



UNIVERSITY --- OF THE BAHAMAS

Charter Ceremony for the University of The Bahamas
And the Inauguration of Rodney D. Smith, Ed.D. as President

Thursday, the tenth day of November
Two thousand and sixteen
At half past ten o'clock in the morning

Thomas A. Robinson National Stadium
Thompson Boulevard
New Providence, Commonwealth of The Bahamas

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MESSAGE FROM HER EXCELLENCY DAME MARGUERITE PINDLING GOVERNOR GENERAL, COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

It is a distinct pleasure to extend greetings as the College of The Bahamas transitions to the University of The Bahamas. This is indeed an historic event, and one which has been envisioned and worked toward since 1977.

The development of the University of The Bahamas is yet another major, tangible step on the ladder of our national development. We are now bearing witness to the next step forward and upward on that ladder, and I am delighted to see this dream come to fruition.

I believe it is important, on this occasion, to recognize the sterling work undertaken by the various developmental and advisory groups which have worked hard over the years, and whose contributions have brought us to this day. Their efforts and determination have served well to bring us to this important event in our history as a Nation.

Like the College of The Bahamas, I am confident that the University of The Bahamas will move forward to be the bulwark of true Bahamian identity, development, professionalism and comprehensively researched policy which will enable it to be recognized regionally and internationally for its high standards.

I call upon all Bahamians, and all who will avail themselves of the wonderful opportunities available within the portals of the University, to proudly support this institution where they will find fulfillment of their hopes and aspirations.

I extend thanks and congratulations to all who have been involved in the development process which has brought us to this stage. I particularly congratulate Dr. Rodney Smith, the first President of the University of The Bahamas, the Board of Trustees and all whose determination and commitment to education so powerfully contributes to the advancement of our Nation.

It is my prayer that Almighty God will bless the University of The Bahamas, its leadership and the students who give it life as we move forward.



MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER COMMONWEALTH OF THE BAHAMAS

The University of The Bahamas is perhaps among the most important developments in our country's history since Independence in 1973. The road to the University of The Bahamas began with the establishment of the College of The Bahamas in 1974 and today, November 10th, 2016 will go down in the annals of Bahamian history as an epochal event.

The Bahamas has enjoyed a rich academic history throughout the years, most notably, since the 1970s as successive Governments have recognized the importance of a tertiary institution as a vehicle for national development. Over the years, The College of The Bahamas has become a pillar of the Bahamian society and from its inception, has maintained a rich academic legacy. Today, that legacy will be passed on and will continue to evolve through the University of The Bahamas.

Those in my generation know first-hand the transformative power of education. It was during my era that many young Bahamians who had the opportunity to pursue tertiary education became a part of the Bahamian revolution. We were equipped with knowledge; and with that knowledge comes the ardent desire and power to liberate our people and empower scores of Bahamians.

Today, education still holds infinite power. Education is the singular most important treasure an individual can possess - its value is limitless. With this in mind, I am cognizant of the fact that the best decision any government can make for its citizens is to provide the financial resources to make tertiary education readily accessible, particularly for those whose economic condition may impede the possibility of furthering their education.

The Government's decision to transition from the College of The Bahamas to the University of The Bahamas is strategic and serves our best national interest. I am mindful that the more citizens we are able to empower through education, the better the future prospects of our country's growth and development.

I convey my heartfelt gratitude to all of the individuals who have played a part in making the journey from the inception of the College to the actualization of a University of The Bahamas a reality. The faculty are to be commended for their commitment to academic excellence; the staff for their commitment to service. Many graduates of this institution have become extraordinarily successful citizens who credit their achievements to the quality education they received at the College of The Bahamas.

As we enter a new era in higher education nationally, regionally and internationally, we who share in this historic occasion have an obligation to ensure that the University of The Bahamas meets its full potential.

To the students who will have the distinct honour of being the first students of the University of The Bahamas, I implore you all to consider the significance of what this means for our country. I hope that in doing so, you will commit to becoming deeply invested in the life of your university community and the country at large.

I congratulate the President, Dr. Rodney Smith, along with the faculty, staff and students for your part in achieving this great day and hope that your pride and passion will motivate you to make this the best university in the world.

On behalf of the Government and people of The Bahamas, I wish the University of The Bahamas a future marked with success and eminence.

Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie
Prime Minister



MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

This is a moment of immense pride. I am deeply honoured to be so intricately involved in such an historic occasion.

My appointment as Deputy Chairman of the College Council between the years 2002-2007 established my personal affinity to the College of The Bahamas and cemented my passion for this great institution.

The mandate given in 2002 by the Rt. Honourable Prime Minister, Perry G. Christie to Chairman Sir Franklyn Wilson and the entire Council was clear: transition The College of The Bahamas to the University of The Bahamas. Many may say that this has been a fourteen year journey but, truth be told, this journey began the day this institution was established 42 years ago.

Today, I serve as Minister of Education, Science and Technology with ministerial responsibility for tertiary education and I am honoured to usher this institution into a realm of new possibilities and opportunities. There are scores of Bahamians to whom this milestone is attributed. For as long as I can remember, the College's faculty have provided students with a world class education and have helped to contribute to our country's economic growth and development. To those who have laboured and toiled in these academic halls, our country owes you a great deal of gratitude. So on behalf of my fellow citizens, I thank you for your commitment to academic excellence. I also thank the institution's staff for you too have worked hard to achieve this great milestone. Thank you for your perseverance and your support.

I know the power that education possesses and it is my hope that from Bain Town, the historical community in which the Univesity resides, to Inagua in the south, to Grand Cay in the north, Bahamians will regard this institution as their own and take ownership of this national treasure. It is my fervent hope that we will come to appreciate the capacity of the University of The Bahamas to empower

our people and transform our country. It is my prayer that all Bahamians will see this as their University, a national treasure as symbolic as our Independence Day July 10, 1973. This day, November 10th, 2016 will be marked in the annals of Bahamian history as one of the country's most historic days. Today marks another leap in the advancement of our people as we stride forward, upward and onward – together!

