Historical Chronology of the Eastern Region,
West Virginia State [College]University Alumni Association

In the Beginning:

***1976*:** On March 27, 1976, due to the foresight of the then Philadelphia, PA Alumni Chapter, during the local alumni chapter meeting held at the Zion Baptist Church, Philadelphia, PA, Rev. Dr. Leon Sullivan, Pastor, Class of 1943, the alumni discussed forming a regional conference. Dr. Harold McNeill, then President of West Virginia State (then) College (WVSC), Dr. P. Ahmed Williams, National Executive Secretary, West Virginia State College Alumni Association (then WVSCAA), Mr. William Lonesome, Esq. [then WVSCAA]; Dr. John Jones, Director of Development, WVSC, and Mr. Fred Bailey, Director of Alumni Affairs, WVSC were in attendance. Also, other alumni members in attendance from New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Cleveland, OH and Washington, DC were very supportive of this proposed endeavor!

Organization:

***1980*:** In 1980, Sylvester Slade. Philadelphia, PA Alumni Chapter, was asked to serve as the 1st Eastern Region Director overseeing chapters from Massachusetts (NE area) to Maryland. In this role, he attended chapter meetings, informed members about other chapters in the region and provided support to encourage and strengthen chapters' endeavors.

***1983*:** In 1983, Grace Crichlow, New Jersey Alumni Chapter, became the 2nd Eastern Region Director until she began experiencing health problems. Thus, Sylvester Slade was asked to fulfill the responsibility by reassuming the position. He served tirelessly and unselfishly **nearly** twenty (20) years in this capacity!

Moving Into The New Centennial and Beyond:

***1998*:** In May 1998, during the National Conference of WVSCAA in Las Vegas, NV, Betty M. Bates, Baltimore-Charm City Alumni Chapter, was sworn in as the 3rd Eastern Region Director, due in part to the support and recommendation by Sylvester Slade, Region Director.

***1998-*:** Betty M. Bates, serving as 3rd Eastern Region Director, is continuing the efforts and examples displayed by her predecessor, Mr. Sylvester Slade and adhering to provisions set forth in Constitution and By-Laws, WVSUAA!