

From the Dean's orientation dinner speech

EDUCATION: TRANSACTION OR TRANSFORMATION

Should you view your college education as a transaction or a transformation?" Dean of the College Sarah Blanshei posed the question to incoming students during orientation dinner last fall. Her answer may interest parents, as well.

She explained that in a transaction someone pays—the student, her parents, the endowment, the government—and receives, as does a consumer.

In this model, "the College is a depository of knowledge, and the faculty works to dispense this knowledge for you." Students receive the information and the credentials (the degree) for getting a job. "Very quickly," she said, "you forget 80 percent of what you've heard and read." In this model the education may prove to be no bargain and the consumer is inclined to ask for a refund.

On the other hand, a college student may be transformed by the educational experience, by what happens to her, by what she does and by the people she encounters.

In the transformation model, the College does not endeavor merely to report information but it becomes a community dedicated to the pursuit of truth and knowledge. "The student becomes a person who has the critical intelligence to challenge conventional wisdom, to evaluate evidence, to construct new hypotheses, to come to conclusions, in short, to recreate knowledge."

This model is not limited to transformation of the intellect. The transformation embraces personal discipline as well as moral, spiritual, social and physical development.

In this second, liberal education model, the benefits will accrue not only to the individual. "Transformational education is an investment in the future of society," Blanshei reminded students. "You are our future leaders."



Sarah Blanshei



SENIORS SET FUND RAISING RECORD

Britt Brewton, left, of Lilburn, GA, Molly Dohm, assistant director of the ASC Annual Fund, and Tiffany Goodman of Tampa, FL, chart the success of the Senior Class Campaign. The Class of 1994 has made a record number of pledges (63) for more than \$7,000 to the ASC Annual Fund. (Mary Alma Durrett Photo)

Spring/Summer

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| April 10
Opening, senior art exhibit
2-4:30 p.m. | April 16
CHIMO (internationals) banquet
7:30 p.m. | April 29-30
Student-directed One-Act Plays
8:15 p.m. | May 13
Baccalaureate vespers
4:30 p.m. |
| April 10
Joyful Noise concert
6 p.m. | April 17
Glee Club Concert
4 p.m. | April 30
London Fog Concert
8 p.m. | May 14
Commencement
9:30 a.m. |
| April 11
Theodore Skipitares lecture
8:15 p.m.
(Kirk Fund Event) | April 21-22
Studio Dance Theatre Concert
8:15 p.m. | May 4
Awards Convocation
10:25 a.m. | August 2
Tuition payment deadline |
| April 14-16 & 22
Blackfriars play, "The Visit"
8:15 p.m. | April 24
ASC Community Orchestra Concert
8 p.m. | May 6-11
Final examinations | September 24-25
Parents Weekend |



PHOTO: LAURA SIKES

For more information please call Dot Markert, Campus Events, 404-638-6408

Department of Publications
Agnes Scott College
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LETTER HOME

To the families of Agnes Scott College students

Spring 1994

A LETTER TO THE PARENTS

Dear Parents,

Your daughter may be away at College but no doubt you think of her often and enjoy being informed of what's happening at Agnes Scott. You may wonder how the institution is addressing your daughter's intellectual, physical and spiritual needs. Probably you would like to know more about the community where your daughter lives and studies. Anyone would.

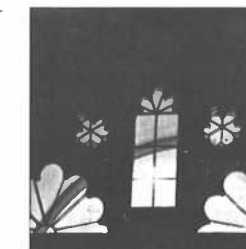


PHOTO: MONICA WINKLER

This is your introduction to a special newsletter from Agnes Scott College to you.

A Letter Home is designed to give you inside, up-to-date information about what's happening at your daughter's home-away-from-home. In this and future editions, A Letter Home will profile student activities, include words from members of the College administration, update you about changes on campus, and a regular column, Parents Tips, will include things like insider tips for saving money.



If your daughter is a junior or graduating senior, you may want to read this issue's Just Ask Us column for how you can assist in her job search.

On the back you will find a calendar of upcoming campus events just in case you're in town for a visit.

A Letter Home will arrive once each semester.

We invite your questions and comments.

So please keep in touch! You may write me at:
A Letter Home, Office of Publications,
Agnes Scott College, 141 E. College Ave.,
Decatur, GA 30030.

