina Central University. He is past member of the Board of Trustees at the Nivens Center for the Retarded, McCorey YMCA, and the Charlotte Business League, among many others. Dr. McCain is presently a member of the Board of Trustees at North Carolina A&T State University and also holds membership in the A&T State University Alumni Association. He is a man with many honors and awards. He and his wife, Betty, have three sons.
The A&T Four (cont’d)

Dr. Joseph Alfred McNeil

Dr. Joseph McNeil, one of the A&T Four has enjoyed varied professional career interests. Following graduation, he served active duty in the U.S. Air Force as a flight navigator. Thereafter, he worked in investment banking and financial management, consultancy and services. He retired from the Federal Aviation Administration in May, 2002 located in Jamaica, New York. Mr. McNeil served for over 15 years and was the head of the Flight Standards Division for the Eastern region of the United States.

Dr. McNeil retired from the United States Air Force Reserve in February 2000 with the rank of Major General. General McNeil served for over 37 years and was involved with efforts in Desert Storm and Vietnam. He retired as the Mobilization Assistant to the Chief of the Air Force Reserves, and previously served as a Wing Commander and Numbered Air Force Commander. He received the Air Force Distinguished Service Medal upon retirement.

Dr. McNeil has been awarded honorary degrees from St. John’s University in Jamaica, New York and North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in Greensboro, North Carolina. McNeil graduated from North Carolina A&T in 1963 with a degree in Physics. He and his wife Ina, have five children and nine grandchildren.

(The late) Dr. David Leinail Richmond

Dr. David Richmond, one of the A&T Four was born in Greensboro, N.C. and graduated from James B. Dudley High School. He entered North Carolina A&T in the fall of 1959 and majored in business administration and accounting. After leaving A&T, he became a counselor-coordinator for the CETA program in Greensboro, a position that permitted him to assist disadvantaged youth and adults. Dr. Richmond died in Greensboro on December 7, 1990. He is survived by two children.
George H. Evans was born, May 18, 1907 in Milan, Tennessee. He is the third born of three children to James Royal Evans and Lillie Carmichael Evans.

Dr. Evans attended Roger Williams University in Nashville, Tennessee. Medical training at Meharry Medical College where he graduated in 1933 followed this. He obtained hospital training at City Hospital, Number 2 (later named Homer G. Phillips Hospital) in Saint Louis, Missouri. He did further graduate training in Ob Gyn at the Polyclinic Hospital in New York City.

During the period that Dr. Evans was at City Hospital No. 2 in St Louis he met his wife, Margueritte Webster of St. Joseph, Missouri; who was a nurse at the same hospital. They married, September 23, 1934. In December 1934, Dr. Evans began his medical practice in Greensboro, North Carolina. After 47 years of dedicated service as a physician in Greensboro, Dr. Evans retired in 1981. He has the proud claim to have delivered over 3000 babies in this city.
George and Margueritte Evans are the proud parents of one son, James Webster Evans, who is now deceased. They take comfort in their two grand sons, James Alan Evans and Alexander Noel Evans.

Dr. Evans has an extensive record in many medical, civic and religious activities. He served as a member of the Board of Trustees of L. Richardson Memorial Hospital from 1935-1957 and as Secretary of that board for 20 years. He also served as Chief of the Medical Staff at L. Richardson in 1950 and 1951. It is to be noted that Dr. Evans served on the Medical staff at L. Richardson for the entire 47 years of his medical practice. He was a member of the Old North State Medical Society and served as its President in 1950-51. In 1967 he was named Doctor of the year. He continues to be an active member of the Greensboro Medical Society.

Dr. Evans has served his community well: During the struggled for integration, Dr. Evans was appointed Chairman of the Mayor’s Special Committee on Human Relations. For this work he is credited with furthering community harmony and understanding. He also served on several other groups; the Greensboro City Board of Education for ten years, Board of Trustees of Bennett College, the Governor’s Human Relations Committee, the Greensboro Community Health Service, the Greensboro American Cancer Society, the Greensboro American Red Cross, the Hayes-Taylor YMCA, the United Services for Older Adults and continues active membership in the Greensboro Men’s Club.

Dr. Evans is a dedicated member of the St. James Presbyterian Church where he has served as a member of the Men’s Choir, the Trustee Board, the Community Relations Committee and the Finance Committee.

