

Webb
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ago and moved to Chicago, where they now reside.

Webb, who is spending his summer as an intern in the Health Policy Institute of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, DC, was elected in 2009.

He spent his year as president-elect devising initiatives that serve the SNMA's stated mission of "ensuring culturally sensitive medical education and services, as well as increasing the number of African-American, Latino and other students of color entering and completing medical school."

The Campaign for Health Equity will be one of his chief initiatives as president, Webb said. A 10-city tour focusing on a variety of social determinants of health and their impact on health disparities, the Campaign will serve as a vehicle for discussing problems that are pertinent in a given area and devising possible ways to combat them, he explained.

"I'm hoping that (the work of the SNMA) this year can be a building block towards eliminating those disparities," Webb commented.

Webb is also spearheading "2020 Vision - Diversifying the Face of Medicine," an effort to increase the number of people from underserved populations who attend and complete medical school. The SNMA will also be releasing a report ranking the diversity of medical schools across the nation, Webb said. He admits his goals for the organization are lofty.

"Change doesn't come overnight, but I think that success, for me, is taking positive steps in that direction," he noted.

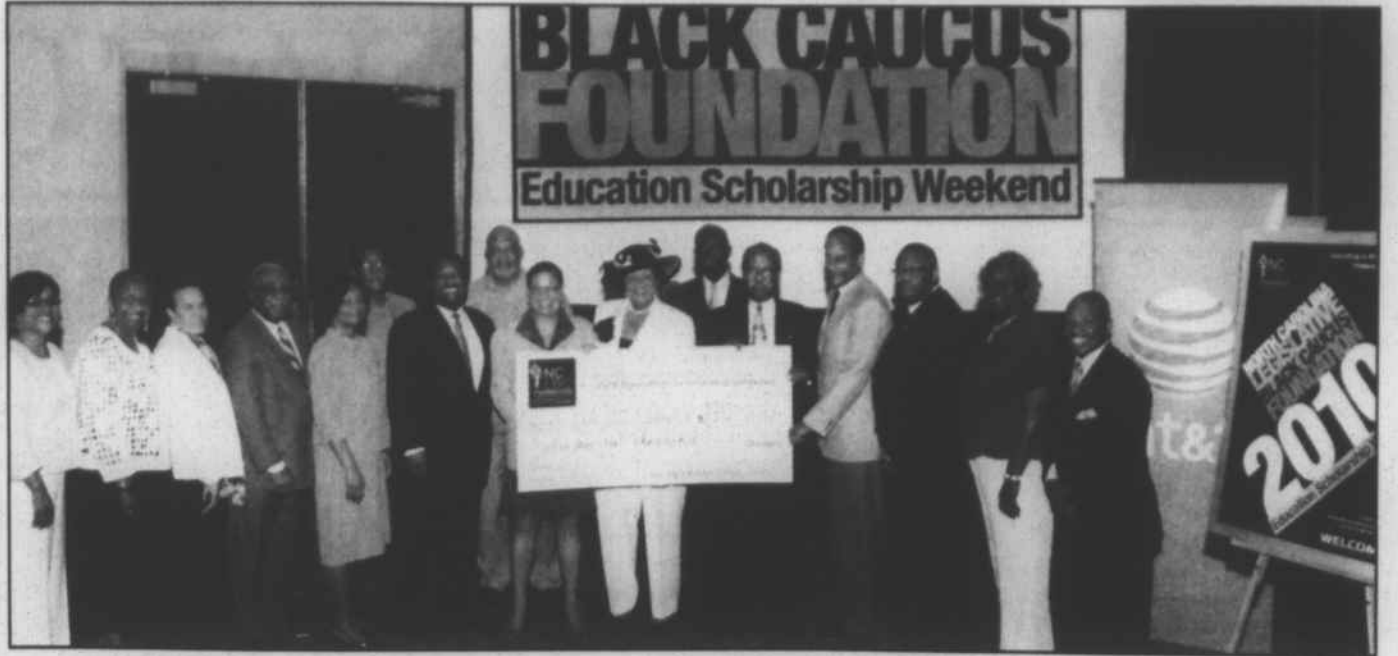
Carmen Robinson, a fellow student at WFU School of Medicine, chairs the SNMA's national board. Robinson, who founded an undergraduate arm of the organization at her alma mater, Winston-Salem State University, believes Webb is up to the task.

"I was privileged to work closely with him when he was at Wake Forest. I got a keen appreciation for not only his leadership, but also his work ethic," explained Robinson, who grew up in Houston, Texas. "...He really sets the bar high for a lot of us (minority medical students) and makes us truly know that we can make it too."

Webb has completed his first three years of medical school. He plans to complete his three-year JD program in 2012 before returning for his final year at Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

Webb says he was inspired by his pediatrician, a young African American male, to enter the medical field. He is hopeful that the combination of the legal and medical degrees he is pursuing will arm him with the knowledge needed to effect change in health-related government policies. His work with the SNMA will be a first step in that direction, he said.

"Successfully executing this agenda is definitely going to keep me ... close to God," he quipped, "but I look forward to the challenge."



Lawmakers, corporate sponsors and education officials pose with the symbolic check.

State lawmakers give \$110,000 to HCBUs

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation has raised \$110,000 for the state's historically black colleges and universities.

The record-setting amount was announced during the recent Caucus' 2010 Education Scholarship Weekend, June 25-26, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel and Convention Center near

Durham.

The Education Scholarship Weekend is part conference and part fundraiser and is the signature fundraising and community education event for the North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Foundation, which is made up of lawmakers from across the state. Education leaders, elected officials, public policy advocates, non-profit organizations, students,

community citizens and leaders from across North Carolina came together during the weekend to dialogue around issues like education, health disparities, economic and community development, dropout prevention, faith-based initiatives and digital literacy.

