

March 2, 2009

Phi Beta Lambda members win at district conference

The Phi Beta Lambda chapter at Albany State University has set another impressive mark – this time scoring big at the South District Conference held at Albany Technical College on Feb. 19.

Four ASU students that competed in the conference took home awards. Alicia Thompkins, a second semester freshman and former Future Business Leader of America (FBLA) member, had a first and third place finish in the competition.

Dr. Kathaleena Edward Monds, associate professor of Business Information Systems and Phi Beta Lambda adviser, said all the students surpassed her expectations.

The winners were:

- Crystal Thomas – first place in Computer Applications and third place in Business Law
- Wilbur Jordan – first place in Public Speaking and first place in Parliamentary Procedures
- Alicia Thompkins – third place in Job Interview and first place in Accounting Principles
- Antonio Muff – third place in Client Service and first place in Hospitality Management

Also participating was Kyle Dawson in the Public Speaking and Impromptu Speaking events.

Phi Beta Lambda is a national organization for college students who have an interest in business. The main goal of the organization is to develop competent, aggressive business leaders.

Albany State's chapter was reactivated last spring after a 16-year leave. Since that time the organization's membership has increased by nearly 300 percent. The members will compete in the spring 2009 Phi Beta Lambda state competition in Atlanta in April.

The events at Phi Beta Lambda conferences are directly tied to business courses at ASU so students can be assessed on their learning through the individual competitions. Monds said she would like to see every instructor in the College of Business volunteer five students from their classes and prepare them for the events that correspond to the ASU courses. She said the faculty may not always know what business companies are expecting in terms of the students' knowledge base so this will help them determine what they need to focus on in the classroom.

Students interested in joining Phi Beta Lambda are encouraged to sign up immediately. The deadline to register for the state competition is March 16. There are currently 31 members in the organization.