Farewell Message from the President
by John Dennis

This year’s President’s Corner is in deference to the many blessings that have been bestowed upon us. We often take for granted the simplicities of life. It’s been almost two years since the tragedy of “9-11”. With all the destruction and chaos in the world around us, there is a need to stay focused and not to take anything for granted. I believe each of you have a specific purpose here at Fayetteville State University. Keep an open mind to all subjects and do not limit yourself just to academics. Bio Phi Chem (Science Club) is an organization that strives to aid students towards a successful educational journey. We have proven, on countless occasions, how seriously we take our mission in the Science Club. Every student in the department should be a member of this outstanding departmental unit. And until this occurs, we still have a challenge to overcome. As the theme of this year was, “Taking a walk towards achievement,” please allow the Science Club to know your walk, so we can aid you in your steps. To all struggling students, you may feel alone, but you are not. When you receive your degree, you will realize that it was all worth the struggle.

As I step down as your president, I wish to kindly remind you of the quote by Lloyd Jones, when he stated “A man who tries and fails, is infinitely better than a man who doesn’t try and succeeds!”

Best of luck to all you who have decided to take that walk towards achievement! I bid you farewell, and please continue to support the Science Club.

FSU Students Receive Conference Travel Awards
by Byron Harris Curry

Everette McKoy and Byron Harris Curry, along with their faculty mentor, Dr. James Raynor, received a Faculty/Student Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) Travel Award to attend the Annual Experimental Biology Conference in San Diego, California, from April 12-16, 2003. The travel award covered all expenses, to and from the conference, to include airfare, conference registration, hotel accommodations, ground transportation, and a per diem for food. Also attending the Experimental Biology meeting, from the FSU family, were Dr. Julliette Bell and Mrs. Minnie Ragland.

Bio Phi Chem Launches Third Annual Science Expo
by Dr. James E. Raynor, Jr.

Thirteen (13) students, from Cumberland County High Schools and Fayetteville State University, anxiously awaited to hear the names of the winners of the Research Presentation Competition, held during The Third Annual Science Expo. This gala event is sponsored by the Science Club and was held on April 3, 2003.

Originally established by Dr. James Raynor, in 2001, the purpose of the Science Expo is threefold: to design an event; to increase scientific research awareness among students in Department of Natural Sciences, as well as science students in the community; and, to reward students for their outstanding work in the field of science.

Four (4) FSU students: Sheldon Richburg, Lamont Booker, Everette McKoy and Byron Harris Curry, were the top presenters in the Poster and Scientific Creativity competitions. Three awards were made in the Poster Presentation category: Sheldon Richburg received First Place for his poster presentation entitled, “Mechanisms of Bacterial Resistance to Antibiotics”; Lamont Booker received Second Place for a poster presentation entitled, “The Comparison of Traditional Home Remedies with Ampicillin on the Growth of Bacteria Associated with Sore Throat”; and, Everette McKoy received Third Place for a poster presentation entitled, “The Effects of Ethanol on Neuro-biological Mechanisms of the Body”. One award was made to Byron Curry Harris, in the Scientific Creativity Competition, for designing a model of the human cell with an extensive overview of the structure and function of the Plasma Membrane. Winners received prize awards ranging from $100 in cash to $75 dollars in gift certificates for dining at local area restaurants. Other student participants included: Andrea Anderson, April Cox, Malita Giraud, Florencio Martinez, Jr., Genée Smith, April Brown, Michael Griffin, and Shuntrice Price.

The Science Expo was supported through funds generated from the Science Expo ticket raffle and generous donations from local businesses.

Can you guess who they are?
**BIO PHI CHEM**  
**Science Club Newsletter**  
**Spring 2003**

**Science Club Salutes Outstanding University Leaders**  
*by Ashley Cheeks*

The Fayetteville State University Science Club held its Annual Honors and Awards Ceremony on April 29, 2003 to recognize student-elected faculty, staff and students, who demonstrated outstanding leadership during the 2002-2003 academic year. The members of the Science Club implemented the Annual Honors and Awards Program event because they felt that, despite their daily interactions with faculty, their opinions regarding faculty leadership and student involvement were not considered when the College of Arts and Sciences selected its Honors and Awards recipients. To that end, students in the Department of Natural Sciences voted for “Exemplary” faculty and staff in three categories: Outstanding Teaching, Student Advisement, and Student and University Services. Faculty and staff receiving the highest category votes were awarded plaques for their leadership. The following faculty received awards for the 2002-2003 academic year: Dr. Booker Juma, for Outstanding Teaching; Dr. Margaret Kanipes, for Outstanding Student Advisement; and, Dr. James Raynor, for Outstanding University and Student Services. Ryan Marrow received the staff award for Outstanding University and Student Services.

