

# And the Candidates Were:

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Ink Staff Writer

Who is the president of the Black Student Movement for the 1994-1995 school year?

Well, current BSM members cast their votes Feb. 28 and chose junior Latricia Henry over junior Jasme Kelly and senior Tim Smith for the presidency.

Chimi Boyd ran unopposed for the position of vice president, while LaTarsha Chambers and Nikki Stringer ran unopposed for the offices of treasurer and parliamentarian, respectively. There was no one on the ballot for BSM secretary.

The following is a brief profile of the candidates and their platforms.

## President

**Latricia Henry:** Henry is a junior advertising major and African-American studies minor from Reidsville. Her campaign slogan was, "Innovation through Enhancement" and her platform focused on restructuring the BSM to increase its effectiveness and build its credibility.

Henry, who served as BSM vice president for the 1993-94 school year, said she believes that it's important to have a sturdy foundation upon which to implement new ideas.

"The Central Committee and executive officers must be leaders with visions and goals who are able to work to meet these visions and goals," she said.

As president Henry said, "I will make sure that these people are appointed to committee chairs."

Henry said she also feels that the job descriptions of the BSM officers must be reevaluated. She wants to see if the initial descriptions still apply today.

Henry's platform included more minority Homecoming activities; establishing a student government liaison, a multicultural workshop and a monthly lecture series; representation on the BCC Search Committee; better BSM publicity, minority admissions recruitment

investigations and minority/female faculty recruitment; and more BSM social events.

Henry's leadership experience includes being an active BSM member since her freshman year as the program coordinator (92-93); a member of the Miss BSM selection committee, the Coalition for a free-standing SHSBCC and Coronation Ball committee; BSM Vice President (93-94); attendee of BCC Advisory Board meetings; Collegiate Black Caucus president (92-93); and secretary (92-93)/president (93-94) of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

**Jasme Kelly:** Kelly is a junior Speech Communications major from Durham.

"It's your organization," says Kelly, who believes that the BSM should be given back to its members. Kelly said that as BSM president, she would not ask more of the members than she would of herself.

As a step to increasing the efficiency and competency of the Central Committee, Kelly said she would let the committee members know that they have her trust and that the organization is depending on them to do good jobs.

"If they know that someone is depending on them, then they will come through," Kelly said.

Kelly's platform included ensuring that the BSM is recognized as a major student organization; representing the needs and desires of BSM members throughout the University; creating more interaction among black students, faculty and staff; and ensuring student participation in the search for a new chancellor and vice chancellor for student affairs, BCC director and associate dean of the Office for Student Counseling.

Kelly has the following leadership experience: BSM parliamentarian (92-94); Black Parents Alliance (91-92); Gospel Choir (91-92); Student Government co-Coordinator of Academic Affairs (93-94); Students for Educational Access (92-94); NC STAR (93); Carolina Union Board of Directors (93-94); and College of the Arts and Sciences

Advisory Board (93-94).

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**Tim Smith:** Smith is a senior Speech Communications and African-American Studies double major from Kinston. His campaign focused on "Black to the Future: Putting the Move Back into the Movement."



Students at the recent BSM forum

Smith said he wanted to change the image of the BSM by creating an organization with a "foundation enabling the members to fight back" when given blows by university administrators.

Smith said he believes that there must be a blueprint for struggle and activism through which the membership will become more active and work as a "family."

"The BSM must become a part of (the members)," said Smith. "Right now, the BSM is known for spontaneity."

Smith said he would like to implement a new, less rigid structure for which to run the BSM. His platform included re-vamping the BSM's identity; re-establishing a blueprint for activism on campus; increasing BSM active membership; black unity through educational and social events; and creating an effective network with organizations on and off campus.

Smith's leadership experience entails being the co-founder of the Black Awareness Council; member of the BCC Advisory Board, the BSM, the Coalition

for a free-standing SHSBCC and the UNC football team. He has also presented a workshop on Civil Disobedience at Vassar College and served as an Upward Bound volunteer.

## Vice President

sessions for freshmen to express themselves as well as support and tutoring groups.

Boyd was a member of the Gospel Choir for two years, and served as chairwoman of the BSM's Coronation Ball committee as chairwoman. Boyd spearheaded the annual fashion show for the BSM after starting the fashion show two years ago. She currently serves as the show coordinator.

## Treasurer

**LaTarsha Chambers** is a sophomore anthropology major from Garner.

Chambers is a second-year member of the BSM. Chambers plans, if elected, to require that all committees submit itemized reports detailing exact figures concerning their expenses.

## Parliamentarian

**Nikki Stringer** is a freshman from Raleigh.

Stringer is a write-in candidate for the parliamentarian. She will, if elected, keep order and monitor the length of the BSM meetings. Stringer said she feels that what worked in previous years may not work in 1994.

Stringer said she would like to increase activism among members and create connections with the various black student organizations of various surrounding universities.

**Chimi Boyd** is a sophomore biology major from Durham.

As BSM vice president, one of Boyd's major responsibilities will be to work with the Freshman Class Committee. Boyd said she plans, through the committee, to begin question and answer information sessions.

"Freshmen are tomorrow's leaders," said Boyd. "It is important to begin working with them during their freshmen year to get involved with campus activities."

Boyd said she is concerned with raising freshmen awareness of leadership programs and scholarship opportunities. Working closer with the Freshman Class Committee will enable Boyd to implement programs to spark this awareness.

Boyd said she also wants to establish a Freshman Award/Scholarship for BSM involvement and academic excellence. The money for the award can be raised by the Freshmen Class Committee.

Other ideas that Boyd has for the committee is for motivational speakers to attend the weekly meetings, forums and

Black  
Parents'  
Alliance  
Weekend,  
April 16