

Agnes Scott College

The President's Letter Founder's Day, 1974

Founder's Day, coming as it does about half-way through the academic session, is thus an especially appropriate time to make a brief mid-year report on College affairs. This is the first of what I hope will be many such Founder's Day letters from me to the Agnes Scott family. They will be informal; I hope you will also find them informative.

Let me say first that Mrs. Perry and I are increasingly grateful for the warm welcome which the whole Agnes Scott community — students, faculty, staff, trustees, alumnae — continues to give us. We are delighted to be here and proud to have a share in this crucial period in Agnes Scott's history.

You may recall that, shortly after my arrival here, I singled out three areas which appeared to me to call for immediate action: student recruitment and retention, improvement of faculty and staff salaries and benefits, and renovation of the physical plant and grounds. To be sure, there are other matters of equal importance if of less urgency at this time — the academic program, for example — , and they will receive attention also; but the three mentioned above call for immediate action.

Several of the following paragraphs describe some of the ways we have moved this year to deal with these pressing matters. Additional activities, in these and other areas, could be cited. But this sampling will, I hope, give you some idea of what we have been up to so far in 1973-1974. I am especially appreciative of the College-wide concern and energy which these developments represent.

The Trustees have taken steps to improve the retirement remuneration of our emeritus faculty members. Many of these devoted people concluded their service to the College before our retirement program had been in effect long enough to be of much benefit to them. Using a formula based on length of service and amount of income currently being received, the College began as of January 1, 1974, to provide a monthly supplement to these emeritus professors. The active faculty and staff will also receive salary raises for 1974-1975 as part of a long-range plan to improve overall compensation at Agnes Scott.

Admissions applications for next fall's entering class are running ahead of those at the same time last year. Good students, however, are always needed. Thus, one of the greatest services that alumnae and friends can render is to interest promising young women in Agnes Scott. As previously announced, Mrs. Ann Rivers Thompson, '59, will become Director of Admissions, as of July 1. Miss Laura Steele will devote full time to her duties as Registrar.

In recent weeks Agnes Scott has received a number of significant gifts and grants. The Charles A. Dana Foundation has given the College \$250,000.00 toward the establishment of four Dana Professorships. The College will match this gift, and the income from the combined total will be used to supplement the normal remuneration of four Dana professors in the next three years. This gift marks the third time that the Charles A. Dana Foundation has made a grant to Agnes Scott, the first being the one which resulted in our Charles A. Dana Fine Arts Building and the other a series of gifts funding our Dana Scholarship Program.

Two anonymous foundations have recently given Agnes Scott \$250,000.00. One of these gifts is for \$50,000.00 for the Department of Biology, and the other is a gift of \$200,000.00 for the purchase of additional property adjacent to the campus. A trustee has just given us \$59,820.00 which will be used for library renovation, as will a gift of \$15,000.00 from the Lenora and Alfred Glancy Foundation. All in all, Agnes Scott has received some \$800,000.00 in gifts and grants since July 1, 1973. We are deeply appreciative of this fine support and the faith in Agnes Scott which it signifies. We still have a long way to go to reach our goal of \$1,110,000.00 by June 30. I am confident, however, that by working together we can achieve it.

Campus improvements scheduled for this year, in addition to the library renovation, include new outside lighting, adequate directional signs, and air conditioning one dormitory and the auditoriums in Presser. Campus landscaping improvements and an additional athletic field are planned for the immediate future.

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On April 2 and 3 Agnes Scott will host its second Atlanta Environmental Symposium. The emphasis this year will be on land use. Ralph Nader, founder of Public Citizen, Inc., of Project for Corporate Responsibilities, and of Public Interest Research Group, will speak on "Corporate Land Practices." Stewart Udall, former U.S. Secretary of the Interior, will speak on "Eastern Wilderness Protection."

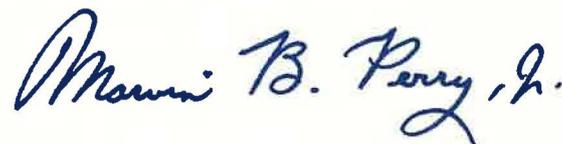
Beginning this summer, Agnes Scott is making its campus and facilities available for summer conferences. Already four groups are committed to being here, and a fifth group hopes to schedule its conference for our campus. We are making a modest charge for our facilities, and those who have investigated what we have to offer have been highly pleased. I believe having these visitors will be a real advantage to our public relations and student recruiting programs.