The funds were generated through the support of more than 70 corporate, community and individual sponsors. The money will be

divided among 10 HCBUs in the state.

"It is becoming increasingly difficult, in today's economy, for students to realize their dream of a college education," said State Rep. Alma Adams (D-Guilford), who chairs the Foundation. "Many students are forced to postpone or even forego college because they just cannot afford it. Scholarships are crucial to these students' success."

James
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ments that offer extended night time service, 30-minute headways and intermodal and regional connectivity. Her grants management skills resulted in the city receiving funding to support a new \$20 million transit operations and maintenance facility and administrative offices facility for GTA that will be the city's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold facility.

A native of Greensboro, James received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from N.C. Central University, and her Master of Education degree from N.C.

Agricultural and Technical State University.

In addition to her work with the city and GTA, James is actively involved in several professional and civic organizations including the N.C. Public Transportation Association and the National Forum for Black Public Administrators. James is committed to fostering mentor relationships with college students that allow them to gain valuable work experience, while increasing career opportunities for the next generation of African American professionals in the field of public transportation. During her 30-year work career, James has mentored over 35 undergraduate students.

Maynard
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across the country is that many people are unaware that structural racism continues to create barriers for people of color, contributing to the disparities in income, housing, education and health outcomes, as well as the different treatment that whites and people of color receive in the criminal justice system.



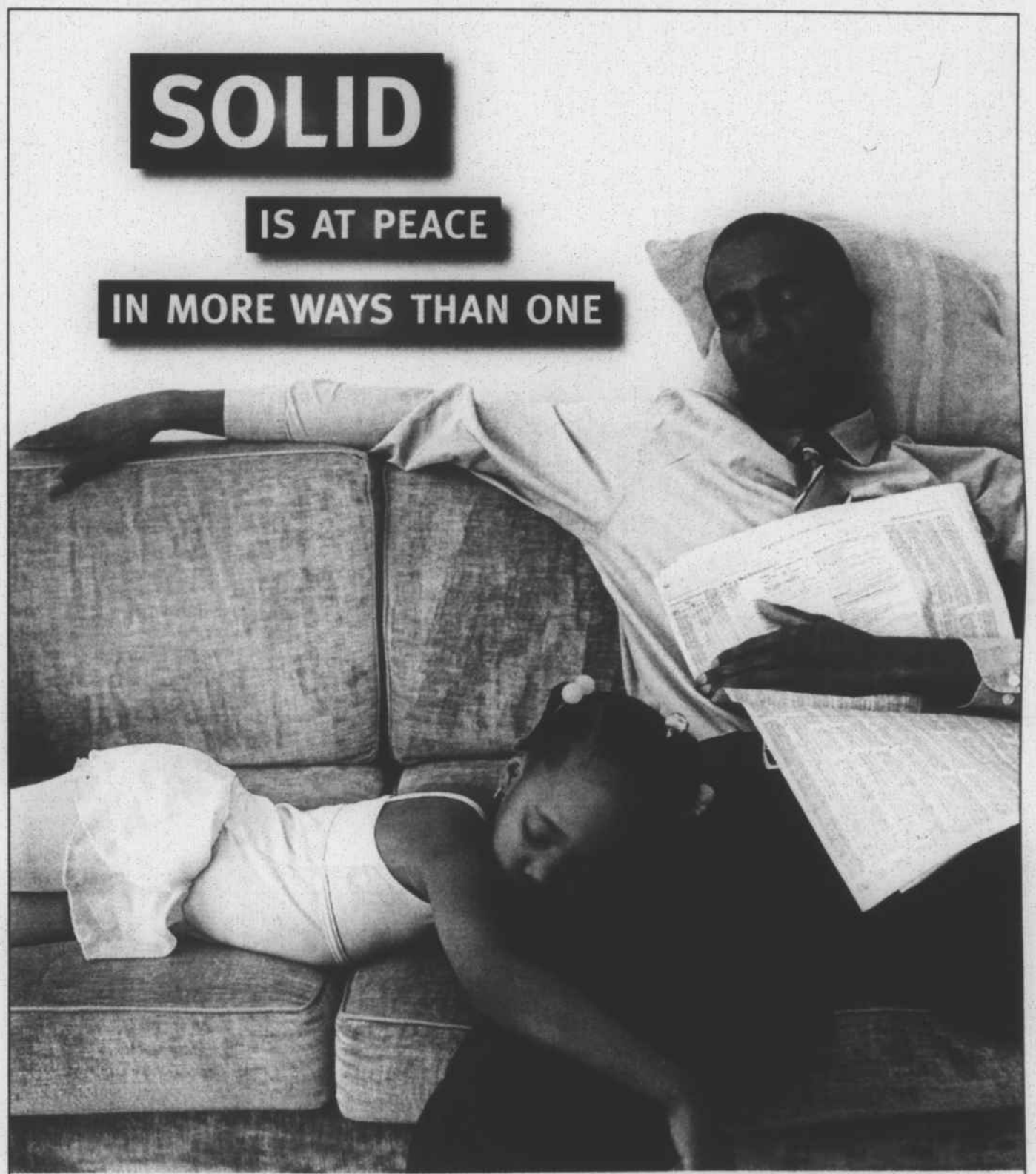
Maynard

believe discrimination has been eradicated from our society or reduced to such a minimum level it is no longer important,"

Maynard said. "These misconceptions are harmful to our nation. They make it more difficult to rally government, private and nonprofit resources to improve the social, health and economic conditions that many people don't even realize

still exist."

For more information about the Institute, go to www.mije.org.



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