

# University of Scranton

## NEWS

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCRANTON--University of Scranton students have formed the African-American Society to foster an awareness of African-American culture and provide more social opportunities for students, especially those of African-American heritage. As one of its initial projects, the group is participating in the University's observance of February as Black History Month.

In conjunction with the University Lecture Series, the society is co-sponsoring a lecture by Juan Williams on Feb. 28. The lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Houlihan-McLean Center and is open to the public at no charge.

Williams is a political reporter for the "Washington Post," a commentator for PBS MacNeil-Lehrer Report and the author of the highly acclaimed history of the civil rights movement, "Eyes On The Prize."

Since December, the African-American Society has been presenting pertinent movies followed by discussions. The movie series continues this month with "Do the Right Thing" on Thursday (Feb. 15) at 9 p.m. in Eagen Auditorium. A teleconference titled "Beyond the Dream II" will be aired on Tuesday (Feb. 20) at 11:30 a.m. in the Archives, Gunster Memorial Student Center. Both events are open to the public; admission is free.

Other activities planned for Black History Month include displays of Black literature in the Alumni Memorial Library and the University Bookstore.

The African-American Society will work in conjunction with various University departments and organizations to establish an element of African-American culture on campus. Its goals are to make literature and cultural activities that pertain to African-American ethnicity available to students, and to work with the Admissions Office to actively help recruit minorities to the University, according to senior Joyce C. Corbin, president.

"In this time, when larger numbers of African-Americans are not seeking higher education, for various reasons, it is imperative that the ones that do, get the best education possible," Corbin said. "Many African-Americans are lacking the funding to seek higher education as well

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as guidance in choosing which institutions would benefit them the most. In forming this group we hope that those African-Americans who do choose institutions of higher learning, such as the University, will find some form of support from the institutions, as well as the community.

"If America is to compete in the world today, it must use all of its talents, whether they come from a Caucasian, Indian or African-American heritage."

"We hope that through our workings, students here at the University will see America in a different light," she added.

The society's remaining officers are senior Mark Rowser, vice president, and freshman John Garrett, secretary/treasurer.

Lee J. Williames, Ph.D., assistant provost, serves as the moderator of the new group.

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