



# GENERAL CONFERENCE HISTORY

THROUGH 2021-22

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This history book was compiled by the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) strategic communications staff, with assistance from current and former member institutions' sports information directors. If there is an inaccuracy within these pages, or information that is missing, please feel free to contact the MEAC strategic communications staff (please provide documentation when doing so; the MEAC cannot count unverified information within its records).

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### **MEACHISTORY**

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) enters its 52nd year of intercollegiate competition with the 2022-23 academic school year. Located in Norfolk, Va., the MEAC is made up of eight outstanding historically black institutions across the Atlantic coastline: Coppin State University, Delaware State University, Howard University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University, North Carolina Central University and South Carolina State University.

The MEAC sponsors 14 Division I (FCS) sports: bowling, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, football, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's track & field, softball and volleyball. The MEAC receives automatic NCAA qualification bids in seven sports – men's and women's basketball, women's bowling, men's and women's tennis, softball and volleyball. The MEAC's football champion is pitted against the champion of the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) in the Cricket Celebration Bowl, which debuted in December 2015.

MEAC student-athletes excel on and off the field, and several have been recognized on ESPN the Magazine/CoSIDA Academic All-America and All-District teams. The conference sponsors All-Academic teams in each of its sports and awards two post-graduate scholarships of \$5,000 each annually to one male and one female student-athlete who have excelled academically and athletically and are in their final season of intercollegiate athletics eligibility and competition under MEAC and NCAA regulations.

#### HISTORY

In 1969, a bold ad hoc group of innovators long associated with intercollegiate athletics met in Durham, N.C. to discuss the feasibility of organizing a new conference. From these discussions, they formed a steering and planning committee to fully investigate the idea, presented a detailed report with recommendations to interested collegiate institutions, and constructed a workshop to outline proposals.

After selecting a proposal and adopting a program, seven institutions (Delaware State College, Howard University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Morgan State University, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University and South Carolina State College) agreed to become the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. Their major objective was to establish, organize and supervise an intercollegiate athletic program among a compact group of education institutions of high academic standards with a sound philosophy of co-curricular activities. The conference agreed to seek Division I status for its sports.

The conference was confirmed in 1970, kicking off its first season of competition in football in 1971.

In 1978, the MEAC reached a milestone when it selected Kenneth A. Free to be its first full-time commissioner. Free served the conference for 18 years before stepping down in May 1996. In July 1996, Charles S. Harris was named commissioner, and he served in that capacity until April 2002. On Sept. 1, 2002, Dr. Dennis E. Thomas was named commissioner and served in the position for 20 years. On Jan. 1, 2022, Sonja Stills took over as commissioner, becoming the first woman to hold the position (and the first female commissioner of a Div. I HBCU conference).

The conference's first expansion occurred in October 1979, when Bethune-Cookman College and Florida A&M University were voted into the MEAC as new members. Original members Morgan State, North Carolina Central and Maryland Eastern Shore withdrew from the conference at the end of the 1979-80 fiscal year; Maryland Eastern Shore was readmitted in 1981 and Morgan State returned in 1984. Florida A&M opted to resign in 1984, but rejoined the conference in 1986. Coppin State College was granted admittance in 1985, becoming the ninth member institution.

The MEAC expanded again in the 1990s with the inclusion of Hampton University (1995) and Norfolk State University (1997). The conference grew once again in 2007, adding Winston-Salem State University. Winston-Salem State, a MEAC provisional member, did not meet the qualifications for Division I and withdrew from the conference following the 2009-10 academic and athletic season.

On July 1, 2010, the MEAC made its most recent expansion with the admittance of North Carolina Central and Savannah State University. On Sept. 10, 2014, the MEAC admitted Augusta University (formerly Georgia Regents University) as an associate member for men's golf. In June 2018, the MEAC added Alabama Birmingham (UAB) and Monmouth as associate members for women's bowling, effective for the 2018-19 academic year.

As of July 1, 2018, Hampton was no longer a member of the MEAC. Savannah State followed suit one year later, opting to return to the Div. II ranks.

As of July 1, 2021, Bethune-Cookman, Florida A&M and North Carolina A&T State are no longer members of the MEAC, though North Carolina A&T State does hold associate membership with the conference for the sport of women's bowling.

Augusta University, associate member for men's golf, also left the conference as of July 1, 2021.

On June 8, 1980, the MEAC was classified as a Division I conference by the NCAA; prior to that year, the conference had operated on the Division II level. The month after achieving Div. I status, the MEAC received automatic qualification to the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship. Currently, the conference has automatic qualifying bids for NCAA postseason play in baseball (since 1994), men's basketball (since 1981), women's basketball (since 1982), men's golf (since 2014), softball (since 1995), men's and women's tennis (since 1998), volleyball (since 1994) and women's bowling (since 2018).

The MEAC declares champions in eight men's sports – baseball, basketball, cross country, football, golf, indoor track & field, outdoor track & field and tennis – and eight women's sports – basketball, bowling, cross country, indoor track & field, outdoor track & field, softball, tennis and volleyball.

The MEAC initiated cross country in 1980, and North Carolina A&T State earned the inaugural men's crown. The first women's cross country champi-

### **MEACHISTORY**

onship took place a year later, with Howard winning the first of its seven titles. Indoor track & field was also added in 1981, with South Carolina State winning the men's title and Howard taking the women's crown.

Tennis returned as MEAC-sponsored sports in 1981 after a five-year hiatus. South Carolina State won all seven of the conference's golf champion-ships from 1972-83 before the sport was discontinued following the 1983 championship.

In wrestling, Morgan State won 13 of 24 conference championships before the sport was discontinued in 1995.

Baseball, which began in 1972, was discontinued following the 1977 season. It was brought back as a MEAC-governed sport, along with the addition of women's volleyball, in 1983. Women's softball became a MEAC-sanctioned sport in 1992.

Bowling was officially sanctioned as a MEAC sport in 1999. The MEAC was the first conference to secure NCAA sanctioning for women's bowling by adopting the club sport prior to the 1996-97 school year.

Men's golf returned as a MEAC-sponsored sport in 2014, with six teams participating in the conference championship. Bethune-Cookman was crowned the 2014 champion; the Wildcats also won the 2014 PGA Minority Collegiate Championship. Associate member Augusta University earned its first MEAC golf title in 2015, the institution's first year of conference competition, before repeating in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. Howard claimed the 2022 MEAC championship in just its second year sponsoring the sport following a donation by the NBA's Steph Curry to fund both the men's golf programs for a six-year period beginning in 2020-21. The Bison also claimed the 2022 PGA Works title, while Gregory Odom, Jr. was the 2022 individual champion at the MEAC and PGA Works Championships.

In July 2022, four MEAC baseball teams (Coppin State, Delaware State, Maryland Eastern Shore and Norfolk State) and three men's golf programs (Howard, Maryland Eastern Shore and North Carolina Central) temporarily joined the Northeast Conference as associate members. The schools will retain primary membership in the MEAC and begin competing in the NEC in the 2022-23 academic year.

### SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

The MEAC has enjoyed tremendous athletic success over the years. In 2008, Maryland Eastern Shore defeated Arkansas State 4-2 to win the NCAA Women's Bowling National Championship, a first for both the conference and the institution. With the victory, Lady Hawks head coach Sharon Brummell became the first female head coach to win an NCAA bowling title. The Lady Hawks repeated the feat in 2011, winning the school's second NCAA bowling title; during that same season, Maryland Eastern Shore won the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Intercollegiate Team Championship (ITC), becoming the first team to win two national championships in the same year.

In 2012, Maryland Eastern Shore captured its third NCAA bowling championship in five years with a 4-2 win over Fairleigh Dickinson. The Lady Hawks became the second team in NCAA bowling history to win three championships and the first to make four appearances in the championship finale.

In men's basketball, Maryland Eastern Shore became the first historically black college/university (HBCU) to participate in the National Invitational Tournament (NIT), doing so in 1974. The Hawks defeated Manhattan 84-81 in the first round before falling to Jacksonville in the second round. Before the Jacksonville loss, the Hawks had the nation's best record at 27-1. That same year, Morgan State won the NCAA College Division II National Championship and junior center Marvin "The Human Eraser" Webster was named the Division II Player of the Year.

Howard became the first MEAC school to play in the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championships in 1981, taking on Wyoming in the first round.

Coppin State, Hampton and Norfolk State have each made history in the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament with first-round victories. Coppin State, the No. 15 seed, defeated No. 2 seed South Carolina in 1997, before Hampton repeated the No. 15-over-No. 2 upset feat in 2001 against lowa State. Both victories have been ranked among ESPN SportsCenter's top 10 greatest tournament upsets. In 2012, Norfolk State became the fifth team in NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament history (and the third MEAC team) to upset a No. 2 seed; the Spartans upended Missouri in the round of 64 that year.

Of the eight instances in which a No. 15 seed has defeated a No. 2 seed in the NCAA Tournament, the MEAC boasts three of them.

