

Spelman Trustees Appoint First Black Woman President



Dr. Johnnetta Cole, professor of Anthropology and Director of The Latin American and Caribbean Studies program.

Dr. Johnnetta Cole, Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program at Hunter College of the City University of New York, and former Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, has been named the seventh President of Spelman College. She was selected after an extensive national search and succeeds Dr. Donald M. Stewart who is now President of the College Entrance Examination Board.

Marian Wright Edelman, Chair of the Spelman Board of Trustees, expressed her excitement and confidence about Spelman's future under Dr.

Cole's leadership. She stated that "Spelman trustees are committed to strengthening the intellectual climate of Spelman College so as to enable it to attract the best faculty and the best students. Our mission is to inspire and educate future black women leaders who will be pacesetters in their families, communities, and nation. Dr. Cole is an extraordinary teacher and experienced academic with a deep understanding of the undergraduate educational process. Her high intellectual standards, commitment to Spelman's traditions and values, academic leadership qualities, and vision for the institution make her the right leader at this vital time of challenge for black colleges, for women's colleges, for private liberal arts colleges, and for higher education in general."

In a statement to the Spelman community, Dr. Cole stated her "hope that in the coming decade, Spelman will achieve a special mixture of continuity and change. Maintaining those values, traditions, and standards which have made Spelman the premier institution that it is, we must also have the wisdom, the creativity, and the courage to introduce new and different ideas and programs. We need to make the kinds of changes that will strengthen Spelman's commitment to provide a quality education for its students: the kind of education which contributes to the development of sterling leaders in every discipline and profession; the kind of education that helps women become socially responsible citizens; the kind of education that helps prepare well-centered women who remain intellectually engaged for the duration of their lives."

"I envision Spelman College in the coming decade as a renowned center for scholarship by and about Black women," she said. Scholars, teachers, artists, policy analysts, and community leaders will turn to Spelman for comprehensive information on the rich and diverse history, struggles, conditions, and accomplishments of Black women. As a major source of teaching and research, of archival holdings and artistic works on and about Black women, Spelman's responsibility to offer a comprehensive liberal arts education will be more fully honored. I trust that my own scholarship in the area of Women's Studies will make a contribution to the growth of this intellectual center," Cole continued.

"I envision the realizable dream of Spelman College as a place where Black women leaders of the world are nurtured, trained and developed. From Brazil, from Jamaica, Barbados, Martinique, from Panama, from Ghana and Nigeria and other parts of the African continent, future women leaders would come to Spelman in the 1990's as earlier generations of men from those places went to Lincoln University in Pennsylvania. From Omaha, Nebraska, from Brooklyn, New York, from Oakland, California, from Washington, D.C., and from Savannah, Georgia, Black women would continue to come to Spelman to experience and to confront all that is required to be leaders in their families, their communities, and their nation."

Dr. Cole, a native of Jacksonville, Florida, began her higher education in the Early Entrance program of Fisk University and completed her undergraduate years at Oberlin College. She earned her M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology at Northwestern University. After appointments at the University of California at Los Angeles and at Washington State University, Dr. Cole joined the faculty of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst where she remained for thirteen years, becoming a tenured Professor of Anthropology and Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. In that

position Dr. Cole was responsible for ensuring the quality of education in all undergraduate programs and also led a faculty task force in the development of a new General Education curriculum for the campus. Dr. Cole went to Hunter College in 1983, first as Russell Sage Visiting Professor and then as tenured Professor of Anthropology. She has also held visiting appointments at Oberlin and Williams Colleges.

Dr. Cole's scholarly research and writing have been in the areas of cultural anthropology, Afro-American and Women's Studies. She is particularly interested in systems of inequality based on race, gender and class, and in the Pan-African world of the United States, the Caribbean and Africa. Dr. Cole has published in scholarly journals as well as in magazines for the general reader. Two collections of readings edited by Dr. Cole are widely used as college texts: "All American Women: Lines that Divide, Ties That Bind" and "Anthropology for the Eighties: Introductory Readings." She is currently completing a new edition to be entitled "Anthropology for the Nineties."

Her wide ranging field work includes research on female-headed households in New York City, the lives of Caribbean women, racial and gender inequality in Cuba and economic issues in Liberia. Her most recent work overseas was in Brazil, where she coordinated the City University's Summer seminar at the Pontifical Catholic University in Sao Paulo.

She is a former president of the Association of Black Anthropologists and is currently the President of the International Women's Anthropology Conference.

Dr. Cole, who is divorced, is the mother of three sons. The eldest is working in New York after graduating from Williams College, the second is a student at New York University, and the third is still living at home as a high school junior.

Spelman College is a predominantly black, four-year liberal arts institution of higher learning for women in Atlanta, Georgia. Founded in 1881 for the purpose of educating black women, Spelman has become noted for its high academic standards, as well as the leadership and accomplishments of its students and alumnae. Spelman is one of seven institutions which comprise the Atlanta University Center complex.

Jefferson High Reunion

Jefferson High School's class of 1957 will hold their 30th year reunion August 14th and 15th at the Columbia River Red Lion Inn. All class members are asked to contact Jack Stacey, 235-8741, for further information and to update the Class of 1957 mailing list.

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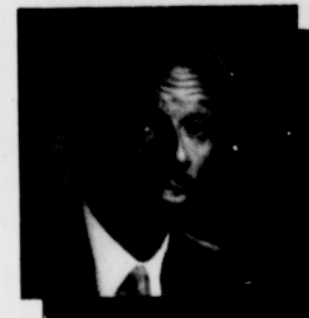
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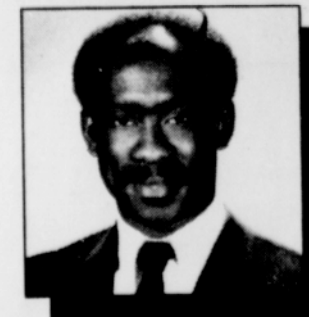
Benita Nesbitt

Benita Nesbitt joined First Interstate's Management Training Program in June 1980, after graduating from Reed College with a Bachelor's degree in Economics. In her seven years at the bank she has held a number of positions including credit examiner, credit officer, and cash management consultant. Recently, she joined the staff of our Salem Main branch as a commercial lending officer.



Guy Hamilton

Guy Hamilton began his banking career after graduating from high school in Chicago. He worked in banking for several years, then left to pursue other career interests which eventually brought him to southern Oregon. In 1981, he joined First Interstate Bank as a commercial loan officer. He was named assistant manager of the Grants Pass branch in 1979. Guy is active in community affairs in southern Oregon; he serves as president of the Rogue Valley Private Industry Council and sits on the State Job Training Coordinating Council. Guy attended DePaul College in Chicago and Ripon College in Wisconsin, where he majored in business and liberal arts.



Lemil Speed

Fifteen years ago, First Interstate Bank hired Lemil Speed as a Management Trainee. After completing his training, he worked in operations at several branches, then transferred to the Real Estate Loan Division. He served as the bank's affirmative action officer for a short time, then moved to the Loan Servicing Department where he is currently assistant manager. Before he came to First Interstate, Lemil served in the Air Force for eight years and attended Lane Community College. Since joining the bank, he has taken advantage of the wide variety of educational courses offered by the American Institute of Banking.



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