

ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE "A Point of Pride in the Community"

# President's Newsletter

Winter - 2017

### President's Message



Greetings, friends, alumni, faculty, staff, and students! The new year is a great time to celebrate the things we've accomplished and look forward to the opportunities that await us in 2017.

Our students have gone to Paris, to the White House and to the world of discovery. One of our early college high school students will explore NASA as an aeronautical scholar. Several of our graduates have made great progress in scientific research. A handful of our veterans have gained national attention for exploration of the 3D printing potential in the field of prosthetics. Our students have shown incredible potential in 2016!

We crowned our homecoming court at the annual Blue & White Dinner and Dance, including Mr. SPC John Martin and Ms. SPC Jalisa Rivera. We celebrated with some of our mostbeloved graduates, including Gracie Poe, Class of 1960, who will be a featured artist in the Morgan Gallery this February.

In the spring, we'll raise money for students during our ninth annual Scholarship Golf Tournament on March 3, 2017. We've raised more than \$1 million and it always goes to SPC students. We'll also celebrate Fiesta with our annual CultureFest & Rib Cook-Off on April 27, 2017.

We have a full slate of upcoming activities and I invite you to visit our campus, A Point of Pride on San Antonio's Eastside.

Best Regards,

4 Ailian to

Adena Williams Loston, Ph.D. President

### SPC Presidential Scholarship recipients announced



SPC Presidential Scholarship recipients (seated) joined college guests and administration members (standing) for the ceremonial announcement of the scholarship awards.

Six SPC degree candidates have been announced as recipients of the Dr. Adena Williams Loston St. Philip's College Presidential Scholarship for the 2016-2017 academic year. Presidential Scholarships are among student assistance and leadership programs funded through more than \$1 million raised during the annual SPC Scholarship Golf Tournaments. The recipients for

### The Links, Inc. Doubles Endowment for SPC Students



Dr. Loston dedicated the college's 2016 High Tea and Hats program to honor the San Antonio Chapter of The Links, Incorporated members for both their continued support of our students and a 2016 gift of \$50,000 that more than doubled The Links Endowment Fund at SPC. The Links organization has endowed scholarships at SPC and the members regularly support the campus and its students.

Dr. Loston presented the San Antonio Chapter of The Links president Deborah Stanton Burke, right, with a copy of the most in-depth text on the college's journey, the Texas A&M University Press' Peoples and Cultures of Texas book St. Philip's College: A Point of Pride on San Antonio's Eastside.

(Inside this issue...

Homecoming Unsung Shero 'Best Tasting Salsa' Results HBCU grant exceeds \$4 Million

### SPC Presidential Scholarship Continued

the 2016-2017 academic year are Daniel G. Garcia (construction technology), Michael Guzik (business), Katrina King (business) and Youngsil Whipple (hospitality management). They are joined by returning scholars Minako Miyamoto (culinary arts) and Fadela Gacis Castro (biotechnology). The recipients are each awarded an annual scholarship of \$3,000 and will give back through service with community organizations. The Presidential Scholars scholarship has been one of the most prestigious elements of the SPC experience since President Dr. Adena Williams Loston established it in 2008.

The scholarships are awarded to students with a 3.5 grade point average or higher and individual histories of community service, leadership and engagement. Each of the current scholars has earned a 4.0 grade point average. Recipients meet with the president of the college for mentoring opportunities and are required to participate in structured community engagement activities.



Fadela Gacis Castro



Michael Guzik



Katrina King



Minako Miyamoto



Daniel G. Garcia



Youngsil Whipple

### HUD Promise Zone Grant Writing Training program at SPC for 150 residents

SPC hosted the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department's Promise Zone Grant Writing Training program in August for 150 residents and representatives from area churches and non-profits. Attended by San Antonio Mayor, The Honorable Ivy Taylor, the program increased the capacity of grant writers and partners in the Promise Zone of San Antonio.

Attendees learned strategies to enhance community and organizational development and the art of successful capacity building and grant writing for their organizations from HUD professional staff. The HUD Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships has hosted similar trainings across the country.



SPC computer science student Hannah Mahaffey, recipient of The Whataburger Scholarship.