Four veteran faculty members whose aggregate service to Agnes Scott totals 127 years will retire at the end of this session: Dr. Josephine Bridgman, Professor of Biology; Dr. Florene J. Dunstan, Professor of Spanish; Dr. M. Kathryn Glick, Professor of Classical Languages and Literatures; and Dr. Roberta Winter, Professor of Speech and Drama.

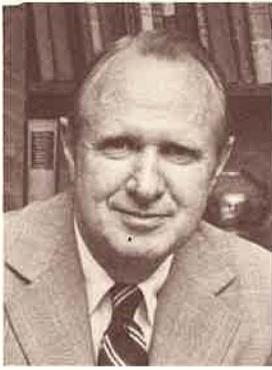
I am pleased to announce that as of March 15, 1974, Mr. R. James Henderson will become Agnes Scott's Vice President for Business Affairs. Mr. Henderson is currently Vice President for Business and Administrative Affairs at Newton College near Boston, Massachusetts. He is a graduate of Kansas State University, holds a master's degree from Ohio University, and earned a certificate from the Institute of Educational Management at the Harvard Business School. Mr. Henderson will have overall responsibility, directly under the President, for the Business Office, the Treasurer's Office, Buildings and Grounds, purchasing, security, and most of the auxiliary services of the College.

The speaker at our Founder's Day Convocation on February 20 will be Dr. James G. Leyburn, Professor of Sociology Emeritus and Dean Emeritus of Washington and Lee University. Like his sister, the late Professor Ellen Douglass Leyburn of Agnes Scott, Dean Leyburn was for many years an outstanding scholar-teacher whom students and colleagues admired and loved.

The Phi Beta Kappa lecturer this spring will be Sir John Eccles, Nobel prize-winning biophysicist. Sir John is currently distinguished Professor of Physiology and Biophysics at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He and Lady Eccles will be guests on our campus March 4 and 5.



Marvin B. Perry, Jr.



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The President's Newsletter October, 1974

As the 1974-1975 academic year (our 86th) gets under way, it is gratifying to report that, for the first time in several years, our freshman class is larger than its predecessor. There are some 182 new students, of whom 152 are freshmen and the remainder transfer and special students. They represent some 18 states and the District of Columbia as well as the Canal Zone, West Germany, France, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia, Puerto Rico, Sweden, and Turkey. There are at least 15 alumnae daughters and 9 Agnes Scott sisters in the class. As in past years, the great majority of this year's freshmen stood in the top fifth of their high school class, and the variety of their extra-curricular interests and activities is impressive.

For the first time Agnes Scott participated last summer in "Stay and See Georgia Week," sponsored by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and held annually at Atlanta's Lenox Square. There were four categories of entrants, and I am pleased to report that our College won first prize in its category. Our exhibit was most attractive and innovative, eliciting much favorable comment for Agnes Scott. The event began on Monday, July 29, and went on from 10:00 A.M. to 9:30 P.M. for six days. We are deeply grateful to a sizeable group of alumnae who in two-hour shifts staffed Agnes Scott's booth during this week. In October our display will be at Lenox Square again for an event sponsored jointly by the Atlanta Woman's Chamber of Commerce and Lenox Square. The Agnes Scott exhibit was so planned and executed that we shall be able to use it in various ways during the coming year. You will, I think, be interested to know that we have already been invited to participate in a similar event next summer when the theme will be "Stay and See America in Georgia."

As many of you are already aware, Agnes Scott last summer opened its facilities to groups desiring to hold conferences here. This first year was an experimental one. Between mid-June and mid-August, six different groups were on campus — totaling more than 900 visitors. They ranged from a dance camp to school administrators to church groups. Each contingent seemed very pleased with our accommodations, and we think the experiment was highly successful. Consequently, we are continuing the same program next summer, and already four or five groups are tentatively booked to be here. We are convinced that having these visitors on campus, where they can experience something of Agnes Scott, even in the summer, is an excellent means of public relations for the College.

