



## Bahamas Barry Alumni Chapter Newsletter

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### President's Corner



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Dear Fellow Alumni,

On behalf of The Bahamas Barry Alumni Association and its executive team, I would like to say congratulations to the three cohorts who completed their Master's Degrees and officially welcome them to The Bahamas Barry Alumni Chapter. Kudos to faculty and staff of Barry University on another job well done!

As I reflect on the successes of this new Chapter, I proudly think of the significant strides we have made. Over the course of the year, we were able to touch the lives of several elementary school children. Our spring "Meet & Greet Reception" raised enough funds to present 13 Easter baskets to underprivileged children and our latest initiative, the "Back to School Drive" provided more assistance to of our school children. Our fall "Meet and Greet" was another enjoyable event where we hosted Matthew Blair and welcomed Ryan O'Donnell.

As we enter the holiday season, let us think of those who are less fortunate, and prepare to launch our 'Christmas Toy Drive'.

My mission as alumni president is to engage the Bahamas Barry Alumni in a manner that honors the past, present and future of Barry University; to look for new initiatives, new faces and a new commitment to alumni awareness. I hope to continue to build a strong network and to establish new connections with the current students, whom we like to think of as "future alumni." Our goal is to continue to "Live A Barry Life" and to be of service to our community by showing how much "Barry Cares!"

Let us continue to always be 'Barry Proud!'

*Braquelle Newton*  
Bahamas Barry Alumni  
Chapter President

This alumni e-newsletter is provided as a quick and easy way to receive monthly updates about the Bahamas Barry Alumni Chapter and also to obtain information regarding upcoming alumni events. To send us your news and information you would like to see included, please email Jaton Martin, Communications Co-Chair, at [jatonj@gmail.com](mailto:jatonj@gmail.com)



# Fall Meet & Greet

The Bahamas Barry University Alumni Chapter hosted a Meet & Greet on Saturday, September 20, 2014 at The Bullion Lounge of the British Colonial Hilton to promote Barry University in The Bahamas. The event was attended by approximately twenty-five alumni, faculty, staff and current students.



"I would like to build a strong network among the Barry alumni here in The Bahamas and also promote Barry as being a university of first choice and a household name here in The Bahamas", said Braquelle Newton, the Chapter president.



# A Tribute To Nancy Seymour (1971 – 2014)

## From the Faculty at Barry University

Approximately one year ago, the faculty at Barry University began disseminating information regarding the Master's in Curriculum and Instruction program that we hoped to deliver in Freeport beginning in January, 2014. One of the first prospective students for our program was Nancy Seymour. She attended an information session with Dr. Jill Farrell and it was clear from the first day we met Nancy that we had found a student with profound interest in earning a graduate degree in the area of curriculum and instruction – it was a perfect match! Nancy expressed that she wanted to do the C & I program because she wanted to help “revise and revitalize” the high school curriculum, because she knew that this was critical in advancing the level of education in The Bahamas.

Nancy was an educator who was deeply committed to “making a difference” in the lives of her

students and colleagues. Not only was Nancy committed to pursuing her own graduate studies, she was passionate about the launching of the Barry graduate programs in Freeport and she even took it upon herself to ensure that there would be sufficient numbers to start the program. Nancy had high aspirations and continuously challenged herself to be the best she could be.



Nancy was a beautiful woman – inside and outside. She as a dear friend to many of you and at this time we are still struggling to accept this unexpected loss. She was a wonderful student, educator, writer, songwriter, advocate ... the list goes on! Her positive influence on this world will be

greatly missed, and we are grateful that we had the opportunity to work with her. At the bottom of every email, her signature was accompanied by the following quote: “Rest satisfied with doing well, and leave others to talk of you as they will.” (Pythagoras)

On behalf of the faculty at Barry University, we wish to express our condolences to Nancy's family and friends and lament not having had more time to learn from Nancy Seymour. However, Nancy can rest satisfied ... she did well and we have much to talk about today because of the many beautiful ways in which she touched our lives.





# The Tassel's Worth The Hassle!

## Congratulations To Our December 2014 Graduates

The Barry Bahamas Alumni Association extends congratulations to our three Bahamas campus cohorts. Henry David Thoreau said "Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined." The Bahamas Barry Alumni Chapter wishes you all the best as you continue to make great contributions to The Bahamas.

### MS in Curriculum and Instruction Specialization in Early and Middle Childhood



### GRADUATES

Tanya Farquharson  
 Lee Ann Forbes  
 Macquel Frazier  
 Renka Hanna  
 Valeska Johnson  
 Leandra Kelly-Adderley  
 Luz Pacheco-Alvarez  
 Latiesha Thompson



# The Tassel's Worth The Hassle!

## MS in Organizational Learning and Leadership



### GRADUATES



- Shakera Barr
- Nicolette Campbell
- Elizabeth Collie
- Beverley Davis
- Olivia Daxon
- Cheryl Ford
- Edna Ginton
- Deena Godet
- Rayne Heastie
- Theresa Hunter
- Avis Lightbourn
- Bryshon Mackey
- Janet McKenzie
- Stephen McPhee
- Jamilah Thompson

# The Tassel's Worth The Hassle!

## MS in Exceptional Student Education



### GRADUATES



- Taneko Adams
- Samantha Anderson
- Alicia Armbrister-Bradshaw
- GillianBethel
- Mikiko Bethell-Candela
- Melanie Johnson-Stubbs
- D'Andrea Mackey
- Mary Maycock
- Katie Roach
- Jacqueline Roberts
- Verlease Rolle
- Telietha Strachan
- Greer Symonette-Bain



# Alumni Profiles



The passion for the developmental learning of children is what led Samantha Taneisha Anderson to pursue a teaching career. She knew she wanted to be a teacher early in life. She would play with her dolls and pretend they were in her classroom. This year, she graduated as one of the first Exceptional Student Education students of Barry

University (Nassau). Samantha is also a 2004 Cum Laude graduate of Florida Memorial University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Church Music.