## SPC student recognized at Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation

SPC computer science student Hannah Mahaffey was honored during the Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation's annual scholarship luncheon as SPC's third recipient of The Whataburger Scholarship endowed through the foundation by Tom Dobson, owner of Whataburger. Mahaffey was one of 36 Texas higher education students receiving \$15,000. Each year, scholarships are awarded to students who exhibit entrepreneurial drive and leadership spirit.

The Texas Business Hall of Fame Foundation focuses awareness on the positive achievements made by outstanding business legends. According to the foundation web site, contributions to the foundation's scholarship endowment program play a key role in the growth and health of future Texas communities. More than \$3 million in scholarships have been awarded.

"It was a great opportunity to get my name out there along with St. Philip's College," Mahaffey recalled. "I was the only associate degree recipient, so I felt really proud when everyone asked me if I was working on my masters, and they were in awe when they found out I am working on my associate degree and intend to transfer to Texas Lutheran University in Seguin." Mahaffey joins former student Alyssa Gutierrez and current student Harry Staley as SPC recipients of The Whataburger Scholarship.

### SPC Collegiate 100 attends gala, Crumedy recognized

The 100 Black Men of San Antonio hosted an awards gala to recognize community leaders for their work in the San Antonio. Mr. Keibian Crumedy, 2015-16 President of the St. Philip's



Members of St. Philip's Collegiate 100, now in its inaugural year as a chartered student organization, were in attendance to represent the partnership between SPC and the 100 Black Men of San Antonio, Inc. Attendees included, from left, Keibian Crumedy, Dr. Paul Machen, Angelia Jacobs, Dr. Mordecai Brownlee, Cindy Rivera, John Martin, Dr. Milton Harris, Paul Lede, Jessica Rodriguez, John D. Martin, Percival Bragg, Erlene Taylor, Damon Lake, Blanca Garcia, Karim Hashmett, and Kristina Bowman.

College Chapter of the Collegiate 100, was the recipient of the 2016 Millennial Leadership Award. He was recognized with the Honorable Laura Thompson (Texas Representative 121); Barbara Gervin-Hawkins (Charter School Founder) and Chief William McManus (San Antonio Police Department).

### Steele High School Team Wins for 'Best Tasting Salsa'

SPC celebrated student success during the college's 2016 Best Tasting Salsa Scholarship Competition. The salsa specialty food contest, featuring student chefs from Steele, McCollum, Clemens, La Vernia, Sam Houston, Brandeis, Taft and Cole high schools, included scholarships for half of the eight two-person teams. Steele (Shukira Al-Ara-Ibi, Ty Craighead), Taft (Tiffany Arand, Jose Reyes), La Vernia (Dustin Norman, Aubrey Stewart), and Brandeis high schools placed first, second, third and people's choice (Alex Vargas, Allison Kirby) respectively. Each of the 16 competing chefs is both a high school senior and interested in attending St. Philip's College. What distinguishes the food is that it is from a region where the family and commercial traditions of salsa making extend centuries deep, and new generations create the authentic salsas of the future during the contest. The college's signature Hispanic Heritage Month event features industry sponsorship and local chefs as judges. All salsas are entirely prepared in labs at SPC on competition day. Intensive preparation lasts one hour. Table set up precedes the judging, public viewing, and sampling. Teams of chefs are judged on presentation, originality, creativity, salsa taste and texture. The winning entry was Kiwi Avocado Salsa Verde.



First-place \$500 SPC scholarship recipients (from center left) Ty Craighead and Shukira Al-Ara-Ibi of Steele High School debuted a recipe of kiwi avocado salsa verde to win the contest and the scholarships.

### National Hispanic Recognition Program honors for two SPC Early College High School students

Two SPC Early College High School students within the Comal Independent School District are SPC's first from that district to be recognized in a 23-yearold College Board non-monetary award program that identifies outstanding Hispanic high school students.

In September, Keaton Rodriguez and Alfred Martinez became Memorial Early College High School's first-ever National Hispanic Recognition Program Honorees. A local television reporter interviewed both in October.

"If you're recognized as a National Hispanic Scholar, there's a lot of scholarships you can get," Martinez told the reporter. He aspires to study biology at Harvard University or Yale University.

