

◆ NATIONAL TECHNICAL NEWS ◆

Volume 5, Number 2

Summer 1999

NTA 1999 Conference Announcement

Creative Beginning for the New Millennium

The National Technical Association (NTA) is pleased to announce its 71st National Conference and Technology Career Fair will be held at the Hilton Hotel, Crystal City in Arlington, VA on November 3-6, 1999. The conference theme is **Creative Beginning for the New Millennium**. NTA invites African-American scientists, engineers, architects, mathematicians, technology educators, and students to participate in one of this year's most comprehensive conferences to address technology development by the minority community.

The NTA conference will highlight innovative technology advancements of today's minority technical professionals. It will enable you to network with minority technical professionals who are vital to U.S. global competitiveness. The conference technical sessions, workshops and forums will provide many opportunities to exchange ideas with professionals who develop the nation's leading-edge technology. The conference will address critical issues facing the minority community as key providers of our nation's technology. The conference has something for all professionals and students who use science and information to stay globally competitive.

NTA invites you to submit abstracts and proposals for presentations

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**MEMBERSHIP
NEWSLETTER**
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NTA Baltimore Chapter 19th Annual Joseph S. Tyler, Jr. Scholarship Awards and 3-T Mentor Program Recognition Banquet

The Baltimore Chapter of the National Technical Association held its 19th Annual Scholarship Awards Banquet on June 10, 1999 at the Forum in Baltimore City. The affair was very successful, with 160 persons attending. Representatives from the Hampton Roads and Washington, DC chapters were among those present.

Dr. Cecil Payton, Executive Assistant to the President of Morgan State University, was the main speaker and received the 1999 Joseph S. Tyler, Jr. Award.

Additional awards were given, in the following categories:

**Middle School Student
(\$100 Savings Bond)**
Elaine Reed
Garrison Middle School

**High School Award (\$1000 College
Scholarship)**
Marcus Lorick
Douglass High School

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Teacher Award

Sylvia Askew
Garrison Middle School

Community Service Award

Rev. Anthony H. Carpenter
United Church of Christ

NTA 3-T 1999 Mentor Award

Dr. Fred Oliver
Department of Physics
Morgan State University



Dr. Cecil Payton (right) receiving the 1999 Joseph S. Tyler, Jr. Award from NTA Baltimore Chapter President Dr. Bill Lupton.



(From Left) Ed Taylor, NTA's first Executive Director, John Thompson, 3-T Mentor program director, Jim Harris, NTA Co-Director, and Gil Haynes, NTA Co-Director.

NTA Washington, DC Chapter 1999 Mathematics Contest

The National Technical Association Washington, DC Chapter Mathematics Contest was held at Wakefield High School in Arlington, Virginia on Saturday, April 17th with much success! Students participating were from Maryland, the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia.

With the DC Chapter sponsoring this event, Wyllona E. Harris chaired the project and was the test administrator, and Dr. Michael O. Keeve of Norfolk State University conducted the interactive session of fun-filled mathematical challenges.

Each student in the contest received a beautiful certificate of participation and a NASA bag filled with an assortment of souvenirs related to mathematics, science and technology. Additionally, trophies and monetary awards were presented to the following students:

Advanced Test Awards

- 1st Place - Donovan Carmichael (Grade 11)
Yorktown High School
- 2nd Place - Etan Eitches (Grade 9)
Thomas Jefferson Science & Technology High School
- 3rd Place - Ashley Walker (Grade 11)
Wakefield High School

Basic Test Awards

- 1st Place - Brett McKinney (Grade 9)
Wakefield High School
- 2nd Place - Jaliyla Tillman (Grade 10)
Wakefield High School
- 3rd Place - Muniyra Tillman (Grade 8)
Gunston Middle School

In - Grade Awards

- 11th Grade - Janell Kennedy
Wakefield High School
- 10th Grade - Summer Britford
Wakefield High School
- 9th Grade - Corey Talley
Paul Jr. High School
- 8th Grade - John Sheffey
Gunston Middle School
- 7th Grade - Preston Linson-Gentry
Gunston Middle School
- 6th Grade - Abu Baruca
James McHenry Elementary School

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and workshops you'd like to give at the conference. Topics directly related to the conference theme are strongly encouraged; however, submissions in all scientific/technical and technology education areas are welcome. NTA will evaluate all submitted abstracts based on their suitability for inclusion in the conference program. Full manuscripts are welcome, but not specifically required. NTA may publish abstracts in a **Compendium of Abstracts**, to be distributed at the Conference, and full manuscripts in a special conference proceeding, or a future issue of the *NTA Journal*, NTA's official publication.