Ruth Schmidt

Cordially, Ruth Schmidt, president Agnes Scott College



NEWSBRIEFS OF NOTE

For commencement NPR's Nina Totenberg

Nina Totenberg, legal affairs correspondent for National Public Radio, will address graduating seniors, family and friends at Commencement at 9:30 a.m. Saturday, May 14, in the Presser Quadrangle. Millard Fuller, founder and president of Habitat for Humanity and father of graduating senior Georgia Fuller, will be the speaker for Baccalaureate Vespers at 4:30 p.m. Friday, May 13, in Gaines of Presser Hall.

Consultation service assists in Presidential search

The Presidential Search Committee has engaged the Academic Search Consultation Service [ASCS] to assist in filling the president's office which becomes vacant June 30 with the retirement of Dr. Ruth A. Schmidt. This firm has dealt with 300 college searches, including many women's col-

leges. Former ASC trustee Dr. Samuel Spencer, now with ASCS, will help conduct the search.

College receives a substantial NEH grant

The National Endowment for the Humanities has awarded Agnes Scott a \$152,041 grant to be used over three years for language departments and individual humanities disciplines to develop a language-across-the-curriculum program. Professor of German Ingrid Wieshofer will direct the program.

ASC awards first master's degrees

Ten candidates will receive the Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary English [MAT] degrees from Agnes Scott College this May. They are the first to complete this new graduate program which combines the study of education and English and features special emphases on gender equity and writing.

RING CEROMONY

Tish King '96 of Helena, AR, flashed her new onyx ring and a smile. "Now I have a class ring like other Agnes Scott women throughout the world."

This connection tying King with the College, classmates and alumnae, was formalized for her and the Class of 1996 during the ring ceremony held on Sophomore Family Weekend, in late February in Gaines Auditorium of Presser Hall.

This year's speaker Kimberly Kennedy '83, an anchor for Atlanta television station WXIA, noted the value of an ASC education. When she entered the work force a decade ago, she told students and their family members, "the Agnes Scott education gave me instant credibility."

Dean of Students Gué Hudson presented a ring to each sophomore as she was called on stage. The rectangular onyx and gold Agnes Scott class rings were first introduced in 1926 and have been worn by successive generations of graduates.—Caroline Bleke '83



Amanda Powell, left, of Spartanburg, S.C. and Osjha Anderson of Glennville GA compare Class of '96 rings.

JUST ASK US

Q. My daughter will be graduating in May. How can we help with her job search?

A. It's not always what you know, it's who you know—in today's competitive job market, that old saying is not necessarily cliché.

In fact, providing a network of friends and colleagues may be one of the best ways you can help a senior in her job search, suggests ASC Director of Career Planning and Counseling Amy Schmidt.

As your daughter pinpoints her career field you may want to sit down as a family and "make a list of contacts working in that same field," says Schmidt. "You may know a person in your church, the spouse of a co-worker, a friend, a relative. I think the family will be surprised with the number of contacts they can come up with."

Encourage your senior to participate in CP&C-sponsored how-to workshops in résumé-writing and interviewing (scheduled all through the year).

CP&C produces a Senior Year

Timeline with a task-by-task plan from September through May for the student to secure a job (or graduate school acceptance) by graduation.

The *Senior Letter*, a regular note from CP&C, lists available opportunities for job interviews (with recruiters who come to campus) and to make other contacts.

This month the *Senior Letter* notes two job fairs.

Atlanta area employers are sponsoring the Southeast All-College Career Fair from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. April 11 in the Galleria Center. For more information contact: Renee Miller at 662-0921.

The Georgia Department of Education is co-sponsoring the Education Job Fair from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on April 15 at the Georgia World Congress Center.

We welcome your questions on any subject. Please write Just Ask Us, Office of Publications, Agnes Scott College, 141 E. College Ave. Decatur GA 30030.

C&P EXTERNS, INTERNS AND SHADOWS

Good for the résumé: short-term work experience

In a competitive job market, notes ASC Director of Career Planning and Counseling [CP&C] Amy Schmidt, work experience is crucial to a graduate's job résumé.

This spring break, nine students worked as shadows of professionals in the Immigration and Refugee Services in Washington, D.C., in Atlanta's Wachovia Bank and South Carolina's General Assembly.

The Agnes Scott CP&C offers a wide range of exciting, short-term, paid and unpaid "experiential learning" opportunities from half-day shadows to week-long externships to semester or summer internships.

Placements are available in all major fields.

All students—first-year through senior—may participate.