Norfolk State shined on the national postseason stage again in 2019; after the Spartans won the men's basketball regular-season title, they earned an automatic bid to the NIT – where, as a No. 8 seed, they upset top seed Alabama on the Crimson Tide's home floor, 80-79 in overtime. Norfolk State became the fourth MEAC school to win an NIT game (UMES 1974, Coppin State 1995, Delaware State 2006).

In women's basketball, South Carolina State won the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) Division II National Championship in 1979. In 1982, Howard became the first MEAC school to play in the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament. In 1983, South Carolina State won the MEAC's automatic NCAA bid and became the first conference team, male or female, to win an opening-round game in the NCAA Division I Basketball Tournament.

In 2010, North Carolina A&T State defeated Wake Forest and Charlotte before falling to Miami in the third round of the Women's National Invitational Tournament (WNIT). The Lady Aggies became the first MEAC team – and first HBCU – to win two consecutive basketball games in a national post-season tournament.

### **MEACHISTORY**

In football, the MEAC was instrumental in constructing the Celebration Bowl, the Freedom Bowl All-Star Classic, the Heritage Bowl and the Gold Bowl. Prior to Division I competition, the MEAC competed in the Gold Bowl, held in Richmond, Va., which matched the MEAC champion against the champion of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA). South Carolina State represented the MEAC in 1976 and 1979, winning both outings over Winston-Salem State and Norfolk State, respectively. In addition to the 1976 and 1979 crowns, South Carolina State won MEAC football titles in 1974-78, 1980-83, 1994, 2004, 2008, 2009. The Bulldogs were also named co-champions along with Bethune-Cookman and Florida A&M in 2010, before sharing the 2013 title with Bethune-Cookman, the 2014 title with four other teams and the 2019 title with North Carolina A&T State. During the 1981 and 1982 seasons, South Carolina State reached the second round of the NCAA Div. I-AA championships.

In 2015, the MEAC combined with the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) for the Celebration Bowl in Atlanta, Ga. North Carolina A&T State defeated Alcorn State in the inaugural Celebration Bowl to determine the Black College National Champion in a game pitting the MEAC and SWAC champions. North Carolina Central represented the MEAC in the 2016 Celebration Bowl, taking on Grambling State.

North Carolina A&T State returned to the Celebration Bowl in 2017, defeating Grambling State 21-14 to complete the first undefeated season in MEAC history and claim the Aggies' second Black College National Championship in three years. North Carolina A&T State repeated in 2018, defeating Alcorn State 24-22. NCAT defeated Alcorn State again in 2019 for the Aggies' fourth Celebration Bowl win in the game's five years of existence.

Following South Carolina State's 31-10 win over Jackson State in 2021, the MEAC is 5-1 all-time in the Celebration Bowl.

The MEAC also has a strong presence in the National Football League (NFL), both throughout the league's history and today. For the start of the 2020 season, there were 12 former MEAC players on active NFL rosters – highlighted by North Carolina A&T State's Tarik Cohen and South Carolina State's Darius Leonard.

Leonard, a two-time MEAC Defensive Player of the Year, was taken in the second round of the 2018 NFL Draft by the Indianapolis Colts; that same season, he was named the NFL's Defensive Rookie of the Year after leading the league in total tackles. He was also named First Team All-Pro that season, and in 2019, Leonard was named to the Pro Bowl.

Cohen, who was named an FCS All-American and was a three-time MEAC Offensive Player of the Year, went in the fourth round of the NFL Draft to the Chicago Bears in 2017. He was named to the Pro Bowl in his second season in the league in 2018.

In 2003, Florida A&M became the first MEAC school to win a volleyball match in the NCAA Championships with a first-round victory over Winthrop. In 2004, the Lady Rattlers became the first HBCU to rank in the Top 25 of the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) national poll, coming in at No. 22.

In outdoor track & field, the North Carolina Central men won the first three MEAC titles. In addition, the quartet of Melvin Bassett, Robert Ouko, Julius Sang and Larry Black set the world record in the sprint medley relay with a time of 38.19 in the 1972 Olympics. In addition, the Eagles finished fourth in the 1974 NCAA Division I Men's Outdoor Track & Field Championship. Women began outdoor track & field competition in the MEAC in 1980 – and in 1982, South Carolina State won the AIAW Division II Outdoor Track & Field National Championship.

In 2021, North Carolina A&T State became the first HBCU to finish in the top three of the team standings at the NCAA Div. I Outdoor Track & Field Championships, finishing third in the men's team standings. The Aggies won two national titles at the meet, with Randolph Ross winning the 400 meters and the 4x400-meter relay team winning gold (to go along with the gold medal they won earlier that year in the NCAA indoor meet). On the women's side, Cambrea Sturgis gave the MEAC two more national titles, winning NCAA crowns in the 100 and 200 meters.

The MEAC has showcased over 35 athletes in the Olympics over the years, and 13 of them have earned medals during the Summer Games.

At No. 72, South Carolina State became the first MEAC women's tennis team to finish the season ranked in the 2005 Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Division I final poll. In 2012, South Carolina State's Maria Craciun became the first tennis player in school and MEAC history to receive a berth to the NCAA Individual Singles Championship.

In Augusta's seven seasons as an associate member for men's golf, the Jaguars won the conference championship in five of those years. In 2018, Augusta not only won the MEAC title and made it to the NCAA Men's Golf Championship, but senior Broc Everett wrapped up his collegiate career by winning the NCAA individual national championship, defeating Auburn's Brandon Mancheno in a playoff.

In softball, Bethune-Cookman earned the MEAC's first-ever at-large bid to the NCAA Softball Championship in 2005. The Lady Wildcats defeated Florida, Central Florida and South Florida in the Florida Regional to become the first MEAC program to win an NCAA Division I Softball Regional. Bethune-Cookman ended the 2005 season with the conference's first-ever national ranking, reaching No. 18 in the season's final NFCA/USA Today Coaches poll and No. 23 in the USA Softball/ESPN.com poll.

Florida A&M was the first MEAC baseball team to advance to NCAA postseason play in 1994. The Rattlers took on Southeastern Louisiana in a best-of-three play-in series, falling 11-10 and 8-7 in two games. During the 2002 season, Bethune-Cookman advanced to the Gainesville Regional and became the first MEAC team to win a game in the NCAA Tournament with a 7-4 victory over Florida International. In 2017, the Wildcats became the first MEAC school to advance to a regional final, winning three games in the Gainesville Regional – including a 6-2 win over national No. 3 seed Florida.

### **MEACHISTORY**

### **MEAC COMMISSIONERS**

 Ms. Sonja O. Stills
 2022-present

 Dr. Dennis E. Thomas
 2002-21

 Mr. Charles S. Harris
 1996-2002

 Mr. Kenneth A. Free\*
 1978-96

 Dr. James Young (part-time)
 1975-78

 Mr. Earl Mason (part-time)
 1974-75

 Dr. Leroy Walker (part-time)
 1971-74

(\*) first full-time Commissioner

### **CONFERENCE TENURE**

Augusta^2015-21Alabama Birmingham#2018-presentBethune-Cookman1979-2021Coppin State1985-presentDelaware State1970-present

Florida A&M 1979-1984, 1986-2021

Hampton 1995-2018 Howard 1970-present

Maryland Eastern Shore 1970-1979, 1981-present

Monmouth# 2018-present

Morgan State 1970-1979, 1984-present

Norfolk State 1997-present

North Carolina A&T State# 1970-2021, 2021-present North Carolina Central 1970-1979, 2010-present

Savannah State 2010-2019 South Carolina State 1970-present Winston-Salem State 2007-2010

#associate member for women's bowling ^associate member for men's golf

### **MEACHISTORY**

### FIRST CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDED BY SPORT

<b>Sport</b> Football	Year of First Championship 1971	First Champion Morgan State
Baseball	1972*	Howard
Men's Basketball	1972	North Carolina A&T
Men's Golf	1972**	South Carolina State
Men's Outdoor Track & Field	1972	North Carolina Central
Men's Tennis	1972***	North Carolina Central
Women's Basketball	1978	South Carolina State
Men's Cross Country	1980	North Carolina A&T
Women's Outdoor Track & Field	1980	Howard
Women's Cross Country	1981	Howard
Men's Indoor Track & Field	1981	South Carolina State
Women's Indoor Track & Field	1981	Howard
Volleyball	1984	Howard
Women's Tennis	1986	South Carolina State
Wrestling	1972****	Howard
Softball	1993	Florida A&M
Bowling	2000	North Carolina A&T

<sup>\*</sup>sport discontinued following 1977 championship; reinstated in 1984

<sup>\*\*</sup> sport discontinued following 1983 championship; reinstated in 2014

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> sport discontinued following 1975 championship; reinstated in 1981

<sup>\*\*\*\*</sup>sport discontinued following 1995 championship

### **ALL-SPORTS AWARDS**

### TALMADGE LAYMAN HILL MEN'S ALL-SPORTS AWARD

Each year, the MEAC awards the top men's athletic program in the conference with an all-sports trophy named in honor of Talmadge Hill. The award is indicative of the overall strength and success of an institution's athletic program. Norfolk State (2001, 2005-13, 2017, 2022) has won a MEAC-best 12 Talmadge Hill Awards. Winners receive a \$20,000 check from the conference office.