I also extend best wishes to Dr. Rodney Smith on the occasion of his presidential inauguration; he has the honour of becoming the first President of the University of The Bahamas! I am confident that he will lead with distinction and elevate the profile of the University as it enters the ranks of the world's finest tertiary institutions.

Congratulations to the University community, President Smith and the country on an accomplishment of national importance.

Hon. Jerome K. Fitzgerald



MESSAGE FROM THE LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

The College of The Bahamas has played a defining role in the national development of The Bahamas. One may even go as far as to attribute it as one of the contributing factors that led to a significant increase in qualified Bahamians with higher education in the country.

Since its inception in 1975, the College has developed a regional and international reputation for academic rigor and innovative research. I have observed the work of many College of The Bahamas faculty and students in international journals, forums and leadership programmes during my time as Leader of the Opposition. It is their commitment to academic excellence that has brought forth this historical moment: the establishment of the first national university in The Bahamas.

As a people, we have always recognized the important role education can play in the development of the communities around us and we have also seen the ways in which higher education can lead to a more developed nation. Most of us have also witnessed College of The Bahamas alumni become prominent nation builders in various careers and fields. Graduates of the College are practicing law and medicine, creating moving art, writing for our national newspapers, preparing gourmet culinary fare and working in financial institutions across the country.

It is impossible to not acknowledge the positive role the College has played in helping make The Bahamas the country it is today. Therefore, upon its official transition to university status, nothing short of greatness is expected from the University of The Bahamas. I have no doubt the University will be at the forefront of groundbreaking research in the region. I am also sure this will be a place where students are presented with multiple opportunities that will not only enrich their education, but also better prepare them for the competitiveness which awaits them after graduation.

I would also like to extend my best wishes and congratulations to Dr. Rodney Smith on being installed as the first President of the University of The Bahamas. This is a monumental achievement for you, professionally and personally. I wish you every success as you work to ensure that the University becomes a game-changing institution, regionally and internationally.

To be a part of this auspicious moment in our country's history is more than an honour—it is a privilege and I look forward to taking part in the remarkable work in which the University of The Bahamas will become engaged.

Congratulations on achieving this milestone!

Hon Hubert A. Minnis, M.P.
Leader of The Official Opposition



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One way to understand what it means for a college to become a university concerns the act of recognition. Traditionally, the College of The Bahamas served as one of the principal institutions through which our people came to understand themselves as members of a nation. Additionally, for many individuals, attendance at the College resulted in the process whereby exploration, self-knowledge and imagination could be refined, directed and integrated. With the mantle of the term “University” comes then the permission for these functions, quietly performed by the academy, to be recognized fully. From this day forward, the national academy can embrace totally the critical functions as a driver of community identity and a catalyst of character formation and individualism.

Yet, it is my hope that, in addition to the foregoing, the University of The Bahamas will now embrace more openly, systematically and deliberately the task of connecting the life of our community and its identity formation - the markers and conditions of its existence and aspirations - with the force of individualism. The need for socio-cultural transformation is so great that we sometimes dare not mention it.

However, the University must identify such need, as it maps the psychological, social, economic, political, cultural, technological processes and environmental conditions that give rise to that need, using the best multidisciplinary practices available. At the same time as this mapping takes place, the University will integrate into this understanding how the shaping of individualism and character formation in certain directions can advance our entire community.

This is urgent work for the University; for the rescue bell has been rung. The academy must now become, more than ever before, hyper-conscious of the ways in which every action within the Bahamian milieu has consequences for nation building and community cohesion. With this heightened consciousness, the University will assist in the design of policies geared to creating and maintaining

the bulwarks or safeguards needed in defense against the forces that would have us hope less, love less, care less and be less disciplined – the safeguards needed for defending the public good.

The College of The Bahamas has laid a good foundation for the work ahead. Faculty, staff, administrators and students of the College, and the institution’s wider circle of alumni, supporters, friends and well-wishers, have always understood that their work at the College and for the College was directed at nation building. I thank all of them for the leadership roles they have played as the forerunners of the University. It has been a privilege to be a part of this effort. All of the moments in the life of The College of The Bahamas, leading to this crucial moment of transition, have paved the way for the tradition that has helped preserve the social responsibility that we all must bear in making Bahamian life a better life for all of our citizens and residents to evolve now to a higher plane.

Dr. Earl A. Cash



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I greet you on this Red Letter Day, as we charter the University of The Bahamas. This day has been many years in the making for The Bahamas and it heralds a new era in education for our country. The University of The Bahamas will be a new institution, different from its predecessor, but made strong by The College of The Bahamas’ history. The need for a national university has been met today, and this is something of which we can all be proud.

Education has always been one of the key catalysts for change in our country. It was instrumental in helping to shape our leaders when we fought for Independence; it has been instrumental in shaping today’s leaders who have been propelling our country into more modern times. At the University, emphasis will be placed on educating students for the future Bahamas.

Our students, faculty, staff and administration will be building a world-class institution that will contribute, in new ways, to the growth and development of our country, while adding to global knowledge and understanding. We will place renewed importance on research, particularly research that addresses the needs of our country. We will also continue the work of building our campus throughout the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. It is important that we strive to serve the whole country and bring the opportunity for tertiary level education closer to home for many of our Family Island countrymen.

You, our alumni, have been stalwart in your support over the years, and for that we are grateful. As we enter this new chapter in the institution’s history, I remind you that though we will be different, the University is still your home. We will rely on you to undergird our efforts as we begin this new race. We will depend on you to provide essential feedback and stay involved as we grow.

In these last two years, it has truly been my pleasure to lead The College of The Bahamas in its twilight. In that time, with great support from all College

constituents, the entire Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, inclusive of all members of parliament and the senate, civil society, organized labour unions, the entire Bahamian community at large and, of course, with the support of my wife and family members, we were able to create the foundation for the University of The Bahamas. Today, I am proud to be the President at the dawn of the new University. I have made education my life’s work and it was my sincerest desire to commit a part of that career to helping to build a world-class education institution in my country.

