

# Commanding the Brigade



**No Frills 2006**  
**SAACURH Evelyn Wallington Advisor of the Year Bid**  
**Ms. Lakeshia Jackson**  
**Georgia Southwestern State University**

## Making It Happen

Before you can advise anything, you must know what it is and how it operates. Keshia Jackson took over as RHA advisor, as well as advisor for other campus organizations and gave them all a new flavor.

### Commanding the Brigade?

bri-gade (brī-gād')

- n.* 1. A military unit consisting of a variable number of combat battalions or regiments.
- a. A U.S. Army administrative and tactical unit composed of a headquarters unit, at least one unit of infantry or armor or both, and designated support units. A brigade can be commanded by a brigadier general or by a colonel.
2. A group of persons organized for a specific purpose: *formed a bucket brigade to carry water to the fire.*

General Keshia Jackson has proven herself as an outstanding advisor and residence life leader over the past year. With an outstanding resume' in student life, she has been able to put her experiences to work in helping her students achieve their dreams. This is the story of a General and her dedication to her brigade, a true brigadier!



"There never was a time when, in my opinion, some way could not be found to prevent the drawing of the sword."

- General Ulysses S. Grant



## Taking on New Tasks

Though this was not the first time Lakeshia Jackson has been involved in the Department of Residence Life at Georgia Southwestern, in the Spring of 2005, she took on a new task as the Asst. Director of Residence Life. In this capacity she has:

- Served as RHA Advisor
- Served as the Conference Co-Advisor for GRHO 2005
- Served as the Advising Delegate to GRHOTH 2005, SAACURH 2005, NACURH 2005, and GRHO 2006
- Served as the Residence Life Coordinator
- Served as the Advisor of the Duncan RHC
- Supervised inventory control for administrative budget of \$5600
- Taught LEAD 2000 Class
- Taught the Resident Assistant curriculum portion of LEAD 1000 class
- Prepared all marketing material for the department
- Maintained accurate and up-to-date staff manual for the department
- Adjudicated disciplinary cases that occur in the upperclassmen residence halls and maintain records involving alcohol violations

As the Assistant Director of Residence Life, General Jackson has worked tirelessly on several task forces to ensure an improved quality of life in the residence halls. She has also served on the task force that makes decisions and recommendations for Georgia Southwestern's future housing project, apartment style suites, to open in the Fall of 2006.

In addition to these duties, General Jackson has overseen the Entire Residence Life RHA Budget and revamped the departmental bookkeeping. She has been responsible for the management of over \$12, 000.00.

"Veni, vidi, vici."  
 (I came, I saw, I conquered)  
 - Julius Caesar

## Unforeseen Obstacles



While helping to oversee the overall program of the Residence Life Department at Georgia Southwestern, General Jackson has made unforeseen mountains seem like molehills by finding ways to eradicate problems as they were presented:

- Seeing that RHA has had budget problems, she created separate RHA Fundraising and General Budget to cut down overall spending
- Developed a budget free substitution/appropriations plan allowing RHA to borrow "dead" funds and send more delegates to conferences.
- In order to cut travel costs for GSW's Residence Hall Association, General Jackson substituted funds, making it possible for GSW students to attend SAACURH on a charter bus with other students in the state.
- Directly supervise three residence halls with approximately 350 students, two hall directors and fourteen resident assistants. She has revamped the communication between residence hall leadership and served as a liaison between Residence Assistants and RHA.

As can be seen, with each of these obstacles, General Jackson has developed methods of not just making due. By promoting exceptional teamwork, she has led her students to success.

"Cowards die many times before their deaths;  
the valiant never taste death but once."

