

# Office of Equity and Inclusion Newsletter

Spring 2018

## First Multicultural Gala



Multicultural Gala Alumni Participants (April, 2018)

From left to right: President Ken Garren, Sheila Garren, Kelly Rainey ('99), Chris Badgett ('12), Noble Ackerson (2001), Tony Terry ('99), Veronica Soles ('99), Derrick Dews ('96), Darrian Geddis (current student), Nat Marshall ('85), Darla Edwards , Marc Propst (current student), D'Andria Alston-Thomas (current student), Howard Butler ('75)



Helen Mundy Witt w/ John Hughes IV ('99)



## Men Can Stop Rape Campaign:

By Baylee McPeak



The Men Can Stop Rape Campaign, held in April, drew a significant amount of attention and support for interpersonal misconduct, which has received national attention this past academic year.

The goal of the Men Can Stop Rape Campaign was to bring awareness to sexual misconduct that takes place on college campus' and increase the knowledge on topics such as the importance of consent and bystander intervention.

The Men Can Stop Rape Campaign partnered with student organizations within the Office of Equity and Inclusion to provide daily events relevant to sexual misconduct within their community. The campaign encouraged all to step in during situations in which they feel as though an individual may be in imminent danger with the hopes of preventing harm.

## Just Call Him Ray...

By Dee Brown

### ALUMNI PROFILE

His name is Rayfurd Thompson ('16), but to those who work and study among the campus of Lynchburg College, he is known as Ray. This hornet left his beautiful home in St. Lucia in 2014, and walked on our campus to begin his stellar education. Ray said that this decision wasn't easy, leaving a well-paid job at a bank.

Ray decided to step out on faith, and what a great step it was. In just four years, this hornet has completed a Bachelors, an MBA, and is scheduled to receive another Masters in Nonprofit Leadership. From the first day Ray started taking classes, he has been a great example of what can be accomplished when we put our minds to it. He

has been a positive example for other students to follow, he has taken advantage of every opportunity given to him, and he has quickly become recognized as a future leader among faculty and staff.

Today, Ray says that he doesn't regret leaving that bank job to pursue his education. He currently serves as a G.A. (Grad Assistant) for Student Development. He credits his mother, who attended L.C. ten years ago influenced him to pursue his education. His mother wasn't the only reason he chose Lynchburg College. Fraud Investigation is his passion, and it turned out that L.C. was one of the few institutions that offered the course.

Ray stated that, "I enjoyed every single day being at L.C., but my best moments was when I served as the Chairperson of the Student Judicial Board, being a role model and a leader to many." Ray certainly displays leadership daily. If you find him anywhere on campus, he is either coming from a class, meeting, one of his positions, or he is going to attend a class, meeting, or one of his positions. This hornet does not believe in wasting time.

Ray admits that the many leadership experiences here at L.C. has developed him, and allowed him to apply most of his skills. This is evident in the many nominations and awards he has received for his leadership and being an ambassador. Ray shared that his passion is in helping and serving others. Moving forward, he hopes to complete his Anti-Money Laundering Certification, pursue his Ph.D. and to one day start a family of his own. Knowing Rayfurd Thompson, once he puts his mind to it, it's already done.



## Student Highlight

Meet Manal Sayed, a junior Criminology and Philosophy Major from Richmond, Virginia. In her time at Lynchburg College, Manal is becoming a leader inside and outside the classroom. Manal is currently Director of Public Relations for the Black Student Association, a member of the Pre-Law Society, a senator in the Student Government Association, and a proud woman of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

Some of Manal's favorite events include SGA's Late Night Breakfast, Midnight Madness, and BSA (Black Student Association). Manal added, "Every BSA meeting never fails to make me feel proud to be apart of the family we have created, whether it be a holiday party or a discussion-based meeting." Manal also loves the Office of Equity and Inclusion, and added that OEI serves as a community for students who otherwise may not feel like they have a place at L.C. After graduation, Manal plans to attend law school, and we believe she is well on her way. Manal is also the cousin of alumna Kelley Rainey ('99).