The late Talmadge Layman Hill's athletic prowess – both as a player and longtime coach at Morgan State – sprinkles up and down the eastern seaboard. However, he may be best remembered for the efforts he made in organizing the MEAC as Chairman of the Steering and Planning Committee, as well as serving as the conference's first president.

Hill, who played college football and basketball, completed his playing days at Morgan State in 1928. From 1930 to 1963, he served his alma mater as assistant football coach, while doubling as head basketball coach from 1947-60. He was also a member of the Morgan State faculty.

The East Orange, N.J. native received his Master's degree from Columbia and retired in 1972 as both professor of Health and Physical Education and Director of Health Services. Hill was inducted into the MEAC Hall of Fame in 1981 as part of the inaugural class.

Year	School	1985	Delaware State
2022	Norfolk State	1984	South Carolina State
2021	North Carolina A&T State	1983	South Carolina State
2020	No winner awarded	1982	South Carolina State
2019	North Carolina A&T State	1981	South Carolina State
2018	Bethune-Cookman	1980	South Carolina State
2017	Norfolk State	1979	South Carolina State
2016	Bethune-Cookman	1978	South Carolina State
2015	Bethune-Cookman	1977	South Carolina State
2014	Bethune-Cookman	1976	South Carolina State
2013	Norfolk State	1975	South Carolina State
2012	Norfolk State	1974	South Carolina State
2011	Norfolk State	1973	Morgan State
2010	Norfolk State	1972	Howard
2009	Norfolk State		
2008	Norfolk State	*rescinded by the MEAC for violat	ions
2007	Norfolk State		
2006	Norfolk State		
2005	Norfolk State	MEN'S ALL-SPOR	TS AWARDS BY SCHOOL
2004	Hampton	Norfolk State 12	
2003	Hampton	South Carolina State 11	
2002	Florida A&M*	Florida A&M 7#	(does not include rescinded titles)
2001	Norfolk State	Bethune-Cookman 4	
2000	Florida A&M*	North Carolina A&T State 4	
1999	Hampton	Delaware State 3	
1998	Florida A&M*	Hampton 3 Howard 3	
1997	Florida A&M	Morgan State 1	
1996	North Carolina A&T State	Worgan State	
1995	Florida A&M	NOTE: No winner was named for	2019-20 due to winter championships
	North Carolina A&T State	and spring sports being canceled	due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
1994	Florida A&M		
1993	Florida A&M		
1992	Florida A&M		
1991	Florida A&M		
1990	Delaware State		
1989	Florida A&M		
1988	Howard		
1987	Howard		
1986	Delaware State		

### **ALL-SPORTS AWARDS**

### MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE WOMEN'S ALL-SPORTS AWARD

The Mary McLeod Bethune ward, named after the founder of Bethune-Cookman University, awards the top overall women's athletic program over the course of one full academic year. The first Mary McLeod Bethune Award was given to Delaware State in 1987. Hampton leads all MEAC schools with 14 such awards from 2002-15. Winners receive a \$20,000 check from the conference office.

The late Mary McLeod Bethune supported athletics as enthusiastically as she supported academics. She formed a girl's basketball team for the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute for Negro Girls, a school founded in 1904. Following that school's merger with Cookman Institute, Bethune approved the baseball, men's basketball, and football teams, even leading the cheers from the sidelines during competition.

The world-renowned Bethune was a native of Mayesville, S.C. and earned degrees from Scotia Seminary in Concord, N.C., and Moddy Bible Institute of Chicago, III. Her crusade for education and human rights took her all over the world, and she served on national commissions under U.S. Presidents Calvin Coolidge and Herbert Hoover. She received countless honorary degrees, medals, and decorations throughout her illustrious career.

Year	School
2022	Howard
2021	North Carolina A&T State
2020	No winner awarded
2019	North Carolina A&T State
2018	North Carolina A&T State
2017	Florida A&M
2016	Bethune-Cookman
	Florida A&M
2015	Hampton
2014	Hampton
2013	Hampton
2012	Hampton
2011	Hampton
2010	Hampton
2009	Hampton
2008	Hampton
2007	Hampton
2006	Hampton
2005	Hampton
2004	Hampton
2003	Hampton
2002	Hampton
2001	Florida A&M*
2000	Florida A&M*
1999	Florida A&M*
1998	Florida A&M*
1997	Florida A&M
1996	Florida A&M
1995	Florida A&M
1994	Florida A&M
1993	Florida A&M
1992	Howard
1991	South Carolina State
1990	Howard
1989	Howard
1988	Howard
1987	Delaware State

### **WOMEN'S ALL-SPORTS TITLES BY SCHOOL**

Hampton	14
Florida A&M	7# (does not include vacated titles)
Howard	5
North Carolina A&T State	3
Bethune-Cookman	1
Delaware State	1
South Carolina State	1

**NOTE:** No winner was named for 2019-20 due to winter championships and spring sports being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

<sup>\*</sup>rescinded by the MEAC for violations

### OTHER AWARDS

### **GRADUATION SUCCESS RATE**

ring into those schools, according to the NCAA. The rate was creat-conference. ed to reflect mobility of college students in graduation data. Honorees receive a check for \$25,000 from the conference.

Year	School
2022	Coppin State
2021	Delaware State
	North Carolina Central
2020	South Carolina State
2019	Howard
2018	Delaware State
2017	Maryland Eastern Shore
2016	Maryland Eastern Shore
2015	Maryland Eastern Shore
2014	Maryland Eastern Shore
2013	Maryland Eastern Shore
2012	Maryland Eastern Shore
2011	Maryland Eastern Shore
2010	Maryland Eastern Shore

### **ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE RATE**

Each year, the MEAC recognizes the member institution that posts Starting in 2018, the MEAC annually recognizes the member inthe highest Graduation Success Rate (GSR). The GSR measures stitution with the highest Academic Performance Rate (APR) for graduation rates at Division I institutions as well as those transfer- the academic year. Honorees receive a check for \$10,000 from the

Year	School
2022	North Carolina Central
2021	North Carolina A&T State
2020	North Carolina A&T State
2019	North Carolina A&T State
2018	Bethune-Cookman

### MALE STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

### 2022 MALE STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR: Kobe-Jordan Rhooms, Morgan State



The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) has named Kobe-Jordan rhooms from Morgan State University as the 2022 Male Student-Athlete of the Year.

This marks the third straight year in which the award has gone to a student-athlete from Morgan State.

A captain of the Bears track & field squad, Rhooms was the Outstanding Field Performer in the MEAC Indoor Track & Field Championships this

past February after finishing second in the high jump (to earn Second Team All-MEAC honors) and third in both the long jump and triple jump, named Third Team All-MEAC in both events.

In this past outdoor season, Rhooms won the MEAC title in the triple jump, while finishing second in the high jump. The Montego Bay, Jamaica, native also competed in the triple jump at the NCAA East Preliminary

A May 2021 graduate of Morgan State with a degree in biology, Rhooms was a familiar presence on both the Deans's List and the AD's Honor Roll. He was a member of Morgan State's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC), where he served as president this past academic year, as well as the Academic Enrichment Program and Caribbean Students Association.

Rhooms, who has also been named to the MEAC Commissioner's All-Academic Team three times, is currently pursuing a graduate degree in public health. His eventual goal is to attend medical school, and he also wants to use grad school as an opportunity to take the MCAT.

In addition, Rhooms works on Morgan State's campus as a servant leader with the Office of Residence Life and Housing as an academic enrichment staff – working directly with students to help them achieve academic success.

For his exploits on and off the track, Rhooms was named Morgan State's Student-Athlete of the Year.

### ALL-TIME MALE STUDENT-ATHLETE OF THE YEAR HONOREES

The MEAC has awarded the Male Student-Athlete of the Year award annually since 2012.

Year	Name, School (Sport)
2022	Kobe-Jordan Rhooms, Morgan State (Track & Field)
2021	Troy Baxter, Jr., Morgan State (Basketball)
2020	lan McBorrough, Morgan State (Football)
2019	Julius Reynolds, North Carolina A&T (Football)
2018	Isaiah Chambers, Maryland E. Shore (Baseball)
2017	Khalil Rmidi Kinini, Maryland E. Shore (Track & Field)
2016	Reginald Johnson, Jr., Hampton (Basketball)
2015	Ishaq Pitt, Maryland E. Shore (Basketball)
2014	Nesly Marcellon, Bethune-Cookman (Football)
2013	Joseph Hutchinson, North Carolina Central (Football)
2012	Jared Baldwin, North Carolina A&T (Track & Field)

### WOMAN OF THE YEAR

### 2022 WOMAN OF THE YEAR: CATHRYN LANE, COPPIN STATE



The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) has named Cathryn Lane from Coppin State University as the 2022 Woman of the Year.

The 2021-22 campaign saw Lane earn All-Region honors with the 4x400-meter relay team, which competed in the NCAA East Preliminary and ran a season-best 3:38.73. She also earned Second Team All-MEAC honors this past season in the outdoor 4x100-meter relay and the indoor 4x400-meter relay – and

during the MEAC Indoor Championships, she set personal bests in the 200 and 400 meters.

