Dr. Debby Lindsey-Taliefero
Recipient of the First Annual Distinguished Alumni Award

by Gwenell Waters-Bass

The Howard University Economics Department Alumni Association (HUEDAA) selected Dr. Debby Lindsey-Taliefero for its First Annual Distinguished Alumni Award. Nominees were required to: (1) be graduates of the Howard University Economics Department; (2) have longevity in the field; and (3) have made outstanding contributions to the profession and community.

Dr. Lindsey holds three degrees in economics from Howard University. She earned her B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. in 1976, 1978, and 1983, respectively. She currently is an Associate Professor in the Department of Finance at Howard University’s School of Business, where she has taught economics for the past 16 years. She is deeply committed to helping her students prepare for life after Howard. Her work as faculty advisor to the Howard chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society for 12 years, has exposed her students to a range of educational, financial, and career development opportunities. In appreciation, Dr. Lindsey was voted the 2002 "Professor of the Year" by the students in the School of Business.

Dr. Lindsey’s research efforts have focused on consumer issues, mortgage lending discrimination, and automobile credit discrimination. Dr. Lindsey worked as an economist at both of the major civil rights organizations, the National Urban League and the NAACP, Washington Bureau. She later worked at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Subsequently, Dr. Lindsey worked as an economist for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Homeland Defense and then as a weapon systems research consultant for Analytic Services, Inc. (ANSER), until she returned to Howard in 1987 to teach. In addition to teaching, Dr. Lindsey has worked as an economic consultant in her husband’s consulting practice. In this capacity she has built statistical models and conducted numerous studies of major lending institutions.

Dr. Lindsey has published in numerous journals and conference proceedings. She currently serves on various boards and councils including the editorial board for the Journal of Research on Minority Affairs; the Advisory Council for the American Society for Competitiveness; and the executive board for the National Economic Association. Dr. Lindsey has served as an expert witness in two Federal law suits that alleged automobile credit discrimination. Reports generated from these cases have been featured on ABC 20/20, as well as in the New York Times and Washington Post, and she has appeared on numerous television programs including: PBS, Money Wise - Credit Wise Series, NBC News 4 - Report on NAFTA, and BET News-Blacks and the 2001 Bankruptcy Law.

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Dr. Lindsey is the Howard University Project Manager and Chief Economist for Freddie Mac’s financial literacy curriculum called “CreditSmart.” Her work on the CreditSmart project combined with her other credit research has achieved national recognition for Howard University as a leading authority on credit and lending as it relates to race.

She has been married to attorney and businessman, Michael S. Taliefero for 13 years. They have one son, Van Taliefero.
Internship Opportunities at the US-Southern Africa FTA Negotiations

by Hazel L. Robinson

Beginning in May 2003, the United States and the Southern African region will hold several rounds of negotiations, alternating between Howard University and places in Southern Africa in negotiating a free trade agreement. This will be a great opportunity for economics students to assist with the logistical and administrative duties associated with the negotiations.

A session of the trade negotiations will be held at Howard University during the Fall of 2003. If you are a Howard University economics student, with an interest in international trade and would like to volunteer to assist with the various assignments, please call Dr. Harold A. Scott, Deputy Director at the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center at 202-806-6592. Dr. Scott also can be reached by e-mail at: hascott@howard.edu. The Center is located at 2218 Sixth Street NW, Washington, D.C.

NEA Westerfield Award Luncheon

by Hazel L. Robinson

Faculty and students of the Economics Department and members of HUEDAA attended the National Economics Association’s Westerfield Award Luncheon on January 3rd 2003. The NEA honored Professor Bernard E. Anderson with the 2002-03 Samuel Z. Westerfield Award at the Allied Social Science Association Meetings held in Washington DC. The Westerfield Award is named after the distinguished Howard and Harvard trained black economist. Established in 1973, it acknowledges outstanding scholarly achievements and public service by an african-american economist. Professor Anderson was recognized for his work as the Assistant Secretary for Employment Standards at the U.S. Department of Labor during the Clinton Administration and as managing partner of the Urban Affairs Partnership, Philadelphia, PA. Professor Anderson earned a Ph.D. in business and applied economics from the University of Pennsylvania.
For almost 30 years, Dr. Joseph R. Houchins was one of the most affable and influential educators in the Department of Economics at Howard University. Even after his official retirement in 1985, Dr. Houchins remained on campus with “emeritus status” primarily to continue his cherished relationships with students and to participate in intellectual discourses of the department. He continued in this capacity until his death in 1990, at age 89. His genuine interest in the welfare and success of each and every student he came in contact with was the principal basis for the establishment of a scholarship fund in his honor.

To preserve his legacy of promoting excellence in the field of economics, challenging students to realize their potential, and serving as a conduit to help students in their quest for higher learning, HUEDAA has committed to raising funds for the Joseph R. Houchins Scholarship Fund and seeing that it reaches endowment status within one year.

Some interesting facts about Dr. Houchins...

