

NATIONAL OFFICERS 2011/2012

THE NEW NEO

The elected and appointed officials on the National Executive Board (NEB) are the top policy makers and administrators of the National Society of Black Engineers. These college students and young professionals, headed by the national executive officers, or NEO, are empowered by the Society's tens of thousands of members to use their talent, creativity and energy toward fulfillment of NSBE's mission.



National Chair

Calvin Phelps, 23, is a master's degree student in mechanical engineering at Cornell University. A member of NSBE since high school, he is now serving his second consecutive term as the Society's top-ranking officer. Phelps has melded his service with an outstanding academic record. Among his many academic achievements, he is a former Gates Millennium Scholar and NSBE Golden Torch Award Scholarship Recipient, and was the GEM Fellow of the Year for 2010. He graduated from North Carolina State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in aerospace engineering in May 2009 with a 3.63 GPA. "My goal is for NSBE to be *the* organization young, black students join to ensure their success in engineering," Phelps says.



National Vice Chair

Kari L. Jordan, 28, received her bachelor's and master's degrees in mechanical engineering at Michigan Technological University and is now a doctoral student in engineering education at The Ohio State University. She is a former GEM Doctoral Fellow, King-Chavez-Parks Future Faculty Fellow and recipient of a doctoral scholarship grant from the National Science Foundation. Ms. Jordan previously served on NSBE's National Executive Board as 2009–10 national secretary and 2010–11 national academic excellence chair. She is sustained in her work by this passage from Scripture: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."



National Secretary

Brenda A. Nathan, 22, is a senior majoring in mechanical engineering at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. She has been a member of NSBE since 2006 and has held leadership positions in the Society each year — senator, external treasurer, chapter president and Region VI secretary — and is now serving a second consecutive term as NSBE's national secretary. She is responsible for the implementation of the new *eNews* processes and virtual chapter visits, and has great plans to use all communication outlets to make NSBE a household name around the world. "It is through effective communication that we can fully achieve the mission of NSBE," she says.



National Treasurer

Sade Ruffin, 26, is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Polytechnic Institute of New York University. In her current position with NSBE, she is responsible for the development and financial maintenance of the \$8-million international operating budget, oversight of investments, chairing of the Convention Planning Committee Taskforce, service on the Administrative and Personnel Committee and other duties critical to the organization. Ruffin says she has learned an important truth during her six years of service as a NSBE leader: "When you do the right things for the right reasons, success is inevitable."



National Programs Chair

Matthew E. McFarland, 22, is a master's degree student in systems engineering at the University of Virginia. He comes from a family of engineers and enjoyed participating in several math and science summer camps as a child. These experiences increased his interest in engineering and math, leading him to pursue a major in mechanical engineering at North Carolina State University. As a freshman, he immediately took on NSBE leadership as chapter programs chair and later served as chapter president, Region II programs chair and Region II chair. He believes that nothing is impossible and that "those who say it can't be done should get out of the way of those doing it."

THE NEW NEB



National Parliamentarian
PAUL P. NGUYEN
 Industrial Engineering Major
 Louisiana State University



National Alumni Extension Chair
STRAUDER C. PATTON IV, P.E.
 Project Engineer
 CH2M Hill



National Publications Chair
DANAE GRUBBS
 Computer Science Major
 North Carolina A&T State University



National Public Relations Chair
IVAN L. LAND JR.
 Computer Engineering Major
 Purdue University



National Communications Chair
MICHAEL WYATT
 Computer Science Major
 Missouri University of Science and Technology



National Finance Chair
RONALD E. STUBBLEFIELD
 Physics and Mathematics Major
 Morehouse College



National Assistant Treasurer – Financial Control
ONTÉ M. McCLEENDON
 Senior Engineer
 Merck & Co., Inc.



National Convention Planning Committee Chair
TAYLOR MITCHAM
 Electrical Engineering Major
 Penn State University



National Leadership Institute Chair
NJEMA J. FRAZIER, PH.D.
 Acting Director,
 International Programs
 Management Division
 National Nuclear Security Administration



National Business Diversity Chair
AYANNA BERRY
 Industrial Engineering and
 Management Science Major
 Northwestern University



National Academic Excellence Chair
JASMINE I. KEENE
 Materials Science Engineering Major
 University of Virginia



National Membership Chair
SOLEAKHENA HOLLOWAY
 Electrical Engineering
 Technology/Biochemistry Major
 Old Dominion University



International Committee Chair
RICHELLE THOMAS
 Chemical Engineering Major
 University of Texas at Austin



Region I Chair
PAUL RUSSELL
 Electrical and Computer
 Engineering Major
 Clarkson University



Region II Chair
SOSENENA WOOD
 Bioengineering Major
 University of Pittsburgh



Region III Chair
ISAIAH A. BROWN
 Applied Physics Major
 Morehouse College



Region IV Chair
SABRE M. EVANS
 Engineering Management Major
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology



Region V Chair
DARRON LAMKIN
 Industrial Engineering Major
 Oklahoma State University



Region VI Chair
BABATUNDE ONADELE JR.
 Civil Engineering Major
 San Jose State University

Not Pictured:
National Pre-College Initiative Chair
ELISHA CLAYTON
 Mechanical Engineering and Engineering & Public Policy Major
 Carnegie Mellon University