Greetings From the Chairman

To Bishop Preston W. Williams, Bishops of the Church, General and Connectional Officers, Members of the Commission on Higher Education and the entire constituency of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Greetings!

The Board of Trustees of Shorter College, the members of the 12th Episcopal District and I am proud of the success and accomplishments of Shorter College over this past year. It can be said that a miracle has happened at 604 Locust Street. Shorter College is a viable institution of higher learning and is fully accredited and fiscally operating in the black.

I thank God for the work and effective leadership of our President, Dr. O. Jerome Green, who has worked with the Trustees, administration, faculty and support staff to ensure that Shorter College continues to strive for academic excellence and meet the challenges of providing an affordable and quality education for a traditional and nontraditional student population who need an open admission college like Shorter.

Greetings From the President

It is my privilege to provide this report of progress in what is truly a pivotal time in Shorter College’s history. Shorter College has emerged once again as a leading institution in preparing students for a lifetime of positive achievement. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr. and the entire Board of Trustees for entrusting me with this opportunity to bring to reality the vision they developed to revitalize this grand institution.

The founders of the institution had a vision in 1886 to develop an institution of higher learning that would provide an opportunity for those who had not had a chance to receive a quality educational experience elsewhere. It is our commitment to that vision that has caused Shorter College to rise from the ashes to become a viable source of quality education for today’s generation.

We believe that by implementing programs that support these principles, students will become productive members of society upon their departure. We have already seen some fruit of our labor, yet there is an enormous harvest yet to be made.

Over the past year it’s been our goal to strengthen our partnership opportunities with our surrounding community in order to harness more support for the institution-at-large. The results of this appeal has indeed been fruitful and has provided the institution and its students opportunities to study abroad and to participate in internship programs at other universities.
**SHORTER COLLEGE AWARDED SECOND CHANCE PELL GRANTS**
In a landmark decision by the Obama administration, Shorter College has been selected to participate in the Second Chance Pell Program allowing incarcerated individuals an opportunity to earn a college education. The Obama administration has chosen 67 colleges and universities for a pilot program that will offer Pell Grants to incarcerated students. The list of colleges was announced as part of a series of education and jobs programs, all focused on helping former prisoners re-enter their communities and find work.

**3 NEW INSTRUCTIONAL SITES**
During the summer of 2016, three (3) additional off-campus instructional sites were added as extension campuses.

Shorter College has entered into a partnership with the Arkansas Department of Community Corrections to provide educational opportunities to three experimental reentry facilities, one in Pine Bluff Arkansas (Mulligan) and two in Little Rock, AR (Safe Harbor and Hidden Creek). The reentry educational programming is designed to help serve as an additional component as the students transition between prison and the community. At this time, Shorter College is serving a total of 34 students giving them an opportunity to begin making decisions on their own while still having a guiding hand when necessary by each of the facilities. In addition, each student is given 180 days in each of the facilities, after that each students is released from the facility given an opportunity to continue his education with Shorter College or transfer the credits earned while at Shorter College to any college or university in the state of Arkansas.

**2 NEW CAMPUS SUPPORT PROGRAMS ASSIST WITH STUDENT LITERACY AND MATH COMPETENCY**
During the Spring 2016 semester, 2 support programs were launched to provide students with an increased level of support toward academic performance and retention. The Literacy and Math Labs were developed with designated faculty support and computer workstations to inspire students to achieve greater success in academics. Student tutors were selected and trained through a state certified program to provide peer support and to ensure that assistance is always available on the campus. This program has been tremendously successful and plans to expand the operation are forthcoming.

**SHORTER COLLEGE BECOMES 36TH HBCU TO ADOPT TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS POLICY**
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CAMPUS HEALTH CLINIC OPENS THROUGH PARTNERSHIP WITH ARKANSAS MINORITY HEALTH COMMISSION

Shorter College, in a newly developed partnership with the Arkansas Minority Health Commission, celebrated the ribbon cutting of the new Shorter College Health and Wellness Center. Located adjacent from the college’s campus, the center will be open to provide medical services for Shorter College students, faculty and staff on Monday through Friday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Dr. Kristopher Stepps was introduced as the Health and Wellness Coach for the medical center. “I am excited about the opportunity to serve Shorter College in this capacity,” stated Stepps. “We believe that providing health services for our students supports their academic success.”

