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man
of
many
talents

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History of black women unique

Paula Giddings finds inspiration in Ida B. Wells

By Shelli M. Carpenter
Echo Staff

The unbearable heat couldn't keep anxious Eagle students, faculty and friends from hearing Paula Giddings lecture on the historical journalist, Ida B. Wells.

Renowned author and feminist, Giddings spoke to the English department on Wednesday, April 19.

Giddings, who is now researching the life of Wells, is the author of two best-selling books on black women, *In Search of Sisterhood: Delta Sigma Theta and the Challenge of the Black Sorority Movement* and *When and Where I Enter: The Impact of Black Women on Race and Sex in America*.

In the preface to *When and Where I Enter*, Giddings states, "Black women have a history of their own, one which reflects their distinct concerns, values and the roles they have played as both Afro-Americans and women. And their unique status has had an impact on both racial and feminist values."

This, combined with her experience as a journalist, led her to study the life of Wells.

During her lecture, Giddings discussed the life of Wells, in particular, the period during



(Above) Paula Giddings signs a copy of her book after her lecture. Also pictured are Christie Stancil (left), Dr. Sammie Parrish, Education dean and Dr. Arlene Cliff-Pellow (right), English department head. (Bottom) Giddings chats with students.



the "first generation after slavery."

"As a journalist, when Wells was asked to write for other publications, she found journalism as the 'outlet to find the real me,'" said Giddings.

She went on to tell the audience that Wells launched the anti-lynching movement which Giddings believes may have been the spark for the Civil Right's Movement.

Wells has been an inspiring role

model for Giddings since childhood.

When asked, how long she has been working on the biography of Wells, Giddings laughed and said "since I was 5 years old."

She anticipates the completion of her book in two years.

Responding to a question about the stereotypes of black women in America, Giddings said racism and sexism are inter-connected and one cannot be overcome without de-

feating the other.

North Carolina Central University has had the pleasure to host many well-known speakers this semester.

However, this lecture by Giddings was not only inspiring, but it reminded students of the ongoing challenges that black women face and the strengths that have helped them to persevere throughout history.

Ex-mayor of Atlanta to speak at graduation

Maynard Jackson graduated from NCCU Law School

Special to *The Campus Echo*

Maynard H. Jackson, Jr., who has served three terms as mayor of Atlanta, will be the principal speaker for N.C. Central University's May 13 commencement exercises.

Jackson is an honor graduate of the NCCU School of Law.

He received his bachelor of arts degree from Morehouse College at the age of 18, as a Ford Foundation Early Admission Scholar. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

500 to graduate in May

NCCU's commencement exercises begin at 9 a.m., Saturday, May 13, at the O'Kelly-Riddick Stadium. The inclement weather site is the McLendon-McDougald Gymnasium.

Approximately 500 will receive baccalaureate, master's, and law degrees.

Some 300 students received degrees in December at the university's first winter commencement.

Jackson served as mayor of Atlanta from 1974 to 1982 and was elected to his third four-year term in 1990.

Twice during his third term, in 1991 and 1993, chief executive officers of American corporations responded to a *Fortune* magazine poll by rating Atlanta the best American city in which to do business.

The new Hartsfield Atlanta International Airport was completed during his third term as mayor, and he played a key role in bringing the 1996 Olympic Games to Atlanta.

Jackson is currently chairman of the board of Jackson Securities, Inc., which specializes in underwriting municipal bond issues.

He also offers other financial services, such as retail brokerage.

From 1982 to 1990, Jackson was managing partner of the Atlanta office of Chapman and Cutler, specializing in the practice of public finance law.

He was the founding chairman and convenor in 1985 of the National Association of Securities Professionals.

University hosts reception for retiring employees

Special to the *Echo*

North Carolina Central University's annual reception for retiring Employees and 25-year employees is scheduled to take place at 5 p.m., May 7, at the Alfonso Elder Student Union.

NCCU will honor 10 faculty and staff members who will retire this summer or who have retired from the university since last June.

In addition, 17 employees who have completed 25 full years of employment at NCCU will be inducted into the institution's Quarter-Century Club.

Scheduled to retire this summer are James F. Blue, associate professor of physical education, after 32 years of employment; Elizabeth F. Chamberlain, assistant professor of English, after 15 years of employment; Robert J. Clack, associate professor and chair of the department of philosophy, after 22 years of employment;

Also Lee W. Finks, professor of library science, after 17 years of employment; Betty E. Kelly, records clerk, after 30 years of employment; Jerome D. McLaurin, assistant professor of physical edu-

cation, after 26 years of employment; William E. Payton, associate professor of chemistry, after 34 years of employment; and Margaret L. Perry, dormitory supervisor, after 12 years of employment.

Robert E. Hart of housekeeping and Emily W. Price, nurse supervisor in the Student Health Service, retired earlier this calendar year.

New members of the Quarter-Century Club will be Renora H. Alston, administrative data processing; Lillian B. Downey, student aid; Patricia M. Durham,

athletics; Robert Grimsley, university police; Margaret B. Guy, geography; John Harrington, modern foreign languages; Lafayette W. Lipscomb, academic affairs; Delores M. Lyons, undergraduate admissions; Wade E. Marlette, Jr., philosophy; Glen R. Martin, student affairs; Ernestine N. Osler budget office; Georgetta T. Parker, athletics; Norman E. Pendergraft, art museum; Joyce E. Smith, library; Veola S. Williams, library; Etta Y. Young and Phyllis F. Shumate, residential life.