All technical presentations will be conducted in session format throughout the conference. Each presentation is typically limited to 10 minutes, with 5 additional minutes for discussion. Material better suited for a forum/workshop setting will be accommodated based on its alignment with the central conference theme, potential audience appeal, and accompanying corporate support/endorsement. Please elaborate on specific needs regarding your desired presentation format when submitting your abstract/proposal.

We have designed the conference to attract multifaceted participants; therefore, we extend this invitation to all technical professionals, technology educators, high school and college students. You need not be a member of the NTA to participate. Members of all Black Technical Organizations (BTO's) are especially invited to submit abstracts / proposals.

Submitted abstracts/proposals will be allocated to the conference program at the following participation levels (final conference program may vary based on the number of acceptable submissions):

- Professionals - Technical Papers Sessions, Workshops and Forums
- College Students - Collegiate Technical Papers Symposium
- High School Students - High School Technical Papers Symposium, (based on Science Fair Project Competition)
- Scholarship awards will be presented to the best papers in all student categories.

Abstract Submission Deadline 8 October 1999

General topics to consider when developing your abstract or proposals are listed below:

- *Technical Sessions*: Engineering, Mathematics, Information and Computer Science, Physics, Telecommunications, Space & Aeronautics, Energy, Chemistry, Architecture, Environment, and other Science and Technology fields
- Technology Education; Mentoring With Success; Merging Technology and Local Communities
- Corporate America: Where are the Jobs in 2000 and Beyond?
- Undergraduate/Graduate Research & Educational Opportunities
- *Human Resources Development*: Workplace Retraining; Career Transitioning; Outplacement; Diversity Management; Multicultural Work Environment
- Information Technology; Interactive Classrooms; The Internet
- Distance Learning and Continuing Education
- *Charter Schools*: Opportunity or Setback for African-Americans Pursuing Science?
- Architecture: Building 21st Century America
- The African/American-African Connection
- Technology as a Tool for Economic and Business Development; Small and Disadvantaged Business
- Professional Development

See Page 4 for Presentation Submission Information.



Minority Women in Science awards banquet held at the NTA 1998 Conference in Arlington, VA.

NTA 1999 CONFERENCE ABSTRACT/PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORMAT AND GUIDELINES

Abstract/proposal submissions must provide the following information:

- Authors' full name, full mailing address, daytime & evening telephone numbers, e-mail address and fax number.
- Professional or student category (if student, provide grade level).
- Academic/occupational title, including company/institution name.
- Indicate whether you are an NTA member (state your membership classification and chapter affiliation), member of another technical organization, or a non-member.
- Type of submission (technical paper presentation, workshop, forum, science fair project, etc.) and applicable support mechanism (i.e., corporate sponsorship)
- Audiovisual Equipment requirements (viewgraph projectors standard; other equipment may be responsibility of speaker to provide)
- **Title of presentation (15 words or less)**
- **Abstract of presentation (150-300 words).**

One copy of the above information (ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PREFERRED) should be submitted to EACH PERSON listed below, by **October 8, 1999**:

Dr. George R. Carruthers
Naval Research Laboratory
Code 7609
Washington, DC 20375-5320
george.carruthers@nrl.navy.mil
Tel. (202) 767-2764
Fax. (202) 404-7296

Dr. John Trimble
Dept. of Systems & Computer Science
Howard University
Washington, DC 20059
trimble@scs.howard.edu
Tel. (202) 806-4822
Fax. (202) 806-4531

For conference information, please contact:

The National Technical Association, Inc.
1999 NTA National Conference
PMB 220
5810 Kingstowne Center Blvd., Suite 120
Alexandria, VA 22315
Tel.: (757) 827-9280
www.ntaonline.com

For hotel reservations, contact:

Hilton Crystal City Hotel
2399 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, VA 22202
Tel.: (703) 418-6800
For Reservations, call:
1-800-HILTONS
By October 11, 1999

**This Web page design workshop
at the NTA 1998 Conference was
conducted by Ms. Dora Abreu
(Lucent Technologies, Inc.).**



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Each of these winners is eligible to participate in the NTA Region II Mathematics Contest to be held later this year.

Congratulations, one and all....students, parents, committee, and everyone who contributed time, effort or made donations to make the event a success!



Brett McKinney (Grade 9, Wakefield High School) accepts 1st Place Basic Test Award from Arthur Southerland, as Math Contest Chairperson Wyllona Harris looks on.



Donovan Carmichael (Grade 11, Yorktown High School) accepts 1st Place Advanced Test Award in the NTA DC Chapter 1999 Mathematics Contest.

Capt. William O. Glascoe Attends International Space University 1999 Summer Session

William O. Glascoe III, Capt. USAF, was awarded a scholarship to attend the prestigious International Space University summer session, which was held this year at the Surinaree University of Technology in Nakhon Ratchasima, Thailand (see <http://www.isunet.edu>).