Students who demonstrated outstanding leadership were also recognized. Among those students were Charity Potts, who received an award for holding the highest Grade Point Average (G.P.A.) in the Natural Sciences of the Freshman Class; Starcia Hines received an award for obtaining the highest G.P.A in the Natural Sciences of the Sophomore Class; Andraeia Shipman received an award for achieving the highest G.P.A in the Natural Sciences in the junior class, and Mitz-Ann Alexis, who received an award for the highest G.P.A. in the Natural Sciences of the Senior Class. Additionally, Mitz-Ann Alexis and Jacqueline Carr received awards for providing Supplemental Instructions in the Natural Sciences; John Dennis received an award for his outstanding leadership as the Science Club President; Shalyce Smith received an award for her outstanding contributions to the Science Club during the 2002-2003 academic school year.

As the culminating activity of the year, the College of Arts and Sciences held its Annual Honors and Awards Program, in the Shaw Auditorium, on April 24, 2003. The following faculty, staff and students, from the Department of Natural Sciences were recognized for their outstanding leadership and services during the 2002-2003 academic year: Dr. Abdrahman Abokor, for Teacher of the Year; Dr. Shirley Chao, for Grantsmanship; Dr. Margaret Kanipes, for Research and Publication; Dr. Valeria Fleming, for Community Services; Dr. Jarvis Hudson, for University Services; and a special Dean’s Award, from Dr. Bertha Miller, Dean of Arts and Sciences, was conferred upon Dr. James E. Raynor, for Outstanding Student Research and Student Services.

The following students, in the Department of Natural Sciences, were recognized for their academic excellence and leadership: Mitz-Ann Alexis, for Academic Excellence in Biology; Brandon Phillips, for Academic Excellence in Chemistry; Sheldon Richburg, for Undergraduate Research in Biology; Milita Giraud, for Undergraduate Research in Chemistry; Corissa Peate, for Scholarship in Biology; Sandra Carroll, for Scholarship in Chemistry; Erica Bell, for Community Service; John Dennis, for Leadership; and, Lamont Booker, as Student of the Year.

Students who made this Academic Year a Resounding Success!

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**Students Demonstrate Need for Ongoing Research Dollars**  
*by James E. Raynor, Jr.*

Three (3) Fayetteville State University students, from the Department of Natural Sciences, presented their scientific research projects to legislators and Dr. Molley Broad, president of UNC schools system, in Raleigh during the Research in the Capital Program on April 22, 2003. Those outstanding students were Lamont Booker, Sheldon Richburg, and, Brandon Phillips.

Students from FSU and other underrepresented institutions were invited to present their research projects in an effort to demonstrate an ongoing need for funding for undergraduate research. With the continuous threat of cutting research funding, due to federal and state budget deficits, Dr. Sherrice Allen and Dr. Margaret Kanipes saw the need to bring FSU students to Raleigh to demonstrate the kinds of research students are conducting at FSU. Lamont Booker presented a research project entitled, “Comparison of Traditional Home Remedies with β-lactam Antibiotic Treatment on the Growth of Bacteria Associated with Sore Throats,” which was highlighted in an article in *The Fayetteville Observer* on Wednesday, April 23, 2003. Sheldon Richburg presented a research project entitled, “Increased Cephalosporin Resistance Resulted from Structural Modifications of ESBLs in Clinical Strains of *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and Brandon Phillips presented a research project entitled, “Extraction, Isolation and Characterization of Boswellic Acids from *Boswellia serrata*.” Lamont Booker’s and Sheldon Richburg’s research were conducted under the direction of Dr. James Raynor and Brandon Phillips’ was conducted under the direction of Dr. Booker Juma.