Dr. Evans is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and the Beta Epsilon Boule’ and has served as its Sire Archon (President).

On September 23, 2007 Dr. Evans and Mrs. Evans celebrated their 73rd Wedding Anniversary. With retirement they have traveled extensively, some have been Bermuda, Egypt and Greece. Until recently he remained active with fishing, golf and vegetable gardening. He however remains active with some community activities and his church.
48th Sit-In Anniversary Celebration
Friday, February 1, 2008

6:00 a.m.  Sit-In Breakfast  Williams Cafeteria
Musical Interlude

7:15 a.m.  PROGRAM
David Street, Presiding
President, N. C. A&T Student Government Association

Welcome........................................... Dr. Judy Rashid, Committee Chairperson
Posting of the Colors........................... North Carolina A&T Army and Air force ROTC
Prayer................................................... David Street
Black National Anthem.......................... N.C. A&T State University Gospel Choir
Introduction of Guest Speaker ................. Minister Maurice Scott, President
                              A&T Student Chapter of the NAACP
Guest Speaker .................................... Rev. Dr. William Barber, II, President
                               North Carolina NAACP State Conference of Branches

Presentation of the Human Rights Medal ..... Chancellor Stanley F. Battle

Introduction of the A&T Four................. Dr. Sullivan Welborne, Jr.,
                              Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Special Presentation............................. Dr. Velma Speight-Buford, Chairperson,
                              N.C. A&T Board of Trustees

Retrieval of the Colors

8:45 a.m.  SPECIAL UNVEILING
North Carolina A&T State University Choir (Singing of the Alma Mater)

3:00 p.m.  Sit-In Roundtable Discussion with the A&T Four
Memorial Student Union, Stallings Ballroom
WILLIAM J. BARBER, II.
PASTOR, Greenleaf Christian Church
Chairman, Rebuilding Broken Places C.D.C.
Goldsboro North Carolina, 27534
and President, North Carolina NAACP State Conference
of Branches, Durham North Carolina

Foundational Scriptures:
He is married and has five children. Rev. William J. Barber, II, –son of Eleanor P. Barber and the late Reverend Dr. William J. Barber Sr. was ordained into the ministry by the N.C. region of the Christian Church in November 1989. He was blessed to serve the Fayette Street Church in Martinsville, Va. from 1989-1992. Following this fruitful ministry, he was called to be pastor of the Greenleaf Christian Church in Goldsboro, N.C.

He graduated cum laude from North Carolina Central University in Durham, N.C., receiving a B.A. in Political Science. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University. He was a Benjamin Mays Fellow and a Dean scholar. Rev. Barber has a doctoral degree from Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, with a concentration in Public Policy and Pastoral Care. His Doctoral Min. thesis was entitled Guided By the Spirit: Development of a Pneumatological Framework for Training and Evaluating Local Churches Engaged in Community and Economic Development Ministries.

Additionally, he has served as campus minister, N.C. Central University, Durham, N.C. and later as the Executive Director of N.C. Human Relations Commission, State of North Carolina appointed by then Governor Jim Hunt. Rev. Barber has also served as an adjunct instructor at N.C. Wesleyan College and a joint adjunct instructor at North Carolina Central University with the Department of Public Administration and Duke Divinity School.

Rev. Barber’s membership affiliations have included the following: North Carolina Central University Board of Trustees, NAACP State Political Action, Barton College Board of Trustees, Regional Board of Christian Churches in North Carolina, and the Church Action for Safe and Just Communities.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the community, Rev. Barber has won numerous awards which include: Honorary Doctorate of Divinity, A National Medical Association Award, Outstanding Young Men in America Award, Goldsboro Human Relations Award, Alumni of the Year Award-Wayne County Chapter of North Carolina Central University Alumni, ALPHA PHI ALPHAA Citizenship award, and the Omega Psi Phi Citizenship Award.