While there are many things that I want to achieve as President of the University of The Bahamas, one of the greatest things I wish to pass on is my love for learning and for this country. If we can inculcate in each student the love of those two things, I am confident that The Bahamas can only move from strength to strength.

May God bless the University of The Bahamas and may He bless our Bahamaland.

Rodney D. Smith, Ed.D.



MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST

The culmination of the work begun since the establishment of The College of The Bahamas, the work of building the University of The Bahamas, is a landmark occasion! Although not all those who toiled so hard to pave the way are here today to witness this event, we owe it to them all to recognize their many contributions. To the national heroes and heroines, the national builders of the past and the future builders who must now fulfil that dream, the University of The Bahamas is born!

I consider it a singular honour to have been called to serve as the institution's first Provost, to work with the faculty of this University, to build, to solidify and to expand the foundation of an institution of which we can all be proud. Ours is a challenge to conceive of ways of realizing our mission, to provide innovative services across the archipelago.

Ours as stewards of this national treasure, its officers, administrators, faculty and staff, is to be held accountable to high academic standards and sound governance principles. Ours is to embrace progressive university policies and organisational frameworks, including a more focused attention on the research engagement of faculty, a characteristic that must feature prominently in the development of the University of The Bahamas; and ours is a commitment to continuous quality assurance, at every level and across every unit and at every location and campus of the University.

Although ours is not a simple task, it is nonetheless one, in my view, that we must embrace – it is after all our responsibility as members of the academe, it is our collective charge. Ours is the task of forging ahead to identify, craft and utilize best practice principles and adopt and/or adapt to fit our particular reality, to our University of The Bahamas. This is a national, regional, indeed global assignment that has huge implications, and is a goal worthy of attainment.

The time is now to renew the commitment to the academic enterprise at the core of all higher education institutions – a commitment to teaching, research and service. The time is now for faculty, staff and administrators alike of the University of The Bahamas to commit to nurturing and mentoring a new-brand of university graduate, a global citizen, a next generation of stewards of this world that we share. Such efforts at this juncture in the institution's evolution, given its establishment over four decades years ago, are critical now even more so than in 1974. We invite all Bahamians, regional and global partners to join us in the work.

Linda A. Davis, Ph.D.



BIOGRAPHY, DR. WILLIAM R. HARVEY

Dr. William R. Harvey is President of Hampton University and 100% owner of the Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Houghton, Michigan. A native of Brewton, Alabama, he is a graduate of Southern Normal High School, Talladega College and Virginia State University. He earned his doctorate in College Administration from Harvard University in 1972. Before coming to Hampton thirty-eight years ago, he held administrative posts at Harvard, Fisk and Tuskegee.

As President of Hampton University since 1978, Dr. Harvey has introduced innovations which have solidified Hampton's stellar position among colleges and universities in the United States. His innovative leadership is reflected in the growth and quality of the University's student population, academic programs, physical facilities, and financial base. His outstanding leadership skills are exemplified by the appointment of seventeen former Hampton University administrators to CEO positions at other institutions during his tenure.

Since Dr. Harvey became President, student enrollment has increased from approximately 2,700 to a high of approximately 6,300. Seventy-six new academic programs have been introduced including PhDs in physics, pharmacy, nursing, atmospheric and planetary science, physical therapy, educational management, and business administration. During that time, 26 new structures have been built.

Dr. Harvey promotes a learning environment that encourages faculty research rivaling that of major research universities across the United States. Hampton University has built the first proton therapy cancer treatment center in the Commonwealth of Virginia—an unparalleled hub for cancer treatment, research, and technology. Weather satellites have been launched to study noctilucent clouds to determine why they form and how they may be related to global climate change. From Alzheimer's research and alternative fuels to nanodevices combining diagnostic and therapeutic functions for early diagnosis and

treatment of arthritis, under the competent leadership of President Harvey, Hampton University is poised to become a leader in research and technology not only in the Hampton Roads area and Virginia, but nationwide. These new programs, together with existing ones, have placed and kept Hampton on the cutting edge of higher education.

An astute businessman, the University's budget has been balanced with a surplus every year of his presidency. Dr. Harvey initiated a university-owned commercial development consisting of a shopping center and 246 two-bedroom apartments. All after-tax profits from the Hampton Harbor Projects are utilized primarily for student scholarships. Additionally, the Project creates jobs, provides services, has increased the number of African-American entrepreneurs, and expanded the tax base in the City of Hampton.

As a fundraiser, he is considered one of the best in the country. When Dr. Harvey became President, Hampton's endowment was at \$29 million. Today, that endowment stands in excess of \$260 million.

His achievements have been recognized through inclusion in Personalities of the South, Who's Who in the South and Southeast, Who's Who in Black America, Who's Who in Education, International Who's Who of Intellectuals, Two Thousand Notable Americans, Who's Who in Business and Finance, and Who's Who in America.

Dr. Harvey is married to the former Norma Baker of Martinsville, Virginia, and they have three children—Kelly Renee, William Christopher, and Leslie Denise—and three grandchildren—Taylor, Gabrielle, and Lauren.

ABOUT UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS

An academic and intellectual leader, the University of The Bahamas (UB) is a vital catalyst for national development enlivened through its mandate of teaching, learning, research, scholarship and service.

Although established by an Act of Parliament and chartered on 10th November 2016, UB had its genesis as far back as 1974 when an Act of Parliament established, the College of The Bahamas (The College), through the amalgamation of four institutions: Bahamas Teachers’ College, San Salvador Teachers’ College, C.R. Walker Technical College and the Sixth Form Programme of The Government High School.