Lane helped the Eagles win gold in the 4x400-meter relay this past April in the Norfolk State Invitational, running a 3:39.00 (which was a season best prior to the NCAA East Preliminary race). In February 2020, Lane earned Third Team All-MEAC honors in the indoor 4x400-meter relay.

A native of Baltimore, Md., Lane earned a Bachelor of Science degree, graduating with a 3.59 GPA. In 2019, she was a member of the Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, and she was a member of the Chi Alpha Sigma honor society in 2020. 2021 saw Lane named a Featherstone Scholar with the William and Lanea Foundation.

A three-time MEAC Commissioner's All-Academic Team honoree, Lane was a member of the National League for Nursing Leadership in 2021-22, and 2022 also saw her named a Mercy Hospital Alumnae Scholar by the Nursing Foundation of Maryland and the Deb Moss Foundation's Jackie Robinson Award.

Lane was equally active in the community. In 2021, she participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's, helping raise funds and awareness for a breakthrough in the fight against Alzheimer's and other types of dementia. She also coordinated the recruitmenmt of 35 student-athlete volunteers for the First Lady Wellness Challenge, and 2021 also saw Lane volunteer at the Waxter Senior Center, leading aerobics classes and educating seniors on cardiovascular health, nutrition and disease prevention.

In 2022, Lane gave a presentation for Red Dress Sunday, educating the community of cardiovascular diseases risk factors and methods of prevention.

### **ALL-TIME MEAC WOMAN OF THE YEAR HONOREES**

The MEAC Woman of the Year award, selected annually by the MEAC Senior Woman Administrators, celebrates the achievements of senior female student-athletes who have excelled in academics, athletics, service and leadership.

Year	Name, School (Sport)
2022	Cathryn Lane, Coppin State (Cross Country/Track & Field)
2021	Salma Gonzalez, Coppin State (Volleyball)
2020	Alelee Figueroa, Florida A&M (Track & Field)
2019	Damali Young, Morgan State (Softball)
2018	Lyndsey Edwards, Bethune-Cookman (Basketball)
2017	Thashaina Seraus, Maryland E. Shore (Bowling)
2016	Jenny Tracy, North Carolina Central (Softball)
2015	Mariana Alvarado Nava, Maryland E. Shore (Bowling)
2014	Christina Epps, Coppin State (Track & Field)
2013	T'nia Falbo, Maryland E. Shore (Bowling)
2012	Jazmyne Hefflefinger, Delaware State (Bowling)
2011	Kristina Frahm, Maryland E. Shore (Bowling)
2010	Kalyn Washburn, Delaware State (Bowling)
2009	Loreal Smith, North Carolina A&T (Track & Field)
2008	Jessica Worsley, Maryland E. Shore (Bowling)
2007	Courtney Smith, Howard (Basketball)
2006	Renecia Lovelace, North Carolina A&T (Softball)

### MEAGHALL OF FAME

The MEAC Hall of Fame highlights former student-athletes, coaches, university and conference administrators, as well as special contributors, who have enriched the legacy of the conference since its inception in 1970. Enshrinees are selected by an 11-person committee made up of administrators and representatives from member institutions.

On May 29, 1981, the MEAC combined a 10-year anniversary banquet with its first Hall of Fame induction ceremonies in Greensboro, N.C. Willie Jeffries, the retired South Carolina State head football coach, was the keynote speaker and New York sportscaster Ron Pinkney served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Since its establishment, the MEAC Hall of Fame has enshrined 163 people, including the Class of 2022.

### 2022 CLASS OF THE MEAC HALL OF FAME



**Saadia Doyle, Howard:** The MEAC's all-time leading scorer in women's basketball, with 2,310 career points, Doyle averaged 18.0 points per game during her four years with the Bison. She was the MEAC Rookie of the Year following the 2009-10 season, and she led Howard to three straight appearances in the championship game of the MEAC Basketball Tournament (2011, 2012, 2013). The 2010-11 MEAC Player of the Year also holds MEAC records in free throws in a single season (217, 2011-12) and a career (750), and she is also eighth in conference history in career rebounds with 1,173. Doyle was named All-MEAC all four years at Howard, earning Second Team honors as a freshman and First Team in each of her last three seasons.



David Kemboi, Norfolk State: Despite spending just two years at Norfolk State, Kemboi etched his name into the school and conference record books. He began his Spartan career by winning the MEAC men's cross country title in 2005 with a record time of 23:20 before helping Norfolk State finish eighth in the NCAA Southeast region – the highest-ever finish for an HBCU at the event. Later that season, Kemboi was named Co-Outstanding Performer at the Indoor Championships and Outstanding Performer at Outdoor Championships – helping Norfolk State complete the yearly MEAC sweep (cross country, indoor and outdoor track & field). Kemboi, who won six MEAC track & field titles (five individual, one relay), repeated as MEAC cross country champion in 2006 before becoming the first HBCU athlete to qualify for the NCAA Cross Country Championship.



**Kevin Talley, Norfolk State:** Ranking as one of the top defensive players in Norfolk State and MEAC history, Talley was a tackling machine for the Spartans. He led all of FCS in tackles for two straight seasons, with 195 in 2003 and 135 in 2004. His 195 tackles in 2003 are a MEAC and FCS record for most tackles in a single season. Talley also has two of FCS' top per-game averages in history, with 16.25 tackles per game in 2003 and 15.0 in 2004. A two-time FCS All-American, two-time Black College All-American and two-time First Team All-MEAC selection, Talley was the first Spartan ever to earn All-America honors at the FCS level. Talley was a 2019 inductee into the Norfolk State Athletics Hall of Fame, and his 416 career tackles are third-most in conference history.



**Dr. Dennis Thomas, MEAC Commissioner / Hampton:** Commissioner of the MEAC from 2002-21, Thomas transformed the MEAC into one of the nation's preeminent Div. I conferences by increasing student-athlete graduation rates, operating with financial prudence and expanding the conference's corporate footprint. He negotiated multi-million dollar contracts with ESPN and Nike, the former of which allowed for national broadcasts of football, men's and women's basketball, women's volleyball, women's bowling, track & field, softball and baseball. Thomas was the brainchild behind the Celebration Bowl, the only FCS postseason bowl game, between the MEAC and SWAC champions televised live on ABC with a \$1 million payout to each conference, and he was also a driving force behind the creation of the MEAC/SWAC Challenge, which has kicked off the HBCU football season on ESPN or ESPN2 for 15 years. Prior to serving as Commissioner of the MEAC, Thomas spent 12 years as Director of Athletics at Hampton University, where he spearheaded the Pirates' transition from the CIAA and Div. II to the MEAC and Div. I. The Pirates won 11 MEAC championships under Thomas, and the men's basketball team upset No. 2 seed lowa State in the 2001 NCAA Tournament.



**Veronica Wiggins, Florida A&M:** Serving as softball coach at Florida A&M from 1990-2020, Wiggins won more than 700 games in her illustrious career – including a sterling 281-90 mark in MEAC play. Wiggins' teams won 13 MEAC championships (1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017) and made 11 NCAA Tournament appearances (1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2005, 2006, 2009, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017). Wiggins was named MEAC Coach of the Year five times – in 1993, 1997, 1998, 2006 and 2017 – and she was inducted into the Florida A&M Athletics Hall of Fame in 2006.

### MEAC HALL OF FAME

### Class of 2022

Saadia Doyle, Howard (Women's Basketball) David Kemboi, Norfolk State (Track & Field) Kevin Talley, Norfolk State (Football) Dr. Dennis Thomas, MEAC Commissioner (Admin.) Veronica Wiggins, Florida A&M (Softball)

#### **Class of 2021**

Lamin Drammeh, S.C. State (Track & Field)
Demetrius Harrison, North Carolina A&T (Football)
Lauren McCoy, Bethune-Cookman (Softball)
Rod Milstead, Delaware State (Football)
Allen Suber, Bethune-Cookman (Football)

### **Class of 2020**

Quinn Gray, Florida A&M (Football)
Connell Maynor, North Carolina A&T (Football)
Christopher McNeil, North Carolina A&T (Football)
Jana Milin, Maryland E. Shore (Volleyball)
Alvin Wyatt, Sr., Bethune-Cookman (Coach)

#### Class of 2019

Dwayne Harper, S.C. State (Football) Alvin Hollins, Florida A&M (Admin.) Jerome Mathis, Hampton (Football) Kyle O'Quinn, Norfolk State (Men's Basketball) Jessica Worsley, Maryland E. Shore (Bowling)

### Class of 2018

Nick Collins, Bethune-Cookman (Football) Chartric Darby, S.C. State (Football) Charlene Johnson, S.C. State (Coach/Admin.) JaNina Lee, Morgan State (Volleyball) Jay Walker, Howard (Football)

### **Class of 2017**

Amber Jackson, Bethune-Cookman (Softball) Rashean Mathis, Bethune-Cookman (Football) Francena McCorory, Hampton (Track & Field) Robert Porcher, S.C. State (Football) Tracy White, Howard (Football)

#### Class of 2016

LaShondra Dixon, Hampton (Women's Basketball) Bobby Moore, S.C. State (Football) David Oliver, Howard (Track & Field) Joe Taylor, Hampton (Coach) Lynn Thompson, Bethune-Cookman (Admin.)