Our 1974 summer study abroad program took one group of students to Madrid under the leadership of Dr. Marie H. Pepe, Professor of Art, and Dr. Constance-Shaw, Associate Professor of Spanish; a second group was in Marburg, West Germany, under the direction of Dr. Gunther Bicknese, Professor of German. Next summer our program will be offered in the British Isles under the direction of Dr. Michael J. Brown, Professor of History. The area of study will be the social history of Tudor and Stuart England.

The budget which the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees has approved for the 1974-1975 year totals \$4,318,931.00. This amount represents an increase of 8.78% over the 1973-1974 budget.

Agnes Scott alumna and trustee Catherine Marshall LeSourd has recently published a new book entitled *Something More: In Search of a Deeper Faith*. This is Mrs. LeSourd's thirteenth book.

It gives me much pleasure to announce the appointment of Mrs. Martha C. Huntington to be Dean of Students. A full account of Mrs. Huntington will be found in my annual report which will appear in the fall issue of the *Agnes Scott Alumnae Quarterly*.

Faculty members who are or will be on leave during the 1974-1975 session are Mr. John L. Adams, Assistant Professor of Music (entire year); Dr. Alice J. Cunningham, Associate Professor of Chemistry (entire year); Dr. Claire Hubert, Associate Professor of French (entire year); Dr. Raymond J. Martin, Professor of Music (fall quarter); Dr. Marie H. Pepe, Professor of Art (spring quarter); Dr. Philip B. Reinhart, Assistant Professor of Physics (winter quarter).

Faculty promotions effective with the 1974-1975 session are Dr. Margaret P. Ammons from associate professor to professor of education, Dr. Myrna G. Young from associate professor to professor of classical languages and literatures, and Dr. Linda L. Woods, '62, from assistant professor to associate professor of English.

Changes in faculty responsibilities for the 1974-1975 session are as follows: Professor Elizabeth G. Zenn is the new chairman of the Department of Classical Languages and Literatures; Associate Professor Constance Shaw serves as acting chairman of the Department of Spanish; Assistant Professor Philip B. Reinhart is acting chairman of the Department of Physics during the fall and spring quarters, and Assistant Professor George H. Folsom fills this same post as acting chairman for the winter quarter.

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Listed below are the new faculty appointments for 1974-1975. Most of these persons replace faculty members who retired or resigned or who are on leave:

Art

Evelyn M. Mitchell (B.A. Howard University, M.A. New York University), Lecturer in Art (spring quarter).

Biology

Gerald John Miller (B.S., M.S. University of Southern Mississippi; candidate for Ph.D., University of Georgia), Instructor in Biology.

Harry E. Wistrand (B.A. Austin College, M.A. North Texas State University, Ph.D. Arizona State University), Assistant Professor of Biology.

Chemistry

Mary Lucille Benton (B.A. Agnes Scott College), Instructor in Chemistry.

Classical Languages and Literatures

Gail Cabisius (B.A. Smith College; M.A., Ph.D. Bryn Mawr College), Assistant Professor of Classical Languages and Literatures.

Economics

William M. Vandiver (M.B.A., D.B.A. Georgia State University), Lecturer in Economics (part-time winter and spring quarters).

Education

Gue/Pardue Hudson (B.A. Agnes Scott College, M.A.T. Emory University), Assistant to the Dean of the Faculty and Lecturer in Education.

French

Frances Clark Calder (B.A. Agnes Scott College, M.A., Ph.D. Yale University), Visiting Associate Professor of French (part-time).

German

Viola G. Westbrook (B.A. William Smith College, M.A. Emory University), Lecturer in German (part-time).

History and Political Science

Bell I. Wiley (B.A. Asbury College, M.A. University of Kentucky, Ph.D. Yale University), Historian in Residence.

Music

William Wayne Hutchins (B.A. Olivet College, M.F.A. Carnegie Institute of Technology), Lecturer in Music (part-time).