Future plans for the center include providing affordable health care services to the entire Sherman Park/Shorter Gardens Community. The North Little Rock Mayor’s office presented a plaque designating today as Shorter College Health and Wellness Day. The dedication ceremony was conducted by Bishop Samuel L. Green, Sr., the Chairman of the Board of Trustees and College President O. Jerome Green.

CAMPUS BECOMES ADA COMPLIANT WITH ELEVATOR

In Spring of 2016, the campus of Shorter College was noted as being ADA compliant by the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services. The project included expansions in restrooms across the campus and the installation of an elevator in the Sherman-Tyree Classroom and Administration Building.

Shorter College is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), having been awarded Accredited Status as a Category I institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on October 29, 2013. This status is effective for a period of five years. TRACS is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDE), the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), and the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE).
PHYSICAL PLANT UPGRADES

New Administration and Classroom Building
Scheduled to begin Fall 2016
A new administration and classroom building is set to begin construction in Fall 2016 on the site that was previously Jackson Theological Seminary and an old dormitory. Due to adverse conditions in the interior of the buildings, they have been removed from the campus and plans for the new building construction are scheduled for completion in December 2016.

FC James Resource Building and Auditorium
Project Completed
Built in 1980, the FC James Resource Building has been refitted with new roofing, new flooring and interior upgrades. The 148-seat auditorium has been completely renovated with modular seating and audio-video system and energy efficient led lighting systems. The building now houses the offices visited most by new students including admissions, financial aid, student affairs, and the college registrar.

Alexander Turner Child Development Center
Project Completed
Through a partnership with Headstart programming, the Alexander Turner Child Development Center, owned and operated by Shorter College received grant funding for physical renovations and upgrades. These renovations include classroom petitions, playground additions and more.

Belin HealthPlex Gymnasium
Scheduled for completion Fall 2016
The Belin HealthPlex Gymnasium is being fitted with a new hardwood floor engineered specifically to collegiate athletics specifications. This upgrade project will also complete the campus-wide wireless WiFi network providing internet service to all buildings on the campus and surrounding exterior areas.

12th District Episcopal Office Renovation
Project Completed
This office suite located on the first floor of the Sherman-Tyree Administrative Building is undergoing a complete renovation to include structural, flooring, plumbing and electrical upgrades. The area was previously unusable due to major water damage.
Campus Beautification Project
Partner: Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department
Shorter College was awarded grant funding in the amount of $500,000 to develop the Shorter College Campus. This multi-phased project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2016. Upon completion, this project will increase the appeal of the entire campus resulting in a safe, beautiful education environment adequate to inspire academic excellence.

Black Male Initiative
Partner: Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation
Shorter College, through the Division of Student Affairs, has received a 3-year, $150,000.00 grant to support the development of a campus-based, recruitment and retention program at Shorter College for males of color with barriers to academic success.

Shorter College’s Positive Pathways Program (P3) for minority males has had a successful first year of operation. Shorter College first became engaged with the Marginalized Male Workforce and Education Consortium (MMWEC) and the Boys Men Opportunity Success Team (BMOST) April 2015 as we attended the Black Male Summit at the University Of Akron (UA). As a part of a consortium of higher education partners from across the city of Little Rock convened by the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, representatives and students from UALR, Baptist College, Philander Smith College and Shorter College traveled by bus to the Black Male Summit.

Shorter College Alumni Association
Three of Shorter College’s Entrepreneurial Studies students were designated as the recipients of the Summer Scholarships.

The Shorter College Alumni with Mr. John Brunson, President, Mr. Earl Tolbert, Vice President, and Mrs. Ella Moody, Secretary agreed unanimously to support each student with $500.00 scholarship to attend Summer Session I at Shorter College. Also various faculty and staff members such as Mrs. Arnella Carter, Director of Admissions Records and Retention Specialist Chair and Step-Up Educational Services, Mr. Harrison Johnson, Shorter College Office of Registrar and the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., and Mrs. Margaret Boyd-Owens, Chair of Entrepreneurial Studies Department and Executive Director of Virtuous Divas’ Boutique all provided donations to assist these elite students.
66% of the 2015-16 graduating class have been admitted to other colleges and universities.

Nine of the graduates have been awarded full tuition scholarships.

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604 Locust Street
North Little Rock, AR  72114
(501) 374-6305
www.shortercollege.edu

You fit Here!