### **Class of 2015**

Antoine Bethea, Howard (Football) Justin Durant, Hampton (Football) Breshawn N. Harris, Howard (Volleyball) Dr. Hallie Gregory, Maryland E. Shore\* (Admin.)

### **Class of 2014**

Bill Hayes, North Carolina A&T (Coach) Andrea Gardner, Howard (Women's Basketball) Tanisha Kemp, Morgan State (Softball) Nate Rivers, S.C. State (Football) Kellie Wells, Hampton (Track & Field)

#### Class of 2013

John H. Alford, S.C. State (Football) Luois Breeden, North Carolina Central (Football) Sharon Brummell, Maryland E. Shore (Coach) Yvette Lewis, Hampton (Track & Field) Steve Wilson, Howard (Coach)

### Class of 2012

Amber Alford, Florida A&M (Softball) Jermaine Hall, Bethune-Cookman\* (Football) Alisha Hill, Howard (Women's Basketball) Philip Murphy, S.C. State (Football) Tarvis Williams, Hampton (Men's Basketball)

#### Class of 2011

Earl Holmes, Florida A&M (Coach)
James Phillips, Morgan State (Coach)
Stephen Stewart, Coppin State (Men's Basketball)
Sanya Tyler, Howard (Coach)
Natalie White, Florida A&M (Women's Basketball)

### **Class of 2010**

Rickey Anderson, S.C. State (Football) Jacquay Nunnally, Florida A&M (Football) Ira Smith, Maryland E. Shore (Baseball) Ted White, Howard (Football) Ed Hill, Jr., Howard (Admin.)

### Class of 2009

Chris Brown, Norfolk State (Track & Field)
Gene Lake, Delaware State
Bill Hamilton, S.C. State (Admin.)
Joe McIver, Morgan State (Admin.)
Charlie Neal, Broadcaster (Special Contributor)

#### Class of 2008

Cy McClairen, Bethune-Cookman (Coach) Twana Allen, Coppin State (Track & Field) Billy Joe, Florida A&M (Coach) Larry Barber, MEAC (Admin.) Edwin Bailey, S.C. State (Football)

### Class of 2007

Leonard Braxton, Morgan State (Coach/Admin.)
Joel Mack, Maryland E. Shore (Admin.)
William "Bill" Collick, Delaware State (Coach)
Bobby Lang, Florida A&M (Coach)
Monica Felder, Maryland E. Shore (Women's Basketball)
Neville Hodge, Morgan State (Track & Field)
George Ragsdale, North Carolina A&T (Football)
Ellsworth Turner, North Carolina A&T (Men's Basketball)

### MEAC HALL OF FAME

### **Class of 2005**

Vince Coleman, Florida A&M (Baseball)
Carl Hairston, Maryland E. Shore (Football)
Robert Johnson, S.C. State\* (Coach)
Brenda H. McCoy, MEAC (Admin.)
Diana Pitts, Coppin State (Track & Field)
Larry Stewart, Coppin State (Men's Basketball)

### Class of 2002

Darlene Beale Norris, Howard (Women's Basketball) Arthur H. Jarrett, Coca-Cola (Sponsor) Harry Nickens, S.C. State (Men's Basketball) Talvin Skinner, Maryland E. Shore (Men's Basketball) Rochelle Stevens, Morgan State (Track & Field) A.B. Williamson, Howard (Coach)

### **Class of 1999**

Dr. Dorothy Alston, North Carolina A&T\* (Admin.)
Donald Corbett, North Carolina A&T (Coach)
Walter Reed, Florida A&M (Admin.)
Richard Franklin, Coca-Cola USA (Sponsor)
Kenneth Free, MEAC Commissioner (Admin.)
Marquis Grissom, Florida A&M (Baseball)
Shirley Henderson, USAirways (Sponsor)
Alan Hooker, North Carolina A&T (Football)
William Smith, Morgan State (Wrestling)
Roberta Williams, S.C. State (Women's Basketball)

### **Class of 1995**

Ray Alexander, Florida A&M (Football)
Clifton "Cappy" Anderson, Maryland E. Shore\* (Coach)
Joseph Binion, North Carolina A&T (Men's Basketball)
William "Bill" Davis, S.C. State\* (Coach)
Kirkland Hall, Maryland E. Shore (Baseball)
William Harris, North Carolina A&T (Men's Basketball)
Lloyd Johnson, Bethune-Cookman\* (Admin.)
Margaret English-Jones, S.C. State (Women's Basketball)
Victor E. Kerr, S.C. State\* (Coach)
Rosina Pearson, Bethune-Cookman (Women's Basketball)
Hansel E. Tookes, Florida A&M\* (Admin.)
Nelson Townsend, Maryland E. Shore (Admin.)
James Williams, Delaware State\*

### **Class of 1993**

Sondra Norrell-Thomas, Howard (Admin.)
Dwaine Board, North Carolina A&T (Football)
Al Holland, North Carolina A&T (Baseball)
Dr. William Hytche, Maryland E. Shore (Admin.)
Leo Miles, Howard\* (Admin.)
Adrian Stills, S.C. State (Golf)
Earl Banks, Morgan State\* (Football)
Roberta Belle, Morgan State (Track & Field)
Alonzo Smith "Jake" Gaither, Florida A&M\* (Coach)
Rudy Hubbard, Florida A&M (Coach)
Eugene McCullers, Coca-Cola USA (Special Contributor)
Larry Spriggs, Howard (Men's Basketball)
John Bates, Coppin State/Maryland E. Shore (Coach)
John Taylor, Delaware State (Football)

### **Class of 1986**

Donnie Shell, S.C. State (Football)
Eric Evans, Morgan State (Football)
Thomas Shropshire, Miller Brewing Company (Sponsor)
Larry Black, North Carolina Central (Track & Field)
John McLendon, Converse Rubber Company\* (Sponsor)
Dr. James Younge, North Carolina Central\* (Tennis)
Barney Chavous, S.C. State (Football)
Maurice Spencer, North Carolina Central (Football)
Hornsby Howell, North Carolina A&T\* (Football)
Dr. Thomas Fraser, Morgan State\* (Admin.)
John Price, Delaware State\* (Admin.)
Joe Black, Greyhound Corporation\* (Sponsor)

### Class of 1981 -- Inaugural Class

Dr. LeRoy Walker, North Carolina Central (Coach)
Willie Jeffries, S.C. State (Coach)
Talmadge Hill, Morgan State\* (Coach)
Dr. Milton Hunter, S.C. State\* (Admin.)
Dr. Albert Smith, North Carolina A&T\* (Baseball)
Cal Irvin, North Carolina A&T\* (Coach)
Dr. Artie Graves, North Carolina A&T\*
Dr. Richard Moore, North Carolina A&T\*
(Admin.)
Harry Carson, S.C. State (Football)
Willie Mays Aikens, S.C. State (Baseball)
Marvin Webster, Morgan State (Men's Basketball)
Charles Foster, North Carolina Central (Track & Field)

### Founding President/Chancellors

Dr. Luna Mishoe, Delaware State\*
Dr. James Cheek, Howard
Dr. Archie Buffkins, Maryland E. Shore
Dr. Virgil Cheeks, Morgan State
Dr. Lewis Dowdy, North Carolina A&T
Dr. Albert Whiting, North Carolina Central
Dr. Maceo Nance, S.C. State\*