Rodriguez aspires to become an engineer after studying at the University of Texas at San Antonio or elsewhere in the UT System. "I love making things work. I look at a car, and I look at the engine, and I love how all these mechanical parts are specially designed to do their specific tasks. I want to be able to design things like that."

The program annually identifies 5,000 of the highest scoring students from a nationwide total of 250,000 high school juniors who both took the PSAT/ NMSQT and designated themselves as Hispanic.

### HBCU All Star completes training in Washington



HBCU All Star Damon Lake (right) joined SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston during a ceremonial moment in his training experience.

SPC student Damon Lake recently completed a week of leadership training for a year of public service aimed at helping officials in The White House and at the U.S. Department of Education to advance academic excellence at historically black colleges. The White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities HBCU All-Stars program supports the goal of helping 60 percent of Americans ages 25-34 complete an associate degree or higher by 2020.



Members of the SPC delegation hosted by the White House Initiative staff and the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) at the 2016 National HBCU Week Conference included college director of student conduct and Title IX John Martin, SPC vice president of student success Dr. Mordecai Ian Brownlee, SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston, HBCU All Star Damon Lake, SPC vice president of college services Lacy Hampton, SPC Title III director Dr. Erick Akins, and Monica Aguilar, Title III Grant Management.

"You cannot buy this. The leadership training was phenomenal. My takeaway was fantastic," Lake, a business major, said. "It was 'wow' moment after 'wow' moment for me. We were literally immersed in brand management for HBCUs and who we are. I have a fact-based depth of understanding of the role of the HBCU in this country." Lake is the second All-Star from SPC in this three-year old program after competing initial formal training during the 2016 National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Week Conference Oct. 23-26 in Washington, D.C. SPC leaders at The White House as part of the 2016 National HBCU Week Conference activities that included observing the 2016 HBCU All Stars in training included SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston, Lacy Hampton, the SPC Vice President of College Services, Dr. Mordecai Brownlee, the SPC vice president of student success, and Dr. Erick Akins, the SPC Title III Director.

"Most of the leaders on the federal level who were presenting as moderators were HBCU grads, and they had amazing federal track records," Lake explained. "To see so many leaders who were once where I am, doing what they are doing, opened a place in my mind. It's important to see people who both look like you and have gone to the top, and it opened my mind in a way that has never been opened before. Getting a chance to meet and mingle with the All Stars, to see how I stand in the leadership ranks, was quite impressive. I was born in 1987, the same year St. Philip's College became an HBCU member institution, so I'm doubly proud to be an All Star when my college observes its 30th anniversary status year."

### **HBCU** Grants for SPC announced

The U.S. Department of Education announced that SPC is among 95 Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), strengthening their academic resources, financial management systems, endowment-building capacity and physical plants as a result of grants awarded to the college.

The five-year grant was awarded in 2012. SPC's funding for the fifth year is \$4,990,765. Activities at SPC enhanced under the grant are student services, centers of excellence in mathematics and science; instructional labs; campus renovation; information and communication technology; institutes for teaching excellence and staff development and a veterans outreach and transition center.

The \$1,322,023 Student Aid and Financial Responsibility Act Funding grant awarded to SPC will fund the remainder of a \$10 million renovation at the 63-year-old Turbon Student Center, constructed in 1953, renovated in 1976 and 1996 and named for Professor/Director Of Counseling Emeritus Everett L. Turbon (1919-2002).

## Celebrating **22** years of Fiesta!

## St. Philip's College CULTUTEFEST & RibCook-Off

Thursday, April 27 10AM - 6PM Admission is free!







1801 Martin Luther King Drive, San Antonio, TX 78203 alamo.edu/spc/culturefest



### Intimate and teen domestic violence topic of President's Lecture Series





Beautrice Butler, PLS chair, is shown here with actress and comedian April Hernandez-Castillo and SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston.