The advantages to undergraduates: hands-on job experience, the chance to sample one or more careers and to understand the connection between academics and the world of work. Some externships and internships develop into summer or semester employment.

Seniors benefit as they establish professional networks for important job contacts. Sometimes, Schmidt says, a sponsoring business offers the student extern or intern a full-time job after graduation.

PARENT TIPS

Free Tuition for Fifth Year of Study

More than 50 recent graduates of Agnes Scott College have taken courses at ASC, tuition free, since the Scott-Free Year 5 Program began in fall 1992. Alumnae are eligible for Year 5 if they have completed graduation requirements within two semesters of enrolling in the program.

Stretch tuition payment

Prefer to pay tuition by installments? The Knight College Resource Group manages a

10-month tuition payment plan that begins in June. For an application or more information contact either ASC Financial Aid (404-638-6393) or ASC Accounting (404-638-6432).

Hope Grant increased to \$1,000 per year.

The Hope Grant for eligible Georgia students has been increased from \$500 to \$1,000 per year. Now students are eligible for the grant all four years of their education. It is no longer restricted to first-year and sophomore students.

ANONYMOUS DONOR FUNDS SUMMER SHARP!WOMEN

SHARP!Women, the nationally-recognized, hands-on program for educating high school and college-age women and minorities, as well as high-school teachers in science and research, has been funded for the summer of 1994 by an anonymous donor who made a gift of \$67,000.

PARENTS FUND COUNCIL CHARTER MEMBERS

Agnes Scott is forming a Parents Fund Council to help increase parents' awareness of the Annual Fund and its vital importance to the support of the College and its students. Council members will be responsible for enlisting parent support of this fund. Interested in being a charter member? Please contact Molly Dohm, assistant director of the annual fund at 404-638-6296 or 1-800-868-8602.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

First annual family weekend

Circle the dates Sept. 23-25 on your calendar and plan to bring the whole family to the first annual Agnes Scott College Family Weekend. (Look for details about the program and registration in the mail toward the end of summer.)

EMERGENCY?

Just call Public Safety

In case of an after-hours emergency, parents who need to get a message to their daughters may call the Agnes Scott Department of Public Safety [DPS] at 404-638-6400.

The DPS is a state-certified police department which works around the clock to serve the College community.

The department has developed a crime prevention program for the College which includes a handbook with safety tips (distributed in the fall) and a self-defense class for students.

After dark, students who need to cross campus or go to/return from the Decatur MARTA station may request a DPS escort.

The DPS retrieves keys in locked cars or jump-starts cars.

FROM THE DESK OF GUÉ HUDSON

From the Dean of Students' new student orientation speech, Aug. 27, 1994

This is a time of transition. After orientation weekend your family will be changed. As you are driving home, you will begin to realize how different your life will be. I know, because two days ago I made this trip with my family as we took my oldest son to college.

This most significant change is in our relationships—my relationship with my child, his relationship with me and the family circle, which has been reduced by one. I am accustomed to having long conversations with my son about his courses, his sports activities and his decisions. Now we will have to make a special effort to learn about each other's lives.

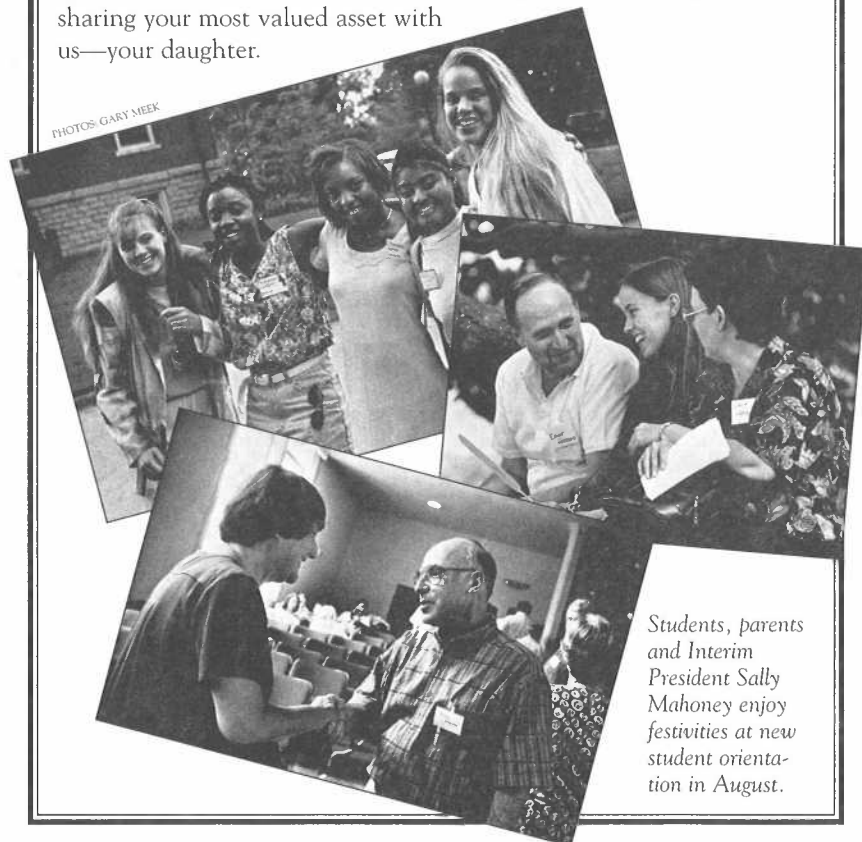
I believe that I have taken him to a college where he will meet friends, faculty and staff who will be interested in him and learn to know him as I do. I felt very good that he was at an institution that cares about his growth, his education and his values.