<sup>\*</sup>deceased

	BASEBALL	2015-16	Hampton
2022	Coppin State	2014-15	North Carolina Central
2021	Norfolk State	2013-14	North Carolina Central
2020	N/A	2012-13	Norfolk State
2019	Florida A&M	2011-12	Savannah State
2018	North Carolina A&T State	2010-11	Bethune-Cookman
2017	Bethune-Cookman	2009-10	Morgan State
2016	Bethune-Cookman	2008-09	Morgan State
2015	Florida A&M	2007-08	Morgan State
2014	Bethune-Cookman	2006-07	Delaware State
2013	Savannah State	2005-06	Delaware State
2012	Bethune-Cookman	2004-05	Delaware State
2012	Bethune-Cookman	2003-04	Coppin State
2010	Bethune-Cookman		South Carolina State
2009	Bethune-Cookman	2002-03	South Carolina State
2009	Bethune-Cookman	2001-02	Hampton
	Bethune-Cookman	2000-01	Hampton
2007 2006	Bethune-Cookman		South Carolina State
	North Carolina A&T State	1999-2000	South Carolina State
2005		1998-99	South Carolina State
2004	Bethune-Cookman		Coppin State
2003	Bethune-Cookman	1997-98	Coppin State
2002	Bethune-Cookman	1996-97	Coppin State
2001	Bethune-Cookman	1995-96	Coppin State
2000	Bethune-Cookman		South Carolina State
1999	Bethune-Cookman	1994-95	Coppin State
1998	Howard	1993-94	Coppin State
1997	Bethune-Cookman	1992-93	Coppin State
1996	Bethune-Cookman	1991-92	Howard
1995	Coppin State Florida A&M	1990-91	Coppin State
1994 1993	North Carolina A&T State	1989-90	Coppin State
1993	Florida A&M	1988-89	South Carolina State
1991	Florida A&M	1987-88	North Carolina A&T State
1990	Florida A&M	1986-87	Howard
1989	Delaware State	1985-86	North Carolina A&T State
1988	Florida A&M	1984-85	North Carolina A&T State
1987	Florida A&M	1983-84	North Carolina A&T State
1986	Howard	1982-83	Howard
1985	Bethune-Cookman	1981-82	North Carolina A&T State
1984	Howard	1980-81	North Carolina A&T State
1904	(1978-83 -Sport Discontinued)	1979-80	Howard
1977	Howard	1978-79	North Carolina A&T State
1976	Howard	1977-78	North Carolina A&T State
1975	Howard	1976-77	South Carolina State
1974	North Carolina A&T State	1975-76	North Carolina A&T State
1974	South Carolina State		Morgan State
1973	Howard	1974-75	North Carolina A&T State
1972	noward	1973-74	Maryland Eastern Shore
	MENIO DAOMETRALI		Morgan State
	MEN'S BASKETBALL	1972-73	Maryland Eastern Shore
	Regular Season	1971-72	North Carolina A&T State
2021-22	Norfolk State		
2020-21	Coppin State / North Carolina A&T		MEN'S BASKETBALL
2019-20	North Carolina Central		Tournament
2018-19	Norfolk State	2022	Norfolk State
2017-18	Hampton	2022 2021	
	Bethune-Cookman		Norfolk State
	Savannah State	2020	N/A
2016-17	North Carolina Central	2019	North Carolina Central
15	MID-FASTERN ATHI FTI	C CONFERENCE GENERAL I	HISTORY ROOK

2018	North Carolina Central	2015-16	Bethune-Cookman
2017	North Carolina Central	2010-10	North Carolina A&T State
2016	Hampton	2014-15	Hampton
2015	Hampton	2013-14	Hampton
2014	North Carolina Central	2012-13	Hampton
2013	North Carolina A&T State	2011-12	Hampton
2012	Norfolk State	2010-11	Hampton
2012	Hampton	2009-10	North Carolina A&T State
2010	Morgan State	2008-09	North Carolina A&T State
2009	Morgan State	2007-08	North Carolina A&T State
2008	Coppin State	2006-07	Coppin State
2007	Florida A&M	2005-06	Coppin State
2006	Hampton	2004-05	Coppin State
2005	Delaware State	2003-04	Hampton
2004	Florida A&M		Delaware State
2003	South Carolina State	2002-03	Hampton
2002	Hampton	2001-02	Howard
2001	Hampton	2000-01	Howard
2000	South Carolina State	1999-2000	Howard
1999	Florida A&M	1998-99	Hampton
1998	South Carolina State	1997-98	Howard
1997	Coppin State		Hampton
1996	South Carolina State	1996-97	Howard
1995	North Carolina A&T State	1995-96	Florida A&M
1994	North Carolina A&T State	1994-95	Florida A&M
1993	Coppin State	1993-94	South Carolina State
1992	Howard	1992-93	South Carolina State
1991	Florida A&M		Florida A&M
1990	Coppin State		Coppin State
1989	South Carolina State	1991-92	South Carolina State
1988	North Carolina A&T State	1990-91	South Carolina State
1987	North Carolina A&T State	1989-90	North Carolina A&T State
1986	North Carolina A&T State	1988-89	North Carolina A&T State
1985	North Carolina A&T State	4007.00	Howard
1984	North Carolina A&T State	1987-88	North Carolina A&T State
1983	North Carolina A&T State	1986-87	Howard
1982	North Carolina A&T State	4005.00	South Carolina State
1981	Howard	1985-86	South Carolina State
1980	Howard	1984-85 1983-84	South Carolina State South Carolina State
1979	North Carolina A&T State	1903-04	South Carolina State
1978	North Carolina A&T State		
1977	Morgan State		<b>WOMEN'S BASKETBALL</b>
1976	North Carolina A&T State		Tournament
1975	North Carolina A&T State	2022	Howard
1974	Maryland Eastern Shore	2021	North Carolina A&T State
1973	North Carolina A&T State	2020	N/A
1972	North Carolina A&T State	2019	Bethune-Cookman
		2018	North Carolina A&T State
	WOMEN'S DASVETDALL	2017	Hampton
	WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	2016	North Carolina A&T State
0004.00	Regular Season	2015	Savannah State <sup>^</sup>
2021-22	Howard / Norfolk State / Morgan State	2014	Hampton
2020-21	Howard / North Carolina A&T	2013	Hampton
2019-20	Bethune-Cookman	2012	Hampton
2018-19	North Carolina A&T State	2011	Hampton
2017-18	Bethune-Cookman North Carolina A&T State	2010	Hampton
2016-17	North Carolina A&T State  Bethune-Cookman	2009	North Carolina A&T State
ZU 1U-1/	Detirulie-Cookillali	2008	Coppin State

2007	Delaware State		MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY
2006	Coppin State	2021	Norfolk State
2005	Coppin State	2020	N/A
2004	Hampton	2019	Norfolk State
2003	Hampton	2018	North Carolina A&T State
2002	Norfolk State	2017	Norfolk State
2001	Howard	2016	Maryland Eastern Shore
2000	Hampton	2015	Maryland Eastern Shore
1999	Florida A&M	2014	Maryland Eastern Shore
1998	Howard	2013	Florida A&M
1997	Howard	2012	Florida A&M
1996	Howard	2011	Norfolk State
1995	Florida A&M	2010	Norfolk State
1994	North Carolina A&T State	2009	Norfolk State
1993	South Carolina State	2008	Norfolk State
1992	South Carolina State	2007	Maryland Eastern Shore
1991	Coppin State	2006	Norfolk State
1990	Howard	2005	Norfolk State
1989	Howard	2004	Norfolk State
1988	Howard	2003	Norfolk State
1987	Howard	2002	Norfolk State
1986	South Carolina State	2001	Norfolk State
1985	Howard	2000	Norfolk State
1984	Bethune-Cookman	1999	Bethune-Cookman
1983	South Carolina State	1998	Howard
1982	Howard	1997	Howard
1981	Info Currently Unavailable	1996	Hampton
1980	Info Currently Unavailable	1995	Maryland Eastern Shore
1979	South Carolina State	1994	Maryland Eastern Shore
1978	South Carolina State	1993	Coppin State
		1992	Coppin State
	BOWLING	1991	Coppin State
2022	North Carolina A&T State	1990	Morgan State
2021	North Carolina A&T State	1989	Delaware State
2020	N/A	1988	Florida A&M
2019	Maryland Eastern Shore	1987	Delaware State
2018	North Carolina A&T State	1986	Delaware State
2017	Maryland Eastern Shore	1985	Delaware State
2016	Delaware State	1984	Delaware State
2015	Maryland Eastern Shore	1983	North Carolina A&T State
2014	Maryland Eastern Shore	1982	Maryland Eastern Shore
2013	Maryland Eastern Shore	1981	Florida A&M
2012	Norfolk State	1980	North Carolina A&T State
2011	Maryland Eastern Shore		
2010	Delaware State		<b>WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY</b>
2009	Delaware State	2021	Norfolk State
2008	Maryland Eastern Shore	2020	N/A
2007	Maryland Eastern Shore	2019	Norfolk State
2006	Maryland Eastern Shore	2018	Florida A&M
2005	Bethune-Cookman	2017	Florida A&M
2004	North Carolina A&T State	2016	Florida A&M
2003	North Carolina A&T State	2015	Florida A&M
2002	North Carolina A&T State	2014	Florida A&M
2001	Maryland Eastern Shore	2013	Florida A&M
2000	North Carolina A&T State	2012	Florida A&M
		2011	Hampton
		2010	Hampton
		2010	Tampon