The College opened its doors for the first time in September 1975, with an enrolment of some two thousand (2,000) students in a range of programmes leading to associate degrees, diplomas, certificates and General Certificate in Education (GCE) ‘A’ Level studies. In 2000, The Bahamas Hotel Training College was amalgamated with The College of The Bahamas.

In June 1995, landmark legislation granting the institution full autonomy of its affairs and an expanded mandate was passed, establishing a new era. By then, there were three Associate degrees: Arts, Science and Applied Science; and one baccalaureate degree, the Bachelor in Business Administration (B.B.A.). A Bachelor of Education degree was also offered jointly with the University of the West Indies (UWI).

Since 1995, the institution’s academic offerings have expanded through the introduction of baccalaureate degree programmes offered across a broad range of approximately 60 majors. Master’s degree programmes have included an M.B.A. and an M.Sc. in Reading as well as graduate degree programmes offered in collaboration with partner universities.

There are now more graduates earning baccalaureate degrees than any other group. The alumni community comprises more than 15,000 persons.

The profile of the institution’s faculty has also changed significantly over the years as the number of faculty with terminal degrees has steadily increased. As a result, faculty members have continued to increase their involvement in research and have published their findings in peer reviewed journals. Since 1980, The College has published a research journal, now called the International Journal of Bahamian Studies, currently available as an open-access, online research journal. The College’s research work has been marked by collaborations with national, regional and international agencies, government ministries and non-governmental organisations.

Guided by a Master Plan, capital development continues to support UB’s academic, research and student success priorities. At the Oakes Field Campus, the new University entrance has helped to make the campus distinct and welcoming, while construction continues on the G. T. R. Campbell Small Island Sustainability Complex and F. R. Wilson Graduate Centre. Construction will soon commence on a 1000-bed residential hall. At the Northern Bahamas Campus in Grand Bahama, a new residential facility is also under construction and will open in Spring 2017.

UB’s legacy reflects a distinct commitment to responding to national needs. Students and faculty have remained the cornerstone of a vibrant teaching institution and are expanding research initiatives that focus on a sustainable national development. Academic programmes, collaborations and public-private partnerships have been solidified to build capacity for the robust development of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

OUR CAMPUSES

Oakes Field Campus

The principal campus of UB is located at Oakes Field. Situated within two miles of the centre of the city of Nassau, the facilities of the urbanized campus cover approximately 60 acres and primarily comprise administration buildings, student and ancillary service facilities and academic units. The Oakes Field Campus of the University is expected to grow to over 500 acres.

Grosvenor Close Campus

A stone’s throw away from historic downtown Nassau and adjacent to the government-operated Princess Margaret Hospital, UB’s 3.7-acre Grosvenor Close Campus (GCC) houses programmes in the School of Nursing and Allied Health Professions. The Hilda Bowen Library is also located at the GCC.

Northern Bahamas Campus

As early as 1976, the University of The Bahamas established a presence in Grand Bahama. The Northern Bahamas Campus (NBC) has evolved from its original operation based in Freeport to its current location on a 50-acre parcel of land generously gifted by the Grand Bahama Port Authority. The NBC’s physical footprint comprises administrative, academic, student services and residential facilities.

Gerace Research Centre

Formerly the Bahamian Field Station, the Gerace Research Centre (GRC) on the shore of Graham’s Harbour, the northern coast of the island of San Salvador, encompasses eight acres of land. Founded by Donald and Kathy Gerace, the centre has been in operation since 1971 and offers primarily research, dormitory and service facilities for students, professors, and researchers from around the world in the fields of Archaeology, Biology, Geology, and Marine Science.



Oakes Field Campus



Northern Bahamas Campus

NATIONAL ANTHEM

March On Bahamaland

Lift up your head to the rising sun, Bahamaland;
March on to glory, your bright banners waving high.
See how the world marks the manner of your bearing!
Pledge to excel through love and unity.
Pressing onward, march together to a common loftier goal;
Steady sunward, tho' the weather hide the wide and treachrous shoal.
Lift up your head to the rising sun, Bahamaland,
'Til the road you've trod lead unto your God,
March on, Bahamaland.

- Timothy Gibson

THE PLEDGE

I pledge my allegiance to the flag
And to the Commonwealth of The Bahamas
For which it stands,
One people united in love and service.

- Rev. Philip Rahming

UNIVERSITY OF THE BAHAMAS ALMA MATER

We've come to build together a dream for this great land,
Like palm trees tall upon this landfall called Bahamaland.
The future is before us like endless sea and sand.
We'll chart a course with alma mater proudly we will stand.

A beacon for these islands embraced in shallow seas,
UB will lift our spirits high for all the world to see.
With hands and hearts together we'll be a guiding light,
We'll live to praise our alma mater 'neath the clear blue skies.
We'll live to raise our alma mater's banner waving high!

- Christian Justilien
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ORDER OF CEREMONIES

9:00 a.m. Plaque Unveiling

Musical Prelude

Welcome	Miss Jasper Ward <i>Senator, Student Government Association</i>
Prayer & Blessing with Holy Water	Rt. Rev'd. Laish Boyd <i>Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of The Bahamas and the Turks & Caicos Islands</i>
Unveiling	Her Excellency Dame Marguerite Pindling <i>Governor General</i>

10:30 a.m. Charter Day Ceremony & Presidential Inauguration

Entrance and seating of procession	Salute to Liberty / J. Nowak University of The Bahamas Concert Band Mr. Christian Justilien, director
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Moderator, Dr. Linda A. Davis, Provost

National Anthem	T. Gibson/arr. A. Dean-Wright University of The Bahamas Alumni & Concert Combined Choir Mrs. Audrey Dean-Wright, conductor Dr. Paul Jones, piano
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Pledge	Miss Allycia Murray <i>5th Grade, St. Cecilia's Catholic School</i>
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Invocation	Most Reverend Patrick Pinder <i>Archbishop, Archdiocese of Nassau</i>
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Welcome	Moderator
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Greetings

