The Reverend Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, President of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, to Deliver Baccalaureate Sermon

The Baccalaureate Service will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at 10:00 a.m., in the Fisk Memorial Chapel. The speaker is The Reverend Dr. Marvin A. McMickle, President of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, in Rochester, New York.

Born in Chicago, Illinois in 1948, Dr. McMickle is a 1970 graduate of Aurora University in Illinois where he earned a B.A. in Philosophy. He earned a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York City in 1973, and completed two additional years of graduate study at Columbia University in New York. He earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary in Princeton, New Jersey in 1983. He was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree (Ph.D.) from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio in 1998.

Dr. McMickle was awarded the honorary Doctor of Divinity degree in 1990, by his alma mater, Payne Theological Seminary in Wilberforce, OH awarded him the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree in 2010. In 2012, he was named a Princeton Theological Seminary Distinguished Alumnus.

He was ordained to the Christian ministry in 1973 at Abyssinian Baptist Church of New York City where he served on the pastoral staff from 1972-1976. He served as the pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church of Montclair, New Jersey from 1976-1986. During
those years Dr. McMickle served as adjunct faculty at Fordham University, Princeton Theological Seminary, New Brunswick Theological Seminary and New York Theological Seminary. He also taught biblical studies courses inside of Ossining Correctional Center (Sing Sing) in Ossining, New York from 1982 to 1984.

Dr. McMickle served as the Senior Pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio from 1987-2011. During that time he led the church in establishing a ministry for people infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS. This ministry was the first of its kind in the entire country. The church also offered ministries in the areas of job training, a hunger center, three AA units, a credit union with over $2 million in assets and a tithing program in which the congregation donated 10% of its annual income every year to the community. During his tenure at Antioch, fourteen men and women were licensed or ordained into Christian ministry.

In May of 2011, he was elected the twelfth president of Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, NY.

Before arriving in Rochester he was a member of the Board of Trustees of Cleveland State University in Cleveland, OH. Dr. McMickle was also the Professor of Homiletics at Ashland Theological Seminary in Ashland, Ohio from 1996 to 2011. Upon retiring from Ashland Theological Seminary, the faculty named him Professor Emeritus. He is the author of fourteen books and has authored dozens of articles that regularly appear in professional journals and magazines. His writings also appear in Feasting on the Word and Preaching God’s Transforming Justice; two recent preaching commentaries. He is a member of the Martin Luther King, Jr. International Board of Preachers at Morehouse College in Atlanta, GA. During the winter semester of 2009, he served as a Visiting Professor of Preaching, at Yale University Divinity School.

Dr. McMickle has been married to Peggy Lorraine Noble since 1975, and they have one son, Aaron, who resides with his wife in New York City.
Carla Harris and Charles Ogletree, Jr. to Speak at 140th Annual Commencement Exercises

Fisk University’s 140th Annual Commencement Exercises will be held on Monday, May 5th, at 10:00 a.m. at The Temple Church, 3810 Kings Lane, Nashville. This year’s speakers are Carla Harris, Vice Chairman and Managing Director of Morgan Stanley, and Charles Ogletree, Jr., the prominent legal theorist who has made an international reputation by taking a hard look at complex issues of law and by working to secure the rights guaranteed by the Constitution for everyone equally under the law.

Carla Harris is a Vice Chairman, Global Wealth Management, and Managing Director and Senior Client Advisor at Morgan Stanley. She is responsible for increasing client connectivity and penetration to enhance revenue generation across the firm. In August of 2013, Ms. Harris was appointed by President Barack Obama to chair the National Women’s Business Council.

For more than a decade, Ms. Harris was a senior member of the equity syndicate desk and executed such transactions as initial public offerings for UPS, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia, Ariba, Redback, the General Motors sub-IPO of Delphi Automotive, and the $3.2 billion common stock transaction for Immunex Corporation, one of the largest biotechnology common stock transactions in U.S. history.

She is the Chair of the Board of the Morgan Stanley Foundation and sits on the boards of the Food Bank for NYC, The Executive Leadership Council, The Toigo Foundation, Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO), A Better Chance, Inc., The Apollo Theatre Foundation, Mt. Sinai Hospital, and Xavier University. Ms. Harris is Co-Chair of the National Social Action Commission of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

She is the recipient of many awards including the Bert King Award from the Harvard Business School African American Alumni Association, the 2005 Women’s Professional Achievement Award from Harvard University, the Pierre Toussaint Medallion from the Office of Black Ministry of the Archdiocese of New York, the Women of Power Award given by the National Urban League, and the Women of Influence Award from The Links, Incorporated. Ms. Harris is also the author of the book, Expect to Win (Hudson Press, 2010).

Ms. Harris received her MBA, Second Year Honors, from Harvard Business School and an AB in economics from Harvard University, Magna Cum Laude. She is the recipient of Honorary Doctorates of laws, humanities and business from Marymount Manhattan
College, Bloomfield College, Jacksonville University, Simmons College and the College of New Rochelle, respectively. Ms. Harris is actively involved in her community and heartily believes that “we are blessed so that we can be a blessing to someone else.”

Charles Ogletree, Jr. is the Harvard Law School Jesse Climenko Professor of Law, and Founding and Executive Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice. Professor Ogletree opened the offices of The Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice in September 2005, as a tribute to the legendary civil rights lawyer and mentor and teacher of such great civil rights lawyers as Thurgood Marshall and Oliver Hill. The Institute has engaged in a wide range of important educational, legal and policy issues over the past 6 years.


In 2009 Professor Ogletree was awarded the prestigious ABA Spirit of Excellence Award in recognition of his many contributions to the legal profession. In 2008, the National Law Journal named Professor Ogletree one of the 50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America. Every year since 2006, Professor Ogletree has been named by Ebony Magazine as one of the 100+ Most Influential Black Americans. He was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award when he was inducted into the Hall of Fame for the National Black Law Students Association, where he served as National President from 1977-1978. Professor Ogletree also received the first ever Rosa Parks Civil Rights Award given by the City of Boston, the Hugo A. Bedau Award given by the Massachusetts Anti-Death Penalty Coalition, and Morehouse College’s Gandhi, King, Ikeda Community Builders Prize. He has also received honorary doctorates from
several universities and colleges including Cambridge College, Wilberforce University, the University of Miami, the New England School of Law, Lincoln College, Tougaloo College, Mount Holyoke College, and Amherst College.

Professor Ogletree is a native of Merced, California, where he attended public schools. Professor Ogletree earned an M.A. and B.A. (with distinction) in Political Science from Stanford University, where he was Phi Beta Kappa. He also holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School.