I want you to have the same experience as you meet some of the faculty, staff and students at Agnes Scott and begin to discover how much we care about our students. You will realize that we live in an environment supported by an Honor System and that the quality of our community life is very high. We learn together, play together and occasionally are homesick together. It is an exciting new adventure for your daughter and for you.

Although I know that the college years will have ups and downs, my son has wonderful people with whom to share those experiences. Be assured that your daughter is at a college that is also full of wonderful people and welcomes the opportunity to get to know her. We appreciate the compliment that you have given this College by sharing your most valued asset with us—your daughter.



Dean Gué Hudson '68



Students, parents and Interim President Sally Mahoney enjoy festivities at new student orientation in August.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Fall/Winter

- November 2 Blackfriars play "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe"—8:15 p.m.
- November 7 College Event Series performance, The Swingle Singers—8:15 p.m.
- November 23 Thanksgiving break (23-27)
- December 2 ASC basketball team vs. Warren Wilson at home—6 p.m.
- December 11 ASC Glee Club concert—3:30 p.m.
- December 14 Final exams begin (14-17)
- December 29-January 14 Global Awareness trip to Japan
- January 18 Spring semester classes begin
- January 31 ASC basketball team vs. Toccoa Falls at home—7 p.m.
- February 1 College Events Series dance performance, Feld Ballets/NY—8 p.m.
- February 8 Blackfriars play "Agnes of God"—8:15 p.m.
- February 2 ASC basketball team vs. Wesleyan at home—7 p.m.
- March 3 Sophomore Family Weekend
- March 11 Spring break—(11-19)

Senior Investiture ceremonies, Sept. 24



PHOTOS: MARY ALMA DURRETT

For more information please call Dot Markert, Campus Events, 404-638-6408

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LETTER HOME

To the families of Agnes Scott College students Fall/Winter '94-'95

A LETTER TO THE PARENTS

Dear Parents,

We are continuing this year *A Letter Home* which parents will recognize as a way we provide information that you frequently want to know about Agnes Scott College and your daughter's life here.

Parents of new students will note I have much in common with their daughters. As interim president I arrived just in time for orientation planning and student leadership programs, only shortly before the arrival of new students. The warm and thoughtful welcome I have received gives me special appreciation of the remarkable place that is Agnes Scott and how welcoming and supportive it will be for each of your daughters.

As interim president I expect to lead the College through 1994-95 during which time the Board of Trustees will select a permanent appointee. I relish the

year's leadership agenda, particularly the opportunity to work with a faculty-led academic review intended to sharpen the College's focus and to give the Board and the permanent president well-shaped options for the future. Students are involved as regular members of the review processes. Their engagement in the issues is remarkable to see. Their nuanced understanding of the long term is testimony to the intellectual and social maturity they have developed as students at the College.

We continue to invite your questions and comments. So keep in touch! You may write me at Agnes Scott College, Office of the President, 141 East College Avenue, Decatur, Georgia 30030-3797.

Sincerely,

Sally Mahoney

Sally Mahoney, Interim President, Agnes Scott College

Mahoney is senior associate provost emerita of Stanford University. She was appointed interim president on Aug. 22 and will serve during the search for a permanent president, expected to be completed by June 30, 1995.