For over 12 years he has served as God’s servant at Greenleaf Christian Church DOC, Goldsboro, NC. Many souls have been saved, lives transformed and more than 32 ministries have been birthed or strengthened to bring glory to God

By the grace of God, Rev. Barber has actively worked with our youth and has proven to be an inspiration. His diligence and devotion led to the development of several noteworthy programs that support our youth’s welfare and education. He developed project YESS: Youth Energized for Service and Success, a program designed to enable students who are failing at the sixth through the
eighth grade level to achieve academically. Rev. Barber was instrumental in organizing a program termed “Anonymous WE for Education,” an educational policy watch group which he serves as Chairman. He also developed a Religious and Political Leaders Public Policy Seminar. He leads as Chairperson of a non-profit organization called “Rebuilding Broken Places,” which is a community development initiative born out of a vision from God to build affordable single family houses, senior citizen housing, job training, affordable child care, and inner city revitalization in Goldsboro. Through this effort, Rev. Barber has helped to develop homes for flood victims, first time home buyers, led the effort to secure a low moderate income senior citizen’s complex, and the construction of a community development resource center. To date this has resulted in more than 5 million dollars of community development initiatives. Rev Barber has written one book entitled, “Preaching Through Unexpected Pain”, several articles, hosts two radio shows on WSSG (Praise with a Purpose) and WFMC (Catch the Fire) and has been featured in two national publications and on several television programs.

Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II is the President, North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP. Since being becoming President he has lead the North Carolina NAACP State Conference to national recognition by being the recipient of the 2006 Juanita Jackson Mitchell, Esq. Award for legal activism. The highest award in the NAACP for Legal Redress for Advocacy Instrumental in NAACP efforts, which include:

- Fighting and securing over 100 million new dollars for low wealth and disadvantaged students
- Joining with Center For Civil Rights filing an amicus brief to the NC Supreme court and the US Supreme court to protect minority legislative districts
- Leading in the organization of People of Color Legislative Day and a coalition of over 77 organizations
- Securing more than 2 million new dollars to address Health Disparities
- Securing more than 19 Million new dollars for affordable housing
- Winning a moratorium on landfills in NC.
- Helping to secure a bill on Fairness and Sentencing
- Presenting a final address the 1898 Wilmington Riot Commission and laid out a clear agenda for redress and reparation.

Additionally, he has been awarded keys to the cities of Chattanooga, TN., Dunn, NC, Lagrange, NC, Fayetteville, NC, Hickory, NC and Clinton, NC

At heart, Rev. Barber is a country preacher with a conviction for social justice, prophetic ministry, deliverance, and a heart of love for all those in need of the good news of Jesus Christ.
Lift Every Voice and Sing

Lift ev'ry voice and sing, Till earth and heaven ring,
    Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise High as the list'ning skies,
    Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
    Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
    Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, Bitter the chastening rod,
    Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, Have not our weary feet
    Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way with that tears have been watered;
We have come, treading our path thro' the blood of the slaughtered,
    Out from the gloomy past, Till now we stand at last
    Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
    Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might Led is into the light,
    Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from places,
    Our God, where we met Thee;
Lest, our hears drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee;
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, May we forever stand.
    True to our GOD, True to our native land.
Alma Mater

Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., a monument indeed,
Around thy base with grateful hearts behold thy students kneel,
We bless the power that gave thee birth to help us in our need,
We'll ever strive while here on earth all loyalty to yield.

Refrain
With joy, with joy, dear A. and T., thy students turn from thee
To spread thy trophies year by year from Dare to Cherokee.

II
Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., the signet thou shall be
Set by our great old common wealth, proud boaster of the free;
She'd have the record of her worth on granite not inscribed-
Nay let the children of her birth proclaim it by their lives.

III
Dear A. and T., dear A. and T., henceforth our aim shall be,
By precepts wise and deeds more sure to bless the State through thee;
The arts of industry to wield against an idle foe.
A harvest rich from ripened fields of what thy students sow.
48th Sit-In Anniversary Celebration Committee

Dr. Judy Rashid, Chairperson
Mr. Donald Brandon
Mr. Lewis Brandon, III
Mrs. Kay Harris
Travis Jackson
Ms. Candace M. Johnson
Mr. Tamba Lebbie
Mrs. Marian Lee
Ms. Peggy Oliphant
Dr. Maria Palmer
Mr. Maurice Scott
Mr. Anthony Stevens
Mr. David Street
Mrs. Wyndon Wilkie-Knight
“Reclaiming our Heritage: Redefining Our Legacy”

NKYINKYIM

Adinkra symbol of TOUGHNESS, ADAPTABILITY, DEVOTION TO SERVICE AND RESOLUTENESS