

# Bluford Healthcare Leadership Institute



## Meet Our 2018 Scholars!

On May 29th, the Bluford Healthcare Leadership Institute welcomed its 6th cohort of Scholars to the Kansas City area for another dynamic program. Over the course of two weeks, Scholars were exposed to a stellar line up of national and internationally known speakers including: Dr. Patricia Maryland of Ascension Healthcare, Wright Lassiter of Henry Ford Health System, Ian Morrison, international Author, Consultant and Futurist along with a host of leaders from the American Hospital Association (AHA). Scholars had the opportunity to visit and tour many local organizations such as Swope Health Services, Operation Breakthrough, Truman Medical Centers, Cerner Corporation and the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. The Scholars also enjoyed field trips across the metro that included a performance by the Kansas City Symphony at Kauffman Center for Performing Arts, a tour of the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum and a team building outing at Topgolf. At the end of the two week experience, Scholars delivered presentations on some of today's current healthcare challenges. [Click here](#) to learn of their solutions.

*2018 Roster (Top Row, L-R): Kyle Liggins, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Nassir Holden, North Carolina A&T State University; Chayse Bryant, Florida A&M University; Elijah Evans, North Carolina A&T State University; Myles Harris, Fisk University; Antonio Zamudio-Moore, Rockhurst University (Bottom Row, L-R): Camila Aponte, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Jasmine Thomas, Florida A&M University; Dominique Paje, University of Missouri-Kansas City; Jehnae Thomas, Florida A&M University; Joy Milner, Spelman College; Alexandria Stanton, North Carolina A&T State University; Miranda Merritt, Spelman College; Sakilae White, North Carolina A&T State University*

### This Year's New Faculty Presenters...



**Cynthia Washington**  
Interim President  
Institute for Diversity—AHA



**Dr. Patricia Maryland**  
President & CEO  
Ascension Healthcare



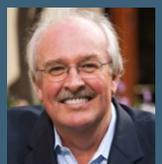
**Paul Black**  
CEO  
Allscripts



**Christina Fisher**  
SVP/CFO  
AHA



**Priscilla Ross**  
Sr. Associate Director  
Fed. Relations— AHA



**Ian Morrison**  
Author, Consultant,  
Futurist

# A Note from our Founder

As we approach the end of summer and look forward to 2019, our 7th year, I want to first thank all of our sponsors, donors, partners, faculty and board members. Without your generous support and dedication, the Bluford Healthcare Leadership Institute (BHLI) would not be the success that it has become today. Our focus to decrease healthcare disparities of minorities and other vulnerable populations over the next several generations has now become a nationally recognized mission. The Institute has hosted over 80 Scholars to date and has coordinated over 50 internships across the country. Our participating universities expanded this year to include Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO, and our internship sites now lists over 30 organizations such as BJC Healthcare in St. Louis, MO, John Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City and Polsinelli Law Firm in Washington, D.C. I am proud to share with you this inaugural E-News publication and invite you to enjoy some of our recent highlights and achievements. We are definitely creating a pipeline of talented, culturally competent leaders who will positively impact the future of healthcare.



*John W. Bluford*

## Scholars "On the Move"



**Russell Cooks**

Florida A&M University  
Computer Engineering

Truman Medical Centers/  
Cerner Corporation



**Vanessa Mendoza**

University of Missouri—  
Kansas City  
Health Sciences

America's Essential  
Hospitals



**Emani Mhoon**

Fisk University  
Business Administration

Federal Reserve Bank of  
Kansas City



**Kailyn Price**

North Carolina A&T State  
University  
Bioengineering

Duke University Hospital



**Gabrielle Milton**

Spelman College  
Health Science

Hennepin Healthcare



**Anthony Gilyard**

University of Missouri—Kansas  
City

Business Administration  
Truman Medical Centers

## 2018 Internship Sites



As an integral component of the BHLI, our scholars complete internships at premier healthcare systems across the nation. These talented, aspiring leaders are privileged to work under the directorship of some of the nation's leading healthcare executives. This year our scholars completed internships at the sites listed above. **Russell Cooks** spent his summer working on special IT projects at Cerner Corporation and Truman Medical Centers. "**Vanessa Mendoza** quickly integrated herself into our team and has been smart about using the opportunity to make connections and be mentored by some of our senior people," states Bruce Siegel, MD, President/CEO of America's Essential Hospitals. **Emani Mhoon** was recently offered a full time position with the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City after completing an internship there this summer. Duke University Hospital hosted **Kailyn Price** where she was mentored under the leadership of Frank DeMarco, Associate Chief Nursing Officer. **Gabrielle Milton** received high regards from Dr. Jon Pryor, CEO of Hennepin Healthcare for her work in Population Health and **Anthony Gilyard** represented BHLI at Truman Medical Centers in both the Finance and Audit & Compliance areas. From 2014 to date, 58 Scholars have completed internships at 32 healthcare systems and corporations throughout the country.