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed with a President's Lecture Series address by actress and comedian April Hernandez-Castillo, a national spokesperson for the prevention of intimate and teen domestic violence. Her business life includes giving back as a National Coalition Against Domestic Violence spokesperson. Hernandez-Castillo shared her wisdom in a Hispanic Heritage Month program, "Making Your Mess into a Message: Learn How I Survived Domestic Violence and Found Love, Hope, and Purpose." The event helped SPC students reflect on the college's commitment to providing a supportive learning environment and to fostering, safe, healthy relationships among its students. The next lecture features actress Grace (Gealey) Byers.

### Symposium held for third CIMA-LSAMP Project Undergraduate Research Program

SPC hosted the completion symposium for the third annual Ciencia, Ingenieria, y Matematicas Aliados – Louis Stokes Alliance Minority Participation Program (CIMA-LSAMP) undergraduate research cohort that included five SPC students, as part of a national effort to increase the completion rates of minority STEM majors by pairing promising community college students with faculty mentors and their projects at universities. Partners with SPC in this grant are Palo Alto College, Northwest Vista College, Northeast Lakeview College, San Antonio College, St. Mary's University, the University of Texas at San Antonio and Texas A&M University – San Antonio. More than 30 students completed research projects under the mentorship of STEM instructors and professors.

Researchers included current and former SPC students Diona Morgan, an engineering major who completed research at SPC; Desiree Ortega, a biology major who completed her research at Texas A&M University – San Antonio; Carina Rodriguez, a biology major who completed her research at TAMUSA; Valeria Saenz, an engineering major who completed her research at SPC; and Mia Wright, a biology major who completed her research at St. Mary's University.



President-to-President: Student Government Association (SGA) President Percival Bragg (left) joined SPC President Dr. Adena Williams Loston on a president-to-president campus walkabout.

### **Triniti Armstrong Texas High School Aerospace Scholars achievement**

St. Philip's College Early College High School with San Antonio Independent School District student Triniti Armstrong made college history as the first student at the college selected by NASA to participate in the preliminary online distance learning portion of the space agency's Texas High School Aerospace Scholars (HAS) program.

"I used to attend the San Antonio Prefreshman Engineering Program and I couldn't make it one year, so I found something new to do with the NASA program," said Armstrong. NASA's program is geared toward physics students in their junior year. Armstrong hopes to be invited to participate the onsite summer program, however she shares she is concentrating on the present, and having fun with the NASA coursework as she aspires to become an aerospace engineer.

"So far it has been something great to do. I talk with NASA about using 3-D imaging, designing airplanes and space ships while I'm taking their course. If my grades are high enough I can get to go to NASA, but first I have to complete four weekly assignments with a test each month. The course work is really broad, because there are STEM modules you complete, and the science you study includes satellites and wing shapes, in addition to an assignment to write a paper about the kind of NASA technology you'd use to help NASA get answers to their questions," Armstrong said.



Triniti Armstrong

## ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

### THE HONORABLE RUTH JONES MCCLENDON COLLECTION



FEBRUARY 28, 2017 AT 11:00AM – 1:00PM Center for learning resources



### **Eight SPC students study in Paris**

Eight SPC students participated in the college's second transatlantic culinary exchange program Sept. 17-30 with the Lycee Guillaume Tirel culinary school in Paris. Under the leadership of college faculty member Chef Frank Salinas, SPC students Allison Ansley (baking and pastry arts), Yolanda Guerra (baking and pastry arts), Sabrina Perez (culinary arts), April Santos (culinary arts), Louise Slone (culinary arts), Anthony Sund (culinary arts), Victoria Tovar (culinary arts) and Kayla Waters (culinary arts) prepared foods from Texas for Parisians in celebration of the Lycee's tenth anniversary and France's 2016 Gastronomy Week observances.

Foreign delegations of students from Germany, Canada, China, Cuba, Spain, Italy, Mexico, and Portugal also came to support a program that stressed importance of international trade.

Reunions were held with the 12 French students SPC hosted during Fiesta week. Six second-year SPC students, two near-secondyear SPC students and one SPC culinary arts alumni represented San Antonio.