2009	Norfolk State	2004	Hampton
2008	Maryland Eastern Shore		South Carolina State
2007	Maryland Eastern Shore	2003	North Carolina A&T State
2006	Hampton	2002	Bethune-Cookman
2005	Howard	2001	Florida A&M
2004	Hampton	2000	Florida A&M
2003	Howard	1999	North Carolina A&T State
2003	Howard	1998	
2002	Florida A&M	1997	Hampton
			Hampton
2000	Bethune-Cookman	1996	Florida A&M
1999	Florida A&M	1995	Florida A&M
1998	Florida A&M	1994	South Carolina State
1997	Florida A&M	1993	Howard
1996	Coppin State	1992	North Carolina A&T State
1995	Bethune-Cookman	1991	North Carolina A&T State
1994	Coppin State		Delaware State
1993	Coppin State	1990	Florida A&M
1992	Coppin State	1989	Delaware State
1991	Coppin State	1988	Bethune- Cookman
1990	Delaware State		Delaware State
1989	Howard		Florida A&M
1988	Howard	1987	Delaware State
1987	Delaware State	1986	North Carolina A&T State
1986	Delaware State	1985	Delaware State
1985	Delaware State	1984	Bethune- Cookman
1984	Delaware State	1983	South Carolina State
1983	Maryland Eastern Shore	1982	South Carolina State
1982	Howard	1981	South Carolina State
1981	Howard	1980	South Carolina State
1301	Tiowaid	1979	Morgan State
		1978	South Carolina State
	FOOTBALL	1977	South Carolina State
2021	South Carolina State	1977	South Carolina State South Carolina State
2020	N/A	1970	_
2019	North Carolina A&T State	4075	Morgan State
	South Carolina State	1975	State Carolina State
2018	North Carolina A&T State	4074	North Carolina A&T State
2017	North Carolina A&T State	1974	South Carolina State
2016	North Carolina Central	1973	North Carolina Central
2015	Bethune-Cookman	1972	North Carolina Central
2010	North Carolina A&T State	1971	Morgan State
	North Carolina Central		
2014	Bethune-Cookman		MEN'S GOLF
2014	North Carolina A&T State	2022	Howard
	North Carolina Act State  North Carolina Central	2022	Florida A&M
		2021	N/A
	Morgan State		
2042	South Carolina State	2019	Augusta
2013	Bethune-Cookman	2018	Augusta
0040	South Carolina State	2017	Augusta
2012	Bethune-Cookman	2016	Augusta
2011	Vacated	2015	Augusta
2010	Bethune-Cookman	2014	Bethune-Cookman
	South Carolina State		(1984-2013 - Sport Discontinued)
	Florida A&M	1983	South Carolina State
2009	South Carolina State	1982	South Carolina State
2008	South Carolina Sate	1981	South Carolina State
2007	Delaware State		(1976-80 - Sport Discontinued)
2006	Hampton	1975	South Carolina State
2005	Hampton	1974	South Carolina State

1973	South Carolina State	2001	Hampton
1972	South Carolina State	2000	Florida A&M
		1999	Hampton
	SOFTBALL	1998	Hampton
2022	Howard	1997	Hampton
		1996	Hampton
2021	Morgan State	1995	Florida A&M
2020	N/A	1994	Florida A&M
2019	Bethune-Cookman	1993	Florida A&M
2018	Bethune-Cookman	1992	Florida A&M
2017	Florida A&M	1991	Florida A&M
2016	Florida A&M	1990	Howard
2015	Florida A&M	1989	Howard
2014	Florida A&M	1988	Howard
2013	Hampton	1987	Howard
2012	Bethune-Cookman		South Carolina State
2011	Bethune-Cookman	1986	_
2010	Bethune-Cookman	1985	South Carolina State
2009	Florida A&M	1984	South Carolina State
2008	Delaware State	1983	Howard
2007	Howard	1982	Howard
2006	Florida A&M	1981	Howard
2005	Florida A&M		(1976-80 - Sport Discontinued)
		1975	North Carolina Central
2004	Bethune-Cookman	1974	North Carolina Central
2003	Bethune-Cookman	1973	North Carolina Central
2002	Bethune-Cookman	1972	North Carolina Central
2001	Bethune-Cookman		
2000	Bethune-Cookman		WOMENIO TENNIO
1999	Florida A&M		WOMEN'S TENNIS
1998	Florida A&M	2022	South Carolina State
1997	Florida A&M	2021	South Carolina State
1996	Hampton	2020	N/A
1995	Florida A&M	2019	South Carolina State
1994	Florida A&M	2018	Morgan State
1993	Florida A&M	2017	South Carolina State
		2016	South Carolina State
	MENIO TENNIO	2015	Bethune-Cookman
	MEN'S TENNIS	2014	South Carolina State
2022	South Carolina State	2013	South Carolina State
2021	South Carolina State	2012	South Carolina State
2020	N/A	2012	South Carolina State
2019	Morgan State	2010	South Carolina State
2018	South Carolina State		
2017	Florida A&M	2009	South Carolina State
2016	South Carolina State	2008	South Carolina State
2015	No champion awarded	2007	South Carolina State
2014	South Carolina State	2006	South Carolina State
2013	South Carolina State	2005	South Carolina State
2012	South Carolina State	2004	Hampton
2012	South Carolina State	2003	Hampton
2010	South Carolina State	2002	Hampton
		2001	Bethune-Cookman
2009	South Carolina State	2000	Bethune-Cookman
2008	South Carolina State	1999	Bethune-Cookman
2007	Hampton	1998	Hampton
2006	South Carolina State	1997	Florida A&M
2005	South Carolina State	1996	Hampton
2004	South Carolina State	1995	Howard
2003	Hampton	1994	Morgan State
2002	Hampton		_
		1993	Howard

1992	Howard	2019	North Carolina A&T State
1991	Florida A&M	2018	North Carolina A&T State
1990	Howard	2017	North Carolina A&T State
1989	Howard	2016	Bethune-Cookman
1988	Florida A&M	2015	Bethune-Cookman
1987	Florida A&M	2014	Bethune-Cookman
1986	South Carolina State	2013	Hampton
		2012	Norfolk State
	MEN'S INDOOD TOAGY & FIFI D	2011	Norfolk State
	MEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD	2010	Norfolk State
2022	Norfolk State	2009	Norfolk State
2021	N/A	2008	Norfolk State
2020	North Carolina A&T State		
2019	North Carolina A&T State	2007	Norfolk State
2018	North Carolina A&T State	2006	Norfolk State
2017	North Carolina A&T State	2005	Florida A&M
		2004	Hampton
2016	Bethune-Cookman		Florida A&M
2015	Bethune-Cookman	2003	Hampton
2014	Hampton	2002	Florida A&M
2013	Norfolk State	2001	Norfolk State
2012	Norfolk State		
2011	Norfolk State	2000	Florida A&M
2010	Norfolk State	1999	Hampton
2009	Norfolk State	1998	Norfolk State
	Norfolk State	1997	Florida A&M
2008		1996	North Carolina A&T State
2007	Norfolk State	1995	North Carolina A&T State
2006	Norfolk State	1994	North Carolina A&T State
2005	Florida A&M	1993	Florida A&M
2004	Florida A&M	1992	Delaware State
2003	Hampton		
2002	South Carolina State	1991	Florida A&M
2001	Norfolk State	1990	South Carolina State
2000	Hampton	1989	Florida A&M
1999	Hampton	1988	Florida A&M
	·	1987	South Carolina State
1998	Norfolk State	1986	South Carolina State
1997	Maryland Eastern Shore	1985	South Carolina State
1996	Maryland Eastern Shore	1984	South Carolina State
	North Carolina A&T State	1983	South Carolina State
1995	Florida A&M	1982	Florida A&M
1994	Morgan State		
1993	Florida A&M	1981	South Carolina State
1992	Florida A&M	1980	Florida A&M
1991	South Carolina State	1979	South Carolina State
1990	South Carolina State	1978	South Carolina State
		1977	South Carolina State
1989	Florida A&M	1976	Delaware State
1988	South Carolina State	1974	North Carolina Central
1987	Delaware State	1973	North Carolina Central
1986	Delaware State	1972	North Carolina Central
1985	Howard	1312	Notti Carollia Certial
1984	Delaware State		
1983	Delaware State		WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK & FIELD
1982	South Carolina State	2022	Howard
1981	South Carolina State	2021	N/A
1901	South Carolina State		
		2020	North Carolina A&T State
	MEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD	2019	North Carolina A&T State
2022	Norfolk State	2018	North Carolina A&T State
	North Carolina A&T State	2017	North Carolina A&T State
2021		2016	Hampton
2020	N/A	2015	Hampton
			•

