

# the Intercom

JUNE 2009

NEWSLETTER FOR FACULTY & STAFF

## The Faculty Lecture Series: A forum for the Exchange of Ideas on Campus

On Thursdays at 12:30 PM in Room 103, Davis Hall, through the regular semester, a faculty member from our university presents ideas about his or her research, interest, readings, or concerns. The Series provides a good forum to open up intellectual discussions, to share ideas presented at other conferences, to try new ideas before presentation at other institutions, or just to find out what faculty are reading. Students and the community are welcome to attend.

This semester the lectures presented were: Gerald Hankins, Ph.D., "Gene Expression Changes in Human Peripheral Nervous System Tumors;" Anne McConnell, Ph.D., "Fictional Histories in Maryse Condé's I, Tituba, Black Witch of Salem;" James Natsis, Ph.D., "WVSU and the Ethiopian Connection;" Miguel Zapata, Ph.D., "Batman & Robin or Why We Don't Laugh at Don Quixote;" and Chuck Smith, Ph.D., "Religious Diversity in the Nineteenth-Century Woman's Rights Movement and Division Over Policy Positions in Social Movement."

Reminders about each presentation are sent twice a week to the faculty listserv. For a complete program or to submit a proposal for your presentation, contact the coordinators of the Series, professors Gerald Hankins or Miguel Zapata. ■

## WVSU Alumni Featured at Convocations

By Pat Dickinson, WVSU Director of Public Relations



Delegate Clif Moore addresses the crowd during a Black History Month Convocation at WVSU.

**W**VSU Alumni Clif Moore ('71) and George Aulenbacher ('94) returned to their Alma Mater as convocation speakers.

### Delegate Clif Moore Motivates Black History Month Convocation

Delegate Clif Moore addressed the students, faculty, and staff assembled for the Black History Month Convocation in the PA Williams Auditorium on February 25. Moore, a delegate from McDowell County, is the first member of his family to graduate from college.

Although he was the Black History Month speaker, Delegate Moore told the audience that he is not a proponent of Black History Month. He questioned why we wait for one month in the year to celebrate any history in America. It is his thought that black history should be incorporated into history books at all levels.

Delegate Moore gave hope and inspiration to the audience by reminding them that no matter what obstacles they may face in life, there is a bright side somewhere. He repeated a phrase

that he uses often: "None of us is as strong as all of us."

In conclusion Delegate Moore urged everyone to hold hands and chant "I believe in the possibility of you and me."

### Aulenbacher Inspires With His WVSU Experience at Founders Week Honors Convocation

George Aulenbacher, Principal of Stonewall Jackson Middle School and WVSU adjunct faculty member, was a perfect speaker for the Founders Week honors convocation on March 17 in the PA Williams Auditorium. Mr. Aulenbacher told the audience the story of his arrival on the campus of West Virginia State University "sight unseen" to be with his girlfriend. He explained his up-bringing in rural Pennsylvania had not prepared him for interacting with a diverse population. Attending college was also not a priority.

His move into Gore Hall opened his eyes to the world. The reminiscences about life in the residence hall brought appreciative applause from the audience. The young man with little exposure to diversity was meeting and interacting with fellow students from culturally, ethnically, and economically diverse backgrounds.

The choice of education as a major at "State" led him to the job his loves, a middle school principal. He expressed his appreciation of the WVSU faculty that is committed to the academic growth of students. The faculty, he said, truly envisions "a living laboratory of human relations." ■



George Aulenbacher