SPC celebrated student success and globalism as the college's students and faculty served diplomacy abroad as participants in the college's second transatlantic culinary exchange program visit Sept. 17-30 with the Lycee Guillaume Tirel culinary school in Paris. Eight SPC College students and college faculty member Chef Frank Salinas learned and represented America by sharing foods from Texas with the people of Paris in celebration of the Lycee's tenth anniversary and France's 2016 Gastronomy Week observances. By global culinary education standards, the exchange is a premier partnership, Salinas explained. The two-year-old exchange that has included students from Paris attending SPC in San Antonio is recognized as a best practice by Dr. Jill Biden, noted community college subject matter expert and spouse of U.S. Vice President Joe Biden.

### Jessica's Project Series Fifth Anniversary with Maria Davis

HIV/AIDS disease prevention activist Maria Davis helped St. Philip's College students conclude the fall lineup of three Jessica's Project Series Fifth Anniversary activities. The Nov. 29 program coincided with World AIDS Day observances.

"This has been a long journey, and I want to thank all the students who reached out to me through social media, aggressively looking for me," Davis shared with a group of students and local experts in the AIDS prevention effort. "It is so important to talk and communicate and spread the word that HIV is connected to so many things.... molestation, domestic violence, social media and bullying... please find someone who can help others so they do not suffer in silence," said Davis.

A student-led presentation of nutrition-based solutions for diseases suffered by persons in San Antonio has been the signature event of this series each year since 2012. Because the college is a lead partner in a multi-year federal capacity building grant for AIDS prevention, students and grant partners were event co-participants with Davis, explained college biology faculty member Dr. Solomon Nfor and Thermajean Jones, the college Community Empowerment Project leader.

The remainder of Jessica's Project season five included 150 nutrition students and many local residents sharing knowledge on Nov. 18 in the St. Philip's College-East Side Community garden. All efforts were part of the college's larger commitment to transforming socioeconomic-educational conditions for residents surrounding its main campus, Nfor explained. While community partners in the garden events included Green Spaces Alliance and Antioch Transformational Network Inc., community partners in the AIDS prevention event included San Antonio AIDS Foundation (SAAF), San Antonio Fighting Back, San Antonio Metropolitan Health STD/HIV Clinic and Beat AIDS.

"Maria Davis inspired us to include dozens of our social and behavioral science students in this fact-based experience for the first time, so that all of our students could experience her unique and highly valuable wisdom," said Nfor. "STEM professionals can create all the technical advances in the prevention of AIDS, but without well-informed social scientists on the team,



AIDS prevention activist Maria Davis' appeal to SPC health and social science students and AIDS prevention community partners to continue their important work was wellreceived.

those advances are less likely to reach the most vulnerable. We thank Maria Davis and the San Antonio AIDS prevention partners in advance for helping our college to diversify its efforts in disease prevention and the creation of a culture of health," said Nfor.

### ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE



### March 3, 2017 The Republic Golf Club

### Register Now alamo.edu/spc/golf



### SPC students argue ethical decision making



SPC faculty coaches, a staff resource provider and an administrator from the college surround 2016 season SPC Ethics Bowl team members (first row from left of railing) Lauren Estrada, Alexandria Welch, Martin Vertiz, Enrique Alonzo, (second row from left) Na'ima AlHabbas, Seth Wiedmer, Sam Haynes and Zainah Alshobber during the competition held at St. Mary's University.

Eight students represented SPC in the Texas Regional Ethics Bowl competition held at St. Mary's University. 24 teams representing 18 colleges from Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma competed in the three-round event. The top four teams qualifying advanced to nationals. The SPC team competed against St. Mary's University (0-3) in Round 1, Oachita Baptist University (1-2) in Round 2, and Palo Alto College (3-0) in Round 3.

Ethics bowl team members are Lauren Estrada, Alexandria Welch, Seth Wiedmer, Martin Vertiz, Enrique Alonzo, Na'ima AlHabbas, Zainah Alshobber, Nadia AlHabbas, and Sam Haynes. Faculty members Andrew Hill and Matthew Fuller coached the SPC Ethics Bowl Team. Jill Zimmerman assisted as team librarian, providing EDM resources. In addition to the SPC coaches, Dr. Paul Machen, Jill Zimmerman and Adrian Jackson came out to cheer on the team.

The students studied over 25 ethics cases in preparation for the competition.

