



# 2007 Honorary Life Members



## Dr. Luther B. Epting

Luther earned a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Mississippi College and a Masters and Doctorate in Education from Mississippi State University. He retired from Mississippi State University June 30, 2007 after 37 years of service. During his tenure he held positions of Instructor and Coordinator; Assistant Professor and Assistant Director, Associate Professor and Director and - until his June 30 retirement - Professor and Director of the Career Center.

Luther has been active and held membership and/or offices in numerous professional organizations including the National Association of Colleges and Employers, Southeastern Association of Colleges and Employers, American Society for Engineering Education, Cooperative Education and Internship Association and the World Association for Cooperative Education. He has been a presenter and moderator in numerous regional, national and international conferences related to recruiting, training and career development and has served as a consultant to educational institutions as well as corporations and non-profit organizations.

Luther's efforts and achievements have been recognized by professional organizations. He has received notable national and regional awards and was named a Fellow of the American Society for Engineering Education and an Honorary Life Member of the Cooperative Education and Internship Association. He is a former recipient of the SACE STAR Award. Luther has served as chair or co-chair of SoACE (aka SCPA and SACE) Conference Registration Committee each year since 1992.

Luther is married (Jamie) with three children and seven grandchildren ranging in ages from 15 years to 6 weeks.



## Brenda D. Davis

Brenda D. Davis was been Director of Career Development Services at Alabama A&M University from 1992 until her retirement. She attended her first SACE conference in 1992 and immediately became involved in the association. She served SACE as Member, Awards Committee (92-93); Chair, Awards Committee (93-94); Chair, Exhibits Committee/Annual Conference (93-94); Co-chair, Program Committee/Annual Conference (94-95); Co-chair, Annual Conference-50th Anniversary (95-96); Vice President for Professional Development (97-99); Member, Professional Development Committee (99); Business Manager, Annual Conference (00-01); Member, Nominations Committee (03-05) and Chair, Diversity Committee (04-06).

Brenda was also active with the Alabama Association of Colleges and Employers, the National Association of Colleges and Employers, and the Southeastern Association for Employment in Education. In AACE, she served as Chair, Door Prizes, Summer Conference (93-94); Treasurer (94-95); Vice President for Colleges and Summer Conference Chair (95-96); President (96-97) and Treasurer (00-02). In SAE, she served as Secretary (03-05); Vice President for Colleges and Conference Co-Chair (05-06), and Director for Colleges (06-07).

She has been the recipient of many awards and honors such as: SACE Certification of Appreciation, (99 & 02), Certificate of Appreciation as Vice President/Professional Development; AACE Honorary Lifetime Award (07), Outstanding Placement Director, (99) and Presidential Award (97); SAE Plaque of Appreciation as Vice President/Colleges 06) and Secretary (05); Alabama A&M University Business/Industry Cluster Academic Partner Award (02); Thurgood Marshall College Fund Outstanding Performance as a Placement Director Award (07).

Brenda has also served on the Walt Disney World College Advisory Board (01-05), the MonsterTrak College Advisory Board (02-06), and has been featured in the Black Collegian as well as quoted in the NACE Journal and Ebony magazine on Career Preparation. Brenda is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and The Links, Incorporated. She and her husband William are co-founders and directors of the Huntsville Spiritual Chorale, who performed at Carnegie Hall in March of this year.

She has been married to the same wonderful man for 31 years and have two beautiful daughters, Diedre Danielle and Stefanie LoNore, both graduates of Alabama A&M University and one handsome and adorable grandson, Demetrius, a 6th grader at the Academy for Academics and Arts.



# SoACE Awards

## **HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP**

Honorary Life Membership is awarded to individuals who have made notable and significant contributions to the Association over the course of their active membership in the SoACE, SACE or SWACE. In order to be considered for Honorary Life Membership, an individual must have been active in SoACE, SACE or SWACE for at least five years, must no longer be eligible for active membership in the association (because of retirement, job transition, etc.). Honorary Life Members are accorded all the rights and privileges of active members except the eligibility to vote on Association business matters or to hold office; however, Life Members may hold committee membership, be eligible to serve as committee chairs, or serve on committees in an ex-officio capacity. There is no fee for Honorary Life Membership; however it does need to be renewed annually. New Honorary Life Members are provided a complimentary conference registration the year in which they are officially recognized and receive discounted conference registration thereafter. All SWACE and SACE Honorary Life Members retain their Honorary Life Memberships in SoACE.

## **FOUNDERS AWARD**

The Founders Award is considered the most prestigious award SoACE can bestow on one of its members. It is to be given only when the Board of Directors deems there to be a deserving recipient and is not an annual award. The award may be presented to a current or former member of the SoACE (including former SACE and SWACE members) who has made notable and significant contributions with distinguished achievement to the Association, the profession of career services and recruitment. To be considered for this award, an individual must have been active and contributed in the development of programs, held leadership roles in the Association for a considerable number of years, contributed in an innovative way to the professional development of the profession, authored publications of a creditable nature, and/or represented the Association in an exemplary manner.

## **SOUTHERN STAR AWARD**

The Southern Star Award may be presented a person or persons to recognize significant and outstanding contributions to the profession, to society or to SouthernACE. The Southern Star Award is a prestigious recognition of service and contributions exceeded only in significance within SoACE by the Founders Award. The Southern Star Award may be given to a college or employer representative. The recipient does not have to be, or have been, a member of SoACE, SWACE or SACE, but must have made notable or sustained contributions to one of the associations or to the profession over a period of time.

## **NEW PROFESSIONALS AWARD**

The New Professionals Award may be presented to SoACE members with no more than five years of experience in the profession who have demonstrated significant contributions to career services and/or recruitment. It is meant to recognize "future leaders" within the association. It is typically awarded annually to one employer member and one college member. Contributions may be to the association, a state association, NACE, or through direct activities as a part of their normal employment. These activities must show innovation, reflect foresight, and display promise that the individual has the unique quality of future leadership.

## **PRESIDENTS AWARD**

Presidents Awards are given annually at the discretion of the sitting president to recognize individuals or organizations that have distinguished themselves by their service to the Association in ways of particular significance to the President during his/her tenure in office.

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### **2007-08 SoACE Awards Committee**

Matt Berndt, University of Texas at Austin (Chair)

Donnie Brown, Tindall Corporation

Brutus Jackson, Elizabeth City State University

Marvin Martin, Luby's

Ann Reynolds, Texas Christina University

Karen Thompson, University of North Carolina Wilmington

For more information regarding SoACE Awards, go to <http://www.soace.org/honorsandrecognition.php>.