Mr. Keyron Smith
President, Student Government Association

Ms. Adrianna Knowles
Chairperson, Alumni Society

Mrs. Lorraine Bastian Jones
Director, Professional Development and Career Institute and Quarter Century Club Member

Ms. Jennifer Isaacs-Dotson
Associate Professor, School of Education President, Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas

Solo

Ms. Sonovia Pierre, Alumna, Class of 1992
Starting Here, Starting Now / R. Maltby Jr. and D. Shire
Dr. Paul Jones, piano

What University Means to Me

Presentation by FOCUS Students – Introduced by Members of FOCUS Class of 2019 and Class of 2024

Remarks

Mr. Alfred Sears, Q.C.
former Minister of Education and former Chairman, College of The Bahamas Council

Dr. Hubert Minnis
Leader of the Official Opposition

Poem

Patricia Glington-Meicholas
Bahamian Poet, Author and former Vice President of Communications, The College of The Bahamas

Introduction of Dr. William R. Harvey

Moderator

Special Remarks

Dr. William R. Harvey
President, Hampton University

Installation of The President

Dr. Earl Cash, Chairman
University of The Bahamas Board of Trustees

Inaugural Address

Dr. Rodney D. Smith
President, University of The Bahamas

Musical Selection

Lift Every Voice and Sing / arr. R .M. Carter
University of The Bahamas Alumni & Concert Combined Choir
Mrs. Audrey Dean-Wright, conductor
Dr. Paul Jones, piano

Introduction of Minister of Education

Lyndee Bowe, Senator
Student Government Association

Remarks and Introduction of Keynote Speaker

Hon. Jerome K. Fitzgerald
Minister of Education, Science and Technology

Keynote Address

Rt. Hon. Perry G. Christie
Prime Minister, Commonwealth of The Bahamas

Musical Selection

This Is My Country / arr. J. Edmondson
University of The Bahamas Concert Band
Mr. Christian Justilien, director

Iteration of Mission

Dr. Rodney D. Smith
President, University of The Bahamas

Alma Mater

Christian Justilien
University of The Bahamas Alumni & Concert Combined Choirs
Dr. Paul Jones, conductor

Benediction

Rev. Kenris Carey
Bahamas Conference of the Methodist Church

Recessional

One Bahamas / E. Cash / arr. C. Justilien
University of The Bahamas Concert Band
Mr. Christian Justilien, director

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. Earl Cash <i>Chairman</i>	Mr. Keyron Smith <i>Student Representative</i>
Mr. Lowell Mortimer, OBE <i>Deputy Chairman</i>	Mr. Michael Stevenson <i>University Secretary</i>
Dr. Rodney D. Smith <i>President</i>	Mr. Darvin Toussaint <i>Staff Representative</i>
Mrs. Anita Bain <i>Trustee</i>	
Mr. Colin Higgs <i>Trustee</i>	
Mrs. Jennifer Isaacs-Dotson <i>Faculty Representative</i>	
Mr. Arthur Jones <i>Trustee</i>	
Mr. Rawson McDonald <i>Trustee</i>	
Andrea Moultrie <i>Alumni Society Representative</i>	
Retired Justice Rubie M. Nottage <i>Trustee</i>	

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Dr. Rodney D. Smith <i>President</i>	Dr. Coralee Kelly <i>Vice President, Northern Bahamas Campus</i>
Dr. Linda A. Davis <i>Provost</i>	Mr. Elgin Smith <i>Vice President, Chief Information Officer</i>
Mr. Ryan Antonio <i>Vice President, Finance/Chief Financial Officer</i>	Mr. Ronnie Stevenson <i>Vice President, Operations</i>
Ms. Davinia Blair <i>Vice President, Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs</i>	Mr. Erald Thompson <i>Chief Internal Auditor</i>
Dr. Mychal Coleman <i>Vice President, Human Resources</i>	Mr. Michael Stevenson <i>University Secretary</i>
Dr. Marcella Elliott-Ferguson <i>Vice President, Administrative Services (Interim)</i>	Ms. Maelynn Seymour-Major <i>Executive Assistant to the President</i>
Dr. Eslyn Jones <i>Vice President, Student Affairs</i>	
Dr. Christina Nwosa <i>Associate Vice-President, Continuing Education & Lifelong Learning</i>	Dr. Maria Oriakhi <i>Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs</i>

ACADEMIC DEANS

Remelda Moxey, M.B.A. <i>Dean, Faculty of Business</i>
Ian Bethell-Bennett, Ph.D. <i>Dean, Faculty of Liberal and Fine Arts</i>
Carlton Watson, Ph.D. <i>Dean, Faculty of Pure and Applied Sciences</i>
Ruth Sumner, Ph.D. <i>Dean, Faculty of Social and Educational Studies</i>

ADMINISTRATIVE DEANS

Teo Cooper, Ed.Sc. <i>Dean of Students, Northern Bahamas Campus</i>
Peter McWilliam, Ed.D. <i>Dean of Faculty, Northern Bahamas Campus</i>