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**Thanks to All Faculty, Staff and Students who made this Academic Year a Resounding Success!**
FSU-RISE Students Conduct Extramural Summer Research

by James E. Raynor, Jr.

Eight (8) Fayetteville State University students, enrolled in the Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (FSU-RISE), will spend this summer conducting extramural scientific research as part of a program requirement. The goal of the FSU-RISE Program is to increase the number of well-prepared Biology and Chemistry FSU graduates from underrepresented minority groups, who enter graduate programs in the biomedical sciences. Among the students participating in summer research are Reginald Cannady, who will be conducting research at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center; Tracie Green, who will be conducting Animal Behavior studies at Indiana University; Michel Hernandez, who will be conducting research at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Natasha Monroe, who will be conducting research at North Carolina State University; Jessica Ross, who will be conducting research at Baylor College of Medicine; Chelsie Swepson, who will be conducting research at Rutgers/ University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey; and Kimberly Wiggins, who will be conducting research at the University of Virginia.

The FSU-RISE Program is funded through a grant from the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Julianna Bell, a member of the FSU Department of Natural Sciences Faculty, serves as the director of the FSU-RISE Program.

Science Club Searches for Strong Leaders

by Mitz-Ann Alexis

As the current Science Club Officers prepare to step down from their current positions, there will be a need to elect new officers for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, and Director of Food Services for the 2003-2004 academic year.

During the first week of April, students interested in becoming officers for the 2003-2004 academic school year, were asked to post campaign flyers, announcing their candidacy for a respective office. Most regretfully, not a single flyer was posted! Despite the Science Club’s substantial record of outstanding contributions made to the university, as well as the community, it failed to attract quality students who were willing to move the Science Club to the next level, as well as preserve its legacy as a viable student organization.

The Science Club needs strong, dedicated leaders who share the vision of improving the academic climate in the Department of Natural Sciences. Thus, we, as students, need to “step up to the plate” and accept the challenge of becoming more active in the Science Club. Every student majoring in the science should become a member of the Science Club. As a member of the Science Club, students are eligible to become scholarship recipients; receive more definitive recommendation letters from faculty; acquire first-hand information on internships and graduate and professional school opportunities; participate in science field trips, and enjoy lots of fun, exciting activities and they establish a strong camaraderie.

The Science Club will hold new elections in August 2003, during the first two weeks of the 2003-2004 academic year. This will afford students another opportunity to seek a Science Club Office. Students, who possess leadership potential and are willing to dedicate their time to an outstanding organization, are encouraged to run for office next year.

If you aspire to become an officer but feel that you lack experience as a leader, Dr. James Raynor, the Science Club Faculty Advisor, will be available to assist you and to provide guidance, if you have the will to work.

So, post your flyer in the fall and strive to become the type of leader sorely needed to help maintain the outstanding record the Science Club has established through its legacy of promoting academic excellence and service to the Fayetteville Community.

Science Club Overview of 2002-2003 Academic Year

by Natonya Phillips

The Fayetteville State University Science Club (Bio Phi Chem) began and ended the 2002-2003 school year with a bang. The first activity of the year was a great, big “Welcome,” extended to the new, as well as, the continuing students at a welcoming booth located in the campus student center and the science club sponsored an Honors and Awards Program and Farewell Cookout for graduating seniors. The science club ended the year with a membership of 53 students and had raised over $3,500 dollars in fundraisers and $700 donated in gift certificates from local businesses to support programs and activities outlined for the academic year. Fundraisers for the year included two ticket raffles, four bake sales, and membership dues.

John Dennis, 2002-2003 science club president, and the science club officers peeked student morale and excitement, during the first club meeting in August, with chanting and singing before discussing official business. The goals set for the organization for the year included promoting scholarship, and university and community services.

