



# The Pen of St. Augustine's College



Raleigh, North Carolina

"Small Enough To Know You, Large Enough To Inform You"

OCTOBER, 1985

## Noted psychologist

# Author lectures at St. Aug's

By Monique R. Robinson

September 18, 1985 was not just another assembly for students and faculty here at Saint Augustine's. Instead, it was a day that most of us will remember as motivating, inspiring, educational and immensely positive. It was the day that noted psychologist and professor, Dr. Jaqueline Fleming uncovered the myth and revealed what she refers to as "facts" concerning the existence and the effectiveness of the 105 historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States.

Dr. Fleming is a graduate of Harvard University where she majored in psychology and minored in anthropology. She has spent time studying the role of women in Kenya; she is a consultant psychologist with the United Negro College Fund; and she has spent a considerable amount of time studying standardized test scores. She had also done studies in the area of motivation.

In 1976, after years of deliberation and pondering on the subject of blacks in black colleges, Dr. Fleming took a "break" from her job as adjunct professor of psychology at Barnard College to research and later become author of the book, "Blacks in Colleges." In this book, Dr. Fleming provided data that clearly demonstrated, beyond a reasonable doubt, proving several myths to be not only false, but she found these conclusions were based only on the materialistic point of view.

For example, White Colleges are better qualified to produce competent students because the library in which they study is adequately equipped as opposed to predominantly Black institutions which are considerably smaller and understaffed.

Dr. Fleming proved that this was certainly no basis to judge Black Colleges as "wastelands that served no profound or real purpose and should be disregarded".

What Dr. Fleming describes as "fact" is:

- Black colleges produce 40 percent of the Nation's graduates.
- Graduates of Black colleges are more intellectually developed than white-college graduates,

based upon different measures such as verbal skills, grade point and the ability to argue.

With these facts, Dr. Fleming proceeded to answer the question of how can black colleges produce these people.

Simply, Dr. Fleming stated, "White institutions place more faith in buildings instead of the essentials, whereas black institutions are concerned with learning."

In addition to her study, Dr.

Fleming also shared her "secret for tenure" which stated in essence, is what a person needs to possess to become a success, Dr. Fleming incorporated the "tenure" into five basic findings:

1. You have to test your assumption of the world by collecting data on yourself. This can be done institutionally or individually to determine the way you interact, find out if this is correct and/or functional; or if you

encounter trouble, your perceptions are inaccurate.

Dr. Fleming offered examples for each tenure for the purpose of clarity; for instance, Black Colleges were unsuccessful because they duplicated white schools with less money. Solution: The Carnegie Corporation gave three-quarters of a million dollars to be allocated to study physical beings (libraries, cafeterias, dormitories), what Dr. Fleming found was that white students

were intellectually stagnated, while Blacks continued to progress, looking beyond physical inadequacies.

2. People are more important than things; friends are important assets, especially in time of stress; mentors and/or teachers to encourage you; participate with other people in activities outside the classroom, practice coping with different per-

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## Career Development Center

By Terrance Milo

The Career Development Center strongly believes that students must be taught the process of career decision-making and appropriate job search strategies, therefore, a wide array of educational service programs are offered to students and alumni.

The Career Development Center has many service areas; the first area is:

1. Career Counseling: Students will be encouraged to obtain career counseling in their Freshman year and continue throughout their tenure at the college. The goal of career counseling is to help students learn about themselves, their interests, values, skills, personal assets, career goals, as well as, how to plan and initiate effective job search strategies.

2. Cooperative Education: Cooperative Education is an educational concept which incorporates academic work with on-the-job training to provide a more meaningful and valuable total experience for the college student. Cooperative Education is a three-way partnership between the student, his employer and the college.

3. Job Development: Housed in the Career Development Center is a Job Development Program funded by the Department of Education, Special Needs Program, Title III. This program is designed to assist students in obtaining part-time, temporary and summer employment,

4. Career Planning Course: A more formalized effort has been taken to career development by the establishment of a career planning course for the Saint Augustine's student. The purpose of this course is to teach students to become creative, competitive and knowledgeable career planners.

5. Employer Contacts for Graduating Seniors and Alumni:

Each year various of companies, government and private agencies, school systems and other organizations are scheduled on campus to interview graduating seniors and alumni.

It is the responsibility of the Center to close the gap between "Academic preparation" and the "world of work."

Saint Augustine's College is fortunate to have a Career

Development Advisory Board which is composed of Division Representatives, the Alumni Affairs Director, the Marketing and Public Affairs Director, three local business representatives and the Director of the Career Development Center. The purpose of this committee is to form a tripartite lineage between the College, the business community and the student.

