



NATIONAL COUNCIL ON BLACK AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Broward Community College hosts 2006 NCBAA Southern Regional Conference

The Broward Community College Chapter of the National Council on Black American Affairs hosted the NCBAA Southern Region's Conference in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, October 19-22, 2006. The theme was "Freeing Your Mind: Breaking Barriers to Cultural, Educational and Economic Development." This theme was selected in recognition of the challenges people of African descent face in their pursuit of educational, economic and cultural excellence. The speakers and workshop presenters were sources of information on a diverse program of workshop topics. Conference workshop topics included "Increasing Student Success," "Recruiting and Supporting Black Males in Higher Education," "Developing Black Leadership at Community Colleges," and "Professional Development: Getting Where You Want to Go."

Dr. William Parker, retired Vice Chancellor for Minority Affairs at the University of Kentucky and president and founder of Parker and Parker Associates in Lexington, Kentucky, delivered the opening general session keynote address. During his presentation, conferees participated in an exercise that ultimately reminded them of the need to motivate and support one another in breaking down the barriers to success. Dr. Niara Sudarkasa, scholar-in-residence at the African American Research Library and Cultural Center in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, delivered the Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke Memorial Breakfast keynote address. She spoke on the theme of breaking barriers to success in a global society. The conference concluded with a banquet at which a fiery speech was delivered by G. Vincent Lewis, Chief Ministerial Officer and Executive Pastor of Antioch Missionary Baptist Church, one of the most popular houses of worship in the Miami-Dade County area. Reverend Lewis challenged attendees to be good stewards of the community and to help young African Americans be successful.



NCBAA Southern Region President Donald Cleveland, Dr. William Parker, center, and St. Petersburg College Chapter President Roy Slater.



Broward Community College NCBAA Chapter President Kisha King, Dr. Niara Sudarkasa, center, and Donald Cleveland.

The Broward Community College NCBAA Chapter and the NCBAA Southern Region Board of Directors also honored the Region's student leaders for 2005 and 2006 for their outstanding work and leadership at their respective schools. Each year the Board of Directors provides scholarships for students to attend the conference.