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

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Keyron Smith <i>President</i>	Traven Cargill <i>Deputy Senate Speaker, Chemistry Environmental and Life Sciences</i>	Stuart Hanna <i>Senator, Culinary and Hospitality Management</i>	Denzanique McPhee <i>Division Senator</i>
Tremeco Higgs <i>Vice President</i>	Clifford Adderley <i>Senator, Business Studies</i>	Leonardo Swain <i>Senator, UniversityDorms</i>	Presidential Advisors
Antonette June Loon <i>Secretary General</i>	Terry Archer <i>Senator, Social Sciences</i>	Jasper Williams-Ward <i>Senator, Communication and Creative Arts</i>	Richae Barton Josh Duncanson Shawn Gomez Travis Robinson
Aaliyah Wildgoose <i>Deputy Secretary General</i>	Lyndee Bowe <i>Senator, Chemistry Environmental and Life Sciences</i>	Northern Bahamas Campus	
Nikita Moxey <i>Director of Finance</i>	Felicia Burrows <i>Senator, Education</i>	Wentworth Donaldson <i>Division Vice President</i>	
Tevin Wilson <i>Deputy Director of Finance</i>	Kamera Cartwright <i>Senator, Social Sciences</i>	Ariel Seymour <i>Division Associate Vice President</i>	
Deanya Knowles <i>Director of Public Relations</i>	Christon Deveaux <i>Senator, Nursing and Allied Health Professions</i>	Laquay Vil <i>Division Secretary General</i>	
Michael Clarke <i>Deputy Director of Public Relations</i>	Sammy Evans <i>Senator, Business Studies</i>	Tyler Smith <i>Division Director of Finance</i>	
Legislative Branch (Senators)		Orthnell Dames <i>Division Director of Public Relations</i>	
Onassis Nottage <i>Senate Speaker, Mathematics, Physics and Technology</i>	Jolesse Hall <i>Senator, Nursing and Allied Health Professions</i>	Tyeshia Lewis <i>Division Senator</i>	

ALUMNI SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COLLEGE OF THE BAHAMAS PRESIDENTS AND PRINCIPALS

Dr. Rodney D. Smith <i>President 2014 – 2016</i>	Dr. Jacob Bynoe* <i>Principal 1979 – 1981</i>
Dr. Earla Carey-Baines <i>President (Acting) 2014</i>	Dr. Kazim Bacchus* <i>Principal 1976 – 1978</i>
Dr. Betsy Vogel-Boze <i>President 2011 – 2013</i>	Dr. John Knowles* <i>Principal 1974 – 1976</i>
Dr. Earla Carey-Baines <i>President July 2010 – December 2010</i>	*deceased
Ms. Janyne M. Hodder <i>President 2006 - 2010</i>	
Dr. Rhonda Chipman-Johnson <i>President (Acting) 2005 – 2006</i>	
Dr. Rodney D. Smith <i>President 2004 – 2005</i>	
Dr. Leon Higgs <i>President 1998 – 2004</i>	
Dr. Keva Bethel* <i>President 1995 – 1998</i>	
Dr. Keva Bethel* <i>Principal 1982 – 1995</i>	



FROM COLLEGE TO UNIVERSITY

A Noble Legacy



Building a national university which combines excellence in teaching with quality research, the deployment of its intellectual expertise in solving Bahamian problems and the creation of new knowledge and service to the community is essential to the sustainable national development of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. The journey from College to University has occupied more than four decades and has passed through several distinct phases. Today, we acknowledge that the journey, while by no means complete, has arrived at a landmark moment.

As early as academic year 1997-98, the College brought together a strategic planning task force composed of representatives of all major stakeholders – faculty, staff, students, alumni, leaders from public and private sector organisations and members of the general public - to develop a strategic plan. The plan's commitments, goals and strategies were intended to initiate formally the momentous journey to university status and to achieve and enhance excellence in the conduct of its core academic mission and other commitments. Revised in 2003, the actions emerging from the plan were to shape the University of The Bahamas.

Recognizing the need to develop an infrastructure which would support university status, the institution established new offices and departments and, in 1998, restructured the academic departments into three faculties covering nine schools with each faculty headed by an Academic Dean. The nomenclature for faculty was changed from lecturer and senior lecturer to assistant professor, associate professor and professor. The College also introduced generous paid study leave opportunities so that Bahamian faculty and staff could upgrade their credentials. Also in 1998, the then Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, the Rt. Hon. Hubert A. Ingraham, presented in Parliament a three-year development plan for the College which included the Government's commitment to facilitating the transition of the College into a University.

The most recent phase of the transition has two basic foundations. The first is that The College of The Bahamas already has sufficient attributes of a university to be called a university. The second, broader underpinning is that the College has been working on the transition for many years and that the passage of the University of The Bahamas Act, 2016, did not bring the transition process to an end. Both the short-term and long-term university-transition strategies are tied to the tremendous amount of energy and time that the College has spent over the last 14 years planning the transition.

In 2002, The College was tasked with preparing the institution to become a university by 2007. This phase culminated in August 2006 with the Council of The College establishing an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Governance to propose the legislative framework for the University of The Bahamas. That report – “the Keva Bethel Report” – was submitted in June 2007.

In July 2012, the Council appointed a University Transition Secretariat (UTS). Over 15 months, the UTS coordinated a consultative process in which faculty, staff, students, administrators, alumni, community and education partners gave unstintingly of their time. The work of UTS was guided by an understanding of the core functions of a university: Governance, Teaching and Learning, Research, and Service/Socialization and Institutional Sustainability.

The Secretariat presented its report to the Council in October 2013. The Report assimilated the information contained in the Keva Bethel Report (2006) and the Final Report of the Task Force on Academic Quality Assurance (2008). After receiving the UTS Report, a Council-appointed team of rapporteurs submitted a response which resulted in an all-day retreat of Council members, senior administrators and internal stakeholders in January of 2014 focused on generating the final Road Map for the University of The Bahamas and the formation of a consensus around core concerns.

In late 2014, the Council appointed an internal team to work with the Office of the Attorney General to draft the University of The Bahamas Bill and, in March of 2015, after consultation with stakeholders, the entire campus community was presented with an electronic version of a draft UB Bill. In February 2016, the Council began its deliberations to finalize the draft University of The Bahamas Bill. The final bill incorporated the suggestions of faculty, students, staff and alumni representatives and was submitted to the Government. It was debated and passed in Parliament in August 2016.

Much of the cost of this transition has been paid through the generosity of people within the institution and friends of the College in the wider community. In addition, the work has been made possible mainly by public funds in the form of the annual subvention approved by Parliament which has enabled the College of The Bahamas to thrive since 1974.

The College's transition to university status has been an organic but deliberate process. As a result, today we celebrate the establishment of the University of The Bahamas.