Samantha has been employed by The Bahamas Ministry of Education for the past ten years and is currently a Music and Dance teacher at Oakes Field Primary School. She strongly believes that "EVERY child has the ability to learn" and works hard to ensure that she gives her students the attention they need to succeed. In addition to her local school involvement, she is the Secretary of The Bahamas National Spelling Bee Committee and Secretary on the Willie Mae Pratt Center Board, a juvenile center for troubled girls.

Samantha's hobbies include shopping, playing sports, dancing, singing, travelling and being around her special friend. Her community involvement extends to The Bahamas Barry University Alumni Chapter, of which she is a founding member and presently serves as secretary. She is also a proud officer and member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and a Dance Instructor and Praise Team member of the Curry Memorial Methodist Church.

She is the daughter of proud parents Tezel & Samuel Anderson, and the mother of one daughter, Deryn Samya Rodgers. Samantha's favorite quote is the Bible scripture Philippians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthened me". She lives her life with this scripture as the focus and believes that with Christ as her strength, she will be able to accomplish whatever she sets her mind to.



Dr. Kenva Fowler-McClam is a 2007 Magna Cum Laude graduate of Barry University with a B.S. in Biology. This vibrant thirty-three year old is well rounded and team-oriented. Her counterparts describe her as "a proven

leader with strengths in motivational and influential impartation." Dr. Fowler-McClam is proud of all her achievements thus far and envisions a bright future. She declares that all of her accomplishments and success are a direct result of her relationship with God and her supportive family.

While at Barry, she was inducted into the Gamma Sigma Epsilon Honor Society. She was a member of the Chemistry Club, and the American Medical Students Association (AMSA), of which she served as Medical Topics Coordinator from 2006 - 2007. Dr. Fowler-McClam was also an integral part of the formation of the Barry University Gospel Choir and Praise Dancers.

In 2012, Dr. Fowler-McClam obtained her medical degree from the University of The West Indies. Prior to entering Barry, she achieved double Associates of Arts degrees at The College of Bahamas in Bio-Chemistry and Secretarial Studies.

She is presently employed at the Princess Margaret Hospital as a Senior House Officer in the Department of Pediatrics, and currently serves on the Pediatric Transport Team. One of her short term goals is to eventually specialize in Adolescent Medicine. In the long term, she hopes to one day establish a health care center and a reform school to serve youth who are at risk.

Dr. Fowler-McClam is an active member of Final Hour Ministries, where she serves as Head Choir Directress. She is a newlywed, and the proud wife of Wardell McClam.

# Alumni Updates

**Engagement** – Tamara Saunders, MS'12 in Curriculum and Instruction recently announced her engagement to Mr. Jermaine Whyte. They are eagerly anticipating a Spring 2015 wedding. Tamara is our Programs and Events Chair for the Bahamas Barry Alumni Chapter Board and we wish her well and she prepares for her big day!



**Birth** – Leoñtine A. Wells, MS'12 in Curriculum and Instruction welcomed her handsome son, Amir A. Laing, on November 4, 2014. She is enjoying her bundle of joy! Congratulations from your Bahamas Barry Alumni family.

## Bahamas Barry Alumni Chapter Board

Braquelle Newton, MS '12 (President)

Pleshette McPhee, MS '12 (Vice-President)

Dr. Brendan Francis, BS '92 (Community Outreach Chair)

Samantha Anderson, MS '14 (Secretary)

Johnette Cooper-Lockhart, MS '12 ( Programs and Events Co-Chair)

Tamara Saunders, MS '12 ( Programs and Events Co-Chair)

Jaton Martin, MBA '08 (Communications Co-Chair)

Dwight Strachan, BA '96 (Communications Co-Chair)

### CONTACT US:

We encourage contributions from our Barry Bahamas Alumni. Please submit your latest news. Where are you now? Do you have a new job, marriage, children, etc., we'd love to hear from you. Update your contact information to stay in touch with fellow alumni and the latest Bahamas Barry alumni news and events by emailing Jaton Martin (Bahamas Alumni Chapter Communications Co-Chair and Newsletter Co-editor) at [jatonj@gmail.com](mailto:jatonj@gmail.com)



## **Barry University in The Bahamas**

Barry University has expanded its geographic reach into Nassau and Freeport! The Adrian Dominican School of Education is proud to offer dynamic degree options to Bahamian leaders and educators interested in advancing their education and careers. Our master's and doctoral programs provide the knowledge and support for students to excel in their personal and professional endeavors.

### **Nassau- Spring 2015 Degree Offerings:**

- Master's in Organizational Learning & Leadership
- Master's in Curriculum & Instruction
- Master's in Exceptional Student Education
- Autism Certificate

### **Freeport-Spring 2015 Degree Offerings:**

- Master's in Organizational Learning & Leadership
- Master's in Curriculum & Instruction
- Master's in Exceptional Student Education

### **Program Highlights:**

- Classes begin January 2015
- Cohort Format
- Classes offered on alternating weekends
- Receive a Bahamas tuition discount
- Locked tuition rate until completion of program
- Courses are taught in Nassau or Freeport with face-to-face instruction

For more details, contact Vicky Totten at [vtotten@barry.edu](mailto:vtotten@barry.edu) or call (305) 899-4035



Barry University offers more than 100 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs. The Barry community includes a dynamic, multicultural student body of more than 9,000 students from nearly all 50 states and 80 countries. Founded in 1940 as a Catholic university, Barry promotes knowledge and truth, an inclusive community, social justice, and collaborative service.