

There's no place like

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coming

Albany State University



Convocation

October 13, 2017 | 10 a.m.

Health, Physical Education and Recreation Complex



About the Speaker Dr. William R. Shepherd

William R. Shepherd, a native of Fort Gaines, Georgia, earned the Bachelor of Arts degree in Health and Physical Science from Albany State College (1967), the Master of Arts Degree from Georgia State University (1980), and the Educational Doctoral Degree in Administration from Clark Atlanta University (1996). His professional career includes serving as health and physical education teacher and basketball coach at Singleton High School in Morgan, Georgia; Killian Senior High School in Miami, Florida; and Fulton High School in Atlanta, Georgia. He began his administrative career as the assistant principal at Douglass High School and the principal at Southside Comprehensive High School in Atlanta. Additionally, he served as district liaison and interim principal at the Atlanta Public Schools – Community Education Partnership School. Presently, he is an adjunct professor at Clark Atlanta University.

Dr. Shepherd has been heralded as one of the most innovative, dynamic leaders of contemporary inner-city school reform. In the area of school reform, he has been in demand as a panelist and presenter at education conferences here and abroad. Most notably, in July 2000, he presented his paper, “Whole School Reform: Implementation of High Schools That Work, Key Practices for Revitalizing Urban Schools” at the Fourth Annual Oxford International Round Table on the Superintendency and the Principalship in Oxford, England. Dr. Shepherd also served on the Harvard University Principals’ Center Advisory Board. In 2006, he received the Educator of the Year Award from the Concerned Black Clergy Association.

As a member of the Ben Hill United Methodist Church, Dr. Shepherd served as the past chairman of the Staff Parish Relations Committee and currently serves as chairman of the Training Institute. In 2016, his church selected him to receive the Black History Living Hero Award. He is a member of the College Park District Committee of Ordained Ministry and the Georgia State University John Wesley Foundation. Presently, he serves as president of the Loch Lomond Community Association.

Dr. Shepherd has been married for forty-six years to Burette Smith Shepherd, and they are the parents of William R. Shepherd, Jr. He is also a lifetime member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.



About the Speaker Ms. Shareka L. Nelson

With nearly twenty years of experience in human resources, specifically talent acquisition and diversity and inclusion, Shareka L. Nelson, SPHR, is a seasoned leader with a unique ability to translate business goals into people strategy. Her work focuses on creating organizations that reflect the world and allow individuals to be their authentic self and thrive.

Ms. Nelson currently serves as the Diversity Business Partner –Global Marketing Solutions (GMS) for Facebook. In her current role, she serves as the first point of contact for diversity and inclusion for the GMS organization and is uniquely positioned to collaborate with senior leadership, cross-functional partners and employees. In her role, she focuses on providing consultative insights to the business through data and developing innovative talent attraction solutions and engagement initiatives for employees. Nelson is working to harness the unlimited potential of Facebook’s employee population in its commitment to giving people the power to build community and bring the world closer together.

Prior to joining Facebook, Nelson served as the global director of diversity recruiting programs for Groupon, Inc.

Her industry expertise spans technology, utility/energy, marketing/creativity, legal, sales, corporate support functions, customer care and engineering. She also brings experience working in consulting in corporate and staffing agency settings. She has led talent organizations for several global Fortune 500 organizations and is recognized as a results-oriented thought leader in diversity recruiting, coaching, employee engagement, analytics and process improvement.

A 1999 graduate of Albany State University, Ms. Nelson was active in several organizations while matriculating, which included serving as S.G.A. vice-president and becoming a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., of which she has been a financial member for twenty years and is currently an active member of the Berkeley Bay Area Alumni Chapter. While her path has led her to Silicon Valley, Ms. Nelson is originally from Sylvester, Georgia, and is the daughter of State Command Sergeant Major (Ret.) James and Patricia Nelson.

Programme

Ms. Flora Devine, J.D., Presiding
Acting Vice-President, Institutional Advancement

POSTING OF THE COLORS.....	ASU ROTC Cadets
NATIONAL ANTHEM.....	ASU Marching Rams Show Band Director, Mr. Michael Decuir
INVOCATION.....	Mr. Santo Nina Mr. Albany State University
WELCOME.....	Miss Wanesia Francis Miss Albany State University
GREETINGS.....	The Honorable Dorothy Hubbard, Class of 1970 Mayor, City of Albany The Honorable Chris Cohilas Chairman, Dougherty County Commission Mr. William Johnson, Class of 1966 President, ASU National Alumni Association Ms. Carol Ann Ham Interim President, Faculty Senate
SELECTION.....	ASU Marching Rams Show Band
INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS.....	Mr. André Armour President, Student Government Association
HOMECOMING ADDRESSES.....	Dr. William Shepherd, Class of 1967 Golden Anniversary Perspective Ms. Shareka Nelson, Class of 1999 Young Alumni Perspective
SELECTION.....	ASU Marching Rams Show Band
INTRODUCTIONS	Ms. Sherie Gordon Director, ASU Athletics Mr. Gabe Giardina Head Coach, ASU Golden Rams Football Team
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	Dr. Art Dunning President, Albany State University
CLOSING REMARKS.....	Ms. Devine
RETIRING OF THE COLORS.....	ASU ROTC Cadets
ALMA MATER.....	Audience
PEP PERFORMANCES.....	ASU Cheerleaders Advisor, Ms. Jacqueline Nicholson ASU Marching Rams Show Band (will lead audience out)

The Alma Mater

by Gladys Ward McCullough Sapp, '46

Albany State, we dearly love you
Whose walls are inscribed with knowledge so true.
So solidly built on this foundation,
A union of work and inspiration.
Teacher for those who strive for success;
To thee we give praises above all the rest.

Thy jubilant colors of blue and gold
We'll ever honor, ever behold;
Thy name is an anchor upon life's sea.
And sailing, we put our trust in thee.
In thee, dear school, we see all the best;
To thee we give praises above all the rest.

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Mrs. A. Pearl Brown
Mr. Reginald Christian
Ms. Sandy Peacock
Ms. Dwana Trimble

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