President with students.

College names new chaplain

In August, Paige McRight '68 was appointed Julia Thompson Smith Chaplain. McRight comes to Agnes Scott from First Presbyterian Church in St. Petersburg, Fla. where she was associate pastor.

Seniors receive mortar boards

"Work hard to excel in your career, whatever you have chosen or will choose, but in the process do not forget to pause and assess what your actions might be doing for human progress or against it." This advice was given by Violet M. Johnson, assistant professor of history, to the 82 seniors and their families who gathered in Gaines Auditorium, Sept. 24, for Senior Investiture ceremonies. The sophomore "sister class" served as color guard and ushers during Investiture, the ceremony in which seniors formally receive their mortar boards.

Agnes Scott ranks in national publications

Agnes Scott College was listed as number 55 in *Money Magazine's* "100 Best Buys in College Education" in the Sept. 6 issue. The College moved up from number 65 in the fall 1993 issue.

The College was also one of the

two highest ranked women's colleges in the South in *U.S. News & World Report* Sept. 26 issue.

Senior class kicks off fundraising campaign

The Class of 1995's Senior Campaign for the Annual Fund is led by co-chairs Holly Demuth and Daka Hermon. Their challenge: to surpass the Class of 1994, which set a senior campaign record with 59 percent participation and \$7,800 in pledges to the Annual Fund.

Major Gifts

- The College has received a \$50,000 grant from the BellSouth Foundation for faculty development.
- The College received a gift of \$25,000 from the estate of Josephine Larkins '39. Another gift of \$25,000 was received from William H. Hightower and Elinor Hamilton Hightower '34 for a scholarship fund bearing Mrs. Hightower's name.
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded the College \$23,156, to be matched by Agnes Scott, for a \$46,352 project to fund chemistry research by Linda Hodges, William Rand Kenan, Jr. Professor of Chemistry.

PRE-MED ALLIED HEALTH PROGRAM

Prepares women for medical or graduate school

Today, more women are choosing to enter medical and scientific fields. As a result, Agnes Scott College is one of the few colleges in the Southeast to develop an innovative program to help women prepare for these professions, notes Myrna Goldberg, ASC's director of special programs. The College's Post Baccalaureate Pre-Medical and Allied Health Professions Program readies those who have earned college degrees, with or without a science background, to continue their education in medical or graduate school.

Students in the two-year program receive a basic foundation of undergraduate courses in physics, biology and chemistry. Outside of traditional classroom lectures, they also enroll in a co-curricular seminar which involves discussions of practical issues such as ethics. An internship rounds out their curriculum. Following completion of 36 to 40 credits, students earn a post-baccalaureate certificate.

Q. How can I help my daughter who wants to attend graduate school?

A. Assistant Dean of the College Patricia White counsels students considering graduate school. Her advice to parents, "Be supportive. There is a lot of competition to get into schools and, quite honestly, they may get both acceptance and rejection letters."

There are three main points to consider when choosing a graduate school: the school's area of expertise in a program of study; its location; and its size. Also, your daughter should assess her experience level in her field of study to determine if it matches the school's requirement. For example, many business programs find it favorable if the student has "practical" experience. On the other hand, many science programs want the student to continue graduate studies immediately after completion of the undergraduate degree.

White reminds students with an interest in teaching high school English that they can use their

Scott-Free Year 5 benefits while earning their Master of Arts in Teaching Secondary English (MAT), ASC's new graduate program.

Seeking advice from faculty is valuable. Encourage your daughter to talk with her professors about graduate school.

Students should also keep an eye out for Agnes Scott-sponsored seminars and workshops. In addition, graduate school catalogues, entrance exam applications and reference guides are available in the College's Resource Center.

Students are advised to write letters to schools as early as possible during the junior or senior year to find out application procedures and admission requirements. Many colleges have January and March deadlines. Applying early increases a student's likelihood of receiving a teaching or research assistantship to cover tuition and fees.

We welcome your questions on any subject. Please write Just Ask Us, Office of Publications, Agnes Scott College, 141 E. College Ave., Decatur, GA 30030

BLACK CAT

In one week there was a bonfire, dance, picnic, skit, games and pranks galore. The reason for all this fun and merriment? Black Cat.

