

Who are we?

St. Petersburg College's Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke Chapter is an official body of the National Council on Black American Affairs, an affiliate council of the American Association of Community Colleges. The chapter was founded in 1999, and received an NCBA Southern Region Charter in October 2000.

The JRC chapter is one of the largest college chapters in the Southern Region of the NCBA (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Tennessee and Virginia).

The chapter works to implement the mission and goals of the National Council on Black American Affairs, and to help St. Petersburg College achieve its goals, especially those related to student retention and success.

The JRC chapter is open to all St. Petersburg College employees who subscribe to the mission and goals of the NCBA. The highlight of the chapter's activities is the Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke scholars program.



Dr. Mac J. Williams Sr. Awards program.



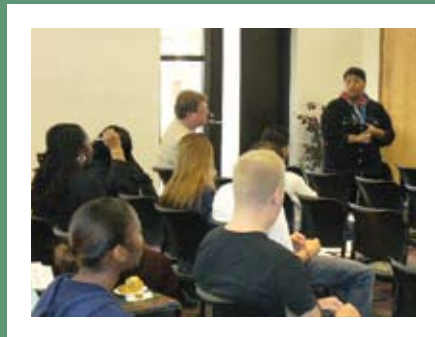
MLK Jr. parade.



Retirement brunch for Willie Felton, SPC's former vice president, Educational and Student Services.



Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke Chapter group members.



Tanya Rucker speaks to Johnnie Ruth Clarke scholarship students at a meeting hosted by the chapter.

Join us.

To become a member of the Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke Chapter of the National Council on Black American Affairs or for more information, call (727) 791-2550 or visit www.spcollege.edu/ncaa.



St. Petersburg College

SPC

Excellence in education since 1927

St. Petersburg College is dedicated to the concept of equal opportunity. The college will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or marital status, or against any qualified individual with disabilities, in its employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. Recognizing that sexual harassment constitutes discrimination on the basis of sex and violates this rule, the college will not tolerate such conduct. Should you experience such behavior, please contact the director of EA/EO at (727) 341-3261; by mail at P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3489; or by e-mail at eaao_director@spcollege.edu.

St. Petersburg College

Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke Chapter

of the National Council on Black American Affairs

American Association of Community Colleges



Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke Chapter of the NCBAA

What we do

The JRC chapter activities include:

- Participating in the annual Florida African-American Heritage Celebration in Largo.
- Marching in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. parade in St. Petersburg.
- Mentoring Johnnie Ruth Clarke scholarship students.
- Planning and participating in the annual Dr. Mac J. Williams Academic Excellence Awards program in February.
- Hosting informational meetings for Johnnie Ruth Clarke scholarship students.
- Planning and participating in a number of activities at the college in celebration of African-American History Month.

In 2004, the chapter hosted the 25th Anniversary NCBAA Southern Regional Conference.

About NCBAA

NCBAA serves as a collaborative voice designed to promote the academic and professional success of African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators.

■ GOALS

The role of NCBAA in higher education remains of significant importance, with the strategic goals to:

- Create a collegial environment that enhances the access and success of African-American students in community colleges.
- Strengthen relationships with policy development and funding sources to support creative initiatives for African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators.
- Expand leadership development and opportunities for African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators in community colleges.
- Promote an organizational culture that strengthens and supports the professional growth of faculty, staff and administrators.
- Enhance the knowledge, talents, abilities and skills of African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators to function effectively within the world of emerging information technology.

■ MISSION

NCBAA is committed to the following mission:

- Improving diversity and resultant educational opportunities and professional development for African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators.
- Developing collaborative relationships with educational, business, governmental and public service organizations with compatible goals.
- Networking to maximize the achievement of career goals for African-American students, faculty, staff and administrators.
- Articulating positions on issues affecting African Americans in the formulation of policy and decision-making.

■ VALUES

NCBAA acknowledges the worth of the individual and affirms its belief in the following widely shared values:

- Lifelong learning and development for all people.
- Collegial sharing of information and ideas.
- Access to higher education for all people; increased access for the underserved.
- Diversity of people, ideas and learning styles.
- Teaching excellence and innovation through intellectual, social, cultural and technological enrichment.
- Partnerships with federal, state and local entities that share similar missions, goals and objectives.
- Volunteerism for causes, objectives and purposes supportive of the aims of NCBAA.
- Recognition of excellence.
- Role modeling to enhance student achievement and teaching performance, as well as staff and administrative effectiveness.

Who is Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke?

Born in 1919, Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke grew up in the segregated South. Early on, she vowed she would be somebody, and went on to earn a bachelor's degree in Social Science from Florida A&M University in Tallahassee and a master's degree from Fisk University in Nashville, Tenn.

In 1966, she became the first African-American to receive a doctorate from the University of Florida's College of Education.

Clarke taught in the Pinellas County Public School System, as well as at Bethune-Cookman College and Florida A&M University. She served as dean of Gibbs Junior College in the 1950s, and as assistant dean of academic affairs at St. Petersburg Junior College in the 1960s. To honor her commitment to students and the community, St. Petersburg College established an academic scholarship in her name.

Clarke died in 1978 of rheumatic heart failure at 58. She is remembered as a humanitarian, educator, mentor, wife and mother.



Dr. Johnnie Ruth Clarke scholarship program.



African-American Heritage celebration.