# Rising Stars & Newsworthy Notables



**Raynard Ware**  
HCA Healthcare  
Executive Residency  
Program



**Raynard Ware** is a graduate of Morehouse College and was a member of the BHLI's 2014 Cohort. Since then, Raynard has received his Masters in Health Systems Administration from Georgetown University and has accepted an executive residency opportunity with HCA Healthcare in Nashville, TN. *"The BHLI provided me with an opportunity where I learned that the core of a healthy community is met at the intersection of business, policy and clinical expertise, led by health professionals who care. As a graduate of the BHLI, it is important that my colleagues and I develop other future leaders; I am proud to say the BHLI has groomed me into the healthcare professional I am today."*



Congratulations to BHLI Board Member **Dr. Susan B. Wilson**, Vice Chancellor, Diversity & Inclusion—University of Missouri—Kansas City (UMKC), for receiving the **2018 Kansas City Chamber's ACE Award!** Dr. Wilson's work and strong efforts to create new diversity initiatives at UMKC were recognized at the Chamber's Power of Diversity Breakfast on July 25th.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Dr. Wilson's mission to drive cultural change through her influence and leadership in Diversity and Inclusion within our community .



**Judith Lovince**  
Chair  
Pharmacy Student Forum  
Executive Committee



**Judith Lovince** was a member of the BHLI's 2015 Cohort and completed an internship at Saint Luke's Hospital of Kansas City. She is currently entering her 4th year of pharmacy school at Florida A&M University. Judith is a member of the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) where she is Chair of the Pharmacy Student Forum Executive Committee. *"Overall my experience in administration and leadership has been exceptional, and I would not have had these opportunities had it not been for the BHLI. The Institute brought out the leader I always had in me, and I am forever grateful for that."* Judith plans to apply to a residency this year in a Health-System Pharmacy Administration program.



**Evan Bailey**  
Henry Ford Health System  
Administrative Fellow



*"As someone with a business background, like most people, when I thought of healthcare the first thing that came to mind was a nurse or a physician with a sick patient. The BHLI opened my eyes to many of the behind the scenes aspects that enable the transformative care that patients receive today. Being able to engage with thought-leaders around all aspects of healthcare was a unique and fulfilling opportunity that helped to align both my skills and purpose."* **Evan Bailey** is a Kansas City native who matriculated at Florida A&M University. Evan earned his Masters in Business Administration and interned at Henry Ford Health System where he is now an Administrative Fellow.



**Paula Schumacher, CFRE, CPP** joins the BHLI as its new grant writer and will also oversee fundraising initiatives. Paula has worked in the fundraising arena for nearly 20 years and is one of only 8,000 certified fundraising professionals in the world. She has served clients nationally and internationally including nonprofits in Haiti and Guatemala. With strengths in public relations and marketing, Paula helps new 501(c)3 organizations build recognition with the goal of securing dollars from individuals touched by their mission.

## Meet Garrett Gardner



*Above: Mercedes Givens, AWMA, Vice President, Wealth Advisor, Bank of Blue Valley greets 2018 Scholars Nassir Holden and Miranda Merritt following his presentation regarding financial literacy and planning.*



**Garrett Gardner** joined the slate of presenters for this year's program and proved to be one of the top highlights according to Scholar feedback. Gardner, Founder and President of FULL VOICE, has trained hundreds of professionals in the proper use of voice and image for effective business development, career management and life enrichment. He has been described as "one of the nation's foremost vocal communication trainers." Gardner educated this year's cohort on how to enhance their personal brand, find their voice's "clear channel", and express themselves by using meaningful statements. Scholars put these tools to use as they delivered their final presentations. The BHLI looks forward to Gardner and FULL VOICE as part of its 2019 program!

## All About Giving Back

In 2017, the BHLI launched an annual **Alumni Giving Program** encouraging Scholars to give back to the program. These monetary contributions will help the important work of the Institute to continue for generations of future healthcare leaders to come. The Alumni Giving Committee (AGC), comprised of 10 Scholars representing cohorts from 2013 to present, is charged to secure a 100% participation rate at tiered levels for both undergraduate and graduate Scholars. Through monthly conference calls, the appointment of campus ambassadors and organized, ongoing social media communication, the AGC brings forth awareness to the importance of philanthropy in leadership. To date, Scholar donations total approximately \$1,750 and continue to climb. Stay tuned for updates as our Scholars "pay it forward" in efforts to cultivate the healthcare leaders of the future.

For more information about the BHLI,  
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