He was one of 83 attendees from more than 20 countries. As part of his activities, he participated in the Southeast Asia Disaster Management Design Project team, and his individual design project was on Space Traffic Control.

William has been associated with the NTA (Washington, DC Chapter "3-T" Program) since he was a high school student. He began studying space science in 1986 with his mentor, Dr. George Carruthers, an astrophysicist at the Naval Research Laboratory. He was awarded the Bausch and Lomb Science Award and the Goddard Memorial High School Science Award for his academic excellence and contributions at NRL.

He continued his studies at the US Air Force Academy and graduated with a BS in Physics specializing in aeronautical engineering. After receiving his degree and commission as an Air Force officer, he worked as a GPS user equipment test engineer and navigation system analyst in Alamogordo, NM for three years before a 10 month Engineering Management fellowship at Lockheed Martin Missiles and Space Co. in Sunnyvale. Since late 1995, he has been managing the software development of a major space related system acquisition from El Segundo, CA at the Space and Missiles Systems Center.

William plans to complete his MS in Telecommunications from the University of Colorado this fall.

Visit the NTA Web Site!

NTAONLINE

<http://www.ntaonline.org>

NTA CALL

TO: Members and Friends

In 1925, a legacy began to take shape in Chicago, Illinois. We know it today as the National Technical Association (NTA). During the 74 years since its inception and eventual incorporation, the NTA has served as a haven for black scientists, technologists and engineers. It was a place where "friends" could come together and discuss career issues as well as new opportunities for growth. It was a strong network across the country, which provided nurturing, expertise, business and financial counseling as well as "extended family" support for its members and for those who shared the NTA vision for America. It was a vision that viewed America as a land of opportunity for the black entrepreneur (whether scientist, technologist, or engineer) and a place where one could make a lasting contribution to the social and political fabric of an emerging world power. As we approach the end of this millennium, we find that some of that vision has come to past, but the journey is far from over. In a time of unprecedented personal wealth; in a world that has been made smaller by technology developments; in a country that has emerged as "the true" world power, we find that there are conditions and practices that continue to inhibit each citizen of this world from reaching his or her potential. NTA took root in an era of overt racism, where black contributions to the lasting legacy of scientific, technical, and engineering accomplishment were discouraged and were virtually unheralded. It is with profound regret that I must conclude that on the eve of a new millennium, 74 years after its emergence, that NTA is still needed to perform the same services it delivered to its constituency in the Twenties.

Sadly, the services of talented and purposeful African-Americans in science, technology, and engineering are still not being used to their fullest potential. In addition, the emergence of a diverse American middle-class in an environment of "legislated fairness" has served to dull (even silence) the voice of reason and dissent that arose from the ranks of NTA. The hunger for a larger

slice of the American pie has been replaced by an internal fight for the crumbs of the American middle-class. In the meantime, there is brainpower going to waste in America's jails and ever increasing community of have-nots who are dropping out of society. As the "Minority Technical Voice", how long can NTA remain silent and count its successful alumni while a crisis of unprecedented proportions afflicts our less fortunate brothers and sisters in this country? How long can we rest on the achievements and contributions of the past, while the dreams of so many are being crushed by the wheels of an uncaring populace? We are in the midst of an American tragedy, and some believe the answers to the problem can only be found in the resolve of the silent minority (African-Americans) whose sweat and blood secured for this country its "place in the sun". It is time my fellow NTA'ers to rise up across the country and to reaffirm the legacy handed down over the years and to assert our voices locally, nationally and internationally. We need to gather up our own and provide the nurturing, guidance, and extended family support to those who are truly an "endangered species", the African-American scientist, technologist, and engineer. We need to summon up the resolve of our predecessors and stand ready on the eve of this new millennium to re-establish NTA as the "The Minority Technical Voice". We need to be heard.

If you believe NTA can make a difference, I ask you to join a renewed effort to breathe life into the organization's vision and mission. I ask you to join in planning a strategy for the new millennium which will raise the hopes and expectations of every African-American in America and which will continue the struggle for self-worth and dignity in an increasingly impersonal world.

Thank you,

James L. Harris

Gilbert A. Haynes

NTA Co-Executive Directors

Dr. Mildred F. Johnson Receives NCNW Award

The Quaker City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., a National Council of Negro women Affiliate, hosted the 1999 Pennsylvania State NCNW Tribute to Black Women Community Leaders awards ceremony on Saturday, May 29 at the Twelve Caesars Hotel. The Tribute to Black Women Community Leaders is a national program initiated by Dorothy Height and the NCNW to recognize the positive contributions and impact African American women are making in their communities.