Black Cat is an Agnes Scott tradition dating back to 1914. It was devised as a play competition between the first-year and sophomore classes to harness some of the sophomores' energy that had otherwise been expended hazing the new students. Today, Black Cat, named for an Agnes Scott professor's pet, has evolved into a week of campus-wide celebrating in October.

Dean of Students Gué Hudson '68 remembers it as a time for plenty of competition. "Part of the fun is that sophomore, junior and senior classes try to find out the first-year class' mascot which is kept 'top secret' until the bonfire."

Besides plotting ways to find out the mascot, one of the week's most popular activities is the junior class production that parodies social rules and academic regulations at Agnes Scott. Finally, Black Cat culminates with a dance on Saturday night.

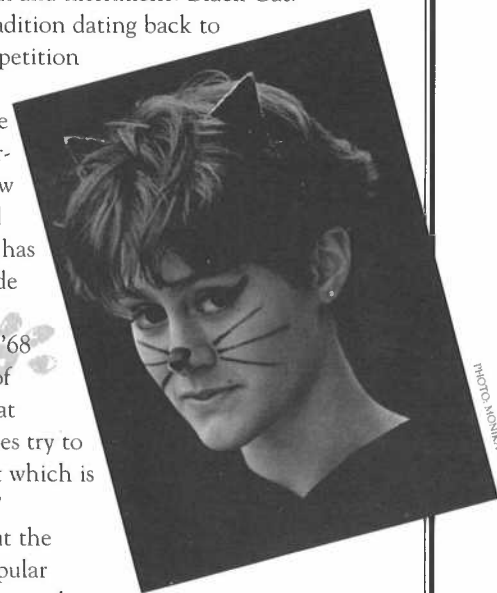


PHOTO: KODAK

Parents can recruit too!

The Office of Admission can use your help this fall in the recruitment of new students. Parents are invited to attend Great Scott! on Oct. 30-31, our fall overnight event, and Preview Saturday on Dec. 3 to learn more about Agnes Scott. Please feel free to contact the Office of Admission with any ideas you may have at 404/638-6285 or 800/868-8602 toll free.

Mark your calendars

- On Nov. 29, the Department of Education will send the 1995-96 Federal Renewal Application to

students' home addresses. Shortly thereafter, students who have applied for financial aid for 1994-95 will receive the 1995-96 Financial Aid Form. Hold on to the renewal application so that you and your daughter can complete both forms at once.

- Tuition bills for the spring semester will be mailed in early December.
- To receive the \$50 rebate for prompt payment of tuition for the spring semester, payments should be received in Agnes Scott's accounting office by Jan. 4, 1995.
- The scholarship application deadline is Jan. 5, 1995.

AGNES SCOTT HAS LOST A SISTER**Campus community remembers student at Senior Investiture**

The usually celebratory Senior Investiture service on Sept. 24 had a somber tone as the community mourned the death of Stephanie Rothstein '97 of St. Cloud, Fla. and the injury of Hillary Spencer '97 of Pensacola, Fla., and Jennifer Phillips '98 of Gainesville, Fla., in an automobile accident on Sept. 23. Said Senior Class President Charmaine Minniefield of Rothstein's passing, "All of us at Agnes Scott have lost a sister." Agnes Scott College extends its condolences to the parents of these students.

NEW CAMPAIGN UNDERWAY**College creates Parents Fund**

The Office of Development has kicked off the Parents Fund, a new campaign to encourage parents of current and former Agnes Scott students to support the College's Annual Fund. Mr. and Mrs. F. Marion Mitchell, parents of Anne Mitchell '97; Drs. K.M. and Sushila Mathew, parents of Kavitha Mathew '95 and Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Huffman, parents of Rachel Huffman '97 will chair the Fund.

The Parents Fund is earmarked to provide unrestricted financial support to College operations including scholarship and financial aid, instruction and faculty salaries and provisions for a safe and attractive campus environment.

Note: You can double your personal contribution to the Parents Fund if your employer has a matching gift program. Check with your company's personnel office to learn the details and receive an application.

JUST E-MAIL ME**Agnes Scott links up with the information superhighway**

After a year of construction and installation, the Information Technology Enhancement Program, or ITEP as it is known around campus, has come to fruition this fall. Under ITEP, Agnes Scott is now connected to Internet, a worldwide computer network. To access Internet students can use IBM and MacIntosh computers provided by the College at several locations on campus. To have residence hall room access, students need their own personal computer. You may contact your daughter through E-mail on Internet at the following address: firstname.lastname@agnes.scottlan.edu.