Adele Dieckmann McKee (B.A. Agnes Scott College, M.S.M. Union Theological Seminary School of Sacred Music), Lecturer in Music (part time, fall quarter).

Lydia A. Oglesby (B.M. Baylor University, M.M. North Texas State University, candidate for D.M.A. North Texas State University), Lecturer in Music (part-time, fall quarter).

M. Lee Sutor (B.A., B.M. University of Redlands; M.S.M. Union Theological Seminary School of Sacred Music), Lecturer in Music (part time, fall quarter).

Philosophy

David P. Behan (B.A. Yale University, Ph.D. Vanderbilt University), Assistant Professor of Philosophy.

Physical Education

Ann E. McConnell (B.A. Kent State University, M.S. University of North Carolina at Greensboro), Instructor in Physical Education.

Psychology

Robert S. Miller (B.A. Amherst College, Ph.D. Dartmouth College), Assistant Professor of Psychology.

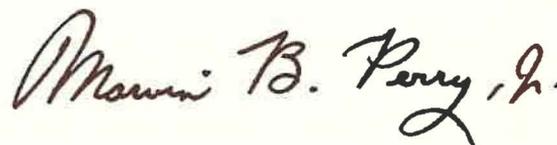
Spanish

Margaret Van Antwerp Norris (B.A. Duke University, M.A. Stanford University), Lecturer in Spanish (part-time).

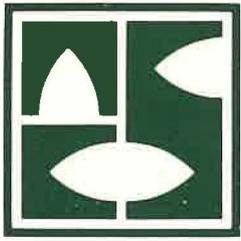
Speech and Drama

Jack T. Brooking (B.A. University of Iowa; M.A., M.F.A., Ph.D. Western Reserve University), Visiting Professor of Speech and Drama and Acting Chairman of the Department.

Events of interest for this autumn are Honors Day (October 9), Agnes Scott's observance of the Robert Frost Centennial (October 15 and 16), Investiture (November 2 and 3), and the on-campus Conference on Bioethics (November 6-8). I plan to comment on these events in my next newsletter.



Marvin B. Perry, Jr.



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The President's Newsletter December, 1974

Once again at Christmas time, Mrs. Perry and I cherish this opportunity to express to all the Agnes Scott family, far and near, our gratitude and affection for all you *do* for us and for all you *mean* to us. We count ourselves fortunate in your friendship, and we are grateful for the privilege of serving our great College.

At this blessed season of the year, may memories of the star of Bethlehem and the miraculous birth it heralded brighten our hearts and give us renewed faith and courage to carry on our lives with fresh meaning and hope.

On behalf of all of us here at the College, we send you warm Christmas greetings. We wish for all of you holidays of health and joy, and a New Year rich in Christ's blessings and bright with His abiding love.



Catherine S. Sims, long-time Professor of History and Political Science at Agnes Scott and more recently Dean of Sweet Briar College, returned to the campus on October 9 to deliver the Honors Day address. Her remarks reflected both her scholarly interests and her keen awareness of contemporary affairs, and much practical wisdom was woven into the fabric of her address. Another high point of interest at this Convocation was the announcement that the Class of 1977 had won the scholarship trophy on the basis of their work during the 1973-74 session. Each year at the Honors Day Convocation we also announce the names of the three Stukes Scholars, those members in the rising sophomore, junior, and senior classes, respectively, who rank first in scholarship based on the work of the previous session. The three Stukes Scholars this year are JoAnne DeLavan Williams, '75, of Decatur, Georgia; Judith Mason Sapp, '76, of Dalton, Georgia; and Lynn Galen Wilson, '77, of Gainesville, Georgia. The Rich Prize, given annually for distinctive academic work in the freshman class, was awarded to Anne Davis Callison, '77, of Asheville, North Carolina.



The Agnes Scott "Robert Frost Centennial: A Celebration of the Poet" held this fall on October 15 and 16 celebrated the centennial of the birth of a long-time friend of the college. Mr. Frost, between 1935 and 1962, made twenty visits to Agnes Scott to read his poetry and talk with faculty and students.