Dr. Mildred F. Johnson, former NTA Executive Director, was one of four honorees and received a 1999 Black Women Community Leader Award. This included a \$500 check, a statuette, and a certificate. Dr. Aprille Ericsson-Jackson, Aerospace Engineer, Goddard Space Flight Center and President of the Goddard Chapter of the National Technical Association, and Dr. George Carruthers, Astrophysicist, Naval Research Laboratory, nominated Dr. Johnson for the award. The honor also included eligibility to compete for the national award prize of \$2,500 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, DC for the national awards ceremony on August 7. There will be one national student winner and three national adult winners.

NTA Goddard Chapter Members Receive Awards

Dr. Aprille Ericsson-Jackson, president of the NTA Goddard Space Flight Center Chapter, Joy Bretthauer, and Jackie Mims are recipients of 1999 Women of Color Technology Awards. Aprille and Joy are being recognized as "Centurions of Technical Excellence" and will receive Certificates of Merit at the awards luncheon at the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta October 1. Jackie is receiving a "big" Women of Color Technology Award at the awards banquet on October 2, 1999.

Aprille Ericsson-Jackson also received two awards in May, 1999. These were a 1999 Federal Executive Board Excellence in Federal Career Award, and a 1999 Topp's Award for Africa-Center from Bowie State University.

Report on the 'Fifth African-African American Summit'

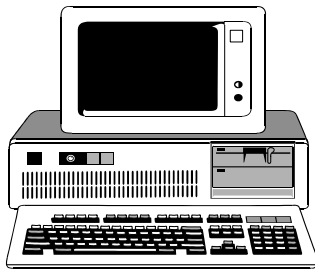
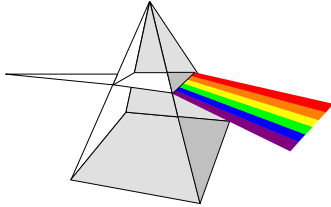
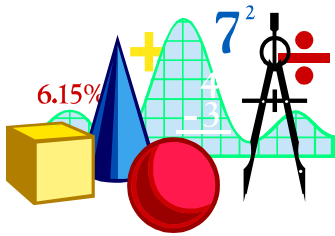
The Fifth African-African American Summit was held in Accra, Ghana May 17 - 21, 1999. The Summit is held every other year. The last Summit was held in Harare, Zimbabwe in August 1997. This Summit's theme was "Business, Trade & Investment". The Summit was organized into five concurrent tracks: Agriculture; Business, trade & investment; Democracy & Governance; Education; and Health. Howard University was requested to coordinate the Education track. Dr. John Trimble, DC chapter NTA member and Director of the Howard University Project on Appropriate Technology (HUPAT), was asked to organize a workshop on "Appropriate Technology in Science/Engineering Curriculum".

The purpose of the workshop was to bring together faculty and practitioners involved with appropriate technology to initiate linkages and projects. Three objectives were established: (1) Identify the constraints to infusing appropriate technology in Africa; (2) Identify the most critical technology domains in addressing the needs of Africa; and (3) Identify approaches to infusing appropriate technology in an engineering curriculum. Panelists with expertise in computer science, chemical, electrical, and environmental engineering gave presentations. Hattie Carwell, longtime active member of NTA, gave an insightful presentation on her project that involves a village not far from Accra.

Each workshop developed resolutions to the Summit coordinating body. The Appropriate Technology workshop prepared over 30 recommendations including:

- Cottage industries in the rural areas should be encouraged and supported;
- There should be a focus on educational software, print and media technology that is culturally relevant; and
- Promote new technology integration based on non-conventional energy sources.

The Summit was attended by over 5,000 people including the Heads of State of over a dozen African countries. In addition to the workshops, the Summit featured a Young People's Assembly and a special meeting on Women's Issues. There was discussion on the next Summit being hosted by Tanzania in 2001.



PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEWS!

We are hoping to enhance the frequency and timeliness of the National Technical Association (NTA) Newsletter. Please send news items you feel would be of interest to professionals, students, and educators involved in science/technology fields and/or of interest to the NTA Membership (ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION PREFERRED).

Please include with your submission your name, telephone number, email and snail mail address. Please also send an information copy of whatever you send us to your Chapter President and/or Regional Director.

In our attempt to be faster and cheaper, and eventually better, we will format the Newsletter in Microsoft Publisher 98. Therefore, submissions in MS Word 95/97 or Powerpoint 95/97 are preferred (although Word Perfect and .TXT submissions can be converted). Any photographs should be black and white in .JPG or .BMP format.

Please submit to EACH of the following:

Dr. George Carruthers
 george.carruthers@nrl.navy.mil
 (202) 767-2764

Dr. Jesse Bemley
 jbemley@american.edu
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Dr. John Trimble
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