## Volunteer Income Tax Assistance team begins serving clients Jan. 17

On Jan. 17 in the SPC Bowden Building, SPC students will open the college's 24th season of free Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) site services. SPC students obtain federal financial services experience while returning millions to taxpayers by offering pro bono federal income tax form preparation and financial literacy services through April 15. SPC Business Information Solutions faculty who lead the program conduct training at SPC for more than 900 citywide VITA site workers.



Dr. Adena Williams Loston is shown with president and CEO of OCI Solar Power SH Yoon and his wife Nayoung Park. OCI has donated \$50,000 to support scholarships and the alternative energy program.



Dr. Adena Williams Loston, left, was named New Creation Christian Fellowship Unsung SHEro by Rev. Dr. many accomplishments during her tenure nominated by SPC student, Damon Lake.



### Bowden Chapter Business Les Dames d'Escoffier and Professional Women **Fellowship Breakfast**

On Oct. 16, SPC leadership attended the 2016 Bowden Chapter Business and Professional Women Fellowship Breakfast at the Hilton Gardens and Conference Center. Leaders supported the 74th anniversary event of a group founded by Saint Artemisia Bowden, Savior of St. Philip's, as a method to raise scholarship funds for SPC students Percival Bragg and Jasmine Mcpherson.

### Artemisia Bowden mosaic dedicated at Ellis Alley



Saint and SPC President Emeritus Artemisia Bowden (seated at left) is one of three influential women depicted in a new mosaic that is part of an award-winning development project at Ellis Alley.

A mosaic art piece was dedicated to three influential African-American women: SPC President Emeritus Artemisia Bowden, Myra Davis Hemmings, and Hattie Briscoe. The dedication was part of the Ellis Alley restoration project that earned VIA Metropolitan Transit a 2016 Honor Award from Preservation Texas. The project refurbished six historic buildings in what was San Antonio's first post-Civil War place where freed slaves could own property. It served as a hub for the African-American community for many years. The offices of SPC community partner San Antonio for Growth on the Eastside were also relocated to the Ellis Alley property.

### **International recognizes** SPC students

Two SPC tourism, hospitality and culinary arts degree candidates were recognized by donors as recipients of \$1,000 scholarships for study in culinary professions by members of the San Antonio chapter of the Les Dames d'Escoffier International. The SPC recipients of scholarships from the invitation-only charitable organization of successful women in the food, hospitality and agriculture sectors are Laura Mollett and SPC Presidential Scholar Minako Miyamoto. The recognition for Miyamoto and Mollett occurred during the organization's Plate Changer Luncheon, and guests included SPC tourism, hospitality and culinary arts team members Mary Kunz, Cris Goloby, Lynette Kennedy, Maria Luis, Brandi



SPC College tourism, hospitality and culinary arts degree candidates (from left) Minako Miyamoto and Laura Gail Mollett were each recipients of scholarships for study in culinary professions by the members of the San Antonio chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier International.

Villareal Amato and Sylvia Aguilera. The local chapter of this organization earmarked \$25,000 for scholarships in 2016.





#### ST. PHILIP'S COLLEGE

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### **President's Lecture Series to feature 'Empire' actress**

The 2016-2017 St. Philip's College President's Lecture Series season of seminars and free public lectures concludes Feb. 16 in the Watson Fine Arts Center at 1801 Martin Luther King Drive with actress Grace (Gealey) Byers. Guests will hear from and ask important questions of the actress currently performing as Anika Calhoun on the hit FOX series Empire.

The 60-minute lecture begins at 11 a.m. Admission and parking are both free, and lecture seating is available on a first-arrived, first-seated basis. Lecture seating reservations requests for school, government and corporate groups are recommended and are accepted online at www.alamo.edu/spc/pls-rsvp. Questions for Byers are accepted online now and up to 48 hours before the lecture at www.alamo.edu/spc/pls-ga.



Questions for actress and Feb. 16 President's Lecture Series speaker Grace (Gealey) Byers are being accepted online now.

#### Upcoming Events

Art Exhibit - Gracie Poe, February 2 SAYWE Concert, February 4 President's Lecture Series, February 16 SAYWE II and AFA Jazz Band, February 19 Soul Food Taste, February 23

#### Save the Date

Ninth Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, March 3 CultureFest, April 27 Graduation, May 12

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