- William Shakespeare ("Julius Caesar")

## Going Beyond Measures

In addition to these successes, Ms. Jackson has also completed the following tasks since 2005:

- Helped prepare GRHO 2005 Closeout report
- Attended SAACURH 2005
- Attended GRHOTH 2005
- Advised first-ever hall-wide RHC Elections at GSW
- Helped with GSW Roll Call at GRHOTH 2005
- Attend G-HO Conference
- Attend SEAHO Conference
- Elected as G-HO Editor for Georgia Housing Officers

She has also participated in or helped to facilitate the following RHA/RHC programs:

- Halloween-O-Grams
- Trick-Or-Treat
- The DOME Party
- Superbowl 2006 Party
- AIDS Awareness Program
- RA Pie in the Face

For SAACURH 2005, General Jackson volunteered her time to help make the conference a memorable one for each delegate by:

- Oversaw Conference Registration and Travel Arrangements
- Developing a shirt that would fit the SAACURH theme
- Making iron-on t-shirts for each delegate
- Working with students on SAACURH Banner
- Participating in GRHO Roll Call with delegates

In matters of style swim with the current in matters of principle stand like a rock."

- Thomas Jefferson

## Overall General

In addition to advising RHA and performing at the Asst. Director of Residence Life, General Jackson's CAMPUS INVOLVEMENT/DEVELOPMENT and conference experience over the last year has been phenomenal:

**Georgia College Personnel Association (GCPA)**  
**Georgia College Personnel Association/ Georgia Housing Officers**  
**Georgia College Personnel Association (GCPA)**  
**Georgia Residence Hall Organization (GRHO)**  
**Georgia Resident Assistant Saturday Seminar (GRASS)**  
**Georgia Residence Hall Organization Together for Harmony (GRHOTH)**  
**National Association of College and University Residence Halls (NACURH)**  
**South Atlantic Association of College and University Residence Halls (SAACURH)**  
**South Eastern Association of Housing Officers (SEAHO)**  
**Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Task Force (ATOD)**  
**Residence Life Policies Task Force**  
**Foundations of Excellence Task Force (FYE)**  
**Seizing The Opportunity to Register and More (STORM)**  
**Campus Activities Board (CAB)**  
**National Association of Campus Activities (NACA)**  
**NASPA/SACSA New Professionals Institute 2005**  
**Co-Advised Campus Activities Board**

As the Co-Advisor to the Student Government Association, Ms. Jackson has:

- Developed a new budget portfolio to help with future executive transitions
- Advised Recent Homecoming Elections and Activities
- Served as liaison between students and Student Government
- Supported student-driven legislation

As the Co-Advisor to the Campus Activities Board, Ms. Jackson has:

- Assisted the Director of Student Activities with Special Projects
- Overseen the Organization's Homecoming Commitments
- Worked with Graduate Assistant in preparing S.T.O.R. M. Day

Keshia Jackson is not only a proven advisor for the year, she is an advocate of the students. She has a genuine love for her job and respect for the students, faculty, and staff she works. Georgia Southwestern has had a great year that would not have been possible without her!



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**Americus, GA 31709**  
**Phone: (229) 931-2375**

**February 4, 2006**

**Dear SAACURH Delegates,**

**It is such an honor to recommend Ms. Lakeshia Jackson for the Advisor of the Year award in our region. Ms. Jackson has served her residents with courage and made things happen for students in the residence halls at Georgia Southwestern. Keshia continues to bring to our program, the ingenuity and dedication it needs to thrive.**

**Ms. Jackson has helped RHA to send more delegates to state and regional conferences and also helped to prepare programs and events for residents. In addition, she helped to facilitate the first-ever All Area Hall Council Retreat. She has served as the advisor to Duncan RHC, Co-Advisor to RHA, and Co-Advisor to both Student Government and Campus Activities Board. Lakeshia Jackson epitomizes commitment in all she does by going beyond the call of duty. She is always there to listen to students' concerns and often mediates in situations to find the most suitable resolution.**

**Ms. Jackson volunteers her time and talents whenever this organization has needed her. She has often been one of the first to arrive for a program and one of the last to leave. She has been an example of dedication and motivation for each of us to follow and she has made a positive, lasting impression on students and faculty at Georgia Southwestern State University. It is without reservation that we strongly recommend her for this award.**

**Sincerely,**

**Andrew Worth**  
**President**  
**Residence Hall Association**

**Luz Figueroa**  
**National Communications Coordinator**  
**Residence Hall Association**