MISSION

*The mission of the University is to advance
and expand access to higher education,
promote academic freedom, drive
national development and build character
through teaching, learning, research,
scholarship and service.*

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas

Faculty are among the primary assets of a University. The move by senior administration over the years to increase the number of faculty members with terminal degrees and to attract more Ph.D. holders to the faculty ranks has served to cement the commitment of the institution to academic and educational excellence.

The work of the institution to support national development and to focus on maximizing the potential of each student who passes through our halls has been and continues to be the goal to which we, as faculty members, are dedicated. As we transition from one stage of our national development to another we pledge anew our efforts to this sacred work.

Governance occupies a central role in defining a university and in ensuring the kind of academic freedom to which we aspire and for which we want the institution to be known. We are committed, as partners in the governance of the institution, to the best environment in which we can do our work, in which students can learn and mature and in which the work of national development can be undertaken.

Congratulations to all who have worked and dreamed to see this day. The Union of Tertiary Educators of The Bahamas stands proud to salute the University of The Bahamas on this its Charter Day.

Ms. Jennifer Isaacs-Dotson
President

Public Managers Union

Quality education is crucial for developing natural resources, social standards and economic independence.

The Public Managers Union wholeheartedly supports the establishment of the University of The Bahamas. Having participated in the development of the associated Act, we are satisfied that the process by which the institution is being established embraced the principle of ‘academic freedom’ as defined within the Charter:

“...to exercise critical thinking, engage in innovation, research and teaching, but not the right to proselytize, cajole, violate the rights of others, be immune from institutional policies or violate the law.”

Having participated on various search committees and in stakeholder meetings, I have full confidence in the policies which will guide the institution.

Congratulations to Dr. Rodney D. Smith on his appointment as President. Throughout his interview process and subsequent work at the College, Dr. Smith has remained poised, patient and focused; qualities that our next generation of leaders should exemplify. I pray that with God’s help, Dr. Smith will continue to lead the institution with humility and wisdom.

It is my hope that the University of The Bahamas will help to develop this nation through research and intellectual discussions. Likewise, may all members of the campus community feel equally inspired to support the institution through an abiding respect for one another.

Congratulations and may God continue to bless the University of The Bahamas.

Leslie A. Munnings
President

Student Government Association

The College of The Bahamas Union of Students (COBUS) has been in existence for 39 years. It is important that on this transition into the University of The Bahamas and as the Student Government Association takes effect, we commemorate those who have paved the way for our current standings and commend the current efforts of those in our midst. I am proud to proclaim appreciation on behalf of our student body for this tremendous occasion that has been anxiously anticipated. It is, indeed, both an honour and a privilege to serve as the COBUS President and, in addition to these feelings, is an added state of pride and excitement to be representing the students of the University of The Bahamas as the first President of our Student Government Association (SGA).

The Student Government Association shall continue to advocate for and with our students in a respectful and effective manner. It is our goal to tend to the needs of our students and ensure that they are met in the best way possible. As major stakeholders of this great institution, it is also our duty to continue to encourage and evoke pride in what it means to be a part of the University. After all, those who will graduate in Spring 2017 will be the first graduates of the University of The Bahamas. That in itself speaks to yet another historical moment that creates a sense of pride and an eagerness amongst those soon-to-be graduates.

We as the Student Government Association, look forward to continuing our role in the decision-making processes and we are indeed happy to celebrate this historical occasion with everyone.

Mr. Keyron Smith
President

Bahamas Public Service Union

The transition of the College of The Bahamas into the University of The Bahamas marks a definitive milestone in the development of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas.

The attainment of such a momentous step can do nothing but inspire the imaginations and fire the passions of Bahamians from all walks of life, but particularly those Bahamians who need a public tertiary institution in order to access higher education. The College of The Bahamas was in its day a partner with the labour movement of The Bahamas and it is our hope that the University of The Bahamas builds on that tradition going forward.

We salute the hard work and effort of all of those who have participated in this journey. We hail the vision of the Rt. Hon. Sir Lynden O. Pindling who looked forward to this day so many years ago and who looked forward to a Bahamas in which a university education was the right and privilege of all citizens.

Rest assured that the Bahamas Public Service Union supports this momentous transition and is fully committed to working hand and hand with administration to ensure that the University of The Bahamas succeeds and evolves into a major contributor to a modern and progressive society for the benefit of all Bahamians.

Congratulations on the transition and may God bless the University of The Bahamas.

Mr. John Pinder
President

ACADEMIC SYMBOLISM

The University Mace

The Academic Ceremonial Mace represents the authority of the Chief Executive Officer of the University. The Mace of the University of The Bahamas measures three feet in length and is made from native mahogany for its strength and beauty. It is topped by the University crest flanked by two flamingoes, a symbol of our heritage and brilliance on the University’s crest and the national bird of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas. The Mace was designed and carved by Andret John, a noted Bahamian artist, famous for his sculptures.

The Presidential Chain & Medallion

The Presidential Chain and Medallion are symbols of the rank of President and the authority of the Office of President. The bronze medallion is antique silver-plated and depicts the University’s crest. The chain, plain and unadorned, is joined to the medallion by the President’s banner, engraved with the name of the University’s President. Together with the Mace, the chain and medallion symbolize the continuing authority of the President of the University of The Bahamas.

Academic Dress

The wearing of caps, gowns and hoods at college and university functions dates back to the earliest days of the oldest universities. Modern academic regalia evolved from the kinds of apparel worn by monks and students in the eleventh and twelfth centuries to keep warm in the medieval castles and halls in which they studied.

The Gown

The gown has become symbolic of the democracy of scholarship, for it completely covers any dress or rank or social standing. The sleeves of the gown indicate the level of the degree held by the wearer. A long pointed sleeve indicates the bachelor degree. The master’s degree gown has an oblong sleeve cut in an arc with a slit at either the upper arm or wrist. The doctoral gown has bell shaped

sleeves and may also have velvet facing and three sleeve bars or chevrons. The sleeves of a university president’s gown bear four chevrons. The trimming may be black or it may match the degree colour on the gown’s edging.