2014	Hampton	2001	Norfolk State
2013	Hampton	2000	Florida A&M
2012	Hampton	1999	Florida A&M
	•		
2011	Hampton	1998	Florida A&M
2010	Norfolk State	1997	Florida A&M
2009	Hampton	1996	Coppin State
2008	Maryland Eastern Shore	1995	North Carolina A&T State
2000			Florida A&M
	Hampton	1994	
2007	Hampton	1993	Florida A&M
2006	Hampton	1992	Maryland Eastern Shore
2005	Hampton	1991	Florida A&M
2004	Hampton	1990	Morgan State
	•		<u> </u>
2003	Hampton	1989	Florida A&M
2002	Delaware State	1988	South Carolina State
2001	Hampton	1987	Florida A&M
2000	Norfolk State	1986	South Carolina State
			_
1999	Florida A&M	1985	South Carolina State
1998	Bethune-Cookman	1984	South Carolina State
1997	Bethune-Cookman	1983	South Carolina State
1996	Coppin State	1982	South Carolina State
	· ·		
1995	Florida A&M	1981	Delaware State
1994	Florida A&M	1980	Howard
1993	Florida A&M		
1992	Maryland Eastern Shore		VOLUEVDALL
1991	Florida A&M		VOLLEYBALL
		2021	Howard
1990	Morgan State	2020	North Carolina A&T State
1989	Howard		
1988	Delaware State	2019	Howard
1987	Delaware State	2018	Howard
		2017	Howard
1986	Delaware State	2016	Howard
1985	Delaware State		
1984	Delaware State	2015	Howard
1983	Howard	2014	Hampton
		2013	Hampton
1982	Delaware State	2012	Maryland Eastern Shore
1981	Howard	2011	Maryland Eastern Shore
	WOMEN'S OUTDOOD TRACK S FIFLD	2010	South Carolina State
	WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK & FIELD	2009	Florida A&M
2022	Howard	2008	Florida A&M
2021	North Carolina A&T State	2007	Florida A&M
2020	N/A	2006	Florida A&M
2019	North Carolina A&T State	2005	Florida A&M
2018	Florida A&M	2004	Florida A&M
2017	North Carolina A&T State	2003	Florida A&M
2016	Florida A&M	2002	Florida A&M
2015	Florida A&M	2001	Florida A&M
2014	Hampton	2000	Morgan State
2013	Hampton	1999	Florida A&M
2012	Hampton	1998	Morgan State
	·		
2011	Norfolk State	1997	Morgan State
2010	Hampton	1996	Florida A&M
2009	Hampton	1995	Florida A&M
2008	Hampton	1994	Howard
			Howard
2007	Hampton	1993	
2006	Hampton	1992	Morgan State
2005	Morgan State	1991	Howard
2004	Hampton	1990	South Carolina State
2003	Hampton	1989	Howard
2002	Hampton	1988	Florida A&M
2002	Παπιριστι	1300	ι Ιστιαα Ααινι

### **ALL-TIME CHAMPIONS BY SPORT**

1987	Howard
1986	Delaware State
1985	Howard
1984	Howard

### WRESTLING

### (Sport discontinued following 1995 season)

1995	Howard
1994	Morgan State
1993	Morgan State
1992	Morgan State
1991	Morgan State
1990	Morgan State
1989	Morgan State
1988	Morgan State
1987	Morgan State
1986	Morgan State
1985	Morgan State
1984	Delaware State
1983	South Carolina State
1982	South Carolina State
1981	South Carolina State
1980	South Carolina State
1979	South Carolina State
1978	Morgan State
1977	Morgan State

1976 North Carolina A&T State1975 North Carolina A&T State

1974 Morgan State 1973 Howard 1972 Howard

### HISTORY MAKERS

### **GENERAL**

### 1970

The Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference is confirmed, with its first season of competition in football in 1971.

### June 8, 1980

The MEAC was classified as a Division I conference by the NCAA. One month later, the MEAC received automatic qualification to the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship. Today, the conference enjoys automatic qualifying bids for NCAA postseason play in the sports of baseball (since 1994), men's basketball (since 1981), women's basketball (since 1982), men's golf (since 2014), softball (since 1995), men's and women's tennis (since 1998) and volleyball (since 1994).

### May 29, 1981

The MEAC inducts its first Hall of Fame class as part of its 10th anniversary celebration. In addition to inducting the seven founding school presidents and chancellors, the MEAC inducts a class of 12 -- including basketball great Marvin Webster (Morgan State), football giant Harry Carson (South Carolina State) and legendary coaches Willie Jeffries (South Carolina State) and Cal Irvin (North Carolina A&T State).

### **Olympians**

Thirty (30) student-athletes have represented the MEAC in Olympic games over the years and 13 of those students have earned medals during the Summer Games.

### **BASEBALL**

#### 1994

Florida A&M became the first MEAC baseball program to qualify for NCAA postseason play. The Rattlers fell to Southeastern Louisiana in back-to-back games.

#### 2002

Bethune-Cookman advanced to the Gainesville Regional, where it became the first MEAC team to win a game in the NCAA Baseball Tournament, recording a 7-4 victory over Florida International.

#### 2017

Bethune-Cookman became the first MEAC school to advance to a regional final in the NCAA Baseball Tournament, winning three games in the Gainesville Regional, highlighted by a 6-2 win over national No. 3 seed Florida.

### **BOWLING**

#### <u> 1996</u>

The MEAC was the first conference to secure NCAA sanctioning for women's bowling when it adopted the club sport prior to the 1996-97 school year.

#### 2008

The University of Maryland-Eastern Shore defeated Arkansas State 4-2 to win the NCAA Women's Bowling National Championship, a first for the conference. With that victory, UMES head coach Sharon Brummell became the first female head coach to win an NCAA bowling championship.

#### 2011

The Lady Hawks captured a second NCAA national title in the sport in 2011, while also winning the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) Intercollegiate Team Championship to become the first team to win two national championships in the same year.

#### 2012

After UMES captured the 2012 national crown, the Lady Hawks became the first team to make four appearances in the championship finale' and just the second team in NCAA bowling history to win three titles.

### HISTORY MAKERS

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

### 1974

Maryland Eastern Shore became the first HBCU team to participate in the National Invitation Tournament (NIT), doing so in 1974. The Hawks defeated Manhattan 84-81 in the first round before falling to Jacksonville in the second round. UMES had the nation's best record at 27-1 prior to the loss to Jacksonville in the NIT.

#### 1974

Morgan State won the NCAA College Division II national championship and its junior center, Marvin "The Human Eraser" Webster, was named the NCAA Division II National Player of the Year.

#### <u> 1981</u>

Howard became the first MEAC school to play in the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship, when the Bison were pitted against the University of Wyoming. Howard fell to the Cowboys 78-43 in the first round.

#### 1997

Coppin State became the first MEAC school to win a game in the NCAA Div. I Men's Basketball Tournament, as the No. 15-seeded Eagles upset No. 2 seed South Carolina 78-65 in the first round. The Gamecocks were ranked No. 6 in the nation at the time, giving the Eagles their first-ever win over a Top 25 opponent.

### 2001

Hampton followed the 15-over-2 trend with a 58-57 defeat of Iowa State in Boise, Idaho., providing the tournament with a signature image as Pirates head coach Steve Merfeld was lifted off the court in front of TV cameras. It marked just the fourth time in tournament history a No. 15 seed defeated a No. 2 seed -- and the second time a MEAC program had accomplished the feat.

### 2012

Norfolk State, behind a double-double from MEAC Hall of Famer Kyle O'Quinn (26 points, 14 rebounds), stunned No. 2 seed Missouri in the round of 64, giving the MEAC its third NCAA Tournament 15-over-2 upset (there have only been eight in tournament history).

### **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL**

#### 1979

South Carolina State captured the Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) Division II National Basketball Championship in 1979.

#### <u> 1982</u>

Howard became the first MEAC school to play in the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Tournament.

#### 1983

South Carolina State won the MEAC's automatic NCAA bid and became the first MEAC team, male or female, to win an opening round game in the NCAA Division I tournament, defeating La Salle 85-67.

### 2010

North Carolina A&T State defeated Wake Forest University and the University of Charlotte in the first two rounds of the Women's National Invitation Tournament (WNIT), becoming the first MEAC team, as well as the first HBCU, to win two consecutive games in a Division I national postseason tournament.

### HISTORY MAKERS

### **FOOTBALL**

### **Heritage Bowl**

The Heritage Bowl featured teams from the MEAC and SWAC in a postseason bowl format from 1991-99. The game was held in several locations from Miami, Fla. (1991); Tallahassee, Fla. (1993); and Atlanta, Ga. (1994–99).

#### **Celebration Bowl**

The Celebration Bowl is a postseason college football game featuring the conference champions from the MEAC and the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC). Held in Atlanta, Ga., the Celebration Bowl was announced at the College Football Hall of Fame in March of 2015. The MEAC currently leads the all-time series by a 4-1 margin.

### SOFTBALL

### 2005

Bethune-Cookman earned the MEAC's first-ever at-large bid to the NCAA Softball Tournament. The Lady Wildcats defeated the University of Florida, the University of Central Florida and the University of South Florida in the Florida Regional to become the first MEAC program to win an NCAA Division I Softball Regional. Bethune-Cookman concluded the 2005 season with the MEAC's first-ever ranking in softball, reaching No. 18 in the season's final NFCA/USA Today Coaches Poll and No. 23 in the USA Softball/ESPN.com Poll.

### **TFNNIS**

### 2005

South Carolina State women's tennis became the first MEAC women's tennis program to finish a season ranked in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Division I final poll, with the Lady Bulldogs securing a No. 72 national ranking.

### 2012

South Carolina State's Maria Craciun became the first tennis player in MEAC history to receive a berth to the NCAA Tennis Championship in individual singles.

### TRACK & FIELD

#### 1972

North Carolina Central won the first three MEAC titles, and the Eagles' quartet of Melvin Bassett, Robert Ouko, Julius Sang and Larry Black set the world record in the sprint medley relay with a time of 38:19 in the 1972 Olympics in Munich, West Germany.

### <u>1980</u>

Women's track and field became a MEAC-sanctioned sport.

### 1982

South Carolina State won the AIAW Division II Outdoor Track and Field National Championship.

### VOLLEYBALL

#### 2003

Florida A&M became the first MEAC program to win a match in the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Tournament, defeating Winthrop in first round action. The following year, the Lady Rattlers became the first HBCU to rank in the Top 25 of the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) national poll.