HUSD CELEBRATES THE LEGACY OF

The Reverend Cain Hope Felder, Ph.D.
Professor of New Testament Language and Literature

Closing Convocation Speaker
Friday May 6, 2016 @ 3:00 PM - 5:00PM
Dunbarton Chapel
Dr. Cain Hope Felder called me by name in the hallways of Benjamin Mays Hall. Adjunct faculty are too often “the least of these” within the halls of academia and certainly, especially in the early years of my service, I navigated my way through Howard Divinity quite aware of my caste and assignment. But never with Dr. Felder did I feel less than a colleague. He always greeted me heartily, by name. His scholarship is matched by his humanism. By his greeting and welcome of me, I felt included, empowered and called to live up to the mission of HUSD, so exemplified by his life, that we be “driven by a passion for justice and freedom and a relentless search for truth.” Thank you, Sir! Your name will I ever pray before the Holy One.

-Dr. Michael Bledsoe, Ph.D.

Dr. Felder I had the pleasure of taking your New Testament course in the fall of 2015. I had no idea what I was in for, but I want you to know that I have forever been enriched by your lectures, wisdom and expertise. Thank you for lighting the torch of truth and service because it will never burn out.

“I am because you are” ~African proverb

-Brandon Greene
Dr. Felder,

When I arrived at Howard, I was merely walking in obedience to the call on my life. Like many, I was deathly afraid, because I had no clue what I was doing in your classroom at the Howard School of Divinity. But, you put our minds at ease with your anecdotes and off the wall comments when other students did something peculiar (i.e. the gentleman who fell asleep in the front row in New Testament, LOL), just to take the edge off and to show us that you were like us. I was blessed to have you for two classes, and at the time, I was still serving on active duty. Quite often I wore my military uniform to class, and it cracked me up because you would often do a double take and insist on calling me Rose, not realizing that Rose was a part of my last name, lol. I also remember recording your lectures in our New Testament course and sitting on the “hot seat”, while you drilled us about the analysis of our exegetical work and realizing that you never wanted to outwardly embarrass us (some were, lol), but you wanted us to be able to articulate why and how we came to our conclusions.

The day I started reading “Troubling Biblical Waters” and the African American Heritage Bible, created for me a paradigm shift, and changed how I share the Gospel. I, Pauline Anna Rose Moore, with my afro puffs and Black skin, am accounted for in the Bible, and I wasn’t always poor or a slave. This news empowered me, and had it not been for your work, I would carry faulty religious beliefs, that I was not even aware that I carried. In New Testament Greek, I had NO IDEA, what I had gotten myself into. Since our class met just once a week...I learned really fast that Greek was truly Greek to me! LOL Smile.

I am so blessed to have been able to glean from you. Thank you, Dr. Felder, for your scholarship, humility and authenticity.

-Pauline Rose Moore
My favorite memory of you, Dr. Felder is taking your course in Luke-Acts, where he helped me in my coursework on “Love your Enemies, Strange Fire, a critical examination of the Sermon on the Plain compared to Ananias & Sapphira. Your insight was astonishing and encyclopedic. Sometimes it is easier to love a known enemy (the occupying Romans) than to forgive and re-embrace someone in one’s own community. Your guidance on Texts of Terror was particularly helpful. Your sharing of your journey on speaking with one’s own voice was heeded. I am grateful that you were willing to work with a Pagan student in an Abrahamic world to find a space to stand, I have heard that I have often been in your thoughts and prayers. I wish you well in your new ventures. Your kindness will always stay with me.

“Marhaba!” (Hello in Arabic), Dr. Felder yelled with a smile on his face when he met me for the first time. I excitedly greeted him back with “Ahlan Wasahlan!” I felt immediately welcomed by his thoughtful greeting and his warm smile. Soon afterwards, I was fortunate enough to team-teach a unique course called “Prophethood in the Bible and the Quran” with Professor Dr. Cain Hope Felder. It was the first time in the history of HUSD that a class of this nature was offered. It had an impressive syllabus and benefited our students tremendously as they became more informed about how the concept of prophethood had a major impact on shaping ancient and modern Civilizations. That experience was so successful and fulfilling that we decided to team-teach another course this year with Dr. Felder and Dean Byron called the “Sacred Text and Hermeneutics.” This course is considered the cornerstone of the field of interreligious studies and dialogue. It’s been an honor to share these experiences with such a great scholar and leader who is willing to do what it takes to move the needle forward with respect to religious and interreligious studies. Dr. Felder will surely be greatly missed by all of us at HUSD.

“Ma’aslama!” (Good-bye in Arabic) Peace Be With You Dr. Felder
CONGRATULATIONS HUSD CLASS OF 2016!

H-UUUUU!

YOU-KNOOOOW!

HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DIVINITY ANNUAL ALUMNI RECEPTION

Wednesday, June 8, 2016, 12pm-2pm
Queen Street Baptist Church, Queen Street North Worship Center, 98 N. Armistead Avenue, Hampton, VA 23669

The Howard University School of Divinity invites you to its Annual Alumni Reception to be held during the 102nd Hampton Ministers’ Conference (Sunday, June 5 – Friday, June 10, 2016). Join other HUSD alumni, colleagues, faculty, staff, and friends to fellowship and network. Please RSVP to Rev. Shirley Gravely-Currie via email at sgravely-curve@howard.edu.

HOWARD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DIVINITY CENTENNIAL ALUMNI CONVOCATION: “VISION 100”

Wednesday, November 8 – Thursday, November 9, 2016
Howard University School of Divinity, 2900 Van Ness Street NW, Washington, DC 20008

The Howard University School of Divinity invites you to its Centennial Alumni Convocation to be held Wednesday, November 8 – Thursday, November 9, 2016. The theme for this centennial convocation is “VISION 100.” Please contact Dr. Cheryl J. Sanders, Professor of Christian Ethics, HUSD Centennial Alumni Convocation Chairperson, via email at csanders@howard.edu for more information.

Want To Be A Contributor?
The Weekly Word is a weekly publication of the Howard University School of Divinity published under the direction of Rev. Paula Hall, Manager of Media and Communications. The Weekly Word is published each Wednesday during the academic year. The deadline for weekly publication is each Friday. Written contributions by Faculty, Students, Staff, and Alumni are welcomed. For submissions or questions, contact: torren.cooper@bison.howard.edu