



*African Methodist
Episcopal Church
Council of Bishops
and General Board
Meeting*

June 20, 2017

*President Michael
J. Sorrell, Ed.D*

**WE
ME**



PAUL QUINN
C O L L E G E



Last year in our report, we summarized the amazing tenure of Bishop Vashti McKenzie as the Presiding Prelate of the 10th District of the AME Church and Chair of the Paul Quinn College (“Paul Quinn,” “College,” or “PQC”) Board of Trustees. Among the items that were mentioned during that summary were a) over eight million dollars in annual budget surpluses, b) significant increases in enrollment; and c) the creation of a new model of higher education – the Urban Work College.

Paul Quinn is proud to announce that in 2016-17, the strong performance of the College under the leadership of Bishop McKenzie continues. Here are some examples of the school’s successes during the 2016-17 school year:

- 1. WE are Federally Certified.** In March of this year, the U.S. Department of Education approved our application to become the first federally recognized (1) Historically Black College and University (“HBCU”) and (2) Urban Work College in the history of the United States. This designation means that we will receive increased federal funding and join a select group of prominent institutions that have pioneered a model of higher education that results in lower student debt, increased opportunities for learning, and improved employability. PQC is proud to make history through this federal recognition.
- 2. WE Keep Raising Money.** With this year’s fundraising total of \$4.4 million, Paul Quinn has now raised over \$20 million dollars during Bishop McKenzie’s five-year tenure. The highlights of this year’s fundraising successes are a million gift from the ORIX Foundation and a \$2.5 million pledge from Dallas philanthropist and long-time friend of the College, Trammell S. Crow.
- 3. PQC = Debt-Free.** Trammell’s \$2.5 million gift is to be used to settle all remaining institutional debt. With this commitment, PQC becomes a debt-free institution. While this accomplishment occurred under Bishop McKenzie’s leadership, we would also like to acknowledge Bishop Gregory Ingram for his efforts during his tenure as Board Chair that established the framework for paying down our institutional debts.
- 4. Our Financial Strength Continues to Improve.** By almost any indicator that one chooses, PQC’s financial picture continues to be strong. For the past two years, the College’s Department of Education Financial Strength Score has averaged a score of 2.8 (a perfect score is 3.0 and passing is 1.5).

Paul Quinn will close FY17 with another seven-figure, year-end surplus. This year’s all funds surplus is projected to exceed \$2 million for the second consecutive year. Additionally, the College received its ninth-consecutive unqualified audit in FY16.

- 5. WE Keep Growing.** This year’s Summer Bridge Program is the largest in the school’s history at 166 students. Fall enrollment will exceed 500 students for the first time since 2007. For the past three-years, the College has been forced to implement a waiting list policy in order to manage student demand. The rapid increase in students and the geographic diversity of the student-body (over 40% of PQC students now hail from outside the state of Texas) necessitates the construction of new residential facilities. The College has finalized plans to construct the Trammell S. Crow Living and Learning Center (“Center”). The Center will house approximately 135 students, feature a suite of classrooms, and a 100-car parking deck.

- 6. WE Keep Winning.** Over the course of the last year, PQC was nominated for the “HBCU of the Year” Award; President Sorrell became the first two-time winner of the “HBCU of the Year” award, was named one of America’s “10 Most Innovative College Presidents” by Washington Monthly, and won the “Father of the Year” Award in the city of Dallas. This spring, the College continued its winning track record, with a \$10,000 award, when its four-person team defeated teams from North Carolina A&T, Florida A&M, Prairie View A&M, and other notable HBCUs, to win the inaugural “SXSW HBCU Battle of the Brains”.

Additionally, it was announced this past weekend that for the third consecutive year, PQC was nominated for “HBCU of the Year” and that President Sorrell was nominated for the sixth time in seven years for the “HBCU Male President of the Year.”

The College’s winning records are not limited to its current students and administrators. For the third year in a row, a PQC alumni was named “Teacher of the Year” in the Dallas Independent School District and, for the first-time in PQC history, we are sending an alum to graduate school in the Ivy League – the University of Pennsylvania.

- 7. #Nationbuilding Has Gone Global.** Paul Quinn’s mission states that the College is developing students to become “servant-leaders and agents of change in the global marketplace.” In an effort to live up to this challenge, PQC has developed a study-abroad program. For the first-time in the school’s 145-year history, we have sent students to study in Europe and Asia. In January, through a partnership with Oberlin College, six PQC students spent two weeks studying in Amsterdam.

While we are on the subject of ‘firsts,’ we are proud to announce another institutional first. For the first time in Paul Quinn history, one of our students (and projected class valedictorian) will be studying in a summer program at Harvard Business School that is designed to prepare students for admission to the prestigious institution.

- 8. WE Continue to Support the Arts.** For the seventh consecutive year, PQC and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra joined forces to provide a free summer concert for the community on the campus of the College.
- 9. WE Opened a Farmer’s Market.** This spring, PQC opened a Farmer’s Market on its campus. This collaborative effort continues the school’s push to bring healthy lifestyles to under-resourced communities.

- 10. The Media Still Loves Us.** The College continues to generate an incredible amount of media attention. Among the articles which have appeared throughout the past year are the following:

- PBS NewsHour (September, 2016) (*over 10 million views): [PBS News Hour](#)
- Washington Monthly (September 2016): [Labor Of Love](#)
- PBS (September 2016): [One College Turns Football Field into Farm](#)
- The Atlantic (September 2016): [Bringing A College Back From the Brink](#)
- D CEO (November 2016): [Lunch with Michael J. Sorrell](#)
- Dallas Morning News (April 2017): [Paul Quinn Puts Students to Work...](#)

- WFAA (April 2017): [The Journey from Homeless Teen to Scholarship Law Student](#)
- D Magazine (May 2017): [Paul Quinn College Gets A Farmers Market](#)

ACCOLADES

“2017 Social Innovator Award”
(Babson College)

“2017 Vision Award”
(Middlebury College)

Honorary Doctorate
(Austin College)

2016 Frank E. Emory, Jr. Trailblazer
Award
(HELF)

“2016 HBCU Male President of the
Year”

(Center for HBCU Media Advocacy,
Inc.)

“Third Most Influential HBCU President
in America”

(Center for HBCU Media Advocacy,
Inc.)

QUICK FACTS

President: Michael J. Sorrell, Ed.D

Nickname: Quinnites

Mascot: Tigers

Colors: Black, Purple, and Gold

Location: Dallas, Texas

Only Urban Work College

Dress Code: Business casual

Cost: \$14,300

INITIATIVES

African American Leadership Institute

Race Institute

The Center for Civic Engagement,
Entrepreneurship, & Leadership

The Center for Fundraising and
Philanthropy

The New Urban College Model

The Work Program

WE Over Me Farm

