

**DONOR  
PROSPECTUS**



**DR. MICHELLE B.  
RELEFORD**  
STUDENT SUCCESS FUND

## ABOUT | DR. MICHELLE B. RELEFORD



**THE LATE DR. MICHELLE B. RELEFORD** served with more than 25 years experience on college campuses with responsibility for a variety of areas including student development, enrollment management and student services. She served as vice president for student development and enrollment management at Pasco-Hernando Community College in New Port Richey, Florida; vice president for student services at Atlanta Technical College and Edison College in Fort Myers, Florida; and dean of student services and enrollment management, dean of enrollment management and associate academic dean at Livingstone College in Salisbury, N.C. At the time of her transition, Dr. Releford served Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) as Dean of University College and Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs. During her time at WSSU, Michelle developed several programs to ensure the personal and professional development of the students she served.

Most notably, Dr. Releford is noted for enhancing and expanding the first-year orientation week known as "Ramdition." As a part of Ramdition, Dr. Releford also instituted the "Through the Archway," a rites of passage ceremony, culminating the orientation experience and officially welcoming students to the university community - this program continues today. Since 2009, each first-year student that participates in Ramdition has had the opportunity to walk through cobblestone archways, marking their transition from "lamb" to "rams." Dr. Releford is to credit for the rites of passage ceremony and for many other programs and initiatives created to assist students in their academic, professional, and personal development. In addition to her career as a higher education administrator, Michelle also owned Insightful Concepts, an independent educational consulting firm.

Dr. Michelle Bernita Releford was born on June 27, 1955 to Dr. Charles C. and the late Edna Price Releford in Atlanta, Georgia. She attended Griffin County Public Schools and ultimately graduated from Griffin High School in 1972. She earned her undergraduate degree in English from Albany State College in Albany, Georgia, her masters' degree in instructional technology from Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi, and her doctoral degree in educational administration and supervision from the University of Tennessee. She was a charter member of the Community College Advisory Task Force for The College Board and involved with a several national organizations involved in higher education. An asset to her community, she was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and the Links (Winston Salem Chapter).

Dr. Releford departed this life on November 8, 2011 at the age of 56.

# MICHELLE B. RELEFORD

## STUDENT SUCCESS FUND

Dr. Releford was a champion for students. In her role, she tirelessly worked to adequately equip students with the necessary tools to exceed academically, professionally, and personally. Whether through Ramdition, the WSSU Student Leadership Conference, unique student cohorts, or simple conversations of encouragement, Dr. Releford's main concern was ensuring the success of students at the university and beyond.

Established by former students of Michelle, as a thank-you for her impact and service, the student success fund seeks to continue her legacy by ensuring that opportunities for student success remain.

**THE MICHELLE B. RELEFORD (MBR) STUDENT SUCCESS FUND**, will provide financial support to students in the areas of professional development and academic enrichment. Through this fund, students can apply to receive partial or full scholarship assistance to cover attendance, travel, and registration costs associated with professional/academic conferences/workshops/seminars. Additionally, students may also apply to the fund for assistance in alleviating financial obligations for study abroad.

At the current moment, a fund in this likeness does not exist at the university. Supporting the establishment of this effort will provide countless students with the tools and resources needed to learn expansively and depart from Winston-Salem State University and serve their communities well. **OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE \$150,000.** Through a one-time or recurring gift, we are confident that the contributions made today will have a lasting impact on the lives of students tomorrow. Supporting this fund not only helps the professional and academic preparedness of our students, but your contributions help to continue the legacy and work of Dr. Michelle Bernita Releford.

Please consider a one-time or recurring gift in honor of Dr. Releford.

### WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE



PHONE



MAIL



Dr. Releford pictured with WSSU student leaders following the 2010 Ram Leadership Conference.

**DR. MICHELLE B.  
RELEFORD**  
STUDENT SUCCESS FUND



A CONTRIBUTION MADE  
**TODAY**  
IS A DIFFERENCE MADE  
**TOMORROW.**



PHONE NUMBER • EMAIL • WEBSITE INFORMATION