From: ASUINFO

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Subject: ASU Appoints New Honors Program Director

## **ASU IN THE NEWS**

## Produced by the Office of University Communications

July 31, 2017

## **ASU Appoints New Honors Program Director**



The ASU Office of the Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs is pleased to announce the appointment of Florence Lyons, as the new Director of the Honors program. Her appointment is effective August 1.

Lyons is a Professor of Speech at Albany State University. For the past two years, she has devoted a great deal of her time cultivating and managing partnerships between Albany State University and various graduate institutions. Due to the partnerships, 12 ASU students participated in several 2017 summer programs, which allowed them to conduct research at the University of California, Irvine; UCLA; and the University of Maryland. As a result of the students' participation, they are each eligible for full-ride graduate scholarships for both their master's and doctorate degrees along with annual stipends.

She has also encouraged ASU students to apply for weekend trips funded by diversity programs at graduate institutions which seek to attract minority scholars for their graduate programs. Selected students visit the graduate school campuses, meet graduate professors in their chosen areas of study, and learn particulars regarding offered scholarships. When ASU students applied for the programs, Lyons edited their applications. Each student she assisted was accepted: three ASU students participated

in the University of Pennsylvania's: Penn Center for Minority Serving Institutions Weekend; one ASU student participated in Northwestern University's: Introduction to Graduate Education Weekend; and three ASU students participated in the University of Pittsburg's: Katz School of Business Graduate School Diversity Weekend.

Lyons replaces Melvin Shelton who led the Honors Program for the past ten years. Shelton started his career in higher education at ASU as a mathematics instructor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science in 1985. After spending 20 years in the Mathematics and Computer Science Department, he joined the College of Education in 2005, where he taught the mathematics courses for future elementary and middle school teachers.

In August 2008, Shelton was appointed as the Director for the Honors Program. He will be retiring from Albany State University effective August 1, after 31 years of illustrious service.

We wish him well in retirement.

University Communications, 204 Old President's House 22