As part of goal to promote scholarship, the science club sponsored seminars and field trips to broaden students’ knowledge of science-related graduate and professional programs. In fact, over eighteen guest speakers for colleges and universities talked with science students in efforts to steer them on
the right track for graduate and professional study. In addition, members of the science club toured several colleges and universities to get a closer view of graduate and professional programs. The most memorable tour of the year was a three-day tour of graduate and professional schools of Georgia, sponsored by Fayetteville Area Health Education Center (AHEC). Members of the science club toured research laboratories of Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, Georgia, Morehouse School of Medicine, Clark Atlanta University, Georgia Technical Institute of Technology, Emory University and Georgia State University and they were given first-hand information on academic programs they offered. Several students shared their experiences, of dressing up in chemical suits at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), to FSU students who did not attend the field trip. The tour was topped off with fun and educational activities such as fine dining and shopping, and tours of the Coca-Cola Museum, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birth home, and not to mention, a full day at Six-Flags of Georgia. Ms. Joan Broadus, FSU career services, and Dr. Raynor were the chaperones for the trip to Atlanta.

The science club also promoted scholarship among students and faculty by awarding two $300 academic scholarships to John Dennis, a senior biology major and April Cox, a senior chemistry major, for their academic excellence and leadership during the fall semester. Additionally several faculty and students received honors and awards for their outstanding leadership and student services during the spring semester.

The science club participated in several forms of university and community services during the academic year. The science club sponsored such events as tutorial sessions, The Annual Science Expo, Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner give-a-ways, and a Red Cross Blood Drive. Finally, the science club sponsored several activities such as movie day, golf day, Easter Egg Hunt, to keep students in the department motivated and interested in the science club.

### Seek and Find the Words Below

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T J S D R I S P I R E
E D A T U C I T O H S P
V A E C N D T S W D E O
L P C A Q O E L E N A C
B O Y L O U D A S A T S
V D L A G R E N J E G
D A A M Y G O L O O Z R
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R O S N T U D K H N S I
E R Y T H R O C Y T E M
P O T R E D V E L V E T
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Zoology, BKC, Rosado, Zeta, Sun, GRE, Shalyce, Red Velvet, Toe, RISE, Lamont, John, Microscope, DNA, Erythrocyte, SPIRE, Tools, Shot, Yanci, Dean, Pets, size, can.

### Placing Things in Perspective by Shalyce Smith

Generally speaking, student morale in the Department of Natural Sciences, appeared to be extremely low this year, especially during the spring semester. Science Club membership is down from 85 students in the 2001-2002 academic year to 53 students this year. Additionally, this year’s student participation in the Science Club has also been sluggish. The decrease in student participation has had an adverse impact on the workload of the Science Club Officers and the Faculty Advisor. Students often used excuses such as, “Science Club meetings are too long, boring, or meet at the wrong time.” Other say, “I am too busy, I have class or I don’t feel like helping,” as reasons for not joining or helping with Science Club events.

In my opinion, a lot of students in the department are very lazy and have misplaced priorities. Some students are more concerned with things that offer no long-term benefits, such as campus life, and non-academic campus organizations and are less concerned with the educational benefits they could receive by participating in Science Club events. A few department faculty members offer extra credit to students, in an effort to encourage students to seek the benefits they might receive by becoming members of the Science Club. Unfortunately, some students admit that the “extra credit” was the only reason they attended the event. In other instances, some students only attend events where food, fun and games are involved. And, even then, those students are unlikely to assist with the setup or breakdown of the activity.

While the Science Club experienced a successful year overall, it was generally through the efforts of a few dedicated students, who carried the weight of the whole organization. This was unfair to the dedicated Science Club members and certainly to Dr. Raynor, who had other university responsibilities, but who works endlessly to ensure the prosperity of the Science Club. It will take the efforts of all students, as well as the faculty and staff in the department to address this serious issue. The faculty can help by strongly encouraging students in their classes to become active members of the Science Club and emphasizing the importance of the Science Club to students who are apathetic. Students have repeatedly complained that most faculty do not treat the Science Club as an integral component of the department, thus they rarely encourage students to join the Science Club or to attend Science Club-sponsored events.

Although this year was very tough, with my having to balance my responsibilities as a Science Club Officer with my educational pursuits, I would not hesitate in doing it all over again next year. I only wished that all of my fellow students would view the Science Club as enthusiastically as I do. With the full participation of students in the department, I can only imagine how many more outstanding contributions the Science Club could make to the department, the university and to the community.

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Congratulations Class of 2003!

Thanks Dr. Bertha Miller for your continued support!