The Cap

The academic cap is a sign of the freedom of scholarship and responsibility and dignity with which scholarship endows the wearer. Old poetry records the cap of scholarship as square, symbolizing the book, although other authorities claim that it is a mortarboard, the symbol of the mason, a privileged guild. Trustees wear a six-sided cap, while the President’s is eight-sided. The colour of the tassels on the cap denotes the discipline. The tassels on the mortarboards worn by faculty may be black or a colour indicating the degree. Those who hold a doctoral degree may wear a gold tassel.

Tassel colours worn by graduates can include:

- Accounting – Drab
- Agriculture – Maize
- Architecture – Blue Violet
- Arts – White
- Business Studies – Drab
- Economics – Copper
- Education – Light Blue
- Engineering – Orange
- Finance – Drab
- General Studies – White
- Geography – White
- History – White
- Journalism – Crimson
- Language & Literature – White

- Law/Criminal Justice – Purple
- Library Science – Lemon
- Marketing – Drab
- Mathematics – Gold
- Nursing – Apricot
- Psychology – Gold
- Public Administration – Peacock
- Sciences – Gold
- Secretarial Studies – Drab
- Social Studies – Citron
- Sociology – Citron
- Technology – Gold

The Hood

The hood is the most prominent feature of the academic costume and is lined with the official colours of the institution conferring the degree. It is edged and bound with velvet or the colour appropriate to the degree. At University of The Bahamas, the lining of the hood is royal blue and white representing The University’s brand colours.

The Cord

The gold cord is worn by candidates graduating with distinction.

The cumulative grade average required for the award of distinction is 3.51 – 4.00, effective Fall 1998.

TRANSITION EVENTS COMMITTEE

Davinia Blair, Chair <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Josh Duncanson <i>Student Government Association, University of The Bahamas</i>	Sr. Asst. Commissioner Stephen Seymour <i>Royal Bahamas Police Force</i>
Nikki Bethell <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Patrice Green <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Maelynn Seymour Major <i>University of The Bahamas</i>
Kerry Bonamy <i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>	Paulette Hanna <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Luther Smith <i>Bahamas Information Services</i>
Anthony Burrows <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Asst. Superintendent Randy Lightfoot <i>Royal Bahamas Police Force</i>	Supt. Craig Stubbs <i>Royal Bahamas Police Force</i>
Kathryn Campbell <i>Bahamas Information Services</i>	Tameka Lundy <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Diana Swann <i>Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas</i>
Traven Cargill <i>Student Government Association, University of The Bahamas</i>	Colyn Major <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Colin Trotman <i>Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas</i>
Camilla Cheong <i>Bahamas Information Services</i>	Glenn Miller <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Georgette Turnquest <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>
Clarence Clare <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Dr. Calae Phillippe <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Vernice Williams <i>University of The Bahamas</i>
Carolyn Conliffe <i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>	Leyton Rahman <i>Ministry of Works</i>	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Core Committee	<i>Physical Plant, Logistics, Infrastructure Subcommittee</i>	Kandice Eldon <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Carolyn Conliffe <i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>
Davinia Blair <i>University of The Bahamas (Committee Chair)</i>	Juan Bethel <i>VUE AV</i>	Tameka Lundy <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Colyn Major <i>University of The Bahamas</i>
Nikki Bethell <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Anthony Burrows <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Luther Smith <i>Bahamas Information Services</i>	<i>Security/Medical Subcommittee</i>
Clarence Clare <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Paulette Hanna <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Diana Swann <i>Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas</i>	Asst. Superintendent Randy Lightfoot <i>Royal Bahamas Police Force</i>
Patrice Green <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Leyton Rahman <i>Ministry of Works</i>	Colin Trotman <i>Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas</i>	Glenn Miller <i>University of The Bahamas</i>
Janice Knowles <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Ronnie Stevenson <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Georgette Turnquest <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Dr. Calae Phillipe <i>University of The Bahamas</i>
Tameka Lundy <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	<i>PR and Social Media Subcommittee</i>	Vernice Williams <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Sr. Asst. Commissioner Craig Stubbs <i>Royal Bahamas Police Force</i>
Maelynn Seymour-Major <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Julian Anderson-Rolle <i>Broadcasting Corporation of The Bahamas</i>	<i>Protocol Subcommittee</i>	<i>Student Engagement Subcommittee</i>
Georgette Turnquest <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Nikki Bethel <i>Ministry of Education, Science and Technology</i>	Allison Basden <i>University of The Bahamas</i>	Traven Cargill <i>Student Government Association University of The Bahamas</i>
	Kathryn Campbell <i>Bahamas Information Services</i>	Kerry Bonamy <i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</i>	Josh Duncanson <i>Student Government Association University of The Bahamas</i>
	Camilla Cheong <i>Bahamas Information Services</i>		Onassis Nottage <i>Student Government Association University of The Bahamas</i>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS *(cont.)*

Darvin Toussaint
University of The Bahamas

*University of The Bahamas
Ceremonial & Occasions Committee*

Raquel Barr-Edgcombe
Allison Basden
Lorraine Bastian-Jones
Margo Blackwell
Calpurnia Campbell
Cheryl Carey
Sandra Dean-Smith
Audrey Dean-Wright
Linda Johnson
Lionel Johnson
Natasha Jones-Swann
Leah Rolle
Craig Smith
Christine Swann
Keyron Smith
Natasha Williamson
Keithley Woolward

Chef Jared Forbes
A. Gabriella Fraser
Frontline Media Productions
Commissioner Ellison Greenslade
Andret John
Paul Jones
Christian Justilien
Office of Communication
Keisha Oliver
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Red Theory Design
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Christ Church Cathedral Protocol Team
Lady Beverly Wallace-Whitfield

Special Thanks

Dean Patrick Adderley
Adrian Archer
Chef Geoffrey Edgecombe
Events by Alexandra