Among those who participated in the celebration were Kathleen Morrison, the poet's friend, secretary, and recent biographer; her husband Theodore Morrison, writer and long-time teacher at Harvard; Pulitzer prize-winning poet Richard Wilbur; and renowned literary critic and Yale University professor Cleanth Brooks.

The two-day celebration also included a dramatic and musical presentation of Frost's poetry and an address titled "Robert Frost at Agnes Scott" given by President Emeritus Wallace M. Alston, who was host to Frost for eleven of his visits to the College.

The College acknowledges the leadership which Professor Margaret W. Pepperdene, with her colleagues and students, gave to the Centennial.



On Sunday, October 27, Agnes Scott opened its Women's Invitational Art Exhibition. Thirteen local women artists were invited to exhibit their work, and the result was one of the best shows ever to be displayed in the College's Dalton Galleries. Painting, prints and drawings, pottery, fiber art—all contributed to a memorable show. The exhibition continued through November 26.



Investiture this autumn was, as usual, a high point in the college year. By election of the senior class, Kwai Sing Chang, Professor of Bible and Religion, was the convocation speaker on Saturday, November 2. On the next day, Sunday, the preacher was the Rev. Lawrence W. Bottoms, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States and pastor of Decatur's Oakhurst Presbyterian Church.

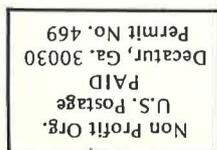


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Genetic manipulation and the right to die were among the topics discussed at the Conference on Bioethics sponsored by Agnes Scott College on November 6, 7, and 8. Directed by Agnes Scott professors Alice J. Cunningham (chemistry), Sandra T. Bowden (biology), Richard D. Parry (philosophy), the Conference was financially assisted by the National Endowment for the Humanities through the Georgia Committee on Public Programs for the Humanities.

Over 1,500 off-campus lay persons and professionals in law, medicine, theology, and government, as well as Agnes Scott students and faculty members, attended the symposium to hear addresses and panel discussions on current genetic technology, the right to die, human experimentation, medical ethics, and legal problems connected with these issues.

Speakers included Dr. Daniel Callahan, Director of the Institute of Society, Ethics and the Life Sciences at Hastings Center in New York; Dr. Bruce Wallace, Professor of Genetics at Cornell University; Dr. Jonas B. Robitscher, Henry R. Luce Professor of Law and the Behavioral Sciences at Emory University; Dr. Thomas C. Chalmers, President of Mount Sinai Medical Center and Dean of Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York; and Dr. William J. Curran, Frances Glessner Lee Professor of Legal Medicine in the faculties of Medicine and Public Health and lecturer in legal medicine at Harvard University.

President C. Benton Kline of Columbia Theological Seminary, formerly Dean of the Faculty at Agnes Scott, moderated the Conference.



The Agnes Scott Board of Trustees at its meeting on September 6 took action authorizing Chairman Alex P. Gaines, in consultation with the President of the College, to appoint a special college-wide committee to assess the present purpose, position, and needs of the College with a view to recommending long-range goals and plans for the remainder of this century. The study will consider all aspects of Agnes Scott's program, operations, and resources; and a report will make recommendations to the Board for insuring the future academic and financial strength of the College. It is obvious, therefore, that the work of this committee is of consummate importance. At a meeting of the Trustees on November 15, Chairman Gaines announced that the President of the College will be the chairman of this committee and that the following persons will serve with him:

From the Trustees: Neil O. Davis, Alex P. Gaines, Ben S. Gilmer, and Memye Curtis Tucker (Mrs. Jeffrey H.), '56

From the President's Advisory Council: Edward E. Elson

From the Alumnae: Jane King Allen (Mrs. Bona, IV); '59, Virginia Brown McKenzie (Mrs. John S.), '47, and Anne Rivers Payne Thompson (Mrs. Wayman J., Jr.), '59

From the Faculty: Professors Miriam K. Drucker, Thomas E. Simpson, and Myrna G. Young

From the Administration: Julia T. Gary, R. James Henderson, Martha C. Huntington, and Paul M. McCain

From the Students: Brandon Brame, '76, Mary Gay Morgan, '75, Susi Pedrick, '77, and Sally Stamper, '78

Marvin B. Perry, Jr.