Dr. Houchins was born in Richmond, VA and educated in Ithaca, NY. After high school, he enrolled at Cornell University, where he earned all of his degrees: A. B. (1926), LL.B. (1927), M.A. (1930) and J.S. D. –Doctor of Science of Law-(1934). The subject of his study, research, and theses for both the master’s and doctoral degrees was the place and legal status of the African-American in the American labor market.

Towards the end of his graduate study, Dr. Houchins accepted his first teaching post at Wiley College, Marshall Texas. At Wiley College, he joined a faculty that included such distinguished Black scholars as Melvin Tolson, James Farmer, Sr., and Kelso Morris. While at Wiley College, he met and married the woman who became his wife of fifty-four years, Frankie Lea. He left Wiley in 1935 to become an Assistant Business Specialist in the Department of Foreign and Domestic Commerce and an assistant to the National Urban League’s Eugene Kinkle Jones, the Commerce Department’s Adviser on Negro affairs. As a consequence of this position, he was named to the body of advisors to Franklin Delano Roosevelt known as the “The Black Cabinet.”

In 1937, he was promoted to the influential position of Chief of the Negro Statistics Unit in the Department of Commerce. During his tenure there, he authored many government monographs on such subjects as the causes of Negro insurance company failures and the economic status of the Negro. In addition, he collaborated in the preparation of The 1955 Negro Yearbook and the Journal of Negro Education. His office in the Census Bureau became such a ready source of data for lawyers and researchers in the burgeoning civil rights movement that it prompted Ebony Magazine to claim hyperbolically that Dr. Houchins was the “Nation’s expert on the Negro.”

From 1954 to 1961, Dr. Houchins was Director of Compliance for the President’s Committee on Government Contracts in the Eisenhower Administration. He left government in 1961 to begin his honorable tenure of educating students at Howard University where he would remain for almost 30 years. Dr. Houchins served as Chairman of the Department for a brief time before returning to the ranks of the faculty where he remained until he reached the mandatory retirement age.

After his official retirement, Dr. Houchins continued to travel to campus almost daily. He conducted recruiting for the Department and eagerly offered advice and guidance to students. He helped students find employment, financial aid, housing, and even tutorial assistance. He seemed to know every student and their specific needs and could easily direct them to the appropriate person or place for help. Whether you needed help paying your tuition or just paying your cab fare home, he was always willing to lend a hand--as long as it meant that you would stay in school. He believed very strongly in the need for more African-American economists, but more broadly in the need for more educated African-Americans. Because Dr. Houchins touched so many lives and positively influenced so many students over the years, HUEDAA is deeply committed to promoting his legacy and ideals through the establishment of the Dr. Joseph R. Houchins endowed scholarship fund.

HUEDAA Membership Adds Value!
An annual contribution of $100 will give you...

- **Opportunities to network** with professional associates and fellow economics alumni
- **Opportunities to influence** economics students in their career decisions
- The **satisfaction** of knowing that your contributions, whether money, time, or talent, will have an impact on students and faculty in the Economics department.

Please demonstrate your support today by sending contributions payable to HUEDAA, P.O. Box 23705, Washington, DC 20026-3705.
The Department Awards Second Annual Chairman's Prize

On Wednesday, October 9, 2002, the Department awarded the second annual Chairman's Prize. The Chairman’s prize is awarded annually in the fall to the graduate student with the highest grade point average after completing the first year of graduate study. The winner of the Chairman’s prize was Mr. David Timado, who had a grade point average of 4.0. Ms. Gbemisola Oseni was the first runner up with a GPA of 3.85 and Ms. Nadine Morris, who had a GPA of 3.8, was the second runner up.

The Fall 2002 Chairman’s Prize consisted of a plaque and a set of Palgrave’s Dictionary of Economics. The two runners up received Certificates of Recognition. The Howard University Economics Department Alumni Association, recognized the scholastic achievement of the three students by awarding gift certificates to the Howard University bookstore in the amounts of $100 for the Chairman’s prize winner, $75 to the first runner up and $50 to the second runner up.

The Department Welcomed Three New Professors During the 2002-03 Academic Year

The Department added three new members to the faculty in the Fall of 2002. Dr. Ragna Alstadheim, a new Ph.D. graduate from Georgetown University (and a new mommy), specializes in Monetary and Mathematical Economics. Dr. Kasaundra Tomlin, holds a Ph.D. from the University of Oregon and specializes in microeconomic theory and industrial organization. She previously taught at the University of Central Florida. Dr. Carl Augustine received his Ph.D. from the University of Delaware and he specializes in international macroeconomics and the history of economic thought.

Look for the Following HUEDAA Activities During the 2003-04 Academic Year...

Joseph R. Houchins Scholarship Fundraiser
Launch of the HUEDAA Website
Career Development Workshop
HUEDAA Sponsorship of Students to the 2004 NEA Meetings

and...
The next issue of the HUEDAA Newsletter!

Congratulations to the Class of 2003!

The Department of Economics is proud to announce 22 prospective graduates:

B.A. degrees 12 students
M.A. degrees 9 students
Ph.D. degree 1 student